



University of Great Falls
ARGONAUTS

SPORTS INFORMATION * NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Argo Men's Hoops Falls To Minot State

Great Falls, MT – The University of Great Falls men's basketball team fell to 2-3 on the season as they dropped a 97-82 decision to the visiting Minot State Beavers as the Dakota Athletic Conference-school bested the Argos for the second time in eight days. The Beavers improved to 3-1 on the season with the victory.

"I don't think the final score was indicative of how close the game was," said **UGF head coach Steve Silsby**. "We actually played them much better this time around as compared to last week's game. Unfortunately we dug ourselves a little bit of a hole and every time we made a run they responded."

The Argos found themselves down 13-4 in the early going but battled back to cut the deficit to two, 42-40, in the last minute of the first half. But, in that final minute of the half Minot went on a quick 6-2 spurt to take a 48-42 lead into halftime.

The Argos would keep it close for the first part of the second half, but Minot again pulled away, leading by as many as 14. The Argos cut the lead to six points at 73-67, on a fast break layup by senior forward **Matt Niemeyer (Great Falls, MT/Helena High School)**, but the Beavers answered quickly again, with a three-pointer from junior guard **Nathaniel Packineau (Parshall, ND)**. The Argos would get no closer than eight points for the remainder of the game.

Niemeyer led four Argos in double figures with 18 points. UGF got 17 and 16 points, respectively from their starting backcourt duo of **Kevin Harris (Houston, TX/Clarendon College)** and **Lukas Hamsch (Chandler, AZ/Glendale Community College)** while junior **Mark Celaya (Chandler, AZ/Glendale Community College)** came off the bench to score 17. Harris added a team-high five assists and two steals.

Packineau paced to victors with 21 points while connecting on four-of-seven from behind the arc. Senior point guard **Mister Carney (Tulsa, OK)** added 17 points and six assists while forward Shaun **Johnson (East Orange, NJ)** and reserve guard **Nick Turner (Los Angeles, CA)** split 24 points between them.

The Argos are in action at home again on Saturday as they take on the Dickinson State Blue Hawks at 7pm. The Blue Hawks were 72-67 losers on Friday up in Havre against Montana State-Northern.

[BOX SCORE vs. MINOT STATE](#)

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