

# THE DICKINSON PRESS

## **DSU's comeback fall short against No. 15 MSUN**

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DILLON, Mont. — Matt Lee scored 25 of his 31 points in the second half, but it wasn't enough to bring Dickinson State men's basketball team back from a 14-point halftime deficit.

Montana State-Northern, the No. 15-ranked team in NAIA Division II, held off the Blue Hawks late, winning 74-67 on Friday afternoon at the Montana Western Classic.

"Northern executes really well. Their defense is something that was really intense," DSU head coach Ty Orton said. "They got up on us and took us out of the game."

Four players scored in double figures for the balanced Lights (3-1), who jumped out to a 14-2 lead in the first half after Lee was whistled for two fouls in the first 80 seconds.

Joe Simpson led MSUN with 12 points. LaVon Meyers, Sean Tatarka and David Maddock each scored 10 points for MSUN and combined for 15 assists and 11 rebounds.

Casper Hesseldal had 16 points and five bounds. Lee added eight boards and shot 15 of 19 from the free-throw line.

"Casper saved our butts in the first half and Matty saved us in the second half," Orton said.

DSU (2-1) faces tournament host Montana Western at 8 p.m. today.

DICKINSON STATE (2-1): Casper Hesseldal 6-8 4-6 16, Tevin Hurd 3-9 0-0 8, Matthew Lee 8-15 15-19 31, Ryan Kittleson 0-1 1-2 1, John Hanstad 2-4 0-0 5, Brock Boos 2-6 0-0 6, Robbie Morey 0-0 0-0 0, Isiah Thomas 0-0 0-0 0, Jarek Hansen 0-1 0-0 0. Totals: 21-44 20-27 67.

MONTANA STATE-NORTHERN (3-1): Sean Kelly 2-3 0-0 4, Joe Simpson 3-6 6-8 12, Devin Jackson 3-8 2-3 8, Shaun Tatarka 4-8 0-1 10, LaVon Myers 3-9 3-3 10, David Maddock 3-6 2-2 10, Corbin Pearson 3-4 0-0 6, Mike LaValley 2-5 0-0 5, Chris Brown 2-2 1-2 5, Jordan Harris 2-2 0-0 4, Ben Mitchell 0-1 0-0 0. Totals: 24-54 14-19 74.

Halftime: MSUN 38-24. Total fouls: DSU 20, MSUN 26. Fouled out: Morey. 3-point goals: DSU 5-15 (Hurd 2-3, Boos 2-6, Hanstad 1-3, Hesseldal 0-2, Hansen 0-1), MSUN 6-23 (Tatarka 2-6, Maddock 2-4, Myers 1-5, Jackson 0-4). Rebounds: DSU 32 (Lee 8), MSUN 29 (Maddock 6). Assists: DSU 11 (Hurd 4), MSUN 20 (Tatarka 7). Steals: DSU 7 (Boos 4), MSUN 12 (Tatarka 4). Blocks: DSU 4 (Lee 2), MSUN 1 (Mitchell 1). Turnovers: DSU 20 (Lee 6), MSUN 20 (Myers 4).

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