Breaking Sports: Lights race by Alberta
Northern 78, University of Alberta 50
Friday, December 30th, 2011

The final score might not show it, but the MSU-Northern men's basketball team's return from a nearly four-week break was anything but easy. Still, the No. 19 Lights found a way to pull away from the University of Alberta 78-50 Friday night at the MSU-Northern Fieldhouse.

The Lights broke the first half open via seven 3-pointers and an 18-4 run. The Golden Bears didn't go away however, cutting the lead to eight points early in the second half. But strong defense by the Lights turned the game into a route in the final 10 minutes. That last push coincided with Alberta's head coach being thrown out for two technical fouls.

Devin Jackson led 10 Lights who scored with 18 points, including four three's. In all, the Lights shot a stellar 9-of-22 from beyond the arc. Joe Simpson added 13 points and five rebounds and Shaun Tatarka chipped in with 11 as Northern improved to 13-2 overall, and possibly 14-2 if the Lights receive a forfeit victory for their cancelled game against Concordia of Alberta.

MSU-N opens Frontier Conference play next Friday at home against the University of Great Falls.

For full coverage, see Tuesday's Havre Daily News.