

Lights move up in poll; Skylights only get votes

MSU-N men jump to No. 13 in latest NAIA Poll

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Tuesday, January 10th, 2012

The newest NAIA men's and women's basketball coaches polls were released Monday night and while one Montana State University-Northern team garnered plenty of attention, another undeservedly didn't.

In the latest NAIA Men's Coaches Poll, the MSU-Northern Lights jumped from 19th to 13th. This week's ranking is the highest the Lights have ever achieved under current head coach Shawn Huse. Northern beat the University of Great Falls 63-62 to open Frontier Conference play last Friday night in Havre, marking the ninth straight win for the Lights. MSU-N is 15-2 on the season and hasn't lost since they fell to Warner-Pacific 69-67 back on Nov. 5.



MSU-Northern's Shaun Tatarka (middle) drives to the basket during last Friday's Frontier Conference men's basketball game against UGF in Havre.

Meanwhile, the Skylights continue to get snubbed, despite getting off to a 14-1 start. Northern received three votes this week, which was the first time the Skylights have even received votes in the poll all season long.

The women's poll saw Lewis-Clark State fall from No. 4 to No. 6 this week after the Warriors lost at UM-Western last Friday night. The Bulldogs only received one vote in this week's poll. Westminster moved into the Top 25 after going 2-0 over the weekend. The Griffins have just a 9-6 record but currently sit at No. 24. Rocky Mountain College dropped all the way out of the poll after the Bears went 1-2 over their last three games.

On the men's side, Westminster fell all the way from No. 10 to not ranked this week after the Griffins lost road games at Montana Tech and UM-Western this past weekend. Western moved into the Top 25 for the first time this season, setting up a huge nationally-ranked showdown at Northern this Saturday. The Bulldogs are ranked No. 23. Despite falling to the Lights, Great Falls managed to receive a vote in the new poll.

The MSU-Northern men and women are home this weekend, hosting Montana Tech on Friday night and Western Saturday.

For more on the Lights and Skylights, as well as the entire Frontier Conference, see Wednesday and Thursday's Havre Daily News.

NAIA Women's Coaches Poll

	Rec.	Pts.	Prv.
1. Oklahoma City	14-0	312	1
2. Union (Tenn.)	15-1	302	2
3. Freed-Hardeman	14-2	292	3
4. Westmont (Calif.)	14-1	278	5
5. Langston (Okla.)	13-0	267	7
6. Lewis-Clark State	15-2	264	4
7. Lee (Tenn.)	14-1	257	9
8. Cumberlands (Ky.)	14-1	242	14

9. Shawnee State	13-3	222	6
10. Saint Xavier (Ill.)	12-4	217	10
10. Vanguard	9-3	217	8
12. Lubbock Christina	10-3	211	7
13. Azusa Pacific	9-5	184	11
14. Olivet Naz. (Ill.)	13-3	182	13
15. Georgetown (Ky.)	12-4	168	20
16. Southern Naz. (Okla.)	11-4	165	15
17. Xavier (La.)	11-5	159	17
18. Campbelsville (Ky.)	12-6	138	12
19. Belhaven (Miss.)	12-5	121	RV
20. Lindsey Wilson	12-4	120	22
21. Shorter (Ga.)	11-3	105	18
22. William Woods (Mo.)	10-4	80	RV
23. Robert Morris	11-3	79	21
24. Westminster	9-6	71	RV
25. Lyon (Ark.)	12-3	68	RV

Others receiving votes: Biola (Calif.) 63; Loyola (La.) 60; MidAmerica Nazarene (Kan.) 55; St. Gregory's (Okla.) 23; Park (Mo.) 20; LSU Shreveport (La.) 14; Bethel (Tenn.) 13; Avila (Mo.) 5; **Montana State-Northern 3**; Rio Grande (Ohio) 1; Oklahoma Baptist 1; Columbia (Mo.) 1; Montana Western 1; Martin Methodist (Tenn.) 1; St. Catharine (Ky.) 1.

NAIA Men's Coaches Poll

	Rec.	Pts.	Prv.
1. Oklahoma Baptist	14-0	312	3
2. Shorter (Ga.)	15-0	298	4
3. Robert Morris	15-1	295	2
4. Concordia (Calif.)	13-2	283	1
5. Georgetown (Ky.)	14-2	265	6
6. Texas Weleyan	10-2	256	7
7. Azusa Pacific	13-2	248	9
8. Rogers State	13-2	241	5
9. Martin Methodist	11-3	239	8
10. Southern Poly (Ga.)	12-2	221	13
11. Mountain St. (W. Va.)	11-5	206	11
12. Southern Naz. (Okla.)	12-3	191	16
13. MSU-Northern	15-2	187	19
14. Lindsey Wilson	11-4	183	18
15. Evangel (Mo.)	13-4	174	14
16. The Master's (Calif.)	12-3	149	NR
17. Our Lady of Lakes	10-3	133	23
18. Xavier (La.)	10-4	119	21
18. Freed-Hardeman	11-5	119	17
20. Biola (Calif.)	12-4	114	15
21. Lee (Tenn.)	9-3	95	RV
22. Campbellsville (Ky.)	11-5	94	25
23. UM-Western	14-4	93	23
24. Cal St, San Marcos	11-6	84	NR
25. Saint Xavier (Ill.)	12-4	70	22

Others receiving votes: Tougaloo (Miss.) 58; SAGU (Texas) 50; Columbia (Mo.) 40; Westminster 31; Cumberland (Tenn.) 19; Oklahoma Christian 17; Shawnee State (Ohio) 14; MidAmerica Nazarene (Kan.)

6; Baker (Kan.) 5; Westmont (Calif.) 5; Great Falls (Mont.) 1; Lee (Tenn.) 1; Hope International (Calif.) 1; Oklahoma City 1; Spring Hill (Ala.) 1; Voorhees (S.C.) 1; Pikeville (Ky.) 1.