

Lights drop just one spot in new NAIA Poll

George Ferguson

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A split on the road is always big in Frontier Conference basketball. It was particularly crucial to the Montana State University-Northern men's basketball team this past weekend.

And thrashing the Rocky Mountain College Battlin' Bears on Saturday night in Billings helped the Lights avoid a tumble in the most recent NAIA Coaches Poll. Northern lost to Carroll College last Thursday in overtime, but the Lights slipped only one spot in Monday's new poll. Northern moved from No. 12 to No. 13 heading into two big home games this weekend with Lewis-Clark State and Westminster.

UM-Western continued its impressive climb in the polls. The Bulldogs moved up to No. 20 this week, while Westminster received 10 votes.

In the newest Frontier men's power rankings, the Lights are No. 1 and the Bulldogs are No. 2. Westminster is third in the rankings and UGF, which swept Rocky and Carroll this past weekend, moved up to No. 4.

The MSU-Northern women's team also earned a hard-fought road split this past weekend, but the Skylights are still absent from the NAIA poll despite a still stellar 15-4 overall record. However, Northern did move up to No. 4 in the latest Frontier power rankings. LC State is No. 1 in the Frontier and ranked No. 6 in the latest NAIA poll. Westminster is ranked No. 20 and Rocky received votes this week. The Griffins and Bears are No. 2 and No. 3, respectively in the new Frontier power rankings.

Great Falls' Melvin Williams was named Frontier Conference Men's Player of the Week. Northern's Devin Jackson was nominated for the men's award this week. Montana Tech's Mandy Machinal earned the women's honor. Jordan Bruursema was Northern's nominee this week.

NAIA Men's Basketball Poll

	Rec.	Pts.	Prv.
1. Shorter (Ga.)	18-0	312	1
2. Robert Morris	19-1	302	3
3. Oklahoma Baptist	16-2	288	2
4. Georgetown (Ky.)	17-3	279	7
5. Southern Poly (Ga.)	15-3	273	4
6. Rogers State	16-3	257	5
7. Our Lady of Lakes	15-3	248	10
8. Lindsey Wilson (Ky.)	15-4	240	11
9. Martin Methodist	15-4	237	9
10. The Master's (Calif.)	14-5	229	RV
11. Texas Wesleyan	14-3	194	13
12. Westmont (Calif.)	14-3	192	16
13. MSU-Northern	18-3	191	12
14. Southern Naz. (Okla.)	15-4	190	14
15. Mountain State	14-6	187	15
16. Azusa Pacific	15-4	162	7
17. Lee (Tenn.)	13-4	141	18
18. Concordia (Calif.)	15-4	133	6

19. Xavier (La.)	14-5	130	19
20. UM-Western	16-5	114	22
21. Columbia (Mo.)	16-5	94	24
22. MidAmerica Naz.	14-7	84	RV
23. Pikeville (Ky.)	12-7	76	RV
24. Tougaloo (Miss.)	15-5	71	25
25. Union (Tenn.)	13-7	64	RV

Others receiving votes: Saint Xavier (Ill.) 63; John Brown (Ark.) 50; Evangel (Mo.) 43; Freed-Hardeman (Tenn.) 29; Science & Arts (Okla.) 28; Point Loma Nazarene (Calif.) 21; Cal State San Marcos 14; Westminster (Utah) 10; St. Catharine (Ky.) 8; Avila (Mo.) 3; LSU Shreveport (La.) 3; Oklahoma Christian 1; Cumberland (Tenn.) 1; SAGU (Texas) 1; Voorhees (S.C.) 1.

NAIA Women's Basketball Top 25

	Rec.	Pts.	Prv.
1. Freed-Hardeman	18-2	312	1
2. Oklahoma City	17-1	301	2
3. Union (Tenn.)	19-2	293	3
4. Westmont (Calif.)	18-1	281	4
5. Lee (Tenn.)	19-1	269	6
6. Lewis-Clark State	18-2	254	7
6. Cumberlands (Ky.)	18-1	254	8
8. Langston (Okla.)	17-1	247	5
9. Lubbock Christian	14-3	233	9
10. Vanguard (Calif.)	13-3	223	10
11. Shawnee State	16-4	212	12
12. Azusa Pacific	13-5	199	13
13. Saint Xavier (Ill.)	14-5	196	11
14. Olivet Naz. (Ill.)	17-3	184	14
15. Xavier (La.)	16-5	169	16
16. Southern Naz. (Okla.)	14-5	156	15
17. Georgetown (Ky.)	14-6	151	18
18. Belhaven (Miss.)	16-5	148	18
19. Campbelsville (Ky.)	14-7	132	17
20. Westminster	11-7	113	21
21. MidAmerica Naz.	15-6	111	24
22. William Woods (Mo.)	13-5	96	25
23. Loyola (La.)	15-2	92	23
24. Shorter (Ga.)	14-4	84	RV
25. Lindsey Wilson (Ky.)	14-7	64	20

Others receiving votes: Robert Morris (Ill.) 46; Lyon (Ark.) 45; Columbia (Mo.) 33; LSU Shreveport (La.) 29; Rogers State (Okla.) 28; Avila (Mo.) 20; Biola (Calif.) 6; Texas Wesleyan 3; Bethel (Tenn.) 1; Rocky Mountain (Mont.) 1; Rio Grande (Ohio) 1; Oklahoma Baptist 1; Our Lady of the Lake (Texas) 1; St. Catharine (Ky.) 1.