

## Lights vault into the NAIA Top 10 for the first time

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The Montana State University-Northern men's basketball team has had several historic moments over the course of this season. On Monday night, the Lights made some more.

Northern (20-3, 6-1) moved up to No. 10 in the latest NAIA Coaches Poll, up three spots from last week. And the ranking is the first such Top 10 showing for a Northern basketball team in well over a decade. The Lights are also ranked first again in the new Frontier Conference power rankings.

For the second time this month, the MSU-N women's team made an appearance in the NAIA Coaches Poll. The Skylights received one vote after a weekend split at home, which included their upset of then No. 6 Lewis-Clark State on Friday night.

UM-Western also moved up in the most recent men's poll. The Bulldogs moved up one spot to No. 19 this week. Despite losing to Northern on Saturday night, the Westminster Griffins continued to garner votes. The Griffins received 11 votes in this week's poll.

On the women's side, LC State dropped two spots to No. 8 this weekend, while Westminster moved up a spot to No. 19. Rocky Mountain College received 10 votes in this week's women's poll.

Western's Kyle Erickson earned the Frontier Conference Men's Player of the Week Award. Erickson is a 6-foot-4, senior forward from Broadview, Mont. Erickson averaged 13.5 points, seven rebounds, 7.5 assists, 4.5 blocks and 2.5 steals in the Bulldogs two wins this past weekend.

Carroll College's Bailey Snelling earned the women's honor. Snelling is a 5-foot-6 freshman guard from Judith Gap, Mont. For the weekend, Snelling averaged 20 points, three rebounds, 2.5 assists and 1.5 steals. She hit 65 percent of her field goals (11 of 17), 64 percent of her 3-point field goals (9 of 14) and 9 of 11 free throws (82 percent).

## NAIA Men's Coaches Poll

	Rec.	Pts.	Prv.
1. Shorter (Ga.)	21-0	312	1
2. Robert Morris	21-1	310	2
3. Southern Poly (Ga.)	17-3	287	5
4. Oklahoma Baptist	18-3	282	3
5. Our Lady of Lakes	17-3	277	7
6. Rogers State (Okla.)	16-4	249	6
7. Azusa Pacific	18-4	247	16
8. Lindsey Wilson (Ky.)	15-6	235	8
9. Martin Methodist	16-5	228	9
10. MSU-Northern	20-3	214	13
11. Mountain State (W. Va.)	16-6	211	15
12. Georgetown (Ky.)	17-5	205	5
13. The Master's (Calif.)	15-6	202	10
14. Texas Wesleyan	15-4	185	11
15. Southern Naz., (Okla.)	17-5	178	14
16. Concordia (Calif.)	17-4	156	18

17. Lee (Tenn.)	14-5	136	17
18. Columbia (Mo.)	18-5	125	21
19. UM-Western	18-5	120	22
20. Pikeville (Ky.)	14-7	119	23
21. Tougaloo (Miss.)	15-5	110	24
22. Westmont (Calif.)	15-4	100	12
23. John Brown (Ark.)	17-5	97	RV
24. MidAmerica Naz. (Kan.)	16-7	91	22
25. Xavier (La.)	15-6	67	19

Others receiving votes: LSU Shreveport (La.) 53; Union (Tenn.) 46; Saint Xavier (Ill.) 37; Freed-Hardeman (Tenn.) 22; St. Catharine (Ky.) 20; Oklahoma Christian 12; Westminster (Utah) 11; Voorhees (S.C.) 9; Point Loma Nazarene (Calif.) 8; Campbellsville (Ky.) 4; Cal State San Marcos 3; Evangel (Mo.) 1; Science & Arts (Okla.) 1; Avila (Mo.) 1; Baker (Kan.) 1.

### NAIA Women's Coaches Poll

	Rec.	Pts.	Prv.
1. Oklahoma City	19-1	312	2
2. Freed-Hardeman (Tenn.)	19-3	3-2	2
3. Union (Tenn.)	20-2	292	3
4. Westmont (Calif.)	20-1	282	4
5. Lee (Tenn.)	21-1	272	5
6. Cumberlands (Ky.)	20-1	260	6
7. Lubbock Christian	16-3	249	9
8. Lewis-Clark State	19-3	235	6
9. Vanguard (Calif.)	15-3	234	10
10. Langston (Okla.)	19-2	220	8
11. Shawnee State	18-4	219	11
12. Azusa Pacific	15-5	200	12
13. Olivet Naz. (Ill.)	19-3	197	14
14. Saint Xavier (Ill.)	15-6	179	13
15. Southern Naz. (Okla.)	16-6	163	19
16. Bellhaven (Miss.)	18-5	158	18
17. Xavier (La.)	17-6	157	15
18. Georgetown (Ky.)	15-7	138	17
19. Westminster	13-7	133	20
20. MidAmerica Naz. (Kan.)	17-6	120	21
21. Loyola (La.)	17-2	105	23
22. Campbelsville (Ky.)	14-9	95	17
23. William Woods (Mo.)	15-6	87	22
24. Lyon (Ark.)	16-5	79	RV
25. Lindsey Wilson (Ky.)	16-7	77	25

Others receiving votes: Shorter (Ga.) 74; Rogers State (Okla.) 40; LSU Shreveport (La.) 35; Columbia (Mo.) 33; Avila (Mo.) 23; Rocky Mountain (Mont.) 10; Texas Wesleyan 8; San Diego Christian (Calif.) 1; St. Gregory's (Okla.) 1; Robert Morris (Ill.) 1; Montana State-Northern 1; Martin Methodist (Tenn.) 1; St. Catharine (Ky.) 1.

Northern's Joe Simpson and Jordan Bruursema were nominated for player of the week honors.

The Lights and Skylights travel to Great Falls Saturday for games against the UGF Argos. For the complete NAIA men's and women's polls, see Page A7.