

News Release

U of M Crookston Sets Ag Arama Activities for January 26-27

By Melinda McVey McCluskey, Elizabeth Tollefson on Wednesday, January 17, 2007

CROOKSTON, Minn. (January 17, 2007) – Plans are set for the annual Ag Arama at



Ag Arama 2007 is dedicated to Dave Hoff.

The University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC), an event which has taken place on the campus for 32 years. This year's event is scheduled for Jan. 26-27, 2007, and includes a wide range events and activities. Most of the activities take place on Saturday, Jan. 27, in the University Teaching and Outreach Center (UTO) located north of the campus.

The theme for this year's Ag Arama is "Country Boys & Girls Getting Down on the Farm" and the entire 2007 Ag Arama is dedicated to Dave Hoff, whose career at UMC spanned 38 years. Ag Arama features contests in agronomy, animal science, horticulture and natural resources. Through these contests, students showcase their knowledge and skills in their major area of study and have a chance to interact with alumni and faculty members. Ag Arama is planned and operated by a committee of UMC students advised by UMC faculty members.

"Ag Arama is a chance for students to compete and show off their expertise and skill," said Melinda McVey McCluskey, advisor for Ag Arama. "It is an event that brings back alumni and showcases our current students."

Animal science showmanship contests run from 8 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Students compete in Western and English horse showmanship, lamb lead, and dairy, beef, sheep, and swine showing. There will be two categories for each species, novice and experienced. The novices are paired with experienced students prior to the contest to prepare. Several natural resources contests, including men's and women's crosscut saw contests, log splitting and the log toss, will also take place. From 9 a.m. to noon, there is an ag industries show and crop show samples will be on display throughout the day.

A picnic style lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. with the awards ceremony beginning at 2 p.m. followed by the coronation of the Ag Arama royalty. The highlight for UMC alumni is the alumni social held at the Irishman's Shanty in Crookston at 5:30 p.m. The weekend culminates with a dance at the Crookston Armory featuring the Wild Nights DJ.

For more information on Ag Arama events, please contact Melinda McVey McCluskey at 218-281-8119 or mccluske@umn.edu.

The University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) delivers more than 24 different undergraduate degree programs, including online options, in agriculture; arts, humanities and social sciences; business; math, science and technology; and natural resources. UMC is dedicated to helping students and the region aim higher, reach further and dream big dreams. To learn more, visit www.UMCrookston.edu.

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