



Women's Basketball | 1/12/2017 3:36:00 PM | Shawn Smith, Sports Information Director

UMC Women's Basketball Hosts Southwest Minnesota State and Sioux Falls This Weekend



CROOKSTON, Minn. - The University of Minnesota Crookston women's basketball team will host Southwest Minnesota State University and University of Sioux Falls this weekend in a pair of games. UMC will take on the Mustangs Fri., Jan. 13 at 6 p.m. at Lysaker Gymnasium. The Golden Eagles will battle the Cougars Sat., Jan. 14 at 8 p.m. at Lysaker Gymnasium.

WBB NOTES

UMC comes into the weekend with a 4-10 (4-6 NSIC) mark. The Golden Eagles have won their last two games this season with victories over Bemidji State University and St. Cloud State University. Southwest Minnesota State enters with a 1-13 (1-9 NSIC) mark, while Sioux Falls is 12-2 (8-2 NSIC). The Cougars lead the NSIC South, while the Mustangs are currently last in the NSIC South.

Minnesota Crookston Golden Eagles

Head Coach: [Mike Roysland](#)

Record at UMC: 101-180 **Season at UMC:** 11th Season

Southwest Minnesota State Mustangs

Head Coach: Tom Webb

Record at SMSU: 1-13 **Season at SMSU:** First Season

Sioux Falls Cougars

Head Coach: Travis Traphagen

Record at USF: 141-78 **Season at USF:** Eighth Season

Jan. 13, 2016 • Crookston, Minn. • Lysaker Gymnasium • 6 p.m.

Video: <https://portal.stretchinternet.com/crk/>

Live Stats: <http://www.sidearmstats.com/umcrookston/wbball/>

Radio: 1260 KROX AM/105.7 FM

Jan. 14, 2016 • Crookston, Minn. • Lysaker Gymnasium • 4 p.m.

Video: <https://portal.stretchinternet.com/crk/>

Live Stats: <http://www.sidearmstats.com/umcrookston/wbball/>

#5StoryLines

1. Can Odor and Gruber build on their big games against Bemidji State?
2. Can UMC limit Lauren Hedlund on the offensive boards for SMSU?
3. Can the Golden Eagles control Sam Knecht in the post for USF?
4. Will [Alison Hughes](#) continue her strong play for the Golden Eagles?

5. What kind of factor will [Stephanie McWilliams](#) be for the Golden Eagles?

Weekly Snapshot

Minnesota Crookston

Projected Starters

Jr. PG 10 [Micaela Noga](#) (5-7, Parkers Prairie, Minn.) 7.4 PPG, 3.1 RPG

So. SG 14 [Alison Hughes](#) (5-7, Janesville, Wis.) 16.2 PPG, 3.8 RPG

So. 3G 3 [Caitlin Michaelis](#) (5-8, Marshfield, Wis.) 4.6 PPG, 2.6 RPG

Fr. SF 5 [Stephanie McWilliams](#) (5-8, Grand Forks, N.D.) 1.6 PPG, 0.9 RPG

Jr. PF 22 [Emily Gruber](#) (5-11, Monticello, Minn.) 7.5 PPG, 4.9 RPG

Top Bench Players

R-So. F 15 [Isieoma Odor](#) (6-0, Bloomington, Minn.) 12.6 PPG, 7.6 RPG

Fr. G 11 [Kitri Zezza](#) (5-7, Albertville, Minn.) 5.3 PPG, 1.9 APG

Fr. C/F 20 [Kelsey Stinson](#) (5-11, Cottage Grove, Wis.) 5.6 PPG, 1.9 RPG

Fr. G/F 32 [Paige Weakley](#) (5-9, Kearney, Mo.) 4.2 PPG, 1.8 RPG

Southwest Minnesota State

Projected Starters

Sr. PG 23 Taylor Silva (5-5, Bellevue, Neb.) 4.9 PPG, 4.1 APG

Sr. SG 3 Abby Connell (5-10, Mankato, Minn.) 6.6 PPG, 1.5 RPG

So. 3G 21 Sarah Buysse (5-9, Marshall, Minn.) 9.5 PPG, 3.5 RPG

Jr. SF 33 Lauren Hedlund (5-11, Hinton, Iowa) 12.1 PPG, 10.1 RPG

Jr. PF 45 Taylor Holicky (6-0, Cleveland, Minn.) 8.9 PPG, 8.3 RPG

Top Bench Players

Fr. F 5 Caleigh Rodning (5-11, Shakopee, Minn.) 11.9 PPG, 5.2 RPG

Fr. G 25 Jamie Spicer (5-7, Sioux Falls, S.D.) 5.2 PPG, 1.2 RPG

Sioux Falls

Projected Starters

Sr. PG 10 Madi Robson (5-7, Ankeny, Iowa) 9.4 PPG, 4.5 RPG, 5.7 APG

Fr. SG 12 Kaely Hummel (5-8, Cherokee, Iowa) 10.1 PPG, 1.4 RPG

Sr. 3G 5 Alyson Johnson (5-7, Beresford, S.D.) 6.3 PPG, 2.6 RPG

So. SF 23 Jacey Huinker (5-9, Altoona, Iowa) 5.6 PPG, 7.9 RPG

Sr. PF 50 Sam Knecht (6-2, Platte, S.D.) 13.4 PPG, 10.3 RPG

Top Bench Players

Sr. G 4 Brooke Smith (5-8, Twinsburg, Ohio) 9.1 PPG, 3.4 RPG

Fr. F 14 Andi Mataloni (6-0, Urbandale, Iowa) 4.9 PPG, 1.2 RPG

Jr. F 34 Moira Duffy (6-0, Rapid City, S.D.) 2.1 PPG, 2.8 RPG

Fr. G 22 Mariah Szymanski (5-6, Pulaski, Wis.) 3.8 PPG, 1.0 RPG

#BeastMode

UMC redshirt sophomore [Isieoma Odor](#) has been on fire in the last three games after moving to the bench. The post player is averaging 20.7 points and eight rebounds per game over the last three games for the Golden Eagles. She is coming off 21 points on 7-of-9 from the field in a win over Bemidji State. The Bloomington, Minn. native earned NSIC North Player of the Week after tallying 20.5 points and 9.0 rebounds last weekend.

#HughesLeadingTheWay

[Alison Hughes](#) continues to have a strong showing this season for the Golden Eagles. Hughes is fourth in the league in scoring with 16.2 points per game. In addition, she is leading the conference in free throw percentage at 93.1 percent. Hughes had 16 points on 5-of-11 from the field against Bemidji State. She is shooting 40.0 percent from beyond the arc for the Golden Eagles.

#TheMcWilliamsFactor

[Stephanie McWilliams](#) has had a major impact for the Golden Eagles in the last three games. McWilliams has earned the starting spot after seeing limited time prior to this week. McWilliams is a glue player who does a lot of little things well in terms of moving the ball, defense and rebounding. She is averaging 5.7 points, 3.3 rebounds and 3.3 assists per game. She is coming off her best game as a Golden Eagle with eight points and six boards against Bemidji State. She will look to continue to make a positive impact for UMC.

#GruberInTheClutch

UMC junior [Emily Gruber](#) has been an impact player for the Golden Eagles in recent games. She is coming off her best game of the season with 20 points and eight boards against

Bemidji State. She continued her positive momentum after hitting one of the biggest shots of her career with a three-pointer with 3.8 seconds remaining to defeat St. Cloud State. Gruber comes into the weekend averaging 7.5 points and 4.9 rebounds per game.

#Tidbits

- Minnesota Crookston comes into the weekend with a 4-10 (4-6 NSIC) mark. The Golden Eagles are currently tied for fifth in the NSIC North. They are one game back of being in the top four, who at the conclusion of the season host the first round of the NSIC/Sanford Health Tournament. The Golden Eagles have won four of the last six games.

- Minnesota Crookston is coming off big wins over St. Cloud State and Bemidji State as they look to continue their momentum into the weekend. The Golden Eagles were led on Tuesday against the Beavers by 21 points from [Isieoma Odor](#) and 20 points from [Emily Gruber](#). [Alison Hughes](#) chipped in 16 points for the Golden Eagles.

- UMC comes in shooting 37.6 percent from the field and 32.2 percent from beyond the arc. They are one of the league's top free throw shooting teams at 76.6 percent. The Golden Eagles are averaging 65.9 points per game and giving up 74.9 points to their opponents.

- Southwest Minnesota State has a UMC connection on their coaching. Brittani Wiese, an all-time 1,000 point scorer for the Golden Eagles, is in her first season as an assistant coach at SMSU after spending two seasons as a graduate assistant at Northern State University.

- The Mustangs come into the weekend with a 1-13 mark in their first year under Tom Webb. SMSU is led by their post play. The Mustangs look to Lauren Hedlund's 12.1 points and 10.1 rebounds per game. Hedlund has 57 offensive rebounds on the season. Caleigh Rodning is coming off of the bench for the Mustangs for 11.9 points per game. Also in the post, Taylor Holicky comes in with 8.9 points and 8.3 rebounds per game.

- Southwest Minnesota State is averaging 58.3 points per game and giving up 74.2 points per game to their opponents. The Mustangs are shooting 38.4 percent from the field and 32.9 percent from beyond the arc.

- Sioux Falls comes into the weekend with a 12-2 (8-2 NSIC) mark. The Cougars are led by forward Sam Knecht, who is averaging 13.4 points and 10.3 rebounds per game. At guard, freshman shooter Kaely Hummel leads the way with 10.1 points per game. She is shooting 36.6 percent from beyond the arc. At point, Madi Robson leads the way with 80 assists on the year. She is tallying 9.4 points per game on the year.

- The Cougars are averaging 66.7 points per game on the year. They are one of the best defensive teams in the league as they are giving up just 52.8 points per game. Sioux Falls is shooting 39.4 percent from the field and 34.1 percent from beyond the arc.

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PLAYERS MENTIONED ▾

#22 Emily Gruber

F/C / 5' 11" / Junior

#14 Alison Hughes

G / 5' 7" / Sophomore

#3 Caitlin Michaelis

G / 5' 8" / Sophomore

#10 Micaela Noga

G / 5' 7" / Junior

#15 Isieoma Odor

F / 6' 0" / Redshirt Sophomore

#5 Stephanie McWilliams

G / 5' 8" / Freshman

#20 Kelsey Stinson

G/F / 5' 11" / Freshman

#32 Paige Weakley

G / 5' 9" / Freshman

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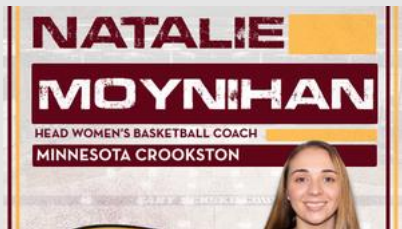
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