



Women's Basketball | 2/20/2018 1:24:00 PM | Shawn D. Smith, Director of Athletic Media Relations

Minnesota Crookston Women's Basketball Set to Open NSIC/Sanford Health Tournament in Cornhusker State Wednesday



The Scoop

The University of Minnesota Crookston women's basketball team is riding a two-game win streak as they head into the 2017-18 NSIC/Sanford Health Tournament. The Golden Eagles will be the No. 7 seed in the NSIC North. They begin the tournament by heading to No. 2 seed in the NSIC South Wayne State College (Neb.). The two teams will meet Wed., Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. The winner will take on the winner of St. Cloud State University and Concordia University-St. Paul Sun., Feb. 25 at 2:30 p.m. at the Sanford Pentagon in Sioux Falls, S.D. The Golden Eagles are looking to make it back to the Sanford Pentagon for the fourth-consecutive time.



NSIC/Sanford Health Tournament

First Round

Date: Feb. 21, 2018
Time: 7 p.m.
Opponent: Wayne State College (Neb.)
Site: Wayne, Neb. - Rice Auditorium (2,500)
Live Stats: <http://wildcat.wsc.edu/athletics/mediastats/basketball/xlive.htm>
Video: <https://portal.stretchinternet.com/wsc/>
Officials (Wednesday): Trot Test, Phil Streit, Shawn Winter
Last (WSC): The Wildcats won 67-60 Feb. 3 in Crookston, Minn.
Series: Wayne State leads the all-time series 25-7 in Division II play
Radio: 1260 KROX AM/105.7 FM

Second Round (if win)

Date: Feb. 25, 2018
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Opponent: St. Cloud State University or Concordia University-St. Paul
Site: Sioux Falls, S.D. (Sanford Pentagon, 3,250)
Live Stats: <http://www.sidearmstats.com/nsic/bball/>
Video: <https://portal.stretchinternet.com/nsic>
Last (SCSU): St. Cloud State won 70-54 in St. Cloud Jan. 6
Last (CSP): Minnesota Crookston won 75-60 in St. Paul Jan. 27
Series (SCSU): St. Cloud State leads 20-7 in all-time series
Series (CSP): Concordia-St. Paul leads the all-time series 23-9

Third Round (if win)

Date: Feb. 26
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Site: Sioux Falls, S.D. (Sanford Pentagon, 3,250)

Previewing the Golden Eagles

The Golden Eagles come into post-holiday play with a 8-18 (10-15) record. Minnesota Crookston is 5-7 on the road this season. In addition, Minnesota Crookston has played their best basketball since Dec. 31, 2017. The Golden Eagles have put up a 7-9 mark since the start of the season. In the 2016-17 season, the Golden Eagles ended the season with a 17-15 record. Minnesota Crookston ended last season with a 17-15 record. Minnesota Crookston looks to continue their momentum from last season. Odor averaged 18.5 points per game and Minot State University. Odor is closing in on becoming the 12th player in school history to reach the milestone. In addition to Odor, [Micaela Noga](#) (Sr.) is also a key player. Noga ranks seventh all-time in scoring in Minnesota Crookston history with 1,098 career points.

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- 11.24.23 Lynn Uses Third Quarter Run to Defeat Golden Eagle Women's Basketball 72-57
- 11.22.23 Minnesota Crookston Set For Barry University Classic in Florida
- 11.21.23 Minnesota Crookston Women's Basketball Uses Fourth-Quarter Rally to Upend Beavers 67-54

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- 11.26.23 Minnesota Crookston vs WSC (ACHA Division II Hockey)
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- 11.18.23 Hockey vs. Bethel (ACHA Division II)
- 11.13.23 Equestrian Livestream

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Noga has already moved past Bri Zabel, Jessica Forsline, Cathy Behr and Stephanie Mayclin on the all-time charts.

[Caitlin Michaelis](#) (Jr., G, Marshfield, Wis.) comes in tallying 10.9 points per game. Michaelis is shooting 40.2 percent from beyond the arc. [Abby Guidinger](#) (Fr., G/F, Waukesha, Wis.) has been vital for Minnesota Crookston recently. Guidinger is notching 9.8 points per game. She is tallying 14.3 points and 4.0 rebounds per game in the last four games. [Emily Gruber](#) (Sr., F/C, Monticello, Minn.) rounds out the top scorers by notching 8.9 points and 5.9 rebounds per game. Gruber needs just 47 points to join the 1,000 point club.

The Golden Eagles are averaging 63.96 points per game, while allowing their opponents to score 69.4 points per game. Minnesota Crookston is shooting 39.4 percent from the field, 29.8 percent from beyond the arc and 79.2 percent from the foul line.

Previewing the Wildcats

Wayne State enters Wednesday with a 24-6 (18-4 NSIC) mark. The Wildcats have won 10 straight games coming into the tournament. Wayne State came up with a narrow 67-60 win over Minnesota Crookston Feb. 3 in Crookston. The Golden Eagles were within striking distance for most of the game, but shot just 31.4 percent from the field on the game.

The Wildcats are led by their post play, specifically by Paige Ballinger, who is averaging 12.1 points and 6.0 rebounds per game. Maggie Schulte is another threat inside to score. She also adds strong passing ability from the high post. Schulte is notching 11.0 points, 6.3 rebounds and 3.0 assists per game. Freshman Erin Norling comes in notching 9.1 points and 3.8 rebounds, while guard Kacie O'Connor is averaging 8.6 points per game. Schulte is one of the top three-point shooters for the Wildcats at 47.0 percent.

Wayne State is averaging 76.0 points per game. They are allowing their foes to score just 60.9 points per contest. Wayne State is shooting 44.6 percent from the field, 36.9 percent from beyond the arc and 79.6 percent from the stripe.

Previewing the Huskies

St. Cloud State opens tournament play with a 17-9 (14-8 NSIC) mark. The Huskies host Concordia-St. Paul Wednesday to open the conference tournament. St. Cloud State is led by guard Andrea Thomas, who is tallying 13.4 points per game. Freshman Tori Wortz has had a strong season for the Huskies with 10.2 points per game. Amanda Christianson is tallying 9.1 points per game and is shooting 43.6 percent from beyond the arc. Madelin Dammann is averaging 8.9 points per game.

The Huskies are averaging 64.7 points per game and are allowing foes to score 59.1 points per game. St. Cloud State is shooting 41.4 percent from the field, 36.2 percent from beyond the arc and 71.6 percent from the stripe.

Previewing the Golden Bears

Concordia-St. Paul comes into tournament play with an 11-17 (8-14 NSIC) mark. The Golden Bears are traveling to St. Cloud State for the opening round of the NSIC/Sanford Health Tournament. Concordia-St. Paul has one of the top scorers in the NSIC with guard Anna Schmitt. She is averaging 19.2 points per game. Schmitt is shooting 41.3 percent from beyond the arc. Post Lindsay Dorr comes in tallying 10.9 points and 7.4 rebounds per game. Brianna Miller is notching 7.1 points per game, while Ellie Gess is averaging 6.7 points per game.

The Golden Bears are averaging 63.4 points per game and are allowing foes to score 69.5 points per game. Concordia-St. Paul is shooting 38.6 percent from the field and 30.4 percent from beyond the arc. The Golden Eagles are hitting at a 70.8 percent clip from the foul line.

Minnesota Crookston Golden Eagles

Head Coach: [Mike Roysland](#)

Record at UMC: 113-212 **Season at UMC:** 12th Season

Wayne State Wildcats

Head Coach: Chris Kielsmeier

Record at WSC: 236-71 **Season at WSC:** 10th Season

St. Cloud State Huskies

Head Coach: Lori Fish

Record at UM: 139-124 **Season at SCSU:** 10th Season

Concordia-St. Paul Golden Bears

Head Coach: Amanda Johnson

Record at CSP: 39-37 **Season at CSP:** Third Season

#5StoryLines

1. Can the Golden Eagles reached the Sanford Pentagon for the fourth-straight season?
2. Can the Golden Eagles limit Paige Ballinger in the post for Wayne State?
3. Can the Golden Eagles be strong on the glass, especially in limiting offensive boards for the other team?
4. Can Isy Odor and/or [Emily Gruber](#) reach 1,000 points?
5. Will [Abby Guidinger](#) continue to be a scoring threat for the Golden Eagles?

Minnesota Crookston

Projected Starters

Sr. PG 10 Micaela Noga , 5-7, Parkers Prairie, Minn.	12.4 PPG, 4.3 RPG, 2.7 APG
Jr. SG 3 Caitlin Michaelis , 5-8, Marshfield, Wis.	10.9 PPG, 3.0 RPG
Jr. 3G 21 Lindsey Weber , 5-11, Delafield, Wis.	1.4 PPG, 1.2 RPG
Sr. SF 22 Emily Gruber , 5-11, Monticello, Minn.	8.9 PPG, 5.9 RPG
R-Jr. PF 15 Isieoma Odor , 6-0, Bloomington, Minn.	14.5 PPG, 7.4 RPG

Top Bench Players

So. G/F 32 Paige Weakley , 5-9, Kearney, Mo.	3.0 PPG, 1.3 RPG
Fr. 3G 12 Abby Guidinger , 5-10, Waukesha, Wis.	9.8 PPG, 4.0 RPG
Fr. G 11 Ashley Freund , 5-11, Jordan, Minn.	1.3 PPG, 1.2 RPG

Wayne State Wildcats

Projected Starters

Fr. PG 23 Halley Busse, 5-5, Winthrop, Minn.	6.1 PPG, 1.2 RPG
Sr. SG 15 Kacie O'Connor, 5-10, Sundance, Wyo.	8.6 PPG, 2.6 RPG
Fr. SF 22 Erin Norling, 5-11, Loretto, Minn.	9.1 PPG, 3.8 RPG
Sr. PF 35 Maggie Schulte, 6-0, Wynot, Neb.	11.0 PPG, 6.3 RPG, 3.0 APG
Sr. C 52 Paige Ballinger, 6-1, Pender, Neb.	12.1 PPG, 6.0 RPG

Top Bench Players

Jr. F 44 Andrea Larson, 6-0, Sperry, Iowa	6.9 PPG, 3.1 RPG
Fr. F/C 54 Brittany Bongartz, 6-0, Ramsey, Minn.	6.6 PPG, 3.0 RPG
Jr. G 12 Maggie Lowe, 5-7, Perry, Iowa	5.8 PPG, 1.2 RPG
So. G 21 Eveleyn Knox, 5-7, Plymouth, Minn.	3.6 PPG, 0.7 RPG

St. Cloud State Huskies

Projected Starters

Sr. PG 10 Andrea Thomas, 5-5, Mauston, Wis.	13.4 PPG, 3.6 RPG, 2.7 APG
So. SG 4 Madelin Dammann, 5-9, Waconia, Minn.	8.9 PPG, 3.6 RPG, 2.7 APG
Fr. 3G 2 Tori Wortz, 5-8, Hutchinson, Minn.	10.2 PPG, 3.8 RPG
Sr. SF 32 Amanda Christianson, 5-10, Beaver Dam, Wis.	9.1 PPG, 3.8 RPG
R-So. PF 45 Brianna Johnson, 6-0, Beaver Dam, Wis.	7.1 PPG, 3.8 RPG

Concordia-St. Paul Golden Bears

Projected Starters

Jr. PG 11 Anna Schmitt, 5-7, Waconia, Minn.	19.2 PPG, 3.6 RPG, 2.7 APG
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Sr. SG 0 Haydn Becker, 5-9, Andover, Minn. 3.9 PPG, 3.5 RPG
 Jr. 3G 10 Kayla Miller, 5-10, Pequot Lakes, Minn. 6.2 PPG, 4.2 RPG
 Jr. SF 15 Hanna Vidlund, 5-10, Forest Lake, Minn. 5.4 PPG, 2.6 RPG
 Jr. PF 40 Lindsay Dorr, 6-2, Otsego, Minn. 10.9 PPG, 7.4 RPG

#ClosingInOn1000

Minnesota Crookston redshirt junior forward [Isieoma Odor](#) has had a strong junior season averaging 14.5 points and 7.4 rebounds per game. Odor is closing in on becoming the 12th player in school history to reach 1,000 points. The post player needs just 19 points to join the elite club. Odor is coming off one of her best weekend of the season with 22.5 points and 10.5 rebounds per game. Odor will look to follow up that performance as the Golden Eagles open up the NSIC/Sanford Health Tournament.

#ComingIntoHerOwn

Minnesota Crookston freshman [Abby Guidinger](#) continues to come into her own in her freshman season. The native of Waukesha, Wis. is averaging 14.3 points and 4.0 rebounds per game over her last four games. Guidinger has been vital for the team in the 2018 calendar year. Guidinger has scored in double figures in 11 games since Jan. 12. She had a great weekend against Minot State and U-Mary as the freshman notched 14.5 points per game last weekend. She tallied 19 points in the win last Saturday over the Marauders. Guidinger will look to have a major impact against Wayne State.

#MovingUpTheCharts

Minnesota Crookston senior [Micaela Noga](#) became the 11th player in school history to eclipse 1,000 points against U-Mary earlier this season. The senior has scored 1,098 points in her career. Noga surpassed Stephanie Mayclin for seventh all-time last weekend to move up to seventh all-time in scoring. She will look to continue to add to her total this weekend.

#Nearing1000

Senior [Emily Gruber](#) is also closing in on 1,000 points, along with teammate Isy Odor. Gruber is one point behind Odor currently with 935 career points. She needs just 47 points to move past 1,000 career points. Gruber is averaging 8.9 points and 5.9 rebounds per game on the season. She notched 14 points in last Friday's win over Minot State.

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PLAYERS MENTIONED ▾

#22 Emily Gruber

F/C / 5' 11" / Senior

#10 Micaela Noga

G / 5' 7" / Senior

#32 Paige Weakley

G/F / 5' 9" / Sophomore

#12 Abby Guidinger

G / 5' 10" / Freshman

#3 Caitlin Michaelis

G / 5' 8" / Junior

#15 Isieoma Odor

F / 6' 0" / Redshirt Junior

#21 Lindsey Weber

F / 5' 11" / Junior

#11 Ashley Freund

F / 5' 11" / Freshman



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