



Women's Basketball | 10/21/2015 1:44:00 PM | Shawn Smith, Sports Information Director

## Golden Eagle Women's Basketball Picked to Finish Fourth in NSIC Preseason Coaches' Poll; Nordick Picked NSIC North Preseason Player of the Year



**BURNSVILLE, Minn.** – The University of Minnesota Crookston women's basketball team was selected to finish fourth in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) Preseason Coaches' Poll, released Wednesday afternoon by the conference office. The ranking is the highest the Golden Eagles have earned in a preseason coaches' poll. They were also slotted second in the NSIC North, being narrowly edged out by St. Cloud State University.

In addition to their ranking, UMC senior forward [Katrina Nordick](#), formerly Katrina Moenkedick, was selected as the NSIC North Preseason Player of the Year, another first for the Golden Eagles. Nordick averaged 14.5 points and 6.8 rebounds en route to an All-NSIC First Team nod as a junior. In addition, she helped her team to the Sanford Health/NSIC Women's Basketball Tournament in Sioux Falls, S.D. Nordick became the ninth player to surpass 1,000 points in school history during her junior season. She currently has 1,078 points, ranking sixth all-time and has 503 career rebounds. She married Josh Nordick this Summer.

The Golden Eagles will look to follow up their strong 2014-15 season, which was led by Nordick and [Alexa Thielman](#) (Sr., G, Buffalo, Minn.) earning All-NSIC First Team accolades, while Head Coach [Mike Roysland](#) was named NSIC Coach of the Year. The Golden Eagles return four starters from the squad that went 14-14 (12-10 NSIC) and finished third in the NSIC North. The Golden Eagles would earn their first-ever home playoff game, defeating Concordia University, St. Paul in front of a record crowd. UMC would then advance to the Sanford Health/NSIC Tournament, where they lost to Minnesota State University, Mankato. UMC earned 170 overall votes, just six behind University of Sioux Falls in third place. Winona State University was picked to win the league, while Wayne State College (Neb.) was picked second.

In addition to Nordick, Sioux Falls' Taylor Varsho was selected the NSIC South Preseason Player of the Year.

The Golden Eagles will open up exhibition play Nov. 5 at North Dakota State University and will then face University of North Dakota Nov. 8. Both will be road games. UMC will officially open up the season in Puerto Rico Nov. 13 and 14 against University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras and University of Puerto Rico-Bayamon.

For more information, visit the Golden Eagle Athletics website at [www.goldeneaglesports.com](http://www.goldeneaglesports.com).

Follow the Golden Eagles on Facebook at Golden Eagle Sports and on Twitter at @UMCAthletics.

The University of Minnesota Crookston is a NCAA Division II university located in the Red River Valley of Northwest Minnesota. UMC sponsors 11 intercollegiate athletic teams with membership in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate conference (NSIC) and the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA). The NSIC is a 16-team conference with schools situated in Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska.

| Overall                       | Points | North Division               | Pts        |
|-------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Winona State (8)           | 208    | 1. St. Cloud State (3)       | 43         |
| 2. Wayne State (5)            | 201    | 2. Minnesota Crookston (4)   | 42         |
| 3. Sioux Falls (3)            | 176    | 3. MSU Moorhead              | 40         |
| 4. Minnesota Crookston        | 170    | 4. Northern State (1)        | 30         |
| 5. St. Cloud State            | 168    | 5. U-Mary                    | 24         |
| 6. Minnesota State            | 151    | 6. Minnesota Duluth          | 19         |
| 7. MSU Moorhead               | 149    | 7. Minot State               | 17         |
| 8. Augustana                  | 138    | 8. Bemidji State             | 9          |
| 9. Concordia-St. Paul         | 117    | <b>South Division</b>        | <b>Pts</b> |
| 10. Northern State            | 113    | 1. Winona State (4)          | 44         |
| 11. U-Mary                    | 97     | 2. Wayne State (1)           | 41         |
| 12. Minnesota Duluth          | 72     | 3. Sioux Falls (3)           | 39         |
| 13. Minot State               | 58     | 4. Minnesota State           | 29         |
| 14. Upper Iowa                | 54     | 5. Augustana                 | 26         |
| 15. Bemidji State             | 31     | 6. Concordia-St. Paul        | 24         |
| 16. Southwest Minnesota State | 17     | 7. Upper Iowa                | 13         |
| first place votes in ( )      |        | 8. Southwest Minnesota State | 8          |

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PLAYERS MENTIONED ▾

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>#21 Katrina Nordick</b><br>F / 5' 10" / Senior | <b>#12 Alexa Thielman</b><br>G / 5' 8" / Senior |
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