



Women's Soccer | 4/19/2018 9:02:00 PM | Shawn D. Smith, Director of Athletic Media Relations

Minnesota Crookston Women's Basketball Signs Two-Sport Athlete Kluge from Chisago City



CROOKSTON, Minn. – The University of Minnesota Crookston women's basketball team announced the signing of Alethea Kluge (F, 5-11, Chisago City, Minn./Chisago Lakes H.S.) to a National Letter of Intent. Kluge also signed in February to play women's soccer for the Golden Eagles as a goalkeeper. She will be a two-sport student-athlete for Minnesota Crookston starting in the fall of 2018.

"Alethea is a strong power forward and has the ability to attack the rim," said Head Coach [Mike Roysland](#). "She is a good athlete and she will add good size to the forward position. We are thankful to Coach Alianiello and the soccer program for agreeing to allow Alethea to be a two-sport athlete. We are excited to welcome Alethea to the Golden Eagle basketball family and can't wait to see how she grows as a player within our program."

Kluge is the eighth signee for the Golden Eagles. She adds to one of the best recruiting classes in the history of the program. She joins Mary Burke (F, 5-11, Virginia, Minn./Mountain Iron-Buhl H.S.), Paige Cornale (G, 5-10, Oak Creek, Wis./Oak Creek H.S.), Bren Fox (C, 6-3, Norwood Young America, Minn./Norwood Young America H.S.), Julia Peplinski (F, 5-10, Hustisford, Minn./Hustisford H.S.), Kylea Praska (G, 5-7, Thief River Falls, Minn./Thief River Falls Lincoln H.S.), Kylie Post (G, 5-7, Corcoran, Minn./Maranatha Christian Academy) and Kayla Sirjord (G, 5-6, Ulen, Minn./Ulen-Hitterdal H.S.).

The Golden Eagles have been able to add depth and competition at every position on the court. In addition, they have added strength in the post, speed, outside shooting, great passers and great defenders. Kluge also shows the commitment for Coach Roysland to find the best talent in the state. She is the sixth signee in the class from the state of Minnesota. Kluge also continues to increase the size on the team for the Golden Eagles as they now have 11 players on the 2018-19 roster that are 5-10 or taller. As a point of reference, Minnesota Crookston had six players that were 5-10 or taller last season with just two players over six-foot.

Minnesota Crookston is looking to build on an 8-19 mark on the 2017-18 season. The Golden Eagles had made the NSIC/Sanford Health quarterfinals the previous three seasons prior to 2017-18. They are looking to make it back to Sioux Falls, S.D. and the Sanford Pentagon. Minnesota Crookston returns 1,000 point scorer [Isieoma Odor](#) (R-Jr., F/C, Bloomington, Minn.), along with senior [Caitlin Michaelis](#) (Sr., G, Marshfield, Wis.), who made great strides as a junior, and [Abby Guidinger](#) (So., G/F, Waukesha, Wis.), who showed potential as a true freshman. The Golden Eagles also return five other players who saw time last season. Paired with the strong signing class, Minnesota Crookston will have great competition and depth up and down the line-up.

Alethea Kluge (F, 5-11, Chisago City, Minn./Chisago Lakes H.S.)

Kluge averaged 12.9 points and 6.1 rebounds per game as a junior. She tallied a season-high 25 points against Minnehaha Academy as a junior. She notched 23 points versus Cloquet H.S. during her junior season. Kluge posted 18-point performances against Cloquet H.S. as a junior. She notched 13 rebounds against Princeton H.S. She was named Team MVP for her basketball team. She was part of the student-athlete leadership team for the Minnesota State Conference for basketball as a sophomore. Kluge was an All-State Honorable Mention pick as a senior in soccer. Kluge had 12 goals against and .917 saves percentage as a senior.

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She is the daughter of Jay and Cherie Kluge. Kluge was born Jan. 28, 2000. She is undecided on a major. Kluge is also playing soccer for Minnesota Crookston.

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PLAYERS MENTIONED ▾

#3 Caitlin Michaelis

G / 5' 8" / Junior

#15 Isieoma Odor

F / 6' 0" / Redshirt Junior

#12 Abby Guidinger

G / 5' 10" / Freshman



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CROOKSTON

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