

News Release

Golden Eagles Snap Nine Game Losing Streak with Big 68-65 Conference Win over Bemidji State

By Mitch Bakken on Sunday, February 10, 2008

(Crookston, Minn.) – The Golden Eagles Men's Basketball team didn't let the schedule change affect their focus this afternoon in Lysaker Gymnasium. The game, originally scheduled for last night was postponed until this afternoon because of the inclement weather. Minnesota, Crookston stayed focused and executed the game plan to take an important 68-65 victory over their NSIC rival.

The Golden Eagles struggled from the field early to help BSU take a 15-7 lead just seven minutes into the game. UMC rallied back and tied the game 25-25 at the five minute mark with a three-pointer from **Matt Pelzer (Jr., G., St. Cloud, Minn.)**. Pelzer finished the half with six points on 2-2 three-point shooting. The Beaver's committed 15 turnover and Minnesota, Crookston capitalized on them by scoring 14 points off of the turnovers. **Akeem Cubie (Fr., G., Minneapolis, Minn.)** came off the bench and provided a spark scoring twelve points in just 13 minutes of play to lead all scorers in the first half. Cubie played solid defense through the first 20 minutes, grabbing five steals. **Aaron Smith (Sr., G., Cedar Rapids, Iowa)** also chipped in off the bench scoring six points.

The Golden Eagles went into halftime leading 35-29. Minnesota, Crookston opened up the lead to 10 with 10 minutes remaining in the second half and would not relinquish that lead. The Beavers continued to turn the ball over and ended the game committing 24 turnovers. The Golden Eagles shot a solid 41 percent from the field and 83 percent from the charity stripe in the second half. Akeem Cubie continued his stellar performance tallying 17 points, five steals and five rebounds. Matt Pelzer had a season high as he chipped in twelve points and **Joey Kollar (Sr., F., Norwood-Young America, Minn.)** had an all around great effort today finishing with ten points, seven rebounds, four assists and went 8-8 from the free-throw line in the contest. BSU was led by Arron Evans who scored 18 points to lead all scorers. Patrick Cassidy scored 14 points for the Beavers, going 5-7 from the field and 4-4 from the free-throw line.

The Golden Eagles improved to 5-18 overall and 2-12 in NSIC play, while the Beaver's fall to 6-17 overall and 3-11 in NSIC action. Minnesota, Crookston travels to Northern State and the University of Mary on February 15 and 16. Tip-off is set for 6:00 p.m. for the women and 8:00 p.m. for the men on both nights.

For more information, visit the Golden Eagle Athletics website at: www.goldeneaglesports.com

The University of Minnesota, Crookston is a NCAA Division II Institution and a member of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC). Golden Eagle Hockey is a member of the Midwest Collegiate Hockey Association (MCHA). The Golden Eagle Equestrian team is a member of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA).

(Story written by Trissilyn Clayton, Sports Information Intern)

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