

News Release

Vikings Sneak Past Golden Eagles 64-59 in another Battle to the Final Buzzer

By Mitch Bakken on Saturday, January 10, 2009

(Crookston, Minn.)- The University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) Men's Basketball team came into tonight's contest prepared for back-to-back NSIC victories. The Golden Eagles and the Augustana Vikings played 40 minutes of hard basketball, which for the second night in a row took the entire 40 minutes to figure out the victor. Tonight it was the Vikings who came out on top 64-59. Minnesota, Crookston has been involved in five contests decided by seven or fewer points this season.

The Vikings started the game strong taking an eight point lead at the 14:17 mark of the first half. The Golden Eagles where able to chip away at the lead and bring the game back within three with help from Matt Pelzer (G, 6-4, 190, SR, St. Cloud, Minn.) who played the whole first half and scored seven points and grabbed four rebounds to lead Minnesota, Crookston. A strong contributor to the Vikings lead was points off of turnovers as Augustana scored seven points off UMC miscues in the first half. The Golden Eagles came out and tied the game early in the second half with a Pelzer three-pointer but the Vikings responded with a 6-0 run and never looked back. The Golden Eagles where able to get back in the game late led by Akeem Cubie (G, 6-5, 180, SO, Minneapolis, Minn.) who scored 14 second half points but UMC was unable to get closer than four points down the stretch.

The Golden Eagles were led by Cubie who finished the game with a game high 19 points. He was 7-11 from the field, 3-4 from long range and 2-3 from the free-throw line. Pelzer played a strong 35 minutes recording 13 points on 5-11 shooting and tied a team game high with six rebounds. Bruce Felts (F, 6-10, SR, Bemidji, Minn.) matched Pelzer with six rebounds for a share of the lead.

Augustana shot a blistering 51.9% from the field in the contest. The team was led by Eric Krogman who scored 12 points and shot 5-13 from the field and grabbed a game high eight rebounds in 32 minutes of play. Marques Blank followed Krogman with 11 points in the contest.

The University of Minnesota, Crookston moves to 3-12 overall and 1-7 in NSIC play. Augustana improves to 11-3 overall and 5-2 in the NSIC. The Golden Eagles host MSU Moorhead on Saturday, January 17. Tip-off is scheduled for 8 p.m. at Lysaker Gymnasium.

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).

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