



Baseball | 4/26/2019 9:44:00 AM | Hunter Plante, Assistant Director of Marketing/Communications, Olivia Putin, Media Relations Intern

Golden Eagles Drive Down Highway-2 for Friday-Saturday Series with Bemidji State

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Bemidji, Minn.—Head coach [Steve Cull](#) and the Golden Eagles baseball team will look to rebound after dropping two games against Northern State on Wednesday afternoon.

This weekend, the Golden Eagles will stay on US Highway-2 and travel to Bemidji for a date with Bemidji State on Friday and Saturday.

The Golden Eagles come into the weekend right in the thick of the things in the NSIC at sixth place and will look to continue the push to St. Cloud, Minn., for the conference tournament. Minnesota Crookston is 2-18 overall (4-11 NSIC). The Beavers come into this weekend at 7-29 overall (5-19 NSIC).

Minnesota Crookston at Bemidji State
Fri., April 26—1:30/3:30 p.m.
Sat., April 27—12/3 p.m.
Bemidji, Minn.
Bemidji State Baseball Field
Live Stats- <https://stats.statbroadcast.com/broadcast/?id=256343>
Video- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...>

Minnesota Crookston Projected Starting Lineup
 So, C 29 [Ben Thomas](#), 242 avg., 18 runs, 5 2B, 2 3B, 1 HR, 19 RBIs
 Sr, 1B 33 [David Hjelte](#), 353 avg., 34 runs, 2 2B, 3 3B, 10 HR, 33 RBIs
 Jr, 2B 31 [Kason Kummert](#), 203 avg., 17 runs, 3 2B, 2 3B, 4 HR, 14 RBIs
 Jr, 3B 28 [Scott Finberg](#), 237 avg., 20 runs, 8 2B, 6 HR, 25 RBIs
 R-So, SS 9 [Curtin Eason](#), 257 avg., 15 runs, 3 2B, 1 3B, 13 RBIs
 Jr, LF 8 [Bryce Jorgensen](#), 281 avg., 32 runs, 13 2B, 9 RBIs
 Jr, CF 1 [Landon Swenson](#), 257 avg., 22 runs, 4 2B, 1 HR, 16 RBIs
 So, RF 20 [Zach Rustad](#), 242 avg., 28 runs, 10 2B, 3 3B, 8 HR, 38 RBIs
 So, DH 16 [Jonathan Lund](#), 278 avg., 4 runs, 1 2B, 1 HR, 3 RBIs
 or R-So, DH 31 [Travis Conroy](#), 288 avg., 7 runs, 9 RBIs

Top Pitchers
 R-So, LHP 36 [Dalton Grosse](#), 2-2 2.35 ERA, 30.2 IP, 36 K, 19 BB, 9 saves
 Sr, RHP 37 [Louis Cerzin](#), 3-1 5.06 ERA, 16.0 IP, 22 K, 16 BB
 Sr, LHP 30 [Nate Albrecht](#), 2-2 3.66 ERA, 46.2 IP, 37 K, 13 BB
 Fr, RHP 17 [Canner Richardson](#), 11-3.90 ERA, 32.1 IP, 13 K, 6 BB
 Sr, LHP 24 [Zach Rustad](#), 5-5 4.80 ERA, 54.1 IP, 43 K, 26 BB

The Golden Eagles will look to continue their push to the NSIC tournament with four games against Bemidji State. The final game on Saturday afternoon will be a seven inning game that is non-conference.

Offensively, the Golden Eagles are hitting .257 with 213 runs scored, 313 hits, with 31 homeruns and 187 RBIs. They are led by reigning NSIC player of the year [David Hjelte](#) (Sr., 1B, East Grand Forks, Minn.). Hjelte is having another outstanding season in the batter's box. Hjelte is hitting .353 on the season with 34 runs scored, two doubles, three triples, 10 homeruns and 33 RBIs. Hjelte is third in the conference in slugging percentage at .672 and is first in the conference in on-base percentage, getting on base at a .529 clip. [Landon Swenson](#) (Jr., OF, Devils Lake, N.D.) and [Bryce Jorgensen](#) (Jr., UT, Thunder Bay, Ontario) have also been table setters for the middle of the order. The juniors have combined to scored 55 runs on the season. [Scott Finberg](#) (Jr., 3B, Stillwater, Minn.) and [Zach Rustad](#) (So, OF, Grand Forks, N.D.) will look to continue the power surge this weekend for the Golden Eagles.

On the mound, Minnesota Crookston has gotten some good performances. [Steve Cull](#) has relied on a trio of starters during the course of the season, in [Zach Rustad](#) (Sr., LHP, Blaine, Minn.), [Nate Albrecht](#) (Sr., LHP, Wahpeton, N.D.) and [Dalton Grosse](#) (Jr., RHP, Cooperstown, N.D.). Rustad has been good as of late, including in his last game against number five ranked St. Cloud State, when Rustad went 7.0 innings and allowed five hits and gave up just three runs to the high-powered Husky offense. [Canner Richardson](#) (Fr., RHP, Grand Forks, N.D.) has made the move from the bullpen to the starting rotation and will look to continue his impressive freshman season. In the bullpen, [Dalton Grosse](#) (R-so., LHP, Waterville, Minn.) has been outstanding, leading the conference with nine saves and will look to continue his strong season in the back end of the bullpen for Minnesota Crookston.

Bemidji State Projected Starters
 So, SS 9 Blake Huntley, 263, 9 R, 8 RBI
 So, 3B 22 Wyatt White, 264, 12 R, 5 2B, 1 HR, 13 RBI
 Jr, C 8 Isaiah Gramoncovitz, 239, 18 R, 3 HR, 13 RBI
 So, 1B 12 Matt Kummert, 269, 9 R, 5 2B, 1 HR, 6 RBI
 So, DH 14 Parker Borg, 234, 4 R, 7 RBI
 Sr, 2B 10 Drake Wawro, 224, 4 R, 3 RBI
 So, RF 5 Caleb Mameshe, 311
 So, LF 24 Owen Anderson, 050, 1 RBI
 So, CF 7 Austin Weisz, 123, 3 R, 1 RBI

Top Pitchers
 So, RHP 27 Kenny Morris, 0.00 ERA, 5 G, 11.2 IP, 10 SO, 2 BB
 Sr, LHP 10 Jesse Palafox, 6.34 ERA, 17.381 IP, 37 SO, 20 BB
 R-Fr, RHP 4 Kevin Smith, 6.55 ERA, 0.3, 34.1 IP, 18 SO, 9 BB

The Bemidji State University head into this weekend's series with an overall record of 7-29 and a conference record of 5-19. Placed last in the conference, they are just shy of three wins to move up a spot, which they hope to earn against the Golden Eagles.

Historically, the Beavers lead the Minnesota Crookston series under Coach Tim Bellow 21-8.

As a team, the Beavers are batting .224. Hitting just above this mark at .266 is sophomore catcher Matt Kummert. Kummert has also had five extra base hits and six RBIs. Bating .333 on the season is junior Kade Nelson. The infielder has had two extra base hits and six RBIs this season.

The Beavers has an average ERA of 8.42 and 177 strikeouts. 37 of those strikeouts belong to senior Jess Palafox. The San Diego, Calif. Native has an ERA of 6.34 and a 17 win-loss record. Sophomore pitcher Travis Caruth has stepped up in his young career. He has an ERA of 4.71 with 13 strikeouts.

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| PLAYERS MENTIONED | |
|--|---|
| #30 Nate Albrecht LHP / 6' 1" / Redshirt Sophomore / L | #31 Travis Conroy C / 5' 7" / Redshirt Freshman / L |
| #9 Criffin Fusy SS / 5' 11" / Redshirt Freshman / L | #36 Dalton Grosse LHP / 6' 3" / Redshirt Freshman / L |
| #35 Jayden Crover RHP / 6' 3" / Sophomore / R | #33 Reed Hjelte 1B / 6' 2" / Junior / R |
| #29 Ben Thoma UT / 5' 10" / Freshman / R | #16 Jonathan Lund 3B / 6' 2" / Junior / R |
| #24 Zach Rustad LHP / 5' 10" / Junior / L | #37 Louis Cerzin RHP / 5' 11" / Junior / R |

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