

News Release

UMC Honors Alumni Friday, September 29 during Homecoming Week

By Elizabeth Tollefson, Corby Kemmer on Monday, September 25, 2006 CROOKSTON, MN (September 25, 2006) – The annual University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) Outstanding Alumni and Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremonies will be held Friday, Sept. 29, in Bede Ballroom in the Student Center on the UMC campus. The schedule includes a 6:00 p.m. social, 6:30 p.m. dinner and 7:00 p.m. program. Tickets are \$16 per person and can be reserved by contacting Rose Ulseth in the Office of Development & Alumni Relations at 218-281-8439.

The 2006 University of Minnesota, Crookston Outstanding Alumni are Doug Aretz '75 and Katherine (Torkelson) Majkrzak '80.

Doug Aretz earned an associate's degree in natural resources at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. Following his time at UMC, he went on to study healthcare and managing services to benefit people. Aretz is a volunteer mentor/project leader for Community Health & Social Service Division of Russian Farms Community Project, a district representative for Minnesota Health & Housing Alliance and a regional director for Care Providers of Minnesota. He is currently the administrator of St. Benedict's Senior Community Care Center in St. Cloud, Minn.

Katherine (Torkelson) Majkrzak earned her associate's degree in business from the University of Minnesota, Crookston. Majkrzak, who has a master's degree in music composition, is a member of the American Composers Forum and IT Service Management Forum (Twin Cities Chapter) and has composed choral, chamber and orchestral works. She is the principal/regulatory/compliance analyst for Medtronic Inc. in Shoreview, Minn.

The 2006 University of Minnesota, Crookston Athletic Hall of Fame inductees are Bob Johnson, Faculty Athletic Representative 1970-97; Mike Gasper, Football 1975-77; Sherry (Staff) Nelson, Women's Basketball 1984-86; Jeff Malawski, Hockey 1992-94 and 1995-97; and the 1972-73 Hockey Team.

Bob Johnson served as faculty athletic representative for almost 30 years. He was a statistician for all home and away football games and worked the clock for basketball and hockey for many years. Johnson has been a true friend of athletics at the University of Minnesota, Crookston.

Mike Gasper was named to the All-Conference Football Team in 1975 and 1976. As a sophomore, he was offensive MVP, named to the All-Region XIII Team and led UMC to a Northern Division Championship, and at that time, held the career rushing record with 1436 yards.

Sherry (Staff) Nelson held many career and season records in women's basketball when the University of Minnesota, Crookston was a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association. As a sophomore in 1986, she was co-captain and team MVP, named to the All-Northwest Division First Team and received All-State Honorable Mention recognition.

Jeff Malawski helped the University of Minnesota, Crookston to its first two national championships in campus history. He was named to the 1992-93 All-Tournament Team as a defenseman. In 1993-94, he was a First Team All-American defenseman, team captain and was a recipient of the Mike Davis Memorial Award. Malawski also served as a captain of the 1995-96 and 1996-97 hockey teams.

1973 Hockey Team, under head coach Dale Stinar and assistant coach Chuck Habstritt, won the state junior college championship and placed second in the nation with a record of 16-8-1 at a time when hockey was only in its second year as a collegiate sport on the campus.

The University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) delivers more than 24 different undergraduate degree programs, including online options, in agriculture; arts, humanities and social sciences; business; math, science and technology; and natural resources. UMC is dedicated to helping students and the region aim higher, reach further and dream big dreams. To learn more, visit www.UMCrookston.edu.

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