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News Release

University of Minnesota Crookston Baseball Team Heads to Florida

By Chris Vito on Wednesday, March 11, 2009

(Crookston, Minn.) – The University of Minnesota, Crookston Baseball team will head to Fort Myers, Fla. on Thursday, March 12 to take part in the Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic March 13-18. The Golden Eagles will play eight games and are in search of their first win of the season after dropping a doubleheader to UW-Stout last Wednesday at the Metrodome (2-0 & 8-1). Their overall record currently stands at 0-6.

U of M, Crookston Head Baseball Coach Chris Vito is excited to get his team outside for the first time this season. "We cannot wait to get to Fort Myers," says Coach Vito. "The players have been inside for quite a while so this is going to be nice. We face some solid competition and are looking to improve."

The second-year Golden Eagle mentor has been pleased with his pitching and defense but is waiting for his hitting to come around. "I have been extremely pleased with our pitching," says Coach Vito. "Other than the second game against Stout, we have played solid defense. It's time for our hitting to catch up and give us a chance to be successful. I am confident that is going to happen soon."

U of M, Crookston will open things up with a pair of nine-inning non-conference games on Friday, March 13. They will face Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) foe the University of Minnesota Duluth at 10:00 a.m. (EST) and the University of Charleston (W.V.) at 6 p.m. (EST). On Saturday, March 14, the Golden Eagles will face the University of Minnesota Duluth in a nonconference doubleheader starting at 3 p.m. (EST). U of M, Crookston will face St. Michael's College (Ver.) in a single nine-inning game on Sunday, March 15 at 1 p.m. (EST). After a day off, the Golden Eagles return to action on Tuesday, March 17 with a doubleheader against the University of Minnesota Morris. First pitch is scheduled for 3 p.m. (EST). U of M, Crookston will close out their southern trip on Wednesday, March 18 when they take on St. Michael's College for a second time in a single nine-inning game starting at 10 a.m. (EST).

For more information, visit the Golden Eagle Athletics website at <u>www.goldeneaglesports.com</u>.

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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