

DULUTH--UMD's cage squad will have at least two hard workouts before journeying to St. Paul to meet St. Cloud State in the District 13 NAIA playoffs at 8 p.m. Thursday (March 5) at the Hamline fieldhouse.

The Bulldogs finished their regular season play with a 101-51 victory over St. John's on Feb. 28, before a packed Bulldog gym participating in Recognition Night.

"This St. Cloud team is a rough one, even better than last season's outfit," was UMD coach Norm Olson's comment after having personally scouted the Huskies twice.

"They're a fast moving team with a solid defense."

St. Cloud has two outstanding players in Vern Baggenstoss and Bob Bambenek. Baggenstoss held a 20.4 conference mark this season, and Bambenek was not far behind him with 17.6 points per game. The job of trying to contain these two potent scorers will fall to the only underclassmen on the starting UMD five Dave Baker, sophomore from Duluth Central, and Bill Mattson, freshman from Virginia.

"The men have to take this game seriously, and I think they will. So far my men have come all out when the situation needed it. That's the kind of club it has been all season," was Olson's comment when asked if he thought his club may be too overconfident, "But we have a lot of work to cover yet."

The NAIA playoff will be the fourth for Coach Red Severson and his Huskies, and the second for the Bulldog five. St. Cloud, which has yet to win the District crown, will be looking to avenge last year's 71-66 setback which they were handed by the 1958 Bulldogs.