



Women's Volleyball | 11/17/2015 3:57:00 PM | Shawn Smith, Sports Information Director

Get To Know Your Golden Eagles: Stephanie Pearson



This week we sat down with UMC senior outside hitter [Stephanie Pearson](#). Pearson is the lone senior for the Golden Eagles. We sat down with her to talk about her career and a little bit about her plans once she gets her degree from the University of Minnesota Crookston.

Talk about the emotions you are going through heading into your final two games in the Maroon and Gold against Minot State and U-Mary?

"It is definitely bittersweet. I have put in my time and I have been here all four years. It will be a sad to leave the girls because they are like my family. Since I am the only senior I am going through it alone. My teammates have been really supportive. I am not a crier, so hopefully I don't cry, but I will be kind of sad."

You have been alone in your class since the beginning of your sophomore year. Talk about how that has been and the things that you have enjoyed about it, but also the difficult parts of being the only one in your class?

"It is nice, especially when we do class photos and I can be myself and do what I want. It hasn't really felt like I was alone until I was a senior and now I am experiencing a lot of lasts and I am the only one going through those emotions. It doesn't really feel like I am the only one. I just feel like a part of the team and don't feel separated by my class."

What were some of the things you wanted to work on heading into this year and do you think you have accomplished your goals you set out to achieve?

"I think since my freshman year I have improved on my serve-receive, which is a big part of the game and it is the first contact and essentially starts the play. Digging has been a big part of my game and I have increased my average digs per set. It has been good to go out with a bang my senior year, knowing that I did something good."

Talk about what the team, including yourself, has done defensively? You have obviously had to change a lot over the last two years after having a libero like Chelsea Wiesner.

"It was nice to have Chelsea (Wiesner) my freshman and sophomore years, she was a huge leader. I really looked up to her but when it comes to her digs we need the whole team to step up and not just one person to be Chelsea. We don't need a libero to step up and be Chelsea but as a team we need to play our game and each person needs to step up and fill the void of what she did."

Talk about being able to play with an outside hitter like [Brittany Looker](#) and what she did to help you become better?

"Brittany (Looker) was a good example and I was lucky to have her to look up to for three years. I was able to be the second outside hitter behind her last season as a junior. In terms of Brittany's stats, much like Chelsea's, we need to make up for them as a team and not just one person. It was nice playing with Brittany, she was an every-day player and you always knew what you were going to get from her. It was also nice playing behind Alexandra Skeeter. She was a great athletic outside hitter that enjoyed playing with and being around, as well."

You are currently in the process of doing an internship. What are some of your goals once you graduate and do you have a career path in mind?

"I love my internship at Northwestern Mutual. I have been there a couple of months now. It will be nice, once the season is done, to focus more on my internship and learning more about investments and insurance. I have seen some interests from people on LinkedIn from some jobs in the Twin Cities. Hopefully I will stay with Northwestern Mutual, but I don't want to put all of my eggs in one basket. I would like to venture out and see other places and see what other jobs have to offer."

Talk about the process that it took to get you here originally, four years ago?

"It was really interesting that myself and Eli Manning were the only two recruits from Illinois and we were in the same class. Unfortunately she ended up leaving. My recruiting process was interesting, I committed late to UMC. I committed in March of my senior year. I believe people in the class after me had already committed before I had committed. It was a good process. Coach Anderson was great during the process. I committed to him on the couch in their office and then he took me out to the team and introduced me to them."

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PLAYERS MENTIONED ▾

#8 Brittany Looker OH / 5' 10" / Senior	#10 Stephanie Pearson OH / 5' 9" / Senior
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