



Football | 8/15/2018 4:51:00 PM | Shawn D. Smith, Director of Athletic Media Relations

Fall Camp Notebook: Day 11



CROOKSTON, Minn. – The University of Minnesota Crookston football program is half-way through the second week of fall camp as they prepare to open the season Thurs., Aug. 30 at Minnesota State University Moorhead.

Today we focus on the work that is being put in at the defensive back position. The Golden Eagles are led by assistant coach [Sam Smith](#), who is in his third season with the program. Smith comes from a great pedigree as a player, having played in the National Football League, Indoor Football League, and Arena Football League. Smith has turned his successful playing career into a strong start to a coaching career after his first three years at Minnesota Crookston, and a previous season with Western State Colorado University.

Smith likes what he sees from a group that is a mix of young players and older players. The Golden Eagles return experience at safety in the form of returning starters [Will Cole](#) (Sr., DB, Compton, Calif.), and [Trevor Long, Jr.](#) (R-Jr., DB, Brooklyn Park, Minn.). The Golden Eagles also return [Kyler Banks](#) (R-So., DB, Cannon Falls, Minn.) and [Jake Larkin](#) (R-So., DB, Kensington, Minn.) with experience, as well as a group of newcomers who will look to compete for time at safety.

At corner, the Golden Eagles are a little less experienced with just one returnee in [Anfernee Cooper](#) (R-So., DB, Fort Worth, Texas). In addition to Cooper, Minnesota Crookston will have to rely on several newcomers who are competing for time during fall camp. Though they are new, the Golden Eagles have liked the progression of the young group as they continue to work hard.

"I feel good about where we are as a unit," Smith said. "We have a mix of young guys and older guys but the younger guys are catching on and overall I like where they are."

Cole also feels comfortable about where the defensive backs are as a unit. The senior is looking to provide leadership to the young group as they continue to get game ready for the first snap against MSU Moorhead.

"The big thing I am trying to do as a leader is just to lead by example," Cole said. "When I was a younger player, the older players really helped me out and I am trying to the same by our younger guys."

Look for the defensive backs to continue to progress through camp. The defense had a particularly strong day on Wednesday as they made several plays all over the field showing maximum effort and making smart decisions. The Golden Eagles will hope for a similar progression through the rest of camp.

[Print Friendly Version](#)

PLAYERS MENTIONED ▾

#35 Kyler Banks
WR / 6' 1" / Redshirt Sophomore

#3 Anfernee Cooper
DB / 5' 11" / Redshirt Sophomore

#40 Trevor Long, Jr.
DB / 6' 0" / Redshirt Junior

#25 Will Cole
DB / 6' 0" / Senior

#17 Jake Larkin
DB / 6' 0" / Redshirt Sophomore

We use cookies and other technologies.

We, along with our service providers and other third parties use cookies and other analytics, advertising, and tracking technologies on this site. Your information, including personal information and interactions with this site, may be monitored, recorded, or collected through these tools and further used or disclosed by us, our service providers and authorized third parties. To opt-out or learn more, please visit our privacy policy.

Related Stories

12.10.19
[UMN Crookston Discontinues Golden Eagle Football Program](#)

11.22.19
[Minnesota Crookston Football Player Will Cross Leaves Behind A Legacy of Leadership and Heady Play](#)

11.20.19
[Three Players Earn All-NSIC Accolades for Minnesota Crookston Football](#)

11.16.19
[21-0 Run in First Quarter Propels UMary Past Minnesota Crookston 44-15](#)

11.14.19
[Minnesota Crookston Football Concludes 2019 Season on the Road at UMary](#)

Related Videos

10.31.23
[2023 Volleyball Hype Video](#)

10.31.23
[2023 Soccer Hype Video](#)

10.27.23
[2023-24 Golden Eagle Trap Hype Video](#)

10.27.23
[Student-Athlete Highlight: Audrey Cariveau](#)

10.25.23
[Bryan Beamish Preseason Interview](#)



For more details, please visit our privacy policy.



Close



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CROOKSTON

© 2023 University of Minnesota Crookston Athletics

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer

[Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Do Not Sell or Share My Personal Information](#)



POWERED BY LEARFIELD

We use cookies and other technologies.

We, along with our service providers and other third parties use cookies and other analytics, advertising, and tracking technologies on this site. Your information, including personal information and interactions with this site, may be monitored, recorded, or collected through these tools and further used or disclosed by us, our service providers and authorized third parties. To opt-out or learn more, please visit our privacy policy.



For more details, please visit our privacy policy.