



Men's Basketball | 6/24/2015 4:25:00 PM | Shawn Smith, Sports Information Director

UMC Men's Basketball Adds Late Signee Hall to Signing Class



CROOKSTON, Minn.- The University of Minnesota Crookston men's basketball team announced the addition of Xavier Hall (G, 6-1175, Woodbury, Minn./North Platte Community College) to a National Letter of Intent to begin playing for the Golden Eagles during the 2015-16 season.

Hall is the 10th signee for Head Coach [Dan Weisse](#) and gives the Golden Eagles another point guard option. Hall joins two of his teammates [C.J. Polk](#) (G, 6-1176, Milwaukee, Wis.) and [Riley Rice](#) (F, 6-6 230, Mullen, Neb.) from a North Platte Community College team that went 24-9 on the season, advancing to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division I Region IX Tournament.

"We thought we were done with recruiting, but at the same time we thought we needed a bit more depth at guard," said Head Coach [Dan Weisse](#). "We feel lucky to find a guy like Xavier, from the state of Minnesota, who fits our value system. Xavier is a team guy and it's important for him to get his degree. He is a quality ball handler and a very good defender. We are very impressed with him as a person and are excited to coach him for two years and help him attain his degree."

Hall joins Polk, Rice and [Ben Crygiel](#) (F, 6-6 200, Rockford, Ill./Rock Valley College) as junior college transfers brought into supplement a young roster which will include a very talented freshman class that includes some of Minnesota's top prep talent. Weisse's first full recruiting class includes four players ranked among the top 45 players in the state for 2015 including 24th-ranked [Kobe Critchley](#) (G, 6-0 190, Roseville, Minn./Roseville Area H.S.), 34th-Ranked [Chase Knickerbocker](#) (F, 6-6 175, Annandale, Minn./Annandale H.S.), 35th-ranked [Nate Lorenz](#) (F, 6-7 210, Breckenridge, Minn./Breckenridge H.S.) and 42nd-ranked [Connor Gamble](#) (G, 6-0 155, Stillwater, Minn./Stillwater Area H.S.).

In addition, the Golden Eagles added a pair of Northwest Minnesota hoopsters with [Aaron Hollcraft](#) (G, 5-11 175, Crookston, Minn./Crookston H.S.) and [Darin Viken](#) (G, 6-2 190, Fosston, Minn./Fosston H.S.). Giving UMC two highly acclaimed local products who are coaches are excited to see grow in the system.

All signees are contingent upon admission to UMC and compliance with NCAA rules, including certification by the NCAA Eligibility Center. Everyone released today has signed their National Letter of Intent prior to release of information.

Xavier Hall/G/6-1175/Woodbury, Minn./North Platte Community College

Hall appeared in 25 games with 18 starts for the Knights. The sophomore averaged 14.2 points per game and tallied 25 assists on the season. In addition, he notched 27 steals on the year and averaged 2.7 points for a strong North Platte Community College squad coached by veteran junior college coach Kevin O'Connor. As a freshman, Hall appeared in 22 games with one start, averaging 13.4 minutes per game. Hall notched 28 assists and 17 steals on the season, while averaging 2.6 points per game. As a freshman, the Knights went 27-5 and were ranked No. 15 in the nation heading into the Region IX Tournament.

Hall attended Tartan H.S. as a prep, the school that produced recent UMC graduate [Tim Lubke](#). Hall was ranked as the 25th-best prospect in the state of Minnesota by Northstar Hoops Report during the 2013 season. As a senior, Hall averaged 8.7 points per game. He was team captain as a junior and senior and was named Defensive Player of the Year.

Hall is the son of Regina Hall. He was born Feb. 20, 1995 and plans to major in sports and rec management.

The 10 newcomers will join six returnees, which includes senior [Derrick Redd, Jr.](#) (G, Menifee, Calif./Sports and Rec Management), who led the team with an 11.4 points per game average as a junior. Redd will join [Jim Warmack](#) (So., F/C, East Grand Forks, Minn./Management) and [Micah Hollowell](#) (So., G, Owensboro, Ky.) as returnees, along with redshirts [A.J. Walton](#) (R-Fr., G, Oak Hills, Calif.), [Gable Smith](#) (R-Fr., F, Lodi, Wis.) and [Ibrahim Cisse](#) (R-So., F, Plymouth, Minn.).

For more information, visit the Golden Eagle Athletics website at [www.goldeneaglesports.com](#).

Follow the Golden Eagles on Facebook at Golden Eagle Sports and on Twitter at @UMCAthletics.

The University of Minnesota Crookston is a NCAA Division II university located in the Red River Valley of Northwest Minnesota. UMC sponsors 11 intercollegiate athletic teams with membership in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate conference (NSIC) and the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA). The NSIC is a 16-team conference with schools situated in Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska.

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PLAYERS MENTIONED	
#24 Tim Lubke G / 6' 3" / Senior	#44 Gable Smith G/F / 6' 7" / Freshman
#54 Jim Warmack F/C / 6' 7" / Freshman	#30 Micah Hollowell G / 6' 3" / Freshman
#12 A.J. Walton G / 6' 4" / Freshman	#10 Derrick Redd, Jr. G / 6' 1" / Redshirt Senior
#1 Connor Gamble G / 6' 0" / Freshman	#2 C.J. Polk G / 6' 0" / Sophomore
#13 Kobe Critchley G / 6' 0" / Freshman	#32 Ben Crygiel F / 6' 5" / Junior

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