



Men's Basketball | 12/17/2014 3:59:00 PM | Shawn Smith, Sports Information Director

West and Gruber Named UMC Teambackers Student-Athletes of the Week



CROOKSTON, Minn.— University of Minnesota Crookston men's basketball player [Tyler West, Jr.](#) (Sr., G/F, Portland, Ore./Communications) and women's basketball player [Emily Gruber](#) (Fr., F/C, Monticello, Minn./Undecided) have been named UMC Teambackers Student-Athletes of the Week for the seven-day period stretching from Dec. 11-17.

VIDEO INTERVIEWS

West has been honored three times this season, while the UMC men's basketball team has earned the award four times. This is the first time Gruber has been recognized and the fourth time a Golden Eagle women's basketball player has earned the award.

West averaged 12 points per game and 11.5 rebounds as the Golden Eagles went 1-1 on the weekend with a win over Wayne State and a loss to Augustana. UMC's victory over Wayne State marked the first time UMC has had back-to-back NSIC victories since February of 2005. West tallied 14 points and 14 rebounds against the Wildcats. Against Augustana, he notched 10 points and nine boards.

West currently leads the NSIC with 9.4 rebounds per game in conference this season. He is averaging 15.9 points and 10.6 rebounds per game over the last seven contests for the Golden Eagles.

Gruber was named NSIC North Player of the Week after her best weekend thus far as a member of the Minnesota Crookston women's basketball team. Gruber had her best weekend of her young career as she tallied 23.5 points per game and 6.5 rebounds per game as the Golden Eagles picked up one of their biggest upsets in program history with a 67-58 win over No. 7 Wayne State and took Augustana to overtime in a 97-90 loss. Gruber tallied 21 points and seven rebounds against Augustana on 9-of-14 from the field. In addition, she notched 26 points and six rebounds in the win over Wayne State. Gruber was 9-of-20 from the field and 8-of-10 from the charity stripe.

Gruber was 52.9 percent from the field and 83.3 percent from the charity stripe. She was averaging 6.3 points per game on the season coming into the weekend before coming up big in a major moments for the Golden Eagles. Especially in the absence of injured freshman [Isieoma Odor](#), Gruber has improved her average to 10.1 points per game following her weekend performance.

The UMC Teambackers Student-Athlete of the Week award was created to honor Golden Eagle student-athletes for performance on or off the field of play.

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 an NCAA Division II Institution and a member of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC). The Golden Eagle Equestrian team is a member of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA).

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- UMC Teambackers Student-Athletes of the Week (2014-15)**
- Dec. 17 - [Tyler West, Jr.](#) (men's basketball) and [Emily Gruber](#) (women's basketball)
 - Dec. 10 - [Tyler West, Jr.](#) (men's basketball) and [Alexa Thielman](#) (women's basketball)
 - Dec. 3 - Matt Borowicz (football) and [Katrina Moenkedick](#) (women's basketball)
 - Nov. 26 - [Tyler West, Jr.](#) (men's basketball) and [Alexa Thielman](#) (women's basketball)
 - Nov. 19 - Greg Lofquist (football) and Shannon Salm (western equestrian)
 - Nov. 12 - [Derrick Redd, Jr.](#) (men's basketball) and Brittany Looker (volleyball)
 - Nov. 5 - Greg Lofquist (football) and Erin Mears (soccer)
 - Oct. 29 - Dre Person (football) and Lexie Gauger (Soccer)
 - Oct. 22 - Adam Connette (football) and Miranda Mosher (soccer)
 - Oct. 15 - Taylor Crassweller (football) and Mary Mikutowski (volleyball)
 - Oct. 8 - Michael Maw (football) and Delaney McIntyre (women's soccer)
 - Oct. 1 - Matt McClure (men's golf) and Katie Sheetz (women's golf)
 - Sept. 24 - Greg Lofquist (football) and Rachelle Alcini (soccer)
 - Sept. 17 - Matt McClure (men's golf) and Sierra Trost (volleyball)
 - Sept. 10 - Ben Bucholz (football) and Brittany Looker (volleyball)



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PLAYERS MENTIONED ▾

#21 Katrina Nordick F / 5' 10" / Sophomore	#12 Alexa Thielman G / 5' 8" / Sophomore
#10 Derrick Redd, Jr. G / 6' 0" / Redshirt Junior	#32 Tyler West, Jr. G/F / 6' 6" / Senior
#25 Emily Gruber F/C / 5' 11" / Freshman	#15 Isieoma Odor F / 6' 0" / Freshman

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