

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Golden Eagle Football Signs Nine at Release Time

(Crookston, Minn.)- The University of Minnesota, Crookston Golden Eagle Football program has announced that it has signed nine players to a National Letter of Intent on the opening day of signing as of release time.

"The football coaching staff at the University of Minnesota, Crookston is extremely pleased with our initial signing class this year," says Head Football Coach Shannon Stassen. UMC's announcement to enhance our positioning in NCAA Division II athletics has helped us a great deal with recruiting in local high schools. We plan to capitalize on this momentum as we continue in the recruiting process."

This is the fifth recruiting class for Stassen and his coaching staff. This class will address immediate needs as well as position the team to grow as a program in the future with good young players from this region and beyond.

"Student athletes are excited to be joining a program that now has the resources to compete with the elite teams in the NSIC. This fact, combined with the opportunity to attend a fantastic university and graduate with a University of Minnesota Degree that is recognized worldwide, is very compelling to students," Stassen comments. "The Golden Eagle football program is committed to the NCAA Division II philosophy of academics and community involvement along with athletic excellence. All of these young men are the right fit for this philosophy."

For more information visit the Golden Eagle Football News Page at
<http://www.crk.umn.edu/people/athletics/football/FootballNews/index.htm>

The University of Minnesota, Crookston is an NCAA Division II institution and a member of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC).

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2007 Golden Eagle Football Signings

Riley Zsedeny (Zseh-deenee) – Fr., 6'1, 315, Defensive Tackle, Pelican Rapids, Minn. (Pelican Rapids High School). He was a starting member of a Pelican Rapids football team that won the Heart O' Lakes Conference three years in a row and was a Section 8 runner-up two years in a row. Academically he was a member of the tri-college math team for six years in high school. Zsedeny plans to major in Wildlife Management at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He is the son of Gene and Linda Zsedeny.

Zachary Mickelson – Fr., 5'11, 235, Defensive Lineman, Grygla, Minn. (Grygla High School) He was an All-Conference Honorable Mention selection in high school and earned the Grygla Bluedevils Defensive Lineman of the Year Award. Mickelson plans to major in Agriculture at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He is the son of Tim and Tami Irlbeck.

Shawn Reich (Rike) – Fr., 5'10, 160, Cornerback, Grand Forks, N.D. (Grand Forks Central High School) At GFC, he was the 2006 Defensive Player of the Year. He was a three year letter-winner in football and a two year letter-winner in track and field. Reich was a member of the 2004 State Runner-Up and 2005 State Champion football team and was named an All-EDC (Eastern Dakota Conference) Honorable Mention cornerback. Academically, Reich is a member of the National Honor Society. Reich plans to major in Information Technology Management (ITM) at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He is the son of Rodney and Alice Reich.

Tyler Nessel – Fr., 6'0, 215, Kicker / Linebacker, Albert Lea, Minn. (Albert Lea High School) Nessel plans to major in Agricultural Education at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He is the son of Connie Nessel.

Danny O'Neill – Jr., 6'3, 185, Safety, Hancock, Iowa (Northland Community & Technical College) He earned All-State Honors in football and track in high school. O'Neill plans to major in Business at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He is the son of Tom and Julie O'Neill.

Carson Johnson – Fr., 6'4, 265, Offensive Lineman, Gary, Minn. (Fertile-Beltrami High School) Johnson is undeclared at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He is the son of Peter and Cindy Johnson.

Jabari Williams – Jr., 6'4, 195, Wide Receiver, Long Beach, Calif. (Itasca Community College) At Port Allen High School, he was a member of the 3A State Playoff football team and was named 1st Team All-District in basketball his senior season. Williams plans to major in Business Management at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He is the son of Bobby and Vanessa Williams.

Cody Brekken – Fr., 5'11, 170, Linebacker, Crookston, Minn. (Crookston Central High School) As a junior, Brekken was an All -Conference selection and selected as Crookston High's Defensive MVP. As a senior, he earned All-Conference honors, All-State Honorable Mention, Northern Lakes Conference MVP, along with being voted Defensive MVP, Team MVP and the Most Dedicated for Crookston High School. Brekken plans to major in Sport and Recreation Management and minor in Coaching at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He is the son of Allen and Anita Brekken.

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Tyler Dugan – Jr., 5'11, 185, Safety / Long Snapper, Irvine, Calif. (Fullerton Junior College) At Irvine High School, he was named 1st Team All-City, and All-League as a junior and senior. He was recognized as the Most Improved on his team following his junior season. As a senior, Dugan was named 1st Team All-CIF, Team MVP and was a member of the North/South All-Star game. Dugan plans to major in Sport and Recreation Management at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He is the son of Mike and Glenda Dugan.