

ISSUES CONSIDERED

A. FACILITIES

Regardless of conference affiliation, UMC needs to look at upgrading the athletic facilities. A comprehensive look is defined below.

Lysaker Gymnasium

Lysaker gymnasium was built in 1981, which was then considered to be the premier facility in Northwest Minnesota for volleyball and basketball games as well as tournaments. The Minnesota State High School League has utilized the facility since its inception but after 24 years the facility needs to be updated:

- The gymnasium needs a new floor: on both side courts the tartan is peeling up although repairs have been made and the main court has an uneven playing surface, which increases injury occurrences. The ability to create a collegiate atmosphere including the ability to move the bleachers closer to the playing floor is difficult.
- Two of the four locker rooms are outdated.
- The equipment room and storage areas are compacted and the building lacks any additional space to be utilized for storage, equipment and necessary maintenance supplies along with additional office space.
- As Lysaker has become outdated, new facilities in the area, such as the Ralph Engelstad Arena in Grand Forks and another in Thief River Falls have been looked to by various organizations like the MSHSL to host tournament games, which ultimately causes a loss in revenue for UMC.
- Higher Education Asset Preservation Restoration (HEAPR) funding was approved and the upgrade of the fitness center is completed.

Outdoor Football Field and Track Complex

- The outdoor football/track complex needs to be completed with ticket area, locker rooms, showers, bathrooms and concessions. HEAPR funding has been secured, project will start spring 2007.
- Possibility of turf surface on the football field with a portable dome would result in less maintenance in the future, the possibility of hosting playoff games and other UMC athletic teams could utilize this facility.
- Bids went out for the resurfacing of the track in the fall of 2006 and the work will be completed in the spring of 2007.

Baseball Diamond

- The UMC baseball diamond needs new fencing, dugouts, scoreboard, lights and PA system.

Soccer Field

- The soccer field needs dugouts, lights, scoreboards, press box with storage shed and PA system

Hockey – Crookston Civic Arena

- The hockey team practices and plays at the Crookston Civic Arena. The locker rooms and showering areas are in need of renovation. A new facility would prove to be beneficial and would be utilized by the community, high school and UMC (project plans are currently underway).

Wellness Center

- The long-term goal would be to secure funding for a new wellness center on campus; this could be a joint project with the high school and community. Options are currently being explored (*to view the 2005 Regents Report on Recreational Facilities, see Exhibit D*).

Facility Comparisons: (*To view facility comparisons, see Exhibit A, B & C*)

Purpose:

To compare NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III and NAIA facilities.

Process:

We researched conferences and their membering universities around the North Central area in National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II, Division III and National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and compared their facilities as well as roster size.

The researched conferences include the NCAA DII Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) which is made up of 10 membering universities: Bemidji State University, Concordia University - St. Paul, University of Mary (N.D.); University of Minnesota, Crookston; Minnesota State University Moorhead; Northern State University (S.D.); Southwest Minnesota State University; University of Upper Iowa; Wayne State University (Neb.); and Winona State University.

In the NCAA DIII level we researched the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) which consists of eight membering universities: Bethany Lutheran College; Crown College; Martin Luther College; University of Minnesota, Morris; Northland College; Northwestern College; Presentation College; and The College of St. Scholastica.

The NAIA conference, Dakota Athletic Conference (DAC) is made up of eight membering universities: Black Hills State University; Dakota State University; Jamestown College; Mayville State University; Minot State University; South Dakota School of Mines and Technology; and Valley City State University.

Each school's number of facilities was researched which included the gymnasium, football field, locker rooms, weight room, practice facilities, training room, soccer field, softball field, softball field, equine and tennis. We surveyed each school requesting details of their facilities (size, capacity, etc.) and availability of facilities.