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NFLPA asks Eagles
to reinstate Owens

Sports

College hockey notebook

Checking from behind still point of emphasis

By Shane Frederick
Free Press Staff Writer

MANKATO — The Minnesota State women's hockey team might be one of the first teams this season to get burned badly on the new checking from behind emphasis.

Mavericks junior Autumn Conway was called for the penalty late in the Mavericks' game against Bemidji State Saturday and received the automatic five-minute major and game misconduct penalties. With MSU players Amber Sharratt and Sammy Jo Miller already in the box for other

infractions, Bemidji State scored two 5-on-3 goals 61 seconds apart during the Conway's major and went on to upset the Mavericks 2-1.

"We got in some penalty trouble," coach Jeff Vizenor said Monday.

Checking from behind was called three times in WCHA women's games and six times in WCHA men's games last weekend. Minnesota State men's freshman Jon Kalinski was called for the penalty Friday in his college debut at Alaska-Anchorage.

Two two-minute, open-ice checking from behind penalties

were called in men's games last weekend, including one on MSU's David Backes.

In a CCHA game between Lake Superior State and Western Michigan Friday, Lake State scored three times during the checking from behind major in a 10-0 win.

Former Mavs selected

Three former Minnesota State men's players will represent the United States in international competition in the TUI Nations Cup tournament this week in Germany.

Aaron Fox, T.J. Guidarelli and Andy Hedlund are among

eight former college players on the team. All three of them currently are playing professional hockey in Europe.

The U.S. team will be coached by former Wisconsin coach Jeff Sauer.

Shutout city

Former Minnesota State women's goaltender Shari Vogt stopped 13 shots and shut out Finland 1-0 in the first game played at the new hockey arena in Turin, Italy, that will be used in the 2006 Winter Olympics.

The U.S. women's national team beat Sweden 3-0 Wednesday behind Chanda

Gunn's shutout. Team USA will play Canada today in the Pre-Olympic Test Fest at Palasport Olimpico.

The event is a practice run for next February's winter games.

Strong start

The Gustavus Adolphus men's team is 2-0-0 for first time since the 2001-02 season after wins over Wisconsin-Stout and Wisconsin-River Falls last weekend.

The Gusties will continue nonconference play up north this weekend, taking on St. Scholastica Friday in Duluth

and ninth-ranked Wisconsin-Superior Saturday at Superior, Wis.

One-timers

The Gustavus women's team dropped from No. 2 to No. 4 in the national rankings after going 1-1-0 on opening weekend. ... The most anticipated WCHA series of the weekend might be top-ranked Colorado College (9-1-0, 4-0-0 in WCHA) at first-place Wisconsin (6-1-1, 5-0-1). ... The Maverick men's 40 shots on goal Friday were a season-high, while Alaska-Anchorage's 20 were a season-low for an MSU opponent.