



NHL ALL STAR GAME, PAGE D3

## Backstrom, West fall to East in shootout

# Sports

## Momentum shift dooms Mavericks

By Shane Frederick  
Free Press Staff Writer

**DULUTH** — Minnesota Duluth had scored two power-play goals, and Minnesota State had three goals with a man advantage, as well as a short-handed score, when the third period began Saturday night.

Although the Bulldogs scored four even-strength goals, including an empty-netter, over the final 8½ minutes of their 7-4

### MSU hockey review

come-from-behind victory, Mavericks coach Troy Jutting said the momentum swing

may have started during a couple of Duluth power plays early in the third period.

MSU defenseman Nick Canzanello was called for cross-checking at 1:55 of the period. Less than two minutes after that penalty ended, Kael Mouillierat was called for high sticking.

Although the Mavericks killed both penalties, they hardly had the puck in the Bulldogs zone before Andrew Carroll tied the game at 4-4 with an even-strength goal at 11:32. Just 2:32 later, Duluth had a 6-4 lead and was on its way to a series sweep.

"We let them build momentum," Jutting said. "We took those two penalties and were killing for almost four minutes straight. We did a good job killing, but we never really got it out of our end."

Carroll said sometimes teams can lose momentum if they fail to score when those situations come up at critical times. Duluth, which was 3 for 10 on the weekend, has the best power play in the WCHA.

"Obviously, if you don't score, it's momentum for them," the senior forward said. "That next shift 5 on 5 is important to keep the pressure on them."

### Closing the deal

The Mavericks' loss Saturday marked the second time this season that they failed to hold on to a second-intermission lead.

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## MAVS: Jokinen plays close to home

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The other time that happened was on Oct. 18 when Minnesota State led North Dakota 2-0 after two periods and allowed four third-period goals — three power-play goals and a short-handed goal with nine seconds left in regulation — in a 4-3 loss.

"We definitely had the momentum going into the third," senior Mick Berge said Saturday. "We should be able to close it out in the third. We're a veteran hockey team."

### Returning home

Mavericks freshman forward Justin Jokinen was in familiar territory over the weekend.

Jokinen played high school hockey for

Cloquet/Esko/Carlton, and his hometown of Carlton is just 20 miles from Duluth.

Jokinen, who played on the Mavericks' top line with Mouillierat and Geoff Irwin, did not get a point in the series. He had three shots on goal and was minus-4 in the two games.

### Loose pucks

The Mavericks failed to score an even-strength goal in the series. ... The last time Duluth swept MSU was during the 2004-05 season. ... The Mavericks made three lineup changes from Friday to Saturday inserting goalie Dan Tormey (for Mike Zacharias), forward Andrew Sackrisson (for James Gaulrapp) and defenseman Nick Canzanello (for Baylor Dieter).

### Free Press stars of the series

1. **Jack Connolly, UMD:** Forward had three goals, two assists in the series.
2. **Alex Stalock, UMD:** Goaltender stopped 39 shots in Friday's shutout.
3. **Kael Mouillierat, MSU:** Forward scored two goals in the second period Saturday.