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## USC defeats Loyola 66-53

# Sports



Trevor Bruess will miss MSU's next game and is to meet with a WCHA official.

## Bruess suspended one game

By Shane Frederick  
Free Press Staff Writer

**MANKATO** — Minnesota State men's hockey player Trevor Bruess has been suspended for one game because of in-game incidents deemed "detrimental to the game."

Bruess, a junior forward and one of the Mavericks' assistant captains, was called for three penalties — minors for kneeing, boarding and high sticking — in the Mavericks' game at North Dakota last Friday and was involved in a collision Saturday that resulted in Sioux defenseman Derrick LaPoint's season-ending broken leg. No penalty was assessed on the LaPoint play.

Mavericks coach Troy Jutting said the suspension was "not for one particular incident."

The suspension came after discussions between MSU and Western Collegiate Hockey Association officials.

"These are dangerous circumstances," WCHA Commissioner Bruce McLeod said in a telephone interview Thursday. "Checking from behind, knee to knee, it's the responsibility of players to know those, to know dangerous situations. Hopefully we can avoid something like that by taking this approach."

Bruess leads the Mavericks and the WCHA with 98 penalty minutes, including a five-minute major and a game disqualification for an excessive hit during the Mavericks' Jan. 30 game against Minnesota. Bruess had to sit out the following game because of that penalty.

"We need Trevor to understand that he needs to make every possible effort to avoid these types of incidents and want to emphasize to him that he is responsible for his actions on the ice," McLeod said in the league press release that called the incidents "detrimental to the game." "We hope he will use this as both an educational experience and as a time to reflect on his play."

Jutting echoed that, referring to a university-issued press release.

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## BRUESS: To miss one game

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and Trevor's a physical player, but you have to play under control and with respect to your opponents." Bruess will miss the Mavericks' nonconference game Tuesday at Nebraska-Omaha. Minnesota State does not play this weekend. Bruess will also be required to meet for a one-on-one session with WCHA Supervisor of Officials Greg Shepherd. He has already met with MSU athletic director Kevin Buisman.

"Player safety is a prime concern of this association," McLeod said.

This is the third consecutive week that a WCHA-affiliated person has been suspended for something not stemming from a game disqualification.

A week ago, the University of Denver suspended defenseman Patrick Mullen for one game for a slashing incident at the end of a game against Minnesota Duluth. A week before that, Denver coach George Gwozdecky received a one-game suspension by the school for communicating with the team through a headset after being ejected from a game at North Dakota.