



WORLD SERIES, PAGE D4

Phillies, Rays make unlikely series matchup

Sports

Harrison's hockey stick gets the call to the Hall

Zach Harrison showed up to practice Monday afternoon and his hockey stick was nowhere to be found.

It was the stick he used in through Minnesota State's first four games of the season — the stick he used to score three consecutive short-handed goals on Friday night at the Alltel Center.



SHANE FREDERICK
Free Press

"I just started using it," said Harrison, a junior center. "It wasn't too worn out yet."

But the stick had been wrapped up, put in the mail and shipped off to Toronto where, starting in December, it will be displayed in the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Hall of Fame officials contacted Minnesota State

and requested a memento from Harrison's hat trick, which was just the sixth of its kind in NCAA Division I history — and the first in more than a decade.

"I scored, maybe, one hat trick in my high school career, and that was when we beat a team 22-0 or something," said Harrison, who was named the Western Collegiate Hockey Association's defensive player of the week Tuesday. "I haven't had any since

then. To have them all be short-handed, it's kind of a cool feat to have that under my belt. I'll be able to look back and smile and think about that."

According to College Hockey News managing editor Adam Wodon, Harrison's feat isn't the first natural short-handed hat trick. In 1988, Harvard's C.J. Young scored three shorties in a span of 49 seconds over two periods.

"Wow," Young, who scored five goals that night, told Wodon. "It's amazing someone remembers something like that. ... The memories of that team and that experience — I didn't even think at the time how significant it was."

Harvard went on to win the national title that season.

The trick has been accomplished three times

Please see FREDERICK, Page D2

FREDERICK: Honor hasn't sunk in yet

Continued from Page D1

since then. Colgate's Jayson Greyerbiehl did it against Yale a year later, and St. Cloud State's George Awada did it against Michigan Tech in 1998.

Harrison has received several calls and text messages from family and friends since Friday's 5-1 victory over North Dakota.

But there's nothing like a call from the Hall.

"I'm just blown away," Harrison said. "I don't think it's sunk in yet."

Harrison, who has been killing penalties for the now-13th-ranked Mavericks since

he was a freshman, had just one short-handed goal for his college career before he gave his team a 3-1 lead over the Sioux midway through the second period Friday.

Just 53 seconds into the third period, He jumped a pass deep in the offensive zone and scored to put the Mavericks up by three goals.

In the closing minutes of the game, Minnesota State had two players in the penalty box, and North Dakota pulled goalie Aaron Walski for a 6-on-3 attack. When a bouncing puck came to Harrison between the circles, he pitchforked it out of the zone with a backhanded

shot, and it slid all the way down the ice and into the empty net.

"The third one was just lucky," he said. "I just winged it."

Lucky or not, the feat turned some heads all around the hockey world.

Harrison's stick will be part of a year-long display of hockey highlights from 2008. After that, the stick will be archived and brought out occasionally for college-hockey and traveling exhibits. There's a possibility that Harrison's jersey will be sent to the Hall of Fame at the end of the Mavericks' season, too.

Harrison said he hopes to visit the museum next summer.

"To be in the Hockey Hall of Fame for anything you do is an incredible thing," Mavericks coach Troy Jutting said.

As for Harrison, he gladly grabbed a new stick for this week's practices.

"Like I tell the kids," Mavericks coach Troy Jutting said. "It's not the stick, it's the hands using it."

Shane Frederick is a Free Press staff writer. Access his college hockey blog through www.mankatofreepress.com