

The Free Press



Saturday,
December 6, 2008
www.mankatofreepress.com



NHL HOCKEY, PAGE C5

Vancouver slips past
Minnesota 2-1

Sports

Edman released from hospital, to return to practice Monday

By **Shane Frederick**
Free Press Staff Writer

MANKATO — Minnesota State women's hockey player Lisa Edman was treated and released from Immanuel-St. Joseph's Hospital Thursday night and should be back on the ice Monday, according to coach Jeff Vizenor.

In a scary moment during the second period

Mavericks' exhibition game against the U.S. National Select Team Thursday, Edman went down on the ice to block a shot and caught the puck under her chin. After a 20-minute delay, she was wheeled off the All Seasons Arena ice and taken to the hospital by ambulance.

There had been some fear around the arena that the puck hit her in the

throat.

"She got hit in the jaw," said Vizenor, who went to visit her at ISJ immediately after his team's 4-1 loss. "It wasn't broken. There will be some bruising and soreness. ... I think she was non-responsive a little bit (on the ice), so they took precautions."

The Mavericks do not play games this weekend. Vizenor said Edman said

she would be in practice on Monday.

"She said she doesn't regret blocking the shot," he said.

It takes some courage for players to lay down their bodies in front of a shot, and coaches teach shot-blocking techniques.

"We tell them to tuck in their chin," Vizenor said. "But the goal is to get their shin pads on the puck."

Edman is a sophomore forward from Ornskoldsvik, Sweden. She ranks fourth on the team in scoring with five goals and five assists and has 20 points for her career.

Minnesota State's next games are next Friday and Saturday when it hosts Ohio State. That will close out the first-half schedule for the Mavericks, who will return to action on Jan. 9.