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# Sports

## Sweeps weekend

### MSU completes four-game take from Augustana

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**MANKATO** — Minnesota State catcher Pat Ottum came up big for the second straight day, and the Mavericks went on to complete a weekend four-game baseball sweep of Augustana.

The Mavericks won 12-5 and 6-4 on Sunday to run their record to 35-7, 14-1 in the North Central Conference.

It was Ottum's hit on Saturday that gave MSU the go-ahead run in Game 1, and on Sunday he did it again, doubling in three runs in the bottom of the fourth in Game 1 to spark an eight-run inning that put the Mavericks up for good.

Both hits followed bits of unorthodox strategy. In each case, No. 8 hitter Scott Kemp made outs on bunt attempts with two strikes on him.

And in each case, bottom-of-the-order hitter Ottum came through.

MSU coach Dean Bowyer denied being a clairvoyant strategist in both instances.

"I don't bunt a lot, but that's his



Sonja Reeves

Minnesota State's Kosuke Hattori dives safely back to first during Game 2 of MSU's doubleheader sweep of Augustana on Sunday. The wins moved the Mavericks' North Central Conference record to 14-1.

(Kemp's) role — to move people over. Plus, Kemp has a better chance of getting a bunt down than getting a base hit in that situation."

Ottum, a senior from Bloomington, said he's comfortable hitting in those spots.

"I've been hitting ninth for awhile, but I've proven I can hit in clutch situations, and (Bowyer) has a lot of confidence in me that I can move runners over.

"I knew that with the bases

loaded, I just wanted to get extended and hit the ball out of the infield. In those situations, the pressure's on the pitcher, not on you."

Second baseman Nick Gonzalez finished with three hits and four RBIs, and designated hitter Jay Bresnahan doubled twice.

Senior righty Danny Klous got the win to go to 7-1.

In Game 2, Bresnahan had two hits and drove in two runs to hike his batting average to a team-best .454.

Center fielder Zach Danelson belted his seventh homer as MSU put the game away with three runs in the fifth.

Senior Pat Criss (2-0) got the win, allowing five hits and three runs in 5½ innings.

Closer Nick Fellman collected his 13th save of the season.

On Tuesday, Minnesota State hosts Southwest State in a nonconference doubleheader starting at 1 p.m.