



Sports



MSU athletic director Kevin Buisman met with officials from the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference on Sunday.

MEETING: Northern Sun could vote by mid-February

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MSU makes its pitch

School officials meet with Northern Sun representatives

By Chad Courrier
Free Press Staff Writer

MANKATO — It lasted only 15 minutes, but Kevin Buisman said Sunday's presentation to Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference officials went well.

"It was very brief, but you could tell they were very interested in the process," said Buisman, Minnesota State's athletic director. "It was a hard group to read, it was a big group, and there wasn't a lot of time for feedback."

Buisman and four officials from Minnesota State, including President Richard Davenport, are attending NCAA meetings at Orlando, and on Sunday, representatives from Minnesota State, St. Cloud State, Minnesota Duluth and Augustana were each granted 15 minutes to make their pitch to the Northern Sun. The four NCC schools have applied to the Northern Sun to join that league after the North Central Conference ceases to exist after the 2007-08 seasons.

Buisman said each Northern Sun university was well-represented at the meeting. Minnesota State's presentation centered on the university's commitment to Division II athletics and why the Mavericks would fit well in the Northern Sun. He said Northern Sun officials asked

questions about Minnesota State's academic and admission standards, and the athletic department's and coaches' support of this application.

Buisman said he heard from other NCC universities that the Northern Sun would act quickly on expansion, perhaps make site visits and vote by mid-February.

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KEVIN BUISMAN,
MSU athletic director

Buisman said.

Buisman said he may know more when he returns to campus Wednesday.

"I think there will be informal opportunities to talk with other colleagues and get some feedback," he said.

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