

MANKATO — Minnesota State sophomore defensive end Randy Earl was named to the All-North Central Conference football team, the league announced Monday.

Earl finished the season with 66 tackles, 13.5 of which were for a loss. In NCC games, Earl led Minnesota State with 55 tackles, including 26 solos. He had 12.5 tackles for a loss of 66 yards and nine sacks in NCC games, leading the conference with 1.12 sacks per game and placing second in tackles for loss, averaging 1.44 per game.

Senior cornerback Thaddeus Gibbs and junior linebacker Blake Freese were named to the All-NCC second team. Gibbs, one of four captains, finished ninth on the team with 42 tackles, while breaking up eight passes. Freese led Minnesota State with 82 tackles, including 10 tackles for a loss, 1.5 sacks, an interception, three pass break-ups and a forced fumble.

Several Mavericks received All-NCC honorable mention: sophomore tackle Adrian Battles, junior defensive lineman Chris Brunkhorst, senior tight end Jeff Fielder, senior quarterback Ben King, sophomore receiver Chris Nowlin, sophomore lineman Andy Schoonover, senior defensive end Grant Smith, junior receiver Damian Turner and junior safety Ryan Weinzierl.

The All-NCC teams are voted on by the league coaches.

Minnesota State finished the season with a 5-6 record, including a 3-5 mark in NCC play.

The Notebook

Mavericks defensive end named to All-NCC team



MSU's Randy Earl was named to the all-conference team on Monday. Earl made 66 tackles in '07.

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