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Madelia native finally
in Mavericks' lineup

Sports

Two Mavs headed to Cactus Bowl

MANKATO — Minnesota State University football players Chris Brunkhorst and Blake Freese have been chosen to play in the Cactus Bowl Division II All-Star game on Jan. 9, in Kingsville, Texas.

Brunkhorst, a senior defensive lineman, made 39 tackles with nine sacks this season and recovered a fumble for a 30-yard touchdown. He was a first-team All-Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference South pick.

Freese, a senior linebacker, had five interceptions this season on his way to earning a first-team All-NSIC South selection. He played in the East Coast All-Star game last month.

Welch recognized

Gustavus safety Joe Welch has been named to the D3football.com All-West Region team.

Welch, a junior, was selected to the first-team defense after leading the Gusties in tackles with 98. He had the third-most tackles per game in the MIAC and was named first-team all-conference.

Mavs honored

The National Soccer Coaches Association of America has given the Minnesota State University

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soccer team its 2007-08 NSCAA/Adidas Women's Team Academic Award.

Sophomore forward Laura Leber earned an individual honor, getting named to the 2008 NSCAA/Adidas All-America Second Team. Leber led the Mavericks this season with 27 points, 12 goals, seven game-winning goals and 39 shots on goal. She is tied at sixth on MSU's all-time goals list.

The Maverick women came in 19th in the final postseason rankings.