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St. Cloud State University
HUSKY ATHLETICS

Athletic Media Relations - Women's Hockey Update

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2006-07 SCSU WOMEN'S HOCKEY NEWS

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Kuyper Selected for U.S. Women's Under-22 Select Team

St. Cloud, Minn. - St. Cloud State University's junior defender **Brittni Kuyper (Eden Prairie, Minn.)** was recently selected as one of 20 players to play on the U.S. Women's Under-22 Select Team. This Select Team will travel to Ottawa, Ont., for a three-game series with Canada from August 24-27.

Kuyper, who became the first SCSU women's hockey player to earn a spot at the U.S. National Women's Festival in Lake Placid, N.Y., from August 15-22, now becomes the first SCSU women's hockey player to participate on the U.S. Women's Under-22 Select Team after scoring one assist at the 2006 Women's National Festival.

"We are extremely excited for Brittni to be heading to Canada," said first year SCSU head coach Jeff Giesen. "Her hard work has definitely paid off as she has earned a spot amongst the top women's players in our country."

A solid blue-liner for the Huskies, Kuyper has collected three goals and 14 assists in 72 career games played at SCSU.

"We are very pleased with how the players came prepared for camp," said Katey Stone (Arlington, Mass.), the head women's ice hockey coach at Harvard University who will serve as the head coach of the U.S. Women's Under-22 Select Team. "They played a competitive week of hockey and we look forward to our next challenge up in Ottawa. We feel we've identified a group of players who are best prepared to represent the United States in the Under-22 Series."

"Lake Placid, the Olympic Training Center and the Olympic Regional Development Authority did a fantastic job hosting us this week," said Michele Amidon (Colorado Springs, Colo.), USA Hockey's director of women's ice hockey operations. "Now as we head up to Canada, it will be a great test for our younger collegiate players to compete at an international level."

Joining 2006 Olympians Caitlin Cahow (Vinalhaven, Maine) and Helen Resor (Greenwich, Conn.) on the blue line will be Rachael Drazan (Orona, Minn.) and Anya Miller (Elk River, Minn.) from the University of Minnesota, **Brittni Kuyper (Eden Prairie, Minn.) of St. Cloud State University** and Maggie Taverna (Howell, N.J.) of Boston College.

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Up front, Team USA boasts 2006 Olympian Sarah Parsons (Dover, Mass.) alongside Erika Lawler (Fitchburg, Mass.) and Jinelle Zaugg (Eagle River, Wis.) from the defending national champion University of Wisconsin. Other collegiate players at forward include Gigi Marvin (Warroad, Minn.) and Erica McKenzie (Hastings, Minn.) from Minnesota; Maggie Kennedy (West Hartford, Conn.) of Dartmouth College; Jessica Koizumi (Simi Valley, Calif.) of the University of Minnesota Duluth; Jenn Sifers (Stratford, Conn.) and Sarah Wilson (Avon, Conn.) of Harvard; and Deb Spillane (Franklin, Mass.) of Boston College. Rounding out the U.S. roster up front are Kelli Blankenship (Jacksonville, Fla.), who played at the North American Hockey Academy in 2005-06 and will be a freshman at Minnesota this fall, and Hilary Knight (Palo Alto, Calif.), who played last season for the Connecticut Polar Bears.

Finally, Emily Brookshaw (Webster, Wis.) of Bemidji State University and Jessie Vetter (Cottage Grove, Wis.) of Wisconsin will share duties in net for Team USA.

The United States will open play versus Canada at the University of Ottawa on Wednesday, Aug. 24, at 7: 00 p.m. EDT.

Some information courtesy of USA Hockey.



GO HUSKIES