

NEWS

ST. CLOUD STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y

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ICE RINK INSIDE HOCKEY CENTER TO BE NAMED
BRENDAN J. MCDONALD ICE RINK; BUILDING'S
NAME WILL NOT CHANGE

2/23/94

ST. CLOUD, MINN.-- The main ice rink inside the National Hockey Center at St. Cloud State University will be officially named the Brendan J. McDonald Ice Rink at a dedication ceremony during the SCSU/University of Minnesota hockey game on March 5. Game time is 7:05 p.m. The dedication will occur between the second and third periods.

The name of the building--National Hockey Center--will not change. The main rink of the two ice sheets inside the center will be named to honor Brendan J. McDonald, president of SCSU from 1982 to 1992, who was a strong advocate for the school's move to a Division I hockey program and who also helped gain the funding for the hockey center. The National Hockey Center opened in December, 1989.

McDonald has a strong connection to SCSU and to SCSU hockey. He was a student at SCSU from 1950 to 1954. He met another SCSU student, LaVerne (Vernie) Bengston, during this time, and eventually they married. He received a bachelor's of science degree from St. Cloud State in 1954. While at St. Cloud, McDonald played varsity hockey and later briefly coached the team (with an overall coaching record of 2-2). McDonald later served in various administrative capacities at SCSU and at Mankato State University. He also served as president at Kearney State College in Nebraska from 1972 to 1982 before assuming the presidency at SCSU in 1982. In addition to a number of

accomplishments as president--including significant enrollment growth, endowment increases and expansion of international education programs--McDonald also guided the growth of the university's intercollegiate athletic programs, including the hockey team's entry into Division I and the eventual construction of the National Hockey Center.

McDonald, who retired recently from the Minnesota State University System, continues to recover from recent surgery for a malignant brain tumor. He is expected to attend the ceremony.

Many other public buildings have had similar naming configurations. For instance, the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport includes the Lindbergh Terminal. Also, the football facility at Iowa State University is known as Cyclone Stadium, and the stadium's field is named Tice Field in honor of a former Iowa State player.

For information, call Angelo Gentile, SCSU director of public relations, 255-3151 or Dorothy Simpson, SCSU vice president for University Relations, 654-5370.

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