Women's Track To Begin Season With Blugold Open

Posted: Thursday, January 19, 2006

EAU CLAIRE - The UW-Eau Claire women's track team will begin its 2006 indoor season this Friday as it will host the 2006 Blugold Open in the Ade Olson Addition of the McPhee Physical Education Center.

Other teams competing in the meet are: St. Mary's University, Bethel College, University of St. Thomas, and Winona State. Winona State finished second in last year's Open and St. Mary's finished third.

The Blugolds return 18 letterwinners from last year's squad, but only have two seniors on the roster.

The Blugolds finished tied for 11th out of 55 teams last year at the NCAA Indoor Championships. **Stephanie Barnes** *(Jr.-Sauk City, WI/Sauk Prairie)* took home third place at the championships in the pole vault as she cleared a height of 11?-11?.75" (3.65 meters). Barnes also finished in first at the WIAC Indoor Championships clearing a height of 12? (3.66 meters).

Distance runner **Molly Warner** *(So.-Mosinee, WI)* also returns this season. Last year Warner had two first-place finishes in the 3000-meter run and one first-place finish in the 5000-meter run.

The Blugold women were also successful in last year's Blugold Open as the team tallied five first-place finishes as the team won the event with 172 points. Four of the five winners of last year's Open return this year. Barnes won the pole vault, Warner won 3000-meter run, **Christina Locke** *(Jr.-Racine, WI/Horlick)* won the 800-meter run, and **Jane-Marie Ovanin** *(Sr.-Amherst, WI)* won the 1500-meter run.

Field events will begin at 3:30 p.m., while the running will begin at 4 p.m. on Friday.

2006 Blugold Open Info

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