

Sikora Wins Battle Of Elite As Wrestling Places Fourth

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EAU CLAIRE - **Derek Sikora** (Sr. -Neillsville, WI), at 165 pounds, was named the most-outstanding wrestler as he won his weight class and the UW-Eau Claire wrestling team placed fourth out of ten teams with a score of 63 points in the 28th annual Blugold Invitational held today in the McPhee Physical Education Center.

This is Sikora's third invitational championship as he previously finished first at the Cornell Invitational earlier this season and the St. John's Invitational last weekend.

Sikora, who is ranked No.2 in his weight class, cruised through the first three rounds today as he pinned one opponent and beat the other two by major decision. Then came the showdown in the championship match, as he faced No.1-ranked Ryan Valek of Augsburg.

Regulation time was not enough as Sikora defeated Valek 3-1 on overtime.

Joey Miller (So.-Lake Tomahawk, WI/Lakeland Union), at 184 pounds, finished third for the Blugolds as he defeated Kirk Rall of Augsburg 3-1 in the third place match.

Justin Mc Auly (Jr.-Clintonville, WI), at 197 pounds, finished fourth for the Blugolds as he went 4-2 on the day with two pins. Mc Auly lost in the third place match 4-2. **Nick Hoeft** (So.-Merrill, WI) at heavyweight, also finished fourth as he lost 3-0 in the third place match.

The winner of the invite was second-ranked Augsburg with 138.5 points. Eighth-ranked North Central College finished second with 122 points and 17th-ranked UW-Stevens Point was third with a score of 109 points. Rounding out the field was fifth-ranked UW-La Crosse, No.1-ranked Wartburg, Luther, UW-Oshkosh, St. Olaf, and UW-Whitewater.

Up next, the Blugolds will host UW-Stevens Point in a conference dual meet next Saturday afternoon. The action is set to begin at 1 p.m. in the McPhee Physical Education Center.

28th Annual Blugold Invite Results

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