

Softball Uses The Long Ball To Extend Winning Streak

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PLATTEVILLE - The ninth-ranked UW-Eau Claire softball team extended its winning streak to 13 games today after sweeping a doubleheader against UW-Platteville at the UWP Softball Complex.

In game one, the Blugolds would set a conference homerun record by hitting seven in the game as they won, 10-0, in six innings. The previous record for most homeruns in a game was six by UW-Whitewater in 1997. In game two, the Blugolds came close to setting the conference record for most hits in a game with 21 as they won, 15-6, also in six innings.

In game one, the Blugolds' **Mallory McKinney** (*Jr.-Brooklyn Park, MN/Champlin Park*) would only give up one hit on their way to a 10-0 win. The Blugolds homered in every inning and scored all of their runs by way of the HR.

On the mound, McKinney gave up a lead-off double to begin the game and then would retire the next 18 straight batters she faced. She struck out four in her 10th victory of the season.

McKinney would also be a factor at the plate, as she got the Blugolds on the board in the first inning with a solo homerun. After an **Amber Haack** (*Jr.-Madison, WI/LaFollette*) solo homerun in the second, McKinney would hit her second HR of the day in the third inning to put the Blugolds up 3-0.

The solo homeruns would continue into the fourth as **Mandy Tschernach** (*Jr.-Rice Lake, WI*) left the yard to put the Blugolds up 4-0. **Jill Janke** (*So.-Black River Falls, WI*) would then hit a two-run HR in the top of the fifth to put the Blugolds up 6-0. In the sixth, it was **Megan Ellenbecker's** (*Fr.-Athens, WI*) turn to homer as she hit a solo HR. The Blugolds' final homerun of the day was a three-run shot by **Casey Leisgang** (*So.-Seymour, WI*) to put the Blugolds up 10-0.

Amber Haack led the Blugolds at the plate going 3-for-3 with a RBI and two runs scored.

The Blugolds scoring entourage continued in game two as the Blugolds scored 15 runs on 21 hits. The conference record for most hits in a game is 22, which is shared by UW-La Crosse and UW-Whitewater.

The Blugolds scored six runs in the top of the first. The bulk of the runs came on a three-run HR by Jill Janke. **Shannon Barone** (*Jr.-De Pere, WI*) would also RBI for the Blugolds in the inning. The Pioneers would come back to tie it up at 6-6 in the bottom of the third inning after a two-RBI double.

The Blugolds would regain the lead in the top of the fourth on a Mandy Tschernach single that scored **Rachel Paulus** (*Jr.-Wisconsin Rapids, WI/Lincoln*). The Blugolds would then blow it open in the top of the sixth, scoring eight runs in the inning.

A Mallory McKinney sacrifice fly would start the scoring followed by RBIs by both Ellenbecker and Barone. Amber Haack would then hit a three-run HR to put the Blugolds up 13-6. A two-RBI single by McKinney would make the score, 15-6.

McKinney (11-1) got the victory in relief, pitching 3 1/3 innings giving up just two hits and striking out two.

The Blugolds improve to 19-3 overall and a conference record of 4-0. Platteville drops to 7-13 overall and 2-4 in conference play. The 13-game win streak by the Blugolds is one of the longest in team history.

The Blugolds will host I-94 rival UW-Stout in a doubleheader this Wednesday night in the team's home opener. The first game is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. at Gelein Field in Carson Park.

Game One Box Score

Game Two Box Score

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