

Softball To Host A Pair Of Doubleheaders this Weekend

Posted: Thursday, April 20, 2006

EAU CLAIRE - The eighth-ranked UW-Eau Claire softball team will look to stay undefeated in conference play as it will host UW-Stevens Point in a doubleheader on Saturday and then host UW-Whitewater in a doubleheader on Sunday.

The Blugolds were scheduled to play today against UW-Superior, but the game was postponed due to weather and the game will be played at the end of the season on May 1st.

The Blugolds have an overall record of 24-4 and Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) of 8-0. The Blugolds had their school record 18-game winning streak snapped by 16th-ranked St. Scholastica in game two of a doubleheader on Tuesday.

The Blugolds as a team have a batting average of .339, which is near the top of the conference. The Blugolds have a total of 273 hits and 24 homeruns.

Rachel Paulus (*Jr.-Wisconsin Rapids, WI/Lincoln*) is batting .447 so far this season, which leads the team. The school record for best batting average in a season is .453 by Jill Schoenike in 1996. **Casey Leisgang** (*So.-Seymour, WI*) leads the team in doubles with nine and is tied with **Mallory McKinney** (*Jr.-Brooklyn Park, MN/Champlin Park*) in homeruns with seven. McKinney also leads the team in RBIs with 27.

On the mound this season, McKinney has a record of 16-1 and has a 0.41 ERA. The current school for lowest earned run average in a season is 0.91 by Heidi Bergstrom in 1999. Opponents are only hitting .153 off of McKinney. McKinney has pitched 13 complete games this season and has struck out 106 batters.

The Blugolds opponent on Saturday, UW-Stevens Point, has an overall record of 18-9-1 and a conference record of 2-4 this season. As a team the Pointers are batting .341 in 775 at bats this season. The Pointers have only hit five homeruns this season. Leading Stevens Point at the plate is Mandy Jellish, who is batting .511 in 92 at bats. The Pointers pitching staff has a collective ERA of 1.86.

The Blugolds have won the last two contests between the teams and have the advantage in the all-time series 30-12.

On Sunday the Blugolds will host UW-Whitewater. The game has been designated as Youth Day and Blugold players will be available for autographs following the second game. The Warhawks have an overall record of 17-11 and a conference record of 4-6.

The Warhawks are batting .317 as a team and have 236 hits this season. The Warhawks have shown a lot of power this season hitting 26 homeruns. Suzanne Gersich leads the team in homeruns with eight and leads team in batting average at .471.

The Blugolds have won the last three meetings and have an edge in the all-time series 19-17.

Saturday's doubleheader against UW-Stevens Point begins at 2 p.m. and Sunday's doubleheader against UW-Whitewater begins at noon. All of the action will take place at Gelein Field in Carson Park.

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