Women's Golf To Open Season With UW-Eau Claire Invite

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EAU CLAIRE - The UW-Eau Claire women's golf team will tee off the 2006 season this Saturday and Sunday when it hosts the 22-team UW-Eau Claire Invite at the Wild Ridge and Mill Run Golf Course.

The teams participating along with the Blugolds will be Augsburg College, Buena Vista University, the College of St. Benedict, Carleton College, Central College, Concordia-Moorhead, Gustavus Adolphus, Loras College, Luther College, Macalester College, Simpson College, St. Mary's University, the University of St. Thomas, and Wartburg College.

Also, conference opponents UW-Oshkosh, UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout, UW-Superior, and UW-Whitewater will also be involved.

The first round will take place on the Mill Run course and the second round will be a shotgun on the Wild Ridge course. St. Thomas won the event last year by two shots over Gustavus Adolphus. The Blugolds finished in fifth place last year.

The Blugolds, the defending Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) champions, return four letterwinners from last year. Last year, the Blugolds had an overall record of 56-14 and finished in fifth place at the NCAA Division III women's golf championships in May.

Second team All-American **Meghan Sobotta** *(Jr.-Arcadia, WI)* returns this season after she finished in the top five individually in the eight of the ten events that she competed in last season, including receiving top-medallist honors twice. She was also a first team All-WIAC selection.

Another first team All-WIAC returnee includes **Jesse Thompson** *(Sr.-Plover, WI/SPASH)*. Last season, Thompson finished in the top five in three different events. Both Sobotta and Thompson were also named to the All-Region team of Region III.

The first round begins Saturday morning on the Mill Run course at the Wild Ridge and Mill Run Golf Course at 9:00 a.m.

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