

Oshkosh Maintains Dominance Over Blugolds

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OSHKOSH - Nationally-ranked UW-Oshkosh notched an 80-55 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference triumph over the UW-Eau Claire men's basketball team at Kolf Sports Center here Saturday afternoon.

The Titans, who are ranked No. 18 in the current d3hoops.com national poll, won for the 10th straight time this season to push their overall record to 12-2 and their conference record to 4-1. The Titans have owned the Blugolds at Kolf, notching their 13th consecutive win there. The Blugolds last won in Oshkosh on Feb. 10, 1995 during Ken Anderson's final season as head coach.

Ted Van Dellen's Titans, led by 7-foot-1 senior Kerry Gibson, dominated inside with a 43-27 advantage on the boards. The Blugolds also elected to shoot 22 of their 60 field goal attempts from beyond the arc and made just six. They got to the free throw line just six times and converted a season-low one free throw. Oshkosh conversely knocked down 18 of 21 charity tosses and shot 49 percent from the field.

While the Blugolds scored the first bucket of the game, Oshkosh jumped ahead 10-4 by the 16:27 mark and moved to a double digit lead at 20-10 with 11:16 left in the first half.

Oshkosh opened a 47-21 lead at intermission and maintained leads of between 20 and 34 points throughout the second half.

Gibson led six Titans in double figures with 15 points and a team-high seven rebounds.

Blugold scoring leader **Jared Bardon** (*Jr.-DeForest*) was held below 10 points for only the second time this season as he finished with eight, just two games after hitting a career-high 30 points versus Wartburg. Senior **Matt Riley** (*Cadott*) led the Blugolds in scoring, reaching double digits for the first time since the first two games of the season with 12 points. **Dan Beyer** (*Jr.-Waukesha/Catholic Memorial*) added 10 as the only other Blugold in twin digits. **Steve Hoelzel** (*Jr.-Kaukauna*) pulled a game-high 10 rebounds.

The Blugolds, who are now 7-6 overall and 1-4 in the WIAC, will get a chance to end a three-game losing streak when they host nationally No. 1-ranked UW-Stevens Point Wednesday at Zorn Arena. Game time is 7 p.m.

Eau Claire-Oshkosh Box Score

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