

Fina's Hat Trick Keys Win Over St. John's

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EAU CLAIRE - In only his second game back after suffering a fractured fibula early in the season, sophomore **Dan Fina** (*Fontana, WI/Glenbard South, IL*) recorded a hat trick to lead the UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team to a 3-1 non-conference triumph over St. John's University at the Hobbs Ice Center Saturday night.

The victory was the second consecutive for the Blugolds after a 9-0 triumph over Concordia-Moorhead Friday night and pushed their season record back above the .500 level to 7-6-2. St. John's, which owns wins over Gustavus Adolphus and UW-Stevens Point this year, slipped to 5-8 for the season.

For the second straight night, the Blugold defense came up big on the power play, killing off eight man-advantage opportunities by St. John's including two after major penalties. The Blugolds also killed off eight the previous night without giving up a score.

St. John's outshot the Blugolds, 36-29, but sophomore **Ryan Mensing** (*Langley, BC*) made 35 saves in goal.

Fina put the Blugolds on the scoreboard at the 11:00 mark of the first period. With 1:38 left in the period, St. John's Pat Eagles tied the count and it remained that way at the first intermission.

Midway through the second period, the Blugolds found themselves on the power play and Fina hit the back of the net again, again on an assist from **Andrew Johnson** (*Andover, MN/Anoka*) who scored four goals the previous night against Concordia.

Fina gave the Blugolds some breathing room when he tallied his third goal at the 17:06 mark of the second period. **David Coleman** (*Sr.-Whitby, ONT*) and Sean Garrity (*Jr.-North St. Paul, MN*) were credited with the assists.

The third period played ragged with 10 penalties whistled and three power play opportunities for each team.

The Blugolds will play their final non-conference games next weekend before returning to NCHA play as they travel to Gustavus and to St. Olaf.

Eau Claire-St. John's Box Score

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