

Volleyball To Battle 17th-Ranked Stout On Wednesday

Posted: Monday, September 13, 2004

It's time once again for the Eau Claire/Stout rivalry to heat up as the UW-Eau Claire women's volleyball team will battle the 17th-ranked Blue Devils Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. at the McPhee Physical Education Center.

The Blugolds come into the match with an overall record of 7-2, including a 7-1 mark in their last eight contests. Eau Claire took third place last weekend at the Augsburg Invitational, losing its only match 3-2 against St. Benedict, the same team that handed Stout its only loss. **Jenny Wolter** (*Jr.-Osceola*) and **Becca Carstensen** (*Sr.-Eau Claire/Memorial*) led the way for the Blugolds as both were named to the All-Tournament team at the conclusion of the event. Wolter tallied 50 kills in 18 games with a .340 kill percentage. Her best match came in a 3-2 win over St. Olaf, when she tallied 17 kills along with 11 block assists. Carstensen added 16 kills in the match along with eight block assists. The senior Blugold also tallied 17 kills in Eau Claire's victory over Macalester.

Carstensen has led Eau Claire in kills so far this season with 107. Wolter is second with 97 while **Molly Menard** (*Jr.-Eau Claire/Memorial*) has 96. **Carly Freiborg** (*So.-Sacred Heart, MN/Renville County West*) has done the job setting up the kills, tallying 363 set assists this season.

The Blue Devils, ranked 17th in the country, come into the match with a record of 8-1, with the lone loss coming in their last match against St. Benedict. Like the Blugolds, Stout lost in five games to St. Benedict. In the Blue Devils eight victories, they have won in four games or less every time. Five of their eight wins have come in three games.

Brooke Viegut and Tanille Hartwig have led the Blue Devil offense with Viegut tallying 130 kills and Hartwig 129. Hartwig has also led the team with 50 blocks. Erin Heger has been the top setter on the team with 422 set assists.

The all-time series between Eau Claire and Stout definitely favors the Blugolds. Eau Claire has a record of 48-24 all-time against the Blue Devils, though Stout has taken nine of the last 11 contests. The Blugolds did win the last time the two teams hooked up, winning 3-1 in Menomonie last October.

The action is set to begin at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday at the McPhee Physical Education Center.

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