

# Men's Basketball Hits The Road To Face Platteville

*Posted: Thursday, January 25, 2007*

EAU CLAIRE - The UW-Eau Claire men's basketball team will face UW-Platteville this Saturday at Williams Fieldhouse in Platteville.

It will be the first game of a men and women's doubleheader. At halftime of the game, Platteville will honor former Pioneer coach and current Wisconsin Badger head coach Bo Ryan by naming the court after him. Ryan was the head coach at Platteville for 15 seasons before taking the UW-Milwaukee job after the 1999 season. Ryan's Pioneers were 181-20 at Williams Fieldhouse in his tenure, including winning the last 92 regular season games he coached. He led the Pioneers to four national championships. His current Badger players will also be in attendance.

The Blugolds will come in with an overall record of 9-9 and a Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) of 3-7. The Blugolds lost to UW-Stout on Wednesday night by a score of 80-69. The Pioneers are 10-7 overall and 5-4 in WIAC play. Platteville is coming off of a 74-71 non-conference loss at Clarke College (IA) on Wednesday night. The Pioneers have won three of their last four conference games.

The Pioneers defeated the Blugolds 53-47 at Zorn Arena a little less than two weeks ago. In that game, the Blugolds led for the first 18:53 in the second half until Bob Richter hit a three-pointer with 1:07 to play to give Platteville a 50-47 lead.

**Dan Beyer** (*Jr.-Waukesha, WI/Catholic Memorial*) played well in that first meeting as he scored 16 points and pulled down a season-high 13 rebounds. The Blugolds leading scorer this season, **Jared Bardon** (*Jr.-DeForest, WI*) was held below his season average (14.2 ppg.) as he had 11 points. Bardon scored a team-high 19 points against Stout on Wednesday.

The Blugolds lead the WIAC with 120 offensive rebounds, which averages to just over 12 per game. Dan Beyer is on top of the conference with 47 offensive rebounds. Eau Claire is second in the conference with a 1.15 assist-to-turnover-ratio.

The Pioneers are just 1-3 in conference games at home, having lost their last three conference home games. Charlie Lohoff leads Platteville in scoring, averaging 13.6 points per game. Lohoff had a team-high 16 points against Clarke College and Wednesday and led the Pioneers with 13 points against the Blugolds in the first meeting.

The Pioneers are second in the WIAC with a three-point shooting percentage of 42%. They average a little less than eight three-point field goals per contest.

The Pioneers have won four of the last five meetings against the Blugolds, but Eau Claire owns a 60-42 record all-time against Platteville.

The tip-off between the Pioneers and the Blugolds is scheduled for 3 p.m. Saturday at Williams Fieldhouse.

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