

## Big Second Period Lifts Stevens Point Over Men's Hockey

*Posted: Friday, February 9, 2007*

STEVENS POINT - Three goals in the second period by UW-Stevens Point was enough to defeat the UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team by a final score of 5-4 tonight at Willett Arena.

The win assures the Pointers a six-seed for the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA) playoffs. The loss will give the Blugolds the seven-seed in the playoffs as they own the tiebreaker over Lake Forest College (IL), who lost tonight.

The Blugolds fall to a record of 8-12-4 overall and 1-9-3 in the NCHA. The Pointers improve to 7-15-2 overall and 3-9-1 in the conference. The Blugolds have not defeated the Pointers in their last five meetings.

Eau Claire struck first halfway through the first period when **Andrew Johnson** (*So.-Andover, MN/Anoka*) scored a short-handed goal to make the score 1-0. **Brooks Lockwood** (*Sr.-Hudson, WI*) assisted on the goal. Pat Lee answered for the Pointers with a power play goal with 3:26 remaining in the first period to tie the score 1-1 at the first intermission.

The Blugolds regained the lead a little less than four minutes into the second period when **Sean Garrity** (*Jr.-North St. Paul, MN*) scored an unassisted goal to make the score 2-1 Eau Claire. Stevens Point tied the game once again with another power play goal, this time by Ross Johnson with 7:06 remaining in the second period.

Just 36 seconds later, the Pointers took their first lead of the contest on a Brett Beckfeld even-handed goal to make the score 3-2. Stevens Point got one more goal with 1:38 remaining in the second period when Reed Lally scored another even-handed goal to make the score 4-2.

Eau Claire cut the Stevens Point lead to 4-3 with over eight minutes left in the third period on a **Mark Stockdale** (*Fr.-Brantford, ONT*) power play goal. Sean Garrity assisted on the goal. Stevens Point, however, extended its lead back to two goals just four seconds later when Pat Lee scored his second goal of the game to make the score 5-3. The Blugolds got a goal with one minute left in the game on Garrity's second goal of the contest to make the final score 5-4. **Greg Petersen** (*So.-Maple Grove, MN/Totino-Grace*) had the assist on the goal.

The Blugolds out-shot the Pointers 33-30 in the game. **Ryan Mensing** (*So.-Langley, BC/Walnut Grove SS*) saved 25 shots in the loss. Marcus Paulson stopped 29 shots for the Pointers. Both teams combined for 22 penalties, which is down from the 31 both teams combined for in a non-conference meeting earlier this season. The Pointers went 2-for-10 on power play opportunities, while the Blugolds went 2-for-7.

The Blugolds will host the Pointers tomorrow night at the Hobbs Ice Center in the regular season finale. The puck drops at 7 p.m.

Eau Claire-Stevens Point Box Score

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