

Men's Track & Field Prepares For Championships

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EAU CLAIRE - The UW-Eau Claire men's track and field team is set to improve from last year's showing at the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) Indoor Championships this weekend, with UW-Whitewater hosting.

The team took sixth in last year's championships with 35 points. UW-La Crosse took home the gold while Whitewater came in runner-up.

This year's team has taken the top spot in three events while placing third at the Whitewater Invite. Two additional meets did not keep team scores.

On the track, the Blugolds have many good times. **Nick Kropp** (*Fr.-Green Bay/Preble*) ranks second in the conference for the 200-meter dash with a 22.35 time. **Frankie Adams** (*So.-Burnsville, MN*) has a 6.58 time in the 55-meter dash for third in the WIAC.

Nick Aliota (*Sr.-Brookfield/Central*) is sixth in the 55-meter hurdles with a 7.91 time. In the 800-meter run, **Wes Fischer** (*So.-Rosemount, MN*) clocked in at 1:55.52 for fifth. Fischer took third in the event last year while Aliota was seventh in the 55-meter hurdles.

The field side of the competition has fared well, too. **Kirk Schmidt** (*Fr.-Athens*) leapt 14.11 meters (46' 3") for second in the triple jump. **Joe Felber** (*So.-Manitowoc/Lincoln*) also has a distance of 13.78 meters (45' 2") in the event for sixth.

Sam Johnson (*So.-Deer Park/Amery*) had a 17.53-meter (57' 6") showing in the weight throw, positioning him fourth. **Ryan Brohmer** (*Sr.-La Crosse/Logan*) has a 16.66 meter (54' 8") throw for eighth in the WIAC. In the pole vault, **Nick Desotelle** (*So.-Weston/Schofield D. C. Everest*) and his mark of 4.53 meters (14' 10") rank sixth.

Eau Claire is ranked ninth in the nation. UW-Oshkosh is third while La Crosse is sixth and Whitewater is seventh.

Friday will begin at 11:30 a.m. in Whitewater with the day ending at 7 p.m. Saturday's action starts at 9 a.m. with awards at 5 p.m. that evening.

WIAC Indoor Championships Website- PH -