

Women's Golf Plays Host In Last Meet Of Season

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EAU CLAIRE - With just one meet left before nationals, the UW-Eau Claire women's golf team will remain at home Saturday and Sunday for the Blugold Spring Invitational.

The two-day event will take place at Wild Ridge Golf Course. Eau Claire has not had the event since 2001.

Besides Eau Claire, five other full teams are competing. These include UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout, St. Mary's (MN), St. Thomas (MN) and Wartburg College (IA). Buena Vista University (IA) and Macalester College (MN) are sending individuals. Tee times start at noon on Saturday and at 9 a.m. on Sunday.

The sixth-ranked Blugolds have participated in just one meet in the short spring season, that being a third-place finish at the 15-team Illinois Wesleyan University (IL) Spring Fling. Weather caused the cancellation of the team's other invite, the Wartburg Spring Invite.

The fall saw plenty of success for Eau Claire as it won its third-straight Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) crown and qualified for its seventh consecutive trip to nationals.

Torie Ives (*Fr.-Osseo/Osseo-Fairchild*) won the individual honors at the WIAC Championship in sudden-death. The last time a Blugold didn't win first overall was in 2002. Five Blugolds have won in the program's history. She also tied for first at another meet and placed in the top 10 at still another. She tied for 38th at the Eau Claire Invitational this fall. She averaged 82.2 during the fall and shot a 166 at the Spring Fling while tying for 15th.

Jesse Thompson (*Sr.-Stevens Point/SPASH*) has finished in the top 10 at every meet but the opening fall one, the Eau Claire Invitational. She tied with Ives for first at the Stevens Point Invite. She also was Eau Claire's top finisher at the Spring Fling on a 159 for a third-place tie. Her fall average was 80.8.

Meghan Sobotta (*Jr.-Arcadia*), who took sixth with 161 strokes at the Spring Fling, led all Blugolds in average with 80.5. She tied for first at the Eau Claire Invitational in the fall. She also landed in the top 10 in three other fall events.

The meet begins on Saturday at Wild Ridge Golf Course and continues on into Sunday.