

Women's Track In Second Place At WIAC Championships

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RIVER FALLS - The UW-Eau Claire women's track and field team ended day one of the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) Outdoor Championships in second place just 9.33 points behind first-place UW-La Crosse here today at Ramer Field on the campus of UW-River Falls.

The Blugolds scored 53 points on the first day of competition. La Crosse leads with 62.67 points and UW-Oshkosh is third with 51 points.

Three Blugolds placed in the top five led by **Steph Barnes** (*Sr.-Sauk City/Sauk Prairie*) won her first-ever outdoor conference championship. Barnes won the event by clearing 11-10.5. **Chelsea Becker** (*Sr.-Rice Lake*) finished second place clearing 11-4.5 followed by **Alecia Ellingstad** (*So.-Eau Claire/Elk Mound*) who finished fifth clearing a height of 10-10.75.

Tonya White (*Fr.-Byron, MN*) placed fifth in the long jump with a leap of 17-4.25. Thrower **Paula Crossfield** (*Sr.-Madison/East*) finished eighth in the hammer throw with a toss of 146-5.

Molly Warner (*Jr.-Mosinee*) fell short of becoming of becoming the first women to repeat as the conference 10,000-meter run champion since Steven Point's Becky Lebak accomplished the feat in 2001 and 2002. Warner placed second with a time of 37:45.70, 21 seconds of the time of Whitewater's Jennifer Rogers who crossed the finish line in a time of 37:24.94. **Amber Hertz** (*Jr.-Baraboo*) and **Elly Prunty** (*Fr.-Antigo*) also earned points for the Blugolds in the same event. Hertz finished sixth with a time of 39:42.82 followed by Prunty who placed eighth in 39:31.19.

Hannah Humbach (*Fr.-Madison/Abundant Life*) placed second in the 3,000-meter Steeple Chase crossing the finish line in 11:35.86. **Claudia Borlee** (*Jr.-Green Bay/Preble*) finished eighth with a time of 11:54.79.

The Blugold 4 x 800-meter relay ran a time of 9:37.34 to finish in second place.

In preliminary action **Shalene Huth** (*Sr.-Appleton/West*) advanced to the finals of both the 100 and 200-meter dashes. Huth finished fifth in the 100 with a time of 12.74 seconds and eighth in the 200 crossing the finish line in 26.19 seconds. **Anna Sutherland** (*So.-Arden Hills, MN/Roseville*) also advanced to the finals of the 100 finishing ninth with a time of 12.96. **Kjersten Holt** (*Jr.-Long Prairie, MN/LP Grey Eagle*) will join Huth in the 200 final as she placed seventh finishing the race in 26.08 seconds.

Cassie Haak (*Sr.-Shoreview, MN/Mounds View*) will also compete on Saturday as she advanced to the finals of the 800-meter dash. Haak placed eighth with a time of 2:19.88.

The WIAC Championships will conclude tomorrow at Ramer Field. Action is set to begin at 10:00 A.M.

WIAC Outdoor Championship Website