Oshkosh Takes Down Volleyball, Keeps Streak Alive

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OSHKOSH, Wis. ?In a battle of last year's conference co-champions, the UW-Eau Claire volleyball team lost 3-0 to eighth-ranked UW-Oshkosh.

It was the 8-5 Blugolds' first Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) match this year. It was the second straight WIAC win for Oshkosh after a victory over UW-Platteville. The 15-1 Titans have now won 15 straight matches after losing their opening match of the season to Carthage College. They have also won 45 consecutive games, which is the fourth-longest streak in NCAA Division III history.

Today's games went 30-32, 27-30, and 25-30 as Oshkosh won its 14th straight 3-0 match. The Titans have had to go above 30 just three times in that stretch, including today's 30-32 game. The Blugolds put up the biggest fight of all those 3-0 affairs.

In the evenly-matched first game, both teams hit .205 before Eau Claire dropped to .073 in game two and Oshkosh went to .149. The third game saw Oshkosh's mark rise to .189 as the Blugolds hit .130.

Abby Freiborg *(Jr.-Sacred Heart, MN/Renville County West)* had 16 kills to lead both teams, though Oshkosh had 49 in all to Eau Claire's 39. They also outhit Eau Claire .181-to-.137. **Emily Haese** *(Jr.-Mishicot)* set Freiborg up the majority of the evening, contributing 33 assists.

Haese also had a good night defensively, tallying 14 digs to lead Eau Claire. **Heather Harnell** *(Sr.-Minnetonka, MN)* had 13 and Freiborg had 11.

The Blugolds are now 27-41 all-time versus the Titans. They had won the previous three meetings before tonight, but Oshkosh is 5-3 in the last eight.

The conference head-to-head matches continue with a home contest against UW-River Falls on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Box Score- PH-