

Holforty Outstanding Wrestler At Home Invite

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - Behind a strong performance by **Josh Holforty** (*Jr. -Bloomington, Minn./Kennedy*), the UW-Eau Claire wrestling team took fifth place out of nine teams with 75 points at the 30th Annual UW-Eau Claire Invitational today.

St. John's, who had 27 wrestlers at the meet, the most of any team at the invite, won with 120.5 points. UW-Stevens Point took second with 113.0 points while Augsburg took third with 99.5. UW-La Crosse finished fourth with 92.5 points. St. John's, Augsburg, Stevens Point and La Crosse are ranked 29th, second, eighth and third, respectively, in the latest NWCA Brute-Adidas top 30 national poll.

Coming into the invite, Holforty was ranked No. 6 in the latest NWCA Brute-Adidas top 10 individual poll at 197 pounds. Holforty won all three of his matches today to take home the championship in the 197 weight class. In his first match of the day, Holforty defeated UW-La Crosse's Zach Strickland 6-0, and then followed with a 16-5 major decision over UW-Stevens Point's Zach Ison. In the championship match, Holforty won 8-3 over UW-La Crosse's Tim Winker, who came into the invite with a 9-2 record. Holforty is now 24-5 on the season.

Andy Johnston (*So.-St. Cloud, Minn./St. Cloud Tech HS*) also wrestled in the championship round of the 149-pound weight class, but was lost by technical fall, 15-0, to UW-La Crosse's Eric Seppelt.

Two other Blugold wrestlers wrestled in third place matches. **Brandon Page** (*Jr.-Holmen, Wis.*) wrestled in the 125-pound weight class but lost to Augsburg's Freddie Vigil 12-5. At 133 pounds, Eau Claire's **Andy Miller** (*Jr.-Appleton, Wis./North*) took home a fourth place finish with a loss to St. John's Jon Shellenberger by an 11-4 decision. On the season, Page and Miller are now 9-10 and 13-11, respectively.

The Blugolds will be back in action this Wednesday when they host St. Olaf in their final non-conference dual meet of the season. The meet will begin at 7 p.m.

Complete Results

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