

Women's Basketball Top Seed In WIAC Tournament

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - The UW-Eau Claire women's basketball team will enter the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) tournament as the top seed after their win against UW-Stout on Saturday. UW-Whitewater also won on Saturday, so the top seed was determined by a coin flip.

The Blugolds won that coin flip to be the top seed and to face eighth seed UW-River Falls. The Blugolds finished their season with a 20-5 overall record and a 14-2 WIAC record. River Falls finished the season with a 5-20 overall record and a 2-14 WIAC record. The Blugolds beat the Falcons both times this year.

On January 19th, the Blugolds won at River Falls by a 79-60 score. **Michelle Burns** (Sr.-Eau Claire, WI/North) received her 1000th point and finished with 18 points and 11 rebounds. The Blugolds started cold, but **Missy Fremstad** (Jr.-Osseo, WI/Osseo-Fairchild) nailed two three pointers to give the Blugolds the lead. The Blugolds would lead by 11 at halftime. River Falls attempted a comeback and got within nine, but **Rachel Mueggenborg** (Sr.-West Salem, WI) came up big with an old fashioned three point play and her signature three pointer to get the lead back in double digits. The Blugolds would end the game with a 19 point lead. **Heather Witt** (Jr.-Kendall, WI/Royall) chipped in 18 points and four steals. **Heidi Arciszewski** (Jr.-Thorp, WI) had 13, and Fremstad and Mueggenborg had 11 points.

On February 9th, the Falcons came to Eau Claire and were defeated 63-52. River Falls made 12 three pointers in the game, but Burns overpowered the Falcons with a 25 points and 13 rebounds performance. The Blugolds had a 10 point lead at halftime after a three pointer and layup from Burns. River Falls made five three pointers to tie the game, but Burns took over and scored 13 points in the second half. Arciszewski added 12 points and six rebounds.

Burns led the Blugolds in scoring in the regular season, averaging 14.6 points per game, fourth in the WIAC. Burns also leads in rebounding, averaging 6.3 rebounds per game. Arciszewski averaged 13.8 points per game in the regular season. Witt is leading the WIAC in assists (91) and steals (63).

Caitlin Hunstock leads the Falcons in scoring, averaging 12.2 points per game. Krystal Parr is the Falcons' second leading scorer, averaging eight points per game.

The WIAC Quarterfinal tip-off between the Blugolds and the Falcons is set for 7 p.m. Tuesday night at Zorn Arena.

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