

# Volleyball Returns Home To Battle Oshkosh

*Posted: Wednesday, October 13, 2004*

EAU CLAIRE - For the first time since September 25, the UW-Eau Claire women's volleyball team will play at home when they host UW-Oshkosh this Friday at 7:00 p.m. at the McPhee Physical Education Center.

The last time the Blugolds were in action at home was the Lisa Siegenthaler Memorial Tournament, which Eau Claire won with a 3-2 victory over UW-River Falls in the championship match. Since then, the Blugolds have played six straight matches on the road, posting a 3-3 record. Eau Claire was in action last weekend at the NYU Invitational, where they ran into No. 1 NYU and fell 3-0. The team finished the invite with a 2-2 record.

The Blugolds currently sit a 17-6 for the season and 4-2 in Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play, tied for third in the conference standings. Oshkosh comes in at 15-8 overall but just 0-4 in WIAC action.

Eau Claire has posted the second best team kill percentage in the conference at .265 but is sixth in the WIAC in kills with 14.41 per game. The team leads the conference with 3.08 blocks per game.

Eau Claire is led by the combo of **Molly Menard** (*Jr.-Eau Claire/Memorial*) and **Becca Carstensen** (*Sr.-Eau Claire/Memorial*). Menard is 10th in the WIAC with 3.32 kills per game while Carstensen is 13th with 3.19. Carstensen leads the conference with 1.61 blocks per game and is also sixth in the WIAC with 0.56 service aces per contest. **Jenny Wolter** (*Jr.-Osceola*) is second in the conference in kill percentage, posting a percentage of .366 in 517 total attacks.

Setting up the Blugold attack all season long has been setter **Carly Freiborg** (*So.-Sacred Heart, MN/Renville County West*), who is currently fifth in the conference with 11.24 set assists per game. **Shanna Berger** (*So.-Baldwin/Baldwin-Woodville*) is fifth in the conference with 4.20 digs per game.

Oshkosh comes in third in the WIAC with a .252 team kill percentage and is second in the conference with 13.93 assists per game. The Titans are second in blocks with 2.96 per game. Mary Jo Chart leads the team with 3.62 kills per game while Amber Peterson is second with 3.26. Peterson is also third in the WIAC with 1.51 blocks per game. Ashley Fischer has proven valuable in both assists and service aces, as she is currently sixth with 10.54 set assists per game while leading the WIAC with 0.68 service aces per game.

The Blugolds carry a 24-38 all-time record against the Titans into Friday's match. Oshkosh has won the last two contests, winning both matches last season in five games, including knocking the Blugolds out of the WIAC Tournament.

The match between Eau Claire and Oshkosh is set to begin at 7:00 p.m. at the McPhee Physical Education Center.

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