

## Softball Inflicts Mercy Rule On Muskies

*Posted: Wednesday, March 19, 2008*

TUCSON, Az. - The UW-Eau Claire softball team easily handled Lakeland College on day five of the Tucson Invitational Games by a score of 9-1 in six innings.

With the win today at Lincoln Regional Park, the Blugolds improve to 10-4, while Lakeland drops to 1-6 on the season.

The Blugolds' scoring attack began in the bottom of the first inning when **Michelle Butkus** (*Sr.-Medford, Wis.*) drove a two-out single into left field, scoring **Casey Leisgang** (*Sr.-Seymour, Wis.*) from third. The Blugolds extended their lead to 2-0 in the second inning when **Jen Peterson** (*So.-Arden Hills, Minn.-Mounds View*) hit a sacrifice fly to score **Heidi Arciszewski** (*So.-Thorp, Wis.*).

After a Lakeland score in the top of the fourth inning to make the score 2-1, the Blugold bats would answer in the bottom of the frame with three runs scored, all with two outs. After a fly out and a ground out, **Meghan O'Hearn** (*Fr.-Woodbury, Minn.*) would extend the inning with an infield single. After an intentional walk by Leisgang, **Tamara Zeman** (*So.-Lodi, Wis.*) laced a ground-rule double into the right field corner that would plate O'Hearn. **Jill Janke** (*Sr.-Black River Falls, Wis.*) followed with a single that would score both Leisgang and Zeman to increase the Blugold lead to four.

The Blugolds capitalized on three Lakeland errors and aggressive base running in the bottom of the sixth to produce four additional runs, ending the game on the eight-run rule. The inning was highlighted by RBI singles from Butkus and Zeman.

Blugold hurler **Jenny Ross** (*Fr.-Mendota Heights, Minn./Henry Sibley*) kept Lakeland off balance the entire game, allowing just four hits, while striking out five en route to her fifth victory of the season.

Butkus and Zeman would pace the Blugold offense, tallying two hits apiece. Zeman also collected three RBIs and scored two runs. Janke went 1-for-3 on the day, driving in two run, while Leisgang scored three times on four walks, three of which were intentional.

The Blugolds are back in action tomorrow for two more games against Midland Lutheran (Neb.) and Buena Vista (Iowa).

Eau Claire-Lakeland Box Score

- CL -