

Softball Takes Advantage Of Extra Innings To Sweep Pioneers

Posted: Sunday, April 20, 2008

PLATTEVILLE, Wis. - The 13th-ranked UW-Eau Claire softball team took both games against UW-Platteville today in the only games of the weekend for the squad.

The first game went to extras before the Blugolds erupted for a seven-run 10th to win 10-4. The second game came easier with a 12-8 score.

Conference-leading Eau Claire is now 20-6 overall and 5-1 in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC). The Pioneers are 10-16 overall and 4-5 in the conference.

Game One had two starters coming off gems, with **Jenny Ross** (*Fr.-Mendota Heights, Minn./Henry Sibley*) throwing a perfect game on Tuesday against UW-Oshkosh and Maggie Medicott tossing a no-hitter versus UW-Superior on Saturday.

Ross was reached for two runs off three hits in the bottom of the first, but Eau Claire matched the pair of runs in the third when Ross and **Kristi Doucette** (*Jr.-Green Bay, Wis./Ashwaubenon*) notched RBI singles.

Jill Janke (*Sr.-Black River Falls, Wis.*) put the Blugolds up by a run the next inning when she singled in **Betsy Kettinger's** (*Jr.-Bloomington, Minn./Jefferson*) pinch-runner, **Sara Baumgartner** (*Fr.-Arcadia, Wis.*), with two down.

Ross was done after four innings of two-run, five-hit ball. **Bri Sturm** (*Jr.-Zumbrota, Minn./Zumbrota-Mazeppa*) came in but gave up an RBI double in the fifth. It would have scored one more, but a runner was thrown out at home.

The game would not see a scoring change until the 10th, though Eau Claire did have a chance in the ninth. However, **Michelle Butkus** (*Sr.-Medford, Wis.*) was caught between third and home on Doucette's two-out single.

The 10th saw the Blugolds collect seven runs off eight hits as they batted around. **Tamara Zeman** (*So.-Lodi, Wis.*) knocked in the go-ahead run with an RBI single. Janke, Zeman and Butkus each had an RBI in the inning. **Jessica Flood** (*So.-Madison, Wis./La Follette*) and Doucette had two RBIs while Doucette's hit was a two-run jack.

Doucette also picked up the win with three scoreless innings of relief. Medicott went all 10 and was hung with the loss. Janke and Doucette each went 3 for 5 and had two RBIs.

The Blugold bats kept their momentum in the second game with four runs in both the first and second innings. One run in the first was on a wild pitch while two others came when first missed a throw from short with two down. Butkus also had an RBI single in the inning. Two of the second-inning runs came on one swing of the bat when **Casey Leisgang** (*Sr.-Seymour, Wis.*) homered. Her home run record now extends to 32. Butkus sent in another with a triple and came in during the play due to a throwing error.

Eau Claire added two more in the third to make it 10-0, but Platteville struck for five in the bottom of the third off Sturm. The two teams would swap runs in the fifth before the Blugolds tallied another run in the seventh. Platteville would add two in the bottom of the frame, but it would not be enough as Eau Claire won 12-8.

Flood took over for Sturm in the third and went three innings to get the win. She allowed one run off three hits and a walk. Leisgang had the best game on offense with a 4-for-4 effort that saw four runs and two RBIs.

The team is scheduled to play at UW-La Crosse tomorrow. The 4 p.m. game is re-scheduled from April 19.

Game One Box Score

Game Two Box Score

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