

Volleyball To Battle St. Scholastica Tuesday

Posted: Monday, October 25, 2004

EAU CLAIRE - The UW-Eau Claire women's volleyball team will look to end a three-match losing streak Tuesday night when they host St. Scholastica at 7:00 p.m. at the McPhee Physical Education Center.

The Blugolds come into the match with an overall record of 17-8 for the season but have dropped their last three matches. Eau Claire fell victim to No. 15 River Falls last Wednesday, when they took the first game but lost the next three. The Blugolds dropped a 3-1 match on October 15 against Oshkosh and lost their last match of the NYU Invitational to top-ranked NYU on October 9.

Leading the Blugold attack this season has been **Molly Menard** (*Jr.-Eau Claire/Memorial*), who has a team best 303 kills on the season. Menard is also third on the team with 198 digs while recording 51 total blocks.

Becca Carstensen (*Sr.-Eau Claire/Memorial*) leads the team in blocks with 147 on the season while recording 299 kills, second most on the team. She is second on the team with a .299 kill percentage among players with more than 35 total attacks. Carstensen also leads the team with 52 service aces on the season.

Jen Wolter (*Jr.-Osceola*) is also posting a solid season and is third on the roster with 270 kills. Her .346 kill percentage is tops on the team while she has also recorded 90 total blocks.

Setting the big three up all season has been **Carly Freiborg** (*So.-Sacred Heart, MN/Renville County West*), who leads the team with 1,060 set assists. Freiborg has also tallied 40 service aces and 205 defensive digs.

The Saints come into the match carrying a record of 15-10 on the season. Scholastica has won five of its last six matches, dropping a 3-1 decision to UM-Morris for its only blemish since October 8. The Saints have played two Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference opponents this season, falling to UW-Oshkosh 3-1 and losing to UW-Stout 3-0.

Ashley Hanson leads the offensive attack for the Saints, posting 375 kills on the season. She also leads the team with 35 service aces while her .295 kill percentage is second on the team. Amanda Huotari is second on the team with 300 kills while posting a team-best .434 kill percentage. Huotari leads the team with 89 total blocks.

Setter Laura Lief has done a good job getting the Saint hitters the ball, posting 1,088 set assists on the season. Natalie Ristow leads the team with 632 defensive digs.

The Blugolds have had tremendous success all-time against the Saints, posting a 14-3 record in the all-time series. Eau Claire has won 13 straight matches and 14 of the last 15 against the Saints after dropping its first two matches ever against St. Scholastica. The last time the Blugolds lost a match to the Saints was October 4, 1991, a 3-2 loss.

The action is set to begin at 7:00 p.m. at the McPhee Physical Education Center.

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