Men's Hockey Shuts Down Tommies To Stay Unbeaten

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - The UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team defeated St. Thomas today with a 6-0 win at Hobbs Ice Center and improved to an unbeaten 4-0 on the year.

The Blugolds move to an all-time record of 6-15-2 against the Tommies. This was only the second shutout loss for Tommies in 71 games dating back several seasons. The last time the Blugolds went 4-0 to start the season was during the 2003-04 season.

The game between the Tommies and the Blugolds played out evenly in the first period with both teams remaining scoreless. However, the Blugolds decided to kick it up a notch with two early second period goals. **Greg Petersen** *(Maple Grove, Minn./Totino-Grace)* notched the first goal of the night at 3:30 in the second period on a power-play with the assist from **Sean Garrity** *(North St. Paul, Minn./North)* and **Brant Marple** *(Apple Valley, Minn./Eastview)*. The next early goal came at 4:45 from **Joe Bluhm** *(Red Wing, Minn.)* with the assist from **DJ Clark** *(Blaine, Minn./Spring Lake Park)* and **Dan Fina** *(Sr.-Fontana, Wis./Glenbard South)*.

Later in the second period, the Blugolds tacked on two more goals before the period would end. Marple added to the 2-0 lead for the Blugolds by finding the net at 16:48 with an assist from Garrity. Later, the pair decided to swap positions as Garrity scored the next Blugold goal short-handed at 18:41 with the assist from Marple to end the second period scoring spree.

With the Tommies hoping for a big third period comeback, the Blugolds shut down any notion of St. Thomas taking back the game. **Jesse Vesel** *(Hibbing, Minn.)* made the sirens sound as he scored an unassisted goal at 9:51 in the third period. At 16:41 in the third period, Bluhm scored the final goal of the game with an assist from Clark and **Nicholas Kuqali** *(Jr.-Pittsburgh, Pa./Mount Lebanon)*.

By the end of the game, the Blugolds barely outshot the Tommies 18-17. Goalkeeper **Tyler Brigl** *(Apple Valley, Minn./Eastview)* notched his first shutout of the year with 17 saves.

Eau Claire returns to the ice tomorrow evening against St. Mary's at Hobbs Ice Center. The puck will drop at 7 p.m.

Eau Claire-St. Thomas Results

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