# Volleyball Selected To NCAA Championship

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INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. - The UW-Eau Claire volleyball team has been selected to participate in the 2008 NCAA Championship and will head to the University of St. Thomas for an eight-team regional, NCAA officials announced today.

The Blugolds, along with three other Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) schools, were selected to this year's championship. While Oshkosh won the conference's automatic bid, Whitewater, La Crosse and Eau Claire were all at-large selections in the 61-team field. Oshkosh and Whitewater will compete in an eight-team regional this weekend at Oshkosh.

This season Eau Claire will take on Gustavus Adolphus in the first round of the regional Thursday at 3:30 p.m. Like the Blugolds, the Gusties lost in their conference tournament title match. Gustavus will enter the NCAA Championship with a 26-4 overall record while the Blugolds are 23-11. Eau Claire is 6-4 all-time against the Gusties but Gustavus has won the most recent contest, which took place last season on August 31.

In addition to Eau Claire and Gustavus, other teams competing at St. Thomas this weekend will be St. Benedict, Simpson College, Concordia-Moorhead, Loras College, La Crosse and host St. Thomas. Tickets for the St. Thomas regional this year will be priced at $5 for adults and $3 for students.

This is the 11th selection to the NCAA Championship in program history for the Blugolds and their fourth consecutive. Last season Eau Claire also competed at the University of St. Thomas. The Blugolds came away with a 3-1 loss to the host Tommies.

The tournament will run through Saturday. The winners of this weekend's regionals will head to Bloomington, Ill. for the Elite Eight on Nov. 20. The Final Four will take place on Nov. 21 and the 2008 NCAA Division III Volleyball National Champion will be crowned Nov. 22.

Official Announcement

2008 NCAA Championship Bracket

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