Men's Hockey To Host Bethel, Hamline

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EAU CLAIRE - The UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team will open up their home schedule by hosting non-conference opponents Bethel College and Hamline University Friday and Saturday at Hobbs Ice Center.

The Blugolds are coming off two road losses to Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference opponents UW-Stevens Point and UW-River Falls. Eau Claire got a goal from **Brooks Lockwood** *(So.-Hudson)* in losing 3-1 to Stevens Point and a goal from **Rob Ouimette** *(Sr.-Iron Bridge, ONT/Leamington District)* in the 6-1 loss to River Falls.

The game against Bethel will be the season opener for the Royals. Bethel is a young team with only four seniors on the 26-man roster. The Royals finished 4-17-1 last year while allowing 4.5 goals per year.

The leading returning scorer for Bethel is senior Kris Birch. Birch scored 17 points on six goals and 11 assists last year. The Royals also return 17 goals and 30 total points from Ryan Adams and Dan Ubl.

The game against Hamline will be the second game of the year for the Piper's following their season opener against Stevens Point. Hamline is another young team made up of 13 sophomores and only two seniors on the 23-man roster.

The Pipers finished last year 3-22-0 scoring a littler over two goals a game while allowing nearly five goals a game. Hamline returns their top two scorers from a year ago in Eric Weum and Ryan Manke. Weum scored on 19 points on five goals and 14 assists while Manke scored 18 points on eight goals and ten assists.

Both matches are set to begin at 7:05 p.m.

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