

Men's Hockey Rebounds With A Win Against River Falls

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - The UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team rebounded from its loss to Northern Collegiate Hockey Association conference opponent and No. 1 ranked St. Norbert College a week ago, defeating UW-River Falls 6-1 tonight at Hobbs Ice Center.

With the Bugolds' win tonight, they move to 7-1-0 on the year and are now 2-1-0 in the NCHA. The conference win keeps UW-Eau Claire in third place, but gives them sole possession, putting them one win behind St. Norbert and UW-Superior, which share first place. The Bugolds move to an all-time record of 28-78-3 against UW-River Falls.

The Bugolds didn't let their loss last week affect their ability to put points on the board. Eau Claire was the first to strike at 4:30 in the first period. **Joe Bluhm** (Jr.-Red Wing, Minn.) scored the Bugolds first even strength goal of the night with assists from **Andrew Johnson** (Sr.-Andover, Minn./Anoka) and **Jesse Vesel** (Sr.-Hibbing, Minn.) to put the Bugolds up 1-0. The trop decided to hook up again at 18:24 in the first period, with Bluhm scoring another even strength goal with assists from Johnson and Vesel to put the Bugolds up 2-0

In the second period, the Bugolds started scoring quickly as **Tyler Trudell** (Jr.-Waukesha, Wis./South) scored a power play goal at 2:20 in the second with assists from **Brant Marple** (Jr.-Apple Valley, Minn./Eastview) and **Greg Petersen** (Sr.-Maple Grove, Minn./Totino-Grace) to give the Bugolds a 3-0 lead. Three minutes later, the goal hungry Bugolds struck again with **Bryan Plaszcz** (Sr.-Apple Valley, Minn./Eastview) scoring Eau Claire's third even strength goal with assists from **DJ Clark** (Sr.-Blaine, Minn./Spring Lake Park) and Marple to make the game 4-0. The Falcons avoided the shut out with a goal at 15:38 in the second period off of a power play for River Falls.

The third period proved to be another dominated period for the Bugolds. At 2:23, Eau Claire's fourth even strength goal was scored by **Sean Garrity** (Sr.-North St. Paul, Minn./North) with assists from Marple and Petersen. Although the Bugolds had a comfortable four goal lead, **Nic Weight** (Fr.-Eagle River, Wis./Northland Pines) put the sixth and final nail in the Falcons coffin at 12:54 in the third period with the assist from **Sam Bauler** (Sr.-Apple Valley, Minn./Eastview) to give the Bugolds the 6-1 win.

The Bugolds normally double their opponent's shot count, but tonight Eau Claire only out shot UW-River Falls 34-30. Eau Claire goalkeeper **Tyler Brigl** (Apple Valley, Minn./Eastview) had a very good night with 11 saves in the first period, eight in the second and 10 in the third for a total of 29 saves on the night. Brigl moves to 6-1-0 as the Bugolds' goaltender on the year while having 140 saves on the year. The goalkeepers for the Falcons had a total of 28 saves on the night with Bo Storozuk having 17 and Stephen Ritter having 11.

Eau Claire returns to the ice tomorrow in Menomonie for a conference game against UW-Stout. The puck is set to hit the ice at 7:30 p.m.

Eau Claire-River Falls Stats- MT -