# Men's Hockey Rebounds With A Win Against River Falls

*Posted: Friday, November 21, 2008*

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 Blugolds' 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 Blugolds move to an all-time record of 28-78-3 against UW-River Falls.

The Blugolds 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 Blugolds 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 Blugolds 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 Blugolds up 2-0

In the second period, the Blugolds 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 Blugolds a 3-0 lead. Three minutes later, the goal hungry Blugolds 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 Blugolds. 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 Blugolds 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 Blugolds the 6-1 win.

The Blugolds 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 Blugolds' 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 -