

Football Hands Out Team Awards

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - UW-Eau Claire head football coach Todd Glaser has announced the 2008 team award winners at the team's end-of-season banquet yesterday.

Safety **Dave Wicklund** (*Sr.-Kewaskum, Wis.*) received this season's Defensive MVP honors. Wicklund led the Blugolds with 51 solo tackles and 17 assists for a total of 68 tackles, which was ninth in the WIAC. He also picked off a pass, had one forced fumble and broke up two passes. Wicklund earned second team All-WIAC honors this year and was a first team All-WIAC selection, as well as a third team D3football.com All-America selection last season.

Running back **Cory Sartorelli** (*Jr.-Appleton, Wis./North*) earned Offensive MVP recognition. Sartorelli led the Blugolds and the WIAC for the regular season with 1,288 total yards for an average of 128.8 yards per game. His 1,288 yards for the season ranks as third most in program history. During the course of the season Sartorelli had five 100+ yard rushing performances, including a career-high 285 yards against Hope College on Sept. 20, the third most rushing yards for a single player for a game in program history. He also had two long rushing touchdowns, one of 91 yards, the longest rushing touchdown in school history, and one of 85 yards. Sartorelli scored almost half of the Blugolds' points this season, accumulating 100 of the team's 208 points. He scored 16 touchdowns and added four extra points while handling kicking duties in a couple games this year. Sartorelli earned first team All-WIAC honors this season and was an All-WIAC honorable mention selection last year. He also earned team Offensive Newcomer of the Year honors two seasons ago.

For the third year in a row, Cornerback **Craig Polifka** (*Sr.-Kewaunee, Wis.*) was named Special Teams MVP. Polifka was fourth on the team this season with 40 tackles, including 35 solos and five assists. He led Eau Claire with four interceptions, which tied for fourth in the conference. Polifka also forced one fumble and broke up seven passes. He handled the return duties as well, accumulating 499 kick return yards with 24 returns and 113 yards with 17 punt returns. Polifka earned first team All-WIAC honors this year and was a second team All-WIAC selection as a return specialist last season.

Inside linebacker **Andy Neumann** (*Fr.-Germantown, Wis.*) received Defensive Newcomer of the Year honors. Neumann played in all 10 games this season and started in the final game of the year. He accumulated 19 solo tackles and 22 total tackles, including one sack. He also broke up two passes and forced one fumble.

Earning Offensive Newcomer of the Year honors was wide receiver **David Goodman** (*Fr.-Neeah, Wis.*). Goodman played in all 10 games this season, starting in the final five. He was third on the team with 25 receptions for 284 yard, averaging 11.4 yards per catch. He also scored three touchdowns.

Corner back **Granger Taft** (*So.-Rosemount, Minn.*) was named this season's Special Teams Newcomer of the Year. Taft played in nine games and provided good coverage on punts and kickoffs, making a number of tackles to allow opponents an average of only 16.8 return yards on kick returns and 10.5 on punt returns.

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