Men's Basketball Looks To Bounce Back At Home

Posted: Thursday, December 11, 2008

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - After dropping its first Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference game to UW-Platteville Wednesday evening, the UW-Eau Claire men's basketball team is looking to get back on track Saturday against UW-La Crosse.

Saturday's contest will be the first game of a double-header with the women's basketball team following the men. Entering the match-up, the Blugolds are currently 4-3 overall and 1-1 in the WIAC.

On the season Eau Claire averages 77 points per game, while shooting 50 percent from the field, good for third in the WIAC. The Blugolds out rebound their opponents 34 to 32 per game, while collecting 107 assists, 60 steals and 26 blocks.

Lead the Blugolds' offense is sophomore **Ryan Shea** *(So.-Duluth, Minn./East)*. Shea is averaging 14 points per game and leads the team in assists with 24 and is second in rebounding with 4.9 per game. **Dan Beyer** *(Sr.-Waukesha, Wis./Catholic Memorial)* is a close second, scoring 13.7 points per game and leading the team in rebounding, pulling down 5.9 per game.

La Crosse comes into Saturday with a 4-3 overall record and 0-1 record in the WIAC. In their last game, the Eagles lost to conference opponent UW-Stevens Point Wednesday evening by a score of 82-69. Tony Mane leads La Crosse with 16.6 points per game, and Brandon Brown averages nine points a game to go along with a team-leading 26 assists and 4.9 rebounds per game.

The Blugolds hold the all-time series against the Eagles, garnering a 101-66 record. In their last meeting, La Crosse came away with the victory, beating Eau Claire 72-65 at Zorn Arena.

Tip off for Saturday's game is set to begin at 3 p.m. at Zorn Arena.

- CL -