Women's Hockey Loses To First Place River Falls

Posted: Saturday, December 13, 2008

RIVER FALLS, Wis. - The UW-Eau Claire women's hockey team lost to Northern Collegiate Hockey Association leader UW-River Falls today 5-3 at the Hunt Arena.

The loss drops the Blugolds to 6-3-2 this season and to 2-2-1 in the NCHA, putting them in fifth place. UW-River Falls' win puts them atop the conference with a 8-1-1 record overall and 6-1-0 in the NCHA. In the all-time series, the Falcons have the advantage with a 23-5-3 record.

In the first period, Eau Claire fell behind after two even-strength goals from River Falls at 11:59 and 13:41 to make the score 2-0 in favor of the Falcons. The Blugolds struck back at 16:09 with an even-strength goal from **Maddi Hammer** *(So.-Owatonna, Minn.)* and assist from **Lauren Havard** *(Sr.-San Angelo, Texas/Araphaoe)* to get Eau Claire within one goal. The Falcons struck back 32 seconds later with an even-strength goal, giving River Falls the 3-1 lead at the end of the first period.

Neither team scored in the second period, but as the third period began, River Falls struck quickly with a power-play goal at 58 seconds into the period. With the score at 4-1, River Falls continued the offensive with its fourth even-strength goal of the night at 4:05 to make the score 5-1 in favor of the Falcons. The Blugolds would not go down without a fight however, as **Beth Dittrich** *(Jr.-Roseville, Minn.)* began the comeback for the Blugolds, scoring a power-play goal at 7:32 with assists from **Jackie McKay** *(Fr.-Franklin Park, Ill./East Leyden)* and **Kristin Faber** *(So.-Austin, Minn.)* to make the game 5-2. **Taylor Jenkins** *(Fr.-Austin, Minn.)* capped off the Blugolds night, scoring an even-strength goal at 18:39 with the assist from **Michelle Rust** *(Fr.-Coon Rapids, Minn.)* to make the final score 5-3.

Eau Claire was outshot by River Falls today 31-30. **Lea Jondal** *(Fr.-Somerset, Wis./Cretin-Derham Hall)* played for 44:05, allowing five goals and having 24 saves while **Morgan Pieper** *(Fr.-Williams, Minn./Warroad)* played 15:50 minutes and had two saves in the third period.

The Blugolds next contest will take place at home January 3 against Hamline at the Hobbs Ice Center at 3 p.m.

Eau Claire-River Falls Results

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