

Soccer Announces Team Award Winners

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - UW-Eau Claire soccer coach Sean Yengo recently announced the 2008 team award winners at its end-of-the-year banquet.

Goalkeeper **Allie Rivard** (*Sr.-Plymouth, Minn./Wayzata*) earned the team's Most Valuable Player award and was Blugolds' Defensive Player of the Year. Rivard earned a number of honors during her career as a Blugold, including WIAC Scholar-Athlete, All-WIAC recognition, National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) All-America honors, NSCAA Scholar All-America honors, as well as a number of other honors. Rivard established a conference record with 2,140 minutes in goal this year and posted a 0.63 goals against average and 10 shutouts. Her 10 shutouts represent the most in school history in a single season and the sixth-highest total in league history. She accumulated a 0.47 career goals against average which places her first on the WIAC chart. Rivard is also second on the Blugolds' all-time list with 17 shutouts in her career.

Forward **Amy Smith** (*Sr.-Bloomington, Minn./Thomas Jefferson*) was this year's Offensive Player of the Year, also receiving the honor last season. Smith, who has earned All-WIAC recognition three times in her career, is the Blugolds' all-time leading point and goal scorer, with 50 career goals and 127 points. She led the team with 22 goals this season, which is also a program record for most goals in a season, while her 50 points this year is also a season-high for the Blugolds. Smith was also the team's 1v1 champion.

Midfielder **Liz Kooistra** (*Sr.-Lakeville, Minn.*) earned Playmaker of the Year honors. Kooistra was this year's WIAC Player of the Year and was a first team All-WIAC member. She tied for most assists on the team this year with 11, and tied a school record for most assists in a career with 29. Overall Kooistra was third on the team with 11 goals and 33 points this season. Kooistra earned NSCAA All-American recognition this season and has earned other national honors in her career with the Blugolds. Kooistra was the team's co-playmaker of the year last season.

Defender **Andrea Hull** (*So.-Eau Claire, Wis./Memorial*) was selected as the team's Most Improved player. She played in all 24 games this year, starting in 23, while she did not start any games a season ago.

Defender **Cassie Peeters** (*Sr.-Little Chute, Wis.*) was this season's Practice Player of the Year and **Jessica Millard** (*Sr.-Madison, Wis./La Follette*) earned the team's Golden Shoe Award.

The Alumni Freshman Player of the Year award went to **Alyssa Walker** (*Fr.-Madison, Wis./West*), who started 22 games this year and scored two goals. She was also the Blugold Olympics champion.

Shannon Conlin (*Jr.-Reedsburg, Wis.*) was this season's heading challenge champion, while **Kelsey Figg** (*So.-Little Canada, Minn./Roseville*) won the team's long range shooting competition. **Brittany Burant** (*So.-Stevens Point, Wis.*) won the heading clearance challenge.

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