Men's Hockey Kicks Off 2009 With Home Stand

Posted: Wednesday, December 31, 2008

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - The UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team will play two home games this weekend to begin the second half of the season. The Blugolds face St. Olaf College Friday and University of Minnesota, Crookston Saturday. Both games are set to begin at 7 p.m. each night at Hobbs Ice Center.

The Blugolds, who have been off since December 13, head into the weekend with a 9-4 overall record. Eau Claire is on a two-game win streak and has allowed only one goal in those two games. St Olaf is 7-2-1 this year and has not lost a game since November 8. Crookston is 1-12-0 on the season, picking up its only win on November 7 against Milwaukee School of Engineering. Minnesota-Crookston will face Stevens Point on Friday before taking on Eau Claire Saturday.

After 13 games, **Sean Garrity** *(Sr.-North St. Paul, Minn./North)* leads the Blugolds with 15 points coming from nine goals and six assists. **Jesse Vesel** *(Sr.-Hibbing, Minn.)* has seven assists and three goals for 10 points on the season. In goal, **Tyler Brigl** *(Jr.-Eagan, Minn.)* leads the Blugolds with more than 657 minutes. He holds a 1.64 goals against average and a .926 save percentage.

Against St. Olaf, the Blugolds are 13-8 all-time and have won 10 of the last 12 meetings. The Blugolds defeated St. Olaf two seasons ago but came up short three seasons ago. The Blugolds hold a 5-1 all-time record over Crookston, with their only loss coming in 2001. In the teams' last meeting in 2003, the Blugolds won 3-1.

- KM -