Men's Hockey Posts Win Against UM-Crookston

Posted: Saturday, January 3, 2009

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - Following a 5-1 loss last night to St. Olaf (Minn.), the UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team bounced back at home to post a 5-1 win of its own against Minnesota-Crookston tonight at Hobbs Ice Center.

The win gives the Blugolds a 10-5-0 record while Minnesota-Crookston drops to 1-14-0.

Eau Claire scored early and often, quickly putting the game out of reach for the Golden Eagles. Dominating puck control on the offensive end, the Blugolds managed to out-shoot Crookston by a margin of 53 to 12.

Sean Garrity *(Sr.-North St. Paul, Minn./North)* put the Blugolds on the board with his 10th goal of the season at the 7:10 mark in the first period. **Brant Marple** *(Jr.-Apple Valley, Minn./Eastview)* provided the first of his two assists on the night. Eau Claire would strike again in the second period with two more goals. The first came at 7:10 from **Joe Bluhm** *(Jr.-Red Wing, Minn.)*. It was Bluhm's eighth goal of the year and was assisted by **Jesse Vesel** *(Sr.-Hibbing, Minn.)*. **Dan Fina** *(Sr.-Fontana, Wis./Glenbard South)* lit the lamp for the third time this season later in the period, giving the Blugolds a commanding 3-0 lead on a short-handed goal. **DJ Clark** *(Sr.-Blaine, Minn./Spring Lake Park)* picked up his sixth assist on the play.

After the Golden Eagles squeaked in a power play goal in the waning seconds of the second period, Eau Claire scored two more goals in the final period to put the game away for good. At the 4:58 mark, **Andrew Johnson** *(Sr.-Andover, Minn./Anoka)* found the back of the net for his fourth goal of the year. Marple and **Greg Petersen** *(Sr.-Maple Grove, Minn./Totino-Grace)* came up with the assists. Ending the scoring was Clark, recording his fourth goal of the year at 19:17, with Bluhm assisting the score.

Picking up the win in the crease tonight was **Aaron Johnson** *(Jr.-Hayward, Wis.)*. Johnson allowed just one Crookston goal, while making all 11 saves.

The Blugolds hit the road January 9 and 10 for contests against Hamline University (Minn.) and Augsburg University (Minn.). Hamline is currently 9-2-0, while the Blugolds won an earlier meeting against Augsburg this season by a score of 3-0 at Hobbs Ice Center. Both games are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

Eau Claire-Crookston Box Score

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