

Men's Basketball Ready For Faceoff With Falcons

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - Hoping to put a halt on a three game losing skid, the UW-Eau Claire men's basketball team looks to pick up its third WIAC win of the season Saturday afternoon against UW-River Falls.

The Blugolds are 8-6 overall and 2-4 in conference play heading into the Alumni Day showdown at Zorn Arena. At home, the Blugolds are 6-1 on the season. In its last game, Eau Claire dropped a 91-84 overtime thriller against UW-Oshkosh at the Kolf Sports Arena.

On the season, Eau Claire averages 78 points per game while shooting 51 percent from the field. The Blugolds out rebound their opponents 34.6 to 34.2 and shoot close to 70 percent from the charity stripe.

Four Blugolds average double-digits so far this season. **Dan Beyer** (*Sr.-Waukesha, Wis./Catholic Memorial*) leads the charge, scoring 13.2 points per game. Beyer also leads the team in rebounding, pulling down nearly six boards per contest. **Ryan Shea** (*So.-Duluth, Minn./East*) is right on Beyer's heels, putting up 12.2 points per game and is second on the team in assists with 47. Leading in the assist department is junior **Colin Boone** (*Eau Claire, Wis./Memorial*). Boone enters Saturday with 3.64 assists per game, and averages 10.9 points per game, shooting 57 percent from the field. Finally, inside man **Geoff Probst** (*Jr.-Moose Lake, Minn.*) averages 10.5 points per game. Probst is second on the team in rebounding with 5.4 per game and has recorded three double-doubles this season.

UW-River Falls comes into Saturday's game garnering an 8-7 overall record and a 2-4 mark in WIAC play. The Falcons took their last game into overtime as well, losing to UW-Superior 73-67 on Wednesday evening. River Falls is also looking to end a three game losing streak.

Guard Jontae Koonkaew leads Head Coach Jeff Berkhof's offense with 16.2 points per game. Koonkaew also leads the team with 5.06 assists per game. Jake Voeltz is second on the team with 11.9 points per game while pulling down 5.8 rebounds.

The Blugolds lead the all-time series against the Falcons, owning a 104-78 overall record. In last season's final meeting between the two teams, Eau Claire beat River Falls at home 77-54, ironically on Alumni Day. Saturday's game will begin at 3 p.m. and will be followed by the women's game.

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