

Women's Basketball Looks To Stay Perfect At Home

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - Carrying an undefeated record at home into Saturday's contest, the sixth-ranked UW-Eau Claire women's basketball team looks to make it eight straight at Zorn Arena against WIAC opponent UW-River Falls.

The Blugold men will open the doubleheader action at 3 p.m. while the women's game will follow at 5 p.m.

Eau Claire currently owns a 13-1 overall record and a 5-1 mark in WIAC play, tied for second place with UW-Whitewater, who handed the Blugolds their only loss this season. River Falls is 10-5 on the season and 3-3 in the conference. The Falcons won their last game against UW-Superior, 72-59 on Wednesday evening.

The Blugolds enter Saturday averaging 66.3 points per game while holding their opponents to just 51.8 points. Other than three-point field goals and blocks, Eau Claire is better than its opponents in each statistical category including rebounds (36.9 per game), free throw percentage (75.2 percent) and field goal percentage (45.4 percent).

Seniors **Heidi Arciszewski** (*Thorp, Wis.*) and **Heather Witt** (*Kendall, Wis./Royall*) and sophomore **Hannah Mesick** (*Chatfield, Minn.*) lead the Blugolds' offense. Arciszewski leads the team in points and rebounds, averaging 15.4 points and 6.4 rebounds per game. Witt, the team's defensive stopper, is just as potent on offense scoring 13.9 points per game to go along with her conference and team-leading 3.85 steals and 3.64 assists. Mesick is just behind Witt in scoring, picking up 13.6 points per game. The 6'2 center also pulls down 4.6 rebounds and leads the team in blocks with six.

A freshman duo leads River Falls this season. Guard Tiffany Gregorich leads the Falcons' offense with 13.4 points per game, while forward Alise Holst is second on the team with 9.9 points per game and leads the team with 8.2 rebounds per game.

The Blugolds have had the Falcons number as of late, winning the past six meetings between the two teams, including a 30 point victory in the opening round of the WIAC Conference Tournament last season. The last time River Falls beat Eau Claire was on December 7 of the 2005-06 season, winning 72-61 in River Falls.

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