

# Men's Hockey Loses Close Battle To Fourth Ranked St. Norbert

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - In a close matchup against a nationally ranked team, the UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team lost to fourth-ranked, defending national champion St. Norbert College 2-1 tonight at Hobbs Ice Center.

After going the last four games without a loss, the Blugolds drop to 12-6-2 overall this season and 2-5-1 in Northern Collegiate Hockey Association play. St. Norbert College now moves to second place in the NCHA with a record of 6-2-0 while moving to 15-4 on the season so far after extending its winning streak to three in a row.

The first period proved to be an even match between the two strong teams as neither team scored a goal. The second period finally produced the first goal of the game as Eau Claire's **Bryan Plaszcz** (*Sr.-Apple Valley, Minn./Eastview*) scored an even-strength goal at 8:20 with an assist from **Joe Bluhm** (*Jr.-Red Wing, Minn.*) to give the Blugolds the lead. At 16:15 however, the Green Knights' Alain Joannette scored the equalizing goal to tie the game up.

The third period proved to be scoreless for the Blugolds as the Green Knights' Tyler Allen scored a goal seven minutes into the period to give St. Norbert the 2-1 win on the night.

**Tyler Brigl** (*Jr.-Apple Valley, Minn./Eastview*) picked up the loss for the Blugolds in goal, recording 22 saves on the night and playing 58:36. The Green Knights' Blake Bashor picked up the win and ended up with 26 saves and only one goal allowed.

The Blugolds also lost to St. Norbert by one goal (4-3) earlier this season. Eau Claire did manage to outshoot St. Norbert tonight 27-24, however.

The Blugolds continue their home stand tomorrow night against Lake Forest College. The Foresters currently have no wins against NCHA opponents. The puck drops at 7 p.m. at Hobbs Ice Center.

Eau Claire/St. Norbert Box Score

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