

Men's Hockey Loses Late To Pointers

Posted: Saturday, February 14, 2009

STEVENS POINT, Wis. - After taking a 1-0 lead early in the first period, the UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team was unable to hang on for the win, losing 5-4 to NCHA opponent UW-Stevens Point tonight.

With the loss, the Blugolds fall to 3-10-1 in conference play and 13-11-1 overall. The Pointers move to 6-7-1 in the NCHA and 15-8-2 on the year. Earlier in the season, the two teams skated to a 4-4 tie at Hobbs Ice Center.

The first period saw tons of action with the two teams totaling five goals. **Jesse Vesel** (Sr.-Hibbing, Minn.) lit the lamp just 43 seconds into the first to give the Blugolds a 1-0 lead. It didn't take long for Stevens Point to steal the momentum, rattling off three straight goals to take a commanding 3-1 lead. Eau Claire answered in the waning minutes of the first on a **Tyler Trudell** (Jr.-Waukesha, Wis./South) score, his third of the season.

The Blugolds carried the momentum into the second period, scoring twice to take a slim 4-3 lead. Just 41 seconds into the period, **Greg Petersen** (Sr.-Maple Grove, Minn./Totino-Grace) found the back of the net for his fourth goal of the year, and **Tyler Romasco** (Fr.-Perry, Ohio) followed at the 8:29 mark to grab the lead. It was Romasco's first goal of the season. Just when it looked like the Blugolds were going to tie up the win, Stevens Point answered with two goals of its own in the second period to take a 5-4 lead that would stick for the remainder of the game.

Tyler Brigl (Jr.-Apple Valley, Minn./Eastview) took the loss in the crease tonight, making 24 saves while giving up the five Pointer goals.

Eau Claire now prepares for the opening round of the NCHA conference tournament against UW-Stout. The Stout Blue Devils swept the season series against the Blugolds, outscoring them 5-1 in two contests. The matchup is set for Friday at 7:30 p.m. in Menomonie.

Eau Claire-Stevens Point Box Score

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