Women's Hockey Loses Final Regular Season Game To No. 8 River Falls

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - After losing the previous night 5-0, the UW-Eau Claire women's hockey team gave up only three goals against eighth-ranked UW-River Falls but fell 3-1 tonight at Hobbs Ice Center in its final regular season game.

In the first period, the Falcons got onto the scoreboard first with a goal at 7:49 from Brittany Erickson to give them the lead. Eau Claire would end its scoring drought that lasted more than two games when **Kristin Faber** *(So.-Austin, Minn.))*, the Blugolds leading scorer, found the back of the Falcon net at 11:47 with the assist from **Christine Dickinson** *(So.-Layton, Utah/Shattuck-St. Mary's)* to make it a tie game at the end of the first period.

At the start of the second period, the Falcons' Ashly Berner scored River Falls' second goal of the night at 1:07 to give the Falcons their second lead of the night.

The third period proved to be the nail in the coffin for the Blugolds as River Falls' Jessica Thompson scored an empty-net goal with an assist from Stefanie Schmitz at 18:55 to give the 3-1 win to the Falcons.

The Blugolds out-shot the Falcons tonight 30-24. **Morgan Pieper** *(Fr.-Williams, Minn./Warroad)* blocked the Blugold net tonight for 59:29, picking up 21 saves and allowing 2 goals. River Falls' Cassi Campbell picked up the win and 29 saves.

The Blugolds end the regular season with an overall record of 12-10-3. In the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association, Eau Claire ends with a record of 7-9-2, earning them the fourth seed in the NCHA tournament that is scheduled to begin next weekend. UW-River Falls earned home-ice advantage and took the top spot in the NCHA with a conference record of 15-2-1, with its only two conference losses coming from UW-Superior and UW-Stevens Point earlier this season. The Falcons' hold an overall record of 17-5-3. In the all-time series, the Blugolds move to 5-25-3.

The Blugolds enter the first round of the post-season next Friday and will face Lake Forest. The starting time will be announced later.

Eau Claire-River Falls Box Score

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