

Men's Hockey Falls At Stout To End Season

Posted: Saturday, February 21, 2009

MENOMONIE, Wis. - For the second night in a row, the UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team struck first in its Northern Collegiate Hockey Association quarterfinal game at UW-Stout, but could not hold on and fell 2-1 at the Dunn County Ice Arena.

The Blugolds complete their 2008-09 season with a 13-13-1 overall record while Stout improves to 20-5-2. The 13 wins are the most since the 2003-04 season when the Blugolds won 14.

Tyler Weigel (*Jr.-Madison, Wis./Oregon*) got the Blugolds on the board first with assists from **Ross Janecyk** (*So.-Grand Rapids, Mich./Catholic Central*) and **Nate Smith** (*Jr.-Clayton, Wis.*). Weigel recorded the even-strength goal, his third of the season, at the 6:09 mark in the first period to give Eau Claire the lead.

Before the end of the period, however, Stout would tie the game. Derek Hanson scored his 15th goal of the year with assists from Joel Gaulrapp and Scott Motz only 23 seconds before heading into the locker room.

The second period was quiet but the Blue Devil trio would hook up once again to give the Blue Devils their first lead of the night. This time it was Gaulrapp who found the back of the net with Motz and Hanson on the assists.

Eau Claire has had a difficult time beating the Blue Devils in Menomonie in recent years, with the Blugolds' last victory coming there in 2003. Since that time, tonight was only the third time the Blugolds have held Stout to two goals. One of the other times was earlier this season.

The Blugolds completed the night with almost twice as many shots as the Blue Devils. The Blugolds finished with 34 while Stout had 18. There were only 11 penalties this evening and both teams were 0-5 on the power-play.

Tyler Brigl (*Jr.-Eagan, Minn.*) ended the year with an overall record of 11-12-1 between the pipes, picking up 16 saves tonight for a season-total of 536. Matt Koenig earned the victory for Stout and finished with 33 saves.

UW-Stout, UW-Superior, St. Scholastica and St. Norbert are all still alive in the NCHA playoffs and will compete in Peters Cup Semifinal games next Saturday.

Eau Claire-Stout Box Score

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