

Uphill Battles Ends Season For Men's Basketball

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OSHKOSH, Wis. - Unable to take the lead at any point in the contest, the UW-Eau Claire men's basketball team saw its season come to a close in the WIAC conference tournament quarterfinal with a 75-60 loss against UW-Oshkosh.

The Blugolds, who entered the tournament as the fifth seed, end their season with a 15-11 overall record and an 8-8 mark in conference play. The fourth-seeded Titans improve to 16-10 overall and will face UW-Stevens Point in the semifinals Thursday.

Although the Blugolds shot a higher field goal percentage (44 percent) than the Titans (43.1 percent), Eau Claire was forced to play from behind early. The Titans out-rebounded the Blugolds 39 to 25, including 18 boards on the offensive end.

Oshkosh opened the contest on a 6-0 run to grab momentum. The Blugolds got on the board at the 17:37 mark on a **Colin Boone** (*Jr.-Eau Claire, Wis./Memorial*) jumper to cut the lead to four. Oshkosh quickly took a double-digit lead just four minutes into the game and would build on that lead as the half went on. At the recess, Oshkosh had a commanding 46-22 lead.

The second half was the same story for Eau Claire. Although they began the half on a 9-0 run, the closest the Blugolds would get for the game was 11 points with 9:21 left in the game.

Boone led Eau Claire's offense with 18 points on 7-for-12 shooting from the field. **Geoff Probst** (*Jr.-Moose Lake, Minn.*) chipped in with 11 points, including a 6-for-6 mark from the free throw line. Probst also led the Blugolds with five rebounds. Senior **Dan Beyer** (*Waukesha, Wis./Catholic Memorial*) scored nine points and pulled down five rebounds in his final game for the Blugolds.

Eau Claire-Oshkosh Box Score

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