

Softball Splits With La Crosse

Posted: Saturday, April 4, 2009

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - The UW-Eau Claire softball team dropped its first Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference game today, splitting a doubleheader with UW-La Crosse at Gelein Field.

The Blugolds won game one 10-8 but fell 4-3 in game two. Eau Claire is now 17-4 on the season and 5-1 in conference play. La Crosse is 17-7 overall and 2-2 in WIAC action.

Eau Claire came out swinging in game one, scoring two runs in the bottom of the first. La Crosse answered right back and took the lead in the second after scoring three runs, one coming from a homer. The Blugolds were able to regain the lead in the bottom of the second after scoring two more runs.

The two teams continued to go back and forth the rest of the game. La Crosse scored one run in the top of the third while the Blugolds scored three in the bottom of the fourth to once again gain the lead at 7-4. By the middle of the sixth inning, La Crosse tied the game back up at 8-8. But two runs in the bottom of the inning helped lift the Blugolds past the Eagles 10-8.

The two teams once again had a close battle in game two. La Crosse took the lead and held it for the majority of the game before the Blugolds came alive. The Eagles worked their way to a 4-0 lead after the top of the fifth.

The Blugolds fought their way back into the game, scoring three runs in the bottom of the sixth. However, the Blugolds left two runners on base and were unable to get anything going in the seventh to end up falling 4-3.

Katie Stalker (*Jr.-Madison, Wis./La Follette*) led the way for Eau Claire in game one as she scored four runs. **Aleisha Harper** (*Fr.-Mondovi, Wis./Eau Claire North*) added three runs while she also finished with three hits and three RBIs. **Bekki Kidnie** (*Jr.-St. Paul, Minn./Johnson*) led the Blugolds with four RBIs and tied Harper for a team-high three hits.

In game two, Stalker had a team-best two hits while six others each recorded one. **Nikki Bromelkamp** (*Fr.-Zumbrota, Minn./Zumbrota-Mazeppa*), **Sara Baumgartner** (*So.-Arcadia, Wis.*) and **Jenny Janke** (*Fr.-Black River Falls, Wis.*) scored the Blugolds' three runs, with Stalker and Janke also picking up RBIs.

Jenny Ross (*So.-Mendota Heights, Minn./Henry Sibley*) recorded the win for Eau Claire in game one, improving to 8-1 on the season. She faced 24 batters and allowed nine hits and four runs while striking out three. **Ashley Meinen** (*Fr.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./McDonell*) was credited with the loss in the second game. She also faced 24 batters and allowed all four runs and eight hits while striking out one.

The Blugolds will be back in action Wednesday when they travel to Menomonie for a doubleheader against UW-Stout. The doubleheader is set to begin at 4 p.m.

Game 1 Box Score

Game 2 Box Score

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