Women's Tennis At Whitewater Saturday

Posted: Thursday, April 30, 2009

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - Saturday the UW-Eau Claire women's tennis team will head to Whitewater for the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Team Tournament, which will determine the conference's automatic qualifier to the NCAA Championship.

Along with the Blugolds, UW-La Crosse, UW-Oshkosh and UW-Whitewater will compete for the automatic bid. The Blugolds will face the Eagles to kick off the day while the Warhawks and Titans will face each other. Both matches begin at 9 a.m. The winners of each will move on to compete in the championship match, which is set to begin at 1 p.m. A season ago in the automatic qualifier tournament the Blugolds competed in the championship match but lost to Whitewater 8-1 after beating UW-River Falls 5-1.

Last fall the Blugolds faced the Eagles but came up short 6-3. Currently the Blugolds are on a six-match winning streak and have only dropped two contests this spring. La Crosse has also dropped two matches this spring, most recently losing to St. Olaf College 8-1 two weeks ago. The Blugolds also faced St. Olaf earlier this spring and narrowly lost 5-4.

Should the Blugolds win the automatic qualifier, it will be the first time the team would advance to NCAA postseason play since the 2002-03 season. If they do not win the WIAC's automatic bid, they will have to wait until Monday (May 4) to see if they earn an at-large berth. Competition in the 2009 NCAA Championship will begin next weekend.

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