

## Women's Tennis Finishes Third at WIAC Championship

By: Kevin Meinholz, Sports Information Director

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MADISON, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - For the second year in a row, the UW-Eau Claire women's tennis team finished third at the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) Championship at Nielsen Tennis Stadium.

Eau Claire finished with 15 points in the overall championship while UW-Whitewater won its third straight title and 10th in program history after finishing with 21 points. UW-La Crosse took second place with 18 points and UW-Stevens Point recorded 12 points for fourth place.

Individually for the Blugolds, **Taylor Heltne** (*Fr.-Inver Grove Heights, Minn./Simley*) won the No. 6 singles title, defeating No. 1 seed Kathleen Kappel from Whitewater 6-4, 2-6, 6-3 in the championship match.

At No. 3 singles, **Megan Born** (*So.-Antigo, Wis.*) took second place after falling in the championship match to Whitewater's Amy Siemon 6-0, 6-0. Siemon, seeded No. 1 coming in to the tournament, won her second straight league crown.

**Erin Welch** (*Sr.-Tomah, Wis.*) and **Jillian Horner** (*Fr.-Middleton, Wis.*) picked up third place finishes at No. 4 and No. 5 singles, respectively. **Courtney Lynne** (*Sr.-Rochester, Minn./Mayo*) finished in fifth place at No. 1 singles while **Brenna McCormick** (*Sr.-Greendale, Wis.*) also took fifth at No. 2.

On the doubles side, Born and Heltne took second in the No. 3 spot after falling to Whitewater's Siemon and Kelly Rutkowski 8-1 in the title match. McCormick and Welch finished third at No. 2 doubles while Dahl, who earned All-Sportsmanship honors following the tournament, and **Gina Dahl** (*Sr.-Fort Atkinson, Wis.*) fell in the second round at No. 1.

UW-Eau Claire, UW-La Crosse, UW-Stevens Point and UW-Whitewater advance to a team tournament to decide the conference's automatic qualifier for the NCAA Division III Championship. The WIAC team tournament will be held at UW-Whitewater the weekend prior to the NCAA championship in the spring.

The team title was determined using a combination of the regular season dual meet standings and the conference championship results. The finish in the regular season standings accounted for one-third of the criteria, while the WIAC championship accounted for the remaining two-thirds.