Jenkins Nets Hat-Trick as Women's Hockey Defeats Oles

By: Matt Troge, Sports Information Student
Posted: Sunday, January 3, 2010 at 4:53 PM

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - After losing its first game to St. Olaf College (Minn.) last night 3-1, the UW-Eau Claire women's hockey team evened out the series with a 5-3 win over the Oles today at Hobbs Ice Center.

Meghan Lorenz *(Jr.-Minnetonka, Minn./Wayzata)* kicked off the scoring for the Blugolds in the first period at 4:10 by scoring a power play goal with assists from **Toni Simones** *(So.-Rosemount, Minn./South St. Paul)* and **Shannon Nelson** *(Sr.-Blaine, Minn.)*.

The Blugolds' **Taylor Jenkins** *(So.-Austin, Minn.)* led Eau Claire with a hat -trick, scoring her first goal at 7:39 with assists from **Kristin Faber** *(Jr.-Austin, Minn.)* and **Beth Dittrich** *(Sr.-Roseville, Minn./Roseville Area)*. Jenkins' second goal came just over three minutes later with the assist from Faber.

The second period yielded Jenkins' third goal of the day at 11:15 with assists from **Kelli Johnson** *(Jr.-Farmington, Minn.)* and Dittrich to give the Blugolds a four goal lead. St. Olaf would not give Eau Claire the shutout, however, as the Oles scored at 17:20 to end the second period with a score of 4-1.

The third period allowed St. Olaf to score two more goals at 7:05 and 12:40 to bring the Oles within one goal, but Faber scored the Blugolds' insurance goal at 18:55 with the assist from Jenkins to give the Blugolds the 5-3 win.

Eau Claire's offense produced more shots than St. Olaf, 42-32, while also converting on three of their five power play attempts, compared to the Oles' 2-7.

Danika Porter *(Jr.-Rosemount, Minn./South St. Paul)* was in the net for Eau Claire for the whole game, picking up 29 saves on the day.

The Blugolds improve to 7-5-1 overall and remain 4-2-0 in the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA). Eau Claire will continue its four-game home-stand next Friday against Bethel University (Minn.). The Blugolds' next conference match-up will be at UW-River Falls, Friday January 15th.