

## Women's Basketball Falls at Stevens Point

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STEVENS POINT, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - After getting off to a good start at 20th-ranked UW-Stevens Point tonight, the UW-Eau Claire women's basketball team let the momentum slip away and fell 69-56 at Berg Gymnasium.

The Blugolds (6-11, 5-3 WIAC) kicked off the night on a 4-0 run, holding the Pointers (14-3, 6-2 WIAC) scoreless for almost the first two minutes. Eau Claire built a six-point lead and held the advantage for more than the first five minutes of the game.

Stevens Point then used an 11-0 run but the Blugolds had a run of their own, 8-2, to take back the lead. While the score was tied two more times after that, the Pointers poured it on, outscoring the Blugolds 16-2 over the final four and a half minutes to take a 14-point lead into the locker room.

The closest the Blugolds got the rest of the way was eight points, nine minutes into the second half. Stevens Point held strong and went back up by double-figures. The Pointers reached a 15-point lead three times, their largest lead of the night.

The Pointers helped themselves in the first half, going 8-for-11 from beyond the arc while Eau Claire couldn't manage a three-pointer the entire night.

Stevens Point outshot the Blugolds from the floor 51 percent to 45.7 percent, but Eau Claire had a good night from the free throw line, going 14-for-18 while Stevens Point was 9-for-16.

The Blugolds had 30 rebounds to the Pointers' 25, but committed 22 turnovers to Stevens Point's 13. The Pointers scored 25 points off the miscues while Eau Claire had just five.

**Hannah Mesick** (*Jr.-Chatfield, Minn.*) led the Blugolds in scoring and rebounding with 25 points and eight rebounds while **Ellen Plendl** (*So.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./McDonell*) recorded a career-high 21 points. Mesick was 9-for-9 from the free throw line, which ties for seventh on the Blugolds' all-time list for best free throw percentage in a game. The record is 16-for-16, achieved last year by Heidi Arciszewski and in 2001 by Vanessa Schley. **Jodi Lindner** (*Sr.-Neillsville, Wis.*) finished with four assists to lead the Blugolds.

The Blugolds will be at UW-La Crosse this weekend for a doubleheader with the men. The women will tip off at 3 p.m. and the men's game will follow.