

Men's Basketball Suffers Tough Loss at Home

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Posted: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 at 9:26 PM

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - Despite taking the early lead, the UW-Eau Claire men's basketball team had a tough time shooting tonight and fell 74-61 to UW-Oshkosh at Zorn Arena.

The Blugolds drop to 11-7 overall and 4-6 in Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) play. Oshkosh improves to 3-7 in the WIAC and 8-10 on the season.

Eau Claire held a lead for the first two minutes of the game while the teams went back and forth for almost the next five minutes. At 12:51, Oshkosh took the lead and wouldn't give it up the rest of the way. The Titans built their lead to 13 points at the half.

The Blugolds came out strong in the second half and cut the Oshkosh lead to just seven, holding the Titans scoreless for more than the first four minutes. However, an 8-0 in just 30 seconds by the Titans pushed their lead to 15 and the Blugolds were never able to close the gap to single digits the rest of the way.

Eau Claire had a tough time finding the basket the entire as it went 40 percent (22-for-55) from the floor, the Blugolds' fourth lowest shooting percentage of the season. Oshkosh, on the other hand, shot 48.9 percent (22-for-45) from the floor, including a season-best mark of 54.5 percent (6-for-11) from beyond the arc.

The major difference tonight came down to each team's performance on the free throw line. Oshkosh scored 13 more points than Eau Claire, going 24-for-31 (77.4 percent) to the Blugolds' 11-for-19 (57.9 percent).

While two Blugolds reached double figures in scoring, with **Josh Prince** (So.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./Chi-Hi) leading the way with 18 points, **Geoff Probst** (Sr.-Moose Lake, Minn.) and **Amadou Fofana** (Jr.-Appleton, Wis./West), who each average double-digits on the season, scored just six and five points tonight, respectively. **Marcus Ruh** (Fr.-Green Bay, Wis./Bay Port) had 13 points for Eau Claire tonight as well.

Probst pulled down 10 rebounds to lead the game, his second most in a game this season, while Eau Claire held the rebounding advantage over the Titans 38-32.

The Blugolds will now travel to Hancock, Mich. for a game against Finlandia University on Saturday. Action will get underway at 11 a.m. Central (noon Eastern). Earlier this month the Blugolds defeated the Lions in Zorn Arena 97-80.