Swimming & Diving Remains in Third at WIAC Championship

By: Kevin Meinholz, Sports Information Director Posted: Friday, February 12, 2010 at 11:59 PM

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (UWECBlugolds.com) - The UW-Eau Claire men's and women's swimming and diving teams remained in third place out of six teams after day two of the 2010 WIAC Championship at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center.

The Blugold women have 503.5 points while UW-La Crosse is in second with 511. UW-Stevens Point leads with 585. In fourth place is UW-Whitewater with 248.5 while UW-Oshkosh is in fifth with 151 and UW-River Falls is in sixth with 124.

In the men's competition, Eau Claire has 330 points while UW-Stevens Point remained in first place with 669. UW-La Crosse is in second with 564, UW-Whitewater is in fourth with 321, UW-Oshkosh is in fifth with 239 and UW-River Falls is in sixth with 105.

The women captured two conference titles today.

Nicole Dorvinen (So.-Green Bay, Wis./Bay Port) won the 400-yard individual medley with a time of 4:28.72. The mark missed an NCAA Division III automatic qualifying time by one one-hundreth of a second, but was a school record. The previous school best was 4:31.88, set by **Kirsten Lickel** (So.-Madison, Wis./East) last season.

The Blugolds also broke a very old school record on their way to winning the conference title in the 800-yard freestyle relay. The team of Dorvinen, Lickel, **Casey Preissel** (*Jr.-Wisconsin Dells, Wis.*) and **Hannah Ramquist** (*Fr.-River Falls, Wis.*) won with a time of 7:45.04. The old school record was 7:48.37, set in 1987.

In the 100-yard backstroke, **Megan Finley** (*Jr.-Waunakee, Wis.*) broke the school in the preliminaries and then re-broke it in the finals as she took second place with a time of 58.37. The previous school record was 59.24, set in 2000. Preissel also had a second-place finish with a time of 1:54.15 in the 200-yard freestyle.

The 200-yard medley relay team also set a school record with a time of 1:48.52 as it took third. The previous school record was 1:49.16, set in 2000.

On the men's side, **Nick Badilla** (*Fr.-Appleton, Wis./North*) had Eau Claire's best finish, taking second place in the one-meter dive with 425.40 points. **Jonathan Poppele** (*So.-Maple Grove, Minn./Wayzata*) finished third in the 400-yard individual medley with a time of 4:11.99, breaking a school record that was set in 1979. The previous record was 4:12.19.

The Blugolds will wrap up competition at the WIAC Championship Saturday. Action will get underway at 10:30 a.m.