

## Johnston Leads Wrestlers at WIAC Championship

By: Kevin Meinholz, Sports Information Director

Posted: Sunday, February 21, 2010 at 6:29 PM

STEVENS POINT, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - **Andy Johnston** (Sr.-St. Cloud, Minn./Tech) took second place at 149 pounds to lead the UW-Eau Claire wrestling team at the 2010 WIAC Championship at Quandt Fieldhouse today.

As a team, the Blugolds took sixth place out of six teams after scoring 63 points. UW-La Crosse won its 13th consecutive title with 154 while UW-Whitewater was second with 118, edging host UW-Stevens Point, which finished with 117 in third place. UW-Platteville was fourth with 105.5 and UW-Oshkosh took sixth with 90.5.

While Johnston fell short to Oshkosh's Jose Quintana 14-11 to open the day, he won three straight matches to take second place overall. Johnston picked up a major decision win, 17-5, over Whitewater's Matt Schuck and went on to face Quintana in the third place match. After just 42 seconds, Johnston pinned Quintana and then went on to defeat Stevens Point's Kris Magruder, who fell in the championship match, 7-1 to take second. Following the championship, Johnston earned one of the conference's nine wild-card selections to the NCAA Championship and will now compete March 5-6 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**Joe Pitsch** (So.-Oshkosh, Wis./North) had the Blugolds' next best finish, taking fourth place in the heavy weight category. He fell in the third place match to Stevens Point's Bret Oswald by a pin in 5:58. He went 1-2 on the day. Pitsch was also named to the All-Sportsmanship Team, which is chosen for individuals that displayed exemplary sportsmanship throughout the season.

In the 157 pound weight class, **Jon Ames** (Sr.-Genoa, Wis./Viroqua) took fifth place.

**JT Bernstein** (Jr.-Highland Park, Ill.), **Brian Reier** (So.-Stillwater, Minn.), **Zach Weisenberger** (So.-Ladysmith, Wis.), **Levi Polus** (So.-Winona, Minn.), **Keith Dawson** (So.-Neillsville, Wis.), **Will Christ** (So.-Shell Lake, Wis.) and **Andy Meyer** (Jr.-Manitowoc, Wis./Lincoln) took sixth place in their weight classes.