Men's Track & Field Finishes Fifth at WIAC Championship

By: Kevin Meinholz, Sports Information Director
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PLATTEVILLE, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - The UW-Eau Claire men's indoor track and field team finished in fifth place out of nine teams at the 2010 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship at the Pioneer Activity Center today.

The Blugolds, who also took fifth place last year, scored 90 points today, five more than a season ago. UW-La Crosse won the conference title, its eighth straight, after finishing with 144.5. UW-Oshkosh took second with 141 while UW-Stevens Point was third with 116 and UW-Whitewater finished fourth with 94 points.

Chris Wirtz *(Sr.-Weston, Wis./D.C. Everest)* won a conference title in the 3,000-meter run. He finished with a time of 8:34.42, more than two seconds in front of the rest of the field.

The Blugolds also had two second place finishes.

In the 55-meter hurdles, **Patrick Keyes** *(Jr.-Ham Lake, Minn./Blaine)* finished second with a time of 7.76 seconds, just two one-hundredths of a second shy of an NCAA Division III provisional qualifying time.

In the pole vault, **Jae Erickson** *(Jr.-Green Bay, Wis./Ashwaubenon)* took second with a height of 4.68 meters (15-4.25). The mark was an NCAA Division III provisional qualifying mark for the championship.

Tom Breitbach *(So.-Muskego, Wis.)* secured a third place finish in the 5,000-meter run as he finished with a time of 15.17.66.

Following the championship, **Corrie Floyd** *(Sr.-Whitewater, Wis.)* was named to the WIAC's All-Sportsmanship Team, which is chosen for individuals that displayed exemplary sportsmanship throughout the season.

Next Saturday, the Blugolds will be in Stevens Point for the UW-Stevens Point Last Chance Meet. The following weekend the two-day NCAA Championship will be contested in Greencastle, Ind.