

Swimming & Diving Teams Ready For NCAA Championship

By: Kevin Meinholz, Sports Information Director

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - The UW-Eau Claire men's and women's swimming & diving teams are set to compete at the 2010 NCAA Division III Championship, which will be contested at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center in Minneapolis, Minn., March 17-20.

This year, five women and one man will travel to the championship to compete in 13 different events.

On the men's side, **Nick Badilla** (*Fr.-Appleton, Wis./North*) will represent the Blugolds as he competes in the one and three-meter dives. This will be the third year in a row the Blugolds are sending a men's diver to the championship, as Bryan Dykstra competed in 2009 and 2008. Badilla is one of 22 divers from around the nation in both events. He finished second in both events at the WIAC Championship this year behind UW-Oshkosh's Phil Devine, who will also compete at the national meet.

The Blugold women will compete in four relay events and seven individual events.

Nicole Dorvinen (*So.-Green Bay, Wis./Bay Port*) and **Megan Finley** (*Jr.-Waunakee, Wis.*) will lead Eau Claire by swimming in three individual competitions.

Dorvinen will compete in the 400-yard individual medley, the 200-yard butterfly and the 500-yard freestyle. Dorvinen won WIAC titles in all three events this year.

Finley will participate in the 50 and 100-yard freestyles and the 100-yard backstroke. Her best finish at the WIAC Championship came in the 100-yard backstroke as she took second. She also finished third in the 100-yard freestyle and fourth in the 50-yard freestyle.

Julia Olson (*So.-Faribault, Minn.*) will be in two events, the 50 and 100-yard freestyles. She took third in the 50-yard freestyle and fourth in the 100-yard freestyle at the WIAC Championship this season.

Casey Preissel (*Jr.-Wisconsin Dells, Wis.*) will also represent the Blugolds at the national meet as she competes in the 200-yard freestyle. She took second in the event at the WIAC Championship.

The four relays the Blugolds will compete in are the 200, 400 and 800-yard freestyles and the 200-yard medley relay. The Blugolds won a conference title in the 800-yard freestyle relay while taking third in the other three events at the WIAC Championship. Swimming in the relays will be:

200-Yard & 400-Yard Freestyle Relays

Casey Preissel Megan Finley Hannah RamquistJulia Olson

800-Yard Freestyle Relay

Casey Preissel Megan Finley Hannah RamquistNicole Dorvinen

200-Yard Medley Relay

Megan Finley Nicole Dorvinen Hannah RamquistJulia Olson