

Luther Sweeps Softball in Iowa

By: Kevin Meinholz, Sports Information Director

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DECORAH, Iowa (UWECBlugolds.com) - The UW-Eau Claire softball team scored three runs in both games of a doubleheader against ninth-ranked Luther College (Iowa), but dropped both contests to the Norse today.

The Blugolds lost game one 6-3 while they fell 7-3 in the second game. They are now 8-14 on the season while Luther improves to 20-3.

Jess Freagon (So.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./McDonell) recorded two home runs for the day, one in each game. She now has three on the season and four in her career.

In the first game with the Blugolds down 4-0, she hit a three-run homer in the top of the sixth to get the Blugolds back in the game. **Aleisha Harper** (So.-Mondovi, Wis./Eau Claire North) and **Katie Stalker** (Sr.-Madison, Wis./La Follette) scored on the home run. Unfortunately, the Blugolds allowed two runs in the bottom of the sixth to give the Norse a three-run advantage.

In game two, Freagon got the Blugolds on the board in the first inning with a solo shot. It was only the second time all season the Norse have given up a run in the first inning and only the fourth time this year they have allowed their opponent to score first.

Luther tied the game up with a run in the bottom of the first and added three more in the third and three more in the fifth to go up 7-1. In the top of the sixth, the Blugolds scored twice but it was as close as they would get. **Jenny Hess** (Fr.-Wisconsin Rapids, Wis./Lincoln) and Harper scored the runs in the sixth.

The Blugolds had 12 hits on the day with Stalker leading the team with three. Freagon had four RBIs while **Sara Baumgartner** (Jr.-Arcadia, Wis.) recorded one in the second game. The Blugolds committed just one error in game one and none in the second. It was just the fifth time this season Eau Claire had no errors.

Ashley Meinen (So.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./McDonell) got the start in the circle in game one and pitched five innings. She allowed all six runs before **Jess Hegseth** (Fr.-Zumbrota, Minn./Zumbrota-Mazeppa) relieved her to pitch the final inning. **Kassie Krummel** (Fr.-Walcott, Iowa/Durant) pitched four innings in game two while Hegseth pitched the final two. Krummel recorded four strikeouts but gave up four runs facing 19 batters.

The Blugolds will be back on the road Monday when they travel to Ashland for two more games. They will face Northland College at 3 p.m. and will follow with a match against the College of St. Scholastica (Minn.).