Women's Cross Country Announces Yearly Award Winners

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EAU CLAIRE - The UW-Eau Claire women's cross country team and head coach Tracy Yengo announced its award winners for the 2004 season at its annual banquet held recently.

The Blugolds grabbed two, top-three finishes in 2004, including a win at the six-team St. Mary's Invitational on September 25. Eau Claire also took third place at the 18-team St. Olaf Invite on September 18. The Blugolds capped off their season with a seventh place finish out of 37 teams at the NCAA Division III Regional in Iowa.

Molly Warner *(Fr.-Mosinee)* was the big winner at the banquet, taking home both the MVP award and the Rookie of the Year award. Warner was the top Blugold runner in six of the seven meets she competed in and took second on the team in the only meet where she wasn't first. She started the season off with a bang, claiming top-four finishes in each of the first three meets of the season. The first-year Blugold took third place out of 292 runners at the St. Olaf Invite and the following week she won the St. Mary's Invitational in a field of 85 competitors.

Heidi Hancock *(Sr.-Greendale)* earned the Most Dedicated award at the banquet. The senior Blugold capped off a solid career in 2004, highlighted by a 10th place finish at the St. Mary's Invitational and a 31st place finish at the St. Olaf Invite.

Christina Locke *(So.-Racine/Horlick)* took home the Most Improved award as she finished in the top five places on the Blugold roster in every meet she competed in except for the NCAA Regional, at which she took seventh. Locke took fifth place overall and second on the Blugold team in the Lake Wissota Tri-Meet, which included UW-Stout and UW-La Crosse.

The 2004 Golden Shoe award was given to **Heather Lipinski** *(Sr.-Thorp)*, who finished her Blugold career with another solid season. Lipinski competed all but the first meet in 2004 and never finished worst than sixth on the Blugold team. She finished fourth on the team at three different meets, including the NCAA Regional.

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