

Softball Sweeps UW-Stevens Point; Krummel Sets School Record

By: Kevin Meinholz, Sports Information Director

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - The UW-Eau Claire softball team picked up two Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) wins with a 3-2 and a 9-3 victory over UW-Stevens Point while pitcher **Kassie Krummel** (*Fr.-Walcott, Iowa/Durant*) set a school record for the most saves in a season at Gelein Field today.

Eau Claire, which has won seven in a row over the Pointers, improves to 13-15 on the season and 5-1 in conference play. The Blugolds have won now four straight games and five out of their last six contests. Stevens Point, which has now lost five straight games, drops to 16-10 overall and 2-4 in the WIAC.

In game one, the Blugolds scored runs in the second, fifth and seventh innings. **Jenny Hess** (*Fr.-Wisconsin Rapids, Wis./Lincoln*) and **Emily Muller** (*So.-Lancaster, Wis.*) scored in the second and fifth innings to give Eau Claire the two-run lead, but the Pointers tied the game up with two runs of their own in the top of the sixth. Fortunately, the Blugolds were able to get out of the inning as Stevens Point had the bases loaded before the final out.

In the bottom of the seventh, **Aleisha Harper** (*So.-Mondovi, Wis./Eau Claire North*) reached on an error by the third baseman and **Sara Baumgartner** (*Jr.-Arcadia, Wis.*) drove in Harper with just one out after a single to right field to secure the win. Baumgartner had one RBI in the game, as did **Kaitly Acker** (*Jr.-Cross Plains, Wis./Middleton*) and **Emily Haluska** (*Fr.-Stevens Point, Wis./SPASH*).

The Blugolds carried momentum into the second game and despite allowing a run in the top of the first, scored two of their own in the bottom of the inning and never looked back. Eau Claire also scored twice in the third, fourth and sixth innings, as well as once in the fifth while giving up two runs in the top of the fourth to the Pointers.

Acker hit her third home run of the season in the sixth inning, deep into left center to drive in Harper for the Blugolds final runs of the game. Harper had two runs in the game, as did **Katie Stalker** (*Sr.-Madison, Wis./La Follette*), while Baumgartner, Acker, **Ainsley Klar** (*Sr.-La Crosse, Wis./Aquinas*), **Bekki Kidnie** (*Sr.-St. Paul, Minn./Johnson*) and Hess all scored one run apiece.

Eau Claire had 12 hits in the game, tying the third most in a single game this year, while picking up nine RBIs, the second most in a game this season.

Eau Claire went error free in the doubleheader, just the second doubleheader they had no errors (first one was against Central College on March 27). The Blugolds have committed just one error in their last four games.

In the circle, Krummel earned the win in game one, striking out three batters and improving to 4-5 on the season. **Ashley Meinen** (*So.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./McDonell*) started game one and struck out three while giving up both runs. **Jess Hegseth** (*Fr.-Zumbrota, Minn./Zumbrota-Mazeppa*) earned the win in the second game as she pitched four innings and struck out two batters. Krummel recorded the save, setting a new school record for most saves in a season (4), as she pitched the final three innings. She allowed just one hit and struck out three batters.

The Blugolds will have their hands full tomorrow as UW-Whitewater comes to town for a doubleheader that will begin at noon. Whitewater is coming off two losses, suffered at the hands of the UW-Superior Yellowjackets today. The Warhawks are currently 6-2 in the WIAC and 15th nationally.