

Swimming & Diving Distributes Team Awards

By: Kevin Meinholz, Sports Information Director

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - UW-Eau Claire men's and women's swimming and diving head coach Art Brandt recently announced the team award winners for the 2009-10 season.

Named the most valuable swimmers were **Nick Mehring** (*Jr.-Eagan, Minn./Eastview*) and **Nicole Dorvinen** (*So.-Green Bay, Wis./Bay Port*). Competing in five events at the NCAA Division III Championship, Dorvinen's best finish came in the 400-yard individual medley as she earned honorable mention All-American status with a 14th place finish. She also was part of four WIAC titles this season. Mehring's best finishes at the WIAC Championship came in the 500-yard freestyle as he took third while he was also third in the 1,650-yard freestyle.

Winning most valuable diver honors was **Nick Badilla** (*Fr.-Appleton, Wis./North*). He competed at the NCAA Division III Championship and finished with honorable mention All-American honors after taking 12th place out of 22 divers in the three-meter event. He also finished 21st in the one-meter.

Rookie of the year honors went to **Corey Groshens** (*Fr.-St. Louis Park, Minn./Hopkins*) and **Hannah Ramquist** (*Fr.-River Falls, Wis.*). Groshens' best individual finishes at the WIAC Championship came in the 200-yard breaststroke and the 200-yard individual medley as he took fourth place in both. Ramquist competed in four events at nationals and earned All-American honorable mention status in the 800-yard freestyle relay, a team that also won a conference title, after finishing in 13th place. She competed in three other relays at nationals and her teams were in the top 20 in all of them.

Most improved recognition went to **Luke Mehring** (*Fr.-Eagan, Minn./Eastview*) and **Amy Stewart** (*Jr.-South Milwaukee, Wis.*) while the most inspirational awards were presented to **Ben Macalalad** (*Jr.-Wausau, Wis./East*) and **Maddy Smith** (*Jr.-Hales Corners, Wis./Whitnall*).

Earning the coaches recognition award was Hannah Ortscheid while the Blugold Award went to assistant coach Annie Ryder.

Next year's captains were also announced at the banquet and they will be **Kirsten Lickel** (*So.-Madison, Wis./East*), Smith, **Alyssa Trainor** (*Jr.-Winona, Minn./Cotter*), Macalalad and **Tommy Dahl** (*Jr.-Minnetonka, Minn./Hopkins*).