

Softball Splits with Yellowjackets; Stalker Sets Stolen Bases Record

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SUPERIOR, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - The UW-Eau Claire softball team won the first game of doubleheader but fell in game two against UW-Superior while **Katie Stalker** (*Sr.-Madison, Wis./La Follette*) set a school record for most stolen bases in a career at Liebaert Field today.

The Blugolds upended the Yellowjackets in game one 11-6 but came up just short in the second game 5-4. Eau Claire is now 16-16 on the year and 8-2 in conference play. Superior, ranked 24th in the nation, is 22-4-1 overall and 6-2 in the WIAC.

Kaitly Acker (*Jr.-Cross Plains, Wis./Middleton*) gave the Blugolds momentum in game one as she hit a two-run homer with two outs in the opening inning. **Emily Muller** (*So.-Lancaster, Wis.*) scored on the home run, Acker's fourth of the year, while **Sara Baumgartner** (*Jr.-Arcadia, Wis.*) scored later in the inning to give the Blugolds the 3-0 advantage.

Superior scored two runs in the bottom of the first inning, while also scoring two runs in both the fourth and sixth innings, but the Blugolds poured in eight runs between the third and sixth innings to help secure the win, their seventh in a row.

Tamara Zeman (*Sr.-Lodi, Wis.*) led the Blugolds with three of the Blugolds 14 hits in the game while three others each had two. The 14 hits tied for the second most in a game this year. Zeman also had a team-high three RBIs while Baumgartner and Stalker each had two runs.

In game two, the Blugolds allowed four runs in the second inning, and while they tied the game up with a Muller home run in the top of the seventh, the first of her career, the Yellowjackets capitalized with a bases-loaded single up the middle in the bottom of the seventh and scored the winning run. Muller had two runs and two hits to lead Eau Claire while Baumgartner led the team with two RBIs.

Stalker stole two bases, one in each game, and set a school record for most stolen bases in a career with 68. The previous record of 67 was held by Tammy Brandt since the mid 1996.

Ashley Meinen (*So.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./McDonell*) picked up the win in game one in the circle to improve to 6-3. She pitched four innings and was relieved by **Kassie Krummel** (*Fr.-Walcott, Iowa/Durant*), who finished out the game and recorded two strikeouts. **Jess Hegseth** (*Fr.-Zumbrota, Minn./Zumbrota-Mazeppa*) opened game two and pitched four innings, giving up four runs and striking out one batter. Krummel again closed the game but gave up the winning run to pick up the loss. She struck out one batter.

Up next, the Blugolds will play their final regular season home game when they face UW-Oshkosh on Saturday. The doubleheader will get underway at 2 p.m. at Gelein Field.