

Volleyball Splits on Day One of Labor Day Classic

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Posted: Friday, September 3, 2010 at 10:18 PM

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - The UW-Eau Claire women's volleyball team kicked off the 2010 season splitting two matches at its own Labor Day Classic at the McPhee Physical Education Center tonight.

The 13th-ranked Blugolds started off the day with a 3-2 win over Northwestern College (Minn.) but dropped the night match 3-1 to No. 7 Carthage College. The Blugolds lost all five sets by just two points each today.

In the opener, the Blugolds got up on the Eagles 2-0 (25-11 and 25-14) before Northwestern came back to win the next two (31-29 and 25-23). The Blugolds turned it up a notch in the fifth set to finish off the Eagles with a score of 15-1.

Three Blugolds reached double-figures in kills with **Elizabeth Anderson** (*Jr.-Rib Lake, Wis.*) leading the way with 17. She finished the match with a .696 hitting percentage. **Amanda Lessner** (*Sr.-Watertown, Wis.*) finished with 36 assists while **Jenny Burzynski** (*Jr.-Stanley, Wis./Stanley-Boyd*) had a team-high 17 digs. **Liz Amici** (*Jr.-Whitewater, Wis.*) also finished with 11 block assists as the Blugolds finished with 15.5 total blocks to Northwestern's six.

Facing Carthage, the Blugolds dropped the opening two sets 26-24 and 25-23 before taking a 25-19 win in the third set. But Carthage held on to record the 25-23 win in the fourth set to preserve the victory.

The Blugolds out-hit Carthage .183 to .175 and had 62 kills to Carthage's 52.

Once again, three Blugolds recorded double digits in kills with Anderson finishing with a team-best 15. Lessner had 50 assists and **Blair Murphy** (*Sr.-Hermantown, Minn.*) finished with 33 digs.

The Blugolds start the year off at 1-1 and will be back for two more matches tomorrow on the final day of the Labor Day Classic in McPhee. Action will get underway at 10 a.m.