Women's Swimming & Diving Falls Short in Season Opener

By: Kevin Meinholz, Sports Information Director
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MANKATO, Minn. (UWECBlugolds.com) - The UW-Eau Claire women's swimming & diving team came up short in its season opener, falling 197-103 against NCAA Division II opponent Minnesota State University-Mankato tonight.

The Blugolds came away with four first-place finishes. They finished with 14 finishes of third place or better on the night.

Nicole Dorvinen *(Jr.-Green Bay, Wis./Bay Port)* and **Julia Olson** *(Jr.-Faribault, Minn.)* recorded two first-place finishes apiece.

Dorvinen won the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:22.56 while taking the top spot in the 1,000-yard freestyle with a time of 11:02.55, more than 10 seconds in front of the second-place finisher.

Olson picked up wins in both the 50 and 100-yard freestyles. She finished with a time of 24.72 in the 50-yard event while recording a time of 54.70 in the 100-yard event.

In diving competitions, **Katrina Fitzgerald** *(So.-Farmington, Minn.)* was the top finisher for the Blugolds in both the one and three-meter events. She scored 197.55 in the three-meter dive to take third while finishing second in the one-meter dive with a score of 195.

Olson, **Megan Finley** *(Sr.-Waunakee, Wis.)*, **Grace Fair** *(So.-Monticello, Minn.)* and **Casey Preissel** *(Sr.-Wisconsin Dells, Wis.)* had the Blugolds' top relay finish, taking second with a time of 1:40.93 in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The Blugolds will be back in the pool next Saturday when they host Northern Michigan in the McPhee Physical Education Center. Competition will get underway at 11 a.m.