Blugold Soccer Players Honored with Multiple WIAC Awards

By: Ashley Hofer, Sports Information Student
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MADISON, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - Four players for the UW-Eau Claire soccer players were honored with recognition as members of the 2010 All-WIAC Soccer Team, conference sports information director Matt Stanek announced today.

Amanda Hakala *(So.-Stillwater, Minn./Stillwater Area)*, **Rachel Nerison** *(Jr.-Maple Grove, Minn.)*, **Megan Hillesheim** *(Sr.-Ham Lake, Minn./Blaine)*, and **Allie Stone** *(Fr.-Madison, Wis./Verona Area)* all received honors for assisting the Blugolds en route to their winning season.

Hakala allowed just 17 goals in 19 games, giving her the second lowest goals-against average in the WIAC. In addition to recording six shutouts, Hakala also made 69 saves for the fourth highest save percentage in the conference of .802.

Nerison led the Blugolds in scoring, tallying nine goals and five assists throughout the season. Her total of 23 points tied her for seventh in the conference. Nerison also was a game-changer for the Blugolds, making five game-winning goals to lead the league.

Nerison was also selected as Eau Claire's representative to the All-Sportsmanship Team. Players chosen for the All-Sportsmanship team are recognized for demonstrating excellent sportsmanship throughout the course of the season.

For the second consecutive year Hillesheim earned a spot on the All-WIAC soccer team. This season, Hillesheim recorded one goal, one assist and started all 21 games for the Blugolds. She was part of a defense that allowed opponents just 19 goals and 203 shots on the season while the Blugolds finished with 40 and 360, respectively.

In just her first year of collegiate soccer, Stone also started for Eau Claire in all 21 games. She made four goals and recorded two assists during the season, which tied for fourth highest on the Blugold team.