Men's Hockey Splits Series with Stevens Point

By: Ashley Hofer, Sports Information Student
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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - After holding a two-goal lead in the second period, the No. 14 UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team gave up three consecutive goals and lost 3-2 to UW-Stevens Point tonight at Hobbs Ice Center.

Andrew Wilcox *(Jr.-Rochester, Minn./Century)* scored the Blugolds' first goal of the night, sinking the puck into the back of the net 7:36 into the first period. Midway through the second period, **Travis Peckskamp** *(So.-Sauk Rapids, Minn.)* notched his first goal of the season to give the Blugolds the 2-0 lead.

But the Blugolds couldn't fend off the attack from the Pointers, allowing Stevens Point to record two goals in the second to tie the game. The Pointers found the back of the Blugold net again 5:43 into the third, giving the Pointers their first lead of the night. Eau Claire couldn't overcome the deficit, and the 3-2 loss ended the Blugolds' five-game win streak.

The Pointers outshot the Blugolds 39-29 in tonight's competition. Before switching to empty net late in the game, **Brandon Stephenson** *(So.-Saline, Mich.)* played between the pipes for 58:54 of the game. He fended off 36 shots in the loss.

The defeat drops the Blugolds to 8-5 overall and an even 4-4 in the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association. The Pointers improve to 3-7 in the conference.

The Blugolds won't take the ice again until Jan. 7 when they host the University of St. Thomas (Minn.) at the Hobbs Ice Center. The game is set to begin at 7 p.m.