

Double-Doubles March Women's Basketball Past Superior

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SUPERIOR, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - Powered by three double-doubles, the UW-Eau Claire women's basketball team stomped UW-Superior 79-56 tonight at Mertz Mortorelli Gym.

Nicole Christianson (*Jr.-Chetek, Wis.*), **Hannah Mesick** (*Sr.-Chatfield, Minn.*) and **Ellen Plendl** (*Jr.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./McDonell*) all broke the double digit barrier in points and rebounds in the battle against the Yellowjackets, enabling the Blugolds to soar to the win. While the game was back-and-forth in the early minutes – Superior held as much as a five point lead – the Blugolds kicked its offense into high gear seven minutes into the game.

Three consecutive three-pointers – two from Christianson and one from **Laura Olson** (*Jr.-Osseo, Wis./Osseo-Fairchild*) – catapulted Eau Claire to an eight point advantage. From there, the Blugolds built their lead, opening up streaks of nine, then 11 points. With 9:32 remaining in the game, the Blugolds boasted a game-high 33 point lead. Superior battled back in the final minutes, chipping 10 points off the Eau Claire advantage, but it was too little too late as the Blugolds ended the game 79-56.

Mesick led the charge for the Blugolds, scoring 20 points and bringing down 11 rebounds. Christianson followed with 14 points and 10 rebounds and Plendl earned her double-double with 12 points and 12 rebounds. Olson also crossed the double digit scoring mark with 11 points. In total, Eau Claire made 41.8 percent of its shots (28-for-67) while Superior completed just 27.8 percent (20-for-72).

The win is Eau Claire's third-straight over WIAC opponents and improves the team to 10-5 overall, 4-2 in the conference. Superior remains a winless 0-6 in conference play.

The Blugolds will take on another WIAC rival in UW-Whitewater this Saturday. Game time against the Warhawks is set for 5 p.m. in Zorn Arena.