Men's Hockey Season Comes to an End at Stevens Point

By: Kevin Meinholz, Sports Information Director
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STEVENS POINT, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - After winning 4-2 last night, the UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team was unable to duplicate its success, falling 1-0 to UW-Stevens Point at K.B. Willett Arena tonight.

The win for the Pointers pushed the teams into a 20-minute minigame, where the Blugolds also lost 1-0. In the minigame, Nick Polaski found the back of the Blugold net at 12:57 to give Stevens Point a 1-0 lead. The Blugolds were unable to come back, despite outshooting the Pointers 13-11. The Pointers now move on to the NCHA Semifinals, which will be contested next weekend.

In the regular game, Stevens Point narrowly outshot the Blugolds 21-19. Eau Claire actually outshot the Pointers 6-4 in the final period, while Stevens Point outshot Eau Claire in the first two. One of Stevens Point's third-period shots found the back of the net and it was enough to down the Blugolds.

While the teams played even during the first two periods, Stevens Point's Sean McNeely scored at 12:57 in the third on a power-play to give the Pointers the lead and eventually the win.

The Blugolds finished with five penalties while Stevens Point had six.

In the net, **Brandon Stephenson** *(So.-Saline, Mich.)* played 59 minutes and stopped 20 shots. He finishes with a 12-6-1 record this season.

The Blugolds end the season with a 15-11-1 overall record. The 15 wins are the most the Blugolds have recorded since the 1994-95 season when the team was 16-11-0. The Blugolds have only won 15 or more games in a season six times in the program's 34 seasons.