

Women's Track & Field To Play Host At Blugold Open

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EAU CLAIRE - The UW-Eau Claire women's track and field team will participate in its second meet of the season this Friday, when the Blugolds host the 2005 Blugold Open at the Ade Olson Addition of the McPhee Physical Education Center.

Field events for the meet are set to kick off at 3:30 p.m. while track events will begin at 4:00 p.m. Joining the Blugolds at the event will be the University of Dubuque (IA), Bethel College (MN), Northwestern (MN), and Winona State (MN).

Eau Claire was in action last weekend at the Badger Classic in Madison, where competition included Division I Wisconsin. While the Badgers took first in every event, the Blugolds were well represented. **Jen Stafslie** (Sr.-Onalaska/West Salem) kicked off the season in style, earning three top-five finishes. She took third place in the 60-meter hurdles event with a time of 9.30 seconds while grabbing fifth in both the long and triple jump competitions.

Paula Crossfield (So.-Madison/East) grabbed two fourth-place finishes in her hometown on the day, taking fourth in both the shot put and weight throw events. She posted a throw of 10.74 meters (35-3) in the shot put and 11.56 meters (37-11?) in the weight throw.

Stephanie Barnes (So.-Sauk City/Sauk Prairie) earned a third place finish in the pole vault in her collegiate debut, clearing a height of 3.36 meters (11-0?). **Jessie Owens** (Fr.-Elm Grove/Brookfield East) also brought home a third place finish, posting a jump of 1.55 meters (5-01) in the high jump competition.

Sarah Kasabian-Larson (Sr.-East Peoria, IL/E.C.P.H.S.) was the only other Blugold to post a top-three finish, doing so in the 3,000-meter run. She finished with a time of 10:52.44. Newcomer **Molly Warner** (Fr.-Mosinee) took fourth place in the same event, posting a time of 10:56.07.

Christina Locke (So.-Racine/Horlick) took the final top-four finish for the Blugolds on the day, earning fourth place in the one-mile run with a time of 5:19.46.

At last season's home invite, the Blugold women captured five first-place finishes. Stafslie was the winner of the 55-meter hurdles while **Heidi Hancock** (Sr.-Greendale) won the 5,000-meter run. The Blugolds also won the 4x400-meter relay.

Bethel comes into the 2005 Blugold Open with one event under its belt. The Royals kicked off their season last weekend with a dual meet with St. Thomas while Dubuque and Northwestern will each be opening their seasons in Eau Claire. Winona State has been in action once this season, but it was on December 10 at the ISU Holiday Classic in Ames, Iowa.

2005 Blugold Open Web site

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