

## Softball Picks Up Pair of Big Victories

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DULUTH, Minn. (UWECBlugolds.com) - The No. 23 UW-Eau Claire softball team secured two more wins on the road, defeating the College of St. Scholastica (Minn.) 6-1 and routing Northland College (Wis.) 17-2 in five innings this afternoon.

The Blugolds recorded two three-run innings to claim the victory over St. Scholastica. With two outs and two on base in the first, **Jess Freagon** (*Jr.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./McDonell*) kicked off the scoring with a three-run homerun to left center.

The Saints scored their lone run in the bottom of the third, fueled by three hits and one error. But it wasn't enough to derail the Blugolds, as they doubled their score during the top of the sixth. **Nikki Bromelkamp** (*Jr.-Zumbrota, Minn./Zumbrota-Mazeppa*) drove a single up the middle and two successful bunts later, the Blugolds had the bases loaded. **Kaitly Acker** (*Sr.-Cross Plains, Wis./Middleton*) nailed a single down the right field line to score two. Later, **Aleisha Harper** (*Jr.-Mondovi, Wis./Eau Claire North*) stole home to give the Blugolds the 6-1 win.

**Ashley Meinen** (*Jr.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./McDonell*) picked up the win by pitching four innings and striking out five batters. She improves to 6-4 on the season. At bat, Harper picked up three hits in her four plate appearances while Freagon's homer scored the leading three RBIs.

The Blugolds continued to roll with the tremendous win over Northland. The Blugolds scored in all four innings they were at-bat, driven by a nine-run second and a five-run third. The Blugolds started out the powerhouse second inning with four consecutive singles. **Sara Baumgartner** (*Sr.-Arcadia, Wis.*) and Bromelkamp each nailed doubles while Freagon and **Brittany Bergquist** (*So.-Stevens Point, Wis./SPASH*) slammed triples to bring in the majority of the scores. More scores poured in during the third inning. **Emily Muller** (*Jr.-Lancaster, Wis.*) led off with a double to left field. Later, Freagon nailed her second triple of the game to right center to add in another two runs.

While the Blugolds were strong at bat, Eau Claire was also assisted by four Northland errors, which helped bring in the runs. Northland did score twice in the fourth inning off three hits and an Eau Claire illegal pitch, but it was too little too late as the Blugolds captured the 17-2 win in just five innings of play.

**Lauren Carlson** (*Fr.-Eagan, Minn.*) picked up her sixth win of the season off the Northland victory. She pitched three innings, giving up just two hits and recording four strikeouts. Freagon had another powerful show at the plate, going two-for-two with two triples.

The pair of wins boosts Eau Claire to 19-5 on the season. This Saturday, the Blugolds will look for more success on the road with a doubleheader at UW-Whitewater. The first game is set to begin at 2 p.m.