

Offense Pushes Softball to Sweep Platteville

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - The No. 23 UW-Eau Claire softball team scored 21 runs in 10 innings to win both games of a doubleheader against UW-Platteville this afternoon.

The Blugolds crushed the Pioneers 14-2 in five innings in the first game and followed it up with a 7-2 win in the second. Eau Claire improves to 26-10 overall and 9-5 in the conference while Platteville falls to 14-22, 4-10.

All of the Blugolds' offense in game one came in the first three innings. The team tacked on four runs in the first and five in both the second and third. **Sara Baumgartner** (Sr.-Arcadia, Wis.) and **Aleisha Harper** (Jr.-Mondovi, Wis./Eau Claire North) highlighted the first inning, hitting a respective double and triple for the first run. An error on the next play scored Harper as well.

Jess Freagon (Jr.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./McDonell) singled in the second inning tallied two runs and **Nikki Bromelkamp** (Jr.-Zumbrota, Minn./Zumbrota-Mazeppa) later nailed a three-run homerun. The Blugolds essentially ended the game with five more runs in the third. Three early singles added two more runs. With two outs and a runner on base, **Emily Muller** (Jr.-Lancaster, Wis.) smashed a homerun. Back-to-back doubles from **Emily Haluska** (So.-Stevens Point, Wis./SPASH) and Bromelkamp added another score to give the Blugolds their 14 scores.

The Pioneers' only scores of the game came in the second inning, when they recorded a two-run homer. The team didn't muster any hits in the final three innings of the game.

Emma Wishau (Fr.-Waterford, Wis./Union) picked up the win by pitching all five innings and striking out seven batters. Baumgartner and Harper each went three-for-three and scored three runs. Harper also notched three RBIs.

Homeruns and Platteville miscues gave Eau Claire the advantage in the second game. The Blugolds earned an early one-run lead in the second without earning any hits in the inning. In the fifth, **Brittany Bergquist** (So.-Stevens Point, Wis./SPASH) nailed a solo shot while Freagon powered a three-run homerun to account for most of the Blugold scoring. Though Platteville managed a run in the third and seventh, it wasn't enough to overcome the Blugolds' seven runs.

Ashley Meinen (Jr.-Chippewa Falls, Wis./McDonell) pitched six innings and earned her ninth win of the year. She recorded two strikeouts. Baumgartner continued her successful day at the plate, going three-for-four and scoring two runs.

Tomorrow, the Blugolds will take on UW-Stevens Point in a doubleheader. Game one is scheduled to start at 3