

Men's Basketball To Close Home Schedule Against Stout

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EAU CLAIRE - The UW-Eau Claire men's basketball team will close their home schedule for the season when they host Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference rival UW-Stout Saturday at Zorn Arena.

The Blugolds come into the game with a 108-57-1 lifetime record against the Blue Devils. Eau Claire lost the season's first meeting 76-54 in Menomonie. The Blugolds shot only 34.7 percent in the loss.

Eau Claire is currently in sixth place in the WIAC with a 5-8 record and a 12-10 record overall. The Blugolds have lost their last two games to UW-Whitewater and second-ranked UW-Stevens Point.

Casey Drake (*Sr.-Rhinelanders*) leads Eau Claire into the game with the fourth-best average in the conference in points at 17.1 a game and assists at 3.3 a game. Drake is also eighth in the WIAC in steals at 1.32 a game.

Dan Archambault (*Sr.-Oshkosh/West*) is eighth in the conference in scoring at 14.3 a game. Archambault has played well in the last four games averaging over 19 points per game. **Will Jefferson** (*Sr.-Wausau/East*) is 18th in the conference in scoring at 11 a game while shooting nearly 48 percent from the field.

Kale Proksch (*Jr.-Chaseburg/Westby*) is first on the Blugolds and eighth in the conference in rebounding at 5.6 a game. **Buck Smith** (*Jr.-Superior*) has four of the five Blugold double-doubles this year and is right behind Proksch at 5.5 boards a game.

Stout comes into the game fourth in the WIAC with a 7-6 record and a 12-8 record overall. The Blue Devils have a four-game losing streak including an 82-78 overtime loss to UW-Superior their last time out. Stout's defense is one of the best in the conference as they are second in defensive field goal percentage and first in both rebounding margin and blocked shots.

The balanced Blue Devil offense is led by Ryan Stangl at 10.8 points a game followed by Adam Chandler at 10.4 a game. Jacob Nonemacher leads Stout in rebounding at 5.8 a game and is second in the conference with 2.4 blocks a game.

The game will be the last home game for Drake, Archambault, Jefferson and **Jesse Breidenbach** (*Sr.-Oregon*) and is scheduled as part of a doubleheader with the women's game. The men's game is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m.

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