

Blugolds Topped By The Titans

Posted: Wednesday, February 16, 2005

OSHKOSH - The UW-Eau Claire men's basketball team lost their tenth straight game at the Kolf Sports Center falling to UW-Oshkosh 67-60 here tonight.

Eau Claire falls to 5-10 in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and 12-12 overall with the loss. Oshkosh improves to 10-5 in the WIAC and 17-7 overall.

The Blugolds grabbed their first lead of the night following a **Jared Bardon** (*Fr.-DeForest*) three-pointer with 11:31 left in regulation. The Titans countered with a three of their own but **Dan Archambault** (*Sr.-Oshkosh/West*) tied the game up at 43 moments later.

After a Titan free throw, a **Casey Drake** (*Sr.-Rhineland*) jumper gave Eau Claire their final lead of the game. Oshkosh came back with a 10-2 run to take a 54-47 lead with 4:13 remaining. A **Will Jefferson** (*Sr.-Wausau/East*) three-pointer closed the lead to four but the Blugolds would get no closer. Archambault kept Eau Claire close with seven points in the final 90 seconds but it wasn't enough.

Drake scored a game-high 25 points on 8 of 14 from the floor. Drake went 8 of 8 from the charity stripe and has hit his last 16 free throws going back to last game. Archambault added 20 points. Jim Capelle led Oshkosh with 21 points, 16 coming in the second half.

Eau Claire outshot the Titans shooting 44.4 percent compared to Oshkosh's 42.3 percent. Each team pulled down 28 rebounds with the Blugolds turning the ball over nine times and Oshkosh ten.

The Blugolds fell behind early as the Titans hit three trifectas in the opening four minutes to gain an early 9-4 advantage. Drake single handedly kept Eau Claire in the game scoring 14 points in the opening half including 10 in the last five minutes of the half. A Drake jumper with one second remaining in the half sent the Blugolds into half trailing 25-22.

Eau Claire will close the regular season when they travel to River Falls Saturday to take on the Falcons. The game is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m.

Eau Claire-Oshkosh Box Score

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