Blugold Soccer Tops Nationally Ranked Denison

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ROCHESTER, NY - The UW-Eau Claire women's soccer team scored two goals in the first eight minutes en route to a 3-1 victory over 20th ranked Denison University of Ohio here today at Nazareth College.

The Blugolds improve to 1-1 on the season while the Big Red from Denison drop to 0-2 on the year. The Blugolds have met Denison just once in past competition when they defeated the Big Red 3-2 in 1993. Denison is currently ranked No. 20 in the country according to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America/Adidas NCAA Division III women's soccer preseason rankings.

Jill Cope (So.-Golden Valley/Hopkins) got the scoring started for the Blugolds just 4:44 into the game when she took a pass from Becky Smith (Sr.-Pleasant Prairie/Tremper) and put it in the top left corner to give Eau Claire a quick 1-0 advantage.

Less than three minutes later Kiley Zellner (Sr./Jr.-Green Bay/Preble) scored an unassisted goal, dribbling the ball past the Denison goalkeeper, to make the score 2-0 just 7:22 into the first period.

After Meghan Polovick scored a goal for the Big Red, Kris Unterweger (Sr./Jr.-Nashotah/Arrowhead) again gave the Blugolds a two goal lead as she put a stray rebound into the Denison goal for a 3-1 advantage. Marcia Foltz (So.-Madison/Memorial) earned the assist on the play.

With four goals scored in the first half of play an exciting finish looked promising but both defenses stepped up big. Neither teams were able to find the net in the second half and the Blugolds left New York with a victory.

Megan Brady (Sr.-Jr.-Dousman/Waukesha Catholic) played all 90 minutes in net for Eau Claire, allowing just one goal while making six saves.

The Blugolds return home for their next game which is on Wednesday against St. Olaf. The game is set to begin at 4:00 p.m. at Bollinger Fields. Eau Claire has a 6-3 record all time against the Oles and have won the last two meetings. The Blugolds and Oles have not met since 1998.