

Women's Track Heads To WIAC Championships

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EAU CLAIRE - The UW-Eau Claire women's outdoor track and field team will look to improve on its fourth place finish at last year's Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championships when the Blugolds head to La Crosse this Friday and Saturday for this season's event.

The event kicks off at 2:30 with the women's heptathlon 100-meter hurdles on Friday. Saturday's competition begins at 10:00 a.m. with a variety of events. The Blugolds claimed fourth place last season when they hosted the event, posting a team score of 105.50. UW-Oshkosh won the event with a score of 217.16.

Jen Stafslie (*Sr.-Onalaska/West Salem*) will be looking for her third straight conference title in the 100-meter hurdles. She brings in the top time in the conference this season with a time of 14.76 seconds. The time is nearly 2/10ths of a second faster than the runner up. Teammates **Liz Faller** (*So.-Marquette/Luther College*) and **Breanna McMullen** (*Sr.-Fall Creek*) are sitting fourth and fifth in the conference coming into this weekend.

Ashley Nelson (*Sr.-Darwin, MN/Litchfield*) will be looking to repeat in the long jump after winning the event last season. Nelson is sitting sixth in the conference this season but Stafslie has the best distance in the WIAC this year. She posted a mark of 5.65 meters (18-6 ?) on April 9. Stafslie also has the third best jump in the conference this season in the triple jump at 11.21 meters (36-9 ?). Nelson has the third best time this season in the 100-meter dash.

Breanna McMullen (*Sr.-Fall Creek*) will look to regain her title of conference champ in the 400-meter hurdles. McMullen was inactive last season after winning the title in 2002 and 2003. She has the best time this season in the WIAC at 1:03.36.

Stephanie Barnes (*So.-Sauk City/Sauk Prairie*) will look to continue her phenomenal season in the pole vault. Barnes, who took third place at the indoor nationals, has the best height in the WIAC this season at 3.71 meters (12-2).

Jane-Marie Ovanin (*Jr.-Amherst*) heads the Eau Claire distance runners looking to make a splash this weekend. Ovanin has the conference's second best time in the 10,000-meter run at 39:07.85. Teammate **Sarah Kasabian-Larson** (*Sr.-East Peoria, IL/E.P.C.H.S.*) is third on the list with a time of 39:16.80. Ovanin also has the eighth-best time in the 5,000-meter run this season.

Kristi Hansen (*Sr.-Rosemount, MN*) has the fifth best time in the 400-meter run this season at 58.78 seconds while **Paula Crossfield** (*So.-Madison/East*) has the fifth best distance in the discus throw at 40.92 meters (134-3).

Eau Claire's 4x400-meter relay team has the WIAC's best time in that event this season. The team posted a time of 3:53.70 at last weekend's Drake Relays. Eau Claire's 4x100-meter relay team has the second best time in the conference this year at 48.55 seconds.

The action begins this Friday at 2:30 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Stadium in La Crosse.

WIAC Championships Web site

2005 WIAC Women's Honor Roll

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