

Softball, Huntington Garner WIAC Accolades

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MADISON - Five members of the UW-Eau Claire softball team received All-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference honors while head coach Leslie Huntington was named the conference Coach of the Year, it was announced recently by WIAC Sports Information Director Matt Stanek.

The Blugolds won the WIAC regular season title with a conference mark of 13-3. They finished the season with an overall record of 33-11. Eau Claire carried the No. 1 seed into last weekend's WIAC Tournament but dropped consecutive games to UW-Stout to finish in second place at the event.

Mallory McKinney (So.-Brooklyn Park, MN/Champlin Park) earns All-WIAC first team honors for the second time in as many seasons. She led the Blugolds with a 16-6 record in 158.2 innings pitched. She was second in the WIAC in both categories. The sophomore hurler posted 134 strikeouts, the second most in the conference, against just 26 walks and posted a miniscule 1.15 ERA. Her ERA was the fifth best in the WIAC. She limited opposing hitters to a .192 batting average, second in the conference.

Jill Janke (Fr.-Black River Falls) and **Casey Leisgang** (Fr.-Seymour) join McKinney as WIAC first-teamers. Both posted impressive numbers in their rookie seasons with the Blugolds. Janke led all Blugold regulars and finished eighth in the WIAC with a .358 batting average and tied for the conference lead with 36 RBI. She finished second on the team and tied for fifth in the conference with five home runs. She was tied for fourth in the WIAC with a .575 slugging percentage.

Leisgang had a great season for Eau Claire out of the leadoff spot. She led the team and was third in the conference with eight home runs while posting a .316 batting average. She was second in the WIAC in slugging percentage (.623) and runs scored (36) while leading the conference with 19 walks. She struck out just 13 times all season. Her .422 on-base percentage was good for sixth in the WIAC.

Pitcher **Andrea Neuville** (Jr.-Green Bay/West) earns All-WIAC honorable mention for the second time in her career. Neuville also earned honorable mention in her freshman campaign two seasons ago. She led the team and was fourth in the conference with a 1.14 ERA while finishing third in the conference with 14 wins against five losses. Neuville led the conference with 25 games started and finished sixth in opposing batting average, limiting hitters to a .221 mark. She finished the season with 55 strikeouts in 116.1 innings pitched.

Shannon Barone (So.-DePere) joins Neuville as an honorable mention selection. Barone was second among Eau Claire regulars with a .337 batting average while tallying 11 RBI. She scored 15 runs on the season and tied for eighth in the WIAC with eight stolen bases in 10 attempts.

Blugold coach Leslie Huntington earned her second consecutive WIAC Coach of the Year honor. Huntington has led Eau Claire to two straight regular season conference titles as the Blugolds have gone 25-7 in conference action and 59-28 overall. Huntington is the second coach in WIAC history to win back-to-back honors, joining Whitewater's Brenda Volk in 1999 and 2000.

Official All-WIAC Team Release

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