Laforest, &erson Leave Blugolds For New Positions

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Men's hockey coach Jean Laforest and men's golf coach Eric Anderson have resigned their UW-Eau Claire positions to take new jobs, Blugold Director of Athletics Scott Kilgallon has announced.

Anderson, who has been the men's golf coach the past 14 months, has been named the Director of Golf at the Hillcrest Country Club in Eau Claire, replacing Dave Plotnik. He had been the Assistant Golf Professional at Hillcrest. The time commitments and time conflicts between his new fulltime position and being head men's coach have forced him to leave his Blugold position. While the Blugolds are the lone Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference team to field a men's golf program, they have been and continue to be an NCAA Division III power. During his two seasons as head coach, Anderson led the Blugolds to 11th and 10th place finishes among the 22 teams invited to the national championships.

Laforest, who came to the Blugolds from the professional ranks, is returning to the professional ranks as the head coach of the newly-formed Youngstown (Ohio) SteelHounds of the Central Hockey League.

Laforest leaves the Blugolds after three years as the head coach. In his second season, the Blugolds achieved their first winning campaign in nine years, going 14-12-1. This year, the team struggled because of a rash of injuries and finished 8-15-4 but was competitive throughout the season. The Blugolds actually tied St. Thomas, a Final Four team, during the season.

Anderson's position involved only coaching while Laforest was a fulltime member of the university academic staff with significant teaching responsibilities.

Kilgallon will be working with university officials to set a timeline and procedure for replacing the two head coaches.

SteelHounds' Release

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