

Cross Country To Host Blugold Open this Weekend

Posted: Tuesday, September 27, 2005

EAU CLAIRE - This Friday in Colfax, the men's and women's cross country teams will be the host teams for the Blugold Open which starts at 4:00 p.m.

The women's 6K race is the kickoff of the event at 4:00 p.m. while the men's 8K race is to begin an hour later at 5:00 p.m. at the Whitetail Golf Course.

The women's team has seen a very successful early season. On September 10th they competed at River Falls and took first out of five schools. A week later on the 17th they competed at the 18-team St. Olaf meet in Northfield, MN where they finished third. Most recently the team ran in the Roy Griak Invitational in Minneapolis on the 24th. There were 28 schools in the meet and Eau Claire took second.

Molly Warner (So.-Mosinee) has led the team in each event, with places of first, ninth and 11th. Her best time thus far is a 23:37 run at the St. Olaf meet. Runners **Jane-Marie Ovanin** (Sr.-Amherst) and **Rachel Anderson** (Sr.-St Paul, MN/Harding) have run exceptionally as well, with both finishing either second or third for the team in each race.

The men's team, meanwhile, has ran in two races and fared well. The season began on September 10th when they ran at Decorah, IA for the Luther College race. They placed ninth out of 12 teams. Then on the 17th the team competed in the Midwest Collegiate Championship in Kenosha, where they took eighth out of 22 teams.

The leaders for the men's side have been the Hall brothers. **Kevin Hall** (Fr.-Green Bay/Preble) was the top finisher for Eau Claire the first meet at 32nd while **Nate Hall** (Sr.-Green Bay/Preble) finished second at 46th. The two then swapped team places for the second meet where Nate Hall took 43rd and Kevin Hall took 47th. **Brent Kann** (Fr.-Rice Lake) was third for the team at Decorah at 51st and **Jules Miller** (So.-Green Bay/East) was third for the Blugolds at Kenosha with a 48th place finish.

The action begins at 4:00 p.m. at the Whitetail Golf Course in Colfax on Friday the 30th.