

Women's Golf Looks To Repeat At WIAC Championships

Posted: Thursday, September 29, 2005

SUPERIOR - The UW-Eau Claire women's golf team looks to repeat its championship performance of last year when it travels to Superior this weekend for the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championships.

Last year's championship was the third in seven years for the team. In the number two and three slots were UW-Platteville and UW-River Falls. Eau Claire has never finished below second at the WIAC championships. Last year, the Blugolds also finished in a tie for third nationally.

The team had a consistent fall, never finishing below fifth in any event. The Blugolds have finished in second place three times, in third twice, and in fifth the one time. Eau Claire has done well in the conference, but has had a lot of competition from UW-Oshkosh. The overall record for the Blugolds is 40-7.

Maggie Loney (*Sr.-River Falls*) leads all Blugolds in scoring average with 77.3 strokes per round. Her record-breaking performance at the UW-Whitewater Invitational is one of the highlights of the season. She placed first in that particular event, as well as in the home UW-Eau Claire Invite. The lowest spot she has occupied is a tie for seventh, which has happened twice. A couple of third-place ties make up the remaining two performances.

Another solid golfer for Eau Claire has been **Meghan Sobotta** (*So.-Arcadia*). She has finished in the top ten in four of the six invitationals. At the Oshkosh Invitational and at the Knox College Invitational she earned second place finishes. She has averaged 80.2 strokes per round. **Jesse Thompson** (*Jr.-Plover/SPASH*) has hit 81.9 per round this year and tied for third at the Oshkosh Invite.

The Blugolds had a very successful postseason last year. On her way to the Conference Player of the Year Award, Loney won the WIAC Championships in 2004 and led the way to Eau Claire's victory. If she finished first this year, she would be the first person ever to claim back-to-back titles.

Oshkosh will pose stiff competition to the Blugolds. The team has claimed two first-place finishes and has finished above sixth in every competition this fall. Also competing is last year's runner-up Platteville, River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, Whitewater and hometown team UW-Superior.

The two-day event starts on October 1st at 10 a.m. On Sunday the day begins at 9 a.m. The action takes place on the Nemadji Golf Course.