

Women's Basketball Set To Host Thanksgiving Tourney

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EAU CLAIRE - The UW-Eau Claire women's basketball team will host its annual UW-Eau Claire Thanksgiving Showcase to be held on Friday and Saturday in Zorn Arena.

The four-team tourney includes the Blugolds, St. Scholastica, Gustavus Adolphus, and Luther College. The first game on Friday night will be between Gustavus Adolphus and Luther College. The second game will be between the Blugolds and St. Scholastica. The Blugolds are the defending champions of the showcase.

The Blugolds will come into the tournament with a two-game losing streak and a 1-2 record overall. Leading the way for the Blugolds so far this early season is forward **Michelle Burns** (So.-Eau Claire, WI/North). Burns is averaging 14.3 points per game. Freshman **Brittanni Hakanson** (Fr.-Wheeler, WI/Boyceville) is second on the team in scoring averaging 9.7 points per game.

The Blugolds' opponent St. Scholastica is 1-1 this season coming off a loss to UW-Stevens Point. The Saints have a fairly young squad with just two seniors on the roster. Leading the way for the Saints is guard Jen Kne, who scored her 1,000-career point in the season opener against Macalester.

Gustavus Adolphus will come into the tournament with a 1-0 record after winning its opener 78-70 over Wartburg. Gustavus returns 11 letterwinners from a squad that posted a record of 18-8 overall and finished fifth in the MIAC. Jess Vadnais scored 26 points in the opener for the Gusties.

Gustavus' opponent on Friday will be Luther College. The Norse will be 2-0 entering play on Friday night winning their first two games by an average of 30 points. The Norse return 10 letterwinners from last year's squad that went 18-8, including three starters. Danielle Dunnwald set a school record in the last game with nine steals.

The action gets underway Friday night at 6 p.m. when Gustavus Adolphus faces Luther. The Blugolds will then face St. Scholastica approximately at 8 p.m. The losers of each game will face each other at 6 p.m. Saturday and the Championship game will follow. All of the action will take place in Zorn Arena.

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