

Men's Hockey Continues HomeStand this Weekend

Posted: Wednesday, November 30, 2005

EAU CLAIRE - Games five and six of the seven-game homestand will take place this weekend for the UW-Eau Claire men's hockey team when it faces Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA) rivals St. Scholastica on Friday and UW-Superior on Saturday. Both games are in Hobbs Ice Center.

The Blugolds are 0-7-3 overall, 0-3-1 in the NCHA, and 0-2-0 versus Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) opponents. They alternated losses and ties to start the season in games against UW-River Falls, St. Mary's University, St. Thomas and Hamline. A five-game losing streak then hit the team as the squad lost to Bethel, UW-Stout, River Falls, St. Thomas and Lake Forest College. Eau Claire then tied St. Norbert College.

Steve Dus (*Jr.-Onalaska*) and **Brooks Lockwood** (*Jr.-Hudson*) lead the team in points with seven. Each has four goals and three assists. **Kyle Garner** (*Jr.-Sun Prairie*) and **Andy Klapperick** (*Sr.-Austin*) are at six points apiece. They each have one goal and five assists.

The Blugolds have seen three goalies defend the net thus far. **Steffan Braunlich** (*Sr.-Los Angeles, CA/Loyola*) has a save percentage of .876 while allowing 4.31 goals a game. He has seen six contests. **Chris Nelson** (*Sr.-Madison/Memorial*) holds a .850 save percentage while allowing 4.80 goals a game through four games. **Mike Gatzke** (*So.-White Bear Lake, MN/Hill-Murray*) maintains a .875 save percentage and a 4.50 average for goals per game. He has played in two games so far.

St. Scholastica is sixth in the NCHA compared to Eau Claire's last-place eighth. The Saints are 5-3-0 overall and 1-1-0 in NCHA play. They have lost to Bethel, Gustavus Adolphus, and St. Norbert. Hamline, St. Olaf, Lake Forest, Augsburg and Concordia have all fallen to St. Scholastica. Daren Richardson is the Saints points leader at nine.

The Blugolds are 36-14-4 historically against the Saints. The two teams tied each other in both games last year.

The Superior Yellowjackets are fifth in the NCHA standings with a 6-2-1 record overall and an NCHA record of 1-0-1. The team has defeated UW-Stevens Point, Hamline, St. Olaf, Gustavus Adolphus, Lake Forest and Augsburg. Losses have come to Bethel and Concordia while the lone tie is against St. Norbert. Myles Palliser leads the team in points with 14, though five Yellowjackets have point totals in the double-digits.

The Blugolds have a lifetime record of 31-62-3 against Superior. Superior has won 22 of the last 23 matchups between these two teams.

Both games begin at 7:00 p.m.