



University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Sports Information

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UW-Stevens Point Football Preview

#14 UW-Stevens Point (1-0) vs. Tri-State University (0-1)
Saturday, September 13 - 12:30 p.m.
Shive Field (2,500) - Angola, Indiana

2003 WIAC Standings

	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Stevens Point	0	0	1	0
La Crosse	0	0	1	0
Oshkosh	0	0	1	0
Platteville	0	0	1	0
Eau Claire	0	0	0	0
Stout	0	0	0	0
River Falls	0	0	0	1
Whitewater	0	0	0	1

This Weekend in the WIAC

Stevens Point at Tri-State (IN), 12:30 pm
La Crosse at Illinois Wesleyan, 1 pm
Concordia (WI) at Oshkosh, 1 pm
Concordia-St. Paul at River Falls, 1 pm
Hardin-Simmons (TX) at Stout, 1 pm
St. Xavier (IL) at Whitewater, 7 pm
Augsburg (MN) at Eau Claire, 7 pm

Game Outlook:

Fresh off a season-opening win over Augustana (Ill.) last weekend, the Pointers hit the road again this week to Angola, Ind. to face NAIA Tri-State. The Thunder is coming off a 30-13 loss to Lakeland on Saturday. UW-Stevens Point limited Augustana to 188 total yards and seven first downs, while rallying with a touchdown in the final three minutes to win.

Radio:

The game can be heard live on WKQH (104.9 FM) radio with Scott Krueger calling the play-by-play and Ken Kulick providing the analysis. The station will broadcast all 10 Pointer games this season.

Series History:

The two schools have never met. They are slated to play again next year on Sept. 11, 2004 in Stevens Point.

About Tri-State:

The university was founded in 1884 in Angola, Ind. and has 1,100 undergraduate students. The school is currently a member of the NAIA, but will begin play in the NCAA Division III next fall in the first year of a four-year provisional status. It also will officially join the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association next fall, despite playing a full MIAA football schedule this year. It has never faced UW-Stevens Point in any sport in its history.

2003 UW-Stevens Point Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Time/Result	Site	Quick Facts
Sept. 6	at Augustana, Ill.	W 19-15	Rock Island, Ill.	Krause leads eighth career fourth quarter comeback win
Sept. 13	at Tri-State, Ind.	12:30 p.m.	Angola, Ind.	First time schools have ever met
Sept. 27	Butler	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Teams combined for 988 total yards in 2002 Butler win
Oct. 4	at UW-La Crosse	1 p.m.	La Crosse	Defending WIAC champs take field in conference opener
Oct. 11	UW-Stout	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Blue Devils favorite in WIAC; Pointers tabbed second
Oct. 18	UW-Eau Claire	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Four of last five meetings decided by five pts. or less
Oct. 25	at UW-Oshkosh	1 p.m.	Oshkosh	101st meeting - longest of any two Division III publics
Nov. 1	UW-Whitewater	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	UWSP coming off first win at Whitewater since 1986
Nov. 8	at UW-Platteville	2 p.m.	Platteville	Pointers have beaten Pioneers 12 straight times
Nov. 15	UW-River Falls	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	UWSP has won three of past four matchups

Pointer Update:

The Pointers got off to a strong start to the season with a 19-15 win at Augustana (Ill.) on Saturday. UW-Stevens Point used a strong defensive performance in the victory, holding the Vikings to 188 total yards and seven first downs.

Quarterback Scott Krause threw for three touchdowns and 278 yards, including a 29-yard touchdown pass to Cody Childs with 1:57 remaining. Kurt Kielblock caught five passes for 174 yards and two touchdowns.

Thunder Update:

Tri-State opened the season last week with a 30-13 loss to Lakeland. The game was tied late in the third quarter before Lakeland took a 20-13 lead. The Muskies added a fourth quarter field goal and a touchdown with 43 seconds left for the win.

Tri-State managed just 178 total yards, including 10 yards rushing in the loss. The Thunder quarterbacks were sacked seven times. Chris Bixler rushed for two touchdowns for Tri-State. Jim Oliver, Jr. was 10-for-18 passing for 150 yards.

The Thunder was 6-3 last season and has just 10 returning starters from that squad. Tri-State lost four players who earned NAIA All-American accolades and needs to replace 14 players who received All-Conference mention.

Out of the Gates:

UW-Stevens Point's win last week was its third straight season opening win as the Pointers have now won their season opener nine of the past 10 years with the only loss coming in 2000 against Northern State. In fact, UW-Stevens Point is 7-1-1 in its last nine season openers on the road with five straight wins.

Streak Saver:

Last week's victory extended the Pointers' regular season winning streak against non-conference

The Coaches

UW-Stevens Point coach **John Miech** has a 100-50-2 record in his 16th season. Last week, Miech became the sixth coach in WIAC history to reach 100 career wins. Of the 21 WIAC coaches with at least 42 wins, Miech's .664 winning percentage ranks fifth. He is a 1975 graduate of UW-Stevens Point and is the all-time winningest coach in Pointers' history. Miech has had a winning record in 14 of his 15 seasons with the Pointers.

Tri-State coach **Bob Frey** is 0-1 in his first season with the Thunder. Frey coached the past eight years at MacMurray (Ill.), leading the team to a 10-0 regular season and an NCAA playoff appearance last season. A 1985 Mount Union graduate, he won six conference titles during his stint at MacMurray.

Division III opponents to 15 straight games. The last time the Pointers lost such a game was Sept. 26, 1981 at St. Norbert.

Home Spoiler:

The Pointers' victory at Augustana marked just the Vikings' 12th home loss in their last 118 home games over the past 24 years. In fact, Augustana, one of Division III's winningest programs, has lost just 44 games since 1979 with two of those losses now coming to UW-Stevens Point the past two years.

First Timers:

The Pointers have won seven straight regular season matchups against first-time opponents. This week's game with Tri-State marks the fifth straight year the Pointers have played a team for the first time after playing Augustana, Ohio Northern, Winona State and Drake the past four years. The Pointers also started successful in series with Northern State in 1997 and Iowa Wesleyan and Minot State in 1995. The last loss in a first-time meeting was 28-16 loss at Butler in 1994. All-time, the Pointers are 30-25-4 in the regular season against teams they've never faced.

Against the NAIA:

A former member of the NAIA, UW-Stevens Point hasn't played a member of its former affiliation since a 1997 meeting with Morningside. The Pointers haven't lost to an NAIA

opponent since leaving the organization in the early 1990's, posting a 5-0-1 record.

Indiana Encounters:

This week's game is just the Pointers' sixth meeting with a school from Indiana. UW-Stevens Point beat Valparaiso in 1988 and 1989 and then played Butler in 1994, 1995 and 2002. It will be their fourth trip to the Hoosier State. The Pointers play another Indiana foe with Butler in their next outing on Sept. 27.

D3football.com Top 25 - Sept. 8

Rank, Team	Rec.
1. Mount Union, Ohio (25)	1-0
2. St. John's, Minn.	0-0
3. Baldwin-Wallace, Ohio	1-0
4. Wheaton, Ill.	0-0
5. Rowan, N.J.	1-0
6. Mary Hardin-Baylor, Texas	0-0
7. Linfield, Ore.	0-0
8. UW-La Crosse	1-0
9. Trinity, Texas	1-0
10. Bridgewater, Va.	1-0
11. Wartburg, Iowa	1-0
12. UW-Stout	0-0
13. Ithaca, N.Y.	0-0
14. UW-Stevens Point	1-0
15. Hardin-Simmons, Texas	0-0
16. Wabash, Ind.	0-0
17. Hanover, Ind.	1-0
18. Hampden-Sydney, Va.	1-0
19. Lycoming, Pa.	0-0
20. Wash. & Jefferson, Pa.	0-0
21. Wittenberg, Ohio	1-0
22. John Carroll, Ohio	1-0
23. Central, Iowa	0-0
24. Wooster, Ohio	1-0
25. Brockport State, N.Y.	1-0

On the Road Again:

The Pointers are used to starting away from home as this season marks the 27th time in school history they've opened with two straight road games. The past three times it happened the Pointers won both games, but they've only swept the two games six times overall. UW-Stevens Point opened the year with consecutive road wins in 1999, 1997, 1995, 1982, 1928 and 1924.

Kielblock Honored:

UW-Stevens Point junior Kurt Kielblock was named the WIAC Offensive Player of the Week after catching five passes for 174 yards and a pair of touchdowns against Augustana. It was Kielblock's first start at wide receiver for the Pointers, though he led the team in receiving last year with 30 catches.

Big Play Guy:

Pointer quarterback Scott Krause hit Kielblock with an 87-yard touchdown in the third quarter for the team's first points of the year. It marked the fifth-longest play in school history as Krause now has four of the 10 pass plays in Pointer history that have gone for 80 yards or longer. He connected with Ross Adamczak for a 90-yard touchdown in 2001 at UW-Platteville and hit Eric Heidenreiter for 86 and 82 yard scores last year at Butler.

Comebacks Continue:

Krause's touchdown pass with 2:57 left in the game marked the eighth game in his career that he has led the Pointers from behind in the fourth quarter to win. He actually brought the Pointers back twice last week, hitting Kielblock for a 25-yard touchdown with 12:28 left for a 12-8 lead before Augustana retook the lead with 7:36 left.

Exclusive Club:

With last week's win, Pointers' coach John Miech became the sixth coach in WIAC history to reach 100 career victories.

He joins an exclusive club that includes UW-La Crosse's Roger Haring, UW-Whitewater's Forrest Perkins and Bob Berezowitz, UW-River Falls' Mike Farley and UW-Eau Claire's Link Walker.

Among the coaches on that list, Miech's .664 career winning percentage trails only Haring and Perkins - both coaches who have WIAC fields named after them.

Tight Games:

The trend of close games continued for the Pointers last week with another game down to the wire. Last year, six of the Pointers' 10 games were decided by six points or less. In fact, in 27 of UW-Stevens Point's last 31 games the two teams have been within one possession with an eight-point margin or less at one point of the second half.

Successful Start:

Junior linebacker Brett Ehret had a fantastic first start for the Pointers, posting 11 tackles and his first career interception in last week's win. The Clinton native had a total of 16 tackles all of last season. He was named the team's Defensive Player of the Week for his performance.

Debut Captain:

Defensive end Josh VanderVelden had the unusual distinction last week of serving as a captain in his first game as a Pointer. VanderVelden, a senior, was last year's defensive line MVP at Michigan Tech and had an impressive first game for the Pointers with two second half fumble recoveries and three tackles as a leader of the defense that allowed just 139 rushing yards to the team that ranked fifth nationally in rushing offense last year.

Down and Out:

The seven first downs allowed by the Pointer defense last week were the fewest they've given up in a game since Sept. 21, 1996 when the chains moved just six times in a 52-7 win over Bemidji State.

All-Around Impact:

Pointer freshman Cody Childs not only made an impact with his game-winning touchdown last week, but all over the stat sheet. He totaled four catches for 74 yards and also had a solid day returning kicks. He ran back five punts for 41 yards for an 8.2 yard average and returned two kickoffs for 52 yards for a 26.0 yard average.

Game Notes:

The defensive extra point returned for two points by Augustana was just the second ever allowed by the Pointers. Luke Miska of UW-River Falls also returned a blocked kick for two points on Oct. 7, 2000... Sophomore Kyle Korinek was the team's special teams Player of the Week after posting a pair of tackles on kick coverage...All three touchdowns last week went to wide receivers. All of last year wide receivers caught five of the team's 17 passing touchdowns.