



University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Sports Information

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UW-Stevens Point Football Preview

#7 UW-Stevens Point (1-0) vs. #2 Linfield College (1-0)

Saturday, September 18 - 2 p.m.

Goerke Field (4,000) - Stevens Point, Wisconsin

2004 WIAC Standings

	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Eau Claire	0	0	2	0
Oshkosh	0	0	2	0
Whitewater	0	0	2	0
Stevens Point	0	0	1	0
La Crosse	0	0	1	0
Platteville	0	0	1	0
Stout	0	0	1	0
River Falls	0	0	0	1

This Weekend in the WIAC

Albion (MI) at Oshkosh, 1 pm
Platteville at Drake, 1 pm
River Falls at Bemidji State, 1:30 pm
Linfield (OR) at Stevens Point, 2 pm
La Crosse at South Dakota, 2 pm
Lakeland at Whitewater, 6 pm

Game Outlook:

The marquee matchup in NCAA Division III football this weekend, a pair of top ten teams square off at Goerke Field as the Pointers host one of the nation's traditional powers in Linfield. The Wildcats have won 25 straight regular season games and have posted an NCAA record 48 consecutive winning seasons. Both teams are coming off season-opening blowouts as UW-Stevens Point routed Tri-State 57-3 and Linfield thumped Western Oregon 58-17.

Radio:

The game can be heard live on WSPT (1010 AM) radio with Scott Krueger calling the play-by-play and Ken Kulick providing the analysis. The game will also be broadcast on WWSP (89.9 FM) with Nick Cornette and Tony Bastien on the call.

Series History:

The teams are meeting for the first time.

About Linfield:

Located in McMinnville, Ore., the school competes in the Northwest Conference, which moved from the NAIA to the NCAA Division III in 1998. Linfield won NAIA national titles in 1982, 1984 and 1986. The Wildcats and UW-Stevens Point have never played in any sport.

2004 UW-Stevens Point Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Time/Result	Site	Quick Facts
Sept. 11	Tri-State, Ind.	W 57-3	Stevens Point	Borchart throws 5TD's and runs for 1 TD in first start
Sept. 18	Linfield, Ore.	2 p.m.	Stevens Point	Linfield has won 25 straight regular season games
Sept. 25	at Waldorf, Iowa	1 p.m.	Forest City, Iowa	First-ever meeting between schools
Oct. 2	UW-La Crosse	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Eagles favorite in WIAC; Pointers picked for second
Oct. 9	at UW-Eau Claire	1 p.m.	Eau Claire	Five of last six meetings decided by five points or less
Oct. 16	at UW-Stout	1 p.m.	Menomonie	Pointers look to avenge 37-27 loss from 2003 season
Oct. 23	UW-Oshkosh	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	102nd meeting - longest of any two Division III publics
Oct. 30	at UW-Whitewater	1 p.m.	Whitewater	UWSP's 2002 win at Whitewater was first since 1986
Nov. 6	UW-Platteville	2 p.m.	Stevens Point	Pointers have beaten Pioneers 13 straight times
Nov. 13	at UW-River Falls	2 p.m.	River Falls	UWSP has won four of past five matchups

Pointer Update:

UW-Stevens Point rolled up 560 total yards in a season-opening 57-3 rout of Tri-State (Ind.) last week. Sophomore quarterback Brett Borchart had an outstanding debut, throwing five touchdowns and rushing for another in three quarters of playing time.

Senior Tony Romano caught four passes for 146 yards and two touchdowns. Sophomore Cody Childs caught a pair of touchdowns and rushed for 89 yards.

Defensively, senior Brett Ehret returned an interception 41 yards for a score and junior Chase Kostichka set up two touchdowns with a pair of second quarter interceptions.

Wildcat Update:

Linfield opened the season with a 58-17 thrashing of Division II Western Oregon. Junior quarterback Brett Elliott threw for 363 yards and five touchdowns in the first half as Linfield opened up a 48-3 halftime lead and a 58-3 lead five minutes into the second half. The Wildcats scored on nine of their first 10 possessions.

Thomas Ford was the team's leading rusher with 67 yards on 12 carries. George Carter caught five passes for 127 yards and one touchdown.

Linfield took advantage of six Western Oregon turnovers, intercepting four passes and recovering two fumbles.

Terrific Transfers:

The quarterback situation for both teams couldn't be much more similar. Both teams graduated All-Americans last season as UW-Stevens Point's Scott Krause and Linfield's Tyler Matthews represented the United States in the Aztec Bowl Division III all-star game. However, both teams seemed to have found reliable transfers to take over as their signal caller.

Last week, UW-Stevens Point's Brett Borchart was 15-for-23 passing for 254 yards, while Linfield's Brett Elliott was 18-for-27 for 363 yards.

The Coaches

UW-Stevens Point coach **John Miech** has a 108-52-2 record in his 17th season. Miech currently ranks fifth on the all-time WIAC wins list. 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 15 of his 16 seasons with the Pointers.

Linfield coach **Jay Locey** is 62-17 in his ninth year with the Wildcats. Locey has led Linfield to four straight conference titles and three NCAA playoff appearances. Prior to becoming the head coach, he spent 13 years as Linfield's defensive coordinator. Locey was the Northwest Conference coach of the year in 2000, 2002 and 2003.

Both quarterbacks threw for five touchdowns and ran for another.

Borchart had thrown one career pass while playing at Saginaw Valley State (Mich.), which was the No. 1 ranked Division II team in 2003. Elliott started the final six games of the 2002 season and the first two games in 2003 at Utah before breaking his left wrist against Texas A&M. As a freshman, he threw for 440 yards in a win over New Mexico.

Eastward Bound:

Saturday's game marks the first time Linfield has played a regular season game against a non-West Coast team in its storied 108-year football history. The Wildcats have played several playoff games in the Midwest, including a 31-25 loss last year at eventual national champion St. John's.

Linfield has posted 48 consecutive winning seasons and has not had a losing season since a 3-6 mark in 1955 when Dwight Eisenhower was President.

Western Rivalries:

UW-Stevens Point has played one regular season game against a West Coast opponent, losing at Portland State 33-7 in the 1987 season opener. It also is the only time the Pointers have played a team from Oregon.

UW-Stevens Point has played one Northwest Conference foe, tying Pacific Lutheran (Wash.) 16-16 in the 1987 NAIA title game, though the Pointers later forfeited. No West Coast team has ever played at Goerke Field.

Out of This League:

UW-Stevens Point has won 16 straight regular season non-conference games against Division III opponents with the last loss coming Sept. 26, 1981 at St. Norbert 10-7.

The Pointers have won 14 straight regular season Division III non-conference games at home since a 13-10 loss to St. Norbert on Sept. 21, 1974.

Overall, the Pointers have won nine of their last 10 regular season non-conference games with the only loss coming in 2002 at Division I-AA Butler.

D3football.com Top 25 - Sept. 13

Rank, Team	Rec.
1. Mount Union, Ohio (21)	1-0
2. Linfield, Ore. (3)	1-0
3. UW-La Crosse (1)	1-0
4. Capital, Ohio	1-0
5. Wartburg, Iowa	2-0
6. Springfield, Mass.	1-0
7. UW-Stevens Point	1-0
8. Mary Hardin-Baylor, Texas	1-0
9. St. John's, Minn.	1-1
10. Montclair State, N.J.	1-0
11. Wheaton, Ill.	1-0
12. Ithaca, N.Y.	1-0
13. Trinity, Texas	2-0
14. Hardin-Simmons, Texas	1-0
15. Hampden-Sydney, Va.	2-0
16. UW-Eau Claire	2-0
17. Rensselaer Poly, N.Y.	1-0
18. Baldwin-Wallace, Ohio	1-0
19. Bridgewater, Va.	1-1
20. Rowan, N.J.	1-1
21. East Texas Baptist	0-1
22. Wooster, Ohio	1-0
23. Waynesburg, Pa.	2-0
24. Johns Hopkins, Md.	2-0
25. Salisbury, Md.	2-0

Streak Speak:

UW-Stevens Point's current six-game winning streak dating to last season is currently the fourth-longest in Division III.

Trinity (Conn.) has the nation's longest win streak at 14 games since its league does not compete in the postseason. Monmouth (Ill.) has won nine straight and Hampden-Sydney (Va.) has eight straight wins.

Piling Up Points:

With its 57 points last week, UW-Stevens Point has now scored 221 points over its last four games. The Pointers closed the 2003 season by beating UW-Whitewater 60-30, UW-Platteville 55-21 and UW-River Falls 49-15.

Prior to last season, the Pointers had scored 55 points or more nine times in history. They have now done it four times in the last 10 games.

The 57 points was the most the Pointers have ever scored in a season opener. The previous high was 53 against Northland in 1933 and St. Norbert in 1915.

Long Distance Kicking:

UW-Stevens Point freshman John Ryan connected on a 44-yard field goal with seven second left in the first half, marking the Pointers' longest field goal since Fred Galecke booted a 48-yarder against UW-Eau Claire on Sept. 28, 1996. UW-Stevens Point had only one field goal all of last season and the Pointers' longest kick the past two seasons was 33 yards. For his efforts, Ryan was named the WIAC special teams Player of the Week.

Conference Call:

The Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference is off to a great start this season with a combined 10-1 record, including a 7-0 mark against Division III teams. The only loss was UW-River Falls' defeat against Division II Concordia-St. Paul last week. Nine of the league's 11 games so far have been on the road.

Point's Family Robinson:

Dustin and Dan Robinson, who are brothers from Florence, both had impressive first games for the Pointers last week. Dustin, a redshirt freshman running back, led the team with 122 yards and rushed for a 74-yard touchdown, which was the longest for the Pointers since Kurt Kielblock's 75-yard score at UW-Platteville in 2001. He had 125 yards rushing in the fourth quarter.

Dan, a sophomore transfer from UW-Platteville, posted a pair of sacks in the fourth quarter and finished with three tackles.

Red-Hot Romano:

One of the keys to the Pointers' offensive success has been the play of senior wide receiver Tony Romano, who had another big day on Saturday with four catches for 146 yards. Romano's past three games have been three of his four biggest receiving games of his career. He has 20 catches for 515 yards (171.6 per game) over that span. Romano needs one more catch to reach 100 for his career.

In addition, senior Kurt Kielblock needs five more catches to reach 100 career receptions.

Big Third Quarters:

Despite outscoring their opponents 394-186 last year, the Pointers were actually outscored 71-69 in the third quarter. However, last week's game was much different as the Pointers outscored Tri-State 26-3. It was the third-highest scoring third quarter in school history.

Formidable Foes:

Saturday's game is the first of two huge home games over the next three weeks. Sports Illustrated had Linfield No. 2 in its preseason poll behind UW-La Crosse, which plays at Goerke Field on Oct. 2. Linfield is No. 2 in the D3football.com poll and UW-La Crosse is ranked third.

Saturday's game will mark the sixth time in 12 games the Pointers have played in a contest between two ranked opponents.

Game Notes:

The Pointers' 2003-04 NCAA Division III men's basketball championship squad will be honored and receive rings in a halftime ceremony Saturday...Brett Ehret's 41-yard interception return for a touchdown last week was the Pointers' first pick returned for a score since Jared Flesch against Ohio Northern in the second game of the 2002 season...Craig Johnson's blocked punt last week was the Pointers' first since Mark Fetzer blocked a UW-Oshkosh punt on Oct. 2, 1999...The Pointers have now won 11 of their last 12 season openers and are 15-2 in home openers under coach John Miech...UW-Stevens Point's offensive coordinator Greg Breitbart saw Linfield four times as a member of the coaching staff at Lewis & Clark (Ore.), however, he didn't like what he saw as Linfield won the four meetings by an average of 47.0 points...Cody Childs' 89 yards rushing last week was a career high for the sophomore who was playing his fourth game at running back....Quarterback Brett Borchart didn't throw an incomplete pass until his 14th attempt last week, completing 11 of his first 13 with two interceptions.