



University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Sports Information

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UW-Stevens Point Football Preview

#20 UW-Stevens Point (6-3, 4-2) vs. UW-River Falls (2-7, 2-4)
Saturday, November 13 - 2 p.m.
Ramer Field (4,300) - River Falls, Wisconsin

2004 WIAC Standings

	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Whitewater	4	2	7	2
Stevens Point	4	2	6	3
La Crosse	4	2	5	3
Eau Claire	3	3	6	3
Stout	3	3	5	3
Oshkosh	2	4	5	4
Platteville	2	4	5	4
River Falls	2	4	2	7

Last Week in the WIAC

Stout 36, Eau Claire 21
La Crosse 38, River Falls 14
Whitewater 22, Oshkosh 16 (ot)
Stevens Point 29, Platteville 26

This Week in the WIAC

La Crosse at Whitewater, 1:00
Oshkosh at Eau Claire, 1:00
Stout at Platteville, 1:00
Stevens Point at River Falls, 2:00

Game Outlook:

The Pointers can clinch a share of their fourth conference championship in seven years this weekend with a win at UW-River Falls. UW-Stevens Point has rallied from an 0-2 start as well as fourth quarter deficits the past three weeks to put itself in position for the title. The Pointers also still have a chance at an NCAA Division III playoff berth with a victory and a UW-Whitewater victory over UW-La Crosse.

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.

Series History:

UW-River Falls leads the all-time series 36-23-3, though the Pointers have won four of the last five meetings, including three straight. UW-Stevens Point won last year's matchup 49-15 as Cody Childs caught three touchdowns and ran for another. The Pointers led 35-7 at halftime and rolled up 467 total yards in the victory.

In the last visit to River Falls in 2002, the Pointers rallied from a 20-0 deficit to win 38-27 as Scott Krause threw four touchdowns to Cory Flisakowski and ran for two touchdowns for their first win in River Falls since 1994.

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.	L 46-35	Stevens Point	Pointers' first non-conference D-III loss since 1981
Sept. 25	at Waldorf, Iowa	W 41-7	Forest City, Iowa	Borchart throws for 248 yards in second quarter
Oct. 2	UW-La Crosse	L 35-14	Stevens Point	Pointers hampered by seven turnovers in defeat
Oct. 9	at UW-Eau Claire	L 28-27	Eau Claire	UWSP's 20-point fourth quarter rally falls short
Oct. 16	at UW-Stout	W 23-7	Menomonie	Adamczak and Romano both have eight catches in win
Oct. 23	UW-Oshkosh	W 22-16 ot	Stevens Point	Kostichka's interception seals overtime win
Oct. 30	at UW-Whitewater	W 15-12	Whitewater	Kielblock catches two TD's, including one with 7:35 left
Nov. 6	UW-Platteville	W 29-26	Stevens Point	Pointers rally from 11-point deficit with 5:31 left
Nov. 13	at UW-River Falls	2 p.m.	River Falls	UWSP has won four of past five matchups

Pointer Update:

UW-Stevens Point has won four straight games, including three on fourth quarter rallies.

This past week, the Pointers faced an 11-point deficit with under six minutes remaining, but rallied with two touchdowns to beat UW-Platteville 29-26. Trailing 26-15, Brett Borchart threw a 28-yard touchdown to Ross Adamczak with 5:31 left to make it 29-21. After a Pioneers' punt, Borchart hit Tony Romano for a 65-yard touchdown and a two-point conversion with 2:34 left to put the Pointers ahead. Steve Garvoille intercepted a UW-Platteville fourth down pass to seal the game with 1:14 remaining.

Borchart had 260 yards passing and four touchdowns, while also hitting Cody Childs for a 20-yard score in the third quarter and Romano for an 11-yard touchdown early in the fourth quarter. Childs finished with 94 yards rushing on 23 carries. John Ryan added a 30-yard field goal in the second quarter.

Ben Zimmerman made 11 tackles and Garvoille made 10 stops, including nine solo tackles for the Pointers.

Falcons Update:

UW-River Falls is its traditional self, leading the league in rushing with its wishbone offense. They currently rank 10th in Division III in rushing offense at 292.3 yards per game and have led the WIAC in rushing every year since 1973.

John Peterlik ranks second in the WIAC with 108.3 rushing yards per game and also ranks 17th in the country in all-purpose yards with a league-leading 164.8 yards per game. Nathan Anderson rushes for 94.2 yards per game.

The Falcons have attempted about four passes per game with 37 total attempts and 19 completions this season. They have attempted seven passes over the last four games and none against UW-Oshkosh two weeks ago.

Ben Gillett leads the team defensively with 70 total tackles.

The Coaches

UW-Stevens Point coach **John Miech** has a 113-55-2 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 now achieved a winning record in 16 of his 17 seasons with the Pointers.

UW-River Falls coach **John O'Grady** has an 88-68-3 record in his 16th season with the Falcons. He currently ranks ninth on the all-time WIAC victories list. O'Grady's UW-River Falls teams have led Division III in rushing offense five times.

Making History:

With a victory this weekend, UW-Stevens Point could become the first team ever to win a WIAC/WSUC championship after starting the season 0-2 (with records dating to 1932).

Five times since 1932 teams have shared the title with two losses. It happened in 2001, 1998, 1987, 1980 and 1976, but none of the teams involved in those titles started 0-2. The Pointers were involved in two of those ties after starting 2-2 in 2001 and 1-2 in 1998.

Hopes for an NCAA Division III playoff berth are still alive as well. Along with a win over UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point needs UW-Whitewater to defeat UW-La Crosse to set up a two-way tie with the Warhawks, who the Pointers defeated head-to-head on Oct. 30. If UW-La Crosse wins, the Eagles win the head-to-head tiebreaker over the Pointers.

Going for Five:

With a victory this week, the Pointers would end the regular season with five straight victories for the second straight year and fifth time in the past 12 years. The Pointers opened last year and the 1994 season 0-2 in the WIAC before winning their last five conference games.

Back in the Polls:

After four weeks outside the D3football.com top 25, the Pointers are back in the rankings at No. 20. UW-Stevens Point is one of six Wisconsin schools in the poll and one of three teams with three losses in the rankings.

Thriving with Three:

Only 12 teams in the history of the NCAA Division III playoffs have qualified with three losses. If UW-La Crosse or UW-Stevens Point win this week, it will happen again. The Pointers qualified at 7-3 in 1986 and were the only team to make the field with three losses prior to 1993. Nine of the three-loss teams have played in the postseason since 1999 when automatic berths were added to the system. UW-La Crosse made the field with three defeats in 1999 and 2002. There were three in last year's playoffs: Hope, Allegheny and Redlands.

D3football.com Top 25 - Nov. 8

Rank, Team	Rec.
1. Mount Union, Ohio (19)	9-0
2. Linfield, Ore. (5)	8-0
3. Hardin-Simmons, Texas (1)	9-0
4. Concordia-Moorhead	9-0
5. Wash. & Jefferson, Pa.	10-0
6. Wooster, Ohio	9-0
7. Trinity, Texas	8-1
8. Mary Hardin-Baylor, Texas	8-1
9. Rowan, N.J.	7-2
10. Salisbury, Md.	9-0
11. Delaware Valley, Pa.	9-0
12. St. John Fisher, N.Y.	8-1
13. UW-Whitewater	7-2
14. Wheaton, Ill.	8-1
15. Ohio Northern	7-2
16. Bridgewater, Va.	7-2
17. UW-La Crosse	5-3
18. Carthage, Wis.	8-1
19. Ithaca, N.Y.	7-2
20. UW-Stevens Point	6-3
21. Willamette, Ore.	7-2
22. Augustana, Ill.	7-2
23. Christopher Newport, Va.	7-2
24. UW-Eau Claire	6-3
25. St. Norbert, Wis.	9-1

Slow Starts:

Both UW-Stevens Point and UW-River Falls have gotten off to slow starts in their WIAC games. The Pointers have been outscored 14-6 and held to two field goals, while UW-River Falls has been outscored 44-0 in the first period.

The Pointers have shutout four straight opponents in the first quarter. They allowed touchdowns to UW-La Crosse and UW-Eau Claire and kicked field goals against UW-La Crosse and UW-Oshkosh.

Third Down Defense:

An important attribute of Pointer victories this season has been their defensive play on third down. In UW-Stevens Point's six wins, its opponents are a combined 23-for-96 (24.0 percent). However, in the three losses, opponents are 29-for-50 (58.0 percent). The Pointers' last four opponents are 15-for-65.

Key to Victory:

The Pointers have won all six games this season when holding teams under 300 yards passing and are 0-3 when teams pass for more than 300 yards. They narrowly made that mark last week when UW-Platteville passed for 299 yards in the Pointers' victory.

Catch the Leader:

Pointers' wide receiver Tony Romano leads the WIAC in receiving yards with 95.1 yards per game, which is nearly 15 yards better than any other player in the league. He also ranks 29th in the country in the category and could become the first UW-Stevens Point player to lead the WIAC in receiving since Barry Rose in 1991. When Rose led the league, it was the 16th time in 20 years the Pointers had the conference leader. They had the league leader 12 straight years from 1972-83.

Romano's two fourth quarter touchdowns last week gave him 24 touchdown catches for his career, ranking fourth in school history.

Comeback Kids:

The Pointers have trailed in the fourth quarter three straight weeks and rallied to win. Last week, they were behind 26-15 to UW-Platteville before scoring touchdowns with 5:31 and 2:34 left to win. Against UW-Whitewater, they were behind 12-7 and scored with 7:35 left to win. The previous week, they trailed UW-Oshkosh 13-10 before a touchdown with 2:27 left in an eventual overtime victory. The Pointer defense also made stops to seal each of those wins.

Also, against UW-Eau Claire, the Pointers were behind 28-7 with 13 minutes left and scored 20 straight points, including a touchdown with 1:10 remaining, but lost 28-27.

Perfect Timing:

Pointers' free safety Steve Garvoille couldn't have chosen a better time for his first interception, picking off a UW-Platteville pass with 1:14 left to stop the Pioneers' final drive. He also had an interception earlier in the game on a two-point conversion, which does not count in the season statistics. Garvoille did have one interception as a sophomore at UW-Whitewater.

Garvoille leads the Pointers with 77 tackles for the season and ranks 22nd in Division III with 59 solo tackles.

On the Offensive:

Pointers' quarterback Brett Borchart has had a big year and could give the Pointers their second straight conference leader in passing and total offense. He currently leads the league in both categories, while ranking fourth nationally in total offense at 319.2 yards per game and leading the Pointers' to the 14th-ranked passing offense in the country at 283.7 yards per game. Scott Krause led the WIAC in both passing and total offense last season.

Borchart also leads the WIAC with a 58.9 completion percentage and 20 touchdown passes. He had four touchdowns last week, marking his fourth three-touchdown game of the year.

Game Notes:

UW-Stevens Point has made eight field goals this season and has only made nine in a season twice in school history, coming in 1970 and 1995... UW-Stevens Point and UW-Platteville combined to attempt six two-point conversions last week with the Pointers having the only successful attempt on the sixth try. In the first eight games, the Pointers and their opponents had combined for five two-point after touchdown attempts... Pointers' punter Ryan Prochnow boomed a 70-yard punt last week and averaged 44.2 yards on five kicks. He ranks 19th in the NCAA Division III with a 39.3 season average...All but three of the Pointers' 197 completions have been to five players as Kurt Kielblock ranks third in the WIAC in receptions and Tony Romano is fourth...Four of Ross Adamczak's five catches last week were on third down plays and resulted in first downs, while the other was a 28-yard touchdown catch in the fourth quarter. The Pointers converted only five third downs in the game...The Pointers have won their regular season finale five of the past six years and nine of the last 11 seasons...The last time UW-River Falls lost eight games in a season was a 1-8 mark in the 1970 campaign... Incredibly, the Falcons are the only WIAC team with a losing record as the league posted a 17-8 non-conference record this season.