



University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Sports Information

Jim Strick, Sports Information Director
103 Health Enhancement Center - Stevens Point, WI 54481

Phone: 715-346-2840 Fax: 715-346-3626 e-mail: jstrick@uwsp.edu Web: <http://www.uwsp.edu/athletics>

UW-Stevens Point Football Preview

UW-Stevens Point (2-5, 1-3 WIAC) vs. UW-Eau Claire (4-3, 3-1 WIAC)
Saturday, October 29 - 1 p.m.
Goerke Field (4,000) - Stevens Point, Wisconsin

2005 WIAC Standings

	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Whitewater	4	0	7	0
Oshkosh	3	1	6	1
Eau Claire	3	1	4	3
Stout	2	2	5	2
La Crosse	2	2	3	3
Stevens Point	1	3	2	5
River Falls	1	3	2	5
Platteville	0	4	1	6

Around the WIAC

Last Week's Games

Eau Claire 27, La Crosse 20 (2 ot)
Whitewater 63, Platteville 28
Stout 38, River Falls 6
Oshkosh 23, Stevens Point 20

Saturday's Games

Eau Claire at Stevens Point, 1 pm
Oshkosh at Whitewater, 1 pm
Platteville at River Falls, 1 pm
Stout at La Crosse, 1 pm

Game Outlook:

UW-Stevens Point looks to get back on track after a tough 23-20 loss to UW-Oshkosh, while UW-Eau Claire aims to keep its conference title chances alive and enters Saturday's game coming off a thrilling double overtime win 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. The game will also be broadcast live on WWSP (89.9 FM).

Series History:

UW-Stevens Point leads the all-time series 39-29-5, though the Blugolds won last year's game 28-27. The home team has won six straight meetings in the series with UW-Eau Claire's last win at Goerke Field coming in a 31-22 victory on Oct. 10, 1987.

The past two meetings have featured dramatic comebacks that fell just short. The Pointers fell behind 28-7 in the fourth quarter last year, but Brett Borchart completed 38 of 58 passes for 429 yards and four touchdowns before the Pointers missed a potential game-tying extra point with 1:10 left.

In 2003, UW-Stevens Point built a 31-0 lead before the Blugolds scored 28 straight points in a 31-28 loss. UW-Eau Claire had 49 yards before half-time and 310 yards in the second half of the game.

2005 UW-Stevens Point Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Time/Result	Site	Quick Facts
Sept. 3	Hardin-Simmons	L 38-12	Stevens Point	HSU ranked fourth in NCAA Division III preseason poll
Sept. 17	at Linfield, Ore.	L 45-7	McMinnville, Ore.	2004 NCAA champs post 35th straight regular season win
Sept. 24	Waldorf, Iowa	W 42-13	Stevens Point	Dickert catches three TD's and throws one TD
Oct. 1	at UW-La Crosse	L 24-0	La Crosse	Czys finishes with 20 tackles against former squad
Oct. 8	UW-Whitewater	L 44-12	Stevens Point	Warhawks gain 663 total yards in victory
Oct. 15	UW-River Falls	W 23-16	Stevens Point	Borchart throws for 255 yards and runs for 83 yards
Oct. 22	at UW-Oshkosh	L 23-20	Oshkosh	Childs scores all three UWSP touchdowns
Oct. 29	UW-Eau Claire	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Six of last seven meetings decided by five or less
Nov. 5	at UW-Platteville	2 p.m.	Platteville	Pointers have beaten Pioneers 14 straight times
Nov. 12	UW-Stout	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	UWSP posted 23-7 win last year in Menomonie

Pointers Update:

The Pointers fell to 2-5 overall and 1-3 in the league with a 23-20 loss at UW-Oshkosh as the Titans rallied with a fourth quarter touchdown following a 67-yard punt return with just under seven minutes remaining.

UW-Stevens Point drove into Titans' territory on its next possession, but was unable to score. The Pointers got the ball back with 1:23 left on an interception by Peter Prusinski, but the Titans forced four straight incomplete passes to end the threat.

Cody Childs scored all three touchdowns for the Pointers with two rushing and one receiving. He finished the day with 13 carries for 48 yards. Brett Borchart threw for 168 yards and Jacob Dickert had four catches for 76 yards.

Ben Zimmerman blocked a punt on UW-Oshkosh's first possession to set up the Pointers' first score. Dan Robinson finished with nine tackles, including seven solo stops.

Blugolds Update:

UW-Eau Claire is coming off a dramatic 27-20 double overtime win over UW-La Crosse on Saturday. The Blugolds blocked an extra point in the fourth quarter to keep the game tied and then converted two fourth downs in the first overtime to score a touchdown and send the game into a second overtime. After scoring on its possession, the Blugolds stopped the Eagles on fourth down on the four-yard line to end the game.

Joe Gast rushes for 63.6 yards per game to lead the Blugolds on offense. Quarterback Jesse Krzyzanowski passes for 190.4 yards per game and has thrown 12 touchdowns this season. He was 26-for-33 passing for 166 yards in the win over UW-La Crosse.

Krzyzanowski's brother, Darin, was the Blugolds' leading receiver last week with eight catches for 62 yards and has 41 catches for the year. Tony Hull leads the team in receiving yards with 38 catches for 509 yards for the season.

The Coaches

UW-Stevens Point coach **John Miech** has a 115-61-2 record in his 18th 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 was inducted into the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame in April.

UW-Eau Claire coach **Todd Hoffner** has a 40-27 career record in his seventh season with the Blugolds. Previously, Hoffner spent eight seasons as an assistant coach with Miech at UW-Stevens Point. He was the defensive coordinator his final two years after serving as Pointers' offensive coordinator the four previous seasons.

Turning the Tables:

UW-Stevens Point has had plenty of comeback wins in recent years, but Saturday's loss to UW-Oshkosh was a rare fourth quarter rally by an opponent. Since 1998, the Pointers have entered the fourth quarter trailing and rallied to win 16 times, including three times last season. However, in that same span, Saturday's game was just the second time the Pointers have lost a game when leading entering the fourth quarter. Last year's 46-35 loss to Linfield when the Pointers had a 10-point lead after three quarters was the only other time it has happened.

Ball Control:

UW-Stevens Point continued its season trend last week of grinding out long sustained drives with four possessions of at least four minutes. Two of those drives resulted in touchdowns, including a 12-play drive that lasted 5:40.

The Pointers have already had three possessions of seven minutes or longer this season. UW-Stevens Point had only two such lengthy possessions all of last season.

Big-Time Foes:

Four of the eight combined losses by UW-Stevens Point and UW-Eau Claire have come to teams ranked in the top three of this week's D3football.com poll. Both teams lost to second-ranked UW-Whitewater, while UW-Stevens Point lost to top-ranked Linfield and UW-Eau Claire fell to third-ranked St. John's.

Rare Record:

UW-Stevens Point's 2-5 record marks only the second time since 1984 that the Pointers have lost five games in a season. The other time it happened was in 2000 when the Pointers opened the year 0-7, but rallied to win two of their last three games and finish 2-8.

The Pointers are entering the point of the season where they traditionally play their best football of the year. Over the past six years, the Pointers are a combined 14-4 in the final three games of the season.

D3football.com Top 25 - Oct. 23

Rank, Team	Rec.
1. Linfield, Ore. (25)	6-0
2. UW-Whitewater	7-0
3. St. John's, Minn.	8-0
4. Rowan, N.J.	6-0
5. Mary Hardin-Baylor, Texas	5-1
6. Mount Union, Ohio	6-1
7. Occidental, Calif.	6-0
8. Delaware Valley, Pa.	7-0
9. Trinity, Texas	6-0
10. Hardin-Simmons, Texas	6-1
11. Ohio Northern	6-1
12. North Central, Ill.	7-0
13. Concordia-Moorhead	6-1
14. St. John Fisher, N.Y.	7-1
15. Washington & Jeff., Pa.	7-1
16. Ithaca, N.Y.	6-1
17. Salisbury, Md.	6-1
18. Thiel, Pa.	7-0
19. Augustana, Ill.	6-1
20. Bridgewater, Va.	5-1
21. Central, Iowa	6-1
22. Wabash, Ind.	7-0
23. Hobart, N.Y.	7-0
24. UW-La Crosse	3-3
25. Coe, Iowa	6-1

Happy Returns:

The Pointers have been very solid on kick returns this season with an average of 19.8 yards on kickoff and punt returns. UW-Stevens Point already has 968 yards on 49 kick returns this season after totaling 800 yards on 63 returns for a 12.7 yard average all of last season. The Pointers currently rank 14th in the country in punt returns at 14.6 yards per return. Meanwhile, UW-Eau Claire is 10th nationally in net punting.

Jack Marx had a 37-yard return and Kasey Morgan had a 40-yard return in last week's game. Morgan ranks second in the WIAC in kickoff returns at 22.1 yards per return. The coaching staff recognized Kyle Korinek and Tyler Florczak as the team's special teams players of the week for their blocking on the returns.

Cover-up:

In addition to their kick returning, the Pointers have been solid in their kick coverages. Opponents are averaging a league-low 15.8 yards per kickoff return with the longest of the season being 27 yards. The opponents' average starting field position after kickoffs is the 23-yard line.

UW-Stevens Point allowed a 67-yard punt return in the fourth quarter that resulted in UW-Oshkosh's winning score, but it was a rarity for the punt coverage that had allowed only 113 total yards on 27 previous returns (4.2 yards per return).

Block Party:

Ben Zimmerman blocked a punt in the first quarter, marking the Pointers' second blocked punt of the season after Jake Van DerGeest had a block against Linfield. It is the first time since 1998 that the Pointers have had two blocks in a season. In fact, since that season, the Pointers had a total of only two blocked punts in the last six years. The two blocks this season have come on 28 punting attempts. In 1998, the opponents had 57 punt attempts.

Double Threat:

Cody Childs had two rushing and one receiving touchdown against UW-Oshkosh and his three touchdowns marks the first time a Pointers' player has scored three times in a game since Childs had three receiving and one rushing against UW-River Falls in the final game of the 2003 season. It also was the first time a Pointers' player has had a rushing and receiving touchdown in the same game since Childs' four-touchdown performance.

Spreading It Around:

The Pointers have six players with at least 27 carries through the first six games. No other WIAC team has had that much distribution in its rushing attempts. In fact, Brett Borchart has the most carries with 49, while Cody Childs leads the running backs with 44 rushes. Every other WIAC team has a player with at least 88 carries.

The same is true for receivers where the Pointers have had a league-high 12 different players with at least two catches.

Extra Points:

Last week marked the first time that all four home teams have won in the WIAC since Nov. 9, 2002...The Pointers' opponents have fumbled nine times this season, but only lost two... UW-Stevens Point junior Peter Prusinski recorded his first career interception when he picked off a deflected pass and returned it 12 yards with 1:23 left in the fourth quarter at UW-Oshkosh...The Pointers have not recorded a quarterback sack in conference play after having six sacks in their three non-conference games... UW-Stevens Point ranks seventh in the WIAC in offense at 326.3 yards per game and UW-Eau Claire is eighth at 295.7 yards per game...UW-Eau Claire's game with UW-La Crosse last week was the Blugolds' first double overtime game since their 30-27 loss to UW-Stevens Point at Goerke Field in the final game of the 2001 season when both teams were competing for the WIAC championship.