



University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Sports Information

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UW-Stevens Point Football Preview

UW-Stevens Point (0-1) vs. #1 Linfield College (1-0)
Saturday, September 17 - 3:30 p.m. (Central Time)
Maxwell Field (4,000) - McMinnville, Oregon

2005 WIAC Standings

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

This Weekend in the WIAC

Stout at Springfield (Mass.), 12:30 p.m.
Oshkosh at Albion (Mich.), 1 p.m.
Whitewater at Lakeland, 1 p.m.
Bemidji State at River Falls, 1 p.m.
Stevens Point at Linfield (Ore.), 3:30 p.m.
Drake at Platteville, 6 p.m.

Game Outlook:

UW-Stevens Point plays its first-ever game against a No. 1 nationally-ranked team and also meets the defending national champion in a non-conference game for the first time ever when it takes on Linfield this weekend. The Pointers are playing one of the nation's top teams for the second straight game after suffering a 38-12 loss to No. 4 Hardin-Simmons (Texas) on Sept. 3. Linfield opened last weekend with a 49-7 win over Western Oregon.

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:

Linfield won the only previous meeting between the two schools with a 46-35 win last year in Stevens Point.

The Pointers led 35-25 in the fourth quarter before national Player of the Year Brett Elliott threw for three touchdowns in the final quarter to rally the Wildcats for the win. It was the only game that Linfield trailed in the second half all season on its way to a 13-0 record. Elliott finished 38-for-59 passing for 480 yards and six touchdowns. Casey Allen caught 13 passes for 151 yards. Brett Borchart was 20-for-33 passing for 259 yards and also rushed for 62 yards to lead the Pointers.

2005 UW-Stevens Point Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Time/Result	Site	Quick Facts
Sept. 3	Hardin-Simmons	L 38-12	Stevens Point	HSU totaled 534 yards, including 227 in first quarter
Sept. 17	at Linfield, Ore.	3:30 p.m.	McMinnville, Ore.	Linfield has won 34 straight regular season games
Sept. 24	Waldorf, Iowa	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Pointers won inaugural meeting 41-7 last year
Oct. 1	at UW-La Crosse	3 p.m.	La Crosse	Eagles picked to win fourth straight WIAC championship
Oct. 8	UW-Whitewater	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Pointers have lost five straight Homecoming games
Oct. 15	UW-River Falls	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Falcons' 24-22 win denied Pointers 2004 WIAC title
Oct. 22	at UW-Oshkosh	1:30 p.m.	Oshkosh	103rd meeting - longest of any two Division III publics
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

Pointer Update:

UW-Stevens Point looks to bounce back after a season-opening 38-12 loss to Hardin-Simmons (Texas) on Sept. 3. The Pointers had a bye week last weekend to prepare for Linfield.

The Pointers had a tough time recovering from a slow start in the loss to Hardin-Simmons, falling behind 14-3 and being outgained 227-30 in the first quarter.

UW-Stevens Point rallied to within 21-12 early in the fourth quarter when Brett Borchart hit Cory Flisakowski for a 12-yard touchdown pass, but the Cowboys used up over seven minutes in kicking a field goal on their next drive. UW-Stevens Point had turnovers on its final two possessions, leading to a pair of late Hardin-Simmons touchdowns.

Borchart was 17-for-31 passing for 186 yards and Flisakowski rushed for 62 yards on 14 carries. Dan Robinson was the Pointers' top defensive performer with 12 tackles, including 10 solo stops, and three sacks.

Wildcats Update:

Linfield didn't skip a beat during the off-season, extending its overall winning streak to 14 straight games with a 49-7 thumping of Division II Western Oregon in its season opener on Saturday.

Quarterback Brett Elliott, who started 10 games at Utah in front of No. 1 overall NFL draft choice Alex Smith, threw for 361 yards and six touchdowns on 25-for-37 passing in the opener. Elliott set Division III records with 4,595 yards passing and 61 touchdown passes last season.

Casey Allen caught seven passes for 100 yards last week and the Wildcats' defense held Western Oregon to 55 yards rushing while forcing five turnovers.

Linfield kicker Garrett Wales became the all-time Division III leader in points scored by kicking last week and needs one extra point to tie the national record for most career extra points made.

The Coaches

UW-Stevens Point coach **John Miech** has a 113-57-2 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.

Linfield coach **Jay Locey** is 75-17 in his 10th year with the Wildcats. Locey has led Linfield to five straight conference titles and last year's national title. Prior to becoming the head coach, he spent 13 years as Linfield's defensive coordinator. Locey was last season's American Football Coaches Association Division III national Coach of the Year.

Facing the Best:

UW-Stevens Point is playing the nation's No. 1 ranked team for the first time in school history. Most national rankings didn't begin until recently, but the Pointers have never met the top-ranked squad in any poll.

Chasing the Champs:

This weekend's meeting marks the fourth straight year that a WIAC team has played the defending national champion. Last year, UW-Eau Claire beat St. John's. The previous two seasons, UW-Whitewater lost to Mount Union. It is the first time the Pointers have ever played the defending champs in a non-conference game. UW-Stevens Point lost close games to UW-La Crosse after each of its three national titles. The Eagles won 29-10 in 1996, 21-14 in 1993 and 20-14 in 1986.

Heading West:

The Pointers are making their first trip to Linfield, but not their first to the Portland area. UW-Stevens Point opened the 1987 season at Portland State, suffering a 33-7 loss. The Pointers played their only other game on the west coast later that season, tying Pacific Lutheran in the NAIA title game in Tacoma, Wash.

UW-Stevens Point is the first non-west coast school ever to play a regular season game at Linfield in the Wildcats' storied football history. Many teams have made postseason trips to Oregon, including UW-La Crosse last season.

Poll Powers:

UW-Stevens Point is playing its second of five games against ranked opponents in the first eight weeks of the season.

After playing fourth-ranked Hardin-Simmons in the opener and top-ranked Linfield this week, the Pointers also take on 14th-ranked UW-La Crosse on Oct. 1, 15th-ranked UW-Whitewater on Oct. 8 and 21st-ranked UW-Eau Claire on Oct. 29.

UW-Stevens Point has never lost to two non-conference Division III opponents in the same regular season.

D3football.com Top 25 - Sept. 11

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

Playing with Fire:

The Pointers will face the top offense in Division III from last season after taking on the second-ranked defense in their opening game.

Linfield led the country last season at 510.8 yards per game and 50.0 points per game. Hardin-Simmons ranked second in the nation at 507.9 yards and 47.5 points per game.

The Pointers allowed 534 total yards to Hardin-Simmons in their opener, which was the fifth-highest single-game total in school history. However, they also forced three turnovers and a missed field goal. UW-Stevens Point hasn't allowed an opponent to score 50 points in a game since a 62-7 loss to UW-La Crosse on Sept. 18, 1979.

Flag Friendly:

The Pointers committed just one penalty for five yards in their opening game against Hardin-Simmons, though it was an ineligible man down-field penalty that negated a long pass play. Meanwhile, UW-Stevens Point benefited from 12 Hardin-Simmons penalties for 99 yards.

Sack Man:

UW-Stevens Point sophomore defensive end Dan Robinson spent plenty of time in the Hardin-Simmons backfield, recording three sacks for 22 yards. Last season, the Cowboys allowed only five sacks in 11 games.

Robinson also shared the team lead with three sacks for 19 yards last year, despite playing in a reserve role and making seven total tackles all season.

National Honors:

Pointers' free safety Jared Flesch was named to the D3football.com national team of the week for posting 12 tackles, including 10 solo stops, in the loss to Hardin-Simmons. Flesch also intercepted a pass in the endzone and returned it 13 yards for his first pick since the 2003 season.

Spreading it Around:

The Pointers lost their three top receivers from last year, but already show more depth at the position this year. UW-Stevens Point had seven different receivers catch at least two passes in the season opener after having only six players make at least two catches all of last season.

Czys-iling Start:

Pointers' linebacker Brandon Czys had a strong debut for the Pointers with 10 tackles in his first game, including seven solo tackles. A junior, Czys is a transfer from UW-La Crosse. He played in four games for the Eagles during the 2003 season.

Extra Points:

Linfield's Brandon Hazenberg led the country in punt returns last season with a 22.9-yard average...The Pointers' three field goal attempts against Hardin-Simmons were their most in a game since the second game of the 2002 season against Ohio Northern...Linfield has scored 40 points or more in 12 of its last 14 games...Pointers' defensive end Jake Nantell missed the season opener with an injury, but is expected to start this week...Hardin-Simmons' 65-yard fumble return for a touchdown with 41 seconds left by Chris Surrant was the first by a Pointer opponent since Brad Gawronski of UW-Eau Claire on Nov. 6, 1999...The 26-point loss to Hardin-Simmons was the Pointers' largest margin of defeat since a 49-20 loss at UW-River Falls on Oct. 7, 2000. It was the worst home loss since a 27-0 defeat to UW-La Crosse on Sept. 29, 1984...The Pointers are departing from Stevens Point on Friday at 4:10 a.m. and flying out of Chicago O'Hare. They are expected to arrive in McMinnville at 1:30 p.m. and return to Stevens Point Sunday night.