



University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Sports Information

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UW-Stevens Point Football Preview

UW-Stevens Point (2-3, 0-2 WIAC) vs. UW-River Falls (1-4, 0-2 WIAC)
Saturday, October 14 - 2 p.m.
Ramer Field (4,300) - River Falls, Wisconsin

2006 WIAC Standings

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

Last Week in the WIAC

Oshkosh 23, Stout 21
La Crosse 28, Platteville 21
Eau Claire 23, River Falls 3
Whitewater 31, Stevens Point 13

This Week in the WIAC

La Crosse at Whitewater, 1 pm
Eau Claire at Stout, 1 pm
Platteville at Oshkosh, 1:30 pm
Stevens Point at River Falls, 2 pm

Game Outlook:

The Pointers wrap up a four-game road trip and look for their first conference victory of the year on Saturday at UW-River Falls. UW-Stevens Point has played conference leaders UW-La Crosse and UW-Whitewater to open the league season and is playing its fifth road game among its first six games of the year.

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. A live webcast will also be available on the UW-Stevens Point athletics website at <http://www.uwsp.edu/athletics/webcast.htm>.

Series History:

UW-River Falls leads the all-time series 37-24-3. The Pointers have won five of the last seven meetings and won last year's matchup 23-16. The Falcons won in the last encounter at Ramer Field with a 24-22 victory during the 2004 season.

Brett Borchart scored a one-yard touchdown run with 6:15 left in last year's victory. Borchart rushed for 83 yards and threw for 255 yards in the victory. He also scored on a 22-yard touchdown run in the second quarter.

2006 UW-Stevens Point Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Time/Result	Site	Quick Facts
Sept. 2	at Hardin-Simmons	L 49-17	Abilene, Texas	UWSP drops season opener for just third time in 14 years
Sept. 16	UW-La Crosse	L 36-14	Stevens Point	Four first half turnovers cost Pointers in defeat
Sept. 23	at Waldorf	W 45-7	Forest City, Iowa	Pointers amass 510 total yards in taking 38-0 halftime lead
Sept. 30	at Trinity Internat'l	W 35-0	Deerfield, Ill.	Defense allows just 104 total yards and four first downs
Oct. 7	at UW-Whitewater	L 31-13	Whitewater	Pointers held to 47 total yards through three quarters
Oct. 14	at UW-River Falls	2 p.m.	River Falls	Pointers have won four of last five meetings
Oct. 21	UW-Oshkosh	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	104th meeting - longest of any Division III state schools
Oct. 28	at UW-Eau Claire	1 p.m.	Eau Claire	Six of last eight meetings decided by five or less
Nov. 4	UW-Platteville	2 p.m.	Stevens Point	Pointers have beaten Pioneers 15 straight times
Nov. 11	at UW-Stout	1 p.m.	Menomonie	UWSP has beaten Blue Devils two straight years

Pointer Update:

UW-Stevens Point suffered its third loss this season to a top 10 ranked team with a 31-13 loss at second-ranked UW-Whitewater on Saturday.

UW-Stevens Point gained 171 of its 218 total yards in the fourth quarter on Saturday as reserve quarterback Nick Venden came on to throw for 172 yards and two touchdowns on nine-for-15 passing.

Venden connected with Luke Gunderson for an 87-yard touchdown pass early in the fourth quarter with the Pointers trailing 31-0 at the time.

Venden also threw a 13-yard touchdown to Brad Kalsow in the fourth quarter. Brandon Czys had a big game defensively with 15 tackles and Lincoln Berg added nine tackles.

Cody Childs, who entered the game as the league's leading rusher and ranked seventh in the country in rushing, was held to 26 yards on 21 carries.

Falcons Update:

UW-River Falls has abandoned its tradition wishbone attack and has thrown the ball with more frequency this year. However, the Falcons still rank last in the WIAC in passing at 81.0 yards per game while attempting a league-low 74 passes through five games. They also rank last in the league in total offense at 232.2 yards per game and last in total defense at 377.2 yards allowed per game.

The Falcons' lone win was a non-conference win at Pacific Lutheran (Wash.) earlier this season. They lost last week to UW-Eau Claire 23-3 despite a defensive performance that held the Blugolds to just 65 yards rushing in 29 attempts.

Nathan Anderson rushed for 83 yards on 25 carries last week and ranks fourth in the league with a 97.8-yard average. Oddly, he has not scored a touchdown in a league-high 147 rushing plays this season.

Andy Kolstad ranks third in the league with 47 tackles and Gregg Neumann has a league-best 4.5 sacks.

The Coaches

UW-Stevens Point coach **John Miech** has a 119-65-2 record in his 19th season. Miech's victory total ranks fourth in WIAC history and he entered the season ranked 18th among all active NCAA Division III coaches. Miech is a 1975 graduate of UW-Stevens Point and has twice as many wins as any other coach in Pointers' history.

UW-River Falls coach **John O'Grady** has an 93-79-3 record in his 18th season with the Falcons. He currently ranks eighth on the all-time WIAC victories list and needs one more win to tie Chick Agnew from UW-Whitewater for seventh place. O'Grady's UW-River Falls teams have led Division III in rushing offense five times.

Well in Hand:

The fourth quarter of Pointers' games this season hasn't had much suspense as none of the five games have even been close through three quarters. The average lead by the Pointers or their opponents entering the fourth quarter through five games has been 29.4 points. The closest game the Pointers have been involved in through three quarters was when they trailed Hardin-Simmons 35-14.

The past three weeks have all been shutouts through three quarters. The final quarter hasn't changed much in the outcome, either, since the average final margin of the five games has been 29.0 points per game.

Despite the lopsided scores each week, through five games the Pointers have outscored their opponents by a total of 124-123.

Power-foe Scheduling:

The Pointers are the only team in the NCAA Division III to have faced three teams currently ranked in the top 10 of the national poll. All three of their losses have come to the highly-ranked opponents.

It is a similar start to last year when the Pointers were 1-4 and suffered all four losses to teams ranked in the top 15 at the time.

In fact, of UW-Stevens Point's last 15 losses, 12 have been to ranked opponents. The only exceptions were last year to UW-Oshkosh and UW-Eau Claire (both of which received votes in the poll) and in 2004 to UW-River Falls in the season finale.

Final Destination:

This week's game marks the end of an exhausting road stretch for the Pointers, who are playing four straight away games for the first time since 1972. All told, when the Pointers return home Saturday night from River Falls they will have logged 1,738 miles on a bus during the four-game stretch.

The season-opening trip to Abilene, Texas, adds another 2,474 round-trip miles to the schedule, bringing the total to 4,212 miles traveled over the first six games of the year.

D3football.com Top 25 - Oct. 8

Rank	Team (1st place votes)	Rec.
1.	Mount Union, Ohio (22)	5-0
2.	UW-Whitewater (3)	5-0
3.	St. John's, Minn.	6-0
4.	Capital, Ohio	5-0
5.	Wesley, Del.	5-0
6.	UW-La Crosse	4-0
7.	Mary Hardin-Baylor, Texas	4-1
8.	Bridgewater, Va.	5-0
9.	Rowan, N.J.	3-1
10.	Hardin-Simmons, Texas	3-1
11.	Occidental, Calif.	4-0
12.	Whitworth, Wash.	5-0
13.	Central, Iowa	5-0
14.	St. John Fisher, N.Y.	6-0
15.	Wilkes, Pa.	5-0
16.	Cortland State, N.Y.	5-0
17.	Ohio Northern	4-1
18.	Linfield, Ore.	2-2
19.	Wheaton, Ill.	5-0
20.	Hobart, N.Y.	4-0
21.	Christopher Newport, Va.	4-1
22.	Springfield, Mass.	5-0
23.	Ithaca, N.Y.	5-1
24.	Delaware Valley, Pa.	4-1
25.	Coe, Iowa	5-1

Punting Prowess:

This week's game features two of the top punters in the NCAA Division III as UW-Stevens Point's Luke Frisch ranks ninth with a 40.8 average and UW-River Falls' Jovin Kroll ranks 20th with a 39.2 average.

Frisch posted the fourth-best single-game average in school history last week with a 46.2 average. He had a 46.3 average earlier this year at Hardin-Simmons. Frisch blasted a 70-yarder on Saturday, marking his third 70-yard punt already this season in just 22 attempts. He also had a 58-yarder against UW-Whitewater.

Fantastic Firsts:

Pointers' junior Nick Venden took over at quarterback for an injured Brett Borchart in the second quarter and passed for 172 yards in the first significant action of his career. In fact, Venden's first career touchdown pass was an 87-yarder to Luke Gunderson in the fourth quarter. The catch was also Gunderson's first career touchdown and marked the fifth-longest pass play in school history.

In his limited time this season, Venden leads the WIAC in passing efficiency with a 166.0 rating. He has completed a league-best 60.9 percent of his passes. UW-River Falls, meanwhile, enters this week's game ranked last in the league in pass efficiency defense.

Big Returns:

UW-Stevens Point senior Eric Reible nearly had a great start to the year for kickoff returns, bringing back the first kickoff he has returned all season 75 yards down to the UW-Whitewater eight-yard line. Reible, who returned kicks each of the past three years, finished the day with four returns for 119 yards.

Strong to the Finish:

The Pointers are 0-2 in the conference for the fourth straight year, but they've found a way to have a strong finish each year. In 2003, the Pointers won their last five games and, in 2004, they won four straight before losing in the final regular season game. Last year, the Pointers won three of their last five games.

The Pointers have been 0-3 in the WIAC only once since 1981. It happened in 2000 when they lost the third conference game of the year to UW-River Falls.

Catching On:

Pointers' receiver Brad Kalsow matched a career high with five catches last week at UW-Whitewater. He also caught his third touchdown pass in two games after having one prior career touchdown. Kalsow finished last week with five catches for 54 yards and the 13-yard touchdown grab.

Big-Gamer:

Pointers' linebacker Brandon Czys ranks second in the WIAC in total tackles with 48 tackles through five games. Czys had 15 tackles last week against UW-Whitewater and typically has his best performances against the top teams. He also had 14 stops against UW-La Crosse and 12 against Hardin-Simmons. Last year, Czys had 20 tackles against UW-La Crosse and 14 at Linfield.

When Czys is forced to make a lot of tackles, it's usually not a good sign for the Pointers. During his career, he has averaged 12.4 tackles in losses and 3.4 tackles in wins.

Quick Hits:

Cody Childs slipped to second in the league in rushing and ranks 22nd in the country with 116.2 yards per game. He still leads the league and ranks eighth nationally with 169.0 all-purpose yards per game...The Pointers have allowed just five punt returns for a total of 25 yards and rank 17th in the country in net punting at 34.2 yards per game...UW-Stevens Point leads the WIAC in penalties with 29 for 350 yards...Pointers' opponents have converted seven of their 11 fourth down attempts...UW-River Falls has been outscored 74-12 in the first half of its five games this season...The Falcons have five touchdowns this year and have not reached the endzone on their last 23 offensive possessions.