



# 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](mailto:jstrick@uwsp.edu) Web: <http://www.uwsp.edu/athletics>

## UW-Stevens Point Men's Hockey Notes

### 2004-05 Pointer Schedule/Results

**2004-05 Record:** 7-4-2 overall, 2-1-1 NCHA

**Breakdown:** 6-1-2 home, 1-3 away

**Current Streak:** 1-game winning streak

Oct. 29	UW-Eau Claire	W	3-1
Nov. 5	Hamline	W	4-2
Nov. 6	Bethel	L	4-0
Nov. 12	at St. Olaf	L	5-3
Nov. 13	at Gustavus Adolphus	W	5-3
Nov. 19	Concordia-Moorhead	T	4-4 ot
Nov. 20	Augsburg	W	4-2
Nov. 24	at St. Thomas	L	4-2
Dec. 3	UW-Stout*	T	5-5 ot
Dec. 4	UW-River Falls*	W	7-4
Dec. 10	UW-Eau Claire*	W	7-3
Dec. 11	at UW-Eau Claire*	L	4-2
Jan. 2	Lawrence	W	6-3
Jan. 7	at UW-Superior		7:00 PM
Jan. 8	at St. John's (Minn.)		2:00 PM
Jan. 14	at UW-Superior*		7:00 PM
Jan. 15	at St. Scholastica*		3:00 PM
Jan. 21	at St. Norbert*		7:00 PM
Jan. 22	at Lake Forest*		7:30 PM
Jan. 28	Lake Forest*		7:30 PM
Jan. 29	St. Norbert*		7:30 PM
Feb. 4	St. Scholastica*		7:30 PM
Feb. 5	UW-Superior*		7:30 PM
Feb. 11	at UW-River Falls*		7:00 PM
Feb. 12	at UW-Stout*		7:30 PM

**Home games in bold at Willett Arena**

\* - indicates NCHA regular season game

### UW-Stevens Point (7-4-2 overall, 2-1-1 NCHA)

**vs. #3 UW-Superior (9-0-3 overall)**

**Fri., Jan. 7, 7 p.m. - Wessman Arena - Superior, Wis.**

**vs. #6 St. John's University (11-0 overall)**

**Sat., Jan. 8, 2 p.m. - National Hockey Center - St. Cloud, Minn.**

### Pointers This Week:

Two undefeated and highly-ranked squads lie ahead this weekend for the Pointers as they take on UW-Superior and St. John's. The UW-Superior contest does not count in the NCHA standings and is the first of two consecutive Friday games for the Pointers at the Yellowjackets. The two games this weekend are UW-Stevens Point's final non-conference games and begin a six-game road stretch.

### Radio:

The game can be heard live on WWSP (89.9 FM) with Nick Cornette and Tony Bastien on the broadcast.

### Head Coach Joe Baldarotta:

The winningest coach in UW-Stevens Point history, Joe Baldarotta carries a 241-134-31 career record in his 14th season. Baldarotta has been named NCHA Coach of the Year four times during his career and was the 1993 Division III Coach of the Year when he guided the Pointers to the national championship. He has had a winning season in 12 of his 13 previous seasons.

## Around the NCHA

### NCHA Standings - Jan. 3

	Conf.			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Superior	3	0	1	9	0	3
River Falls	3	1	0	8	2	2
<b>Stevens Point</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
St. Norbert	1	0	1	9	2	2
Eau Claire	1	2	1	8	5	1
Lake Forest	1	1	0	5	7	1
Stout	0	2	2	7	5	3
St. Scholastica	0	4	0	3	7	2

### This Week in the NCHA

#### Wednesday, Jan. 5

Con.-Moorhead at Superior, 7:05 pm

#### Thursday, Jan. 6

Eau Claire at St. Thomas, 7 pm

Superior at St. John's, 7:05 pm

#### Friday, Jan. 7

Lake Forest at St. Norbert\*, 7 pm

Stevens Point at Superior, 7:05 pm

River Falls at Marian, 7:30 pm

#### Saturday, Jan. 8

Stevens Point at St. John's, 2 pm

River Falls at Marian, 7 pm

Lake Forest at St. Norbert\*, 7:30 pm

St. Scholastica at UM-Crookston, 7:30 pm

#### Sunday, Jan. 9

St. Scholastica at UM-Crookston, 2 pm

## Pointer Update:

UW-Stevens Point got back to action following a 21-day layoff by beating Lawrence 6-3 on Sunday. Six different players scored goals for the Pointers with Dan Francis notching a goal and two assists. Brent Halverson, Anthony Forgione and Brett Coburn each recorded a goal and an assist in the victory. The game was tied 2-2 midway through the second period before Tom Vernelli scored to break the tie and start a four-goal spurt for the Pointers.

## Team Notes:

- \* - The Pointers had their streak snapped of nine straight games with a power play goal against Lawrence, but were just 0-for-3 and still rank seventh nationally at 25.0 percent (20-for-80) on the man-advantage.
- \* - The Pointers rank 29th nationally in penalty killing as their combined special teams ranks eighth in Division III as they have scored on or killed off 56.7 percent of special situations.
- \* - UW-Stevens Point's power play will be tested this weekend with two of the nation's top penalty kill units. St. John's leads the country at 94.8 percent and UW-Superior ranks fourth at 91.4 percent.
- \* - The Pointers have scored 27 goals over their last five games after scoring a total of 25 goals over the first eight games.
- \* - Friday's game at UW-Superior does not count in the NCHA standings. The Pointers have played NCHA opponents in regular season non-conference games 10 previous times and are 4-6 in those games with the home team winning all but two of the games. They beat UW-Eau Claire in a non-league game to open the season.
- \* - The only other time the Pointers played a NCHA and MIAC opponents on the same weekend was Dec. 13-14, 2002 when they hosted UW-Eau Claire and St. Thomas.
- \* - UW-Stevens Point's six home victories already surpasses last year's total when the Pointers were 4-5-3. However, the Pointers are just 1-3 on the road this year after a 9-6 record last year.
- \* - UW-Stevens Point has scored first in just three of 13 games and has led after one period four times this year. The Pointers have rebounded to outscore opponents 21-12 in the third period.
- \* - Seven different players have recorded the Pointers' seven game-winning goals this year. Six different players scored the team's six goals in last week's win over Lawrence.

## Individual Notes:

- \* - Junior forward **Dan Francis** (Roseville, MI) has scored six of his eight points in two games this year, recording three points in wins over Gustavus Adolphus and Lawrence. The Pointers are 11-2-2 in his career when he scores a point.
- \* - Senior forward **Adam Kostichka** (Stevens Point, WI) scored a goal in Sunday's game to extend his scoring streak to nine straight games. He has scored a goal in six of the team's last seven games. Kostichka scored in four games against UW-Superior last season.
- \* - Senior forward **Mike Broksma** (Appleton, WI) also has a nine-game scoring streak and has at least one assist in eight of those nine games.
- \* - Junior forward **Brent Halverson** (Cloquet, MN) had a goal and an assist in Sunday's win and has scored all nine of his points over the last seven games. Halverson had nine points in 16 games during the 2003-04 season.
- \* - Freshman forward **Tom Vernelli** (Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.) has scored all three of his goals this season when the game has been tied. He broke a 2-2 tie against Lawrence and the team has won all four games he has scored a point.

## Scouting the Opponents

UW-Superior is 9-0-3 and has a 13-game unbeaten streak since a loss to UW-Stevens Point in the first game of last year's NCHA quarterfinal series. The Yellowjackets feature the nation's leading scorer in Michael Wiggins, who has 15 goals in 12 games. Their three ties came against St. Olaf, St. Thomas and St. Norbert.

Kyle Nosan has six goals and 15 assists for 21 points, while Baron Bradley has a 1.77 goals against average and .912 save percentage. Friday's game will be the third straight day the Yellowjackets will take the ice for a game.

St. John's is off to an 11-0 start and has won 27 of its last 28 games dating to last season with the only loss being a 4-3 overtime setback to St. Thomas in last year's MIAC playoff championship game.

The Johnnies lead the country in scoring margin, having outscored opponents 68-16 to rank fifth nationally in offense and second in defense. Goaltender Adam Hanna leads Division III with a 1.11 goals against average and ranks third with a .950 save percentage. The Johnnies have scored first in nine of 11 games and have not trailed at the end of any period yet this season.

Nine players have scored double figures in points, led by Scott Bjorklund with five goals and 11 assists.

## Series History

The Pointers trail the all-time series to UW-Superior 48-41-4 in the most played rivalry in UW-Stevens Point history. The Pointers are 1-13-2 in the last 16 meetings with the only victory coming 6-4 in last year's NCHA quarterfinals. UW-Superior won four of five meetings last season.

UW-Stevens Point leads the all-time series over St. John's 6-3. The teams did not meet last year. The Pointers have won five of the last six meetings, including a 4-1 victory in 2002-03 in Stevens Point. St. John's won 4-1 the last time the Pointers played in St. Cloud in 2001-02.

## U.S. College Hockey Online

### NCAA Division III Rankings - Jan. 3

Rank, Team (first place votes)	Rec.	Votes	Last
1. Middlebury, Vt. (11)	7-0-1	221	1
2. Manhattanville, N.Y. (3)	11-0-0	212	2
<b>3. UW-Superior (1)</b>	<b>9-0-3</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>5</b>
4. St. Norbert, Wis.	9-2-2	172	4
5. Norwich, Vt.	6-1-2	167	3
<b>6. St. John's, Minn.</b>	<b>11-0-0</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>6</b>
7. Rochester Inst. of Tech., N.Y.	7-2-1	132	7
8. Fredonia State, N.Y.	11-1-1	120	8
9. UW-River Falls	8-2-2	98	9
10. Trinity, Conn.	8-0-0	93	12
11. Oswego State, N.Y.	10-2-2	85	11
12. Curry, Mass.	6-2-0	61	9
13. Hobart, N.Y.	6-2-4	30	13
14. Bowdoin, Maine	6-1-1	23	-
15. St. Thomas, Minn.	6-3-3	21	14

**Others Receiving Votes:** Colby 20, Utica 8, Geneseo State 5, Bethel 2