



University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Sports Information

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UW-Stevens Point Men's Hockey Notes

2004-05 Pointer Schedule/Results

2003-04 Record: 13-12-3, 5-7-2 NCHA

Current Streak: 2-game losing streak

Oct. 29	UW-Eau Claire	7:30 PM
Nov. 5	Hamline	7:30 PM
Nov. 6	Bethel	5:30 PM
Nov. 12	at St. Olaf	8:00 PM
Nov. 13	at Gustavus Adolphus	7:00 PM
Nov. 19	Concordia-Moorhead	7:30 PM
Nov. 20	Augsburg	7:30 PM
Nov. 24	at St. Thomas	7:00 PM
Dec. 3	UW-Stout*	7:30 PM
Dec. 4	UW-River Falls*	7:30 PM
Dec. 10	UW-Eau Claire*	7:30 PM
Dec. 11	at UW-Eau Claire*	7:00 PM
Jan. 2	Lawrence	3:30 PM
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 (13-12-3 in 2003-04)

vs. UW-Eau Claire (10-15-2)

Fri., Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m. - Willett Arena - Stevens Point, Wis.

Pointers This Week:

The Pointers open the season with a matchup against NCHA rival UW-Eau Claire that will not count in the league standings. It marks the second straight year that UW-Stevens Point is opening the year with a non-league game against an NCHA squad and the second straight season the Pointers have faced UW-Eau Claire on the opening weekend of the season.

Radio:

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

The game will also be broadcast live on WKQH (104.9 FM) with Tom Weaver calling the play-by-play.

Head Coach Joe Baldarotta:

The winningest coach in UW-Stevens Point history, Joe Baldarotta carries a 234-130-29 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

2004-05 NCHA Coaches Poll

Team (First Place Votes)	Pts.
1. St. Norbert (6)	61
2. UW-River Falls (1)	53
3. UW-Superior (1)	49
4. Lake Forest	39
5. UW-Stevens Point	34
6. UW-Eau Claire	23
7. UW-Stout	21
6. St. Scholastica	8

This Week in the NCHA

Tuesday, Oct. 26

MSOE at River Falls, 7:05 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 29

Rochester Inst. at St. Norbert, 5 p.m.

Lawrence at St. Scholastica, 7:05 p.m.

Eau Claire at Stevens Point, 7:30 p.m.

Lake Forest at MSOE, 7:30 p.m.

Marian at Stout, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 30

Lawrence at Stout, 3 p.m.

Marian at St. Scholastica, 5 p.m.

Eau Claire at River Falls, 7:05 p.m.

Rochester Inst. at St. Norbert, 8 p.m.

Pointer Update:

UW-Stevens Point returns 16 letterwinners, including nearly all of its offense from last year's team that finished 13-12-3 overall. The Pointers have six seniors who have combined to play 452 games over the past four years. UW-Stevens Point returns 13 of its top 14 scorers from last year and 88 percent of its scoring from a year ago.

The biggest questions are at goaltender where a newcomer will fill the pipes to replace departed senior Ryan Scott. Bryn Davies or Jim Redpath is the expected starter on Friday.

Team Notes:

* - UW-Stevens Point is 12-4 in season openers since the 1988-89 season. This season marks the sixth straight year that the Pointers have opened at home. They are 4-2 in those games and have won seven of their last 10 home openers. Last year they suffered a 3-2 loss to UW-Superior.

* - The Pointers are opening the season against an NCHA opponent for the 11th time in the last 12 years. A series with Elmira (N.Y.) in 2001-02 is the only exception.

* - This weekend's game does not count in the NCHA standings.

The Pointers have played NCHA opponents in regular season non-conference games nine previous times and are 3-6 in those games with the home team winning all but two of the games. They lost to UW-Superior at home and UW-Eau Claire on the road last season. The Pointers beat UW-Eau Claire in a mid-season non-conference game during the 2002-03 season.

* - UW-Stevens Point is picked for fifth place in the NCHA preseason coaches' poll after being tabbed fourth the past three years. UW-Eau Claire is picked for sixth.

* - The Pointers received the second-most votes of any team not in the preseason NCAA Division III top 15 rankings with 18 votes.

* - UW-Stevens Point scored six of its 12 goals against UW-Eau Claire last year in the third period. The Pointers also held a 38-22 advantage in shots in the final period of those three games.

* - The Pointers set a single-season school record last season by allowing just one shorthanded goal in 154 shorthanded situations. The one tally came late in the year at Lake Forest.

Individual Notes:

* - Sophomore forward **Brett Coburn** (Addison, IL) was perhaps the team's hottest offensive player at the end of last season. He had seven points in the last eight games as well as the first goal in the team's mini-game win. Coburn had four points over the team's first 20 games of the year.

* - Sophomore forward **Nick Zebro** (Mosinee, WI) scored five points in a weekend sweep against UW-Eau Claire last year and was the NCHA and WIAC Player of the Week.

* - Freshmen defenseman **Nate Sorenson** (Tomah, WI) and goalie **Eric Shimon** (Hudson, WI) are both listed among the team's newcomers, but actually joined the team for the second half of last year and did not appear in any games, preserving a year of eligibility.

* - Senior forward **Adam Kostichka** (Stevens Point, WI) has led the team in scoring the past two seasons. He scored 32 points after posting 27 points as a sophomore. Kostichka had seven points as a freshman and enters his senior year with 66 career points.

* - Senior forward **Mike Broksma** (Appleton, WI) enters the season tied for 23rd on the school's all-time scoring list with 88 points in 86 career games. Only 13 players in school history have played in 100 or more games and averaged at least one point per game.

Scouting the Opponents

UW-Eau Claire has 17 returning letterwinners from last year's squad that posted one of the most impressive turn-arounds in NCAA Division III hockey. The Blugolds were 14-12-1 a year ago after suffering through a 1-22-2 record the previous season. They opened the season 10-1, but were 1-8-1 over their final games, beating UW-River Falls and tying Lake Forest.

Leading the way is junior goaltender Steffan Braunlich, who was an honorable mention All-NCHA selection while playing every NCHA game and all but 180 of the team's minutes in goal last year. He had a 3.24 goals against average and .912 save percentage.

The Blugolds return four defensemen three players who appeared in at least 25 games last year, but must replace first-team All-NCHA performer Chris Hunter.

Offensively, the Blugolds return eight of their top nine scorers, including four 10-goal scorers. Phil Chernesky and Ben Manny each totaled 30 points a year ago and are back. Rob Ouimette added 15 goals and Dave Coleman had 11 goals for the Blugolds.

UW-Eau Claire ranked 12th nationally in penalty killing last season, allowing just 20 power play goals in 150 shorthanded situations for an 86.7 penalty kill percentage.

Series History

The Pointers lead the all-time series over UW-Eau Claire 50-23-3 and have won six of the last seven meetings, including two of three contests last year.

UW-Stevens Point swept an NCHA series from the Blugolds in early December, winning 4-2 in Eau Claire and 5-3 the following night in Stevens Point. UW-Eau Claire won a non-conference meeting the first weekend of the season 5-3, holding a 4-0 lead in the third period before the Pointers rallied with three goals and the Blugolds tallied an empty net score.

U.S. College Hockey Online

Preseason NCAA Division III Rankings - Oct. 18

Rank, Team (first place votes)	Rec.	Votes	Last
1. St. Norbert, Wis. (9)	27-3-2	214	1
2. Middlebury, Vt. (5)	27-3-0	210	2
3. Norwich, Vt. (1)	24-4-0	188	3
4. Plattsburgh State, N.Y.	23-5-3	154	4
5. St. John's, Minn.	22-4-1	141	6
6. UW-River Falls	21-6-4	132	5
7. Rochester Inst. of Tech., N.Y.	13-7-5	114	12
8. Curry, Mass.	24-4-1	95	7
9. Oswego State, N.Y.	19-9-3	87	13
10. UW-Superior	15-8-4	68	-
11. St. Thomas, Minn.	17-8-3	67	10
12. Hobart, N.Y.	15-8-5	61	9
13. Lake Forest, Ill.	18-6-4	57	8
14. New England College, N.H.	19-6-2	49	11
15. Trinity, Conn.	16-9-1	43	14

Others Receiving Votes: Manhattanville 40, UW-Stevens Point 18, Wentworth 13, Babson 11, Bowdoin 8, Williams 8, Hamilton 7, Geneseo 4, Potsdam 4, Colby 3, Utica 3, St. Mary's 1.