



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 Men's Basketball Notes

2003-04 Pointer Schedule/Results

Current Record: 23-5 overall, 11-5 WIAC

Streak: 3-game winning streak

Breakdown: 14-2 home, 7-3 away, 2-0 ntl.

Nov. 21 Northland	W 67-37
Nov. 22 Kendall	W 80-66
Nov. 29 Marian	W 83-39
Dec. 3 UW-River Falls	W 56-38
Dec. 6 Calumet	W 96-60
Dec. 7 Carroll	W 80-68
Dec. 10 at UW-Stout	W 73-64
Dec. 21 #Kalamazoo	W 70-52
Dec. 22 #UW-Oshkosh	W 63-55
Dec. 31 at Edgewood	W 72-54
Jan. 3 UW-Eau Claire	W 70-58
Jan. 7 at UW-Platteville	L 63-60
Jan. 10 at UW-La Crosse	W 83-39
Jan. 14 UW-Whitewater	L 71-69
Jan. 17 at UW-Superior	L 57-54
Jan. 21 UW-Oshkosh	W 68-53
Jan. 26 at Viterbo	W 67-52
Jan. 28 UW-Stout	W 84-70
Jan. 31 UW-La Crosse	W 70-61
Feb. 3 at UW-River Falls	L 70-59
Feb. 7 UW-Platteville	W 69-51
Feb. 10 at UW-Whitewater	W 79-59
Feb. 14 at UW-Eau Claire	W 80-68
Feb. 17 at UW-Oshkosh	W 63-61
Feb. 21 UW-Superior	L 61-52
Feb. 24 \$UW-Superior	W 83-73
Feb. 26 \$UW-Oshkosh	W 70-59
Feb. 28 \$UW-Platteville	W 68-50
Mar. 4 +Benedictine (Ill.)	7:00 PM

- Game at Las Vegas, Nev.

\$ - WIAC Tournament

+ - NCAA Division III Tournament

Home games at Quandt Fieldhouse

NCAA Division III Tournament First Round

#10 UW-Stevens Point (23-5 overall)

vs. Benedictine University (20-7 overall)

Thurs., Mar. 4, 7 p.m. - Quandt Fieldhouse - Stevens Point, Wis.

Pointers This Week:

The Pointers make their fourth NCAA Division III tournament appearance and third in five years. UW-Stevens Point will play its third home NCAA tournament game when it hosts Benedictine (Ill.) in the first-ever meeting between the two schools. The Eagles are making their fifth postseason appearance after winning the Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference tournament.

Radio:

The game can be heard live on WSPT (97.9 FM). Scott Krueger will do the play-by-play and John Zellmer will provide the analysis.

Head Coach Jack Bennett:

Jack Bennett boasts a 165-53 record in his eighth season with the Pointers. Bennett currently ranks third on the school's all-time wins list and is 15th on the all-time WIAC coaching victories list. Bennett's .757 career winning percentage ranks third in WIAC history of coaches with at least three seasons at the helm.

2004 NCAA Division III Tournament

First Round Games - March 4; Second Round Games - March 6

Colorado College at Pomona-Pitzer (Calif.); winner at Puget Sound (Wash.)
Benedictine (Ill.) at UW-Stevens Point; winner at Gust. Adolphus (Minn.)
University of Dallas at Sul Ross State (Texas); winner at Trinity (Texas)
Lakeland (Wis.) at Lawrence (Wis.); winner at Buena Vista (Iowa)
Calvin (Mich.) at John Carroll (Ohio); winner at Wittenberg (Ohio)
Methodist (N.C.) at Randolph-Macon (Va.); winner at Maryville (Tenn.)
Maryville (Mo.) at Illinois Wesleyan; winner at Hanover (Ind.)
Potsdam State (N.Y.) at Penn State-Behrend; winner at Wooster (Ohio)
Lasell (Mass.) at Trinity (Conn.); winner at Brockport State (N.Y.)
Johnson and Wales (R.I.) at Salem State (Mass.); winner at Williams (Mass.)
St. John Fisher (N.Y.) at Hamilton (N.Y.); winner at Rochester (N.Y.)
Babson (Mass.) at Endicott (Mass.); winner at Keene State (N.H.)
Lehman (N.Y.) at Lycoming (Pa.); winner at New Jersey City
Castleton State (Vt.) at Plymouth State (N.H.); winner at Amherst (Mass.)
Elizabethtown (Pa.) at Hampden-Sydney (Va.); winner at Franklin & Marshall (Pa.)
N.Y.-Old Westbury at Catholic (D.C.); winner at Gwynedd-Mercy (Pa.)

Pointer Update:

UW-Stevens Point clinched its first WIAC tournament title since 2000 with a 68-50 victory over UW-Platteville on Saturday. The Pointers used an 11-2 first half run to build a seven-point halftime lead and maintained at least that lead throughout the second half. Eric Maus led the Pointers with 17 points and Nick Bennett had 16 points as both players scored 14 points in the second half. UW-Stevens Point shot over 60 percent in each half and 63.2 percent for the game, while holding UW-Platteville to 37.0 percent shooting.

Team Notes:

* - The Pointers are 5-3 all-time in NCAA tournament games, reaching the Elite Eight in 1997 and 2000. UW-Stevens Point has been eliminated by the eventual national runner-up in all three appearances, losing to Nebraska Wesleyan in 1997, UW-Eau Claire in 2000 and Gustavus Adolphus in 2003.

* - Benedictine is 2-4 in the tournament and won its first two games in the 1991 tournament before losing in the Elite Eight. The Eagles lost in the first round in 1997, 2000 and 2001.

* - Since the inception of the WIAC tournament in 1999, the champion has won its opening game every year and advanced to the sectional tournament four of the five years.

* - WIAC teams are 70-26 all-time in NCAA tournament play with eight of the losses coming to other WIAC teams. Of the 25 WIAC qualifiers since 1988, 17 have reached the Sweet 16 and only four have been knocked out of the first two rounds by a non-conference opponent. Three of the early defeats have been by Gustavus Adolphus. The Gusties beat UW-Stevens Point in last year's second round, UW-Whitewater in the 1997 first round and UW-Oshkosh in the 1996 second round. The other was the University of Chicago over UW-Eau Claire in the 2001 second round.

* - Thursday's game will be the Pointers' 17th home game of the season, matching the school record set during the 1983-84 season. UW-Stevens Point is 14-2 at home this year and was 16-1 at the Quandt Fieldhouse in 1983-84.

* - The Pointers shot 54.1 percent from the field, including 47.1 percent from three-point range during the WIAC tournament. They also made 79.2 percent of their free throws. Two of those three games were against teams ranked among the nation's leaders in defense in UW-Oshkosh (14th) and UW-Platteville (22nd).

* - UW-Stevens Point is ranked fifth nationally in defense at 57.5 points per game. The Pointers have allowed more than 70 points in a game twice all season with 73 being the most they've given up.

* - The Pointers have trailed at halftime just three times this year. They shot a combined 58.9 percent in the second half of those games and rallied to win against Carroll and UW-Stout, but lost at UW-River Falls.

* - The Pointers committed just 41 fouls in three WIAC tournament games compared to 67 for their opponents. UW-Stevens Point has had one player foul out all season (Kalsow vs. UW-Superior).

Individual Notes:

* - Freshman forward **Jon Krull** (Marshall, WI) joined the starting lineup on Feb. 7 and has averaged 10.4 points per game over the eight-game span. He also has 16 steals, including one every game.

* - Junior forward **Nick Bennett** (Stevens Point, WI) had 17 points the past two games as the Pointers are now 17-0 this season when Bennett scores 14 or more points.

* - Junior forward **Jason Kalsow** (Huntley, IL) has scored in double-figures in every game this season.

Scouting the Opponent

Benedictine was the runner-up in the Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference and qualified for its fifth NCAA Division III tournament by beating regular season champion Aurora 74-70 in the conference title game on Saturday.

The Eagles led the conference and rank 19th in Division III in scoring defense at 61.8 points per game. They enter the tournament with a five-game winning streak and went 1-2 against teams in the NCAA field, beating Lakeland and losing to Babson (Mass.) and Illinois Wesleyan.

Benedictine features a balanced scoring attack with seven players averaging at least 6.7 points per game. Will Crawford, a 6-6 junior, missed the first eight games of the season, but leads the team in at 14.4 points and 8.9 rebounds per game. Sophomore Matt Harrison averages 12.4 points and senior Bryan Uselding scores 11.1 points, including a team-high 19 points in the conference title game against Aurora.

Series History

UW-Stevens Point and Benedictine are meeting for the first time ever. The Pointers have played two teams from the Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference in their history, beating Aurora 81-43 in 1987 and Dominican 69-44 in 1997.

Benedictine has played two WIAC teams in its four NCAA tournament appearances. The Eagles lost to UW-Eau Claire 66-55 in the 2001 first round and lost to UW-Platteville 101-65 in the 1991 Elite Eight.

The teams have no common opponents this season.

D3hoops.com NCAA Division III Rankings Records through February 22, 2004

Rank, Team (first place votes)	Rec.	Votes	Last
1. Williams, Mass. (23)	26-1	623	1
2. Hanover, Ind. (2)	26-1	590	2
3. Rochester, N.Y.	24-1	575	3
4. Wooster, Ohio	24-3	535	6
5. Amherst, Mass.	24-3	523	4
6. Hampden-Sydney, Va.	24-4	482	8
7. Wittenberg, Ohio	24-4	462	5
8. Puget Sound, Wash.	23-2	456	10
9. Franklin and Marshall, Pa.	24-3	423	11
10. UW-Stevens Point	23-5	372	14
11. Wheaton, Ill.	21-4	344	7
12. Trinity, Texas	24-4	293	16
13. John Carroll, Ohio	22-5	284	18
14. Randolph-Macon, Va.	22-4	276	12
15. Buena Vista, Iowa	24-4	249	19
16. Trinity, Conn.	21-4	230	15
17. Hope, Mich.	21-5	213	9
18. Gwynedd-Mercy, Pa.	25-2	202	21
19. Illinois Wesleyan	19-6	185	—
20. Gustavus Adolphus, Minn.	22-5	157	22
21. UW-River Falls	20-7	144	13
22. Maryville, Tenn.	22-5	122	24
23. Lawrence, Wis.	21-4	97	25
24. Catholic, D.C.	23-5	71	—
25. DeSales, Pa.	22-4	48	17