



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

2004-05 Pointer Schedule/Results

Record: 23-3 overall, 13-3 WIAC

Streak: 2-game winning streak

Breakdown: 14-0 home, 8-3 away, 1-0 ntl.

Nov. 9	at Marquette (exhibition)	(L 78-65)
Nov. 20	#Southwestern (Texas)	W 65-42
Nov. 21	#at Univ. of Chicago	W 70-58
Nov. 26	at Lakeland	W 70-59
Nov. 27	Ripon	W 75-53
Nov. 30	UW-Platteville	W 55-44
Dec. 4	at UW-Eau Claire	W 71-50
Dec. 7	at UW-River Falls	W 65-50
Dec. 11	UW-Stout	W 75-52
Dec. 29	Viterbo	W 86-54
Dec. 30	Wis. Lutheran	W 82-42
Jan. 4	at UW-Whitewater	L 71-63
Jan. 6	at Marian	W 82-57
Jan. 8	UW-La Crosse	W 65-49
Jan. 15	at UW-Superior	W 77-42
Jan. 18	UW-Oshkosh	W 69-44
Jan. 20	Edgewood	W 79-49
Jan. 22	at UW-La Crosse	W 63-62 ot
Jan. 26	at UW-Platteville	L 73-58
Jan. 29	at UW-Stout	W 64-52
Feb. 5	UW-Eau Claire	W 83-55
Feb. 9	UW-Whitewater	W 75-64
Feb. 12	UW-Superior	W 83-58
Feb. 16	UW-River Falls	W 94-66
Feb. 19	at UW-Oshkosh	L 74-59
Feb. 22	\$UW-Superior	W 88-68
Feb. 24	\$UW-Oshkosh	W 65-59
Feb. 26	\$UW-Whitewater	7:00 PM

- Chicago Midway Classic

\$ - WIAC Tournament

Home games at Quandt Fieldhouse

WIAC Tournament Championship

#3 UW-Stevens Point (23-3 overall)

vs. UW-Whitewater (19-8 overall)

Sat., Feb. 26, 7 p.m. - Quandt Fieldhouse - Stevens Point, Wis.

Pointers This Week:

UW-Stevens Point looks to defend its WIAC tournament championship and clinch a third straight trip to the NCAA Division III tournament when it hosts the title game for the second straight year. The Pointers will take on UW-Whitewater for the championship after the fourth-seeded Warhawks knocked off top-seeded UW-Platteville in the semifinals. UW-Stevens Point and UW-Whitewater split their meetings this year with each team winning at home.

Radio:

The game can be heard live on WSPT (97.9 FM) radio with Scott Krueger doing the play-by-play and John Zellmer providing the analysis. The game will also be broadcast on WWSP (89.9 FM) with Nick Cornette and Tony Bastien. The game can be accessed online at www.sportsjuice.com.

Head Coach Jack Bennett:

Jack Bennett carries a 194-56 record in his ninth season with the Pointers and became the school's all-time winningest coach with a 75-52 win over UW-Stout on Dec. 11. He passed Hale Quandt, who posted a 178-126 record in 15 seasons from 1947-62.

Around the WIAC

WIAC Standings - Feb. 24

	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Stevens Point	13	3	23	3
Platteville	13	3	19	7
Oshkosh	11	5	19	8
Whitewater	8	8	19	8
Stout	8	8	13	11
Eau Claire	6	10	13	13
Superior	5	11	14	12
River Falls	4	12	8	17
La Crosse	4	12	7	18

This Week in the WIAC

Tuesday, February 22

(1) Platteville 70, (8) River Falls 55
(4) Whitewater 82, (5) Stout 78 (ot)
(3) Oshkosh 77, (6) Eau Claire 72 (ot)
(2) Stevens Point 88, (7) Superior 68

Thursday, February 24

Whitewater 89, Platteville 76
Stevens Point 65, Oshkosh 59

Saturday, February 26

Whitewater at Stevens Point, 7 pm

Pointer Update:

The Pointers reached the title game with a thrilling 65-59 victory over UW-Oshkosh in a game that featured six ties and eight lead changes in the final 15 minutes. Neither team held bigger than a four-point lead over the final 16:52 until two free throws with 2.6 seconds left accounted for the final margin. Nick Bennett poured in 28 points and hit four three-pointers to lead the Pointers, who led 23-18 at halftime and won their 11th straight postseason game.

Team Notes:

- * - UW-Stevens Point is playing in the WIAC title game for the third time and won both of its previous appearances, beating UW-Eau Claire in 2000 and UW-Platteville in 2004, both at home. UW-Whitewater lost both of its previous appearances with close losses to UW-Oshkosh on the road in 2002 and at home in 2003.
- * - Saturday's game marks the Pointers' 14th straight WIAC tournament game at home. UW-Stevens Point's only road WIAC tournament games came in the 1999 quarterfinals at UW-Whitewater and semifinals at UW-Platteville.
- * - UW-Whitewater's title game appearance marks the fourth time in five years that the fourth seed has reached the WIAC finals. The Pointers became the first second seed to win the title last year.
- * - UW-Stevens Point was 20-for-22 from the free throw line on Thursday and made all 17 attempts in the second half. The Pointers have shot 88.9 percent (56-for-63) over the last three games.
- * - Much has been said about the Pointers' defense that leads the NCAA Division III at 55.7 points allowed per game, but UW-Stevens Point also ranks second in the WIAC in offense at 72.3 points per game behind UW-Whitewater's 80.5 average. The Pointers lead the league in field goal percentage at 50.3 percent and are averaging 78.1 points over the last seven games.
- * - Thursday's six-point win was just UW-Stevens Point's second game this year decided by fewer than eight points. The other was a one-point overtime win at UW-La Crosse.

Individual Notes:

- * - Senior forward **Nick Bennett** (Stevens Point, WI) moved into seventh place on the school's all-time scoring list on Thursday and now has 1,523 points for his career. He also has made 24 straight free throws for the second time this year and is challenging Kalonji Kadima's school record of 31 straight.
- * - Senior guard **Tamaris Relerford** (Beloit, WI) made two baskets in Thursday's win, but they were two of the team's biggest of the game. His three-pointer with 8:56 ended a nearly four-minute scoring drought and gave the team a 39-37 lead and his layup with 2:27 left gave the Pointers the lead for good at 57-55.
- * - Senior center **Eric Maus** (Green Bay, WI) scored all 10 of his points and grabbed four of his seven rebounds in the second half on Thursday. Maus held Titans' seven-footer Kerry Gibson to six second half points and played 19 minutes in the second half despite picking up his third foul with 15:25 left.
- * - Senior guard **Kyle Gruszczynski** (Seymour, WI) had 22 offensive rebounds over the past 59 games, but came up with two huge boards that led to second-chance points Thursday, including a rebound with one minute left and the Pointers holding a two-point lead. He also had the steal that led to Relerford's go-ahead layup.
- * - Senior forward **Jason Kalsow** (Huntley, IL) has had two of his three lowest scoring outputs of the year in the WIAC tournament, but came through with six of his 12 points and had both of his assists against UW-Oshkosh in the final 7:32 of the game.

Scouting the Opponent

UW-Whitewater rallied from a 15-point second half deficit to win its quarterfinal game 82-78 in overtime over UW-Stout and then ousted top-seeded UW-Platteville 89-76 on Thursday. Jeremy Manchester had 20 points and six assists in the win at Platteville.

The Warhawks are looking for their 13th trip to the NCAA Division III tournament, but first since 1997.

UW-Whitewater features a balanced scoring attack that has featured a different leading scorer in six straight games. Angelo Griffin averages 15.1 points per game and leads the WIAC in field goal percentage at 60.2 percent. He is also second in rebounding at 7.4 per game.

Melvin Williams averages 11.8 points per game, while Manchester scores 11.0 per contest and surpassed Jason Kalsow as the league's leader in assists at 4.24 per game.

UW-Whitewater has shot 727 free throws this year, which is nearly 100 more than any other WIAC team. The Warhawks also force 15.3 turnovers per game.

Series History

UW-Stevens Point leads the all-time series over UW-Whitewater 88-73. The Warhawks have won seven of the last 11 matchups and the teams split their meetings this year with UW-Whitewater winning 71-63 at home and the Pointers claiming a 75-64 victory in Stevens Point.

The teams are meeting in the WIAC tournament for the third time and the road team has won both matchups. UW-Whitewater won 80-73 in the 2002 semifinals and UW-Stevens Point took a 77-67 win the 1999 quarterfinals.

D3hoops.com NCAA Division III Rankings Records Through February 20, 2005

Rank, Team (first place votes)	Rec.	Votes	Last
1. Wooster, Ohio (19)	24-1	618	2
2. Amherst, Mass. (3)	23-1	577	3
3. UW-Stevens Point	21-3	534	1
4. St. John Fisher, N.Y. (2)	25-0	524	4
5. Wittenberg, Ohio	22-3	516	5
6. Albion, Mich.	22-2	485	8
7. Illinois Wesleyan (1)	18-4	473	9
8. Puget Sound, Wash.	19-3	470	7
9. Wheaton, Ill.	19-4	419	6
10. Buena Vista, Iowa	22-3	415	10
11. John Carroll, Ohio	20-4	367	13
12. Wartburg, Iowa	21-4	326	11
13. Trinity, Texas	19-6	312	16
14. Hanover, Ind.	20-5	265	17
15. Lawrence, Wis.	17-5	240	12
16. UW-Platteville	18-6	225	18
17. Calvin, Mich.	19-6	220	15
18. Ramapo, N.J.	21-4	210	14
19. Gustavus Adolphus, Minn.	20-5	171	22
20. York, Pa.	22-2	151	21
21. Aurora, Ill.	21-4	110	24
22. Ripon, Wis.	17-6	101	23
23. Potsdam State, N.Y.	22-3	84	19
24. Rochester, N.Y.	20-4	77	20
25. UW-Oshkosh	18-7	48	—