

Women's Hockey Rings In New Year With Win

Posted: Saturday, January 3, 2009

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - In its first game in nearly three weeks, the UW-Eau Claire women's hockey team opened up 2009 with a 4-1 win over Hamline University (Minn.) this afternoon at Hobbs Ice Center.

The win snaps a two game losing streak and improves the Blugolds' record to 7-3-2 overall. With the loss, Hamline falls to 6-7-0 on the year.

Eau Claire got off to a quick start offensively, thanks to a goal from **Taylor Jenkins** (*Fr.-Austin, Minn.*) at the 4:08 mark in the first period. The score was Jenkins' third of the season, and was assisted by **Lauren Havard** (*Sr.-San Angelo, Texas/Araphaoe*), who picked up her sixth assist. The Blugolds continued their fast-paced scoring output, as **Michelle Rust** (*Fr.- Coon Rapids, Minn.*) lit the lamp for her first collegiate goal at 10:27 in the first period.

Taking advantage of a power play in the second period, Eau Claire yet again found the back of the net. This time it was sophomore **Kristin Faber** (*Austin, Minn.*), scoring her team-leading seventh goal of the year at the 4:17 mark. She was assisted in the play by **Beth Dittrich** (*Jr.-Roseville, Minn.*) and **Maddi Hammer** (*So.-Owatonna, Minn.*). It was Dittrich's fifth assist and Hammer's second on the season.

After Hamline managed its first goal of the game at 5:40 in the second period, the Blugolds would answer with the game's final goal in the third period. Coming at 13:31 in the third, **Kelli Johnson** (*So.-Farmington, Minn.*) scored her second goal of the year, this one of the power play variety, to end Eau Claire's scoring attack. **Toni Simones** (*Fr.-Rosemount, Minn./South St. Paul*) and Faber each provided an assist on the goal. It was Simone's sixth assist and Faber's team-leading 10th.

Picking up the win between the pipes for Eau Claire was sophomore **Danika Porter** (*Rosemount, Minn./South St. Paul*). Porter went the distance, allowing just one goal while making 14 saves.

The Blugolds continue their five-game home stand on Friday, as NCHA opponent UW-Superior comes to town. Superior currently hold a 7-3-1 record, and are unbeaten in conference play with a 3-0-1 record. The puck is set to drop at 7 p.m.

Eau Claire-Hamline Box Score

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