

Men's Cross Country Takes Sixth at WIAC Championship

By: Kevin Meinholz, Sports Information Director

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COLFAX, Wis. (UWECBlugolds.com) - The 31st-ranked UW-Eau Claire men's cross country team took sixth place at the nine-team Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) Championship at Whitetail Golf Course today.

The Blugolds, who took fifth last year with 135 points, finished better this season with 117. However, a big improvement by UW-Oshkosh helped the Titans to a third place finish while they were seventh a season ago.

UW-Stevens Point won the conference title with 60 points, its fifth in history and first since 2008. UW-Platteville was second with 63, UW-Oshkosh third with 84, UW-Whitewater fourth with 98 and UW-La Crosse, last year's champion, took fifth with 103.

UW-Platteville's Jason Garvens won the individual title with a time of 24:44.88 in the 100-runner field.

Aric Runzheimer (So.-Delafield, Wis./Kettle Moraine) had the best finish for the Blugolds, taking 14th place with a time of 25:40.70. **Max Renner** (Sr.-Green Bay, Wis./East) was the second Blugold finisher, coming in 15th six seconds later. Renner also was named to the WIAC All-Sportsmanship Team at the conclusion of the meet.

Rounding out the top five finishers for Eau Claire were **Jeremy Kieser** (Jr.-Verona, Wis.) (21st, 25:58.22), **Tom Breitbach** (Sr.-Muskego, Wis.) (34th, 26:14.15) and **Aaron Easker** (So.-Eland, Wis./Wittenberg-Birnamwood) (35th, 26:19.70).

Next weekend the Blugolds will compete in the Luther College JV Cup in Decorah, Iowa. Friday's race will get underway at 4:15 p.m.