



University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Sports Information

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UW-Stevens Point Football Preview

UW-Stevens Point (3-0, 0-0 WIAC) vs. UW-River Falls (1-2, 0-0 WIAC)

Saturday, September 29 - 1 p.m.

Goerke Field (4,000) - Stevens Point, Wisconsin

2007 WIAC Standings

	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Whitewater	1	0	2	1
Stevens Point	0	0	3	0
Oshkosh	0	0	3	0
La Crosse	0	0	2	0
Platteville	0	0	1	2
River Falls	0	0	1	2
Stout	0	0	1	2
Eau Claire	0	1	3	1

This Week in the WIAC

Eau Claire at Oshkosh, 1 pm
 River Falls at Stevens Point, 1 pm
 Platteville at Stout, 1 pm
 Whitewater at La Crosse, 4 pm

Last Week in the WIAC

Whitewater 27, Eau Claire 0
 Stevens Point 55, Waldorf 0
 Augustana (Ill.) 34, Platteville 24
 Whitworth (Wash.) 23, Stout 21

Game Outlook:

Taking the nation's second-longest winning streak into its conference opener, UW-Stevens Point faces the last team it lost to when UW-River Falls visits Goerke Field. The Pointers have outscored their past two opponents by a combined 79-0 in the first half.

Radio:

The game can be heard live on WKQH (104.9 FM) radio with Scott Krueger calling the play-by-play and Ken Kulick providing the analysis. It will also be broadcast live on WWSP (89.9 FM). Links to live internet broadcasts are available at: <http://athletics.uwsp.edu/Sports/gen/2007/liveaudio-diostats.asp>.

Television:

The game will be televised on a tape-delayed basis by Student Television and shown during the week at noon on local cable channel 10.

Series History:

UW-River Falls leads the all-time series 38-24-3. The home team has won four straight in the rivalry with the Falcons taking a 20-17 victory last season. The past three meetings have been decided by a total of 12 points.

UW-Stevens Point has beaten the Falcons four straight times at Goerke Field with UW-River Falls' last victory coming in 1997.

2007 UW-Stevens Point Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Time/Result	Site	Quick Facts
Sept. 1	at Webber Int'l	W 13-7	Lake Wales, Fla.	UWSP blocks punt for game-winning TD with 38 sec. left
Sept. 15	at Iowa Wesleyan	W 54-13	Mt. Pleasant, Iowa	Pointers score school-record 34 points in first quarter
Sept. 22	Waldorf	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	UWSP jumps out to 38-0 halftime advantage
Sept. 29	UW-River Falls	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Falcons were last team to beat Pointers in 2006
Oct. 6	at UW-Platteville	2 p.m.	Platteville	UWSP looks for 17th straight victory over Pioneers
Oct. 13	UW-Stout	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Pointers have beaten Blue Devils three straight years
Oct. 20	UW-Whitewater	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Warhawks were 2005 and 2006 Division III runner-up
Oct. 27	at UW-Oshkosh	1 p.m.	Oshkosh	105th meeting - longest of any Division III state schools
Nov. 3	UW-Eau Claire	1 p.m.	Stevens Point	Seven of last nine meetings decided by five or less
Nov. 10	at UW-La Crosse	1 p.m.	La Crosse	Teams meet in season finale for first time since 1961

Pointers Update:

UW-Stevens Point coasted to its second straight easy victory last week with a 55-0 thumping of Waldorf at Goerke Field. The Pointers led 38-0 at halftime and have now outscored their past two opponents 79-0 in the first half after owning a 41-0 lead over Iowa Wesleyan the previous week.

Mike Ferron rushed 20 times for 125 yards and four touchdowns in the victory. Jake Swank completed his first nine passes and finished 15-for-16 for 173 yards and two touchdowns. Brad Kalsow caught five passes for 90 yards as the Pointers used a balanced attack with 213 yards rushing and 221 yards passing in their 434-yard effort.

UW-Stevens Point's defense never allowed Waldorf inside its 24-yard line as the Pointers intercepted five passes and forced a fumble. The Pointers held the Warriors to 170 total yards and just 72 yards rushing.

Falcons Update:

UW-River Falls is off to a 1-2 start after facing a challenging non-conference schedule. The Falcons' lone win was an impressive 54-24 romp over Hope (Mich.), which was an NCAA Division III playoff team from last season.

UW-River Falls also suffered defeats to traditional Division III powers St. John's and Pacific Lutheran (Wash.). The Falcons held a 10-0 half-time lead over fourth-ranked St. John's before falling in the second half.

After 30 years of running a wish-bone run-oriented offense, UW-River Falls has switched gears and leads the WIAC in passing offense at 280.0 yards per game with a league-high eight passing touchdowns. Junior quarterback Storm Harmon and freshman receiver Michael Zweifel lead the WIAC in passing and receiving, respectively.

UW-River Falls has allowed a league-high 31.0 points per game and is surrendering a WIAC-high 375.0 yards per contest.

The Coaches

UW-Stevens Point coach **John Miech** has a 126-66-2 record in his 20th season. Miech is ranked fourth on the all-time WIAC wins list and is the conference's winningest active coach. He has posted .500 or better records in 17 of his 19 seasons. Miech is a 1975 graduate of UW-Stevens Point and has more than twice as many wins as any other coach in Pointers' history.

UW-River Falls coach **John O'Grady** has an 98-84-3 record in his 19th season with the Falcons. He currently ranks seventh on the all-time WIAC victories list. O'Grady's UW-River Falls teams have led Division III in rushing offense five times. O'Grady played linebacker at UW-River Falls from 1972-75.

Second to the Champs:

Only two-time defending NCAA Division III champion Mount Union (Ohio) enters this week with a longer winning streak than UW-Stevens Point. The Purple Raiders have won 26 straight games, while UW-Stevens Point is one of four teams with a seven-game win streak.

Bridgewater (Va.), Salisbury (Md.) and Trinity (Conn.) are the other three schools that have won seven straight.

Streakly Speaking:

UW-Stevens Point's seven straight wins marks its longest streak since winning 11 straight over the end of the 1998 season and start of 1999. A win this week would give the Pointers their sixth eight-game win streak in school history. The school record is 12 straight from 1994-95.

UW-River Falls is the last team to beat the Pointers on Oct. 14 last year.

Getting Out of the Gates:

UW-Stevens Point's first-half performances the past two weeks have been overwhelming with a 79-0 advantage over its two opponents.

In fact, the games were remarkably similar as the Pointers outgained Waldorf 287-71 before halftime after owning a 274-85 lead in first half total yards the previous week.

Over the past five games dating to last season, the Pointers have outscored their opponents 48-0 in the second quarter. UW-Stevens Point has not allowed a point in the second or third quarter this season.

Big Returns:

UW-Stevens Point achieved a single-game school record with 170 punt return yards in the win over Waldorf. The Pointers returned all 10 of Waldorf's punts and had three returns of at least 30 yards.

By comparison, UW-Stevens Point had a total of 160 punt return yards all of last season. Based on available records, the 170-yard team performance ranks as the second-highest in WIAC history behind a 206-yard total by UW-La Crosse against UW-Stout in 1974.

D3football.com Top 25 - Sept. 23

Rank, Team	Rec.
1. Mount Union, Ohio (25)	3-0
2. Mary Hardin-Baylor, Texas	3-0
3. UW-Whitewater	2-1
4. St. John's, Minn.	4-0
5. St. John Fisher, N.Y.	4-0
6. UW-La Crosse	2-0
7. Wheaton, Ill.	3-0
8. Central, Iowa	4-0
9. Capital, Ohio	3-0
10. Baldwin-Wallace, Ohio	3-0
11. Ohio Northern	3-0
12. Linfield, Ore.	1-1
13. Wartburg, Iowa	3-0
14. Trinity, Texas	3-0
15. Washington & Jeff., Pa.	3-0
16. Montclair State, N.J.	3-0
17. Wesley, Del.	3-1
18. Wabash, Ind.	3-0
19. Salisbury, Md.	4-0
20. Rowan, N.J.	2-1
21. Hardin-Simmons, Texas	1-2
22. Alfred, N.Y.	3-0
23. St. Olaf, Minn.	4-0
24. Bridgewater, Va.	4-0
25. North Central, Ill.	2-1

Just For Kicks:

Pointers' junior kicker Ryan Graboski tied a single-game school record against Waldorf with 13 kicking points. He made all seven extra points and both field goal attempts. His performance tied the record held by Fred Galecke against UW-Eau Claire in 1996 and Kim Drake against UW-Oshkosh in 1984.

Graboski has made four of five field goal attempts this season and is now 13-for-17 on field goals since taking over the kicking duties in the third game last season.

Miscue Makers:

UW-Stevens Point's defense continues to terrorize its opponents with takeaways after forcing six more turnovers last week with five interceptions and a fumble. The Pointers now lead the NCAA Division III with 13 interceptions for the season and rank second nationally with 17 takeaways.

The Pointers have forced a whopping 31 turnovers during their seven-game winning streak, including 23 over the past four games.

During the seven-game winning streak, the Pointers are plus-21 in turnover margin.

This season, the Pointers have 13 interceptions by 10 different players. No player has more than two picks.

Defensive Offense:

Not only is UW-Stevens Point's defense forcing turnovers, it is also converting them into points. Brian Bailey's 11-yard interception return for a score last week marked the fourth straight game the Pointers have gotten a touchdown from their defense or special teams.

Zone Defense:

UW-Stevens Point's opponents have scored just 20 points in three games this year, but even more amazingly, they have made only three trips inside the Pointers' 20-yard line.

Webber International ran one play inside the red zone and was stopped on fourth down, while Iowa Wesleyan crossed the 20 on a pair of fourth quarter drives and scored two touchdowns. Waldorf did not pass the Pointers' 24-yard line last week.

Scoring Machine:

UW-Stevens Point running back Mike Ferron has made quite an impact in three games with the Pointers, already rushing for seven touchdowns and 364 yards despite limited playing time the past two weeks.

Ferron had four touchdowns against Waldorf, becoming the seventh player in school history to rush for four scores in a game. The last time it happened was by Wally Schmitt against Bemidji State in 1999.

On Target:

Pointers' freshman quarterback Jake Swank had a tough start to his collegiate career by completing nine of his first 30 pass attempts. However, the transfer from Purdue has been on fire since.

Beginning with a 48-yard touchdown pass to Brad Kalsow at Iowa Wesleyan, Swank has completed 19 of his last 22 attempts. He opened the Waldorf game with nine straight completions and had the second-best single-game completion percentage in school history by finishing 15-for-16.

Gaining Notice:

The Pointers' winning ways continue to earn them respect in the national rankings as UW-Stevens Point picked up 26 votes in this week's national poll from D3football.com. The Pointers ranked fifth among teams receiving votes not in this week's poll.

Quick Hits:

A win this week would give the Pointers their first 4-0 start since 1999. They have been 3-0 twice since that season and lost the fourth game... Last week's 55-0 victory was the third-largest shutout win in school history behind a 63-0 win over Tri-State (Ind.) in 2003 and a 56-0 rout of UW-Superior in 1986...The Pointers also had a shutout last year in a 35-0 win at Trinity International...This season marks the eighth time in 13 years the Pointers have gone undefeated in non-conference games.