

UW-Stout

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BLUE DEVILS FOOTBALL OPENS SEASON AT LAKELAND COLLEGE

UW-Stout Blue Devils (0-0, 0-0 WIAC) at Lakeland College Muskies (0-0, 0-0 Illini-Badger)

Saturday, Sept. 2, 1:30 p.m.

Sheboygan, Wis. ON THE LINE: Stout will be looking to bounce back from a 2-8 season that saw them finish in the cellar of the conference. Stout returns with a strong defense, in particular a linebacking crew that returns intact. Stout will be looking to rebuild their offensive backfield, while Lakeland needs to replace graduated quarterback Kevin Fix, who passed for 2971 yards last season and ranked 12th nationally in total offense. Lakeland will be attempting to break a season-ending three game losing streak. The game is the season opener for both teams.

LAST TIME OUT: Stout: The Blue Devils put themselves in a 22-7 hole early against NCAA Division II Southwest State in the season closer at the Metrodome. But Stout did come back to trim the score to 22-16 before Southwest went on to a 43-23 win. **Lakeland**: The Muskies were doubled up on by Mt. Senario, 44-21 in their season finale.

LAST YEAR: Stout is a member of the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) and are affiliated with the NCAA Division III. Stout was 2-8 overall, 1-6 (eighth) in the WIAC. The Muskies, an NCAA Division III school, are a member of the Illini-Badger Football Conference and were 5-5 overall, 4-3 (second) in league play.

THE SERIES: The teams have met four times, one time each in the 1968, 69, 70 & 71 seasons, with the Muskies holding a 3-1 lead in the series. Stout won the last meeting, 14-6, in 1971 when Sten Pierce was the coach.

STOUT PLAYERS TO WATCH: WR Josh Antoni (So, Holmen) 13 receptions, 204 yds; 23.4 y/catch, 2 TDs; LB Jamie Spielman (So, Menomonie) 101 tackles, 53 solo, 9 tackles for loss of 45 yds, 6 sacks for loss of 44 yds, 2 fumble recoveries; Steve Miller (Sr, Lodi) 81 tackles, 39 solo, 2 sacks; LB Eric Lund (Sr, Ashland) 69 tackles, 34 solo, 4 sacks for 37 yds, 6 pass break-ups, injured, out for the season; P/PK Kevin McCulley (Sr, Fond du Lac) named to four preseason all-America teams, first team all-WIAC kicker and punter, 9/13 FG/A, 22/ 23 PAT, 49 pts, avg 40.1 y/game punting; Note: RB Aaron Johnson was injured before the season in an auto accident and remains in fair condition at a St. Paul, Minn., hospital; Blue Devils avg 337.9 total ypg, 121.0 rushing, 216.9 passing; give up 324.9 total ypg, 171.6 rushing, 153.3 passing.

LAKELAND PLAYERS TO WATCH: WR Calvin Thomas (Jr, Detroit, Mich) 61 rec, 828 yd, 13.6 y/catch, 8 TDs, 1st team all-conf; RB David Wulff (So, Sheboygan Falls) 883 rushing yds, 174 car, 10 TDs, 54 rec, 513 yds, 3 TDs, 1st team all-conf; DL Lucas Grancorvitz (Jr, Mosinee) first team all-conf; DL Troy Dyzak (Jr, Two Rivers) 10 sacks; WR Lee Swiggum (Jr, Watertown) 52 rec, 511 yds, 5 TDs, 12 car, 65 yds, 2 TDs; DB Corey Roberson (So, Detroit, Mich) 6 int for 99 yds; Muskies avg. 414.3 total ypg, 115.7 rushing, 298.6 passing; give up 371.3 total ypg, 125.8 rushing, 245.5 passing

OFFENSIVE LOOK: Lakeland: 1 back spread; Stout: multi-pro set which incorporates a West Coast style offense. **DEFENSIVE LOOK**: Lakeland: 4-3; Stout: 3-4

COACHES: Stout coach Ed Meierkort (26-44 career) is in his eighth year. Lakeland coach Jeff Hynes (5-5) is in his second year.

STOUT COACH ED MEIERKORT SAYS: As of Monday, Aug. 28, the Blue Devils were still deciding on their starting quarterback, between transfers Justin Fjelstad (Jr, Minneapolis, Minn), and Matt Bichanich (Jr, Mukwanago) and sophomore Matt Lonergan (Hartford). "I like the way all three (quarterbacks) have improved (during camp). I expect all three of them to take snaps Saturday. No one has played themselves out of the starting spot and no on has separated themselves. It will come down to how they handle adversity on the field. There are no mulligans on Saturdays."

Meierkort was also optimistic about his offensive backfield. "Our backfield looks very good. I feel we have gotten as far as we could have in two weeks without AJ (Aaron Johnson, lost for the season to a car accident).

"Mentally, this team has become hardened because of the adversity we have faced in camp. The kids have been tested in camp. I'm not asking the kids to win 10 games today, I'm asking them to win one game a week. One-hundred percent of our thought process this week will be towards Lakeland College and getting a road win.

"Lakeland is used to winning, and they have no concept of losing to us. They had a better record, and that makes us the underdog. They have a good, young quarterback and a very good running back. This game will be a test of wills. Both teams will try to get the ball out of each others' hands."

RADIO: WMEQ 880 AM, Jake Bostrom, Dan Stevens, Dick Lowery

For up-to-date results and stats, check out the Blue Devil Athletic web site.

Friday, September 1 Soccer at Illinois Wesleyan, Bloomingron, Ill., 7 p.m. Volleyball at UW-Superior Tourney, TBA Saturday, September 2 Football at Lakeland College, Sheboygan, III., 1 p.m. W & M Cross Country host Blue Devil Invite, 10 a.m./11 a.m. Volleyball at UW-Superior Tourney, TBA Sunday, September 3 Soccer at Aurora College, 1 p.m. Wednesday, September 6 Volleyball vs. Macalester College, 6/7:30 p.m. Thursday, September 7 Soccer vs. Wisconsin Lutheran, 5 p.m. Friday, September 8 Volleyball at Hamline University, TBA Saturday, September 9 Soccer at UW-Superior, 1 p.m. Football at Franklin College, Franklin, Ill., 1:30 p.m. Volleyball at Hamline University, TBA Monday, September 11 Volleyball at St. Catherine, 7 p.m. Wednesday, September 13 Tennis at UW-River Falls, 3:30 p.m. Soccer vs. UW-River Falls, 5 p.m. Friday, September 15 Volleyball at Bethel College Tourney, TBA Saturday, September 16 Tennis at UW-La Crosse, 11 a.m. Soccer vs. St. Mary's University, 1 p.m. W & M Cross Country at St. Olaf Invite, 10 a.m./11 a.m. Volleyball at Bethel College Tourney, TBA Thursday, September 21 Soccer vs. Concordia University, Wis., 4 p.m. Friday, September 22 Tennis at UW-Stevens Point, 3 p.m. Volleyball at UW-Stevens Point, 5/7 p.m. Saturday, September 23 M & W Cross Country at Warhawk Invite, 10 a.m. Football vs. UW-Stevens Point, 7 p.m. Sunday, September 24 Soccer vs. St. Scholastica, 1 p.m. Wednesday, September 27 Volleyball vs. UW-Superior, 7 p.m. Thursday, September 28 Soccer at UW-Stevens Point, 4 p.m. Friday, September 29 Tennis vs. Hamline University, 4 p.m. Volleyball at UW-Eau Claire Tourney, TBA Saturday, September 30 Tennis vs. St. Mary's, 11 a.m. Soccer at UW-Platteville, 12 p.m. Football at UW-River Falls, 1 p.m. Volleyball at UW-Eau Claire Tourney, TBA

> Wednesday, October 4 Tennis vs. UW-River Falls, 4 p.m. Soccer at UW-Eau Claire, 4 p.m. Volleyball at UW-Eau Claire, 7 p.m. Friday, October 6

Tennis vs. UW-Whitewater, 3:30 p.m. W & M Cross Country at Blugold Invite, 4:30 p.m. Volleyball vs. UW-La Crosse, 7 p.m. Saturday, October 7 Tennis vs. UW-Oshkosh, 2:30 p.m.

UP THIS WEEK

SOCCER

The Blue Devils get underway this weekend with a road trip to the "Land of Lincoln" as Stout will tackle Illinois Wesleyan in Bloomington, Ill., Friday, Sept. 1 to kick off the season, then get a one-day break in Chicago before heading to Aurora College Sunday, Sept. 3. Stout has not played either school in their five year history.

VOLLEYBALL

The Blue Devils will have just enough time to get their annual high school volleyball tournament, the Volleyball Sprawl, underway Friday, Sept. 1 before traveling north to participate in the two-day UW-Superior Invitational the same day. Stout will play Northland College and Lawrence College, Friday, then take on St. Scholastica and St. Thomas, Saturday, Sept. 2.

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

First year Blue Devils head coach Joe Harlan got a chance to see his troops in action Saturday, Aug. 26 in an intrasguad/alumni starter race, but will get the season underway for real when they host the Blue Devil Invitational at the course behind Menomonie High School, Saturday, Sept. 2. Race time is slated for 10 a.m. with UW-Superior, Northwestern College, St. Scholastica and UW-Eau Claire scheduled to compete. MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

The Blue Devil men's team will get their season underway Saturday, Sept. 2 when they host the Blue Devil Invitational at the course behind Menomonie High School, Saturday, Sept. 2. Race time is slated for 11 a.m. with UW-Superior, Northwestern College, St. Scholastica and Mt. Senario scheduled to compete.

TENNIS

The Blue Devil women's tennis team will get an extra week before starting the season. Stout was scheduled to compete at the UW-La Crosse Doubles Invitational, but have chosen not to. Stout will begin competition Sept. 13 when they travel to UW-River Falls in a non-conference contest.

ROSTERS AVAILABLE

Updated rosters for all of the fall sports will be posted to the Blue Devil web page by later this week. Find the Blue Devil athletics page at: www.uwstout.edu/athletics

PLANNING AHEAD

The UW-Stout gymnastics team will be the host to the 2001 National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA) championships, March 23-24.

McCulley Garners Another Preseason All-America Honor

MENOMONIE - UW-Stout's Kevin McCulley (Sr, Fond du Lac) has been named to the Don Hanson National Weekly Gazette West Region All-Star Defensive Team as a punter. McCulley, a 1999 first team Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) kicker and punter, has been named to three pre-season All-America teams, three as a punter, two as a kicker.

McCulley led the WIAC in punting and points scored by a kicker in both conference games and in all games.

In 10 games, McCulley averaged 40.1 yards - only two-tenths of a yard short of the school record - off 61 punts, placing 15 kicks inside the 20-yard line. In the seven conference games, he averaged a league-best 40.0 yards off 48 punts The Don Hanson NCAA Division III preseason All-America team consists of a first team and teams selected from the eight NCAA Division III football regions. The Don Hanson National Weekly Football Gazette is recognized as an expert on small college football.

The Blue Devils open their season Saturday, Sept. 2 at Lakeland College in Sheboygan.

AARON JOHNSON UPGRADED TO FAIR CONDITION FOLLOWING ACCIDENT

ST. PAUL, Minn - UW-Stout football player Aaron Johnson was upgraded to fair condition at a St. Paul, Minn., hospital. Johnson was struck by a pickup truck Aug. 13 near New Richmond. According to the St. Croix County sheriff department, Johnson was walking north on County Highway T about five miles east of New Richmond when he was struck by a northbound pickup truck. Johnson was thrown into the ditch after being struck. The driver left the scene of the accident, the sheriff's department said, but returned about 20 minutes later. Johnson suffered broken bones and head injuries and was airlifted to Regions Hospital in St. Paul, Minn. Johnson is a junior tailback from Clear Lake and was scheduled to be a returning starter.

SORVALA TAKES TOP TIME IN STOUT INTRASQUAD MEET

MENOMONIE - Lisa Sorvala (So, New Brighton, Minn) one-upped herself from last season in recording the top time at the UW-Stout women's cross country team's Alumni-Intrasquad Starter Meet, Saturday, Aug. 26. As a freshman last season, Sorvala stepped up to make an immediate impression to take the top time. This season, she cut off two seconds from last years' meet, recording a time of 12-minutes, 52.5-seconds in the two mile course. Amy Arndt (Jr, Lakefield, Minn) finished second in a time of 13:14.3, while Heidi Bedsted (Jr, Plainview, Minn) was third in a time of 13:33.5. Alumni Katie Olsen and Katy Kuffel finished tied for fourth in 13:59.5.

The meet gave first year coach Joe Harlan a chance to review his team. The Blue Devils get the season going for real Saturday, Sept. 2 when they host the UW-Stout Invitational.

Alumni-Intrasquad Starter Meet

1. Lisa Sorvala 12:52.5; 2. Amy Arndt 13:14.3; 3. Heidi Bedsted 13:33.5; 4. Katie Olsen, Katy Kuffel (alumni) 13:59.5; 6. Heather Stiles (unattached) 14:01.9; 7. Valori Schaffer 14:28.2; 8. Tanya Miller (alumni) 14:29.4; 9. Dana Piper (alumni) 14:29.6; 10. Michelle Abramczak 14:37.8; 11. Tabitha Anderson (unattached) 14:48.0; 12. Michelle Beckman 15:04.6; 13. Jamie Souza (alumni) 16:51.4; 14. Pam Gundrum 17:38.9; 15. Rachel Darby 18:43.7

JUNIOR/SOPHOMORE TEAM EDGES SENIOR/FRESHMAN TEAM

MENOMONIE - Bryan Ott (Sr, Monroe) and **Dave Huber (So, Mendota Heights, Minn)** did battle for the top finishing team spot in the UW-Stout Alumni-Intrasquad Meet Saturday, Aug. 26. Ott won the battle of returning players, edging Huber by just short of two seconds, recording a time of 22-minutes, 2.1-seconds to Huber's 22:03.9 in the four mile race. Tim Hamill, running for the alumni team easily won the race, pacing the field in a time of 21:14.3. Hamill qualified to the NCAA Division III Cross Country Championships last season in his senior year.

The junior/sophomore squad edged out the senior/freshmen team, 32-39. The alumni team scored 54 points. The Blue Devils get the season going for real Saturday, Sept. 2 when they host the UW-Stout Invitational. Alumni-Intrasquad Meet

1. Tim Hamill (Alumni) 21:14.3; 2. Bryan Ott 22:02.1; 3. Dave Huber 22:03.9; 4. Alex Anderson 22:15.8; 5. Seth Kaste 22:26.0; 6. Mike Western 22:29.8; 9. Todd Johnson (alumni) 22:41.9; 8. Josh Johnson 22:51.2; 9. Jason Kirch 22:54.6; 10. Ethan Webinger 23:01.1; 11. Jamie Block 23:17.9; 12. Ryan Hill (alumni) 23:21.1; 13. Casey Otto 23:34.7; 15. Joe Anderson (alumni) 16. Reid Jacoby 24:17.3; 17. Todd Dexheimer 24:23.0; 18. Paul Gilles (alumni) 24:54.6; 19. Bill Britton 25:16.7; 20. Kevin Wojchik (alumni) 26:16.7; 21. Chris Stevens (alumni) 26:16.8; 22. Jonathon Gallo 27:05.0; 23. Mike Schumann (alumni) 28:00.6; 24. Brad Chartrand 29:09.4.

ANDRIST'S QATAR TEAM DOING WELL IN ASIAN GAMES

UW-Stout head men's basketball coach Eddie Andrist is seeing success as he coaches his Qatar national team at the Asian Games. Qatar is currently 7-0 after the first round of pool play. The record include an 84-74 upset win over the highly rated and Olympic Games-bound team from the People's Republic of China.

Andrist, who will begin his first year as the Blue Devils' head coach this season, reports his team has defeated the Phillipines, Bahrain, China, Kuwait, India, Japan and Iran. The Qatar team played seven games in eight days and six games in a row. The Qatar team will face China in the semi-final round Tuesday, Aug. 29. The tournament began with 16 teams, with only China, Qatar, Japan and Korea remaining. Andrist expects to leave Qatar Sept. 4 to begin his coaching and teaching positions at Stout.

Volleyball Record: 0-0, 0-0

Date / Opponent / Time or Result Fri., Sept. 1 / at UW-Superior Tourney / TBA Sat., Sept. 2 / at UW-Superior Tourney / TBA Wed., Sept. 6 / Macalester College / 6-7:30 p.m. Fri., Sept. 8 / at Hamline Tourney / TBA Sat., Sept. 9 / at Hamline Tourney / TBA Mon., Sept. 11 / at St.Catherine / 7 p.m. Fri., Sept. 15 / at Bethel College Tourney / TBA Sat., Sept. 16 / at Bethel College Tourney / TBA Fri., Sept. 22 / at UW-Stevens Point* / 5-7 p.m. Wed., Sept. 27 / UW-Superior* / 7 p.m. Fri., Sept. 29 / at UW-Eau Claire Tourney / TBA Sat., Sept. 30 / at UW-Eau Claire Tourney / TBA Wed., Oct. 4 / at UW-Eau Claire* / 7 p.m. Fri., Oct. 6 / UW-La Crosse* / 7 p.m. Sat., Oct. 7 / UW-Platteville* /1:30 p.m. Wed., Oct. 11 / UW-River Falls* / 5:30-7 p.m. Sat., Oct. 14 / Cardinal Strich / Noon Sat., Oct. 14 / Edgewood College / 2 p.m. Sat., Oct. 14 / Mt. Senario / 4 p.m. Fri., Oct. 20 / at UW-Whitewater* / 7 p.m. Sat., Oct. 21 / at UW-Oshkosh* / 1 p.m. Tues., Oct. 24 / Viterbo College / 7 p.m. Fri., Oct. 27 / at UW River Falls Tourney / TBA Sat., Oct. 28 / at UW-River Falls Tourney / TBA Tues., Oct. 31 / at WIAC Quarterfinals / 7 p.m. Fri., Nov. 3 / at WIAC Semi-Finals / TBA Sat., Nov. 4 / at WIAC Finals / TBA Fri., Nov. 10 / at NCAA Div. III First Round / TBA Sat., Nov. 11 / at NCAA Div. III First Round / TBA

*denotes WIAC meet where two times appear, first is junior varsity

Date / Opponent / Time or Results Fri., Sept. 1 / at Illinois Wesleyan / 7 p.m. Sun., Sept. 3 / at Aurora College / 1 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 7 / Wisconsin Lutheran / 5 p.m. Sat., Sept. 9 / at UW-Superior* / 1 p.m. Wed., Sept. 13 / UW-River Falls* / 5 p.m. Sat., Sept. 16 / St. Mary's University / 1 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 21 / Concordia, Wis. / 4 p.m. Sun., Sept. 24 / St. Scholastica / 1 p.m. Thur., Sept. 28 / at Stevens Point* / 4 p.m. Sat., Sept. 30 / at UW-Platteville* / 12 p.m. Wed., Oct. 4 / at UW-Eau Claire* / 4 p.m. Sat., Oct. 7 / UW-Oshkosh* / 12 p.m. Mon., Oct. 9 / at Viterbo College / 4 p.m. Sat., Oct. 14 / UW-Whitewater* / 1 p.m. Tues., Oct. 17 / UW-La Crosse* / 4 p.m. Sat., Oct. 21 / at St. Thomas / 1 p.m. Tues., Oct. 24 / WIAC Quarterfinals / TBA Oct. 28-29 / WIAC Finals / TBA *denotes WIAC contest

Soccer

Record: 0-0, 0-0

Junior Varsity Schedule

Sat., Sept. 9 / at Concordia-St. Paul / 12 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 14 / at St. Olaf / 5 p.m. Sat., Sept. 16 / St. Benedict / 10 a.m. Fri., Sept. 16 / at St. Benedict / 5 p.m. Fri., Oct. 6 / at Carleton / 4 p.m. Sat., Oct. 14 / Red Cedar U-19 / 10 a.m.

Men's **Cross Country**

Date / Meet / Time or Result Sat., Aug. 26 / Alumni/Intra-Squad / 11 a.m. Sat., Sept. 2 / Blue Devil Invitational / 11 a.m. Sat., Sept. 16 / at St. Olaf Invitational / 11 a.m. Sat., Sept. 23 / at Warhawk Invitational / 11 a.m. Fri., Oct. 6 / at Blugold Invitational / 4:30 p.m. Sat., Oct. 14 / at Jim Drews Invitational / 10:30 a.m. Fri., Oct. 20 / Eau Claire Dual / 4:30 p.m. Sat., Oct. 28 / at WIAC Championships / 12 p.m. Whitewater, Wis. Sat., Nov. 11 / NCAA DIII Midwest Reg / 12 p.m. Colfax, Wis Sat., Nov. 18 / at NCAA DIII Champs / 12 p.m. Spokane, Wash.

Women's **Cross Country**

Date / Meet / Time or Result Sat., Aug. 26 / Alumni/Intra-Squad / 10 a.m. Sat., Sept. 2 / Blue Devil Invitational / 10 a.m. Sat., Sept. 16 / at St. Olaf Invitational / 10 a.m. Sat., Sept. 23/ at Warhawk Invitational / 10 a.m. Fri., Oct. 6 / at Blugold Invitational / 4:30 p.m. Sat., Oct. 14 / at Tori Neubauer Invite / 10:30 a.m. Fri., Oct. 20 / UW-Stout Triangular / 4:30 p.m. Sat., Oct. 28 / at WIAC Championships / 11 a.m. Whitewater, Wis Sat., Nov. 11 / NCAA DIII Midwest Reg / 11 a.m. Colfax, Wis. Sat., Nov. 18 / at NCAA DIII Champs / TBA Spokane, Wash.

Football Record: 0-0, 0-0

Date / Opponent / Time or Result Sat., Sept 2 / at Lakeland College / 1:30 p.m. Sat., Sept. 9 / at Franklin College / 1:30 p.m. Sat., Sept. 23 / UW-Stevens Point* / 1 p.m. Sat., Sept. 30 / at UW-River Falls* / 1 p.m. Sat., Oct. 7 / UW-Eau Claire* / 1 p.m. Sat., Oct. 14 / UW-La Crosse* / 1 p.m. Sat., Oct. 21 / at UW-Platteville* / 1 p.m. Sat., Oct. 28 / UW-Oshkosh* / 1 p.m. Sat., Nov. 4 / at UW-Whitewater* / 1 p.m. Sat., Nov. 11 / vs. UM-Duluth / 8:30 p.m. Metrodome Border Battle, Mpls, Minn. *denotes WIAC contest

Tennis Record: 0-0, 0-0

Date / Opponent / Time or Result Wed., Sept. 13 / at UW-River Falls / 3:30 p.m. Sat., Sept. 16 / at UW-La Crosse* / 11 .m. Fri., Sept. 22 / at UW-Stevens Point* / 3 p.m. Fri., Sept. 29 / Hamline University / 4 p.m. Sat., Sept. 30 / St. Mary's / 11 a.m. Wed., Oct. 4 / UW-River Falls* / 4 p.m. Fri., Oct. 6 / UW Whitewater* / 3:30 p.m. Sat., Oct. 7 / UW-Oshkosh* / 2:30 p.m. Sat., Oct. 14 / UW-Eau Claire* / 2 p.m. Oct. 21-22 / at WIAC Championships / TBA Madison, Wis. *denotes WIAC match