

# UW-Platteville

## December Highlights



### **Pioneers 76, UW-Superior 69 (Dec. 6)**

Jeff Skemp scored 27 points, including five straight late in the game when the Yellowjackets pulled within 62-61, and Charlie Lohoff and Mike Shaw each made critical jump shots down the stretch to keep the Pioneers undefeated overall at 7-0. Skemp made 13 of 17 shots for his 27 points, while Hanson added 18, Lohoff 13, and Shaw 12. Lohoff grabbed a team-high eight rebounds for the Pioneers, who led 36-26 at the half in the WIAC opener.

### **Pioneers 83, UW-Eau Claire 54 (Dec. 10)**

A game-ending 33-10 run--punctuated by Eric Wall's stunning dunk--led third-ranked UW-Platteville to an 83-54 win over visiting UW-Eau Claire. Wall's backdoor cut and feed from Charlie Lohoff led to a flush of the rim for the 6-5 sophomore that brought the surprised Bo Ryan Court crowd of 1,028 out of their chairs. His throwdown made the score 68-50, putting the game out of reach with 6:21 to play. The deep Pioneers out-scored the Blugolds 37-16 off the bench, with super sub Mike Shaw continuing his torrid start. The junior guard scored 23 points, making 6-9 three-point attempts, to lead all scorers. Center Jeff Skemp made 8-11 from the field and scored 20 points, grabbing six rebounds, dished out four assists and blocked a pair of shots.

### **Pioneers 69, UW-River Falls 52 (Dec. 13)**

Charlie Lohoff scored 24 points, including a key insurance basket with 42 seconds remaining, to lead undefeated and third-ranked UW-Platteville to a 69-62 road victory. The Pioneers improved to 9-0 overall, matching their best start since 1999-2000, and 3-0 in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference for the first time in nine seasons. Lohoff made eight of 11 shots, including 4-7 three-point attempts, and all four free throws. Jeff Skemp added 15 points and nine rebounds, while Curt Hanson added 11 points and nine rebounds.

### **Lohoff earns national honors (Dec. 16)**

UW-Platteville's Charlie Lohoff earned one of five spots on the D3hoops.com Team of the Week for his performances in two Pioneer victories. The senior from Oshkosh (North) scored 10 points in an 83-54 win over UW-Eau Claire Dec. 10 and 24 in a 69-62 win at UW-River Falls Dec. 13. He is the second Pioneer to earn national honors this season, as Jeff Skemp was honored after leading the Pioneers to three victories in Indiana the week after Thanksgiving.

### **Pioneers 71, Dubuque 50 (Dec. 20)**

A day after final exams ended in the classroom, UW-Platteville scored a perfect 10 on its basketball court, beating

the University of Dubuque 71-50. The third-ranked Pioneers improved to 10-0 for the first time since 1997-98. Center Jeff Skemp led the Pioneers with 23 points, surpassing 20 for the sixth time this season. Mike Shaw made three of four three-point baskets and seven of eight free throws for his 18 points. Kyle Tetschlag added 10 points for the Pioneers, who converted 16 Dubuque turnovers into 23 points.

### **Pioneers are ranked number one! (Dec. 23)**

Undefeated UW-Platteville is the nation's new number one team, according to the D3hoops.com poll. The 10-0 Pioneers moved up from the third spot, claiming 13 of the 25 first-place votes. Sixth-year Coach Paul Combs' club won its first 10 games despite playing a demanding schedule. Eight of the 10 opponents have records of .500 or better. (UWP's record does not include an 84-79 exhibition win against NCAA Division I Bradley.)

### **Pioneers 74, Carthage 48 (Dec. 29)**

UW-Platteville scored 17 of the first 18 second-half points, enabling the Pioneers to beat Carthage 74-48 in the first round of the St. Norbert College Nicolet Bank Holiday Tournament in DePere. Sophomore Nick Allen scored a career-high 17 points, including the Pioneers' first seven of the second half, to lead the top-ranked team in NCAA III. Jeff Skemp added 16 points, Curt Hanson 14 and Mike Shaw 10 for UWP, which improved to 11-0 overall. The Pioneers led 29-26 at the half, then went on the 17-1 run to open the second half. Carthage, who came into the game 6-2 and ranked 40th in the D3hoops.com poll, never came closer than 16 the rest of the night.

### **St. Norbert 70, Pioneers 68 (Dec. 30)**

St. Norbert missed just six shots in the second half, coming from 15 down to beat previously undefeated UWP 70-68 in the championship of the Nicolet National Bank Holiday Classic. The Pioneers forged a 15-point halftime lead at 37-22 before the hosts caught fire. Mike Shaw poured in a career-high 27 points, knocking down 6-8 three-point attempts, while Curt Hanson scored 17, making 4-5 three-pointers. Both earned spots on the all-tournament team.