

# SPORTS

## UWS Defenseman Returns After Year-Long ACL Recovery

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Over a year ago the UW-Superior men’s soccer team suffered a major loss, not on the score-board but with one of their players on the field.

In an exhibition match against Hamline University on Aug. 25, 2022, Center Back William Maanstroem tore his Anterior Crucial Ligament.

“Everything had been going pretty smooth for me the two previous years, I’ve just been playing and going to school and out of nowhere my ACL just snaps.”

Maanstroem came to the UWS campus in 2020 after growing up in Sweden which created a tougher

recovery process for him.

“I’m not from around here so I did it all by myself,” said Maanstroem. “I had my friends, my teammates and my coaches but at the hospital it was all me, I had to make sure I got everything and it was not easy.”

He soon realized he did have support here, when he was able to attend the Yellowjackets Saturday night matchup against Concordia just over a week later.

“Before the game I felt like I didn’t really have a role on the team, and that’s something we talk alot about on the team.” However, once the game started his teammates began asking him for help,”

said Maanstroem. “It was just, brightening because I came from this place where I kind of felt alone, but when I realized that the guys valued me for my opinions and who I was as a person it kind of clicked for me and from there I just cruised along,”

He cruised along into his surgery at Essentia Health in Duluth on Oct. 14, after which he immediately began rehabbing with one thing in mind.

“I had to go into that mindset of ‘how do I come back as soon as possible?’because what I ended up going into is this mindset of ‘if I stop now, that means I might not be ready to go in August next year,” said Maanstroem.

This mindset was similar to one head coach Joe Mooney noticed the year before the injury, when Maanstroem, a sophomore at the time, climbed his way into the starting lineup by the end of the season and then went right to work in the offseason.

“We talked about some of the work we wanted to see him put in in the offseason... and when he came

back in August it was kind of like we were looking at a different Will,” said Mooney.

Unfortunately William was only able to feel the satisfaction of the work for about two weeks. Even though Maanstroem couldn’t be on the field he found a new role with the team on the sideline.

“(William wanted to) Find a different way to help the team win and when he couldn’t do it on the field he was doing it on the touchline, he was still at training everyday, he was at games everyday, even the one he probably shouldn’t have been at on the day of the surgery,” Mooney said letting out a laugh.

Noticing this, Mooney made a decision that isn’t very common in the sports world. Naming Maanstroem a captain of the team not for what he had done on the field but off it.

“He actually got the arm band during his time away from the field. It’s one of the prouder moments I’ve had as a coach, to watch a player like really use that adversity



William Maanstroem in his fifth game of the season.  
Photo By Jack Barnett

to help define himself in a way that was so meaningful not just to him but our whole team,” said Mooney.

Maanstroem made his return to the field in August, training with the team during the pre-season before his first game back.

On Sept. 3, William took the field as UWS faced a national tournament team in UW-Eau Claire.

“We knew it was going to be a massive game, and he balled out, (a) big reason why we came back from behind in that game,” said Mooney about Maanstroem’s first game back.

UWS ended in a tie with Eau Claire in the first match of the season but since then, Maanstroem and the men’s soccer team have a 7-2-2 record as they look to be UMAC champs for the seventh year in a row.



William Maanstroem participating in physical therapy at Marcovich Wellness Center after surgery.  
Photo Courtesy of William Maanstroem

## Women’s Soccer Aiming for First-Ever Three-Peat

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With the fall sports season well underway, the UW-Superior women’s soccer team is trying to accomplish something they have never done before.

After earning back-to-back Upper Midwest Athletic Conference regular season and tournament titles, the Yellowjackets are hoping to three-peat as conference champions.

For senior midfielder Lindrey Schendel out of Colorado, a lot of it

comes down to the team culture.

“We make sure the people we bring onto our team hold high values and are going to mesh well with everyone. It’s fun to see what that will look like as the season progresses”, said Schendel.

The Yellowjackets have a bit of a target on their back after being picked to finish first in the UMAC pre-season poll.

Schendel, the reigning UMAC Defensive Player

of the Year, views it as a challenge to keep the conference title in Superior.

“It definitely holds a bit of weight on our team, but we go into every game focusing on what we have in front of us at the moment, and not what’s ahead down the road. All we can do is play our best”, said Schendel.

The Yellowjackets currently sit atop the UMAC standings at 6-0 (7-2-1 overall).



Lindrey Schendel gets back during a 3-1 victory over Northwestern University  
Photo By Jack Barnett

## Up Next in Sports

### MSOC

VS Minnesota Morris	OCT. 7
@ Northwestern	OCT. 11
@ Bethany Lutheran	OCT. 14
VS Macalster	OCT. 17
VS North Central	OCT. 18
@ Martin Luther	OCT. 21
VS Northland	OCT. 24
@ Crown	OCT. 28
2023 UMAC Tournament Semifinals	NOV. 1
Championship	NOV. 4

### WSOC

VS Minnesota Morris	OCT. 7
@ Northwestern	OCT. 11
@ Bethany Lutheran	OCT. 14
VS Macalster	OCT. 17
VS North Central	OCT. 18
@ Martin Luther	OCT. 21
@ UW-Stout	OCT. 24
VS Northland	OCT. 25
@ Crown	OCT. 28
2023 UMAC Tournament	NOV. 1 & 7

### Cross-Country

Augustana Interregional Invitational	
Rock Island, Ill.	OCT. 14
UMAC Cross Country Championships	
Winthrop, Minn.	OCT. 28

### Golf

2023 UMAC Golf Championship	
Becker, Minn.	Oct. 5, 6 & 7

### Hockey

WOMEN’S	
VS St. Scholastica	OCT. 20
@ Saint Benedict	OCT. 21
VS Lawrence	OCT. 27
VS Lawrence	OCT. 28
MEN’S	
@ St. Scholastica	OCT. 28

