Men's Basketball 2006-2007

2006-07 Falcon Men's Basketball Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Pos.</th>
<th>Hgt.</th>
<th>Wgt.</th>
<th>Yr.</th>
<th>Hometown/Last Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Erik Olson</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>South Strafford, VT/Hanover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ryan Thompson</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-0</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Viroqua, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Scott Kelly</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Hastings, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Maurice Baker</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-2</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>Viroqua, WI/Riverside, CA/Canyon Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Jontae Koonkaew</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>Apple Valley, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Nicholas Myers</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-3</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Rosemount, MN/Mesabi CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Jesse Elling</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-0</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>River Falls, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Anthony Williams</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>Cottage Grove, MN/Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Deonte Compton</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN/South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Tim Pearson</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Eau Claire, WI/Memorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Cory Rondeau</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Grand Rapids, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Courtney Davis</td>
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<td>6-2</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Milwaukee, WI/Mesabi CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Jake Voeltz</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>River Falls, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Rory Trimbo</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6-6</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Belle Plaine, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Nate Robertson</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>Forest Lake, MN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Head coach: Jeff Berkhof
Assistant coaches: Pedro Renta, Kevin Landrum, Kurran Sagan
Managers: Amanda Collova, Andy Thompson, Ryan Ervin, Anthony Anderson
### The 2006-07 Falcons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position · Height · Weight · Year</th>
<th>School, City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scott Kelly</td>
<td>Forward · 6-5 · 220 · Junior</td>
<td>Hastings, Minn.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hastings H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Pearson</td>
<td>Forward · 6-5 · 190 · Junior</td>
<td>Eau Claire, Wis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Memorial H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Thompson</td>
<td>Guard · 6-0 · 190 · Junior</td>
<td>Viroqua, Wis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Viroqua H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cory Rondeau</td>
<td>Forward · 6-7 · 230 · Junior</td>
<td>Grand Rapids, Minn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Grand Rapids H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Elling</td>
<td>Guard · 6-0 · 185 · Sophomore</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>River Falls H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erik Olson</td>
<td>Guard · 6-4- · 185 · Sophomore</td>
<td>South Strafford, Vt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hanover H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rory Trimbo</td>
<td>Forward · 6-6 · 250 · Sophomore</td>
<td>Belle Plaine, Minn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Belle Plaine H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maurice Baker</td>
<td>Guard · 6-2 · 170 · Freshman</td>
<td>Riverside, Calif.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Canyon Springs H.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deonte Compton</td>
<td>Guard · 5-10 · 170 · Freshman</td>
<td>Minneapolis, Minn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>South H.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courtney Davis</td>
<td>Guard · 6-2 · 200 · Junior</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mesabi C.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Height</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jontae Koonkaew</td>
<td>Guard</td>
<td>5'8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Robertson</td>
<td>Forward</td>
<td>6'7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake Voeltz</td>
<td>Forward</td>
<td>6'4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Williams</td>
<td>Guard</td>
<td>6'1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas Myers</td>
<td>Guard</td>
<td>6'3</td>
</tr>
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Amanda Collova
Student Manager

Andy Thompson
Student Manager

Jake Meyers
Student Manager
## 2006-2007 Falcon Men's Basketball Schedule

**Feb. 20, 2007**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent 1</th>
<th>Opponent 2</th>
<th>Result</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 17</td>
<td>River Falls 99, William Penn 91-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 18</td>
<td>Bethel 107, River Falls 77-</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 25</td>
<td>Macalester 87, River Falls 73</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 29</td>
<td>River Falls 90, Superior 65*</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 2</td>
<td>Stevens Point 81, River Falls 73*</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 6</td>
<td>Eau Claire 63, River Falls 62*</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 9</td>
<td>Platteville 70, River Falls 66*</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 12</td>
<td>River Falls 96, Bethany Lutheran 74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 14</td>
<td>River Falls 97, Crown 57</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Dec. 16</td>
<td>Con-St. Paul 105, River Falls 72</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 29</td>
<td>CHS Cooperatives Holiday Tournament</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St. Thomas 82, St. Scholastica 76</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>River Falls 110, North Central 66</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 30</td>
<td>CHS Cooperatives Holiday Tournament</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St. Scholastica 93, North Central 73</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St. Thomas 87, River Falls 84</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 2</td>
<td>River Falls 93, Finlandia 54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 6</td>
<td>Whitewater 91, River Falls 86</td>
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<td>Jan. 10</td>
<td>River Falls 76, Stout 62*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 13</td>
<td>Oshkosh 69, River Falls 66*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 17</td>
<td>River Falls 81, La Crosse* 72</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 20</td>
<td>Stevens Point 106, River Falls 61*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td>River Falls 76, Superior 68*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 27</td>
<td>Oshkosh 90, River Falls 67* P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 31</td>
<td>Stout 84, River Falls 78* (OT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 3</td>
<td>Platteville 65, River Falls 64*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 7</td>
<td>River Falls 68, Eau Claire 66*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>Whitewater 93, River Falls 72*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 14</td>
<td>La Crosse 80, River Falls 63*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>Oshkosh 83, River Falls 65 ** (WIAC Tournament)</td>
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* WIAC Games
** WIAC Tournament Game
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>2/20/07</td>
<td>Kolf Sports Center - Oshkosh, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-Oshkosh 83, UW-River Falls 65</td>
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<td>2/14/07</td>
<td>La Crosse, Wis. (Mitchell Hall)</td>
<td>UW-La Crosse 80, UW-River Falls 63</td>
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<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-Whitewater 93, UW-River Falls 72</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 7</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-River Falls 68, UW-Eau Claire 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/03/07</td>
<td>Bo Ryan Court, UWP</td>
<td>UW-Platteville 65, UW-River Falls 61</td>
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<tr>
<td>01/31/07</td>
<td>Menomonie, Wis. Johnson Fieldhouse</td>
<td>UW-Stout 84, UW-River Falls 78</td>
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<td>1/27/07</td>
<td>Kolf Sports Center - Oshkosh, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-Oshkosh 90, UW-River Falls 67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-River Falls 76, UW-Superior 68</td>
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<td>1/20/07</td>
<td>Quandt Fieldhouse - Stevens Point, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-Stevens Point 106, UW-River Falls 61</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 17</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-River Falls 81, UW-La Crosse 72</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 13</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-Oshkosh 69, UW-River Falls 66</td>
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<td>Jan. 10</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-River Falls 76, UW-Stout 62</td>
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<td>1/06/07</td>
<td>Kachel Gym, Whitewater, WI</td>
<td>UW-Whitewater 91, UW-River Falls 86</td>
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<td>Jan. 2</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-River Falls 93, Finlandia University 54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 30</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>St. Thomas 87, UW-River Falls 84</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 30</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>St. Scholastica 93, North Central 73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 29</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-River Falls 110, North Central 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 29</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>St. Thomas 82, St. Scholastica 76</td>
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<td>12/16/06</td>
<td>Gangelhoff Center, St. Paul, MN</td>
<td>Concordia University 105, UW-River Falls 72</td>
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<td>12-14-06</td>
<td>Wild Athletic Center</td>
<td>UW-River Falls 97, CROWN COLLEGE MEN 57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 12</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-River Falls 96, Bethany Lutheran 74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 9</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-Platteville 70, UW-River Falls 66</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/06/06</td>
<td>Zorn Arena, Eau Claire, WI</td>
<td>UW-Eau Claire 63, UW-River Falls 62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 2</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>UW-Stevens Point 81, UW-River Falls 73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/29/06</td>
<td>Superior, WI (Mertz Mortorelli Gym)</td>
<td>UW-River Falls 90, UW-Superior 65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 25</td>
<td>River Falls, Wis.</td>
<td>Macalester College 87, UW-River Falls 73</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-18-06</td>
<td>Bethel University</td>
<td>Bethel University 107, UW-River Falls 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/17/06</td>
<td>Robertson Center</td>
<td>UW-River Falls 99, William Penn. Univ. 91</td>
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Robertson Named to DIII News All-Freshmen Team
March 19, 2007

Falcon basketball player Nate Robertson (Fr., Forest Lake, Minn.) has been named to the 2007 DIII News All-Freshmen team.

Robertson, a 6-7 forward, led the Falcons in scoring (14.6) rebounding (6.8) in blocked shots (43) and steals (28). He also had 23 assists. He was 142-248 (.573) from the field and 80-139 (.576) from the line. Robertson was named the team's Player of the Week on Feb. 12, Jan. 29 and Nov. 27. He finished seventh in scoring, sixth in rebounding, second in field goal shooting percentage and third in blocks in the WIAC. He started 25 games and scored in double digits in 20 contests. He led the team in rebounding 14 times and had double digit rebounds six times. He led the Falcons in assists twice and he led the team in steals nine times. Robertson scored a career-high 26 points twice - in a game against Macalester on Nov. 25 and in a game against Whitewater on Feb. 10. He had a career-high 15 rebounds in the game against Macalester.

Earlier this year Robertson earned honorable mention to the 2007 All-WIAC team.

The Falcons finished 10-16 overall and 5-11 in the WIAC.

Koonkaew, Robertson Earn All-WIAC Honorable Mention
March 1, 2007

Falcon basketball players Jontae Koonkaew (Fr., Apple Valley, Minn.) and Nate Robertson (Fr., Forest Lake, Minn.) have both earned honorable mention to the 2007 All-WIAC team.

"It's great to see that Nate and Jontae have been recognized by the coaches in the league for their overall play," said Falcon Coach Jeff Berkhof. "As freshmen, they adjusted to the college game very well and were two of our better players. They both have very bright futures and will be counted on to be two of our mainstays in the upcoming years."

Koonkaew, a 5-8 guard, finished third in scoring for the Falcons with a 13.2 average. He averaged 3.7 rebounds a game and led the Falcons in assists (82). He had 26 steals, second on the team. He finished 111-247 (.449) from the field, including 24-74 (.324) from behind the arc. He was named the team's Player of the Week on Feb. 5. Koonkaew finished 15th in scoring, fourth in assists and seventh in free throw percentage in the WIAC. He started 19 games and played in all 26 contests and scored in double digits in 20 games. He led the team in assists 13 times and in steals nine times. Koonkaew had a career high 23 points in a game against Stout on Jan. 31 and he twice had 11 rebounds in a game - against Macalester on Nov. 25 and against North Central on Dec. 29. He had a career-high eight assists in a game against St. Thomas on Dec. 30.

Robertson, a 6-7 forward, led the Falcons in scoring (14.6) rebounding (6.8) in blocked shots (43) and steals (28). He also had 23 assists. He was 142-248 (.573) from the field and 80-139 (.576) from the line. Robertson was named the team's Player of the Week on Feb. 12, Jan. 29 and Nov. 27. He finished seventh in scoring, sixth in rebounding, second in field goal shooting percentage and third in blocks in the WIAC. He started 25 games and scored in double digits in 20 contests. He led the team in rebounding 14 times and had double digit rebounds six times. He led the Falcons in assists twice and he led the team in steals nine times. Robertson scored a career-high 26 points twice - in a game against Macalester on Nov. 25 and in a game against Whitewater on Feb. 10. He had a career-high 15 rebounds in the game against Macalester.

They were two of only three freshmen to be named to the first or earn All-WIAC honorable mention in 2007.

The Falcons finished 10-16 overall and 5-11 in the WIAC.

Season Concludes with 83-65 Loss at Oshkosh
Feb. 20, 2007

The Falcons men's basketball team ended their season with an 83-65 loss at Oshkosh in the opening round of the WIAC Tournament.

Courtney Davis provided most of the scoring for the Falcons. finishing with 21 points on 9-16 shooting. He also led the team with six rebounds. Nate Robertson capped off a marvelous freshman season with 13 points, five rebounds and two blocks. Jontae Koonkaew, who also had an impressive inaugural season, finished with 10 points and five rebounds.

The Falcons looked strong to begin the game, racing to a quick 13-8 advantage in the first five minutes. But the tides would quickly turn for the Falcons as the Titans went on a 30-6 run and took a commanding 38-19 lead. The Falcons then went on a 12-3 run to cut the lead to 41-31 at halftime.

Four quick points by Robertson to open the second half cut the deficit to just 41-35. But a 10-0 run by the Titans immediately following that spurt put the Falcons back in the hole 51-35. The Titans would hold a double-digit lead for the final 18:09 of the game.

The Falcons committed just 10 turnovers on the night and had eight steals. They shot 41 percent from the field but only 15 percent from the three-point line. Oshkosh shot 54.5 percent from the field and 60 percent from behind the arc.

Jim Capelle and D.J. Marsh both had solid nights for the Titans, contributing 20 points and six rebounds apiece. Kerry Gibson added 18 points, eight rebounds, six assists and four blocks.

The Falcons will now focus on what appears to be a promising 2007-08 season. With no graduating seniors, six returning seniors, and some youngsters on the rise things should be exciting for the Falcons next season.

Basketball Teams Open WIAC Playoffs on Road
Feb. 18, 2007
The Falcon women's and men's basketball teams open the WIAC playoffs on the road in games on Monday and Tuesday.

The Falcon women play first – at Stevens Point on Monday at 7 p.m. The Falcons finished as the WIAC's No. 5 seed and UWSP is seeded No. 4. The Falcons beat UWSP twice during the regular season - 67-60 on Dec. 2 in River Falls and 68-44 on Jan. 20 in Stevens Point. Traci Reimann leads the Falcons in scoring averaging 12.6 points and in rebounding averaging 9.5. Melanie Preiner is second in scoring with a 10.4 average. Haley Houghton leads UWSP in scoring averaging 9.2 points. Natalie Lechault leads the Pointers in rebounding with a 5.3 average. The Falcons enter tournament action with a 15-10 overall record while UWSP is 18-6. In other first round games, Oshkosh (8) is at Stout (1), La Crosse (6) travels to Eau Claire (3) and Platteville (7) is at Whitewater (2). If the Falcons beat UWSP, they would play the winner of the Stout-Oshkosh game on Wednesday. If Stout wins the game will be in Menomonie and if Oshkosh wins, the game would be in River Falls. The championship game is set for Feb. 24 at the site of the highest remaining seeded team. WIAC Championship Site.

The Falcons men play at Oshkosh on Tuesday at 7 p.m. UWRF finished as the tourney's No. 6 seed while Oshkosh is seeded No. 3. The Titans beat the Falcons twice during the regular season - 69-66 on Jan. 13 in River Falls and 97-60 on Jan. 27 in Oshkosh. The Falcons, 10-15 overall, are led in scoring by Nate Robinson who averages 14.6 points a game. He also leads the Falcons in rebounding with a 6.9 average. Three other Falcons average in double figures - Courtney Davis, 13-5, Jontae Koonkaew, 13-3, and Ryan Thompson, 13.0. Davis is second in rebounding averaging five per game. The Titans, 20-5 overall, are led in scoring by Jim Capelle, who averages 16.1 points. Kerry Robinson, who leads the team in rebounding (7.8) is second in scoring with a 13.9 average. D.J. Marsh is third in scoring, 10.0. In other first round games, Eau Claire (8) is at Stevens Point (1), Platteville (5) is at Whitewater (4) and Stout (7) is at La Crosse (2). If the Falcons beat UW, they would play the winner of the Stout-La Crosse game on Thursday. If La Crosse beats Stout, the game would be in La Crosse. If Stout beats La Crosse, the game would be in River Falls. The championship game is set for Feb. 24 at the site of the highest remaining seeded team. WIAC Championship Site.

Falcons Lose at La Crosse, 80-63
Feb. 14, 2007

Ryan Thompson scored 22 points, but it wasn't enough as the Falcon men's basketball team lost, 80-63, at La Crosse on Wednesday night.

UWL led 38-29 at halftime and outscored the Falcons, 42-34, in the second half. UWL scored the first seven points of the game, but the Falcons took a 10-9 lead with 14:14 to play when Nate Robertson scored on a lay up. The Falcons went ahead, 14-9, with 12:42 to go when Thompson hit a three-pointer. UWL then took 14-13 lead with 11:47 to play. UWRF had its last lead, 15-14, with 11:10 to go when Jontae Koonkaew hit a jumper. With 8:02 to go the Falcons tied the game, 21-21, when Tim Pearson hit from behind the arc. But UWL then went on a 10-0 run to take a 31-21 lead with 4:31 to play. The Falcons got to within two points, 46-44, with 15:14 to play in the game when Thompson hit another three-pointer. But that's as close as UWL could get.

Thompson finished 8-11 from the field and 6-9 from behind the arc. He also had three rebounds, one assist and one steal. Robertson added 13 points and led UWRF with five rebounds. Pearson scored 11 points and he finished 2-3 from three-point range. UWRF shot 25-46 (.543) from the field, including 8-19 (.415) from behind the arc. The Falcons were 5-10 (.500) from the line.

UWL had four players score in double figures led by Chris Fehrenbach and Chris Ask who both scored 16. Joe Werner added 15 points and led both teams with eight rebounds. UWRF shot 31-62 (.500) from the field, including 7-14 (.500) from three-point range. They were 11-17 (.647) from the line. UWRF, now 16-7 overall and 11-4 in the WIAC, held a 36-24 advantage in rebounds.

The Falcons finish the regular season 10-15 overall and 5-11 in the WIAC. They will wait until the final round of conference games are completed on Saturday to see which team they will face on the road in the conference tournament.

Falcons Fall to Whitewater 93-72 in Final Home Game
Feb. 10, 2007

The Falcons couldn't recover from a 26-0 run by Whitewater, losing 93-72 in their final home game of the season.

Nate Robertson matched his highest offensive output as a Falcon with 26 points on 11-15 shooting. He also contributed six rebounds, including four offensive and three blocks. Ryan Thompson added 10 points, four assists and two steals. Jontae Koonkaew had seven points, six assists and four rebounds. Courtney Davis led the Falcons in bench scoring with 10 points on 4-10 shooting.

The Falcons, who were up for most of the first half, gave up a late first half run that put them behind 43-37. With 3:57 to go in the first half the Falcons were up 37-32, but a 26-0 run by Whitewater put the Falcons deep in hole 58-37. The 8:11 stretch in which the Falcons were unable to put the ball in the basket proved to be too much for them to recover from.

The Falcons shot 52.7 percent for the game and 33.3 percent from beyond the arc. The Falcons committed 21 turnovers compared to five for Whitewater. Whitewater also had 16 steals on the afternoon.

Whitewater's Kori Vernon had a big afternoon at Karges Center, nearing a triple-double. He finished with 23 points, seven assists and nine rebounds. Anthony Mlachnik also had a strong game with 22 points, seven assists and four rebounds.

The Falcons will try to regroup for their final regular season game at La Crosse on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Falcons Hold on to Beat Eau Claire 68-66
Feb. 7, 2007

The Falcons watched a 15 point halftime lead evaporate but were able to pull together in the end to escape with a 68-66 victory over Eau Claire.

It was the Falcons first victory in games decided by 1-4 points.
Erik Olson came off the bench to lead the Falcons with 14 points on 4-5 shooting, including 3-4 from the three-point line. Nate Robertson scored nine points in the second half to finish with 11 points, five rebounds and one block. Courtney Davis contributed 12 points and four rebounds off the bench. Jontae Koonkaew added 12 points, eight rebounds and three assists.

The Falcons led 39-24 at halftime but the Blue Devils were able to roar back with a 24-9 run to knot things up at 48-48. The Falcons then went on a 6-0 run to take the lead 54-48. The Blue Devils answered with a 6-0 run of their own to tie the game 54-54. Eau Claire’s Jared Bardon hit a three-pointer with 1:24 to play in regulation to give the Blue Devils a 63-62 lead. It was their first lead since the 12:23 mark of the first half.

Koonkaew hit a baseline jumper to put the Falcons back up 64-63 and ignite a another 6-0 run by the Falcons. Olson made two free-throws to extend the lead to 66-63 and Robertson hit a pair of free-throws to make it a two possession lead at 68-63.

It was a tale of two halves for the Falcons as they were able to hit 6-10 three-pointers in the first half but went 0-5 in the second half. The Blue Devils struggled mightily from three-point range in the first half, going only 2-12. The second half was a second story as they were able to go 7-9 and outscore the Falcons 42-29.

Jared Bardon led the Blue Devils with 20 points on 8-16 shooting.

The Falcons will stay at home for a 1 p.m. showdown with Whitewater on Saturday.

**Falcons Fall to Platteville 65-61**

**Feb. 3, 2007**

The Falcons fought hard on the road but were unable to close out Platteville as they lost 65-61. Jontae Koonkaew hit a three-pointer with 37 seconds left in the game that inched the Falcons to within one point at 62-61 but they were unable to score again.

Nate Robertson led the Falcons 13 points and four blocks. He also chipped in seven rebounds. Erik Olson came off the bench to add 12 points on 4-8 shooting from the field. Koonkaew finished with 10 points on 4-9 shooting, including 2-3 from behind the arc. Scott Kelly had a well-rounded game, finishing with seven points, eight rebounds and four assists.

The first half of the game was a see-saw battle consisting of 10 lead changes and six ties. The Pioneers went on a run late in the first half to take a 39-33 halftime lead.

Platteville doubled their lead to 12 points with 10:43 to go in the second half. The Falcons battled back with a 19-8 run capped by a Koonkaew three-pointer that put them behind by just a point with 37 seconds to go in the game. Three made free throws by the Pioneers to close out the game sealed the deal and extended the Falcons losing streak to three games.

The Falcons shot 46 percent from the field, including 37 percent from the three-point line. They won the battle in the paint by out rebounding the Pioneers 31-29 and outscoring them in the paint 28-14. The Falcons were able to get 10 second-chance points in the second half.

Mark Gossens led the Pioneers with 19 points and six rebounds. Charlie Lohoff added 16 points and five rebounds. The Pioneers were able to go 11-22 from the three-point line.

The Falcons will next host Eau Claire on Wednesday evening at 6 p.m.

**Falcons Lose to Stout in OT, 84-78**

**Jan. 31, 2007**

The Falcons lost to Stout 84-78 in overtime Wednesday night. It was the Falcons third trip to overtime this season; all have resulted in losses.

The Blue Devils put on a late game surge to force overtime and an eventual loss for the Falcons.

Jontae Koonkaew led the Falcons with 23 points on 8-20 shooting. He also chipped in nine rebounds and four assists. Nate Robertson tallied 15 points and ten rebounds for sixth double-double of the season. Tim Pearson started and recorded 14 points and nine rebounds.

The Falcons struggled greatly from the field, shooting 34 percent for the game. They shot 8-33 from the three-point line for 24 percent. The Falcons did excel from the line, shooting 18-22 for 82 percent. They committed 17 turnovers and dished out only 11 assists.

The Falcons trailed 40-32 at halftime but were able to battle back to take 68-59 lead with 4:57 to play in regulation. The Blue Devils then went on a 12-3 run to tie it up and force overtime. The Falcons were outscored 13-7 in overtime.

Jacob Nonemacher led the Blue Devils with 24 points, 11 rebounds and eight blocks.

The Falcons will next travel to Platteville on Saturday for a 1 p.m. tip-off.

**Falcons Lose at Oshkosh, 90-67**

**Jan. 27, 2007**

The Falcon men’s basketball lost a 90-67 WIAC game at UW-Oshkosh on Saturday afternoon.

UWO, ranked No. 8 in the D3hoops.com poll, led 52-28 at the half. The Titans went on a 9-0 run to take a 26-16 lead with 9:47 to go. The closest the Falcons got in the second half was 16 points, 72-56, with 8:21 to play when Jontae Koonkaew hit a jumper.
UWRF was led by Nate Robertson who scored 21 points. Koonkaew scored 13 points and had three assists. Tim Pearson scored 11 points and led the Falcons with five rebounds. He also had three assists. UWRF was 27-56 (.482) from the field, including 6-12 (.500) from behind the arc. The Falcons were 7-8 (.875) from the line.

UWO had five players score in double figures, led by Jim Capelle who scored 18 points. He had nine rebounds. D.J. Marsh had 16 points. Kerry Gibson scored 10 points and had six rebounds. He blocked 11 shots. UWO was 33-64 (.516) from the field, including 8-13 (.615) from three-point range. UWO was 16-20 (.800) from the line. UWO had a 37-25 advantage in rebounds.

The Falcons, now 9-11 overall and 4-7 in the WIAC, will next play at Stout on Wednesday with game time set for 7 p.m.

Falcons Top Superior, 76-68
Jan. 24, 2007
Ryan Thompson scored 21 points and led four Falcons who scored in double figures in a 76-68 win over Superior on Wednesday night at the Karges Center.

The Falcons entered the game losing all eight times they trailed at the half. UWRF trailed, 33-30 at the half, but outscored the Jackets, 46-35, in the second half to get the win.

UWS's Brandon Ely hit a three pointer late in the first half to give his team a 33-30 halftime lead. In the second half the Falcons' biggest lead was 10 points with 5:27 when Erik Olson scored on a lay up. UWS got to within 71-68 with :57 to play when Dwight Hill hit two free throws. But the Falcons went 5-6 at the line in the last 29 seconds. Jontae Koonkaew led the way going 4-4.

Nate Robertson scored 18 points and had nine rebounds. Koonkaew scored 14 points and led the Falcons with six assists. Olson added 13 points and five rebounds. Thompson also had five records. Scott Kelly led the Falcons with 11 rebounds. The Falcons shot 25-55 (.455) from the field, including 3-15 (.200) from behind the arc. They finished 23-33 (.697) at the line. The Falcons had a 43-39 advantage in rebounds.

Ely led UWS with 18 points and James Nobles scored 12 points and had 10 rebounds. UWS shot 25-67 (.373) from the field, including 5-17 (.294) from three-point range. They were 13-18 (.722) from the line.

The Falcons, now 9-10 overall and 4-6 in the WIAC, will next play at Oshkosh on Saturday with tip off set for 1 p.m.

Falcons Fall to Top-Ranked Stevens Point, 106-61
Jan. 20, 2007
Stevens Point came out shooting and never stopped, rolling to a 106-61 victory over the Falcons to remain unbeaten in the WIAC and maintain their #1 ranking on the D3Hoop.com Division III poll. The Falcons fell behind out of the gates and were unable to recover from a three-point shooting barrage put on by the Pointers.

Jontae Koonkaew led the Falcons with 16 points on 5-9 shooting from the field and 5-7 shooting from the line. Courtney Davis chipped in nine points, nine rebounds and two steals. Ryan Thompson added seven points, three assists and two rebounds. Erik Olson led the Falcons with eight points.

The Falcons hit a wall in the shooting department against Stevens Point, an area they are usually very strong in. Coming into the game the Falcons were shooting just a hair under 50 percent as a team, again the Pointers were on the hunt for the three-point shot.

The improved defense play from the Falcons in recent games took a hit from the hot-shooting Pointers today. The Pointers shot 51 percent on the night and became the third Falcon opponent to top the 100-point mark. Thirty-six of Pointers 76 shots came from behind the arc. They were able to make 16 of them for 44 percent on the day.

Jon Krull, third in the WIAC in scoring average, led the Pointers with 28 points on 9-16 shooting. Pete Rortvedt, second in the WIAC in scoring, added 21 points and ten rebounds. The two combined to go 9-15 from the three-point line.

The Falcons, now 8-10 overall and 3-6 in the WIAC, will next play Superior on Wednesday at the Karges Center.

Falcons Top Eagles, 81-70
Jan. 17, 2007
The Falcons topped No. 16 ranked La Crosse, 81-70, with some hot shooting and tough second half defense Wednesday night at the Karges Center.

The Eagles entered the game 6-1 in WIAC play, 11-4 overall, and in second place in the conference standings.

The Falcons led 40-39 at the half and outscored the Eagles, 41-31 in the second half to get the win. Both teams were hot from the field in the first half and the difference was the Falcons still shot well (15-31, .484) in the second half while La Crosse was limited to 10-35 (.286) shooting from the field.

UWRF shot 16-29 (.552) in the first half and UWLC was 16-28 (.571). Courtney Davis led the Falcons in the first half. He hit his first seven shots and finished 8-10, including 2-2 from behind the arc for 18 first half points. La Crosse's Joe Werner matched Davis’
The Falcons, now 7-10 from the field and 4-4 from the line for 18 points. Davis scored 16 of the Falcons’ first 18 points of the half. There were six ties in the first half. UWRF had a 33-26 lead with 8:32 to go when Scott Kelly hit a three. UWLC then went on a 12-0 run to take a 38-33 lead with 3:39 to go. TJ Nereng gave UWLC the five-point lead when he hit a jumper. Davis hit a jumper, Tim Pearson hit two free throws and a three-pointer with 1:01 to play to give the Falcons the 40-39 halftime lead.

UWRF took the lead for good with 16:31 to play in the game when Erik Olson hit a three to give the Falcons a 50-48 advantage. The Falcons continued to build on the lead and had an 11-point, 75-64, lead with 2:08 to play when Ryan Thompson hit a three. The Falcons finished 6-6 from the line in the last 54 seconds of the game.

Davis led five Falcons who scored in double figures. He scored 24 points finishing 11-15 from the field and 2-2 from three-point range. Jontae Koonkaew and Pearson each scored 12 points while Kelly and Olson each had 10. Kelly had seven rebounds and two steals while Olson had six rebounds, two assists and two steals. UWRF shot 31-60 (.517) from the field, including 9-19 (.474) from beyond the arc. UWRF was 10-14 (.714) from the line. The Falcons played without leading scorer, Nate Robertson, who was injured in Saturday’s game against Oshkosh. Robertson is the team’s leading scorer (14.3) and rebounder (7.5).

UWLC was led by Werner who finished with 22 points and 13 rebounds. Chris Fehrenbach scored 15 points, had four rebounds and three assists. Brandon Brown scored 11 points and had two steals. UWLC shot 26-63 (.413) from the field, including 3-16 (.188) from three-point range. They were 15-22 (.682) from the line. The Eagles held a slight 37-36 advantage in rebounding.

The Falcons, now 8-9 overall and 3-5 in the WIAC, will next play at Stevens Point on Saturday with tip off set for 3 p.m.

Falcons Come Up Just Short in Loss to Oshkosh
Jan. 13, 2007

The Falcons battled back from a 16 point first-half deficit only to lose, 69-66, to UW-Oshkosh on Saturday afternoon at the Karges Center.

UWO held the lead throughout the first half and led by 27-11 with 9:05 to play when Dane Seckar-Anderson scored on a lay up. The Falcons cut the lead to 10 at the half, 36-26. UWRF got to within seven, 31-24, with 4:32 to go in the half when Nate Robertson scored on a lay up.

UWO went ahead by 13, 43-30, with 16:59 to play in the game when Jim Capelle hit a three-pointer. But the Falcons once again responded with some great runs. Over the next nine minutes the Falcons outscored the Titans, 24-11, to take their first lead, 57-56. Scott Kelly scored on a lay up to give the Falcons the lead. The Falcons later led by four. With 3:43 to go, Erik Olson hit a three-pointer to put UWRF ahead, 63-59. UWO tied the game, 63-63, with 3:28 to go when Kerry Gibson scored on a lay up and was fouled. He gave the Titans the lead for good when he hit the free throw, 64-63. A shot by Kelly with seven second to go missed and the Titans had the win.

UWRF was led by Ryan Thompson who scored 15 points. He had four rebounds and four assists. He was 3-4 from three-point range. Kelly and Jontae Koonkaew each scored 14 points and had three assists. Both shot well from behind the arc. They were 7-17 (.412) from the field, including 9-17 (.529) from behind the arc. They were 7-10 at the line.

UWO was led by Kerry Gibson who scored 23 points and had seven rebounds. He was 8-11 from the field and 7-9 at the line. Seckar-Anderson and Jordan Johnson each scored 12 points and Capelle scored 11 points and had seven rebounds. UWO shot 26-62 (.419) from the floor, including 4-12 (.333) from behind the arc. They were 13-16 (.813) from the line.

The Falcons, now 7-9 overall, will next host on Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Karges Center

Falcons Get Back on Track With 76-62 Victory Over Stout
Jan. 10, 2007

The Falcons showed they weren’t going let a stunning loss to Whitewater last weekend get their hopes down as they cruised to a 76-62 victory over visiting Stout.

Jontae Koonkaew and Ryan Thompson combined for 20 points in the final 9:36 of the game to help turn a two point advantage for the Falcons into a 14 point victory.

Koonkaew finished with a game-high 20 points, four assists, three steals and three rebounds. After struggling in the first half and going only 1-6 from the field, Thompson emerged in second half to score 11 points down the stretch. He finished with 14 points on 5-11 shooting, including 4-8 from the three-point arc. Courtney Davis chipped in 14 points, three assists and two steals. Nate Robertson enjoyed a good night, finishing with 12 points, nine rebounds and four assists. Erik Olson provided a lift of the bench for the Falcons, hitting some big shots when needed and finishing with 8 points on 3-4 shooting.

The Falcons took a 39-34 lead into halftime but the Blue Devils went on a 11-5 run to take the lead 45-44 with 14:16 to play. A three-pointer by Olson gave the lead back to the Falcons 47-45, a lead the Falcons would maintain for the remainder of the game.

The Falcons once again shot well and defended well. They shot 52 percent on the game, and held the Blue Devils to just under 42 percent shooting on the night. The Falcons did struggle on the boards, being out rebounded 38-28, including giving up 15 offensive rebounds to the Blue Devils.

Eric Heisler led the Blue Devils with 18 points and five rebounds. The Falcons held Blue Devils leading scorer Jerrel Enerson-Matthews to 15 points on just 7-17 shooting.

The Falcons, now 7-8 overall, will next host Oshkosh who is 4-1 in the WIAC. Tip-off is scheduled for 1 p.m. at Karges Center.
Falcons Suffer Tough Blow in 91-86 Overtime Loss at Whitewater

Jan. 6, 2007

A technical foul on the bench with 4 seconds left on the clock and the Falcons leading 71-69 led to two made free throws by the Warhawks’ Anthony Mlachnik which subsequently forced overtime and an eventual 91-86 loss for the Falcons. It was a bad break for the Falcons in which was an otherwise exceptional performance on the road against the defending WIAC champs.

The Falcons were led in scoring by Courtney Davis and Nate Robertson who each totaled 19 points on the afternoon. Robertson contributed four rebounds and a blocked shot in seven rebounds. Ryan Thompson enjoyed his first double-double of the season, totaling 18 points and 10 assists. He was 6-10 from the field, including 4-8 from the three-point line. Jontae Koonkaew contributed 14 points and Tim Pearson added seven points, three assists and three rebounds off the bench.

The Falcons were able to battle back from ten point deficits twice in the game. The Warhawks were leading 57-47 with 9:34 to play in the game but the Falcons were able to put together a 21-10 run and take the lead 68-67 with 1:55 to play on a Davis three-pointer. A lay up by the Rob Perry put the the Warhawks back up 69-68. Nate Robertson made one of two free throws to tie the game at 69-69. A Jesse Elling lay up after a Whitewater turnover put the Falcons back up 71-69. The Falcons trailed at halftime 39-33 but in the second half they were able to outscore the Warhawks 38-32 to force overtime.

Troubled by foul trouble all afternoon the Falcons were forced to play a little more passive than they would prefer at the end of the second half and in overtime. Robertson fouled out in overtime and Koonkaew, Davis and Kelly were hampered with fouls apiece through much of the second half and in overtime. The Falcons shot 60.7 percent from the field. They had 17 turnovers and gave up 16 offensive rebounds to the Warhawks.

Mlachnik led the Warhawks in scoring with 22 points on 5-11 shooting from the field and 11-12 shooting from the free-throw line. The Falcons will try to regroup for visiting Stout on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Falcons Start the New Year Off With 93-54 Drubbing of Finlandia

Jan. 2, 2007

The Falcons rebounded from a tough overtime loss to St. Thomas last weekend and are now just one game under .500 heading into the second half of the WIAC season. They put together a strong game both offensively and defensively Tuesday night at Karges Center in beating Finlandia, 93-54.

Jontae Koonkaew scored a game-high 20 points on 8-13 shooting. He also chipped in a game-high five assists and three steals. Nate Robertson had a solid night, contributing 13 points, six rebounds and two blocks. Ryan Thompson also had 13 points on 5-10 shooting, including 3-6 from the three-point range.

The Falcons got a solid effort from their bench, scoring 35 points, led by Erik Olson’s nine points on 3-4 shooting from the three-point range.

The Falcons once again got a strong offensive output, topping the 90-point plateau for the fifth time this season. As a team they shot a combined 53 percent, including 61 percent in the second half when they outscored Finlandia 49-29. But in this game the Falcons were also able to put down the defensive clamps, something they have struggled with this season. They held Finlandia to just 28 percent shooting on the evening and forced 19 turnovers. The Falcons recorded 12 steals and 48 rebounds as a team.

The Falcons will now head into the second half of the WIAC season, traveling to Whitewater on Saturday for a 1 p.m. tip-off.

Falcons Come Up Just Short in Overtime Loss to St. Thomas

Dec. 30, 2006

The Falcon men’s basketball team pushed No. 4 ranked St. Thomas into overtime, but lost 87-84, in the championship game of the CHS Cooperatives Holiday Tournament held Saturday night at the Karges Center.

UST’s Alex McCoy scored what proved to be the winning points with .46 to go in overtime. He hit a lay up and was fouled. He made the free throw to give the Tommies the 87-84 lead. The Falcons had the ball with 11 seconds to play but got only a desperation shot off.

The Falcons held a 47-32 halftime lead, but UST outscored the Falcons, 48-33, in the second half. The Falcons tied the game, 80-80, with :14 to play in regulation when Scott Kelly hit a 2-1 free throws. UWRF had trailed by 67-61 with 7:56 to play, but battled back. In the last seven minutes of the second half the score was tied five times. The Falcons held two three-point leads in that stretch.

In the overtime the Falcons grabbed an 82-80 lead with 4:31 to go when Nate Robertson scored on a lay up. McCoy gave UST a one-point lead with 4:06 left when he made a basket and converted on a free throw. With 3:24 to play UST’s Bryan Schnettler made 1-2 free throws to give UST an 84-82 lead. Jontae Koonkaew tied the game at 84-84 with 2:34 to play when he scored on a lay up. McCoy then scored the winning points with :46 to go.

Robertson led the Falcons with 22 points and 10 rebounds. He had two assists, three blocks and two steals. He finished 10-15 from the field. Koonkaew scored 17 points, had six rebounds and led all players with eight assists. Kelly had 13 points and six rebounds and Courtney Davis scored 10 points and had six rebounds. UWRF shot 29-60 (.483) from the field, including 7-26 (.269) from behind the arc. They were 19-27 (.704) from the line.

UST, now 8-1 overall, was led by Mike Keating who scored 22 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. He had two blocks and two steals. Schnettler scored 21 points and had seven rebounds while Lonnie Robinson scored 18 points and had five rebounds. UST shot 31-72 (.431) from the field, including 5-15 (.333) from behind the arc. They were 20-25 (.800) from the line. UST held a slight 40-39 advantage in rebounds.
Keating was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player. Schnettler, Nate Robertson and Koonkaew were all named to the All-Tourney team.

UWRF, now 5-7 overall, will next host Finlandia on Tuesday at the Karges Center. Action starts at 8 p.m.

Falcons Rout North Central 110-66
Dec. 29, 2006

The Falcons earned a trip to the championship game of the CHS Cooperatives Holiday Tournament with a blowout victory over their first-round opponent North Central, 110-66.

Seven players scored in double figures for the Falcons en route to their first 100-point game of the season.

Courtney Davis led the Falcons with 17 points on 6-10 shooting. Ryan Thompson led the Falcons with six assists to go along with 16 points on 6-9 shooting, including 4-6 from behind the arc. Nate Robertson recorded 12 points and grabbed 13 rebounds for his fourth double-double of the season. Jontae Koonkaew also had a double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds. Jesse Elling led the Falcons in scoring off the bench with 14 points on 5-8 shooting. Tim Pearson added 11 points and eight rebounds off the bench.

The Falcons entered the second half leading 43-33 but they quickly tripled that lead to 30 points with a little under eight minutes to play in the game. The Falcons were 12-24 from the three-point line as a team, including 9-17 in the second half when they pulled away from North Central. The Falcons were stout in the paint, out-rebounding North Central 63-36. The Falcons got a huge lift from their bench, outscoring North Central 50-16.

North Central was led in scoring by Chris Johnson's 20 points.

The Falcons will try to ride the momentum into tomorrow night's showdown with St. Thomas. St. Thomas squeaked by St. Scholastica 82-76 in the early game at Karges Center but were without All-American center Isaac Rosefelt. St. Thomas currently holds the No. 4 ranking on the D3Hoops.com Top 25 poll. Tip-off is scheduled for 8 p.m. in front of the home crowd at Karges Center.

Falcons Fall Victim to Hot-Shooting Concordia
Dec. 16, 2006

The Falcons failed to extend their winning streak to a season-high three games in a 105-72 defeat to Concordia-St. Paul at Gangelhoff Center on Saturday night.

The Golden Bears put on a shooting clinic in front of their home crowd, knocking down 17-23 three-point attempts. The Falcons had five players score in double figures but it wasn't enough against the dead-eye shooting of the Golden Bears.

Nate Robertson led the way for the Falcons with 15 points and six rebounds. Ryan Thompson added 12 points to go along with four assists and two rebounds. Jontae Koonkaew starting for the third consecutive game, scored 12 points on 3-6 shooting from behind the arc. Courtney Davis pulled down six rebounds and chipped in 11 points on 5-6 free-throw shooting. Tim Pearson gave the Falcons a spark off the bench with 10 points and three rebounds.

The Golden Bears jumped to an early 13-3 edge from which the Falcons were never able to recover. Going into halftime the Falcons trailed 54-37. Scott Kelly's jumper with 16:18 to go in the second half cut the deficit to 61-48, but that was as close as the Falcons would get. On the next play the Golden Bears' Joey Peel hit one of his four three-pointers to put them back up by 16. The Falcons struggled in many facets of the game. The Falcons had 33 rebounds and 13 assists compared to the 52 rebounds and 27 assists by the Golden Bears. The Falcons turned the ball over 20 times, including 15 steals by the Golden Bears.

Kyle Marxhausen led the Golden Bears with 27 points on 10-18 shooting, including 5-7 from behind the arc. Peel had a well-rounded game, scoring 18 points on 4-4 three-point shooting to go with six assists and six steals.

In aftermath of the tough loss to Div. II Concordia the Falcons, now 4-6 overall, will look to win the CHS Cooperatives Holiday Tournament beginning Dec. 29 with an opening round match up against North Central. Tip off is 8 p.m.

Falcons Get Points From Everyone in Win at Crown
Dec. 14, 2006

Everyone who played scored at least two points in the men's basketball team's 97-57 win at Crown on Thursday night.

Ryan Thompson led the Falcons with 18 points. He shot 6-7 from the field, including 4-5 from behind the arc. He was 2-2 at the line. He had three steals. Tim Pearson had a solid all-around game. He led the Falcons with seven rebounds, three assists and four steals.

He scored six points. Courtney Davis added 10 points. UWRF had a commanding 44-26 advantage in rebounds. The Falcons shot 34-60 (.567) from the field, including 10-21 (.476) from three-point range. They finished 19-27 (.704) from the line.

Crowns, which went to the free throw line only twice in the game, was led by Chad Dellos who scored 18 points. Incade Kirkpatrick added 17 points. Crown was 24-66 (.364) from the field, including 9-27 (.333) from three-point range. They were 0-2 from the line.

Crowd had a 5-3 lead with 17:49 to play, but then UWRF's Scott Kelly hit back-to-back three-pointers to get the Falcons off and running. The biggest Falcon lead in the first half was the halftime score, 43-21. UWRF increased its lead throughout the second half and it grew to 30 points (66-36) when Jesse Elling scored on a layup with 12:05 left to play.

The Falcons, now 4-5 overall, will next play at Con.-St. Paul on Saturday with tip off set for 7 p.m.

Davis Powers Falcons to 96-74 Victory Over Bethany
Dec. 12, 2006
The Falcons got reacquainted with the win column after three consecutive losses to tough conference opponents. Courtney Davis led the Falcons with 21 points and eight rebounds. 17 of his points came in an electric second half for the Falcons in which they scored a season-high 61 points in a half. It was also the third time the high-scoring Falcons have topped 90 points in game this season. Last year they were unable to reach that mark once.

The Falcons got a balanced effort in a game where every Falcon player received court time. Nate Robertson chipped in 16 points, three rebounds and two blocks. Jontae Koonkaew started for the second time this year had a well-rounded game, finishing with nine points, six assists, six rebounds and three steals. Ryan Thompson and Scott Kelly knocked down three three-pointers apiece while scoring 13 and 11 points respectively. Tim Pearson came off the bench to add six points, four rebounds and one block in 21 minutes of work. 11 players scored for the Falcons in their victory.

The Falcons were only up by four going into the second half but quickly increased their lead to 20 a little under seven minutes into the second half. The Falcons had an all-around great shooting night, both from the line and from the field. They knocked down 22-25 free-throws, 10-19 three-pointers and shot an overall 50.8 percent from the field, including 62.2 percent in the second half. They also stayed away from foul trouble, tallying only ten fouls in the game.

Bethany was led in scoring by reserve Dewan Grant’s 17 points and eight rebounds.

The Falcons will next play at Crown on Thursday in a non-conference match-up. Tip off is scheduled for 7:30

Falcons Lose to Pioneers, 70-66

Robertson Finishes With Double-Double

Dec. 9, 2006

The Falcon men’s basketball team came up just short in a 70-66 loss to UW-Platteville at the Karges Center Saturday afternoon.

UWP led 38-27 at the half and the Falcons outscored the Pioneers, 39-32, in the second half. But it wasn’t enough as UWP went 4-4 from the line in the last 11 seconds of the game to secure the win.

Nate Robertson led the Falcons with a double-double finishing with 20 points and 10 rebounds. He had three assists, two blocks and two steals. Jontae Kookaew came off the bench to score 11 points. Ryan Thompson finished with 10 points. UWRF shot an excellent 25-46 (.543) from the field, including 4-10 (.400) from three-point range. The Falcons were 12-15 (.800) from the line.

Curt Hanson came off the Pioneer bench to lead his team in scoring with 12 points. Kyle Tetschlag and Jeff Skemp both scored 11. The Pioneers got balanced scoring with seven players scoring at least seven points each. UWP also had balance in rebounding with four players finishing with at least four rebounds. Tetschlag, Skemp and Mark Gossens each had five and Luke Stotmeister had four. UWRF shot 24-50 (.480) from the floor, including 5-15 (.333) from behind the arc. UWP was 17-21 (.810) form the line. UWP had a slight, 27-26, advantage in rebounding.

UWRF built an 11-5 lead to start the game. But UWP, now 6-1 overall and 2-1 in the WIAC, tied the game, 11-11 when Stotmeister scored on a lay up with 13:11 to play. There were four ties in the first half, the last was 25-25 with 6:21 to play. UWP scored the next seven points and made it an 11 point game at the half when Mike Jamerson hit a three with three seconds to play. The Falcons climbed back into it and tied the game, 43-43, with 12:48 to play when Robertson scored on a lay up. UWRF pulled to within two three times in the last :48, but Charlie Lohoff, who scored nine points, was 4-4 from the line in the last 11 seconds. He finished 5-6 at the line.

The Falcons, now 2-5 overall and 1-3 in the WIAC, will next host Bethany Lutheran on Tuesday at the Karges Center with tip off set for 7 p.m.

Falcons Come Up Short at Eau Claire 63-62

Dec. 6, 2006

Zach Ryan’s layup with two seconds left in the game put the Blugolds up by one and slammed the door on a marvelous performance by Falcons Jontae Koonkaew in the closing minutes. It was a close battle all night in a game consisting of seven ties and nine lead changes. The Falcons Tim Pearson, in his return to his hometown of Eau Claire, played a solid game but couldn’t put the icing on the cake with a half court miss in the closing seconds.

Courtney Davis started out hot for the Falcons, scoring 11 points in the first half. He cooled down in the second half, finishing with 15 points on 7-13 shooting to go along with five rebounds. Koonkaew blew up in the final seven minutes of the game, scoring 12 points including a three-point play that put the Falcons up 62-61 with seven seconds to play. He finished the game with 15 points and four assists. Ryan Thompson was hot from the behind the arc all night, making 4-7 to finish with 12 points on the night. Nate Robertson was strong inside with 12 points, six rebounds and three blocks but continued to struggle from the line, going 2-7.

Dan Beyer and Blugolds leading scorer Jared Bardon led the team with 16 points apiece. Zach Ryan finished with 12 points, including the game-winner and three assists. Steve Hoelzel also enjoyed a strong game with six points, nine rebounds and four assists.

The Falcons, led by Davis jumped to an early 24-13 edge with seven minutes to play in the first half. The Blugolds went on a 12-4 run to cut the deficit to 28-25 at halftime. The Blugolds were able to take the lead early in the second half and increase it to eight points with ten minutes to go in the second half. The Falcons took the lead again 53-52 with four minutes to play but weren’t able to maintain it in the end.

The Falcons will next host 5-1 Platteville on Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m. at Karges Center

Falcons Top Superior 90-65

Nov. 29, 2006
The Falcons men's basketball team kicked off their WIAC season with a convincing 90-65 victory over Superior on Wednesday night. The Falcons were able to supplement their high octane offense with good team defense and low turnovers in route to their second victory of the season. It was the second time this year that the Falcons were able to tally 90 or more points in a game.

Courtney Davis led the Falcons with 25 points, 7 rebounds and 4 steals. Davis also excelled from the line, knocking down 7-8 free throws down the stretch. Ryan Thompson added 13 points to go along with a game-high 8 assists. Nate Robertson had another strong game in the middle for the Falcons, finishing with 15 points, 8 rebounds and 2 blocks. The Falcons shot a combined 8-18 from three-point range, getting two apiece from Davis, Jontae Koonkaew and Erik Olson. The Falcons also got a very balanced scoring attack, having seven players score eight or more points.

The Falcons led 48-36 at halftime but immediately jumped on Superior to begin the second half. They went on a 10-2 run in the first four minutes to go up by 20 points. A three-pointer by Olson about halfway through the half sealed the deal and increased the Falcons lead to a game-high 33 points.

James Nobles led Superior with 18 points and 14 rebounds. Leonard Cobb came into the game averaging 24.3 points and 11.3 rebounds a game for Superior. The Falcons were able to stifle Cobb, who ended up with 4 points and 5 rebounds in 16 minutes of play due to foul trouble. As the Falcons went on their second half run, Cobb fouled out of the game, helping the Falcons further their lead.

Tee Falcons hope to relay the success they enjoyed against Superior into Saturday afternoon's tilt with Stevens Point. Stevens Point is currently 3-0 and ranked No. 9 in the D3hoops.com Division III poll. Tip off is scheduled for 3 p.m. at the Karges Center.

Falcons Lose to Macalester, 87-73
Nov. 25, 2006
The Falcons men’s basketball team lost an 87-73 decision to Macalester on Friday night at the Karges Center.

Macalester held a 46-28 lead at the half but the Falcons outscored the Scots, 45-41 in the second half.

Nate Robertson had a career high 26 points and 15 rebounds. He shot 11-18 from the field and finished 4-8 from the line. He had one assist, four steals and two blocks. Ryan Thompson had 18 points and finished 4-8 from three-point range. Jontae Koonkaew, who scored eight points, finished with 11 rebounds. The Falcons shot 26-68 (.382) from the field, including 6-21 (.286) from behind the arc. They were 15-24 (.625) from the line. UWRF had a 44-35 advantage in rebounds.

Macalester had four players score in double figures led by Abe Woldeslassie who finished with 23. he was 5-6 from three-point range. He led the Scots with five assists. Tom Conboy finished with 20 points and 12 rebounds. Brad Liddell scored 17 points and 7 from behind the arc. Lars Johnson added 12 points. The Scots were 31-55 (.564) from the field, including 11-17 (.647) from behind the arc. They were 14-26 (.538) from the line.

Koonkaew scored the first two points of the contest to give the Falcons a 2-0 lead, but that was the last time UWRF led. MC went on a 10-0 run to take a 26-11 lead with 9:16 to play in the first half. The Falcons got to within 14 points, (35-21) with 4:22 to play in the first half when Cory Rondeau scored. Macalester had a 23 point (51-28) lead early in the second half. The Falcons got as close as 10 points (83-73) with just 46 seconds remaining when Robertson scored from in close.

The Falcons, now 1-2 overall, will open WIAC play on Wednesday at Superior. Tip off is set for 7 p.m.

Falcons Fall to Bethel 107-77
Nov. 18, 2006
The Falcons men's basketball team dropped the championship game of the Bethel Tip-Off Tournament 107-77 Saturday night to Bethel. Courtney Davis led the Falcons with a game-high 18 points on 8-14 shooting.

Jontae Koonkaew provided a spark off the bench for the second consecutive night, scoring 16 points and going 7-7 from the line. Ryan Thompson chipped in 12 points and Tim Pearson added 11 for the Falcons. The Royals jumped on the Falcons early, leading by 27 points at the end of the first half. It was a hole the Falcons were unable to dig themselves out of. The Royals worked hard on the glass, outrebounding the Falcons 35-18. It was truly a tale of two halves for the Falcons as they shot 39 percent in the first half compared to 60 percent in the second half.

The balanced effort the Falcons were able to get last night, the Royals were able to get tonight. They had six players score in double figures, led by Andy Cook’s 16 points and 5 rebounds. Guard Cory Laugen also put up a strong game, scoring 14 points to go along with a game-high 7 assists.

The Falcons will head into their home opener on Saturday against Macalester with a 1-1 record. Tip-off is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Falcons defeat William Penn 99-91
Nov. 17, 2006
The Falcons got off to the quick start they were hoping for with a strong victory over William Penn in their opening game in the Bethel Tip-Off Tournament. Junior guard Ryan Thompson led all scorers with 22 points. Six players scored in double figures for the Falcons while two freshmen played large roles in the victory.

The Falcons found themselves behind the charity stripe often against William Penn, going a combined 36-51. Thompson scored more than half of his points from the line, going 12-16. Freshman guard Jontae Koonkaew provided a spark off the bench for the Falcons, scoring 20 points and shooting 3-6 from behind the arc in his first collegiate game. Freshman big man Nate Robertson also enjoyed success in his first collegiate game, scoring 12 points while grabbing 10 rebounds. Junior guard Courtney Davis added help inside,
grabbing 9 rebounds to go along with 18 points. Junior forwards Scott Kelly and Tim Pearson also contributed, scoring 11 and 10 points respectively.

The Falcons were very strong on the boards, outrebounding William Penn 43-33. The Falcons shot a combined 47 percent from the field and 40 percent from three point range.

William Penn's Ryan Norman enjoyed a strong game, scoring 20 points to go along with 9 rebounds. He also shot 6-9 from three-point range.

The Falcons will now face the winner of Bethel and Dakota State tomorrow tonight at 8 p.m.

**Falcons Prepare for 2006-07 Season**

**Nov. 15, 2006**

The 2006-07 Falcons men's basketball team will have a different look to them this season due to an off-season of major changes both on the roster and with the coaching staff.

The Falcons open their season at the Bethel Tournament this weekend. On Friday the Falcons play William Penn at 6 p.m. They will play either Bethel or Dakota State at 6 or 8 p.m. on Saturday.

The team will look to start anew after the retirement of Head Coach Rick Bowen and having to replace three starters from last season, including Hans Hoeg, the Falcons leading scorer and rebounder the last two years.

The Falcons hope to rally together this season with strong team chemistry and an influx of new talent. Eight new players will put on a Falcon uniform this season, six of them freshmen. It will be a season of opportunity for many of them to play and showcase their talent.

Bowen hands the baton to interim Coach Jeff Berkhof, a 12-year assistant under Bowen. For the last nine seasons Berkhof has been Bowen's top assistant. He will be looking to place an emphasis on sound defense and rebounding along with an offense that will try to bring out the strengths of his players. Besides having major personnel losses, the team has also experienced a rough stretch the last two seasons. After the memorable 2003-04 campaign in which the Falcons won 20 games in route to their first WIAC Championship in over 50 years, the team has stumbled a bit the last two seasons.

Berkhof stepped down this off-season as coach to become the full-time UWRF athletic director. In his 20 seasons as the head coach, Bowen compiled a 265-249 record and a conference title in 2003-04. The last two seasons haven't been as memorable, as the Falcons have gone a combined 14-36, including 6-19 last season. Berkhof believes that last year's team was not as bad as the record would imply. "We were a pretty solid team the second half of the season, we just lost a lot of close games and we played a very demanding non-conference schedule early in the season," said Berkhof. The Falcons lost a total of five games last season by three points or less. If the Falcons win those games they are just a hair under .500 on the season. In 2006-07, the Falcons hope to be on the other side of those close games.

Berkhof shares many of the coaching philosophies of Bowen, including the motion offense, but he also wants to infuse a few of his own strategies. He would like to take the concepts of the motion offense and tweak it some. Berkhof feels that the team has got to be fundamentally strong and solid defensively to be successful. "We have to win the games within the game of basketball which to us includes three things: points in the paint, rebounds and limiting turnovers."

So far in practice, Berkhof has noticed many things that have him excited about his first season as head coach. With the loss of eight players from last season, Berkhof has the job of figuring out who his contributors are going to be this year. His two returning starters are locks to play huge roles this year but other than that many players can expect to see time. Even the large crop of this year's freshmen class will be called upon to perform. One thing has been evident to Berkhof this year, all his players are hungry to win and basketball is very important to them.

The team returns two starters in juniors Scott Kelly and Ryan Thompson. Thompson, playing the point position, led the WIAC in assists last season (112) while averaging 6.1 points per game. He was also named the team's Most Improved Player and earned a spot on the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll. He hopes to have a break out season as a junior. Kelly, a 6-5 forward, started 15 games last season, averaging 4.2 points per game. He averaged nearly 20 minutes a game as a sophomore last season and should expect to see that number sprout in 2006. Berkhof will be looking to them, junior forward Tim Pearson and junior college transfer Courtney Davis to serve as leaders this season.

Davis, a 6-2 guard from Mesabi Range Community & Technical College in Virginia, Minn., averaged 18.8 points per game and 8.8 rebounds per game last season. Both numbers were good for fifth in the MCCC North Division. Berkhof expects him to play a large role in the success of this year's team. Another guard who is expected to pick up the slack in the scoring department is freshman Jontae Koonkaew from Apple Valley High School. "Davis and Koonkaew provide the ability to create their own shot when needed," said Berkhof. Koonkaew is a 5-8 guard who makes up for his size with tremendous speed and quickness. "He will be a crowd favorite," added Berkhof.

Erik Olson, a 6-4 guard who played in 21 games last season as a freshman, as well as former River Falls High School player Jesse Elling, should provide depth at the guard position.

Nathan Robertson, a 6-7 freshman forward from Forest Lake High School, will be looked upon to provide some solid play in the middle early in his Falcon career. A large void was left in the Falcons big man department this season with the departure of center Ryan Zylstra. "Nate's going to be thrown to the wolves this year," said Berkhof. Junior forward Cory Rondeau will team up with Robertson on the inside.

Freshman Jake Voeltz, a 6-4 forward out of River Falls High School will also get an opportunity to play early in his career. "We're very excited about Jake's future as a Falcon," stated Berkhof. Maurice Baker, the third Scottsdale Community College Artichoke to
transfer to River Falls will be looked at to provide another scoring option at the guard position. Paul Eberhardt, now head coach of the Artichokes was a former assistant coach for the Falcons during the 1998-2000 seasons.

What the Falcons are lacking in experience they should make up for with speed, hustle and teamwork. Returning players look to lead the younger players by example. "We have a good group of returning players and new guys. We seem to have pretty good team chemistry right now, a close knit bunch of guys who are excited about the season and want to do well together," said Berkhof.

Berkhof has his eyes set high this season. Making the NCAA Tournament is the No. 1 goal in 2006. "That will be our goal every season, everybody wants to play in March Madness." If it takes them winning the WIAC Tournament at the end of the regular season or getting an at-large bid, Berkhof just wants to get there.

The Falcons take to the hard-court Nov. 17-18 at the Bethel Tip Off Tournament in St. Paul, Minn. Their first opponent will be William Penn at 6 p.m. on Friday. William Penn finished 19-14 overall and 11-3 in the Midwest Classic Conference to win its first league championship since 1983 last season. The weekend should be a good test for the Falcons, which look to get off on the right foot against some tough opponents "We hope to get off to a great start and be 2-0 after Saturday night," said Berkhof. If the Falcons are able to defeat William Penn, they will face the winner of Bethel-Dakota State game on Saturday night.

The Falcons first home game will be a non-conference match up with Macalester on Saturday, Nov. 25 at 7 p.m. The Falcons begin their WIAC schedule at Superior on Wednesday, Nov. 29.

2006-07 Schedule

Nov. 17 at Bethel Tip Off Tournament, vs. William Penn, 6 p.m.
Nov. 18 at Bethel Tip Off Tournament, 6 or 8 p.m. vs. Bethel or Dakota State
Nov. 25 Macalester, 7 p.m.
Nov. 29 at Superior*, 7 p.m.
Dec. 2 Stevens Point*, 3 p.m.
Dec. 6 at Eau Claire*, 6 p.m.
Dec. 9 Platteville*, 1 p.m.
Dec. 12 Bethany Lutheran, 7 p.m.
Dec. 14 at Crown, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 16 at Con.-St. Paul, 7 p.m.
Dec. 29 Cenex Harvest States Holiday Tournament
St. Scholastica vs. St. Thomas, 6 p.m.
River Falls vs. North Central, 8 p.m.
Dec. 30 Cenex Harvest States Holiday Tournament
Consolation Game, 6 p.m.
Championship Game, 8 p.m.
Jan. 2 Finlandia, 8 p.m.
Jan. 6 at Whitewater*, 1 p.m.
Jan. 10 Stout*, 7 p.m.
Jan. 13 Oshkosh*, 1 p.m.
Jan. 17 La Crosse*, 7 p.m.
Jan. 20 at Stevens Point*, 3 p.m.
Jan. 24 Superior*, 7 p.m.
Jan. 27 at Oshkosh*, 1 p.m.
Jan. 31 at Stout*, 7 p.m.
Feb. 3 at Platteville*, 1 p.m.
Feb. 7 Eau Claire*, 6 p.m.
Feb. 10 Whitewater*, 1 p.m.
Feb. 14 at La Crosse*, 7 p.m.
Feb. 20 WIAC Tournament Playoffs**, TBD
Jeff Berkhof - Head Interim Men's Basketball Coach

Jeff Berkhof takes over as head men's interim basketball coach at UW-River Falls for the 2006-07 season.

Berkhof is no stranger to Falcon basketball. He was former Coach Rick Bowen's top assistant for the past nine seasons and a member of the Falcon coaching staff dating back to the 1994-95 season.

During his 12-year span as an assistant coach, Berkhof has held many responsibilities. He has coordinated the Falcon recruiting efforts, directed the Falcon summer basketball camps, and organized scouting / film exchange. He has also had numerous administrative duties and on the floor coaching responsibilities.

While an assistant to the men's basketball program, Berkhof was also the head women's golf coach at UW River Falls from 2002-06. He was named the WIAC women's golf Coach of the Year in 2004 after leading the golf team to a third place finish in the WIAC meet.

Before joining the coaching ranks, Berkhof spent two seasons playing for the Falcons in 1992-94. During his senior season, he was selected to the 1994 All-WSUC team and was chosen Co-MVP and Co-Captain by his teammates. Before coming to UW-River Falls, Berkhof played two years at Worthington Junior College, in Worthington, Minn. In 1997, he was inducted into the Minnesota Junior College Athletic Hall of Fame. Prior to his time at Worthington JC, he attended South Dakota State University in Brookings, S.D., and was a member of the SDSU football squad.

The Hills, Minn., native received his masters of education degree in sport management at the University of Minnesota in 2005. He completed his bachelor of science degree at UW-River Falls with a major in physical education and a minor in athletic coaching in 1994. Berkhof is an instructor in the health and human performance department at UW-River Falls.

Jeff and his wife Jill reside in Hudson. Jill is a UW-River Falls alum and fifth grade teacher at Lake Elmo, Minn. They have one son, Benjamin, who was born in June of 2004.

Assistant Men's Basketball Coaches

Pedro Renta

Pedro Renta is back with the Falcon coaching staff after spending the past three seasons as the head high school coach at Ellsworth, Wis. Renta was a volunteer assistant for three seasons with the Falcons from 2000-03. Along with his on-the-floor coaching duties, Renta will be involved with recruiting, scouting, and player development and will coordinate the academic monitoring program. Renta, who has worked various basketball camps throughout the Midwest, will also direct the Falcon summer basketball camps. The Milwaukee native received his undergraduate degree from UW-River Falls in Spanish education with a minor in athletic coaching in 2001. Pedro and his wife Susan reside in Hudson. They have two sons; Mateo and Andre.

Kevin Landrum

Kevin Landrum is entering his first season as an assistant coach with the Falcons. Landrum is no stranger to the WIAC, as he played his collegiate basketball at UW-Platteville from 1999-02 and served as a volunteer assistant in 2003 for his father, former UW-Platteville Coach Todd Landrum. He has also worked with the Minnesota Timberwolves and their Youth Basketball Department for the past three seasons. Landrum will be involved with recruiting, scouting, and player development and will coordinate film exchange. Landrum will complete his undergraduate degree in health & human performance at UW-River Falls in the spring of 2007. Landrum lives in Hudson, Wis.

Kurran Sagan

Kurran Sagan is in his second year as a volunteer assistant coach with the Falcons. Sagan is very familiar with the Falcon program as he also served as a student assistant in the 2004-05 season and was a student manager for two seasons in 2002-04. Sagan will be involved with recruiting and scouting. He currently works on the campus of UW-River Falls as a Recreation Leadership coordinator in the Student Services and Programs department. The Elk River, Minn. native graduated with a degree in health and human performance from UW-River Falls in 2005 and is currently working on his masters of education degree at the University of Minnesota. Sagan lives in River Falls.