## Soccer 2007-2008

### 2007 UW-River Falls Soccer Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Pos.</th>
<th>Hgt.</th>
<th>Yr.</th>
<th>Hometown/High School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Andrea Dudley</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>St. Paul Park, MN/Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Emily Stieler</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Ham Lake, MN/Andover</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Jennifer Pengra</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Coon Rapids, MN/Champlin Park</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Kelly Piersak</td>
<td>F/M</td>
<td>5-3</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Shoreview, MN/Mounds View</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Megan Church</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>5-4</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>White Bear Lake, MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Jen Terry</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>5-1</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Shoreview, MN/Totino-Grace</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Dianna Hermes</td>
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<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Prior Lake, MN</td>
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<td>Jaclyn Rehmke</td>
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<td>Fr.</td>
<td>Albert Lea, MN</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Jessi Larson</td>
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<td>Winona, MN/Cotter</td>
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<td>Tracey Boyle</td>
<td>F/M</td>
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<td>Julie Sperstad</td>
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<td>Betsy Straub</td>
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<td>Jr.</td>
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<td>Jess Tacheny</td>
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<td>Katie Schroeder</td>
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<td>Jr.</td>
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<td>Sr.</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Kayla Scott</td>
<td>F/M</td>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Kiel, WI</td>
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</table>

**Head coach:** Sean McKuras  
**Assistant coach:** Ben Gaddis  
**Manager:** Maya Peterson  
**Student trainer:** Laura Raethke
The Falcons

Andrea Dudley
G, 5-6, Senior, #0
St. Paul Park, Minn.
Park High School

Andrea Dudley brings plenty of experience and skills to the Falcons and plays goaltender.

2006: Dudley earned her third letter with the Falcons.
2005: Dudley played in two games with the Falcons. She played 20 minutes in a 4-0 win over Bethel and the entire game in a 3-1 win over UM-Morris. She had four saves to get the win over UMM. Dudley was named to the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll.
2004: Dudley played in seven games and started six times. She finished the year with a 5-1-0 record with a 1.09 goals against average and a .24 saves percentage. She recorded two shutouts. She made three saves in a 1-0 win over Augsburg and two saves in a 2-0 win over St. Catherine. She had a season-high nine saves against UM-Morris.

High School, Personal: Dudley earned a Raider award at Park High School. She was named her school’s Athlete of the Week and earned the Coaches award. Her hobbies include reading, doing crossword puzzles and sudoku and hanging out with friends. Her role models include her sister, Sonja, a former Falcon soccer player, and Briana Scurry. Her favorite soccer moment was beating Stevens Point and earning her first collegiate shutout against Augsburg. Her high school coach was Greg Juba. She is the daughter of Deb and Caroll. Dudley is majoring in history education.

Tracy Olson
D, 5-5, Senior, #22
Rosemount, Minn.

Rosemount High School

Tracy Olson is one of the top defensive players in the WIAC. Her reading of the play before it happens helps her in stopping opponent scoring chances. The senior enters her final season and is one of the team's captains.

2006: Once again Olson played and started in all 19 games as a defender. Even though she didn’t score, she had three shots. Olson was named the team’s Defensive Most Valuable Player. She is one of two returning players who earned the team’s Player of the Week award twice during the season. She earned the defensive honors on Sept. 18 and again on Oct. 23. Olson is one of the team’s captains.

2005: Olson played and started in all 19 games for the Falcons as a defender. She picked up one assist – it proved to be a big one in a 2-1 win over Stevens Point. She finished the year with 11 shots, three were on goal. She was named the team’s Defensive Player of the Week on Oct. 3.

2004: Olson had a solid first year for the Falcons playing defender. She played in every game for the Falcons and started the last 10 contests. She scored three goals and one assists for seven points. Olson scored two goals in her first collegiate game, an 8-0 win over Bethany Lutheran. She had a season-high six shots, three on goal, in that game. She got her one assist in a 14-0 win over Superior. She was named the team’s Defensive Player of the Week on Oct. 25.

High School, Personal: Olson was named to the all-conference team three times at Rosemount High School. She was named the team’s Defensive Player of the Year in 2003 and was the team’s captain in 2002 and 2003. Olson’s high school coach was O.J. Okello. Her hobbies include watching movies, listening to music and spending time with friends and family, especially her sister. Her role models are her parents. She is the daughter of Judy and Jeff. Olson is majoring in social work.

Jennifer Pengra
F, 5-7, Senior, #3
Coon Rapids, Minn.

Champlin Park High School

Jennifer Pengra returns for her final season for the Falcons and plays forward.

2006: She played in 12 games and started in games against La Crosse near the end of the season. She register three shots.

2005: Pengra had another good season for the Falcons. She played in 10 games and had one assist against St. Scholastica. Pengra had five shots. She earned her second letter.

2004: Earned her first letter with the Falcons after playing in five games. She missed the rest of the season due to an injury.

High School, Personal: She was voted Champlin Park’s Most Dedicated player in 2003. She is the daughter of Linda and Jeff. Her role models are her sister and parents. Her hobbies include being with friends and family, watching movies, listening to music and being active in anything involving soccer or other sports. Her high school coach was Chris Osbourne. Pengra is majoring in marketing communications.
Julie Sperstad  
M, 5-9, Senior, #15  
Eau Claire, Wis.  
Memorial High School

Julie Sperstad is one of the top players in the WIAC. She has mastered both the offensive and defensive parts of the game and contributes equally well on both ends of the pitch. She is one of the team’s captains.

2006: Sperstad played and started all 19 games for the Falcons. She was named to the All-WIAC team after scoring two goals and eight points. She scored in a 7-0 win over St. Catherine and in a 2-1 loss to St. Olaf. She had 34 shots and was fifth in shots on goal with 16. Sperstad was named the team’s Defensive Player of the Week on Oct. 16. She was named to the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll.

2005: Sperstad had another solid season, her second with the Falcons. She played and started in all 19 games and finished with two goals and six points. She scored the game-winning goal in a 2-1 win over Whitewater and added a goal in a 3-1 win over UM-Morris. She also had an assist against UMM giving her a three point game. She recorded 14 shots and nine were on goal. Sperstad was named the team’s Defensive Player of the Week three times – on Sept. 20, Oct. 17 and Oct. 31.

2004: Sperstad had a great first year with the Falcons finishing tied for fourth in scoring with two goals and three assists for seven points. She was named the team’s Rookie of the Year. She played in every game and was a starter in all but one. She scored her first collegiate goal in her first game, a win over Bethany Lutheran. Sperstad had a season-high six shots in the game. She picked up a goal and an assist in a win over Con-St. Paul. She was named the team’s Defensive Player of the Week on Oct. 11 when the Falcons beat Eau Claire, 4-1.

High School, Personal: Sperstad was named to the all-conference team as a senior at Eau Claire Memorial High School. She also twice earned all-conference honorable mention honors. She helped lead the Old Abes to the WIAA State Tournament. She was a member of the Partners Club and a Link Leader. Her favorite past time is hanging out with her friends. Her role model is her Mom. Her favorite soccer moment was when the Falcons defeated Stevens Point. Her high school coach was George Oien. She is the daughter of Rita and Kris. Sperstad is majoring in health & human performance.

Dianna Hermes  
M, 5-3, Junior, #8  
Prior Lake, Minn.  
Prior Lake High School

Dianna Hermes is back for her third season and plays midfield.

2006: Hermes played and started in all 19 Falcon games. She registered one assist in the team's 2-1 loss to Bethel. She finished the year with 31 shots and was fourth on the team with 21 shots on goal. She was named the team's Most Improved Player. Hermes was named the team's Offensive Player of the Week on Sept. 12.

2005: Hermes had a solid first year with the Falcons. The talented forward played in 13 games and started three times - against Eau Claire twice and Platteville. She scored two goals and had two assists. She scored her first collegiate goal in a 4-0 win over Luther. She also had an assist in the game giving her three points in the contest. Hermes had a season-high three shots on goal against Oshkosh in her first collegiate game. She also had a goal against St. Catherine and an assist against UM-Morris. She finished the season with eight shots and six were on goal. She was named the team's Offensive Player of the Week on Sept. 26.

High School, Personal: Hermes earned all-conference honors in soccer and track & field at Prior Lake High School. She was the soccer team's Most Valuable Player and Rookie of the Year and won the team's Golden Boot award. Hermes earned three soccer letters. She was named to the conference's All-Academic track & field team and was a member of the school's Honor Roll. Hermes earned four track & field letters. She is the daughter of Colleen and Lannie. Her high school coach was David Graham. Her hobbies include being with friends and going up north with her family. Her role models are her parents. Her favorite soccer moment defeated Stevens Point at home in 2005. Hermes is majoring in marketing communications.

Amy Piersak  
D, 5-6, Junior, #21  
Shoreview, Minn.  
Mounds View High School

Amy Piersak returns at full strength for the Falcons and will be a defender.

2006: Piersak started the season strong, but had a season-ending knee injury that limited her playing time to just two games. She picked up an assist in the team's 7-0 win over Northland. She received a medical red-shirt and that gives her two more seasons of eligibility. Piersak was named to the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll.

2005: Piersak had yet another outstanding season. She scored two goals - one in a 4-0 win over Bethel and the second was the team's only goal in a 1-0 overtime win over Stevens Point in the WIAC playoffs. Both goals were game winners. She started and played in 18 games and finished the year with 19 shots and 10 were on goal. Piersak was named the team's Defensive Player of the Week on Sept. 6.

2004: Piersak scored two goals and four points for the Falcons in her first season. She scored her first collegiate goal in a 14-0 win over Superior. She played and started every game. Piersak was twice named the team's Defensive Player of the Week. She was named for the first time on Sept. 7 when the Falcons won twice and she helped limit the opponents to just three shots on goal. She was named a second time on Nov. 1 when she scored the team's first goal in a 3-2 overtime loss at Nebraska Wesleyan. Piersak was named to the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll. She was named to the UW-RF Dean's List after the spring 2005 semester.

High School, Personal: Piersak was named to the all-conference team in 2003 and earned all-conference honorable mention in 2002 at Mounds View High School. She also earned All-State Honorable Mention honors in 2003. She earned four letters. Piersak played in the High School Senior Classic. She was also a member of the track & field team and earned four letters. She gained All-State honors and was the team captain. She was a member of the National Honor Society and earned four academic letters. Her hobbies include reading, hunting, fishing and camping. Her role models are her parents, her high school soccer and John.
Kelly Piersak
F/M, 5-2, Junior, #4
Shoreview, Minn.
Mounds View High School
Kelly Piersak returns to the team at full strength and can play both forward and midfield.

2006: Piersak missed a portion of the early season for the Falcons with an injury. But she was able to rehabilitate and played in 15 of the team's final 16 games. She rebounded so well that she was named the team's Defensive Player of the Week on Oct. 30. She had one assist during the season in the team's 2-1 win at Carleton. Piersak had six shots. She was named to the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll.

2005: Piersak had a great rookie season at UWRF and was named Co-Rookie of the Year. She played in all 19 games and started 17 times. She finished third on the team in scoring with six goals and 17 points. She was second on the team with 43 shots and 23 were on goal. Piersak scored a goal in her first collegiate game, a 2-1 win over Carleton. She had one game-winning goal - it came against St. Olaf in a 1-0 win. In the WIAC she finished 13th in scoring, 15th in goals and ninth in assists. She had a seven-point game against Superior when she scored twice and had three assists. The three assists tied her for most by a Falcon in a match. The seven points were second most in a single match. She was named the team's Offensive Player of the Week on Oct. 24. Piersak was a member of the Falcon indoor and outdoor track & field teams.

High School, Personal: She earned four soccer letters and honorable mention to the all-conference team and was the team's Most Improved Player in 2004. In 2005 she was the team's captain, was named to the all-conference team and was a Gatorade Will to Win Athlete. She also earned three track & field letters and was the team captain. She earned honorable mention to the all-conference team in the 300-meter hurdles event. She is the daughter of Debra and Robert and they are her role models. Her favorite soccer moment was defeating Stevens Point in double overtime in the WIAC playoffs in 2005. Her sister, Amy, is also a member of the Falcon soccer team. Her hobbies include playing soccer, being outside, camping, watching movies and hanging out with her friends. Her high school coach was Sharon Swallen. Piersak is majoring in biology.

Betsy Straub
D, 5-5, Junior, #16
Rosemount, Minn.
Rosemount High School
Betsy Straub is a solid defensive player for the Falcons. She returns for her third year with the team in 2007.

2006: Straub had another strong season. She played in 17 games and started 16 times. She ended the year with seven shots. Her defensive skills helped keep opponents away from scoring chances. She was named the team's Defensive Player of the Week on Sept. 25. Straub was named to the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll.

2005: Straub had a solid first year with the Falcons and was named the Co-Rookie of the Year. She played in all 19 games and started six times. She finished with two goals and six points. She scored her first collegiate goal in a win over St. Scholastica. She also scored the team's only goal in a 1-1 overtime tie against Stout. Straub was named the team's Offensive Player of the Week on Oct. 24. Straub had one assist during the season in the team's 2-1 win over Carleton. She had one game-winning goal - it came against St. Olaf in a 1-0 win. In the WIAC she finished 13th in scoring, 15th in goals and ninth in assists. She had a seven-point game against Superior when she scored twice and had three assists. The three assists tied her for most by a Falcon in a match. The seven points were second most in a single match. She was named the team's Offensive Player of the Week on Oct. 24. Piersak was a member of the Falcon indoor and outdoor track & field teams.

High School, Personal: Straub earned the Lake Conference honorable mention award while playing at Rosemount High School. She earned three letters and won the Irish Award. Straub was a member of the National Honor Society and also a member of the Spanish National Honor Society. She was on the A Honor Roll for four years. Her favorite past time is spending time with her family and friends. Her role model is her family. Her favorite soccer memory is scoring her first goal, off a header, in college in 2005. Her high school coach was Jeff Dennehy. Straub is majoring in biomedical science.

Jen Terry
M, 5-1, Junior, #7
Shoreview, Minn.
Totino-Grace High School
Jen Terry returns for her third year with the Falcons and will play the midfield position.

2006: Terry scored her first collegiate goal in the team's 7-0 win over Northland. She also scored goals against St. Catherine and Oshkosh. She finished the season with three goals and seven points. She played in all 19 games and started 15 times. Terry was named the team's Defensive Player of the Week on Oct. 2. She was named to the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll.

2005: Terry had a solid first season for the Falcons. She played in 15 games and started three times. She ended the season with seven shots and three were on goal. Terry was named to the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll. She earned UWRF Dean's List Honors after the fall and spring semesters.

High School, Personal: Terry helped Totino-Grace High School to Minnesota State Championships in 2002. She earned three soccer and two track & field letters. She helped the team win sectional titles in 2002, 2003 and 2004. She earned academic all-conference honors in 2004. Terry was on either the A or B Honor Roll from 2002-05. An excellent musician, she earned a superior rating in 2005 and an excellent rating in 2003 in the state solo/ensemble competition. She was the flute section leader in 2004-05 and was also a member of the Show Choir. She enjoys playing the flute, water skiing, singing, reading the listening to music. She lists her role models as Michelle Akers and Janet Montgomery. Her high school coach was Jeff Dennehy. She lists her track & field coaches and Brandi Chastain. Her favorite soccer moment was when the Falcons defeated Stevens Point in 2005 in two overtimes in the WIAC playoffs. Her high school coaches were Sharon and John Swallen. Her sister, Kelly, is a member of the team. She is the daughter of Debra and Robert. Piersak is majoring in biology secondary education. Swallen. Her sister, Kelly, is a member of the team. She is the daughter of Debra and Robert. Piersak is majoring in biology secondary education.
favorite soccer moments as defeating Stevens Point in the WIAC playoffs in 2005 and winning the 2004 Minnesota State Championship. Her parents are Jill and Bob. Terry is majoring in health & human performance.

Kristen George
D, 5-4, Sophomore, #23
Minnetonka, Minn.
Hopkins High School
Kristen George returns for her sophomore season and plays defender.
2006: George had a solid first year for the Falcons. She played in 12 games and started against Macalester. She registered one shot on goal. George showed great skill in shutting down opponents as they closed in on the Falcon goal. She was named to the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll and the Dean's List in the spring semester.

High School, Personal: George played two seasons at Hopkins High School. She also competed in lacrosse and also earned a letter in cross country skiing. She was on the B Honor roll and did volunteer work at an elementary school. Her favorite past times include playing sports, hanging out with friends and spending time on the lake. Her role models are her family and friends. Her favorite soccer moment was winning three straight summer league titles. Her high school coach was Keith Palvelka. She is the daughter of Wendy and Bill. George is undecided on a major field of study.

Jessi Larson
D, 5-6, Sophomore, #10
Winona, Minn.
Cotter High School
Jessi Larson is back for her second year with the Falcons. She is an outstanding defender who is a key part of the Falcon defense. She has great skills in all areas of the field and uses them to contribute to both the Falcon offense and defense.
2006: Larson was named the team's Rookie of the Year after playing and starting all 19 games. She scored her first collegiate goal in her second game, a 7-0 win over Northland. The goal proved to be the game-winner. Larson was named the WIAC's Defensive Player of the Week on Sept. 5.

High School, Personal: Larson was named to the all-conference team in 2003, 2004 and 2005 at Winona Cotter High School. She also earned a Leader award. Her favorite past times include spending time with friends and family, working out, listening to music and being on the river. Her role model is her family. Her favorite soccer moment was scoring her first collegiate goal. She is the daughter of Jenelle and Chad. Her high school coaches were Craig Junker and Gabe Manrique. Larson is majoring in elementary education.

Lauren Potter
D, 5-5, Sophomore, #14
Waukesha, Wis.
South High School
Lauren Potter returns for her second season with the Falcons. She is a defender.
2006: Potter missed the 2006 season with an injury.

High School, Personal: Potter earned the Blackshirt award at Waukesha South High School. Her favorite past time is going o movies. Her high school coach was Pete Byrn and he is her role model. Her favorite soccer moments were all of the random, funny things that happened during her high school career. Potter is the daughter of Jodi and Mark. She is majoring in communicative disorders.

Kayla Scott
F/M, 5-8, Sophomore, #24
Kiel, Wis.
Kiel High School
Kayla Scott is back for her second year with the Falcons and she can play either the forward or midfield spots.
2006: Scott played an important role for the Falcons. She played in 16 games and started four times. She had six shots on goal and had three shots in the team's 7-0 win over Northland. Scott earned her first letter.

High School, Personal: Scott played at Kiel High School and was named to the first all-conference team in 2006. She was the team captain and was twice named the team's Best Offensive Player. She was named to the second all-conference team in 2005 and earned honorable mention in 2004. She was also named the Rookie of the Year and was the Comeback Athlete of the Year in Manitowoc county. Scott was a member of the academic honor roll, secretary of the Pep club and a youth soccer coach and referee. Her favorite past time is coaching youth soccer players. Her role model is her sister, Deja. Her favorite soccer moments include scoring 29 goals in 2005, being a team captain and having a close-knit team that finished second in the conference. Scott is the daughter of Marcia and Daniel. Her high school coach was John Adema. She is majoring in social work.
Emily Stieler
G, 5'-9', Sophomore, #1
Ham Lake, Minn.
Andover High School
Emily Stieler returns as the team's No. 1 goalie. She played very well in her first season and is one of the top returning keepers in the WIAC. She was also a member of the Falcon track & field team in the 2006-07 school year.

2006: Stieler led all WIAC goalies with seven shutouts. She started her collegiate career with shutouts in games against St. Scholastica (0-0) and Northland (7-0). She earned two shutouts in WIAC play - against Stout (3-0) and Stevens Point (1-0). She also shutout La Crosse (2-0) in the WIAC playoffs. In the WIAC Stieler was second in shutouts per game, fourth in saves, sixth in saves per game and goals against and seventh in save percentage. She finished with a 1.23 goals against average and a .774 saves percentage. She twice made a season-high seven saves in a game. Stieler was named the team's Defensive Player of the Week on Sept. 12 and on Oct. 9. She was named to the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll.

High School, Personal: Stieler was a scholar-athlete at Andover High School. She was a member of the National Honor Society and earned academic All-State honors. Stieler's favorite past times include outdoor activities and spending time with family and friends. Her favorite soccer moment was when she and a teammate "shirted" a ball during a game. Her role model is her Mom. Her high school coach was Chad Moore. She is the daughter of Carolyn Oakes and Brian Stieler. Stieler is majoring in communicative disorders.

Tracey Boyle
F/M, 5'-9', Freshman, #11
Eau Claire, Wis.
North High School
Tracey Boyle is in her first year of college soccer in 2007 and she plays both forward and midfield.

High School, Personal: Boyle holds Eau Claire North High School's season goal and assists records. She was named to the all-conference second team. Boyle was a member of the National Honor Society. Her favorite pastimes include being with friends, going to movies and playing sports. Her role models are her parents. Her favorite soccer moments were in her sophomore season at North when she and a teammate "shirted" a ball during a game. Her role model is her Mom. Her high school coach was Chad Moore. She is the daughter of Carolyn Oakes and Brian Stieler. Stieler is majoring in communicative disorders.

Megan Church
F, 5'-4', Freshman, #6
White Bear Lake, Minn.
White Bear Lake High School
Megan Church is in her first year of collegiate soccer with the Falcons and she plays forward.

High School, Personal: Church earned two soccer, one gymnastics and three track & field letters at White Bear Lake High School. She was a member of the National Honor Society and earned four academic letters. Her pastimes include watching movies, listening to music, playing soccer and baking. Her role models include her Mom and Dad. Her favorite soccer moments are soccer team diners. She is the daughter of Carolyn and Bruce. Her high school coach was Jim Peletier. Church is majoring in elementary education with a coaching minor.

Anna Gutknecht
D, 5'-8', Freshman, #19
Buffalo, Minn.
Buffalo High School
Anna Gutknecht is in her first season of college soccer with the Falcons and she is a defender.

High School, Personal: Gutknecht earned all-conference honorable mention honors three times at Buffalo High School. She won the team's Offense award in 2006. Gutknecht also earned honorable mention to the track & field all-conference team three times and was named the team's Most Dedicated. She was voted a Hall of Fame winner in 2007 and was a member of the National Honor Society executive council in 2006 and 2007. Her hobbies include hanging out with friends and her brothers, being outdoors and playing soccer. Her role models include her Mom and high school soccer coach Andy Ordonez. Her favorite soccer moment was defeating Moorhead in the section quarterfinals. She is the daughter of Mary Ellen and Gary. Gutknecht is majoring in health & human performance.
Kristin Lyberg
D, 5-4, Freshman, #12
Woodville, Wis.
Baldwin-Woodville High School
Kristin Lyberg joins the Falcons for her first season of college soccer and she is a defender.
High School, Personal: Lyberg earned one soccer letter at Baldwin-Woodville High School and was a member of the first girl's soccer team in the history of the sport. She was named to the school's Honor Roll. Her pastimes include horseback riding, reading, listening to music, traveling and playing soccer. Her favorite soccer moment was before each soccer game when she and two or her teammates would sing "The Year 3000" for good luck. She is the daughter of Julia and Robert. Lyberg is majoring in biology and a minor in psychology.

Jaclyn Rehmke
M, 5-5, Freshman, #9
Albert Lea, Minn.
Albert Lea High School
Jaclyn Rehmke starts her first season of college soccer with the Falcons in 2007 and she plays midfield.
High School, Personal: Rehmke earned Albert Lea High School soccer team's Dynamic Performance award. She was also a member of the basketball team and won the Hustle award, and won the Offensive and Coaches awards with the softball team. She was a member of the A Honor Roll and was inducted into the Wall of Inspiration. Twice her teams were named academic state champions. Her pastimes include spending time with family and friends. Her role models are her twin sister, Elyce, and her Mom and Dad. Her favorite soccer moments were playing in two sectional championship games. She is the daughter of Back and Paul. Her high school coach was Rick Barnhill. Rehmke is majoring in elementary education with a minor in coaching.

Katie Schroeder
F, 5-5, Freshman, #20
Rochester, Minn.
Lourdes High School
Katie Schroeder is in her first year of college soccer with the Falcons and she plays forward.
High School, Personal: Schroeder earned one soccer and one track & field letter at Rochester Lourdes High School. Her favorite pastimes include hanging out with friends and family, reading and shopping. Her role models are her parents who showed her to never give up and do only her best. Her favorite soccer moment was trapping the ball with her knees, dribbling the ball up field with her knees and then scoring a goal in the right corner in a USA Cup game. She is the daughter of Carolyn and Doug. Her high school coach was Sarah Groven. Schroeder is undecided on a major field of study.

Jess Tacheny
D/M, 5-3, Freshman, #17
White Bear Lake, Minn.
White Bear Lake High School
Jess Tacheny is in her first season of soccer with the Falcons in 2007. She plays both defender and midfield.
High School, Personal: Tacheny was named to the all-conference soccer team while playing at White Bear Lake High School. She earned two soccer and four track & field letters. She earned several academic awards. Her role models include her grandparents and parents. Her favorite soccer moment was beating Mounds View High School two years in a row in the sectional finals to advance to the state tournament, and placing in the top four in the state championships. She is the daughter of Deb and Dan. Her high school coach was Jim Peletier. Tacheny is majoring in education.
Schedule

June 3, 2008
0-0-0 Overall, 0-0-0 WIAC

Aug. 30 St. Thomas, 4 p.m.
Sept. 3 Augsburg, 5 p.m.
Sept. 6 at Cobber Invitational vs. Con.-Moorhead (at Moorhead, Minn.), 5 p.m.
Sept. 7 at Cobber Invitational vs. St. Scholastica (at Moorhead, Minn.), 4 p.m.

Sept. 13 Eau Claire*, 2 p.m.
Sept. 15 at Northland, 4 p.m.
Sept. 17 at Stout*, 7 p.m.

Sept. 20 La Crosse*, 2 p.m.
Sept. 24 Northwestern, 4 p.m.
Sept. 27 at Whitewater*, 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 4 at Illinois Wesleyan, 2:30 p.m.
Oct. 11 at Oshkosh*, 2 p.m.
Oct. 15 Superior*, 4 p.m.
Oct. 18 Platteville*, 1 p.m.
Oct. 22 at Simpson, 4:30 p.m.
Oct. 25 at Stevens Point*, 3 p.m.
Oct. 28 at Carleton, 3:30 p.m.

Nov. 1 WIAC Quarterfinals, TBD
Nov. 7 WIAC Semifinals, TBD
Nov. 8 WIAC Finals, TBD

* WIAC Matches
** WIAC Tournament Matches

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Falcons Lose WIAC Playoff Match at UWSP

Oct. 30, 2007

The Falcons fell behind 2-0 in the first half, and UW-Stevens Point added four more goals in the second half, to take a 6-1 win in a first round WIAC playoff match on Tuesday afternoon.

UWSP's Amanda Prawat scored four her team's goal. She scored the first three - at 12:25, 33:33 and 53:31. Emily Walsh gave the home team a 4-0 lead with a goal at 69:43.

Anna Gutknecht then got the Falcons on the board with her second goal of the season at 72:45. It came off a shot from 20 yards out that went over the keeper's head.

Prawat scored her fourth of the game at 80:12 and Vicki Dieschke added the final goal at 82:54.

UWRF goalie Emily Stieler made seven saves. UWSP goalies Meredith DeCaluwe (2) and Jess Nagel (0) combined for two stops.

Kelly Piersak, Jen Terry and Julie Sperstad all had shots for the Falcons. UWRF was out shot 16-0 in the first half and 23-4 in the game. UWSP held a 9-2 advantage in corner kicks.

The Falcons end their season with a 2-14-3 overall record. UWSP, now 14-3-1, advances to the WIAC semifinals on Friday.

Falcons End Regular Season With Loss at UWEC

Oct. 27, 2007

The Falcons lost a 6-0 WIAC match at UW-Eau Claire in a match that ended their regular season on Saturday morning.

Eau Claire, scoring four goals in the first half, brought out its best offense with Liz Kooistra making the first goal in the 21st minute unassisted.

UWEC's Jamie Schiesel scored again for the Blugolds at 35:50 in the game off of a corner kick. Schiesel stayed on the offense to score EC's third goal of the game at 40:49, her fourth of the season.

Sam Kruger followed Schiesel's lead by scoring the fourth and final goal of the first half in the 44th minute leaving the Falcons without a goal and down 4-0. EC outshot the Falcons 10-0 in the first half.

EC came back to the second half strong with Amy Smith making her 13th goal of the season at 49:01. Previous scorer for EC, Kruger made the final goal of the game, her fourth in the season, at 75:17.

EC outshot the Falcons 9-4 in the second half, and 19-4 overall.

Falcon goalie Emily Stieler made three saves in the game. EC goalie Liz Weirick had no saves in the first half and goalie Allie Rivard had two saves in the second half.
Falcon players Jaclyn Rehmke and Amy Piersak both had one shot on goal and teammate Tracy Olson also contributed with two shots in the game.

The Falcons are now 2-13-3 overall and 1-5-2 in the WIAC.

Tuesday the Falcons start play in the WIAC tournament at a site to be determined.

**Falcons Lose WIAC Match to UWSP**

Oct. 20, 2007

UW-Stevens Point jumped out to a 5-0 first half lead and went on to a 5-1 win over the Falcons on Saturday afternoon at Ramer Field.

UWSP's Amanda Prawat scored twice, her 15th and 16th goals of the season, to lead the Pointers. Prawat scored just 20 seconds into the contest and the Pointers had a 2-0 lead just 1:59 into the match when Liz Kidd scored. Prawat scored her second of the game at 15:35. Emily Walsh scored at 19:04 and Mary Jean Cornelius scored at 40:26 to round out the UWSP scoring.

Dianna Hermes scored at 58:40 to help the Falcons avoid the shutout. It was her team leading fourth goal of the season. She was assisted by Julie Sperstad.

UWSP outshot the Falcons, 26-4 in the first half, and 32-13 for the game.

Falcon goalie Emily Stieler made a season-high 15 saves. UWSP goalies Meredith DeCaluwe (4) and Jess Nagel (4) combined to make eight stops.

The UWSP win snapped a three game UWRF winning streak over the Pointers.

The Falcons, now 2-12-3 overall and 1-4-2 in the WIAC, will end their regular season on Saturday with a WIAC match at UW-Eau Claire.

**Falcons Fall to Stout, 3-1**

Oct. 17, 2007

The Falcons lost its WIAC match up against UW-Stout Wednesday afternoon at Ramer Field, 3-1.

Stout's Rachel Herzog scored in the 9th minute of the first period for Stout to take an early lead in the game. Fellow teammate Michelle Lizotte scored Stout's second goal of the game in the 60th minute off an assist from teammate Jessica Price.

The Falcons came back in the 77th minute as Kelly Piersak made a shot off the long cross with help from Amy Piersak to bring the Falcons back to 1-2 in the game.

Stout beat the clock as Michelle Hahn scored with help from Jessica Price, her second assist of the game.

Falcon goalie Emily Stieler had nine saves in the game, with eight in the second period alone. Stout's Jessica Halvorson had seven saves in the game.

Falcon forward Kelly Piersak scored the only goal for UWRF and had two shots on goal. Amy Piersak had two shots with one being on goal and had one assist in the game. Fellow teammate Dianna Hermes also had two shots on goal.

Stout overshot the Falcons 17-9 overall, with them shooting 13-6 in the second period.

The Falcons, now 2-10-3 overall and 1-3-2 in the WIAC, will host its second WIAC match of the week on Saturday against UW-Stevens Point with action starting at 2 p.m., at Ramer Field.

**Falcons Lose Overtime Match to Concordia-Moorhead**

Oct. 14, 2007

The Falcons were defeated 1-0 in overtime against Concordia-Moorhead Sunday afternoon at Ramer Field.

CM’s Betsy Olesen scored the only goal in the game at the 99th minute. Her shot bounced high over and past Falcon goalie Emily Stieler.

Concordia-Moorhead out shot the Falcons 19-10. They also out shot the Falcons 5-0 in the overtime period.

Stieler had 11 saves in the game while Concordia-Moorhead goalie Britt Reiersgard came away with four saves.

Jen Terry had three shots in the game with two being on goal. Kelly Piersak also had three shots in the game. Other players to contribute were Tracey Boyle and Jaclyn Rehmke with each getting one shot on goal.

The Falcons, now 2-10-3 overall and 1-2-2 in the WIAC, will host a WIAC match against UW-Stout on Wednesday with action starting at 4 p.m., at Ramer Field.

**Falcons Battle to 0-0 Tie at Platteville**

Oct. 13, 2007
The Falcons and Pioneers battled for 110 minutes to no avail as the two teams finished in a 0-0 tie on Saturday afternoon in Platteville.

The closest either team came to scoring was in the 77th minute when UWP's Sarah Miller banged a shot off the crossbar.

The Falcons had an 18-13 advantage in shots. Tracy Boyle led the Falcons with five. Amy Piersak, Julie Sperstad, Jen Terry, Dianna Hermes and Jaclyn Rehmke each had two. Goalie Emily Stieler made four saves.

UWP was led by Kim Schneckloth who had four shots and Caitlin Freeman who had three. UWP goalie Laurie Trifone stopped nine shots.

The Falcons had a 6-2 advantage in shots in the first period and. They outshot the Pioneers 8-7 in the second half and 3-2 in the first 10-minute overtime. UWP had a 2-1 advantage in the second overtime.

The Falcons, now 2-9-3 overall and 1-2-2 in the WIAC, will next host Concordia-Moorhead at Ramer Field at 2 p.m., on Sunday.

Falcons Drops 1-0 Decision to Bethel

Oct. 11, 2007

Bethel's Jesse Tschetter scored the only goal of the game in the second half to help lift her team to a 1-0 win over the Falcons on Thursday afternoon at Ramer Field.

Tschetter scored on a chip in from in front of the Falcon goal at 59:41. She was assisted by Kristin Kishaba. It was Tschetter's 11 goal of the season. With the win the Royals improved to 6-6-2.

Dianna Hermes led the Falcon attack with five shots and Amy Piersak had two.

UWRF goalie Emily Stieler made 11 saves. BU goalie Charli Sorensen stopped eight Falcon shots.

Bethel held an 11-9 advantage in shots in the first half and a 20-12 advantage in the game.

It was Bethel's second straight win over the Falcons in the series. The Royals won at home, 2-1, last year. UWRF holds a 7-4 lead in the all-time series.

The Falcons, now 2-9-2 overall and 1-2-1 in the WIAC, will next play a WIAC match at Platteville on Saturday. Action starts at 5 p.m. On Sunday the Falcons host Concordia-Moorhead at Ramer Field at 2 p.m.

Falcons Lose WIAC Match to Titans

Oct. 6, 2007

UW-Oshkosh jumped out to a 2-0 first half lead and held on for a 3-1 win in a WIAC match at Ramer Field on Saturday afternoon.

UWO's Dana Gudel scored her fourth goal of the season at 13:52 to give the Titans the lead. She scored from 40 yards out. The Titans went ahead, 2-0, at 29:15 when Caitlin Casey scored her second goal of the season off a rebound.

UWO pushed its lead to 3-0 at 71:18 when Lindsay Hanson scored from 10 feet in front after a scramble. Maggie Hoffman got the assist.

UWRF avoided the shutout at 77:21 when Dianna Hermes scored her team-high third goal of the season off a long run.

UWO out shot the Falcons, 17-7 in the first half, but the Falcons had an 11-7 shot advantage in the second half. A 20-25 mile per hour win from the south helped each team when it had the win at its back.

Hermes led the Falcons with nine shots while Kelly Piersak and Jaclyn Rehmke each had two.

UWRF goalies Emily Stieler and Andrea Dudley each played a half with Stieler getting the start. She allowed two goals and made nine saves. Dudley allowed one goal and had three saves. Stieler took the loss and is now 2-8-2 this year. Titan goalie Laura Neve made 11 saves and she is now 4-5.

The win for the Titans was their third in a row in the series. UWRF holds a 9-7-1 lead in the all-time series. UWO was won the last two games played at Ramer Field - the Titans won in 2005, 3-2.

The Falcons, now 2-8-2 overall and 1-2-1 in the WIAC, will next host Bethel in a non-conference game at Ramer Field on Thursday with action starting at 4 p.m.

Piersak's Overtime Goal Lifts Falcons to Win at UWS

Oct. 3, 2007

UWRF's Kelly Piersak picked a great time to score her first goal of the season as it proved to be the game winner in a 2-1 overtime win at UW-Superior on Wednesday.

Piersak scored on a header of a corner kick by Tracy Olson in the 99th minute. The win snapped a nine game Falcon non-winning streak. UWRF won its first game of the season, but were 0-7-2 since then.
The Falcons had to battle back from a 1-0 deficit to get the win. UWS's Teresa O'Keefe gave the Yellowjackets a 1-0 lead with a goal in the 60th minute.

Kayla Scott, who also got her first goal of the season, tied the game in the 79th minute hammering home a loose ball in the box. Anna Gutknecht picked up the assist on the goal.

UWRF outshot the Jackets in all three periods - 7-2 in the first half, 14-1 in the second half and 2-0 in the overtime.

Jen Terry led the Falcons with five shots. Piersak and Julie Sperstad each had three

Falcon goalie Emily Stieler made two saves to get the win. UWS's Emily Cochran made seven saves.

The Falcons, now 2-7-2 overall and 1-1-1 in the WIAC, will next host UW-Oshkosh at 2 p.m., on Saturday at Ramer Field in another WIAC match.

**Falcons Tie Augsburg After Double Overtime**

Oct. 1, 2007

The Falcons kept their composure to keep Augsburg College from scoring after a double-overtime on Monday night in Minneapolis, Minn. to end the game in a 0-0 tie.

Falcons players Tracey Boyle and Megan Church both had shots on goal within the first five minutes of the first half but were unsuccessful in their attempts. River Falls and Augsburg each had six shots in the first half.

Falcon defender Tracey Olson’s shot on goal sixty seconds from the end of the second half was saved by Augsburg goalie Maggie DeGroot leading the game into its first overtime. Augsburg overshot the Falcons 8-7 in the second half.

Midfielder Jen Terry had a shot on goal within the first two minutes of overtime but was blocked by DeGroot. Betsy Straub was wide on her shot on goal within seconds to the end of the overtime period, taking the game into its second overtime. Augsburg again overshot the Falcons 5-2. Falcon goalie Emily Stieler had two saves. Augsburg goalie Maggie DeGroot made one save in the period.

Terry and Straub were again unsuccessful in their shots to gain a lead on Augsburg. Stieler made a save against Augsburg’s final attempt at a goal at 109:49. The game ended in a tie between the two teams. River Falls and Augsburg both had two shots in the second overtime period.

Falcon goalie Emily Stieler came away with ten saves in the game. Augsburg's Maggie DeGroot had eleven saves.

Betsy Straub and Jen Terry each had three shots in the game, two of which were on goal. Augsburg outshot the Falcons 21-17.

The Falcons, now 1-7-2 overall and 0-1-1 in the WIAC, will next play in a WIAC match at UW-Superior on Wednesday with action starting at 4 p.m.

**St. Thomas Tops Falcons, 3-0**

Sept. 26, 2007

St. Thomas jumped out to a 2-0 first half lead and went on to a 3-0 win over the Falcons on Wednesday afternoon in St. Paul, Minn.

Falcon goalie Emily Stieler made seven saves in the contest - three came in the first half. Tracey Boyle led the Falcons with two shots. Dianna Hermes, Julie Sperstad and Tracy Olson also had shots for the Falcons.

Stephanie Paasch scored her first goal of the season just two minutes into the game to give UST the lead. She scored from about 18 feet in front. Lexie Fisher scored late in the first half to make it a 2-0 game. It was her first goal of the year. In the 70th minute Erin Spranger scored her third goal of the year. The goal came on a header off a corner kick.

UST goalie Amanda Domeier made one save - it came in the first half. Alison True had two assists for the Tommies, who are now 7-2 overall.

The Falcons, now 1-7-1 overall and 0-1-1 in the WIAC, will next play at Augsburg on Monday with action starting at 7:30 p.m.

**Falcons Lose, 2-0, at St. Benedict**

Sept. 22, 2007

St. Benedict scored one goal in each half to get a 2-0 win over the Falcons on Sunday afternoon.

Tina List scored what proved to be the game winner in the 33rd minute on a penalty kick. She added the second half goal in the 56th minute.

Falcon goalie Emily Stieler made four saves and CSB's Maija Schmeizer stopped three shots. St. Benedict out shot the Falcons, 5-2, in the first half and 9-4 for the game. Jen Terry, Tracey Boyle and Betsy Straub had shots on goal for the Falcons.

The Falcons, now 1-6-1 overall and 0-1-1 in the WIAC, will next play at St. Thomas on Wednesday. Action starts at 4 p.m.

**Soccer Match at St. Thomas Rescheduled for Sept. 26**
Sept. 20, 2007

The Falcon soccer match at the University of St. Thomas, originally scheduled for Sept. 18, has been rescheduled for Sept. 26.

Rain in the area made the fields unplayable on Sept. 18.

The Falcons, now 1-5 overall and 0-1 in the WIAC, will host UW-Whitewater on Saturday in a WIAC match at Ramer Field. Action starts at 1 p.m. On Sunday the Falcons play a non-conference match at St. Benedict starting at 1 p.m.

Soccer Match at St. Thomas Postponed

Sept. 18, 2007

The Falcon soccer match at the University of St. Thomas scheduled for 4 p.m., today has been postponed.

The field was too wet to play on with the rain that has fallen in the last 24 hours.

A makeup date has not yet been scheduled, according to Falcon Coach Sean McKuras.

The Falcons, now 1-5 overall and 0-1 in the WIAC, will host UW-Whitewater on Saturday in a WIAC match at Ramer Field. Action starts at 1 p.m.

Falcons Lose at La Crosse in Overtime, 2-1

Sept. 15, 2007

UWRF’s Julie Sperstad scored her second goal of the season to tie the game, but La Crosse scored its second goal of the game in overtime on Saturday to take a 2-1 win.

La Crosse scored in the 31st minute of the game for the lead in the first half. La Crosse outshot the Falcons in the first half 15-9.

Sperstad, with her game tying shot, tied the contest in the 77th minute with an assist to Jen Terry, her first of the season. Sperstad led the team with five shots in the game, two of which were on goal.

La Crosse scored its second goal of the game in the 92nd minute in overtime to take the win. Falcon goalie Emily Stieler proved herself again with eight saves in the game. La Crosse goalie Amanda Clark made seven saves.

The Falcons, now 1-5 overall and 0-1 in the WIAC, will next play at St. Thomas on Tuesday with action starting at 4 p.m.

Falcons Lose at Loras, 3-1

Sept. 12, 2007

Dianna Hermes scored her second goal of the season to tie the game, but Loras scored twice later to take a 3-1 win on Wednesday night.

Hermes scored in the 46th minute from about 20 yards out. Tracy Olson picked up her second assist of the season on the goal. Hermes led the Falcons with four shots and three were on goal.

Lisa Waltz scored in the 43rd minute to give Loras a 1-0 lead. She scored on a breakaway. Maria Prendergast scored what proved to be the game winning goal in the 60th minute on a header off a cross. Waltz gave her team an insurance goal in the 82nd minute off a scramble in front of the Falcon goal.

Falcon goalie Emily Stieler made a season-high nine saves in the game. She made eight first half saves. UWRF was outshot 22-7, including 13-1 in the first half. Loras goalie, Torey Murray, made four saves.

The Falcons, now 1-4 overall, will open WIAC play on Saturday at La Crosse. Action starts at 2 p.m.

Carleton Tops Falcons, 1-0

Sept. 8, 2007

Carleton scored the only goal of the game in the second half to take a 1-0 win over the Falcons on Saturday afternoon at Ramer Field.

Clare O'Connor scored her first goal of the season, with an assist to Mia Zutz, in the 53rd minute. That proved to be the only goal of the game.

UWRF was outshot, 24-1. Jaclyn Remke got the only Falcon shot. Carleton goalie Yusi He did not make a save in picking up the shutout win. UWRF keeper, Emily Stieler stopped eight shots. Carleton had four shots in each half. Carleton had a 6-0 advantage in corners.

The Falcons, now 1-3 overall, will next play at Loras on Wednesday with action starting at 7 p.m.

Macalester Tops Falcons, 3-1

Sept. 5, 2007
Macalester jumped out to a 3-0 lead and finished with a 3-1 win over the Falcons on Wednesday night in St. Paul, Minn.

Grace King scored in the 16th minute to give the Scots the only goal they would need. Rose Betzler put the game away with two goals in about two minutes in the second half.

The Falcons avoided the shutout when Megan Church scored her first collegiate goal in the last minute of play. Jen Terry picked up the assist. Terry fed a perfect through pass to a breaking Church who scored on the breakaway.

Kelly Piersak led the Falcons with four shots and Church had two. The Scots had a 15-8 advantage in shots, including an 8-4 advantage in the first half. UWRF goalie Emily Stieler made four saves and MC's Annie Virnig had two.

The Falcons, now 1-2 overall, will play their first home game of the season on Saturday against Carleton. Action starts at 1 p.m.

Late CSS Goal Lifts Saints Over Falcons

Sept. 1, 2007

Jen Terry scored her first goal of the season but it wasn’t enough as the Falcon soccer team lost a 2-1 decision at St. Scholastica on Saturday afternoon.

The Saints took a 1-0 lead in the game’s sixth minute when Angie Groh scored off a header from a corner kick. The lead stood up until the 85th minute when Terry scored to tie the game. Tracy Olson took a free kick that bounded around in front of the Saints goal before Terry was able to gain control and score. Just about two minutes later CSS’s Sarah Bartlette scored what proved to be the game winner from the left side.

The Falcons had a slight 13-11 advantage in shots, including an 8-2 advantage in the second half. UWRF goalie Emily Stieler made four saves and CSS’s Kelly Momsen stopped three shots. Kelly Piersak led the Falcons with four shots and Olson had two.

UWRF’s Julie Sperstad and Dianna Hermes were both named to the All-Tournament team.

The Falcons, now 1-1 overall, will next play at Macalester on Wednesday. Action starts at 7:30 p.m.

Falcons Open Season With 2-0 Win

Aug. 31, 2007

Dianna Hermes scored a goal and an assist to help lead the Falcon soccer team to a 2-0 win over Northland on Friday afternoon in Duluth, Minn.

UWRF scored twice in about six minutes midway through the first half. Julie Sperstad scored the first goal at 29:20 with Hermes getting the assist. Hermes took a shot that went off the cross bar and Sperstad was there to put the ball home. At 35:30 Hermes scored with an assist to Megan Church. It was Church’s first collegiate point. Hermes scored from the left side on a shot that went just inside the right post.

Hermes led the Falcons with eight shots and Sperstad had four.

Falcon goalies Emily Stieler and Andrea Dudley each played in the game. Stieler played 73:49 and made four saves while Dudley played 16:11 and stopped one shot.

UWRF had 12 shots in the first half and finished with a 22-7 advantage.

UWRF will next play St. Scholastica at 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Falcons Open Season Against Northland, St. Scholastica

Aug. 30, 2007

The Falcon soccer team will have to rely on strong defensive play in 2007 after it lost 84 percent of its goal scoring from last year’s team that finished 10-7-2 overall.

The team’s top three point scorers all graduated - Ashley Peterson (17-9-43), Kim Saufl (20-8-28) and Amy Jensen (5-8-18).

But McKuras is confident that the Falcons will find a way to win in 2007. And that has been the case in McKuras’ five seasons as head coach. The Falcons are 64-24-8 and won the WIAC title in 2003 under McKuras.

“Our defense will have to lead us this year,” said McKuras. “We are probably not going to score three or four goals a game so we are going to have to work at keeping the ball out of our net.”

McKuras has several players who has shown the skills to do that. Three defenders and a goalie, who started every game last year, all return and they will be the nucleus of the team's defensive powers.

Goalie Emily Stieler is back after playing all 19 games last year as a freshman. She had a 1.23 goals against average and recorded seven shutouts. A nice situation has arisen for the Falcons in that two goalies are battling for the top spot so far in the pre-season. Senior Andrea Dudley has also played well so far, according to McKuras. “It’s a tight battle,” said McKuras. “No decision has been made and they keep fighting it out every day.”
The return of three skilled defenders brings a smile to McKuras' face. Senior Traci Olson, junior Amy Piersak and sophomore Jessi Larson will be the players the team looks at for its defensive strength and stability.

Olson has started for the previous three seasons and she is a, "leader both on and off the field. She anchors our defense with great communication and leadership," said McKuras.

Larson started last year as a freshman and is a player who has steadily improved. She scored one goal last year. Piersak started the team's first two games last year before a leg injury kept her out the rest of the season. She has scored five career goals. Both players are tenacious defenders and have the skills to contribute at both ends of the field.

"Olson, Piersak and Larson will be our top defensive players and there are a couple of first year players who will probably be able to help us there too," said McKuras.

Even tough most the team's goal scoring is gone, all is not lost on the offensive side of the field.

Senior midfielder Julie Sperstad returns as a midfielder who will help picked up the scoring. She has scored six goals and 21 points in her career and was named to the first All-WIAC team last fall. "Julie will be involved more in the attack this year," predicted McKuras. "She has done a great job of welcoming in the first year players; she's a great leader."

Junior midfielder Kelly Piersak is a talented player who McKuras mentioned as being a force both on offense and defense. "In a tight defensive game Kelly can help put us over the top. She definitely help us on the offensive side," said McKuras. She has scored six goals and 18 career points.

Sophomore Kayla Scott, junior Diana Hermes, senior Jen Pengra and freshman Megan Church will also add to the attack, according to McKuras.

The Falcons took a week long trip to Sweden in mid-August where they played and practiced with some outstanding international team player and coaches. "We didn't have our first year players, but it was such a great experience for the returnees," said McKuras. "We practiced with World Cup players, worked with professional coaches and played two games in a stadium. Day in and day out we focused on soccer. We had growth on the field, but better growth by getting to know each other off the field."

The Falcon schedule is, "the hardest in the history of our program," said McKuras. The Falcons play several games against teams that finished in the top half of the MIAC and the conference champion from the Iowa small college conference. "There will be no down games for us; we'll have to learn quickly how to play at a high level."

The WIAC will again prove to be a strong conference in 2007. McKuras predicts that Eau Claire will be the team to beat with Oshkosh close at their heels. "There's not a game in the WIAC when we can let our guard down."

The Falcons open their season this weekend with games against Northland on Friday and against St. Scholastica on Saturday. Both games will be played in Duluth. The Falcons open their home season on Sept. 9 hosting Carleton at 1 p.m. at Ramer Field.
Sean McKuras - Head Coach

July 9, 2006

Sean McKuras starts his fifth season as the Falcons head coach and has helped bring the Falcon program to state prominence.

He has led the Falcons to a 54-18-6 (.730) record in four seasons. The Falcons are 17-11-4 (.593) in WIAC games over that span. He has a 4-4 record in WIAC playoff games. He earned his 50th career win in a 7-0 win over UW-Superior on Sept. 27, 2006. McKuras has led the Falcons to the WIAC Playoff semifinals in the past four seasons. In 2003 the Falcons advanced to the WIAC Playoff championship match only to lose in double overtime (2-1).

The Falcons had yet another strong season in 2005 under McKuras. UWRF finished 12-3-3 overall and 3-3-2 in the WIAC. Falcon Sarah Carlson was named the WIAC's Player of the Year and Scholar-Athlete. In 2004 UW-RF finished 12-5-1 overall and 4-3-1 and in fourth place in the WIAC. In 2003 the Falcons won the WIAC regular season championship for the first time in school history. UWRF finished 6-2 in WIAC play and is the only other team than UW-Stevens Point to win a regular season crown. The Falcons advanced to and hosted the WIAC playoff championship match and lost to UW-SP, 2-1, in two overtimes. McKuras was named the WIAC Coach of the Year for the second straight season after leading the Falcons to a school best 17-4 overall record.

In 2002 McKuras led the Falcons to a third place finish in the WIAC regular season. The Falcons advanced to the WIAC semifinals. McKuras was named the WIAC Coach of the Year after the Falcons finished with a six-win improvement over the 2001 season. The Falcons were the fourth most improved team in the nation in 2003 under McKuras’ leadership. He was the team's assistant coach in 2001 when the Falcons finished 6-10-1 overall and 2-6 and in seventh place in the WIAC.

McKuras has coached the WIAC Player of the Year in two of the last four seasons - Sarah Carlson earned the honor in both 2003 and 2005. He has coached 13 players to the All-WIAC team and has had one player named to the All-Region squad.

In the fall of 2000, he was the head boy’s coach at Shakopee, Minn., High School, and in the spring of 2000 he was the head coach for the Eau Claire North High School's girls varsity program.

In 1998 and 1999 McKuras was the head coach of the UW-Eau Claire men's club team and helped lead the team to one its most successful seasons. He was an assistant varsity boy's and girl's coach and head coach of the junior varsity at Eau Claire North High School in 1998 and 1999. From 1994 to 2000 he was a coach with the Valley United Soccer Club in Apple Valley, Minn. In 2000 his U16 girl's team won the State Cup championship and his 1999 team won the Minnesota State championship. In 1998 he helped lead a boy's team to the Minnesota State title. Currently he is a coach and trainer with the Blooming Youth Soccer Club. In 2003 McKuras was the head coach of the Bloomington U15 premier boys team that won the Minnesota State Cup. He is currently a member of the Minnesota ODP/State Select staff.

He is the Director of Coaching for the Bloomington, Minn., Youth Soccer Club. The position is also responsible for coaching and player development. He earned the NSCAA Level 1 goalkeepers license in 2000, and the USSF “B” coaching license in 2005.

Assistant Coach

Aug. 30, 2007

Ben Gaddis returns for his fifth year as assistant coach at UW-River Falls. He holds USSF National "B" and "Y" coaching licenses, along with 18 years of coaching experience.

Gaddis has a long tradition of coaching and winning, including six Minnesota State Cup Championships and three Minnesota Youth Soccer Association State titles. He was the St. Paul City Conference Coach of the Year in 2000 while coaching the boy's varsity at St. Paul Highland Park, his alma mater. He is currently coaching with Minnesota's top girls' club, Bangu-Tsunami.

Gaddis played soccer at UW-Parkside from 1990-92. As a player, he helped the U19 St. Paul Blackhawks win a National Championship in 1990. This is the only boy's team to win a National Championship in the state's history. He spent six years as a Minnesota ODP/State select team member, and twice selected for the Midwest/Region II ODP team.

Gaddis currently resides in St. Paul's Merriam Park neighborhood with his wife, Ashley.