## 2006 Falcon Softball Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Pos</th>
<th>Ht</th>
<th>Yr</th>
<th>B-T</th>
<th>Hometown/High School</th>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Michelle Kelley</td>
<td>OF</td>
<td>5-2</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>R-R</td>
<td>Rochester, MN/Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Margo Taylor</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>R-R</td>
<td>Forest Lake, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mindy Rudiger</td>
<td>SS/P</td>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>R-R</td>
<td>Menomonie, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Breamber Syverson</td>
<td>2B</td>
<td>5-3</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>L-R</td>
<td>Prescott, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Rachel Mathias</td>
<td>OF</td>
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<td>Fr.</td>
<td>R-R</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Cassie Peterson</td>
<td>2B</td>
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<td>Fr.</td>
<td>R-R</td>
<td>New Richmond, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Brittany Rathbun</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>R-R</td>
<td>Rochester, MN/ Mayo</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Amanda Peters</td>
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<td>Emily Howlett</td>
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<td>St. Paul, MN/ Como Park</td>
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<td>22</td>
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<td>Fr.</td>
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**Head Coach:** Faye Perkins  
**Assistant Coach:** Jody Gabriel  
**Manager:** Amber Dohlman  
**Trainers:** Gary Eloranta, Crystal Lanning
## 2006 Falcon Lineup

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>#19</td>
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<td>Amber Dohlman</td>
<td>Manager</td>
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2006 Falcon Softball Schedule/Results

May 6, 2006
22-19-1 Overall, 5-9 WIAC

March 1 vs. Carleton
River Falls 3, Carleton 1
River Falls 4, Carleton 0
Sunday, March 12
Rowan 8, River Falls 3 (8)
Plattsburgh 1, River Falls 0
Monday, March 13
River Falls 6, Benedictine 2
Rhode Island 1, River Falls 0
Wednesday, March 15
River Falls 4, Franklin & Marshall 0
Cortland 3, River Falls 0
Thursday, March 16
River Falls 14, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts 0
River Falls 20, Macalester 0
Friday, March 17
McDaniel 5, River Falls 4
River Falls 4, Otterbein 3 (8)
Rebel Spring Games Web Site
March 25 at Cees College Tournament
William Point 8, River Falls 2
River Falls 4, Mt. Mercy 0
March 26 at Cees College Tournament
Central 5, River Falls 2
River Falls 2, Cornell 1
April 4 River Falls 27, North Central 0
River Falls 40, North Central 0
April 8 Oshkosh 8, River Falls 0*
Oshkosh 3, River Falls 1*
April 9 River Falls 4, Whitewater 2*
Whitewater 2, River Falls 1*
April 11 River Falls 4, Hamline 1
River Falls 3, Hamline 0
April 14 Eau Claire 10, River Falls 1 (5)*
Eau Claire 7, River Falls 3 (8)*
April 17 River Falls 2, St. Scholastica 1
St. Scholastica 3, River Falls 4 (5)*
April 20 River Falls 2, Stout 2 (8)
Stout 3, River Falls 2 (8)
April 22 Platteville 7, River Falls 5 (8)*
River Falls 6, Platteville 2
April 23 La Crosse 12, RF 1 (6)*
River Falls 5, La Crosse 3*
April 26 River Falls 2, Superior 0*
Superior 7, River Falls 1*
May 1 at Stevens Point - cancelled
May 3 River Falls 3, St. Mary's 1
River Falls 2, St. Mary's 2 (5)
May 5 at WIAC Tournament (at UW-Stout)
River Falls 10, Stout 0 (5)
Eau Claire 1, River Falls 0
River Falls 6, La Crosse 4
May 6 at WIAC Tournament (at UW-Stout)
Oshkosh 2, River Falls 0
Falcon News

Syverson 5th in Sacrifices Rathbun Leads NCAA Div. III With Nine Saves

June 7, 2006

Falcon softball players Brittany Rathbun (So., Rochester, Minn. Mayo HS) and Breamber Syverson (Jr., Prescott, Wis.) finished high in the final 2006 NCAA Div. III individual statistics saves and sacrifice reports.

Right-handed pitcher Rathbun led the NCAA Div. III with nine saves while Syverson finished fifth in sacrifices with 19.

Rathbun, who finished 3-8 and led the Falcons with a 1.85 ERA, appeared in 33 games, started eight times and had three complete games. The nine saves is a single season Falcon record and is a single season record in the WIAC. She has 13 career saves, also a Falcon record. Four other pitchers in the country finished second with five saves. She threw a complete game no-hitter on March 1 when the Falcons beat Carleton, 4-0. She combined with teammate Ashley Bertrand to pitch a combined no-hitter in a 4-0 win over Franklin & Marshall on March 13. She pitched 109.2 innings and allowed 104 hits and 50 runs. She walked only 27 and struck out 93. The 93 strike outs is fifth all time in a single season at UWRF. Opponents hit .248 against her. She was named the team's Co-Most Valuable Player. Rathbun has earned honorable mention to the All-WIAC teams in 2005 and 2006. She was named the team’s Pitcher of the Week on April 17 and March 27.

Syverson, who batted second in the lineup, played in 41 games. The slap hitter hit .277 with one home run and two RBI. She scored 22 runs and walked seven times. She stole five bases and had a sparkling .975 fielding percentage. She made only four errors in 163 chances. She was named to the team's Player of the Week on March 27 when at the Coe Tournament she was 5-9 at the place for a .555 average. She scored two runs, stole two bases and had three sacrifices. In the field she had a perfect weekend with 10 putouts and six assists. The NCAA leader finished with 23 sacrifices.

The Falcons finished tied for 46th in the NCAA Div. III with 14 double plays.

The Falcons finish the year 22-19-1.

Softball Award Winners Named

May 12, 2006

Seven members of the 2006 Falcon softball team have earned team awards.

Pitcher Brittany Rathbun (So., Rochester, Minn. Mayo HS) and third baseman Emily Howlett (So., Eagan, Minn.) were named Co-Most Valuable Players. Howlett was also named the team’s Best Defensive Player award winner.

Rathbun led the NCAA Div. III in saves for most of the season. She set a Falcon single season record with nine saves. Rathbun, who earned honorable mention to the All-WIAC team in 2005 and 2006, had a 3-8 record and a 1.85 ERA. She appeared in 33 games, started eight and had three complete games. She threw a complete game no-hitter on March 1 when the Falcons beat Carleton, 4-0. She combined with teammate Ashley Bertrand to pitch a no-hitter in a 4-0 win over Franklin & Marshall on March 13. She pitched 109.2 innings and allowed 104 hits and 50 runs. She walked only 27 and struck out 93. The 93 strikeouts are fifth all time in a single season at UWRF. Opponents hit .248 against her. She was named the team’s Pitcher of the Week on April 17 and March 27.

Howlett, who was named to the first All-WIAC team in 2006, started all 42 games of the season at third base and hit .328, fifth on the team. She was one of three players who finished with more than 40 hits, she had 40. She was third in doubles (10), had one triple and was tied for second in home runs (3). She was second in RBI (24). Howlett, who batted third in the order for most of the season, had a .500 slugging percentage and a .417 on-base percentage. She had 11 sacrifices and stole one base. She struck out only seven times and walked eight times. She was third in runs scored (24). She was a dependable fielder and had a .906 fielding percentage. She was named the team’s Player of the Week on April 24. She had nine multiple hit games and three multiple RBI games.

Shortstop Mindy Rudiger (Fr., Menomonie, Wis.), who earned honorable mention to the All-WIAC team, won the team’s Best Offensive Player award. She finished second in the team in hitting with a .348 average. She played and started all 42 games for the Falcons and hit in the lead off spot for most of the season. She led the team in at bats (135), runs scored (35) and doubles (12). The 35 runs she scored is fourth and the 12 doubles is second in a single season. She hit three home runs. She also had 18 RBI. She had a .504 slugging percentage and led the Falcons with a .417 on-base percentage. She stole seven bases and was caught stealing twice. A shortstop with great range, she had a .906 fielding percentage. She had 12 multiple hit games and seven multiple RBI games. She was named the team’s Player of the Week on April 17.

Outfielder Rachel Mathias (Fr., Ripon, Wis.) earned the team’s Most Improved Player award. The left fielder battled her way into a starting position at about the halfway point of the season. She played in 35 games and started 26 times in left, center and right field. She hit .273 and had five doubles and two home runs. She had 14 RBI and scored 14 runs. She finished the season with a .439 slugging percentage and a .304 on-base percentage. She stole two bases. She had four multiple hit games and four multiple RBI games.

Catcher Margo Taylor (Jr., Forest Lake, Minn.) won the team’s Most Dedicated award for the second straight season. She played in 24 games and finished the year with a .138 average and two RBIs. She has been the team’s top pinch hitter for the past two seasons. She started two games behind the plate and handled 15 chances without an error. She was one of three juniors on a team that had no seniors.

Pitcher Ashley Bertrand (So., St. Paul, Minn. Como Park HS) and second baseman Cassie Peterson (Fr., New Richmond, Wis.) earned the team’s Most Inspirational/Spirit award.

Bertrand had a 16-11 record on the mound with a 2.26 ERA. She pitched 145.1 innings and allowed 141 hits. She appeared in 38 games and started 33 times. She walked only 34 and struck out 124. The 124 strikeouts, 38 appearances and 33 starts are all single
season Falcon records. She combined with Brittany Rathbun to pitch a no-hitter in a 4-0 win over Franklin & Marshall on March 13. She had five complete games, two shutouts and seven combined shutouts. Opponents hit .256 against her. She was named the team's Pitcher of the Week on May 1, April 24, April 10 and March 20.

Peterson played in 12 games and was 3-8 at the plate for a .375 average. She scored six runs and was the team's top pinch runner throughout the season. She had five RBIs and stole one base. She handled three chances in the field without an error. She had a .500 on-base percentage. Peterson had one multiple hit and one multiple RBI game.

The Falcons finished 22-19-1 overall and 5-9 in the WIAC.

Four Falcons Named to All-WIAC Softball Teams

May 9, 2006

Four Falcon softball players have been named to 2006 All-WIAC teams.

Third baseman Emily Howlett (So., Eagan, Minn.) was named to the first team. Pitcher Brittany Rathbun (So., Rochester, Minn. Mayo HS), center fielder Amanda Wojnowiak (So., Big Lake, Minn.) and shortstop Mindy Rudiger (Fr., Menomonie, Wis.) all earned honorable mention.

Howlett, who transferred to UWRF from Northern State, started all 42 games of the season at third base and hit .328, fifth on the team. She was one of three players who finished with more than 40 hits, she had 40. She was third in doubles (10), had one triple and was tied for second in home runs (3). She was second in RBI (24). Howlett, who batted third in the order for most of the season, had a .500 slugging percentage and a .417 on-base percentage. She had 11 sacrifices and stole one base. She struck out only seven times and walked eight times. She was third in runs scored (24). She was a dependable fielder and had a .906 fielding percentage.

Rathbun, who earned honorable mention to the team in 2005, currently leads the NCAA Div. III in saves with nine. The nine saves is a single season Falcon record and is a single season record in the WIAC. The right-handed pitcher had a 3-8 record and a 1.85 ERA. She appeared in 33 games, started eight and had three complete games. She threw a complete game no-hitter on March 1 when the Falcons beat Carleton, 4-0. She combined with teammate Ashley Bertrand to pitch a combined no-hitter in a 4-0 win over Franklin & Marshall on March 13. She pitched 109.2 innings and allowed 104 hits and 50 runs. She walked only 27 and struck out 93. The 93 strike outs is fifth all time at UWRF. Opponents hit .248 against her.

Wojnowiak, who was named to the first team in 2005, played in 37 games and started 36 times. She led the Falcons with a .359 average. She has led the team in hitting the past two seasons. She was second in runs (25) and hits (42). She was also second in doubles (11) and led the team in home runs (4). Her four homers is tied for first in a single season at UWRF. She led the team with a .556 slugging percentage and had a .400 on-base percentage, second on the team. She stole eight bases and was caught stealing only once. She led the team by being hit by a pitch three times. She finished with a .865 fielding percentage.

Rudiger, one of only four freshmen to earn honorable mention in 2006, currently leads the NCAA Div. III in saves with nine. The nine saves is a single season Falcon record and is a single season record in the WIAC. The right-handed pitcher had a 3-8 record and a 1.85 ERA. She appeared in 33 games, started eight and had three complete games. She threw a complete game no-hitter on March 1 when the Falcons beat Carleton, 4-0. She combined with teammate Ashley Bertrand to pitch a combined no-hitter in a 4-0 win over Franklin & Marshall on March 13. She pitched 109.2 innings and allowed 104 hits and 50 runs. She walked only 27 and struck out 93. The 93 strike outs is fifth all time at UWRF. Opponents hit .248 against her.

Peterson played in 12 games and was 3-8 at the plate for a .375 average. She scored six runs and was the team's top pinch runner throughout the season. She had five RBIs and stole one base. She handled three chances in the field without an error. She had a .500 on-base percentage. Peterson had one multiple hit and one multiple RBI game.

The Falcons finished 22-19-1 overall and 5-9 in the WIAC.

Falcons Lose to UWO; Eliminated from WIAC Tourney

May 6, 2006

The Falcon softball team lost a 2-0 decision to Oshkosh Saturday morning at the WIAC Tournament in Menomonie and were eliminated from play in the double elimination tourney.

UWO scored two runs on three hits and made one error. RF had three hits and made two errors. The Titans scored single runs in the fourth and fifth innings to get the win. Emily Howlett was 2-3 at the plate and Ashley James was 1-1. Brittany Rathbun started on the mound for the Falcons and took the loss. Her record is now 3-8. She worked four and two-thirds innings and allowed two earned runs. She walked two and struck out five. Ashley Bertrand worked the final one and one-third innings and allowed no hits or runs. She didn't walk a batter and struck out all four batters she faced.

Falcons Finish 2-1 at WIAC Tourney; Will Play Oshkosh on Saturday

May 5, 2006

The Falcon softball team won two games and lost one, and are still playing, at the WIAC Tournament played in Menomonie on Friday.

The Falcons opened with a 10-0 win over Stout in five innings. That was an important win because the loser of the game was eliminated from further play. The Falcons then lost a 1-0 decision to Eau Claire. But they rebounded to take a 6-4 win over La Crosse. The Falcons, now 22-18-1 overall, will play Oshkosh at 9 a.m. on Saturday in Menomonie. The winner advances while the loser is eliminated from play.

In the win over Stout, the Falcons scored 10 runs on 12 hits and made one error. UWS had three hits and three errors. UWRF scored two runs in the third and exploded for eight runs in the fifth, to end the game. The big hit in the fifth was a grand slam home run by Mindy Rudiger. Rudiger was 4-4 on the day with three runs scored and four RBI. Amanda Wojnowiak was 2-3 with a run scored and one RBI. Amanda Peters was also 2-3 with one RBI. Keri Feller was 1-3 with two RBI. Breamber Syverson was 1-3 with two runs
scored. Angie Quance, Ashley James, who was 1-3, and Rachel Mathias also scored runs. Rudiger also doubled in the game. Ashley Bertrand started on the mound and went the distance to get the win. She walked three and struck out two.

The Falcons then dropped a 1-0 decision to UWEC, the tourney’s No. 1 seeded team. UWEC had only three hits and made no errors. UWEC scored one run on seven hits and made no errors. UWEC scored its run in the first inning on two hits, including a double. Syverson was 2-3 for the Falcons and James was 1-2. Brittany Rathbun went the distance on the mound and took the loss. She allowed seven hits and one earned run. She walked two and struck out five.

The Falcons faced elimination again in their next game, but came out with a 6-4 win over La Crosse. UWRF scored six runs on 11 hits and made no errors. UWRF scored four runs on 11 hits and made three errors. UWRF scored four runs in the first inning when Feller hit a grand slam home run to left. The Falcons added single runs on the fourth and sixth innings. UWRF scored single runs in the first and fifth innings and they scored two in the second. Feller finished 2-4 with the four RBI and a run scored. Emily Howlett was 2-4 with two runs scored and one RBI. Wojnowiak was also 2-4 with a run scored and one RBI. Peters, who had a double, was 2-4 and Rudiger was 1-4 and she scored twice. Bertrand started on the mound and got the win to improve her record to 16-11. She worked four and one-third innings and allowed nine hits and four earned runs. She struck out two and didn’t walk a batter. Rathburn worked the final two and two-thirds innings to pick up her ninth save of the season. She leads the NCAA Div. Ill in saves. She allowed two hits and no runs. She struck out two and didn’t walk a batter.

The Falcons lost two WIAC games at Oshkosh earlier in the season, 8-0 and 2-1.

Falcons Win, Tie at SMU; Perkins Gets 350th Career Win

May 3, 2006

The Falcon softball team won and tied in a double header at St. Mary’s on Wednesday afternoon. Coach Faye Perkins picked up her 350th career win when the Falcons won the first game, 3-1. The two teams tied, 2-2, in a game that was called after five innings due to darkness.

The Falcons, now 20-17-1 overall, will next play Stout in the first game of the WIAC Tournament on Friday at Wakanda Park in Menomonie. The first pitch will be thrown at 9 a.m. If the Falcons win they will play Eau Claire on 1 p.m. The loser of the RF-Stout game will be eliminated from further tourney play.

In the first game the Falcons scored three runs on seven hits and they made no errors. SMU scored one run on eight hits and they made three errors. RF scored all of its runs in the sixth. Amanda Wojnowiak led off with a double and advanced to third on an infield out. Amanda Peters reached first on a fielder’s choice and advanced to second on an error. Wojnowiak scored on the play and Peters picked up the RBI. Margo Taylor reached first on a fielder’s choice and later both Peters and runner Angie Quance advanced a base on a wild pitch. After another out, Rachel Mathias delivered a two-run single to center to score Peters and Quance. USM scored its run in the sixth. Breamber Syverson was 2-3 and Wojnowiak was 2-4 at the plate. Ashley Bertrand started on the mound but did not figure in the decision. She worked five and one-third innings and allowed five hits and no runs. She struck out two and didn’t walk a batter. Bertrand hasn’t walked a batter in her last three games. Brittany Rathbun picked up the win in relief to improve her record to 3-6. She allowed one earned run and three hits. She walked one and struck out one.

In the second game the Falcons scored two runs on five hits and made no errors. St. Mary’s scored two runs on seven hits and made one error. UWRF scored single runs in the first and second while the Cardinals scored twice in the third. Emily Howlett hit a solo home run, her third of the season, in the first to give the Falcons a 1-0 lead. RF grabbed a 2-0 lead in the second when Peters singled with one out. After another out, Ashley James walked to put runners on first and second. Mathias then singled to center and Peters scored on the play on an error. St. Mary’s scored two runs in the third on three hits. Mathias was 2-2 at the plate. Bertrand started on the mound and worked the first three innings. She allowed four hits and two earned runs. She struck out one and didn’t walk a batter. Rathburn worked the final two innings and allowed three hits and no runs. She struck out two and didn’t walk a batter.

Perkins, the winningest coach in the WIAC, is now 350-173-1. The two teams tied, 2-2 at UWRF. The Falcons won the first game, 4-0, and Stout took the second contest, 3-2, in eight innings.

In the first game the Falcons scored four runs on six hits and they made two errors. UWRF had three hits and made six errors. UWRF scored two runs in the first and single runs in the sixth and seventh. Emily Howlett was 2-4 at the plate and Amanda Wojnowiak was 2-3 with two runs scored and one RBI. Keri Feller was 1-3 with one RBI. Breamber Syverson was 1-4 with a run scored and Mindy Rudiger scored the other Falcon run. In the first with one out, Syverson and Howlett both singled, but Howlett was thrown out on the play in a run down. Syverson advanced to third. Wojnowiak then singled to score Syverson with the game’s first run. She then stole second and scored when Feller singled. The Falcon run in the sixth was scored by Wojnowiak, who scored on a wild pitch. In the seventh, Rudiger reached first on an error and stole second. Wojnowiak singled and Rudiger scored on the play on an error. Ashley Bertrand picked up the win on the mound. She worked six innings and allowed three hits. She walked one and struck out five. Brittany Rathbun worked the final inning and threw 10 pitches in retiring the side in order.

In the second game, UWS scored two runs in the eighth to get the win. UWRF had two runs on five hits and made no errors. UWS scored three runs on seven hits and made two errors. UWRF scored single runs in the third and eighth. Stout scored its other run in the fourth on a homer to center. Howlett was 1-3 with a RBI and Feller was 1-4 with a RBI. Rudiger, who was 1-2, scored both the...
Falcons Split 5th Straight

April 23, 2006

The Falcon softball team welcomed UW-Superior to Ramer Field on Wednesday afternoon and split their fifth series in a row. River Falls took game one 2-0 and fell short in game two, 7-1.

In the first meeting, the score remained at 0-0 until the fourth inning when RF got on the board. The Falcons scored two runs in the inning and never looked back. Michelle Kelley and Amanda Wojnowiak scored when Amanda Peters knocked a single into left field. Peters went 2-3 at the plate and recorded her 19th and 20th RBI of the season. She has four doubles, a triple and a team high six home runs. She leads Stout with 16 RBI. Katie Fichter has a 3-8 record with a 2.86 ERA while Jessica Glasgow has a 4-9 record with a 3.55 ERA. Stout is hitting .243 and has a 3.22 team ERA.

In other first round tourney games Oshkosh (2) plays Stevens Point (7), Whitewater (3) plays Platteville (6) and Superior (4) faces La Crosse (5).

If the Falcons beat Stout in the double elimination tourney, they will play No. 1 seeded Eau Claire at 1 p.m. If the Falcons beat Eau Claire, they would play again at 4 p.m. If they would lose to Eau Claire, they would play at 2:30 p.m.

Before the tourney, the Falcons are scheduled to play at St. Mary's on Wednesday at 5 p.m.

Falcons Gain Split Against La Crosse

April 23, 2006

The Falcon softball team welcomed UW-La Crosse to Ramer Field. But the Falcons came back to take the second game, 5-3. It is the fourth split in WIAC doubleheaders for the Falcons in 2006.

In the first game La Crosse dominated the play scoring 12 runs on 14 hits. The made no errors. UWRF scored one run on three hits and made three errors. UWRF scored one run on three hits and made three errors. UWRF scored one run on three hits and made three errors. UWRF scored one run on three hits and made three errors.

UWL scored a single run in the fourth and added five in the fifth and sixth. The Falcons scored on hits in the sixth. Mindy Rudiger was 2-3 and scored the team's only run. Margo Taylor was 1-1 and Emily Howlett was 1-2 with a RBI. With one out in the sixth, Rudiger singled and advanced to second on the play. Taylor, pinch hitting, singled to center to advance Rudiger to third. Howlett then hit a sacrifice fly to center to score Rudiger. La Crosse scored five runs in the fifth on five hits. The Falcons made all three of their errors in the inning. Ashley Bertrand took the loss on the mound. She walked four and two-thirds innings and allowed three earned runs. She allowed six hits, walked one and struck out three. Brittany Rathbun worked one inning and allowed three hits and three earned runs. She struck out two. Kelly Quinn worked one-third of an inning and allowed six runs, but only one was earned. She allowed five hits and walked one.

The Falcons rebounded for an important win in the second game. UWRF scored five runs on nine hits and made one error. UWL scored three runs on six hits and they committed three errors. The Falcons scored three in the second and two in the third while UWRF scored a single run in the fourth and two in the sixth. Rudiger was 2-4 with one RBI. Rachel Mathias was 2-3 with a run scored and three RBI. She doubled home two runs in the second. Keri Feller was 2-3. Amanda Peters was 1-3 and she scored twice. Angie
The Falcons, now 16-15 overall and 4-8 in the WIAC, will next host UW-Superior on Wednesday at 3 p.m. at Ramer Field

Falcons Split at Home Against Pioneers
April 22, 2006
The Falcon softball team split another WIAC doubleheader, this one against UW-Platteville, on Saturday afternoon at Ramer Field.

The Falcons lost the first game, 7-5 in eight innings, but rebounded to win the second game, 6-2. This is the third WIAC doubleheader that the Falcons have split in this year.

In the first game the Pioneers scored three runs in the eighth inning to break a 4-4 tie and get the win. The Falcons were able to get one run back in the bottom of the eighth but it wasn’t enough. The Falcons scored five runs on seven hits and made four errors. UWRF scored seven runs on 10 hits and made two errors. UWP scored two runs in the second and seventh innings and three in the eighth. UWRF scored a single run in the fourth, three in the fifth and one in the eighth. Mindy Rudiger was 2-4 with a run scored and two RBIs. She hit her second homer of the season, a solo shot, in the eighth. Emily Howlett was 2-4 with a run scored and one RBI. She hit a solo homer, her second of the year, in the fourth. Trailing 2-1, the Falcons took a 4-2 lead with three runs in the fifth. Keri Feller led off the inning with a single to left and she advanced to second on an error. Amanda Peters singled to right to score pinch runner Rachel Mathias. Peters advanced to second on a sacrifice by Angie Quance. Ashley James then singled to right to score Peters. James was moved to second on a sacrifice by Michelle Kelley. Rudiger then singled to left to score James. UWP scored three runs in the eighth on three hits and a Falcon error. The big hit in the inning was a two run homer to left center by Nikki Hansen.

Ashley Bertrand started the game, was relieved by Brittany Rathbun, but returned to the game and took the loss. She worked five innings and allowed eight hits. She allowed five runs, three were earned. She walked two and struck out five. Rathbun worked three innings and allowed two hits and two unearned runs. She walked one and struck out six.

In the second game, the Falcons scored six runs on 10 hits and made no errors. UWP scored two runs on six hits and made two errors. UWRF scored twice in the first, three times in the third and once in the sixth. UWP scored single runs in the first and fourth innings. Amanda Wojnowiak had the hot bat for the Falcons in the second game. She was 2-3 with two runs scored and five RBI. She hit two homers - the first was a two-run shot in the first to left and the second was a three-run drive to left center in the third. They were her second and third homers of the season. Peters also hit a homer for the Falcons. She hit a solo shot to left to lead off the sixth. It was her first home run of the season. Howlett was 2-3, including a triple, with two runs scored. Feller was 1-3 - she hit her fourth double of the season in the first, and Ashley James was also 1-3 and she hit her fourth double of the season to lead off the fourth. Bertrand went the distance on the mound to get the win and improve her record to 12-8. She allowed six hits and two earned runs. She walked two and struck out eight in working her fourth complete game of the season.

The Falcons, now 17-15 overall and 3-7 in the WIAC, will next host UW-La Crosse on Sunday at noon at Ramer Field.

Falcons Split at Stout
April 20, 2006
The Falcon softball team split in a double header played at UW-Stout Thursday afternoon.

The Falcons won the first game, 4-0, but dropped the second, 3-2 in eight innings.

In the first game the Falcons scored four runs on six hits and they made two errors. UWS had three hits and made six errors. UWRF scored twice in the first and single runs in the sixth and seventh. Emily Howlett was 2-4 at the plate and Amanda Wojnowiak was 2-3 with two runs scored and one RBI. Keri Feller was 1-3 with one RBI. Breamber Syverson was 1-4 with a run scored and Mindy Rudiger scored the other Falcon run. In the first with one out, Syverson and Howlett both singled, but Howlett was thrown out on the play in a run down. Syverson advanced to third. Wojnowiak then singled to score Syverson with the game’s first run. She then stole second and scored when Feller singled. The Falcon run in the sixth was scored by Wojnowiak, who scored on a wild pitch. In the seventh, Rudiger reached first on an error and stole second. Wojnowiak singled and Rudiger scored on the play on an error.

Ashley Bertrand picked up the win on the mound. She worked six innings and allowed three hits. She walked one and struck out five.

Brittany Rathbun worked the final inning and threw 10 pitches in retiring the side in order.

In the second game, UWS scored two runs in the eighth inning to get the win. UWRF had two runs on five hits and made no errors. UWS scored three runs on seven hits and made two errors. UWRF scored single runs in the third and eighth. Stout scored its other run in the fourth on a homer to center. Howlett was 1-3 with a RBI and Feller was 1-4 with a RBI. Rudiger, who was 1-2, scored both the Falcon runs. The Falcons took a 1-0 lead in the third when Rudiger walked and stole second. Howlett doubled to center to score Rudiger. In the eighth, Rudiger led off with a walk and advanced to second on an error. With two outs, Feller singled home Rudiger with the then go-ahead run. But Stout scored one run on a homer in the eighth and the winning run on three straight singles.

Rathbun started on the mound and worked the first four innings. She allowed three hits and one earned run. She walked three and struck out four.

Bertrand took the loss and is now 11-8. She allowed four hits and two earned runs. She did not walk a batter and struck out seven.

The Falcons, now 16-14 overall and 2-6 in the WIAC, will next host UW-Platteville on Saturday at 1 p.m. at Ramer Field.

Falcons Split Two Against Saints
April 17, 2006
The UW-River Falls softball team split two games with St. Scholastica on Monday night. The Falcons won the first game 2-1 and the Saints took game two, 13-4.

Game one was a low scoring affair and was highlighted by pitching. St. Scholastica jumped out to an early lead in the first when Laura Heise singled to knock in Kristi Erickson. River Falls was not able to battle back until the fourth inning when they put two runs on the board. The runs were scored by Emily Howlett and Breamber Syverson when Amanda Peters reached second on a fielder’s choice. Ashley Bertrand pitched four innings for the Falcons and recorded three strikeouts in her 10th win on the season. Brittany Rathbun pitched three innings in relief and knotted three strikeouts while extending her Falcon single season saves record to six.

St. Scholastica regained control in the second game. The Saint opened up the first with three runs to take the early lead yet again. Runs were scored on a leadoff homerun by Erickson, Heise scored on an Erica Bond double, and Bond eventually found home when Kelly Cordie doubled. The Falcons got on the board in the bottom half of the inning when Howlett hit a solo shot to left field. The Saints added to their lead in the third when Bond scored again, this time off a RF throwing error. St. Scholastica put the Falcons away in the fourth when they tallied nine runs. RF made three errors in the inning which lead to the defeat. Bond and Erickson lead the Saints with three RBI each in the game followed by Andrea Thomas with two. RF cut their losses in the fourth and scored two more runs. The runs came on a Ashley James single which brought home both Angie Quance and Rathbun. The Falcons added one more in the fifth when Howlett scored on a Amanda Wojnowiak single. RF used three pitchers during the game including; Rathbun, Bertrand, and Kelly Quinn. The Falcon staff combined for two strikeouts in five innings of work.

The Falcons record now sits at 15-13 and they look to improve when they visit Stout on Thursday. Game time is set at 4 p.m.

Falcons Drop Two Against EC

April 14, 2006

The Falcon softball team welcomed the Eau Claire Blugolds to Ramer Field on Friday night and lost the second conference games, 10-1 and 7-3.

River Falls did not get off to the start they wanted in the opening game. Eau Claire opened up the game with six runs in the first. The first four Blugold batters were able to get on base, most notably Mallory McKinney who hit a three run homer from the three spot. The Falcon offense was able to cut into the EC lead by scoring one run in the bottom half of the inning off a Mindy Rudiger RBI double. Both teams were quiet until the fourth inning where EC recorded four more runs. McKinney added to her already stellar stat line by hitting another three run jack. The Falcons faced an uphill battle for the rest of the game and were not able to rally against No. 8. The country ranked Blugolds.

Ashley Bertrand started pitching for the Falcons and only made it through one out when she was pulled in favor of Brittany Rathbun. Falcon pitchers allowed nine hits and 10 runs on the night. In the loss, Rathbun was able to record four strikeouts.

In game two the Falcons kept the momentum. Much like the first game, the Blugolds were able to jump out to a lead in the first when Casey Keisegang trotted home on a wild pitch. EC added to their lead in the second when Keisegang hit an RBI single to knock in Brri Strum. The Falcons finally got on the board in the fourth Amanda Wojnowiak doubled to send Emily Howlett home. EC had their third one run inning in the fifth when Keisegang jacked a solo shot. RF battled back in the bottom half of the sixth with two runs of their own. The Falcon runs came when Howlett doubled to knock in Syverson, shortly followed by an Amanda Peters RBI single to send Howlett around. The Blugolds put the Falcons away late with four runs in the top of the eighth. Mandy Techernach doubled to score Jill Janke. Shannon Barone and Megan Ellenbecker scored later when Terisa Syvertsen reached on a Falcon error. McKinney made it around the bases as well thanks to a Leisegang double.

Rathbun pitched the entire game for the Falcons and allowed seven runs on 10 hits. She also recorded three strikeouts.

The Falcons look to rebound when they welcome St. Scholastica to Ramer Field on April 17. The game is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m.

Falcons Collect Two Wins

April 11, 2006

The Falcon softball team returned home on Tuesday night and welcomed Hamline to Ramer Field. River Falls clicked on all cylinders as they won 4-1 and 3-0.

In the first game the damage was made in the third inning. Keri Feller opened the inning with a single. Angie Quance was then sent in to pinch run and would eventually score the first run. Both Quance and Amanda Wojnowiak scored when Hamline made an error while trying to field an Emily Howlett hit. The score would be cut in half two innings later as Hamline’s Holly Wiborg scored on a Grace Weinreich double. The fifth inning was the beginning and the end of Hamline’s offense as River Falls shut them out the rest of the way. Falcon insurance runs were added in the bottom half of the fifth when Howlett knocked in Mindy Rudiger, shortly followed by a Amanda Peters single to send Wojnowiak home. Rudiger totaled two runs while averaging .666 in three plate appearances.

Ashley Bertrand pitched four and a third innings for the Falcons while recording three strikeouts and her eighth win on the season. Brittany Rathbun finished off the game and recorded her fifth save of the year. Rathbun’s fifth save surpasses her previous team record of four in a single season.

Game two wasn’t much different, except this time the Falcons kept Hamline out of the run column. River Falls wasted no time and scored two runs right away in the first. Following a Rudiger single, Breamber Syverson hit the sweet spot on the bat and knocked the ball into left field. Syverson not only knotted an RBI with Rudiger scoring, she also trucked her way around the bases and recorded the in the park homerun. Both teams bats were kept at bay until Wojnowiak ripped one over the outfield fence in the sixth for a round tripper. Ashley James was a standout of the game as she went 3-for-3 with the stick.

Bertrand pitched seven strong shutdown innings and upped her win total to nine. She only allowed two hits in the contest and collected three strikeouts.
The Falcons improve to 14-10 on the year and look to improve when Eau Claire visits Ramer Field on Friday afternoon. The WIAC double header is scheduled to start at 1 p.m.

Falcons Split at Whitewater

April 9, 2006

The Falcons split a WIAC double header at UW-Whitewater on Sunday afternoon. UWRF won the first game, 4-2, and UWW won the second, 2-1.

In the first game the Falcons scored four runs on seven hits and made no errors. UWW scored two runs on nine hits and made one error. The Falcons scored a single run in the first and three in the third. UWW scored single runs in the fourth and seventh. Mindy Rudiger went 3-3 with two runs scored and a double. Breamber Syverson was 1-2 with a run scored. Emily Howlett was 1-3 with two RBI and a run scored. Rachel Mathias was 1-3 with two RBI. Brittany Rathbun was 1-3. Rudiger led off the game with a double and later scored when Howlett grounded out. The Falcons got three in the fourth. With out, Rudiger and Syverson singled. Howlett also singled to scored Rudiger. After an out and an error, Mathias singled to scored Syverson and Howlett. Ashley Bertrand started on the mound and got the win to improve her record to 7-5. She worked four innings and allowed four hits and no runs. She walked only one and struck out three. Rathbun picked up her fourth save of the season. She worked the final three innings adn allowed five hits and two earned runs. She struck out four and didn’t walk a batter.

In the second game, UWW scored the winning run in the seventh on three straight singles. UWW scored one run on four hits and they made one error. The Warhawks scored two runs on eight hits and made one error. UWW scored its run in the fourth. Syverson reached first on an error and was sacrificed to second by Howlett. She scored when Amanda Wojnowiak singled. Amanda Peters was 2-3 and Ashley James was 1-3 with a double. Bertrand started on the mound and worked the first four innings. She allowed five hits and one earned run. She walked one and struck out four. Rathbun took the loss in relief. She worked two and two-thirds innings and three hits. She allowed one earned run. She struck out one.

The Falcons, now 12-10 overall and 1-3 in the WIAC, will host Hamline on Tuesday at Ramer Field. Action starts at 4 p.m.

Falcons Lose Twice at UWO

April 8, 2006

The Falcons opened WIAC play on Saturday at UW-Oshkosh and lost twice, 8-0 and 2-1.

In the first game that lasted five innings, the Falcons were handed their worst loss of the season. UWO scored three in the first, single runs in the second, fourth and fifth and two in the third. The Falcons were limited to just two hits; a double by Amanda Peters in the fifth and a single by Emily Howlett in the fourth. UWO scored eight runs on 12 hits. UWO had two errors and UWO one. Ashley Bertrand started on the mound and took the loss. She is now 6-5. She pitched one and one-third innings and allowed four runs, three were earned. She allowed four hits, walked two and struck out one. Brittany Rathbun worked two and two-thirds innings and allowed three runs, two were earned. She allowed six hits, walked none and struck out four. Kelly Quinn worked the final two-thirds of an inning and allowed one earned run and two hits.

In the second game, UWO scored the winning run in the fifth to take the 2-1 win. Both teams scored runs in the third. Rachel Mathias hit a solo homer to left field for the Falcon run. It was her second homer of the season. The Falcons had five hits and no errors. UWO scored two runs on seven hits and made no errors. Mathias went 2-2; Howlett was 1-3; Peters was 1-3 and Rathbun was 1-2. Rathbun started on the mound and took the loss. She is now 2-4. She worked five innings and allowed two earned runs. She walked four and struck out one. Bertrand worked the final inning and struck out one. UWO scored the winning run on a lead off single and a triple later in the fifth.

The Falcons, now 11-9 overall and 0-2 in the WIAC, play twice at UW-Whitewater on Sunday. The first pitch will be thrown at noon.

Falcons Dominate Northwestern

April 4, 2006

The Falcon softball team welcomed Northwestern University to River Falls for their first home games of the season. The Falcons showed complete dominance in the both games of the double header as they won, 27-0 and 40-0.

River Falls opened up their bats in the first inning and never looked back. The first score came from the Falcons Mindy Rudiger as she stroled home following a wild pitch. NU’s bad luck would continue as countless River Falls batters were able to get base knocks and walks. The team totaled 16 hits and 10 walks compared to NU’s one hit, one walk, and 11 strikeouts.

River Falls’ Amanda Peters was the gem of the highlight reel as she batted .800 in her eight at bats. Peters accounted for six of the falcon runs with three scores and three RBI. Other key plays from the Falcons 27-0 win came from Rudiger again and Ashley James. Both players were able to smash the ball over the fence to record a homerun.

Ashley Bertrand, Kelly Quinn, and Rudiger shared pitching duties in the game. Bertrand led the team with six strikeouts followed by Rudiger’s four and Quinn’s one.

In the second game the outcome was not any different. The Falcons increased their already huge offensive output from the first game to 40 and completed the shutout yet again.

The Falcons Amanda Wojnowiak had the number five in her mind in the second game. Wojnowiak went 5-for-5 from behind the plate and scored five runs; she also added four RBI. This effort was common throughout the whole River Falls lineup as the game turned into the blowout.

Quinn pitched the entire game and recorded three strikeouts and allowed only two hits.
The Falcons are now 11-7 on the season and now look at Oshkosh on April 8. The opening pitch is set to start at 3 p.m.

**Falcons Split Final Day of Coe Tournament**

**March 26, 2006**

The Falcons split their final day of play at the Coe Tournament.

They lost their first game to Central, 5-1. Central scored one run in the first inning, two in the fourth and two in the fifth. The Falcons scored their run in the fourth inning. They made one run off of five hits and made three errors. Mindy Rudiger had the only double. Breamber Syverson, Emily Howlett, and Angie Quance all had one hit. Brittany Rathbun also had a hit and the team’s only run. Ashley Bertrand took the loss, pitching the first three and one third innings. She allowed four hits, three runs and two earned runs. She walked one and struck out one. Rathbun pitched the final three and two thirds innings allowing three hits and two runs, one was an earned run. She walked zero and struck out seven.

The Falcons came back to win their final tournament game 2-1 against Cornell. Cornell scored their run in the third inning. They had one run off of six hits and made no errors. The Falcons scored in the third and sixth inning. They had two runs off of eight hits and made no errors. The winning run for the Falcons happened in the sixth when Feller had a base hit single, Cathy Peterson came in to run for her. Rathbun had another hit, which advanced Peterson to second. Both Rathbun and Peterson advanced on a wild pitch. Peterson made it home on a ground out to second, hit by Michelle Kelley.

Other hitters for the Falcons were, Syverson who was 2-2, Howlett went 1-3 and had one RBI, Keri Feller was 1-3, Kelley was 1-3 with one RBI, and Rachel Mathias was 1-3 with one run scored. Bertrand pitched all seven innings. She had one earned run, six hits, two walks and nine strikeouts. Her record is now 6-4.

The Falcons now have a record of 9-7 and host their first home game on Tuesday against Hamline. The game starts at 3 p.m.

**Falcons Split First Day of Coe Tournament**

**March 25, 2006**

The Falcon softball split their first day of play at the Coe Tournament in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

For their first game they lost 8-2 to William Penn. Penn scored eight runs in ten hits. Four of their points came in the second inning, two in the third and two more in the sixth. The Falcons scored two runs off of five hits, scoring their first run in the first inning and the other in the fourth. The Falcons also had six errors, the highest for a game so far this season. Hitting for the Falcons, Mindy Rudiger was 2-3 up to bat and scored one run. Angie Quance was 1-1 with one run scored. Brittany Rathbun was 1-3 and had one RBI and Breamber Syverson was 1-2. Ashley Bertrand took the loss, pitching one and one third innings. She allowed four hits and four earned runs and one walk. Her record is now 4-3. Rathbun pitched the remaining five and two thirds innings, allowing six hits, four unearned runs and one walk.

The Falcons took on Mt. Mercy for the second game and defeated them 4-0. The Falcons scored four runs on seven hits and made one error. They scored in one run in the first and third inning and two runs in the sixth. Mt. Mercy had three hits and three errors. Emily Howlett was 2-3 and had one RBI. Rudiger was 1-4 with, hitting a double and knocking in two RBIs. Syverson went 1-3 and scored two runs, and Quance was 1-2 with one run scored. Bertrand pitched the first four innings and allowed one hit, two walks, and two strikeouts. Rathbun pitched the final three innings and had her third save of the year. She allowed two hits, two walks and four strikeouts.

The Falcons are now 8-6 and will play Central at 10:45 a.m. on field two and then face Cornell at 2 p.m. on field two.

**Schedule Changed For Coe Tourney**

**March 21, 2006**

The schedule has been changed for the Coe Tournament that the Falcon softball team will play in this weekend in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The main change is that the games will be played on Saturday and Sunday instead of Friday and Saturday. All of the games will be played at the Tait Cummins Softball Complex.

On Saturday the Falcons play William Penn at 10:45 a.m. on field two. The Falcons then play Mt. Mercy at 12:15 p.m. on field one.

On Sunday the Falcons play Central at 10:45 a.m. on field two and then face Cornell at 2 p.m. on field two.

Go to the tourney web site.

**Falcons Split on Final Day in Florida**

**March 17, 2006**

The Falcon softball team split in two games on Friday at the Rebel Spring Games in Florida.

The Falcons lost to McDaniel, 5-4, and came back to defeat Otterbein, 4-3, in eight innings.

In the win against OC the Falcons scored four runs on seven hits and they made three errors. OC scored three runs on eight hits and they made one error. The Falcons scored single runs in the first, fourth, fifth, and eighth innings. OC scored all of its three runs in the fifth inning. The Falcons scored the winning run in the eighth using the international tie-breaking rule. Cassie Peterson was put on second base and was sacrificed to third by Emily Howlett. Ashley James singled to center field to score Peterson with the winning run. Keri Feller was 2-3 with one RBI. Michelle Kelley was also 2-3. Mindy Rudiger was 1-3 with a run scored. James was 1-3 with a run scored and an RBI. Brittany Rathbun picked up the win in relief. She pitched the final three and one third innings and did not
allow a run. She allowed two hits and struck out five. Ashley Bertrand started on the mound and worked the first four and two thirds innings. She allowed three runs, two were earned. She allowed six hits, struck out four, and walked two.

In the 5-4 loss to McDaniel the Falcons scored four runs on 10 hits and made one error. MC scored five runs on nine hits. UWRF scored single runs in the second and sixth innings and added two in the fourth. MC scored two runs in the fourth and sixth innings and scored once in the second. Amanda Wojnowiak was 3-4 with a run scored. Feller was 2-3 with two runs scored and one RBI. Emily Howlett was 3-3 with a run scored and two RBI. Wojnowiak and Howlett both had doubles and Feller had a triple. Bertrand started and pitched one inning. She allowed one earned run and four hits. Rathbun, who took the loss, worked five innings, allowed four runs, three were earned. She walked one and struck out four.

The Falcons, now 7-5 overall, will play at the Coe College Tournament next weekend. On Friday, the Falcons will play Cornell at 2:45 p.m. and Northwestern at 6:15 p.m.

Falcon Offense Explodes for 34 Runs in Two Wins

March 16, 2006

The Falcon offense exploded for 34 runs in a 4-0 win over the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and a 20-0 win over Macalester. Both games lasted five innings.

Against MCLA the Falcons scored 14 runs on 15 hits and made no errors. MCLA was limited to just two hits and they made two errors. The Falcons scored three runs in the first and third innings, a single run in the fourth and seven in the second. Amanda Wojnowiak led the Falcons going 3-3 with two runs scored and five RBI. She had a triple. Breamber Syverson was 2-3 with two runs scored and Amanda Peters was 1-3 with two runs scored and two RBI. Keri Feller was 3-3 with two RBI and Angie Quance was 2-2 with two runs scored. Ashley Bertrand started on the mound and worked the first three innings to get the win. She allowed one hit and struck out one. Kelly Quinn worked the final two innings and allowed one hit and she struck out two.

The Falcons kept their bats hot in the win over Macalester. They scored 20 runs on 21 hits and made no errors. MC had two hits and made six errors. UWRF scored once in the second and twice in the fourth. They scored seven runs in the third inning and 10 in the fourth. Mindy Rudiger was 4-5 with two runs scored and two RBI. Feller was 2-2 with two runs scored and three RBI. Ashley James was 3-4 with two runs scored and one RBI. Both Feller and James had triples. Wojnowiak was 4-5 with three runs scored and three RBIs and she had a double. Michelle Kelley was 3-4 with three runs scored and two RBI. Bertrand started on the mound and worked three innings to get the win. Brittany Rathbun worked the final two innings. Both allowed one hit and struck out two.

Falcons Split: Bertrand, Rathbun Combine for No-Hitter

March 15, 2006

The Falcons split in two games on Wednesday at the Rebel Spring Games in Florida.

Ashley Bertrand and Brittany Rathbun combined to pitch a no-hitter in the team’s 4-0 win over Franklin & Marshall. The Falcons lost the second game, 2-0, to Cortland.

Against F&M Bertrand started on the mound and pitched the first four innings. She struck out three and walked one. Rathbun, who picked up her second save of the season, pitched the final three innings. This is the second no-hitter by the Falcon pitching staff this spring. Rathbun pitched a complete game no-hitter on March 1 against Carlton, a 4-0 Falcon win. UWRF scored two runs in the first and fourth innings. Amanda Peters was 2-3 at the plate. Breamber Syverson was 1-3 with a run scored. Amanda Wojnowiak was 1-3 with a run scored and an RBI. Michelle Kelley was 1-3 with a run scored. Rachel Mathias was 1-2 with an RBI and a run scored. Only two F&M batters reached base - on a walk in the fourth inning and an error in the fifth.

Cortland scored single runs in the third and fifth innings. The Falcons had just two hits: a lead-off double by Mindy Rudiger in the first and a single by Kelley in the second. Cortland scored two runs on eight hits. Bertrand took the loss on the mound. She walked four innings and allowed one earned run. She allowed three hits and struck out five. Rathbun worked the final two innings and allowed one earned run. She allowed five hits and struck out two.

The Falcons, now 4-4 overall, play Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts at 2:20 p.m. and Macalester at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday.

Falcons Start 1-3 in Florida

March 14, 2006

The Falcon softball team has opened with a 1-3 record at the Rebel Spring Games being played in Kissimmee, Fla.

The Falcons lost two games on Sunday. The lost a 7-3 decision in eight innings to Rowan, and a 1-0 decision to Plattsburgh. On Monday the Falcons defeated Benedictine, 6-2, and lost to Rhode Island, 1-0.

The game against Rowan went into extra innings. Rowan scored seven runs on six hits and they committed one error. The Falcons scored three runs on five hits and made three errors. UWRF scored single runs in the second, third, and fifth innings. Rowan scored three times in the fourth and four times in the eighth. Mindy Rudiger was 2-3 at the plate and she scored twice. Emily Howlett was also 2-3 with one RBI. Amanda Peters was 1-3 with one RBI. Ashley Bertrand started on the mound and pitched four innings. She allowed three runs, two were earned. She allowed four hits, struckout two and walked three. Brittany Rathbun also worked four innings and took the loss in relief. She allowed four runs, only one was earned. She allowed two hits, struckout three, and walked one.
There were only three hits in Plattsburgh's 1-0 win over the Falcons. The Falcons had one hit and made one error. Plattsburgh had two hits and made three errors. Rudiger's single in the sixth inning was the only Falcon hit. Bertrand took the loss on the mound pitching six innings. She allowed two hits and one earned run. She walked one and struck out four.

On Monday, the Falcons opened with a 6-2 win over Benedictine. UWRF scored one run in the first and five in the third. Benedictine scored both of its runs in the fourth. The Falcons scored six runs on 12 hits and made no errors. Benedictine scored two runs on six hits and made two errors. Amanda Wojnowiak was 3-4, including a double, with two RBI. Peters was 2-3 with one RBI. Rudiger was 2-3 with two runs scored and one RBI. Kelly Quinn picked up the win on the mound. In her first college game she pitched four innings and allowed two earned runs. She allowed four hits and walked one. Bertrand started and pitched the first three innings. She did not allow a run, allowed two hits, walked one, and struckout three.

The Falcons lost a 1-0 decision to Rhode Island in Monday's second game. UWRF had three hits and made no errors. RI scored one run on six hits and made no errors. Rudiger was 1-3 including a double. Breamber Syverson was 1-2 and Rathbun was 1-3. Rathbun started on the mound and took the loss. She pitched the first four innings and allowed one earned run. She allowed three hits, struckout one, and didn't walk a batter. Bertrand pitched the final three innings, allowed three hits, struckout three, and walked one.

The Falcons, now 3-3 overall, will play two games on Wednesday. They play Franklin & Marshall at 8:50 a.m. and Cortland at 10:40 a.m.

**Falcons Top Carleton Twice; Rathbun Throws No-Hitter**

**March 1, 2006**

Brittany Rathbun threw a no-hitter to help lead the Falcon softball team to a sweep over Carleton on Wednesday night at the Rosemount Dome.

The Falcons opened with a 3-1 win and then Rathbun threw the no-hitter in the second game, a 4-0 win.

Rathbun faced 22 batters, just one over the minimum. She set down the first nine batters she faced before walking the lead off batter in the fourth. The only other batter to reach base came in the seventh on an error and she was thrown out trying to steal. Rathbun, who picked up a save in the first game, struck out seven. Rathbun did not allow any Carleton batters to hit the ball to the outfield. The last Falcon no-hitter was thrown by Amy Brooke on April 19, 2001 in a 4-0 win over Superior.

The Falcons score four runs on eight hits. Amanda Wojnowiak was 3-3 with one RBI and a run scored. She had two doubles. Mindy Rudiger was 2-3 with two RBIs. She had a double. Margo Taylor was 1-1 and had the other Falcon RBI. The Falcons scored two runs in the second and single runs in the third and sixth.

In the 3-1 win, the Falcons scored three runs on four hits while Carleton scored one run on just two hits. UWRF scored single runs in the first, fifth and sixth innings and Carleton scored its run in the first. Ashley Bertrand started on the mound and worked five innings to get the win. She allowed two hits and one unearned run. She didn't walk a batter and struck out nine. Rathbun picked up the save, her fifth of her career, working the final two innings. She didn't allow a hit, walked three and struck out two.

Angie Quance was 1-3 with two runs scored. Michelle Kelley was 1-4 with an RBI. She tripled in the fifth inning. That hit scored Rachel Mathias, who pitched for Rathbun, who had doubled. Amanda Peters had the other hit.

The Falcons, 2-0 overall, will next play at the Rebel Spring Games in Florida from March 12-17. On March 12 the Falcons face Rowan at 8:50 a.m. and Plattsburgh at 10:40 a.m.

**Falcons Open 2006 Season at Rosemount Dome**

**Feb. 28, 2006**

"Small but mighty," is how Falcons softball Coach Faye Perkins describes the 2006 team.

The small part comes in the fact that of the 15 players on this season's roster, only eight are returnees. The team is made up of six freshmen, six sophomores, three juniors and no seniors. "It's kind of scary, but exciting," said Perkins. "We are very talented, but lack experience. We have to rely a lot on returnees and on our freshmen to step up for immediate impact."

The mighty comes in with a fine list of returnees.

On the mound are sophomores Ashley Bertrand and Brittany Rathbun, who shared mound time with last year's senior Amanda Vanderploeg. Bertrand led the Falcons with a 2.16 ERA and an 8-9 record. She led the Falcons with 107 innings pitched and 83 strikeouts. She walked 35. Rathbun worked 90 innings and had a 2.57 ERA with a 5-6 record. She had four saves, a school record. She walked 17 and struck out 67. She also received honorable mention to the 2005 All-WIAC team. Rathbun also played in the designated hitter's spot and finished second on the team with a .387 average. Freshman Kelly Quinn bring back up help. "We just have to find the best combination of what works best," said Perkins.

Sophomore Ashley James who caught for the entire season last year will be looked to protect the plate again this year She hit .207. Sophomore Margo Taylor is also in the wings ready to step up when needed.

Junior Breamber Syverson will be the only familiar face in this year's infield as an entire new group is taking shape. Last year Syverson played in all 41 games and will be looked to help out at shortstop if needed. She had a .238 average and stole a team high 13 bases. Freshman Mindy Rudiger will be looked to help in the shortstop position as well. If Syverson is asked to play shortstop, freshman Cassie Peterson will be looked to fill in at second. At first base sophomore Amanda Peters will look to take control with Keri Feller ready for back up. Sophomore Emily Howlett will be looked to hold down the third base position.
Amanda Wojnowiak will be one of the leaders in the outfield. She lost some playing time last year due to a leg injury but is ready for a new season. Last year Wojnowiak earned All-WIAC and NFCA All-Great Lakes Regional first team honors. She played both right and center field and had the team's highest batting average of .420. She led the team with 21 runs scored and had a team high 12 doubles and two triples. The 12 doubles is second in a single season in the Falcon records book. She had 16 RBis and stole nine bases. She had a perfect fielding percentage.

Michelle Kelley is also an experienced junior playing in the outfield position. Freshmen Rachel Mathias and Angie Quance are also ready to play in the outfield.

This season the Falcons won't be playing their regular cluster tournaments, but will play double headers against each conference team. Whether or not Perkins thinks this is a good adjustment remains to be seen. "The cluster tournaments put a lot of pressure on the team, so it'll be interesting to see how the new schedule will go."

This year the team starts the season a few weeks earlier then usual with its first game on Wednesday against Carleton. "This is the earliest we've ever played, but it will help provide some stronger focus in our practices," said Perkins.

This year the Falcons are focusing on their might, and not their size. "We are a small, but solid team," said Perkins.

The Falcons will travel to the Rebel Spring Games in Orlando, Fla., during spring break and play 10 games in six days.

**Faye Perkins - Head Softball Coach**

Faye Perkins, the 1996 WIAC Coach of the Year, starts her 17th season as head coach of the Falcons softball team.

On March 28, 2004, Perkins posted her 300th win at UWRF when the Falcons beat UM-Morris, 9-1. With 330 wins at UWRF, Perkins is the winningest softball coach in the history of the WIAC. She coached two seasons in Missouri at Tarkio College in 1984 and 1985 where the team repeated as conference champions. Perkins' career record is 373-319-1. Before coaching at Tarkio College, Perkins was the head coach at Collins-Maxwell High School in central Iowa where she lead her team to the Heart of Iowa Conference championship.

The Falcons won back-to-back WIAC championships in 1993 and 1994. The team also qualified for the NCAA Div. III playoffs in both those seasons. Perkins has led the team to seven WIAC West Division championships (2001, 1996, 1995, 1994, 1993, 1992, 1989). The Falcons have been nationally ranked in six of the last 16 years and had six straight seasons of 20 or more wins (1991-96). She led the Falcons to a school-record 28 wins in 1993. Perkins has coached 62 All-American Scholar-Athletes and her 1993-94 team had the second highest overall grade point average in all of Div. III fastpitch. Four of her athletes have won the WIAC Scholar-Athlete award—Kim Zarling, Amy Stenson, Amy Brooke, and Anna Poulter. Perkins has coached 12 Regional All-Americans and 55 of her student-athletes have been named to All-WIAC teams.

Perkins is a firm believer in the basics of the game and teaches them to her athletes. She also believes that getting along together as a team (on and off the field), working, cooperating and having fun are keys to success. "Being involved in athletics is much more than winning and losing. It is learning about yourself and how to get along with others. Athletics can be an important part of a person's educational experience. The lessons that you learn on the field can be just as valuable as the lessons learned in the classroom. I want athletic participation to be a positive learning experience for my players as well as for myself and the entire coaching staff," Perkins said.

Perkins earned her B.S. in physical education and M.S. in exercise physiology from Iowa State University. As a Cyclone she earned nine athletic letters as a member of the softball, basketball and track teams. In 1975 she earned all-american honors in track. The softball team won the Big 8 Conference championship in 1976 and 1978 and Perkins was selected to the all-Tournament team at shortstop. In 2004, Perkins was inducted into the Iowa State University Athletic Hall of Fame.

Perkins earned her Ph.D. in Health Education from the University of Utah in 1992. At UW-RF she is a full professor and the department chair in the Health and Human Performance department.

Perkins is particularly proud of the fact that many of her former players are now coaching softball at the scholastic and intercollegiate levels. Some of these alumni include: Kim Zarling - Head Coach at University of South Dakota; Christine Stainer - Head Coach at UW-Stout; Nikki Fennern - Head Coach at St. Mary's University; Jody Porter Gabriel - Assistant Coach at UWRF; Anna Poulter - Graduate Assistant Coach at St. Cloud State University.

She is married to Joe McIntosh and has two sons, Paul (18) and Bobby (14). Family members also include two cats (Steek; Mr. Baxter). The family enjoys sports and outdoor activities such as roller blading, ice hockey, biking, horseback riding, camping, soccer and, of course, softball. In 1998, 2001, and 2005 Perkins taught in Scotland as a part of the Wisconsin in Scotland program through UW-River Falls. A few of her players have played softball at the international level in Australia and the Netherlands.
Jody Gabriel

Jody (Porter) Gabriel starts her fourth year as an assistant softball coach at UW-River Falls.

"Jody has been a great fit for the team. She knows the UW-RF program, understands my coaching philosophy, and is very familiar with the caliber of ball in the WIAC. Her strengths are working defensively with first and third base, and working offensively with the team. Her coaching experiences, leadership and organizational abilities have been great assets to the team and coaching staff," Coach Faye Perkins said.

Gabriel coached at St. Mary's, Minn., University for two years where the Cardinals were co-MIAC champions in 2001 and placed second in 2002. In 2001 the Cardinals placed fourth in the NCAA National Tournament. She worked primarily with infield corners and hitters. She has also coached at the high school and traveling levels in Hudson, Hastings, River Falls and Forest Lake, Minn., her hometown.

Gabriel competed with the Falcons from 1994-96. The 1994 team won the WIAC title and qualified for the a NCAA Regional. The 1994 team also had the second highest grade point average in the nation. She played high school ball at Forest Lake from 1990-92.

She earned her undergraduate degree from UW-RF in accounting in 1996 and her M.S.E. degree (social studies) from UW-RF in 2000. She is currently teaching social studies at Hudson High School. She is married to Barry Gabriel and they have a daughter, Sydney, who was born in January, 2004. They live in Hudson with their two yellow labs.