

HOLIDAY RIDE



Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College equine studies seniors rode horseback around campus Monday to spread holiday cheer.

Each year on study Monday, a day free of classes for students to focus on their finals, senior equine students go from building to building to sing Christmas carols.

They take time to dress up and decorate their horses for the occasion, using hats, socks, blankets and more.

Teah Taylor, a transfer student at SMWC, helped organize the event this year.

"I think it really helps bond the two campuses together," Taylor said while atop of her horse, Solomon. "It's something special the SMWC offers not only to the main campus but the community as well."

The riders also stopped at Providence Health Care and the Sisters of Providence administration building.

Lillian Bouton, a junior from Indianola, Illinois, pets the horse (top right) that Equine Department Chair Edward Ferguson rides while Katie Wendoorf, a senior at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, (middle right) sings Christmas carols during the Holiday Equine Ride the Conservatory of Music building.

Taylor (bottom, second from the left) said it's a special tradition where the riders can "see our friends on campus and spread some holiday cheer." A senior equine student smiles (lower right) as she sings carols during the Holiday Equine Ride outside of the Conservatory of Music building.



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Photos and story by Marissa Schmitter/Tribune-Star

