

# 1976-77

**Football** Coach Earl Perkins 4-4 Coach Earl Perkins expected no less than 16 lettermen but only nine committed to this season. There is no experience in the backfield. The season opener was with defending champion Normandale who defeated ACC 27-6. Todd Ehret rushed for 81 of the total 229 yards gained by Austin. ACC overcame four fumbles and upset Willmar 7-0 in conference action. Austin scored in the first period on a Mark Christopherson one yard plunge for all the scoring in the game. ACC's defense limited Willmar to 66 yards rushing and 64 yards passing. The Blue Devils came close to its second upset of the season but lost a rugged game to Worthington 14-7 to drop to 1-2 on the season. Austin only gained 130 yards total offense. Rallying from a 7-0 deficit Austin scored 29 unanswered points and held on to a 29-22 win over Lakewood in conference action. "The best thing is we won and the offense built confidence in themselves", said Coach Perkins. The Lancers were on the 14 yard line when time ran out. Trace Harrington scored on two TD passes from Scott Christensen while Dave Berg hauled in another from 27 yards out. Christensen scored the other TD on a one yard sneak. The Blue Devils have won only one of the last seventeen games on the road and the streak continued as Waseca bested ACC 13-8 in the "Pigskin Bowl". The loss dropped Austin 2-3 in league play. Sophomore running back Mark Christopherson had a big day, rushing for 107 yards for his second straight 100 yard game. He now has 424 yards in five games. ACC had three lost fumbles and 81 yards penalties in the loss. Austin defeated Anoka Ramsey 22-0 to even their record at 3-3. It was ACC's third win at home (3-0) and the second shutout of the year. Anoka Ramsey netted only 33 yards total offense. All three scoring drives started in AR territory. The first from the 35 yard line after a punt, the second from the four yard line after an Anoka Ramsey fumble, and the third from the 45 after a punt. Herman Smith scored from one yard out, then Christensen scored on a four yard end run, and with the final TD was a 10 yard scoring toss from Christensen to Harrington. Rochester ranked number two in nation drubbed Austin 52-7 and dropped ACC to 3-4 for the season. The Blue Devils were held to 98 yards total offense. Austin closed out its season with a 19-13 upset win over Inver Hills, giving them a 4-4 record and its best season since football began in 1970. It also gave ACC an undefeated record at home (4-0) and the defense set a team record by giving up only 14 points in eight games. Greg Bell intercepted a pass with 45 seconds on the clock on the Inver Hills 13 yard line to preserve the victory. It was Bell's second theft of the game. Smith and Christensen each scored a TD for Austin, while Terry Nelson converted on one extra point kick for Austin's scoring. Running back Mark Christopherson was named to the All-Conference and All-MJCAA team on offense. He gained 584 yards on 165 attempts. Linebacker Bob Farrell was named to the All-Conference, All-MJCAA on defense. He lead Austin fro the second year in a row in defensive points. Guard Brad Twede also earned All-Conference and All-MJCAA on offense. He was a two year starter a top notch blocker.

Roster Included:

Scott Christensen	QB	Gregg Bell	QB-S
Lee Thompson	DB	Jerry Goodew	B
Robin Higbe	DB	Mark Christopherson	B
Bob Farrell	LB	Todd Ehret	B
Mike Faas	DB	Dave Berg	B
Herman Smith	B	Craig Bucknell	B
Dale Karsten	C	Mark Stalker	C
Todd Hovda	G	John Diesch	G
Brad Twedell	G	Kevin Barnett	G
Tim Swanson	G	Terry Nelson	T
Tony Mudra	T	Rod Uher	T
Scott Morem	T	Greg Carlson	T
Don Beckman	E	Dan Wedel	E
Tom Borris	E	Bill Swanson	LB
Trace Harrington	E	Marty Brandt	E

Assistants: Steve Volkert and Rod Voelker

Scores and Schedule:

9/11	Normandale	6-27	L
9/18	Willmar	7-0	W
9/25	Worthington	7-14	L
10/2	Lakewood	29-22	W
10/9	Waseca	8-13	L
10/16	Anoka Ramsey	22-0	W
10/23	Rochester	7-52	L
10/30	Inver Hills	19-13	W

Record: Four wins, four losses.

**VOLLEYBALL** Coach Vel Moen 19-10 The outlook was bright for Coach Vel Moen. With two returning letter-winners, Sue Brown and Jennie Saaranen along with a group of outstanding freshmen the season looked bright. "We have great personnel so we should have a good season" said Moen. Austin split its four matches to even its record at 2-2. ACC swept Mankato Bethany and Willmar up its record to 4-2. The Blue Devils won 15-8, 15-2 over Willmar and 15-8, 15-12 over Bethany. Cheryl Jones served twelve consecutive points in the second match over Willmar. Barb Hertle had 21 service points for the two games. Austin rallied to defeat Golden Valley 2-1 before dropping a 2-0 decision to Normandale. The split left them at 5-3 for the season. ACC won a pair of third set matches to defeat Anoka Ramsey and Inver Hills. The victories up their record to 7-3. Liz Ackerwold's 10 points and five scoring spikes sparked ACC's win over Anoka Ramsey while Nancy Hafforff had 13 points in the win over Inver Hills. Austin lost 2-1 to Worthington but defeated Waseca 2-0 as Ackerwold led them in scoring.

ACC won 14-16, 15-9, 16-14 over North Hennepin and 15-0, 15-10 over Inver Hills, then lost 11-15, 15-7, 3-15 to Anoka Ramsey to see its record go to 10-5. Austin recorded three wins, 2-1 over Rochester, 2-0 over Lakewood, and 2-0 over North Hennepin to give the Blue Devils a 13-5 record for the season. Nancy Haddorff served 37 points to lead the way in the victories. Freshman Liz Ackerwold sparked Austin to a pair of victories winning 2-1 over Rochester and 2-0 over St Mary's College of Winona. The two wins make it seven wins in a row. Ackerwold had 17 points and 20 spikes in the two contests. ACC had its winning streak snapped by Rochester (2-1) but then bounced back to defeat Waseca 2-0. The split left Austin with a final season mark at 16-6. Austin won four of five matches in the southern division playoffs and finished second to Rochester to advance to the state tournament. ACC will take a 19-8 record into the state event. Austin lost to North Hennepin 15-11, 12-15, 13-15 and to Normandale 9-15, 11-15 to be eliminated from the state tournament to finish the season at 19-10.

Roster Included:

Elise Ackerwold	Liz Barrett	Cindy Bossert
Susan K. Brown	Nancy Haddorff	Barb Hertle
Cheryl Jones	Margaret Lueken	Susan G. Nelson
Kim Ogilvie	Connie Opsahl	Jennie Saaranen
Rita Tempel		

**BASKETBALL** Coach Jim Mittun 0-21 After a winless season last year, Coach Jim Mittun is optimistic and said, "there is no where to go but up". The Blue Devils dropped their opener 80-50 to Metropolitan College of Minneapolis. The loss extended ACC's losing streak to 24 games over three seasons. Waldorf whipped Austin 132-78 in non-conference action. Mark Christopherson had 16 points in defeat. Defense improved but Austin lost for the third consecutive time dropping a 69-55 decision to WWTI. Christopherson scored 25 points and grabbed 14 rebounds as ACC lost to Madison 69-61 after losing to Milwaukee Concordia 104-60 the night before. Tim Dolan scored 19 points (back after an injury) while Christopherson topped the 20 point mark for the second consecutive night (22) but it wasn't enough to defeat Lakewood. The Lancers came out on top 84-68 to drop Austin to 0-6 on the season. A cold start resulted in a 106-59 drubbing to Inver Hills. The skid continued to 0-9 on the season as the Blue Devils lost two games in the Itasca Invitational. Dave Berg had his best performance of the season but the Blue Devils lost 86-63 to Worthington. Waseca came to town and sizzled the nets and defeated ACC 111-83. Berg again had the hot hand scoring 26 points while Christopherson chipped in with 21 points. The losing streak reached 13 games as Bethany dropped an 83-52 decision to ACC. Mark Christopherson poured in 23 points in another loss, this time to Rochester 96-63. ACC fell to 0-4 in the league and 0-14 overall. Willmar upended Austin 75-56 in conference play. Christopherson had 19 points in the loss. ACC still looking for its first win, was defeated by Worthington 84-62 to drop to 0-16. The losing streak reached seventeen games as Bethany was victorious over ACC 89-69. Mark Christopherson had 25 points in the defeat. North Hennepin exploded in the second half and defeated ACC 82-46 to extend the losing streak over three years to 41 games. Austin lost its final three games, failing to win a contest for the second consecutive year. In their finale with Willmar, ACC trailed 43-38 at halftime and rallied within two, 57-55 with 10 minutes to go.

Willmar pulled away for an 82-71 victory and that left the Blue Devils with a final 0-21 record and a 44 game losing over three seasons. ACC was 0-18 last year and lost its final five games in 1974-75. Mark Christopherson ended his career with another fine scoring night, pouring in 22 points. Dave Berg tallied 19 and Tim Dolan a dozen for the Blue Devils.

Roster Included:

Dave Berg	John Weikum	Bill Hart
Ottmer Wittmar	Todd Ehret	Scott Christensen
Gregg Bell	Herm Smith	Tim Dolan
Scott Ramlo	Scott Morem	Mark Christopherson
Tom Borris		

Cheerleaders: (Advisor Vel Moen); Vickie Sherman, Robin Arnold, Kim Danielson Laurie Delmont, Joan Fell, Barb Hertle, Judy Nelson.

## **Women's Basketball**

Coach Vel Moen 19-5 (16-1 regular season record)

**Southern Division Champions, State Runner-up.** ACC returns two starters (Sue Nelson and Jennie Saaranen) along with nine freshmen. Superb defense in the final ten minutes keyed a season opening 54-32 win over Anoka Ramsey. Freshmen guard Liz Acherwold scored 14 followed by Nancy Haddorff who had 12 points. Haddorff poured in a record 33 points to lead ACC over Rochester 76-61 in non-conference action. Austin moved its record to 4-0 by winning the Inver Hills Community College holiday tournament. They defeated Metropolitan of Minneapolis 65-16 and Inver Hills 60-46 in the championship. Haddorff and Acherwold were named to the All-Tournament Team. Nancy Haddorff tallied 32 points to lead ACC to its fifth victory in a row defeating Lakewood 79-37. Liz Acherwold chipped in with 16 points. Austin scored the first 20 points of the game and handily defeated Normandale 50-20 to boost its record to 6-0. Hafforff had 17 points and Sue Nelson recorded 9 rebounds along with her 13 points in the victory. ACC came up with 17 steals and soundly defeated North Hennepin 58-37. Jenny Saaranen had seven thefts to lead them to the win. The first seven wins have all been non-conference games. Liz Ackerwold had her best game of the season as she scored 22 points to lead ACC over Rochester 72-55 in league action. She also had 10 rebounds and came up with 4 steals. Nancy Haddorff tallied 28 points defeating defending state champions Waseca 60-48. The Blue Devils lost Liz Acherwold (second leading scorer) to a sprained ankle in the first quarter. The bubble bursted as Worthington handed ACC their first loss with a 67-53 decision. Haddorff scored 28 points but it was not enough. The loss left ACC tied with three other teams for first place in the division. Austin upped its record to 10-1 with a 48-27 win over Willmar in league play. Haddorff led them with 20 points. The inside game of Sue Nelson and Cindy Bossart enabled the Blue Devils to beat Rochester 62-44. Nelson had 18 points and 14 rebounds while Bossart added 12 points and 12 rebounds. Haddorff led them with 20 points and 5 steals. Five free throws in the final minutes by Nancy Haddorff sealed a 56-50 win over Waseca. Haddorff finished with 27 points while Liz Acherwold returned to action and chipped in with 18 points. ACC hiked its record to 6-1 in league and 13-1 overall by defeating Bethany 44-36. The Blue Devils had four players with 8-10 points each.

In a match-up with Worthington (6-1) for the league lead ACC handed its rival with a 59-53 decision that left Austin on top of the southern division conference with a 7-1 record. It was Austin's fifth win in a row with two conference games remaining. Haddorff (18), Ackerwold (12) and Jenny Saaranen (12) led them in scoring. Austin handed Bethany a 65-41 whipping and clinched a share of the division title with one game remaining in conference play. Liz Ackerwold ripped the nets for 21 points while Nancy Haddorff poured in 18 in the victory. ACC romped over Willmar 65-28 to wrap up the southern division title and advance to the state tournament with a seven game winning streak and 16-1 record. Haddorff scored 26 points while teammates Cindy Bossart (14 points) and reserve Sandy Larson (11 rebounds) sparked the Blue Devils to victory. ACC breezed to a 64-36 over Brainerd in the opening round of the state tournament. All five starters scored in double figures led by Ackerwold and Haddorff with 14 apiece. ACC rallied for a 62-52 win over Anoka Ramsey to advance to the championship game in the MCC state tournament. ACC outscored Anoka Ramsey 19-5 down the stretch for the win. Haddorff had 26 points to lead all scorers. The Blue Devils dropped a 55-42 decision to arch rival Worthington to finish runner-up in the state tournament. The two teams split during the regular season. "Our defense held them to 15 points under their 70 point average but we just couldn't hit when we needed it" said Coach Vel Moen. Nancy Haddorff had 22 points to lead ACC to a 18-2 record. ACC was one of four teams to participate in the A.I.A.U Region Tournament with the winner advancing to the NJCAA national tournament. Austin defeated Anoka Ramsey 64-34 to advance to title game. Nancy Haddorff scored 20 points to lead all scorers. Liz Ackerwold went down with a sever ankle sprain and did not finish the game. Bismarck, N.D. out rebounded ACC 45-25 and soundly defeated the Blue Devils 73-48 to earn a berth in the national tournament. Austin turned the ball over 24 times in the loss. Nancy Haddorff had 21 points while Jenny Saarenen and Sue Nelson each had 9 points. Their season now had a record of 19-3. The equipment was put away but a week later ACC received an at-large invitation to play in the A.I.A.W national tournament in Vincennes, Indiana. It was during spring break that Coach Moen received the good news. Peace College (16-4) of Ralaigh, N.C. defeated ACC 81-45 and sent the Austin squad to the consolation bracket. Central Illinois of Peoria then defeated Austin 67-42 to send them home. The losses left the Blue Devils with a final record of 19-5 with four losses coming in the final three tournaments they participated in. In the first contest, Jenny Saaranen led the way with 13, followed by Nancy Haddorff (12) and Liz Ackerwold (7). In the second contest, Haddorff had 14 and Ackerwold 12 to lead them in scoring. The 19-5 record was the best record ever by and Austin Community College women's team. Haddorff led the team in scoring with 477 points (19.9 average) with Ackerwold average at 11.8 points per game. Sue Nelson led the team in rebounding with 190 (7.9 per game).

Roster Included:

Sue Nelson	Jennie Saaranen	Cindy Bossert
Cheryl Jones	Liz Ackerwold	Nancy Haddorff
Connie Opsahl	Carolyn Wradislavsky	Sandy Larson.
Sue Larson	Barb Erickson	Debbie Persoon

**BASEBALL** Coach Earl Perkins 14-9 Bob Rinaldi started where he finished last year, pitching one hit ball for four innings in leading ACC over NIACC 11-1 in the first game of the season. The Blue Devils completed the sweep with a 5-3 win in the nightcap. ACC gave Rinaldi plenty of support collecting seven hits and a dozen walks. Tim Dolan struck out 10 batters in his four innings of work while Rob Higbe pitched a scoreless two innings. Scott Christensen was 4 for 4, scoring four times with 3 RBI in the doubleheader. ACC split with the Mankato junior varsity, winning 4-2 and losing the second contest 6-2. The Blue Devils had had only 17 hits in the first four games. Dolan was the winning pitcher in game one with Jon Juenger taking the mound loss in the nightcap. Dave Berg bases loaded triple with two outs in the sixth inning and as spectacular defensive play in the ninth inning sparked an ACC 8-4 win over Mankato junior varsity. The win boosted the Blue Devils to a 5-2 record. Bob Rinaldi worked out of a couple jams to pick up the pitching victory. He worked the final four innings. Six costly errors in game one and weak hitting in game two left ACC on the short end of 8-4 and 1-0 losses to Rochester Community College. The losses dropped Austin to a 1-3 league record and 5-4 overall. Tim Dolan pitched four hit ball and struck out 11 RCC batters but ACC had no run support in the defeat. Austin Community College presented Coach Earl Perkins with his 100<sup>th</sup> career victory in nine seasons by edging Winona State junior varsity 8-7. The Blue Devils had a much easier time in the second game, winning 9-3. The two victories boosted Perkin's record at ACC to 101-63. Robin Higbe's two run double in the eighth gave ACC its first win over Winona. Dave Berg had three hits in game one. Catcher Mark Stalker had a pair of singles and scored twice to lead Austin to the win in the nightcap. ACC posted 4-3 and 14-5 victories over WWTI to up their record to 9-4. The inability to get some timely hits proved costly as ACC dropped 8-5 and 3-2 decisions to Normandale to fall to 1-5 in league play. Austin stranded 19 runners in the doubleheader. ACC lost the first game 9-8 to Lakewood but salvaged a split with a 9-6 win in the nightcap. Paul Cress slugged a two run homerun and Scott Christensen extended his hitting streak to eight games to lead them to victory. Tim Dolan pitched five innings of no hit ball to get the win in the second game. The Blue Devils won a pair from Inver Hills, 6-5 and 3-1 in league play and run its record to 12-7. Chris Astrup drove in the winning run in game one while Dave Berg and Clint Faas each had two hits in game two. Austin split with Rochester, winning the opener 8-2 but losing the nightcap 5-4. The second game was the fourth one run setback by the Blue Devils this season and ended their four game winning streak. Scott Christensen extended his hitting streak to 11 games with a two run double in game one but went 0 for 3 in the second game to end the streak. Tim Dolan tied the strikeout record when the Blue Devils edged Normandale 7-5. Dolan struck out 10 hitters for a final season total of 93 in 66 innings. The total equaled the record fired by Brian Ojanpa in 1968. Dolan (8-2) tied another ACC record with 8 victories. Ojanpa, Jim Schammel and Darrell Monson eight wins each in 1972. Normandale repeated as champions with a 10-2 win over ACC in the second contest. Austin ended with a 5-7 league record and 14-9 overall. Christensen hit .364 (24 for 66) while Berg was close behind with a .359 average (23 for 64).

Roster Included:

Jon Bednar	Mike Faas	Rob Higbe
Jim Hunter	Bob Rinaldi	Mark Stalker
Jim Hunter	Stan Ankoviak	Mark Christopherson
Chris Astrup	Tim Dolan	Dave Berg
Clint Faas	Paul Cress	Jon Juenger
Scott Christensen	Brain Kraby	Terry Nelson
Dan Wilson	Mike Reinhartz	John Schneider

**GOLF** Coach Jim Mittun ACC opened the season by winning its own invitational with three players in the top ten. Mike Edling (76), Pete Hoyer (77), and John Heegard (79) led them to a victory. ACC finished second to Waldorf in its second meet. Edling and Heegard each shot 73's, with Hoyer firing a 75, Tom Borris had a 78 followed by Rick Anderson with an 88. Austin won its second invitational by shooting a 320 at Waseca. Tom Borris turned in his best effort with a 79 to lead the ACC golfers. Austin finished 6<sup>th</sup> in their next tourney, but Pete Hoyer carded a 75 to finish runner-up in the individual race. ACC completed its regular season with a fifth place finish at North Hennepin. ACC finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the MJCAA state tournament and 4<sup>th</sup> in the NJCAA Region XIII out of 19 teams. John Heegard tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> place with a 150 and in sudden death won a trip to the NJCAA national tournament in Lehigh Acres in Florida. ACC other players in the meet were Mike Edling (157), Rick Anderson (161), Tom Borris (164), and Pete Hoyer (166). Heegard shot an 82 followed up by an 87 in the second round and did not qualify for the final 36 holes.

**TENNIS** Coach's David Dickinson & Terry Dille 0-8 MJCAA-3<sup>rd</sup> State, Region XIII-runner-up. After not winning a match all season (0-8), Kelly Tritz and Fred Budde sparked ACC to a third place finish in the State Community College tennis tournament. Normandale won the event with 29 points, Rochester had 20 and ACC had 19 points. As a result, the top three teams advance to the Region XIII tournament. In singles play, Tritz emerged as the No. 2 State Champion. Budde was runner-up in the No. 1 singles while Joe Wedding was 2<sup>nd</sup> at the No. 5 singles. In doubles, Tritz and Budde teamed to win the No. 1 doubles championships. Austin Community College finished second in the Region XIII tournament and advanced to the NJCAA national tournament in Scottsdale, Arizona. Budde finished second in the No. 1 singles while Tritz finished 3<sup>rd</sup>. In doubles, Tritz and Budde lost in the finals to finish second. It was the first loss of the season for the ACC doubles team. Jeff Higgins accompanied Budde and Tritz to the national tournament. They lost their first round matches in singles and doubles and were eliminated. Team members; Budde, Tritz, Wedding, Randy Anderson, Jim Brotz, Roger Swanson, and Mike Mullenmeister.

**Women's TENNIS** Coach Vel Moen 3-2 MCCC-3<sup>rd</sup> State. Caralyn Wradislavsky turned out to be the bright spot for the ACC women's tennis team in the State Tournament. Wradislavsky won her first two matches easily, then upset Normandale's #1 player to gain the finals. She would lose her next match and finish in second in the state. Wradislavsky and Sue Nelson finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in doubles, while Cheryl Jones and Laura Delmont finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the #3 doubles. Other members were: Elise Ackerwold, Deb Bredfeldt, Fae Buscho, Laura Delmont, Nancy Haddorff, Susan Hardenberg, Cheryl Jones, Susan Nelson, Caralyn Wradislavsky