

1958-59

No Football

BASKETBALL Coach Hal Cuff 8-9 Coming off back to back losing seasons, Hal Cuff's "crying towel" is wringing wet as he needed to build from scratch this season without much hold over material. Gordan Boick is only regular back, with Larry Rensink, a former Pacelli star as a cinch to be in the starting line up with other lettermen Jim Randall, Ray Appel, and Ron Macel. Rensink would live up to his billing by scoring 24 points in a season opening victory over Pillsbury 78-41. With a safe 20 point halftime lead, Coach Huff emptied his bench and the reserves saw a lot of action. Boick would chip in with 14 and Jerry Nelson with 10. Austin defeated Waldorf 74-71 after trailing by two with 39 seconds to go. Four of the five starters scored in double figures led by Rensink (20, Boick (19), Roger Booher (16) and Nelson who had 12. A fast stepping Dr. Martin Luther turned back Austin 74-57 to open up the conference. The Hilltoppers led all the way as guard Larry Rensink carried the load scoring 19. Austin would lose its next two contests, a 69-64 loss to the Mankato freshmen team and a 105-74 thrashing by Bethany. In a rematch with the Mankato reserves, Hal Cuff would be handed a Christmas present with a 74-70 victory. Sparked by Larry Rensink's 29 points, the Blue Devils kept pace all the way. Although being outgunned 29-20 on field goals, Austin held a huge advantage at the foul line, 34 to 12 to turn the decision. The win left Austin with a 3-3 record before the holidays. Austin would lose its first two games after the break, a 70-68 loss to Hibbing and a 82-78 heart breaker to Waldorf. Both non-conference losses saw signs of improvement as Austin would next meet Worthington and defeat them 78-74 in a conference thriller. Playing before "parent's night", Larry Rensink would tally 30 following his 37 points last week in a loss to Waldorf. Rensink had plenty of help as Gordan Boick contributed 22 and Don Dimmel added 10 points. The Blue Devils would be handed three consecutive losses to Concordia (80-55), Bethany (109-68), and Rochester (76-57). Their record would fall to 1-5 in the conference and 4-8 overall. Austin would romp over Pillsbury to stop their three game losing streak with a 82-36 victory. Rensink would score 16 points although playing less than half of the game. Jerry Nelson would finish with 11 as all fourteen players saw action for the Blue Devils. Austin would bounce back with an impressive 79-59 win over Concordia after being defeated by 30 points two weeks earlier. Guards Roger Booher and Larry Rensink provided most of the scoring punch. Booher had 23 and Rensink added 20.

Boick would chip in with 13 followed by Jerry Nelson who had 11. Austin would make it three wins in a row with a 71-67 victory over Worthington sparked by Gordan Boick's 24 points, his best performance of the season. Rensink would tally 19 followed by Booher with 14. Their winning streak at three would be snapped by Rochester 52-50 and Austin would complete the season with a triumph over Dr. Martin Luther 82-65. Larry "Boots" Rensink would lead his teammates with 36 points, claiming the SMJCC scoring champion. He would score 214 points in 10 contests, averaging 21.4 and edging out Ron Lang of Worthington (21.1 ppg). Center Gordan Boick also finished the season with a strong performance scoring 16 points. The Blue Devils completed their third losing season in a row, winning 8 of 17 contests (8-9) and finishing fourth in the conference race with a 4-6 record. Larry Rensink was named the MVP in the SMJCC and named to the 10 man All-Conference team.

Roster Included:

Gordan Boick	Larry Rensink	Jim Randall
Ray Appel	Ron Macel	Roger Booher
Jerry Johnson	Dave Ryks	Ron Farrell
Dave Dimmel	Don Slupe	Dick Brownlow
Jerry Nelson	Assistant Coach: Al Lehrke	

Cheerleaders: Jeanette Reinartz

TENNIS Coach Bill Evans The Austin tennis team finished 1-4 in dual competition and fourth place in the SMJCC tournament. Competing for Austin were: Frans Officer, Don Dimmel, Jerry Johnson, Bryan McNally, Darrell Hanson, Ralph Morgan

GOLF Coach Bill Evans Austin (329) would finish runner-up in the SMJCAA tournament to Rochester (285). Ray Appel paced the Austin golfers with a 76, finishing runner-up in the individual title. Duane Harves(80), Burt Towne (83), and Jim Herrick (90) were Austin's other scores. Bob Bravec was also a member of the team.

BASEBALL Coach Hal Bergeson 8-1 **SMJCC Champions (5-1)**. Another "first" for the Austin Junior College sports program as baseball launched its inaugural season with the hiring of Hal Bergeson, a former St. Olaf star. Bergeson assisted high school coach the past two seasons and is on the staff at Austin High School. A ten game schedule is on tap. Sixteen players will be on the roster with most of the boys having played high school baseball. Good pitching and timely hitting carried Coach Hal Bergeson's team to a 4-2 victory over Waldorf in its first ever baseball game at Austin Junior College. The Blue Devils would score first in the second inning and right hander Leon Johnson (seven innings) and Chuck Sneider (2 innings) would tame Waldorf to four hits.

Harlan Smith and John Bawek cracked out 2 hits apiece. Austin would win its next encounter (no score reported) and then lose their first game of the season in a 6-0 defeat to Dr. Martin Luther. The Blue Devils would climb back into the win column by defeating Bethany 13-5. Austin would collect 10 hits, including four hits by Don Slupe who hit a solo homerun in the seventh. The junior college baseballers snared a twin bill from Dr. Martin Luther, winning the opener 1-0 (conference game) and 4-3 in the nightcap (non-conference game). Leon Johnson was the winning pitcher in opener, allowing four hits and no runs. Larry Zeibell's double in the second inning provided the only run needed for Austin. In the second contest, Slupe would have 3 RBI and Charles Schneider would pitch 3 hit ball in secure the mound win. Austin would lose its next game 5-4 to Bethany but they used two ineligible players, therefore forfeiting the contest. The victory for the Blue Devils left them with a 4-1 conference mark and 7-1 for the season. They would step out of conference and defeat Pillsbury 20-3 as they collected 17 hits in the win led by Roger Booher who had 3 hits and a homerun. Coach Hal Bergeson's AJC team would clinch the SMJCC baseball title with a season ending 4-2 win over Concordia. Once again it was Leon Johnson on the mound to lead his team to victory. He would scatter 6 hits and limit Concordia to one run in his best performance of the season. The first year of baseball was successful as Austin JC closed the season with an impressive 8-1 overall record and 5-1 in the conference as SMJCC champions.

Roster Included:

Leon Johnson	Norm Svernigsen	Charles Schneider
Roger Booher	Don Slupe	Harlan Smith
Ardell Brede	Duane Dahlback	John Bawek
John Buchan	Merlin Nelson	Larry Zeibell
Ken Huecker	John Hardy	Ed Carter
John Booher		

TRACK

Records indicate that letters were presented to Dave Dombrook, Bill Grant, and Jim Baldwin in track.