

2008-09

Volleyball- Coach Helen Jahr 11-14 Leading the way this season in the newly renamed Minnesota Collegiate Athletic Conference (MCAC) are returning sophomores Tiffany Preuss, Ashely Lau, and power hitting Brooke Monson (all-conference last year). As Coach Jahr prepares for her 16th season, she is excited for the upcoming season and really likes her incoming freshman. The season opened in high fashion with a road victory over Pillsbury College of Owatonna, winning by scores of 25-22, 26-24, and 25-10. Ashley Lau had a productive night with six kills and helped power her team to a convincing third game after two close games. "We attacked hard and did a good job at the net" said Coach Helen Jahr. Riverland Community College won its second straight match with a sweep of Gogebic College as they rolled to wins of 25-13, 25-8, and 25-21. This was the season opener of Gogebic and the long bus ride showed it. "They were a much tougher opponent in the third game" said Jahr. Brooke Monson led with 5 kills and 3 blocks on the night. Lau led with a team high nine kills. RVLD hosted Western Technical College and Gogebic over the weekend and with some strong serving they improved to 4-0 as they defeated both opponents in 3 games. In the match against WTC, the Lady Blue Devils prevailed 25-13, 25-21, and 25-22 as Krissy Schemmel had 31 assists and five aces to lead the way. In the second match, RVLD defeated Gogebic for the second time in two days with scores of 25-11, 25-18, and 25-23. Monson had 11 kills, 3 blocks and five aces for the day and Ashleigh Smith served nine straight in the last game for the win. Ridgewater College came to town and handed Riverland it's first lost with wins of 25-19, 25-17, 25-16, 25-21. "Even though they beat us, I noticed a definite change in the atmosphere of our team" said Coach Helen Jahr. "We weren't intimidated by them (# 2 team in the latest NJCAA polls) and it was mainly our errors that cost us the match". Schemmel had 11 set assists and 15 digs to lead the Lady Blue Devils. Riverland defeated MSCTC-Fergus Falls to record its first MCAC conference victory. RVLD won by scores of 25-20, 18-25, 25-17, and 25-19. "It was a fantastic effort by our girls and I can't remember the last time we beat Fergus Falls in a conference match" said Jahr. Brooke Monson led with 18 kills and 4 blocks while Lau had 8 kills, 2 blocks, and 19 digs. Riverland improved to 5-1 overall and 1-1 in the division.

Riverland CC dropped three matches and managed to win one in the Rochester C & TC Invitational. In the first match, Rochester defeated Riverland 25-10, 25-19.

Riverland Community College then defeated Gogebic 25-15, 25-17 before losing to Madison Area Technical College 25-22, 28-26. In its final match of the day, the Lady Blue Devils lost in the consolation match to Hibbing 19-25, 23-25. "We went up against some tough teams in pool play and should have won the match against MATC" said Jahr. "We played competitively against Hibbing but could not pull it out. It was a long day on the court". Riverland drops to 6-4 overall. Riverland lost a tough division battle on the road, losing to MN West 19-25, 25-23, 21-25, and 23-25. All four games could have gone either way. "We had too many costly mistakes in the last two games" said Coach Jahr. Tiffany Preuss led with 21 set assists while Krissy Schemmel had 31 digs. RVLD drops to 1-2 in the MCAC southern division and 6-5 overall. Riverland split a pair of matches in the MATC invitational, defeating WTC 25-22, 18-25, and 15-8 before losing to MATC 16-25, and 13-15. Playing without power hitter Brook Monson, RVLD was hampered at the net and it showed. "We switched some players around to cover for Brooke's absence" said Coach Jahr. Kate Krough led with 11 kills and 19 digs. Riverland is now 7-6 overall. For the second time this season, Riverland beat Pillsbury in three games, this time winning at home 25-15, 25-14, and 25-12. "It was a good night for us at the net" said Coach Jahr. "Things were clicking for us in this win. You can tell the girls like to play at home". RVLD returns to the MCAC and hosts Rochester C & TC, currently 18-1 and ranked 2nd in the nation. Riverland Community College was unable to contend with the quick hitting of Rochester and lost in three by scores of 18-25, 22-25, and 14-25. The Yellowjackets stung Riverland with 10 ace services on the night. RVLD drops to 1-3 in the division and 8-7 overall. The Lady Blue Devils hosted Western Technical College and defeated them for the third time this season with games of 25-21, 25-23, and 25-20. "We came out flat and a bit overconfident" said Coach Helen Jahr. "Ashley Lau kept us in the game with her hitting until the rest of the team woke up". Lau had a big night with 14 kills and 13 digs. The road to the state tournament got more difficult as Anoka-Ramsey came to town and defeated Riverland Community College 25-23, 21-25, 18-25, 20-25 and dropped RVLD to 1-4 in the southern division. The Lady Blue Devils won game one but would lose the next three games. "They seem to make all the big plays at the end of the games" said Jahr. "We had seven service errors on the night and that is too many in a tightly contested match" said a dejected Coach Jahr. The division race is not over but now RVLD starts the second half of the division schedule on the road at Ridgewater College. Riverland was never in any of the games as Ridgewater pounded the Lady Blue Devils 25-16, 25-14, and 25-22. RVLD drops to 9-9 overall and 1-5 in the division. Riverland Community College remained at .500 as they split a pair of matches at the WTC invitational, losing to Madison in two games and defeating WTC 2-0 to make it four straight this season

over the La Crosse team. Riverland won its last home match of the season, defeating MN West 31-29, 25-14, and 25-17 in a very exciting match. Falling behind 6-0 in the first match, RVLD rallied to get it back to 25 all. Krissy Schemmel led with 28 assists and 4 digs while Ashley Lau served in 17 points. Riverland improves to 11-10 overall and 2-5 in the league. Riverland could not beat WTC for the fifth time this year as Western defeated the Lady Blue Devils 23-25, 21-25, 25-13, and 15-25. Playing without the services of Brooke Monson, RVLD could not control the net and it proved to be costly. RVLD drops to 11-11 overall. Rochester beat Riverland for the third time, taking the MCAC southern division match 15-25, 15-25, and 13-25. "It didn't matter who was on the other side of the net, we did not play well" said Coach Jahr. With only two more matches remaining in the division, RVLD's quest for state tournament berth does not look promising. The Lady Blue Devils drop to 2-6 in league play. Riverland Community College missed a chance to stay in a tie for the fourth and final spot in the upcoming state tournament as they lost to MSCTC-Fergus Falls 25-22, 16-25, 16-25, and 14-25. Mathematically Riverland is not done yet. If the Lady Blue Devils can win its final road contest against Anoka-Ramsey and the right scenarios take place, RVLD could end up in a four way tie at 3-7. There won't be any trip to the MCAC state tournament for the Lady Blue Devils as they were up ended by the Golden Rams of Anoka-Ramsey to end their season 2-8 in the division and 11-14 overall. The Rams won by scores of 17-25, 20-25, and 20-25. "Its too bad that our possible trip to the state tournament came down to one match, because we had many opportunities to get there before this and we didn't do it" said Coach Helen Jahr. Ashley Lau and Tiffany Preuss were named to the 2nd team All-Southern Division by the coaches.

Roster Included:

Tiffany Preuss	Jenny Ingvalson	Kate Krough
Ashley Lau	Krissy Schemmel	Tiffany Carlson
Ashleigh Smith	Dena Monson	Brooke Monson
Kelly Hendricks		

Golf-(M) David Lillemon Riverland Community College will have nine golfers on hand when the season opens with sophomores Darrick Braaten, Isaac Van Proosdy and Trevor King leading the way. Braaten was the team's MVP last year and will be heavily counted on for the Blue Devils to have a successful season. In the season opener at the Oaks in Hayfield, Minnesota, Riverland hosted a five team invitational and wound up 5th overall. Jason O'Donnell led the men with an 86. Riverland Community College hosted its second meet as in as many weeks in Albert Lea and finished 3rd to Rochester and MN West. The Blue Devils shot a 360 and were led by O' Donnell again with an 87. Adam Ruhter shot a 90 as did David White. Ryan Wiechmann rounded out the scoring with a 93 for the day. RVLD

traveled to Century College and shot a season high 398. David White led his team with an 80 while Ruhter shot an 88 with a 39 on the back nine. Riverland Community College traveled to Worthington and played in a 6-team invitational hosted by MN West and shot a 365. Ryan Wiechmann was low with his best of the season at 82. Ruhter turned in an 85, followed by David White also with an 85 and Tim Bissen with a 113. The Blue Devils hosted a six team invitational at the Austin Country Club and shot a 377 and finished in 6th place. David White shot a 89 to lead RVLD, followed by Darrick Braaten with a 92, Jason O' Donnell's 93 and Ryan Wiechmann with a 103. The Blue Devils traveled to Rochester and shot a 368 to place 3rd in a triangular hosted by Rochester C & TC. Ruther shot an 89 to lead with White at 90, O'Donnell with a 92 and Watchman with a 97. Riverland Community College would host its 4th tournament of the season at the Owatonna Country Club in a triangular with Rochester and Century College. RVLD shot a 389 and finished 3rd amongst the three teams. Adam Ruhter led with an 87. Riverland Community College saved its best for last as it shot its best season scores in the final meet, the MCAC State and Region 13 meet hosted by Central Lakes in Brainerd, Minnesota. In the first round of action, RVLD shot a 358 and was in 5th place out of 10 teams represented in the state classic. Darrick Braaten led with an 85(45-40), followed by Jason O' Donnell (45-42), Adam Ruhter (47-42), and Ryan Wiechmann (49-48). "It was a pretty good day on the course for our golfers considering the breezy and wet conditions from the rain they had on Sunday" said Coach David Lille on. The Blue Devils dropped 16 stokes from its total on the final day and finished 5th in the MCAC State Golf Meet. After shooting a 358, RVLD came back with a 342 on Tuesday to finish with a 700 total for the tournament. They finished 6th out of 12 teams in the Region 13 tournament, which ran concurrently with the state meet. "That was a terrific performance on the second day by my kids" said Coach. "In all the meets this year we finished last and then to come up and beat half the field is a great way to end the season. I'm really excited for our team and they battled some tough conditions the second day to play their finest golf of the season", said Lille on. Darrick Braaten had the overall lowest total as he finished with rounds of 85-85=170. Jason O'Donnell also shot 85 the second day to give him a two day total of 172. Adam Ruhter shot an 88 along with his first day total of 89 for a 177. Ryan Wiechmann improved 13 strokes as he shot 84 the second day for a two day total of 181. Riverland Community College will host the MCAC State tournament in 2009 and 2010.

Roster Included:

Isaac Van Proosdy
Adam Ruhter

Darrick Braaten
Aric Bauman

David White
Ryan Wiechmann

Jason O'Donnell

Trevor King

Tim Bissen

Golf (w) David Lillemon The women's golf team had three freshmen represent the Lady Blue Devils, led by Laura Meyer from Washburn High School in Minneapolis. Meyer also is a standout softball player and will compete in the spring for Coach Lillemon on the diamond. The other two golfers representing RVLD were Kari Anderson from Southland High School and Julie Schroeder, a Leroy, MN native. Throughout the season the Lady Blue Devils could not field a team (3 players constitute a team in women's play) but managed to be represented in all the meets. Laura Meyer led the team all season and shot a regular season low 106 in the Albert Lea meet. But in the MCAC state and Region 13 meet, the Lady Blue Devils shot some of their finest golf of the season and finished in 5th place in the state. Again it was Meyer leading the way, shooting a career low 104 in the first round of the tournament. She had rounds of 52-52 and was in 10th place in the individual competition after day one. Kari Anderson shot a 116 and Julie Schroeder had a 183, good for a team score of 403. On the second day of competition, the Lady Blue Devils shaved off 33 strokes with a final day score of 370. Kari Anderson shot a career low of 112, followed by Meyer with 113 and Schroeder, who saved her best for last with a 144. "It was a great tournament for our men's and women's team", said Coach Lillemon.

Roster:

Laura Meyer

Kari Anderson

Julie Schroeder

Basketball (w) Suzy Hebrink Three sophomores return for the Lady Blue Devils and they'll be trying to build on the success of last season. Anna Hebrink, Brooke Monson, and Lizzie Gunter are back and they are joined by sophomore transfer Justine Sandvick of Hayfield. Monson averaged 20 points and 10 rebounds last season while Hebrink averaged over 16 points and 6 assists per game. "Brooke and Anna give us two consistent offensive weapons and we are looking for Lizzie to add more points" said Coach Suzy Hebrink. Five incoming freshmen will bolster the roster, and there is plenty of depth at the guard position. Riverland opened the season in Worthington, getting the tournament rolling with a 91-74 win over Hibbing. A balanced attack led by Justin Sandvick with 19 points proved to be too much for the Cardinals. Brooke Monson tossed in 18 followed by 16 from Anna Hebrink. "Everybody on the team scored and I thought we played pretty well for the opener" said Coach Hebrink. The Lady Blue Devils lost to Madison Area Technical College the second day 69-63. Facing the defending regional champi-

ons, RVLD 63-61 with just over a minute to play but could not hang on for the win. "I felt it was a descent start to the season. Early in the year it is hard to play back to back games, but it is nice to get the season started" said Coach Hebrink. Sandvick again led with 17 points, followed by Hebrink and Monson, both with 14 tallies. The Lady Blue Devils are 1-1 and travel to NIACC on Tuesday for a non-conference contest. A second half comeback sparked the Lady Blue Devils to a 62-56 win over NIACC. Trailing by five at halftime Anna Hebrink came to life and scored 21 points of her game high 30 to lead her team to victory. Brooke Monson added 21 in sloppy game that saw RVLD turn the ball over 37 times to 27 for NIACC. "We have to take care of the problem with all those turnovers but still it was a nice win on the road" said Coach Hebrink. Riverland Community College had an 11 point lead in the closing minutes but lost in overtime to Luther JV 60-53 to lose their second game of the year. Monson was the only player to reach double figures with a dozen. RVLD drops to 2-2 on the season. The Lady Blue Devils won its season home opener with an 80-71 win over Gustavus JV. The duo of Monson and Hebrink each had 25 points to lead the way. Krissy Schemmel had 10 rebounds and 4 assists to help the cause in a game in which Riverland shot 8 for 15 from behind the arc. "That's a nice stat shooting over 50% from three point land. Everyone stepped up and there was some nice balance" said Coach Suzy Hebrink. RVLD won decisively over Crossroads College 75-49 in a non-conference home contest.

Riverland led by 20 points at halftime and never looked back and the Lady Blue Devils were led by Monson with 19 points and seven rebounds. Justine Sandvick added 14 and AunDreah Aune had a dozen in the convincing win. Riverland is now 4-2 on the season and travels to WTC before the holiday break. Brooke Monson was named MCAC "Player of the Week" for her efforts in last weeks play. She averaged 22 points and 7 rebounds in the two wins. Balanced scoring gave the Riverland women's basketball team its third straight win as the Lady Blue Devils won convincingly 74-56 over Western Technical College (La Crosse). Justine Sandvick led the way with a game high 20 points. She was followed by Brooke Monson with 18 points and 11 rebounds, Anna Hebrink added 13 and Mandy May chipped in with 11 points. The victory was the third in a row for RVLD and their overall record is now 5-2. Riverland Community College improved to 6-2 with a one-point win over the Luther JV team. Brooke Monson scored on a put back with two seconds remaining for the 51-50 victory. Monson rolled her ankle just seconds into the game and was limited to duty but still managed to score 10 points and the game winner. Already playing without Anna Hebrink (sprained ankle in the last contest), the Lady Blue Devils offense really struggled at times without the services of their top two scorers. Krissy Schemmel came through with 12 points and Mandy May added 10 in the win. Riverland has now won four games in a row and

travel north for a pair of games this weekend. Led by Anna Hebrink Riverland Community College swept a pair of inter-divisional contests, defeating Northland 67-61 and Itasca 72-71 to increase their overall record to 8-2. After sitting out the last game with a sprained ankle, Hebrink returned to the floor and scored 16 in the win over Northland and poured in a game high 27 to lead her team to their sixth straight victory. In the Friday night's contest, Justin Sandvick led the way with 19 points and 12 rebounds. The late game of the weekend was close all the way and Itasca got off a wide open trey to win the game but it rimmed out and RVLD escaped with the win. "They were couple of nice road wins" said Coach Hebrink. "We were lucky to get out of there with a win over Itasca. We had a big lead to open the game and then went a little flat". Brooke Monson had 12 points and 9 rebounds versus Itasca and came back with 10 points and 8 rebounds in the second road contest. A pair of lopsided wins allowed Riverland to extend its winning streak to eight games. The Lady Blue Devils rolled over Hibbing 91-65 and followed that up the following day with a 66-37 win over Rainy River. Leading the way was Anna Hebrink with a game high 24 points, including a perfect 6 for 6 from three point land. AunDreah Aune had 15 and Brooke Monson added 12 points and 9 rebounds against Hibbing. Hebrink once again led the scoring against Rainy River as she poured in 20 points. Monson added 19 points and 10 rebounds. "We're playing well right now and we need to stay focused for our final game before the break" said Coach Hebrink. Anna Hebrink was named MCAC "Player of the Week" for her play last week. Hebrink led her team to two wins while shooting 73% from the field (including 6 for 6 behind the arc against Hibbing), averaging 22 ppg, 5 rebounds, 8 assists, and two steals. The Lady Blue Devils received national recognition as they were ranked 8th in the latest NJCAA national poll. The Riverland women's squad won their 9th straight win as they defeated Western Technical College 67-52. Although they played well enough to win and keep their winning streak intact, RVLD trailed early in the game 19-8 and 30-27 at halftime. But stingy defense erased the halftime deficit and the offense was led by Anna Hebrink with a game high 21 points. Brooke Monson added 14 and Justine Sandvick chipped in with a dozen. Riverland is now 11-2 overall and return to the floor on January 7th to open the MCAC southern division. Divisional play got off to rough start as Ridgewater College ended the Blue Devils nine game winning streak as they defeated RVLD 60-54. "We won't beat any team in our conference only scoring 18 points in a half," Riverland coach Suzy Hebrink said. "We looked like a team who hadn't played in three weeks". Anna Hebrink led the way with 16 points while Brooke Monson collected 12 rebounds and scored nine points. Riverland bounced back and got its first divisional win as they defeated Fergus Falls 73-66 on the road. Justine Sandvick tallied 18 points while Hebrink chipped in with 15 points. Mandy May added 14 and

Monson had 13 points for a balanced scoring attack. Riverland is now 12-3 on the season and 1-1 in league play. Defense was the key ingredient as Riverland defeated MN West 64-43 for their second divisional win in a row. MN West managed only 17 points in the first half. Monson (14) and Hebrink (12) were the only two in double figures but six other players scored 4 or more for good balance. RVLD is ranked #7 in the latest NJCAA poll. Anoka Ramsey came into town ranked #9 and left town with a loss at the Lady Blue Devils won 78-65 in a key divisional matchup. Anna Hebrink scored a game high 28 points, including six three pointers, while Brooke Monson tossed in 27 points and added nine rebounds and five blocked shots. Krissy Schemmel added a dozen while the rest of the team chipped in with tough defensive play. Riverland is now 14-3 overall and 3-1 in the southern division. RVLD rolled to a lopsided 89-44 win over Minneapolis to improve to 4-1 in the division. AunDreah Aune scored a career high 20 points to lead the Lady Blue Devils.

Schemmel added 18, Monson 17, and Lizzie Gunter chipped in with 13 points. Anna Hebrink did not play due to a sprained ankle. Krissy Schemmel was named MCAA "Southern Division Athlete of the Week" for her stellar play last week. She averaged 18 points, 7 rebounds, 3.5 assists and shot 13 of 15 leading the Lady Blue Devils to two victories. At 15-3 and ranked #7 in the country, Riverland Community College traveled to Rochester to play the #1 ranked Yellowjackets. When the dust had settled RVLD lost 78-72 but went down fighting. Riverland trailed by 23 points at halftime but came storming back and trailed by 2 points 72-70 with 30 seconds to go and had the ball. But a costly turnover and free throws by Rochester sealed the win and dropped Riverland to 4-2 in the conference. "It was a tough way to end with a turnover after we fought back to get within two points" said coach Hebrink. "We held them down in the second half but the boards just killed us. They had 22 offensive rebounds and we gave them too many second chances". Riverland (15-4) travels to Ridgewater College on Saturday to begin the second go around in the division schedule. The Lady Blue Devils got off to a slow start but rallied to defeat Ridgewater 54-48 to maintain their second place standings (5-2) in the southern division. Down 24-6, Riverland tightened their defense and outscored Ridgewater 18-2 and trailed at halftime by two points, 26-24. Brooke Monson continued her solid play in the second half and RVLD would take a 54-48 victory away in a key division matchup. Monson had 20 points and 8 rebounds to lead all scorers. Riverland Community College improves to 16-4 overall. Riddled with inconsistent play the Lady Blue Devils rallied from an 11 point deficit to defeat Fergus Falls 59-52. Trailing by two at half and 11 points with eight minutes to go, RVLD outscored Fergus Falls 19-1 for the victory. Brooke Monson led the way with a game high 25 points. Anna Hebrink tossed in 19 and made the only three-pointers of the night as RVLD shot 2-19 from behind the arc. With the home win,

Riverland improves to 6-2 in the division and 17-4 overall. The Lady Blue Devils stepped out of division play and traveled to Crossroads College and defeated them easily 75-39. Brooke Monson led four players in double digits with 14 points, followed by Anna Hebrink with 13, Krissy Schemmel and Justine Sundvick added 11 apiece. "All the girls scored so that was nice to see that balance" said Coach Suzy Hebrink. "We're looking forward to this week with a couple tough road games, and trying to stay focused for the final two weeks of the regular season". Riverland improves to 18-4 overall. The Lady Blue Devils overcame a 6-point halftime deficit and defeated Minnesota West 74-69 in conference action.

Justine Sandvick had a hot hand and led RVLD with 21 points. Anna Hebrink added 20 and Brooke Monson chipped in with 13 points in the paint. "We were able to get out on the break and run the ball in the second half" said Coach Suzy Hebrink. The Lady Blue Devils improved to 7-2 in division play. Riverland Community College posted its fifth straight win as they defeated Anoka Ramsey 71-68 to conclude their road schedule. Trail-ing 68-67 in the final minute, the Lady Blue Devils scored the final four points to record their 20th win of the season. "It was a great game and that is two huge road wins in a row" said an elated Coach Hebrink. Gretchen Hebrink scored 10 points in the first half to help RVLD establish a first half lead. Sandvick had a game high 21 points to lead all scorers, followed by Anna Hebrink with 14, Monson had 11 and Gretchen had 10 points. The win solidified second place in the southern division (8-2) and improved their overall record to 20-4. Riverland had a lopsided win over Minneapolis 75-50 for their sixth straight win as balance was a key for the victory. Brooke Monson had 26, Anna Hebrink 14, Krissy Schemmel 9, Mandy May 8, Trisha Boese and AudDreah Aune each with 6 points. Riverland finishes the regular season with unbeaten Rochester, trying to avenge a 78-72 loss earlier in the year. The nation's top ranked team came to town and handled the Lady Blue Devils a 64-52 loss. "They're a solid and you can't let up against them" said Coach Hebrink. With a jam packed crowd, the Lady Blue Devils battled the entire way and trailed by six (58-52) with 1:40 to go but could not get any closer. Krissy Schemmel led with 17 and Anna Hebrink had a dozen for the only two in double figures. The Riverland women finished the regular season with a 21-5 record overall and 9-3 in the MCAC southern division. In the latest NJCAA poll, the Lady Blue Devils are ranked #10. Anna Hebrink and Brooke Monson were named to the All-Southern Division and All-State team. In the MCAC state tournament held in Willmar, Riverland was the #2 seed out of the south and their first opponent is Northland C & TC. Poised in the final five minutes, Riverland Community College withstood a late rally and defeated Northland 83-71 to advance to the semi-final round. Brooke Monson led the way with 26, followed by Anna Hebrink with 22 and Krissy Schemmel added 13. "It was good offense on both sides the first half and within five minutes of the contest Northland

closed it to within one point, but the Lady Blue Devils hit some big shots and closed it out” said an elated Coach Suzy Hebrink. Brooke Monson sent over the 1,000 points for her junior college career in the win over Northland. Riverland rolled past Hibbing 80-56 to advance to the state championship game.

Five players scored in double figures, led by Anna Hebrink with 23 points and 7 assists. Justine Sandvick, Mandy May, and Lizzie Gunter all had 12 and Monson added 10 points. In the championship game, Rochester C & TC defeated Riverland Community College 76-56. The Yellow Jackets led at halftime 33-17 and Riverland never got much closer. “They played good defense and we were impatient on offense” said Coach Hebrink. The Lady Blue Devils are now 23-6 overall and have set a record for the most wins in the history of women’s basketball at the college. Riverland shot 32 percent from the field, including 5 for 29 from behind the arc. “We get one more shot at them, but we’ve got some regrouping to do before Friday night”. Anna Hebrink and Brooke Monson were named to the All-Tournament team. Riverland Community College will meet Rochester for the fourth time this year in the Region 13A championship game to decide who represents the region in the NJCAA national tournament.

Roster Included:

Anna Hebrink	Justin Sandvick	Brooke Monson
Lizzie Gunter	Krissy Schemmel	Gretchen Hebrink
Trisha Boese	AunDreah Aune	Mandy May
Ass’t Coach: Dan Swift		

Basketball (m) Dan Swift Coming off a season to forget with no conference wins, the men’s team look to regain its competitive edge in the MCAC southern division. Danny DeWitz and Spensor Monson are the only two returning sophomores from last year. Jason Simmons and Nickels Mack are sophomore transfer students to give the Blue Devils some more experience at the college level. “We want to get the excitement back into our gym” said Coach Dan Swift. “We have a lot of guys who can shoot from the outside and with a deep bench, we’re going to run a fast paced attack”. Riverland opened its season in the Sanford Regional Hospital Classic in Worthington. In day one of competition, Northwestern College JV’s engaged in a high scoring affair and defeated the Blue Devils by the score of 100-89. AJ Kortz scored a game high 28 with a trio of three-pointers. Spenser Monson added 12 points, followed by Danny DeWitz and Jason Simmons each with 11 tallies. Madison Area Technical College pounded Riverland in day two of

the classic with an impressive 82-45 win over the Blue Devils. RVLD trailed 41-21 at halftime and never were in the game. Kortz was the lone scorer in double figures with 10 points. Riverland is now 0-2 in the season and will travel to Mason City and tussle with NIACC on Tuesday. Riverland Community College lost in overtime to the Iowans 99-88 after being tied at 80-80 in regulation. RVLD had the ball to win but could not get a shot off and NIACC dominated the overtime with a 19-8 advantage. "Although we lost it a good learning experience for our guys" said Coach Dan Swift. "Finishing anywhere close to NIACC is a good effort, especially on the road. There are a lot of positives to take out of this loss". AJ Kortz and Jason Simmons each had 24 points to lead the Blue Devils. Riverland shot 14 for 20 behind the arc to keep them in the game. The Blue Devils dropped their fourth game in as many contests as the Luther JV team defeated RVLD 77-39 in non-conference action. Again it was Kortz and Simmons leading the way with 14 and 11 points respectively. The Blue Devils managed only 21 points first half and 18 in the second half. Coach Dan Swift is optimistic that home court will get his team a victory as the first four contests were played on the road. Riverland will play three out of its next four games at home, beginning with the Gustavus JVs next on the schedule. Riverland Community College remained winless as Gustavus defeated the Blue Devils 63-56. After holding an eight point lead at halftime, RVLD went cold and it was a tough way to open in front of the home fans for the first time this year. Chris Moragne led the way with 15 points while Danny DeWitz and Spensor Monson each had 10 points. RVLD is now 0-5 on the year. Outside shooting led Riverland to its first win of the year with an 87-66 triumph over Crossroads College. The Blue Devils trailed by nine at halftime but made ten 3-pointers and scored 52 points to mount the comeback. With ten minutes to go the game was tied but Jason Simmons had his best game of the young season and scored 24 (including 6 of 10 from behind the arc) of his game high 29 points to lead the comeback. "Jason is one of our bigger guys but he can also go outside," said Coach Swift. AJ Kortz poured in 18 points, followed by Chris Moragne with 15 and Jesse Hogin who had 11 to erase the goose egg from the home team's overall record (1-5). The Riverland men's team has its first official winning streak after a 92-73 rout of Western Technical College. RVLD led at halftime by 10 points and never looked back as Jason Simmons had a tremendous night with 26 points, 24 rebounds, and 6 assists. "He had a monster night and the rest of the team played well around him. We're starting to come together and the guys are weeding themselves into their roles" said Coach Dan Swift. Chris Moragne added 23, followed by AJ Kortz with 13, while Spensor Monson and Derek Hahn added 10 points a piece in the win. Riverland Community College won its third game in row with a convincing 93-78 win over Pillsbury College. Long range shooting produced a big first half (61-35 halftime lead) as the Blue Devils made 10 three pointers. The lead

stayed comfortable but Coach Swift was not happy with the second half play of his team. "We need to develop a killer instinct and not let the opposing team have any life". "We got a little stagnant on offense in the second half". Five players scored in double figures, led by Cody Andrews and AJ Kortz with 17, followed by Jason Simmons who had 14, Danny DeWitz with 13, and Derek Hahn who chipped in with 10 points. RVL D is now 3-5 and heads up north for a double header this weekend. Jason Simmons was named MCAC "Player of the Week for his play last week. In the Blue Devils lone game, Simmons averaged 26 points and 24 rebounds. Riverland dropped a pair of games over the weekend to Northland and Itasca Community College. In the first game of the northern swing, a bad stretch led to the 81-61 loss to Northland. "We got within 5 points with ten minutes to go and wheels fell off" said Coach Swift. AJ Kortz led with 15 points in the loss. In game two of the weekend, the Blue Devils lost 79-77 after turning the ball over three times in the last minute. "We tried to set up a play and lost the ball out of bounds. They made the key shots and we had three turnovers in the last minute", said Coach Swift. Kortz again led the team in scoring with 24 points, while Danny DeWitz added 18 and Jason Simmons netted 14 points. Riverland drops to 3-7 overall and returns home for three games before the break. Close games were the story for the Riverland men with a split against two northern teams in the Minnesota Collegiate Athletic Conference. RVL D lost to Hibbing 67-65 but rebounded with a 77-74 win over Rainy River. Jason Simmons led the Riverland attack in both games. Simmons had 18 points in game one and had another monster game with 30 points and 19 rebounds in the winning effort. AJ Kortz added 17 points and Spensor Monson grabbed 16 rebounds and chipped in with a dozen points to end a three game losing streak for the Blue Devils. Riverland is now 4-8 overall. Jason Simmons was named MCAC "Player of the Week" for his play week. Simmons averaged 24 points, 16 rebounds, and 5 assists in two games for the Blue Devils. Simmons received this same honor in week # 3 of the season. Hot shooting from behind the arc led the Blue Devils to the century mark in a home win over WWTI 100-53. The Riverland men's team made 14 treys and five players scored in double figures, led by Derek Hahn with 17 points. Cody Andrews added 14, followed by Chris Moragne with 12, Jason Simmons and Danny De Witz with 11 apiece. "When we shoot 11 for 22 from the arc in the first half, then we're a tough team to beat" said Coach Dan Swift. Riverland (5-8) opens play in the MCAC southern division on January 7th against Ridgewater College. For a team that lives on the long ball, the Blue Devils suffered from the long holiday layoff (shot 8 for 28) and lost their divisional opener to Ridgewater, losing 77-63. "We didn't play like we are capable of at the offensive end" said Coach Dan Swift. Jason Simmons netted 20 points to lead RVL D, followed by Derek Hahn with 13 points. The Blue Devils lost to Fergus Falls 85-60 to start the division 0-2. Chris Moragne led with

15 points, while Simmons added 11 and Danny De Witz chipped in with 10. Riverland drops to 5-10 overall. Riverland stepped out of the conference play and lost their third consecutive game to Gustavus JV 79-68. Jason Simmons had 19 points to lead the Blue Devils. AJ Kortz added 13 and Cody Andrews and Brian Voigt each had 11. Late heroics were not enough as Riverland Community College stayed winless in the division with an 89-77 loss to MN West in overtime. AJ Kortz hit a three pointer with 08: seconds to go to put the game in overtime and tie it at 75-75. "Our guys fought hard and played with intensity on defense, but we threw the ball away too much" said Coach Dan Swift. Danny DeWitz led the way with 17 points, followed by Simmons with 14 and Kortz with 11. Riverland drops to 0-3 in the league and 5-12 overall. Anoka Ramsey dealt the Blue Devils another tough loss with a 71-69 victory over RVLD. Riverland started the game with a 10-2 run and led by four at halftime in a tightly contested game the entire way. Anoka Ramsey led by nine with five minutes to go and RVLD rallied within 2 points but could not come away with their first divisional win. AJ Kortz led with 20 points, followed by Jason Simmons with 16 and Derek Hahn with 15. The nations topped ranked NJCAA team in Minneapolis handed Riverland a 99-79 loss after leading by only two points at halftime. Simmons had a game high 26 points, followed by three others in double figures; Hahn with a dozen, Brian Voight 11 and Chris Moragne 11 points. Riverland is now 5-14 overall. The Blue Devils remained winless in the division and lost its 7th game in a row as Rochester blew away the Blue Devils 96-64. RVLD had 26 turnovers and were never in the game. Simmons had 16 points and 12 rebounds to lead Riverland Community College. The Blue Devils (0-6 in the league) start the second half of its divisional schedule on the road at Ridgewater. Riverland trailed by a dozen at halftime and lost 88-63 to drop to 0-7 in the division. Jason Simmons led the Blue Devils with 22 points followed by AJ Kortz with 14 and Dekek Hahn who had 12 points. RVLD drops to 5-16 overall and has lost 8 consecutive games to start the 2009 campaign. Fergus Falls was too much for Riverland as the Spartans defeated the Blue Devils 98-82. "We gave up too many offensive rebounds and Fergus Falls got a lot of second-chance baskets" said Coach Swift. RVLD trailed by 12 at halftime and hung around for most of the game but could never get it under 10 points. Jason Simmons finished with a team high 18 points, AJ Kortz added 15, Derek Hahn 13, while Danny DeWitz and Spensor Monson each collected 10 apiece. With the home loss, the Blue Devils fell to 0-8 in the MCAC South division and 5-17 overall. Two years of losing division games finally came to a halt as the Blue Devils routed Minnesota West 95-65 in conference action. After losing all twelve of their conference games last season and their first eight this year, Riverland finally made it into the win column. "We had guys really go after it on the glass" said a relieved Coach Dan Swift. "We finally played the way we should of all season". Danny

DeWitz led the way with 24 points. Chris Moragne added 15, and AJ Kortz and Brian Voigt each had 14 points. Derek Hahn was the fifth scorer in double figures with 11 points. Riverland rallied from a 15-point deficit and defeated Anoka Ramsey 78-72 to win their second game in a row. The visiting Blue Devils made twelve 3-pointers, led by Hahn with five. Jason Simmons had 31 points and 12 rebounds to lead RVLD to the victory. Hahn finished with 15 and Voigt added 14. Riverland is now 7-17 overall and 2-8 in the division. Minneapolis blew out the Blue Devils 119-76 after leading by 34 points after halftime. Simmons had 22 and Brian Voigt had another strong game with 20 points. Four sophomores played their final game but it wasn't enough as Rochester cranked up their offense and upended the Blue Devils 111-91 to conclude the regular season. Spensor Monson, Jason Simmons, Danny DeWitz, and Nickels Mack all saw the floor for the last time as a Blue Devil. AJ Kortz led with 23, Monson had 16, Hahn had 14, Chris Moragne added 11 and DeWitz had 10 points. Riverland finished the season 7-19 overall and 2-10 in the MCAC southern division.

Roster Included:

Danny DeWitz	Spensor Monson	Jason Simmons
Nickels Mack	Brian Voigt	A.J. Kortz
Derek Hahn	Cody Andrews	William Palmer
Jesse Hogin	Dustin Fritz	Chris Moragne
Ass't Coach: Scott Koenigs		

Softball (w) David Lillemon The women's softball team will look to return to the state tournament for the 3rd consecutive year under Coach Lillemon. The Lady Blue Devils return only three veterans; Jill Radke (who was All-Division as a freshman and batted .457, leading the team in RBI's and doubles), Carmen Smith, Riverland's starting catcher who batted .276, and Kaylee Newman, a pitcher who saw 62 innings as a reliever and starter last season. But a tremendous recruiting class will bolster the lineup and give the Blue Devils a chance to better last year's 4th place in the state tournament. Leading the way is Laura Meyer, a left hand hitting outfielder who will likely play mostly in center field and do some catching. Danielle Lynch is a strong candidate to win the catcher's duties. Chelsey Swanson (left handed hitter) and Anna Breault will battle for the first base position. Andrea Exline and Christy Van Dyke will share the duties at second, while Mandy May will shore up the short stop position. Liz Triplett can play both 3rd and the outfield, while sophomore transfer Justin Sandvick will also see duty at third base and be available at multiple positions.

