

1997-98

VOLLEYBALL Coach Helen Jahr 12-15 Riverland

Community College opened the season with winning only 2 of 5 matches before hosting Bethany. After losing 15-11, 15-2, RVLD put up quite a fight before losing 17-15. "Our performance in the last game really gives us confidence" said Coach Helen Jahr. The Blue Devils drop to 1-1 and 2-4 overall. Sara Stallman led Riverland to an impressive victory over Rochester 16-14, 7-15, 15-13, 15-3 in conference action. Stallman drilled 10 kills on 40 of 45 hitting, had 45 digs, and served three aces. The Blue Devils recorded their third conference win as they easily upended Anoka-Ramsey 15-1, 15-12, 15-5. Mary Henke led the way to victory with five kills, three blocks, eight digs, and three service aces. Riverland is now 4-4 overall and 3-1 in the league. Ridgewater defeated the Blue Devils 3-1 in conference play, winning 10-15, 15-11, 6-15, 11-15. Riverland CC lost again in conference action this time to Worthington in four games; 15-12, 7-15, 3-15, 9-15. RVLD lost its third conference match in a row as Bethany upended the Blue Devils 15-0, 15-3, 15-3. The loss drops them to 3-4 in the conference. Riverland quickly rebounded as they defeated NIACC 15-5, 15-3, 15-9. Overall the Blue Devils stand 5-6. Riverland evened its record at .500 in the conference and overall as they handled Minneapolis CC 15-7, 15-7, 15-11. Sara Stallman was 20 of 21 at the service line with five kills and eight digs. Rochester won the opening game but lost the next three as the Blue Devils dethroned the Yellow-jackets 13-15, 15-11, 15-3, 15-1. The pivotal point was in the second game, both teams tied at 11-11. Brandi Loss served four straight points after a block by Mary Henke and Riverland totally dominated after game two. Riverland Community College its third conference match in a row with a easy win over Anoka-Ramsey 15-1, 15-3, 11-15, 15-8 to improve their record to 6-4 in the conference and 8-7 overall. Sarah Stallman was 27 of 29 attack chances for five kills while Henke controlled the net with four blocks. The Blue Devils lost their next three, including one league encounter to drop to 6-5 and 8-10 overall. In their final conference match, the Blue Devils rallied in dramatic fashion and came back to defeat the Bluejays from Worthington 3-15, 7-15, 15-13, 15-7, 17-15. The final game was a rally game and Jahr described it as "some of the most exciting volleyball we have played this season". Riverland Community College ended up 7-5 in conference and 9-10 in regular season play heading into the southern division playoffs. RVLD bested Rochester 15-5, 15-9 in the opening round. Minnesota West defeated the Blue Devils in the second round 4-15, 15-9, 6-15. Riverland met Rochester again in the loser's out match and the Blue Devils prevailed, winning 15-5, 6-15, 15-7 behind the serving of Sara Stallman and Mandy Rogers. With a trip to the state secured RVLD lost to champion Minnesota West 15-6, 12-15, 15-10. "I am proud of the girls" said an elated Jahr.

This will be the second straight trip to the state classic for the Blue Devils. Riverland is 11-12 entering the eight team tournament in which two pools of four teams are divided and round robin play then decides the championship round the following day. Riverland Community College lost 2 of 3 in pool play as they opened with an impressive 15-5, 15-13 win over Rainy River. The Blue Devils lost in three to Ridgewater (15-9, 13-15, 15-4) and to Fergus Falls (10-15, 15-5, 15-6). They were regulated to the consolation round and lost to Minnesota West in five games; 15-12, 15-9, 13-15, 13-15, 15-12. The Blue Devils ended the season 12-15 overall. Brandi Loos and Sara Stallman were named to the Southern Division All-Conference team. All-State team and earned All-Region honors.

	Roster Included:	
Sara Stallman	Karen Bakken	Jennifer Mudra
Kristi Foster	Deveny Brolsma	Mandy Rogers
Mary Henke	Brandi Loos	

HALL OF FAME Ten charter members were inducted in the Athletic Hall of Fame at Riverland Community College on November 22, 1997. The 1997 Hall of Fame inductees are the following:

NAME	Sport(s)	Years
Vel Moen-	Volleyball, Basketball Coach-Women's AD	1973-88
Nancy Haddorff-	Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis	1976-78
Cinthia Schiffer-	Basketball, Volleyball	1977-79
Lori K. Bergstrom-	Softball	1979-81
Patti Foss-Sutherland-	Basketball, Volleyball	1978-80
Harold (Hal) Cuff-	Men's Basketball Coach	1951-66
Jim Mittun-	Basketball, Golf, Men's AD	1966-91
Dave Dickinson-	Men's and Women's Tennis Coach	1977-93
Wayne LeRud-	Basketball	1965-67
Jay Schroeder-	Football, Basketball, Baseball (posthumously)	1988-90

BASKETBALL Coach David Lillemon 14-8 Six sophomores give the Blue Devils a lot of ammunition as they attempt to rebound after last year's 3-19 season and do something no Blue Devil team has done since 1972-73, and that is qualify for the state tournament. Iowa Lakes spoiled RVL'D's debut upending the Blue Devils 68-62. Todd Taylor led with 17 points, Jes Switras had 14 points and 8 rebounds, and Jamie Dittfach chipped in with 13 points. Riverland rebounded with a 78-63 win over WWTI. Austin's front court played huge in the victory as Switras (17 points and 10 rebounds), Dittfach (17 points and 10 rebounds), and Tim Urness (10 points and eight rebounds) did most of the damage.

The Blue Devils recorded a big win over Iowa Central 83-73 in non-conference action. Todd Taylor poured in a career high 31 points and added 6 assists to key the effort. Switras added 17 while Dittfach followed with 15 points. RVLD improves to 2-1 overall. Riverland lost two games on a northern trip being upended by Mesabi 103-83 and falling to Vermilion 107-70. "They were more athletic, so quick and deep" said Lillemon of the weekend's opponents. Jes Switras scored 29 points in 14 of 16 shooting against Mesabi and 13 points and 11 rebounds against Vermilion. Despite the losses Lillemon said the weekend prepared the Blue Devils for the MCCC season. The Blue Devils evened their record at 3-3 with a 93-82 win over Central Lakes. Switras had a big night pouring in 26 points, Todd Taylor had 17, followed by Tim Urness and Jeff Cole with 15 points. Riverland concluded its non-conference schedule with a 63-55 win over WWTI. "It was our defense that won this game" said Coach Lillemon. Todd Taylor hit a three to tie the game at 50-50 and the Blue Devils outscored their opponents 13-5 in the final minutes, led by Taylor's 23 points. Riverland Community College lost its conference opener 73-64 to Worthington as they trailed 13-0 to start the game. Jamie Dittfach had 13, followed by Taylor and Tim Urness with a dozen apiece. RVLD is now 0-1 in league and 4-4 overall. The Blue Devils swept two games in the RVLD holiday tournament to improve to 6-4 and remained unbeaten at home. The Blue Devils defeated WWTI 70-67 before edging NIACC 69-66. "This was the first time in my eleven years as the coach that we have beaten NIACC" said Coach Lillemon. Deron Turner nailed a three pointer with 30 seconds to go for the win in game two. Four players were in double figures against NIACC led by Turner with 14, Jamie Dittfach had 13, while Tim Urness and Jes Switras each added 11. The Blue Devils entered the tournament already defeating WWTI two times so the third time was more difficult. Todd Taylor led with 17 tallies and led a comeback in the final six minutes for the victory. A furious final 48 seconds pushed Riverland's team over Ridgewater 66-65 in conference action. Trailing 65-61 with 48 seconds to play, Switras hit a bucket to Todd Taylor added 1 of 2 from the line after guard Jeff Cole stole the ball and hit Taylor for a driving lay up and foul. Trailing by one Ridgewater missed the front end of a one and one setting the stage for the final outcome. Jamie Dittfach was fouled with and hit 2 of 2 free throws with 14 seconds to go to put RVLD up one, 66-65. Cole again recorded a steal with seconds to go to reserve the win. Riverland moves to 7-4 overall and 1-1 in the league. The Blue Devils defeated Mid-State 87-78 in a game keyed by the reserves. Ryan Peterson (16), Jeff Cole (12), and Darin Turner (three treys) gave the offense a big lift, which was led by Jamie Dittfach with 17 points. Riverland made it seven wins in a row at home as they defeated the defending state champs Bethany 80-68. Todd Taylor led the way with 22 as five Blue Devils scored in double figures. RVLD is now 9-4 overall and 2-0 in the conference. Riverland Community College upended Rochester 73-58 to win their sixth straight game.

Dittfach led the way with 24, Taylor had 13, and Urness and Turner added 10 apiece. Minneapolis ended the Blue Devils dominance at home as they handed RVLD a 98-82 conference loss dropping the Blue Devils to 10-5 and 3-2 in league play. The 7th ranked team in the nation made it look easy and never were threatened by the Austin squad. Jamie Dittfach had a season high 29 points (27 in the second half) and Todd Taylor added 19. The Blue Devils battled Minnesota West and came away with an 86-78 overtime win over the Bluejays. MN West missed two free throws with 12 seconds to go and this allowed Jamie Dittfach to tie the game from the foul line, hitting one of two. Jes Switras scored the first six points in the overtime and RVLD cruised in the overtime to win by eight. Dittfach led with 24, followed by Taylor and Switras with 14. Riverland is now 11-5 overall and 4-2 in conference. Anoka-Ramsey handed the Blue Devils a 97-83 loss in conference. Riverland failed to score its first 11 possessions and trailed 13-0 at the outset and never recovered. Switras had 21, Dittfach 19, Deron Turner 16, Taylor 12, and Sam Peterson added 11 points. RVLD suffered its second conference loss in a row as Ridgewater edged the Blue Devils 71-65. With 1:29 to play the Blue Devils had a chance to tie the game at 68 but Deron Turner's shot rolled off the rim and the Warriors came away the victors. "We played very poorly offensively" said a dejected Coach Lillemon. Riverland responded with a 73-70 win over Anoka-Ramsey in front of their home fans and now control their own destiny to earn a trip to the state tournament. The Blue Devils overcame a key injury to Jeff Cole, who left the game in the first half due to a knee injury. Trailing 68-61, Todd Taylor led a 10-0 run late in the final minutes and RVLD came away a three point winner. Taylor had 26 followed by Dittfach with 15, Switras 14, and Turner with 10 points. In clinching a spot in the MCCC state tournament for the first time in 25 years, the Blue Devils completed a sweep of Bethany 73-66 on the road. "This is a proud moment for Riverland Community College men's basketball program" said Lillemon. "What a tremendous win on the road to oust the defending state champions". Ryan Peterson nailed a 3-pointer with the score tied 65-65 inside a minute to play to seal the victory. Jamie Dittfach had 22 while Taylor followed with 19 points. RVLD is now 6-4 in conference and 13-7 overall. The Blue Devils continued their march to the state as they upended Rochester 84-53 in the last conference game at home. Six players scored in double figures led by Jamie Dittfach with 16 points. RVLD lost its final regular season game 108-93 to Minneapolis (11-0) that left the Blue Devils in third place of the southern division heading into the state tournament. Jes Switras led with 22 points and 10 rebounds, while Jamie Dittfach had 20, Ryan Peterson added 15 followed by Tim Urness and Todd Taylor with 10 apiece. RVLD ended the conference season with a 7-5 mark and 14-8 overall. The fourteen wins are the most since the 1962-63 year when the Blue Devils went 19-3. The Blue Devils lost the opening round of the state tournament 91-86 in overtime to Central Lakes.

RVLD trailed by 17 at halftime and rallied to take the lead (71-70) inside one minute on a trey by Tim Urness. The Blue Devils had the ball with 2 seconds to go but a turnover gave Central Lakes one last chance to tie or win and they hit a two pointer with 2 seconds to go to send the game in overtime. The Blue Devils missed three crucial free throws in the final minute that could of sealed the victory. Todd Taylor led all scorers with 20 points. Dittach added 17 points despite going 3 for 12 from the foul line. Mesabi defeated the Blue Devils by six points in the consolation round. Foul trouble plagued RVLD and Mesabi had a decisive rebounding edge 49-32. Jamie Dittfach finished his career with 18, followed by Jes Switras with 17, and Todd Taylor with 15 points. Riverland finishes the year 14-10. Taylor, Switras, and Dittfach earned All-Conference honors while Taylor and Dittfach were named to the All-State team.

Roster Included:

Mike Grimley	Jeff Cole	Todd Taylor
Deron Turner	Ryan Peterson	Kevin Fox
Tim Urness	Jes Switras	Seth Nelson
Sam Peterson	Jamie Dittfach	

Assistant Coach: Larry Reynen

BASKETBALL-Women Coach Tim Kjar 8-14 The Blue Devils won their opener as they upended WWTI 86-36. Guard Mary Kuiters poured in 26 while Shannon Oxley scored 14 points and grabbing 8 rebounds. Deveny Broslma added a dozen followed by Jennifer Mudra with 10. The Blue Devils were led by another outstanding performance by Kuiters (31 points) as she led her team to a 60-55 win over Iowa Central. Mary Henke scored with 1:30 to go to put her team ahead for good at 57-55. RVLD is now 2-0 in the young season. Riverland lost a pair of contests up north, falling 60-57 to Mesabi and 68-44 to Vermilion. “I don’t know if it was the bus trip or what but we had no legs” said Coach Tim Kjar. Henke had 26 points and 14 rebounds in the loss to Mesabi and Kuiters added 15 before fouling out with five minutes to play. Henke and Kuiters each had 11 points in the loss to Vermilion. Riverland split a pair of home games with two northern schools, losing 74-61 to Central Lakes and bouncing back with a 75-70 win over Itasca CC. “I thought we played better against Central Lakes despite the loss” said Kjar. Mary Kuiters had 28 points to lead all scores in game one. Mary Henke had a huge game against Itasca scoring 25 points and hauling in 14 rebounds. Kuiters added 19 while Angie Arndt chipped in with 10 points. RVLD is now 3-3 on the season. After mauling WWTI the first time by 50 points Riverland held on to defeat Cavaliers 68-62 in non-conference action. Mary Kuiters scored 19 of her 30 points in the first half to give the Blue Devils a 13 point lead at halftime. Tied at 47-47, Kuiters took over and led them to their fourth victory (4-3) of the season. RVLD lost to Ridgewater in the conference opener 65-45.

“Second chance points killed us” said Kjar whose team was out rebounded 48-16 on the offensive glass. Kuiters led all scorers with 22 points. Riverland Community College routed Mid-State 70-42 to improve to 5-4. Kuiters led again with 23 despite sitting out much of the second half in foul trouble. Mary Henke scored 22 points in the low post for Riverland. Bethany routed RVLD 100-71 in league play. The Blue Devils trailed only by eight at halftime. Mary Kuiters had her normal game with 26, followed by Shannon Oxley with 17 points and five rebounds. After losing to Rochester, Minnesota West defeated the Blue Devils 101-62 to drop their record to 5-7 overall and 0-4 in the conference. Abbie Bushaw led with 13 followed by Kuiters with 11 points. After losing three straight, Riverland Community College defeated Pillsbury 91-67 at the Target Center. The non-conference tilt was played in the afternoon prior to the Timberwolve’s game. RVLD trailed by three at halftime but Mary Kuiters led a comeback and scored a game high 26 points. Oxley had 10 points and nine rebounds. Anoka-Ramsey dealt Riverland their fifth conference loss in a row and dropped them to 6-8 overall. The Blue Devils got their first conference win in two years as they upended Ridgewater 71-66. ‘How about those Blue Devils” echoed Coach Tim Kjar. Mary Kuiters led the charge with 13 straight points in the second half and 26 for the game. Angie Bushaw added a dozen while sister Abbie chipped in with 10 points. Riverland improves to 7-8 overall and 1-5 in the league. After losing its next two contests, the Blue Devils recorded their eighth win by defeating Pillsbury 76-47. Mary Kuiters led with 21, followed by Mary Henke with 17. The Blue Devils are now 8-10 overall. Rochester ended any hopes of a state tournament berth as they edged Riverland 58-56. Mary Henke led with 18 followed by Kuiters with 16 points. Riverland Community College lost its final three games (no scores found) and finished the season 8-14. Mary Kuiters was named to the All-Conference, All-State, and All-Region teams, along with being nominated for All-American honors. Kuiters averaged 21.1 points per game (among the top 10 in the country) and shot 80% from the foul line.

Roster Included:

Angie Bushaw	Abbie Bushaw
Deveny Brolsma	Shannan Oxley
Karen Bakken	Mary Kuiters
Mary Henke	Jennifer Mudra
Angie Arndt	

BASEBALL Dwight Kotila 21-9 **Region XIII Champions**

Armed with the most talent in his three years, head Coach Dwight Kotila believes this is the year for the Blue Devils. Riverland won two and lost one in its first outdoor games of the season at the Iowa Western tournament. RVLD handed Hibbing a 10-0 loss in the opener, rapping out 14 hits while Dave Dillion pitched a two-hitter in the five inning affair. Jason Stern went 3 for 3 and Dave Burkholder and Tony Vincenda each homered. RVLD lost 4-0 to Iowa Western as Zach Femrite was tagged with the loss. In the third game, the Blue Devils defeated Hibbing 6-5. Jay Buckentine's bases loaded single in the first highlighted a six run first inning. Garrett Swank was 5 for 8 for the day and four RBIs. The Blue Devils were lucky to get a split according to Coach Kotila as Anoka-Ramsey blanked RVLD 3-0 before the Blue Devils bounced back with a 6-5 win. Dillion lost the opener going the distance while going 2 for 3 at the plate. Tony Vincenda's three run triple sparked a six run seventh inning for Riverland to pull out the win 6-5. Riverland Community College won their next six games against non-conference opponents, sweeping Pillsbury College, NIACC (5-4, 9-1), and Crown College (21-11 and 13-3) to improve to 9-2 overall. Iowa Lakes ended the Blue Devils seven game winning streak defeating Riverland 7-4 and 7-6 in non-league play. RVLD squandered leads in both games, leading 4-1 in the opener and 6-0 in the second only to lose both contests. "We're certainly not as good as we think we are and that was proven on this road trip" said Coach Kotila, whose team drops to 9-4 overall (all non-conference games). The Blue Devils opened conference action splitting a pair with Ridgewater, winning 7-0 in the opener and losing the nightcap 13-9. Zach Femright threw a three-hitter in game one and five double plays led to the shut out victory. RVLD drops to 10-5 overall and 1-1 in conference. The Blue Devils split with Bethany, winning 8-7 but dropping the second contest 9-3 in the late affair. Trailing 5-1 after five innings, RVLD scored five runs behind Dave Burkholder's key two run double. Femright (4-2) got the win in relief. The Blue Devils split their third conference twin bill in a row as they defeated Rochester in the opener 3-2 but lost 8-7 in the nightcap. Zach Femrite went the distance for the win in game one, striking out four. Jay Buckentine's double put RVLD up 3-1 in the fourth inning and put them up for good. Trenton Hyland hit for the cycle against the Blue Devils and led them to a split and left Riverland 3-3 in the league and 12-6 overall. The split left Riverland, Rochester, and Ridgewater all tied for the games that count on who plays in the region tournament. The Blue Devils warmed up their bats for post season play as they defeated the St. Olaf JVs 5-4 and 12-2. Eric Canton started and got the win in game one. Dave Dillion's homerun in the second and Ryan Quinns' big double in the fifth secured the victory in the opener. Game two belonged to Jay Buckentine who went 5 for 6 and collected two home runs. RVLD improves to 14-6 overall. Riverland split with Ridgewater, winning game one 2-1 in eight innings and dropping the nightcap 18-14 in the rain.

Zach Femright went the distance in game one to get the win, improving his record to 6-2 on the season. Garrett Swanks bases loaded single in the 8th inning provided the winning run in the opener. Trailing 14-3 heading into the sixth inning, Riverland scored five runs and then added six more in the seventh but came up short to gain a split. Riverland is now 4-4 in the league. The Blue Devils hosted the Region XIII tournament and defeated Fergus Falls 12-5 in the opening round and then upended three time defending champions MATC 4-1. Freshman Brian Brown came in relief in both games, pitching six and 2/3 innings of one hit ball to pick up a save in game one and the win in the second game. RVL D collected 15 hits against Fergus Falls, led by Rich Petty and Ryan Quinn who each had three hits. Zach Femright started and got the win but had to be relieved in the sixth as the Blue Devils led 9-5. Brown retired 12 of 13 men he faced in the win over MATC. Quinn plated two runs on a single in the third to record the final runs by the Blue Devils. Riverland Community College defeated Madison (MATC) 3-2 and qualified for the NJCAA World Series. Not since 1980-81 had Riverland won the Region and it's the third time in history the Blue Devils have accomplished the feat (the other coming in 1972-73). Dave Burkholder started but stiffness in his arm forced him to leave in the third inning. Luke Miller relieved in the third and proceeded to allow only one run and pick up the victory. Tied 2-2 in the fourth, Ryan Quinn doubled to lead off the inning and later scored on a ground out to put the Blue Devils up for good 3-2. Riverland Community College was rain delayed in the first day of the NJCAA World Series, but started their opening round game just prior to midnight (10:30 PM). Suffolk College from New York defeated the Blue Devils 11-5 as Zach Femright took the loss, going eight innings and striking out 11 batters. The game was tied 5-5 after three innings but that is all the runs RVL D could muster. Riverland lost to Surry College from North Carolina 10-4 to eliminate the Blue Devils from any further competition. Riverland led 4-3 in the sixth as Mike Dhaene stroked a single to give the Blue Devils their last lead of the game. Rich Petty went 3 of 3 in the second game. The Blue Devils finished the season 21-9. Dave Burkholder earned All-Conference, All-State, All-Region XIII, and second team All-American honors. Ryan Quinn, Zach Femright and Jay Buckentine all received All-Conference honors, while Femright and Buckentine were named to the All-State team.

Roster Included;

Dave Dillion	Tony Vitcenda	Jay Buckentine
Jason Stern	Garrett Swank	Zach Femrite
Ryan Jirele	Brian Brown	Eric Cantin
Adam Benson	Rich Petty	Dell Stone
Dave Burke	Adam Benson	Mike Dhaene
Ryan Quinn	Luke Miller	Jeff Cole
Josh Moshier	Andy Leison	Dave Burkholder
Ass't Coach: Rick Casey		

* It was announced prior to the NJCAA World Series that Coach Dwight Kotila would be stepping down as head coach after three seasons as the head coach. Kotila received an opportunity to move closer to home and coach the baseball team for Ridgewater College in Willmar.

SOFTBALL

Coach Paula Carlsen 2-22 Eight

freshmen and three sophomores make up this year's squad coached by second year coach Paula Carlsen. The Blue Devils opened the season going 1-3 their first four games, then defeated Ridgewater 12-4 to gain a split as Ridgewater won the nightcap 9-1 to drop Riverland to 2-4 overall and 1-3 in the conference. RVLD belted out 11 hits in game one led by Beth Ferch going 3 for 4 as did Mikky Scheffel. Sam Shatek added three RBI and a pair of hits. Mandy Rogers recorded the win in the opener. The Blue Devils had only four hits in the second game of the twin bill. RVLD dropped a pair from North Hennepin, losing 11-2 and 12-7 in conference action. Five errors proved costly in game one while the Blue Devils squandered a 7-1 lead in the nightcap. Sam Shatek went 3 for 3 in game one. North Hennepin scored 10 runs in the fifth inning to win game two. Mandy Rogers took the loss in both games. Jennifer Bartholomew went 3 for 4 and scored three times in the nightcap. Riverland Community College dropped three games in the nine team tournament hosted by Grand Rapids to drop to 2-9 overall and remain 1-5 in the conference. Bethany upended RVLD 7-3 and 7-6 to drop their eighth game in a row. Riverland led 3-0 after five but the Vikings scored seven runs off Rogers to win game one. In the second contest, the Blue Devils had runners on first and second trailing 7-6 in the last inning but could not plate them across. Roger went 6 of 8 in the twin bill, raising her average to .556. After dropping a pair of non-conference games to NIACC, Riverland lost a twin bill to Rochester 11-2 and 9-1. The Blue Devils, who have lost 12 games in a row, dropped to 1-11 in the conference and 2-15 overall. Bethany defeated Riverland 10-1 and 15-7 in conference play. RVLD collected only one hit in game one. Mandy Rogers recorded the loss in both games. The Blue Devils dropped the final twin bill of the season losing to North Hennepin 12-4 and 6-0. Rogers went 3 for 3 in game one while Jennifer Bartholomew and Beth Ferch each had two hits. In the nightcap, RVLD collected only three hits. The Blue Devils ended the regular season 1-15 in conference and 2-19 overall. Riverland lost all three games in the "open" state tournament to finish the season at 2-22 and ended the season losing nineteen games in a row. Mandy Rogers earned All-Conference, All-State & All-Region XIII honors. Samantha Shatek received the Distinguished Academic All-American award.

Roster Included:

Beth Ferch	Mikky Scheffel	Sam Shatek
Bobbi Jo Rayman	Mandy Rogers	Jamie Mallory
Jennifer Bartholomew	Shannon Oxley	Mellissa Lohmann
Maggie Ness		

GOLF Coach David Lillemon The Blue Devils won their opener in a dual match with Ellworth, winning 334-396. Chad Mickelson registered the lowest total of 74. The Blue Devils took third in the NIACC invite, shooting a 320. Mickelson and Josh Usgaard each had 77's, followed by Shannon Dahlmon with an 81. Brian White fired an 85 and Ryan Hanson had an 89. Riverland fired a 343 and took second in a four team tournament hosted by MATC. Usgaard was the medalist with a 79. RVL D scored its lowest team total of the season with a 317 and finished second in the Iowa Lakes invitational. Josh Usgaard and Chad Mickelson each had a 75 for the Blue Devils. Mickelson won the medalist honors at the Waseca invite with a 75 but RVL D did not have enough players for a team score. Riverland Community College finished second in the five tournament hosted by Rochester by shooting a 322. Mickelson fired a 71 for medalist honors, his fourth of the year. Austin Country Club hosted the Region and State tournament. Minneapolis led after the first day by 14 strokes over Riverland (333) in the five team field. The top five individuals qualify for the NJCAA national tournament. Chad Mickelson, tied for MCCC medalist, rebounding with a 77 after a first day round of 81 and tied at 158 for the medalist honors with two others. Mickelson took third in the playoff but qualified for the national tournament. Other scores for the Blue Devils were Josh Usgaard (159-DQ), Brian White (DQ), Shannon Dohlman (169), Ryan Hanson (192). No team score for Riverland Community College. In the NJCAA national tournament, Chad Mickelson fired an opening round score of 90 at Woodlake Country Club in Vaas, North Carolina. Mickelson won the longest driving contest later in the day after first round competition was over with a drive of 354 yards. Mickelson moved up to 37th place as he posted a 77 on the second day of the 72 hole no-cut tournament. Chad slipped to 67th place as he suffered from blisters on his feet and shot a 96. Mickelson finished with a 91 in his final round.

GOLF-WOMEN'S Coach Dave Lillemon MCCC state runner-up. The women competed as a team in the state tournament and finished runner-up to Bethany. There were only four teams, no Region tournament was held. Riverland fired a 355, led by Kelly Norby with a 107. Sarah Sathre, Watsana Thiravong, Kristi Foster, and Mikayla Klinger also participated.

TENNIS Coach Tim Kjar 0-4 Riverland Community College opened the season losing 8-1 to Ridgewater. Jason Nielson was the lone winner at #3 singles. Dr. Martin Luther shut out the Blue Devils 9-0 to drop them to 0-2. Riverland would drop their final two matches to drop to 0-4 on the season. MCCC All-Academic Team. 3.17 GPA
Members included: Jamie Dittfach, Jess Switrass, Jay Overson, Jason Nielson.

TENNIS-Women Coach Tim Kjar 3-1 **MCCC State Champions, Region XIII Champions.** Riverland opened the season defeating defending Region champions Ridgewater 7-2. “This was a huge win for the women” said Coach Tim Kjar. At #1 and #3, Angie Bushaw and Mary Kuiters both won their matches. Abbie Bushaw won at #3, while Mary Henke won at #4. Shelly Schroeder lost at #5 but Steph Martin secured the win at #6 with a victory. The Blue Devils lost at #1 doubles but rebounded with wins at #2 and #3. Dr. Martin Luther defeated RVL D 6-3. The big winner was Angie Bushaw as she won at #1 singles and emerged victorious in doubles with Kuiters. Jessica Shaw was the only other winner. The Blue Devils improved to 3-1 with its latest win over Central Lakes 9-0. This was the final tune up for the Region XIII tournament. For the first time since 1988-89, Riverland Community College will advance to the NJCAA national tennis tournament as they won the Region XIII title and the MCCC state championship. They tallied 21 points and easily won the five team tournament, as Ridgewater finished second with 12 points. At #1, Angie Bushaw finished second as did Mary Kuiters who finished runner-up at #2. Abbie Bushaw posted three more team points as she also finished second at #3 singles. Jessica Shaw remained undefeated at #4 singles and won her flight. At #5, Mary Henke brought home first place and at #6 singles, Nicole Bibus took second. In doubles, Kuiters and Bushaw finished second at #1 while Abbie Bushaw and Henke won the #2 and Bibus and Shaw won the #3 doubles. In the NJCAA national tennis tournament, the Blue Devils finished third in the ten team tournament with seven points, trailing only Nassau CC (14 points) and Mercer College (13 points). At #1 singles, Angie Bushaw suffered a first round loss but won the consolation title. At #4 singles, Jessica Shaw earned runner-up honors and second team All-American. After a first round bye, Shaw won 6-3, 6-1 in the semis before losing 6-2, 1-6, 3-6 in the finals. Shaw and Nicole Bibus teamed to win the #3 doubles. They too received a bye, then won 6-2, 6-1 in the semis and in the championship match, won 6-4, 6-4 to earn first team All-American honors. Nicole Bibus All-Region XIII. Jessica Shaw All-Region XIII. Mary Henke All-Region XIII. Abbie Bushaw All-Region XIII. Members included: Angie Bushaw, Mary Kuiters, Abbie Bushaw, Mary Henke, Shelly Schroeder, Sandra May, Stephanie Martin, Shelly Schroeder, Marcy Anders.

