

# 1998-99

**VOLLEYBALL** Coach Helen Jahr 10-23 The Blue Devils opened the season with six consecutive losses, including a sweep by Bethany 1-15, 6-15, 1-15. “We have 12 women on the team and this is my largest group ever” said Coach Jahr. “This is probably the most talented group I have coached in my five years”. Riverland got its first victory with a convincing 15-0, 15-5, 15-0 victory over Minneapolis in conference action. Deveny Broolsma and Jamie Rosheim led with seven and eight kills apiece. The Blue Devils finished fourth out of eight teams in the Rochester invitational. RVLD won its first two matches, defeating Minneapolis again 15-0, 15-2, 15-0, they upended MATC 15-3, 15-12, 15-3. The Blue Devils ran into eventual champions Waldorf who handed Riverland a 15-10, 15-9, 15-4 setback. After placing second in the pool play, Riverland lost in the championship round to UW LaCrosse 15-9, 15-4. “I am very pleased the way we played against a tough field and this bodes well for us the rest of the season” said Jahr. RVLD is now 3-8 overall. The Blue Devils defeated Rochester 3-1 as Brandi Loos led her team setting with 66 of 70 and 13 assists. By winning 15-6, 3-15, 15-12, 15-12, Riverland will get home for the first time this season with a 2-1 conference mark and 4-8 overall. Riverland Community College lost its home opener 15-9, 15-11, 16-14 to Anoka-Ramsey in conference play. “We played well in spurts but I am disappointed on the loss and how badly we played” said a dejected Jahr. Riverland lost to Ridgewater 3-1 after taking the first game 15-9. The Warriors responded by winning the next three games, 15-7, 15-9, 16-14. Jamie Rosheim was the leader at the net with 10 kills and seven ace blocks. RVLD drops to 2-3 in the league and 4-10 overall. RVLD was swept by Bethany in the season series as the Vikings won 15-8, 15-4, 15-10 over the Blue Devils. “We played much better than the last time we faced them” said Coach Jahr. Riverland lost 3-2 to Worthington as the Blue Devils won game’s two and three but could not put the Bluejays away. The game scores were 15-12, 9-15, 4-15, 15-4, 15-11. Rosheim again led the way with 20 ace kills. Brandi Loos had 137 sets with 39 assists and 18 digs. The Blue Devils drop to 2-5 in the conference with a 3-1 loss to Rochester as in Coach Jahr’s terms “we played terrible”. Riverland avenged an earlier loss to Anoka-Ramsey and defeated the Rams 11-15, 15-7, 13-15, 15-11, 15-10. “This was a great match for us to come back and win after they had swept us earlier in the year” said Jahr. Kristi Foster fired five ace serves, Brandi Loos led with 36 set assists and 12 digs. Riverland Community College went 0-3 in their own tournament, winning only one game but played well in every match but just came up short each time and dropped to 6-15 overall. Waldorf defeated the Blue Devils 15-1, 15-7 in the first match. UW-LaCrosse handed RVLD a 13-15, 15-12, 15-6 setback and in the final match the Blue Devils lost 3-1 to Rochester.

Rosheim was the big gun for the day with 16 kills, 10 blocks and 23 digs on the day. In the final regular season home match, RVLD lost a 15-9, 14-16, 15-8, 15-13 to Ridgewater. “I was happy with the way we stayed with a good team like this and it bodes well for the playoffs” said Jahr. After losing at Waldorf, Riverland capped off its regular season with a 3-1 triumph over Minnesota West. The Blue Devils were pushed in all four games, winning 15-8, 16-14, 12-15, 15-6. Brandi Loos had big night in the season finale with 40 set assists and 4 ace blocks. RVLD is now 5-7 in division play and 7-17 overall. In the southern division playoffs, Riverland swept through three matches and qualified as the third seed in the state tournament (Bethany and Ridgewater were already in from the south). The Blue Devils defeated Rochester in the opening round, 12-15, 15-12, 15-7. In the second match, the Blue Devils swept Minnesota West 15-12, 15-10. This put the rest of the field with one loss into a scramble for the final spot, won by Rochester. This set up another encounter with Rochester but this time the Blue Devils won in two games, both at 16-14. “Our consistent serving was the difference” said Jahr. “The three wins gives us a lot of momentum heading for state. Final statistics for the tournament had Jamie Rosheim leading with 24 attack kills, 39 digs, and 13 blocks. Loos registered another great outing with 7 blocks, 40 set assists and 27 digs. RVLD volleyball (10-19) will open in the state tournament versus Fergus Falls in pool play. This will be the third consecutive year Riverland Community College has qualified for the state tournament. Lacking consistency in their play at the MCCC state tournament, the Blue Devils failed to win any of their four matches. Bethany won the event defeating Ridgewater in the title match. The Blue Devils were flat from the beginning, losing 15-3, 15-3 to Fergus Falls and 15-10, 15-9 to Mesabi. In the final round of pool play, Ridgewater upended Riverland 13-15, 15-6, 15-10. In the consolation bracket, the Blue Devils lost a tough five set match to Central Lakes 15-13, 14-16, 10-15, 16-14, 15-12. Riverland led 12-5 in the fourth game against Central Lakes but then went into a swoon and lost 16-14 in the pivotal game four. Jamie Rosheim led the Blue Devils in the tourney with 26 kills, 14 aces, 13 blocks and 33 digs in the four games. RVLD finished the season 10-23 overall. Brandi Loos earned All-Southern Division and All-State first team honors. Loos was also named to the All-Region team and received an Academic All-State Award for her outstanding academics.

Roster Included:

Lindsay Leif	Krissa Anderly	Karen Bakken
Julie Kvam	Melissa Majerus	Jennifer Mudra
Kristi Foster	Deveny Brolsma	Mandy Rogers
Breanna Seira	Jamie Rosheim	Brandi Loos

**BASKETBALL** Coach David Lillemon 4-18 Coach Dave Lillemon begins his 12<sup>th</sup> year after guiding the Blue Devils to the state tournament for the first time in a quarter century. Lillemon returns only two veterans, Seth Nelson and Kevin Fox. The Blue Devils opened the season with a loss to Mid-State and a 91-70 loss to Des Moines Area CC. “The biggest positive from our second game was winning the second half 48-46” said Lillemon. Three players scored in double figures led by Beau Hartman and Garrett Ulrich with 11 apiece. WWTI upended the Blue Devils 74-56 in non-conference action. Larry Carlson led with 16 followed by Ulrich with a dozen. RVL D drops to 0-3 on the season. Iowa Central defeated Riverland 98-77 as the much bigger Iowans dominated from the inside for an easy victory. Trailing by 19 at halftime, the Blue Devils got within eight at 72-64 but they could get no closer. Ulrich had 14 to pace Riverland, who drops to 0-4 on the season. Riverland CC found a way to win with a 64-61 victory over Rainy River to wrap up the weekend play with two northern teams. The day before Hibbing made it five straight losses for the Blue Devils by the score of 68-61. The key to the win was good balance, led by Brent Koehler with 17 points. Four others all had 8 points. With the score tied 45-45, Jess Heiny came off the bench to hit back to back baskets to put the Blue Devils up for good. Larry Carlson paced Riverland in the loss to Hibbing with 14 points, while Koehler and Ulrich each had 13. Faced with the daunting task of facing the defending national champs on their home floor, the results were predictable and Fergus Falls spanked Riverland 111-43 (Fergus Falls has won 33 games in a row). The Blue Devils bounced back the next day on their trip up north and upended Northland CC 74-64. Trailing by five at halftime, Garrett Ulrich took matter in his own hands and scored 15 of the last 18 points for the Blue Devils and sparked the double digit victory. Ulrich finished with 25 points in the second half and 27 for the game. Carlson added 15 and Shawn Ykema added 10 points. RVL D is now 2-6 overall and begins conference play at Anoka-Ramsey. Playing without leading scorer Garret Ulrich (toe injury), the Golden Rams defeated the Blue Devils 85-74 in the conference opener. Jesse Heiny led with a season high 20, followed by Ykema with 13. Riverland struggled by scoring only two points in the first nine minutes against Ridgewater and that led to a 73-60 loss in division play. Larry Carlson led with 17 points, followed by Ulrich with 14 and Heiny a dozen. Riverland improved to 3-8 as they upended WWTI 77-63 in non-conference action. The Blue Devils turned the tables on a team that defeated them by 20 earlier in the season. “It as the best half of basketball we’ve played all season” said Lillemon referring to the first half that saw the Blue Devils lead 53-35. The Blue Devils upended Des Moines Area CC 58-47. It was the second straight game of revenge for the Blue Devils who were upended by 21 points earlier by the Iowans. “This was our best defensive effort of the season” said an elated Coach Lillemon. Jesse Heiny led with 18 followed by Ulrich with 11 and Koeler with 10.

Shawy Ykema hauled down a dozen rebounds to lead the Blue Devils in the rebounding department 50-39. The victory improved Riverland to 4-8 overall. Bethany handed RVL D an 82-59 division loss dropping them to 0-3. Jesse Heiny paced the Riverland's offensive effort with 16 points. Rochester was too much as they pounded the Blue Devils 81-58. Larry Carlson had 17 to lead his ball club while Heiny contributed 15 points. Minneapolis drubbed Riverland 101-56 in division play behind a strong inside game and a barrage of 13 three pointers. Guard Brent Koehler led the Blue Devils with 21 points and 6 rebounds. Minnesota West handed Riverland their sixth straight division loss with an 87-71 victory over the Blue Devils. "Every time we got within four or five we could not get another basket to fall" said Coach Lillemon. Jesse Heiny had a season high 28 points that included four baskets from behind the arc. Riverland took a 20-12 early lead on Anoka-Ramsey but were blind sided with a 27-2 run by the Golden Rams and lost 77-59 in division action. Heiny had 16, Larry Carlson 10, and Seth Nelson and Bea Hartman with nine apiece. The loss drops RVL D to 4-13 overall. Ridgewater handed Riverland a 97-57 loss to the loss extended the losing streak to six games. Larry Carlson had 14 and Heiny chipped in with 13 points and 10 rebounds. Riverland lost its ninth straight loss in division play as top ranked Bethany downed the Blue Devils 81-74. Shawn Ykema had 18 points inside, followed by Garrett Ulrich with 14. Rochester defeated Riverland 64-50 without the services of Jesse Heiny who injured his knee against Bethany. Larry Carlson led with a game high 21 points. Riverland dropped to 0-10 in the league and 4-16 overall. The Blue Devils dropped an 86-51 division contest to Minneapolis. Garrett Ulrich led Riverland with 22 points that included 5 for 8 from behind the arc. Minnesota West defeated the Blue Devils 71-60 to end their season on a 10-game losing streak and winless in the conference. Free throw dominance by the Bluejays was the difference as they outscored Riverland 24 to 8 from the foul line. Ulrich led the Blue Devils with 18, followed by Larry Carlson with 14 and Brent Koehler who added 13. Jesse Heiny did not play for the fourth game in a row due to a knee injury. Heiny was honored as he was named to the All-Southern Division team, despite his season ending injury. Jesse averaged 17.4 points in the division.

Roster Included:

Tremayne Jackson	Grant Bowden	Seth Nelson
Beau Hartman	Kevin Fox	Garret Ulrich
Brent Koehler	Larry Carlson	Jesse Heiny
Adam Malo	Dave Collins	Jarod Strouf
Shawn Ykema		
Assistant Coach: Larry Reynen		

**BASKETBALL-Women** Coach Tim Kjar 10-12 Five sophomores including All-Conference, All-State, and All-Region Mary Kuiters hopes to lead the Blue Devils into uncharted territory to a spot in the state tournament. Kuiters is coming off a season where she averaged 21 points and five rebounds per contest. The Blue Devils opened the season with a 75-58 win over Mid-State Tech. Mary Kuiters scored 21 points (19 in the first half) but foul trouble saddled her on the bench most of the second half. But Missy Jacobsen stepped up with 17 of her 18 points coming in the second half to lead Riverland to the victory. The Blue Devils surged to an 85-73 win over WWTI as fouls plagued both teams (63 total fouls) and saw WWTI end with more players on the bench (5) than on the floor (4). Mary Kuiters led all scorers with 32, followed by Renae Bebler with 15. The Blue Devils had no trouble with the rematch and upended WWTI 87-48 in a rout. Kuiters again led with 20 while Missy Jacobsen added 15 and 8 rebounds. The Blue Devils are now 3-0 on the season. Iowa Central ended the win streak at three with a 90-58 win over Riverland. Mary Kuiters led with 20 followed by Brook Kosok with 10 points and seven assists. Riverland swept its way through a weekend schedule and won twice, upending Hibbing 88-63 and Rainy River 81-77. The Blue Devils ran out an 18-4 start in the lopsided win over Hibbing. Kuiters had a season high 37 points in this impressive rout. Versus Rainy River got a steady performance from Kuiters (21) while Karen Bakken and Renae Bebler combined for 24 points. Riverland improved to 5-1 on the season, off to its best start since 1984-85 when the Blue Devils won 17 of their first 18 games. Riverland split with two teams up north losing 76-61 to Hibbing and bouncing back with a 76-59 victory over Northland C & TC. In the loss to Fergus Falls, Mary Kuiters was the leading scorer with 24 points followed by Karen Bakken with 10. Four players reached double figures in the win over Northland led by Kuiters (21), Brooke Kosak (16), Missy Jacobsen (15) and Renae Bebler with 13. Riverland improves to 6-2 on the season. Riverland opened the conference season with a 74-65 setback to Ridgewater. RVL D blew a 10 point lead with nine minutes to go as the Warriors outscored the Blue Devils 29-10 down the stretch. Kuiters led with 33 points in the loss. The Blue Devils won a pair of non-division games in the Riverland holiday tournament and improved its record to 8-3. Mary Kuiters scored 37 points and Riverland overcame a nine point deficit to defeat UW Richland 84-77 in the opener. Bebler scored 12 of her 14 points in the comeback. Riverland did not miss a beat and pounded UW Marathon County 82-48. Mary Kuiters poured in 23 and Renae Bebler added 21 in the victory. The Blue Devils were humbled by Bethany 106-48 in division play. The top ranked team proved too much for the Blue Devils to handle and in lopsided loss. Kuiters led Riverland with 14 points. Rochester scored the last 13 points of the game and upended Riverland 80-68. Leading 69-68 with three minutes to play, the Blue Devils failed to generate any offense in the final minutes.

Kuiters scored 21 followed by Brooke Kosak with 13. Riverland drops to 0-3 in the conference and 8-5 overall. Iowa Lakes edged RVLD 87-84 in non-conference action. The Blue Devils trailed by 17 in the second half led by Renae Bebler and Karen Bakken with 19 apiece. Kuiters led all scorers with 21 despite shooting 5 for 24 from the field. The Blue Devils dropped to 8-8 on the season with losses to Anoka-Ramsey (88-60) and Worthington (no score found). Kuiters led with Bakken added a dozen. Riverland Community College dropped its sixth conference game, a 57-49 setback to Ridgewater despite a record breaking performance by Mary Kuiters. Mary became the all time career leading scorer as she poured in 27 points to move pass Cindy Dimmel's 850 points. Dimmel, who played in 1977-79, is a member of the Hall of Fame. Bethany handed RVLD an 89-45 loss in division play and extended the Blue Devils losing streak to five games. Renae Bebler led the team with 12 points. RVLD drops to 0-7 in conference and 8-10 overall. Rochester defeated Riverland 92-56 in a blow out to keep the Blue Devils winless in league play. Mary Kuiters had 15 followed by Renae Bebler with 11. RVLD put an end to its eight game losing streak with a 85-28 win over Pillsbury College in non-conference action. "Pillsbury is not the caliber of team in our division but we really needed this win" said a relieved Coach Tim Kjar, whose team recorded its ninth win of the season. Mary Kuiters poured in 27 to lead four players in double figures. In the final home game, Riverland Community College had no trouble winning its first conference game, upending Minnesota West 84-58. Mary Kuiters had the biggest scoring game in school history as she canned 47 points and broke Laura Chaffee's three year old mark. Karen Bakken added 10 points and Angie Bushaw collected a team high seven rebounds. "What a fun way to go out in front of your home fans" said Bushaw. Anoka-Ramsey handed Riverland a 103-69 setback in the team's final conference action. It was tied 32-32 with three minutes in the first half and 12-2 run gave the Rams all they needed for the win. Karen Bakken was high scorer with 24 points, followed by Mary Kuiters with 21 points. Kuiters ended her magnificent career just seven points away from the plateau of 1000 points. Riverland completed its season at 10-12 overall. Mary Kuiters earned All-Conference, All-State, and All-Region honors along with being selected to the All-American second team (24.0 ppg, 3.5 assist/pg.) Kuiters leaves as the all time leading scorer at Riverland Community College (528 points and 465 points in 1997-98 for a total of 993 (22.3 p/g).

Roster Included:

Mary Kuiters	Angie Bushaw
Denevy Brolsma	Karen Bakken
Mandy Rogers	Dawn Dobberstein
Brook Kosok	Kelly Leif
Katie Thompson	Renae Bebler
Melissa Jacobsen	Anna Keefe

**BASEBALL** Coach Herb Hofer 6-20 From former World Series entrants to scratch, new head Coach Herb Hofer inherited a young club with only three returning players which saw real playing time. Dwight Kotila left the program after three years and lured six potential sophomores to join him at his new position. The Blue Devils lost the opener 6-0 and 4-3 to WWTI. RVL D managed only five hits in game one. In the nightcap, nine hits led by Brad Oliver two RBI was not enough as Adam Benson took the loss on the hill, giving up seven hits and striking out six batters. Riverland Community College captured its first win with a 10-5 victory over NIACC in the first game and losing 9-6 in the nightcap. Greg Marx went the distance, striking out six and walking two getting the win. Mike Dhaene had a triple and double to lead the Blue Devils. In the second game, Brady Berg collected three hits. Rochester defeated Riverland 1-0 and 7-3 in conference play to drop the Blue Devils to 1-5 overall. Ryan Hanson threw a gem in the losing effort, allowing nine hits and striking out seven in a no walk performance. A triple in the ninth inning gave the Yellow-jackets the one and only run needed. Five unearned runs in game two led to the 7-3 defeat as RVL D's Buck Nelson homered for the Blue Devils. The offensive woes continued as Bethany pounded Riverland 9-1 and 15-0 in conference action. Riverland got in one of two games with Ridgewater and upset the Warriors 4-2. Left-hander Ryan Hanson pitched a beauty going the distance, allowing two hits and fanning seven against Ridgewater, guided by last year's Blue Devil coach, Dwight Kotila. RVL D managed just three hits. Riverland improves to 2-7 on the season. For the second time this season, Riverland upended nationally ranked Ridgewater 3-0. Hanson again shut down the Warriors allowing six hits and striking out five. The Blue Devils are now 3-7 overall. North Hennepin shelled Riverland 11-0 and 15-9 in division play. The Blue Devils collected four hits in the opener. Buck Nelson went 2 for 3 in the nightcap. "As good as we played against Ridgewater, we played just as bad against North Hennepin" said Coach Herb Hofer. The Blue Devils dropped a pair to Anoka-Ramsey 9-6 and 9-7 as the bats came alive. Sloppy defense (three errors in both contests) was the big downfall for the Blue Devils. Kyle Kelly was 2 for 3 in game one and Mike Dhaene was a perfect 4 for 4 in game two. RVL D drops to 3-9 overall. WWTI handed Riverland its fifth and sixth straight losses as they defeated the Blue Devils 16-5 and 16-4 in non-conference action. Adam Benson was 5 for 6 including a home run in the losing effort. Ryan Hanson threw a three-hit shut out as Riverland stopped their six game losing streak with a 4-3 extra inning affair. Benson, Kyle Kelly, and David Green each had two hits. In the nightcap, Rochester avoided the sweep as they capitalized on four RVL D errors. Riverland drops to 4-12 on the season. Ridgewater avenged two earlier losses and they pounded Riverland 11-2 and 13-3 by banging out 29 hits in the twin bill. Adam Benson suffered both losses for the Blue Devils. Bethany handed Riverland a doubleheader loss, winning 3-2 and 19-4.

Greg Marx suffered a tough loss in the opener, going the distance striking out nine and surrendering only six hits. Dhaene and Kelly each had two hits in the opener. The Blue Devils were out hit 17 to 7 in game two and they committed five errors. Riverland split with North Hennepin, winning 7-6 before falling 14-0 in five innings in the nightcap. Ryan Hanson picked up the win in game one. Brad Oliver and Dell Stone each collected two hits. Riverland was no-hit in the second contest shortened due to the 10 run rule. The Blue Devils concluded the season with a split with Anoka-Ramsey, losing the opener 4-1 and winning the final season contest 9-7. RVLD collected only two hits in game one, as David Green pitched well enough to win allowing seven hits. In the nightcap, Ryan Hanson picked up his fifth win of the year on the mound. Mike Dhaene and Greg Marx each went 3 for 3 in game two. Riverland Community College finishes the year 5-15 in the division and 6-20 overall. Mike Dhaene led ACC in hitting with a .363 average (29-80). Ryan Hanson was the top mounds man with a 5-5 mark with 50 strikeouts and only 12 walks and was selected to the All-Southern Division team.

Roster Included:

Dell Stone	Larry Carlson
Adam Benson	Ryan Hanson
Brady Berg	Chip Marty
David Green	Mike Dhaene
Jeremy Nelson	Adam Olson
Brad Oliver	Greg Marx
Kyle Kelly	Tom Madson

**SOFTBALL** Coach Paula Carlsen 17-13 Third year coach Paula Carlsen returns with plenty of optimism despite last year's 2-22 season. Mandy Rogers (pitched every game last year and batted .579) will lead a talented freshmen crew. Riverland opened the season with a split, winning 11-3 over Rochester in game one and losing 6-5 in the nightcap. Amanda Dahl went five innings and collected the win in game one, ended early due to the eight run rule. Jayme Mallory had two hits and Mandy Rogers collected a two run single. It looked like a sweep with RVLD leading 5-1 into the seventh inning of game two but four errors led to five unearned runs and a Yellowjacket's victory. Sarah Overocker suffered the tough loss in the nightcap. Riverland pounded Central Lakes 25-0 and 12-4 to sweep the doubleheader. Amanda Dahl improved to 2-0 as she pitched a two-hitter. Dawn Doberstein was 3 for 5, including a double and triple and six RBI. In the second game, Overocker pitched a three-hitter and recorded her first win of the season. Brienna Seira and Kelly Ballman each collected three this. RVLD is now 3-1 on the season. After winning a pair of non-conference games, Riverland defeated NIACC 5-1 and 9-8 and improved to 7-1 overall. Sarah Overocker went the distance in the opener, allowing only four hits. Kelly Jo Leif and Mandy Rogers each collected two hits in game one while Beth Ferch had four RBIs.

In the nightcap, Amanda Dahl picked up the win and Brooke Kosak's three run home run lifted the Blue Devils to its sixth straight victory. The Blue Devils swept Central Lakes 14-3 and 15-0 to improve to 7-1 in the division and 9-1 overall. Dahl won the opener and Overrocker pitched the shut out in game two. The Blue Devils are ranked #9 in the latest D III junior college softball poll. Riverland defeated Ridgewater 8-0 and a 20-0 win in the nightcap. Amanda Dahl threw a two-hitter in the opener while Sarah Overrocker fired a NO-HITTER in game two shortened to five innings due to the 10 run rule. The big hit in game one came from Brienna Seira as she smashed a two run triple in the first inning. In the nightcap, Jamie Mallory (2-3), Mandy Rogers (3-5), Kelly Ballman (2-4), Overrocker (2-4) and Dahl (3-4) all had multi-hit games. The two victories gave the Blue Devils a twelve game winning streak after and improved their record to 13-1 overall. It is the best start in softball history since the 1979-80 team that began 14-1 (finished 28-5). Riverland dropped a pair, losing to Rochester 13-9 and Southwest State JV's 12-3. The most devastating loss was the shortstop Dawn Dobberstein injured a knee that she had ACL surgery on two years ago. Brooke Kosak was also injured last week (broken bone in hand) and is lost for the season. The Blue Devils lost twice to Bethany 17-0 and 8-4 to drop them to 13-5 on the season. Amanda Dahl was relieved after the first inning (sick) after surrendering nine runs. RVLD had only two hits in the opener. Sarah Overrocker, who relieved Dahl in game one, took the loss in the nightcap. Rochester swept Riverland 14-9 and 15-3 to continue the slide for a patched up Blue Devil squad that has lost six in a row. RVLD led 9-1 in the opener but a 13 run fifth inning aided by five errors led to the comeback by the Yellowjackets. Kelly Jo Leif collected five hits in the twin bill, along with Mandy Rogers. Bethany pounded Riverland 22-1 and 11-3 to drop their overall record to 13-9 and extend the losing streak to eight games. Rogers collected half of the four hits in game one for Riverland, who surrendered 15 runs in the first two innings to Bethany in the opener. In the nightcap Overrocker cooled off the bats some what but still were defeated in five innings due to the eight run rule. Riverland qualified for the Region XIII tournament on the strength of its 9-1 conference start and will play the five team double elimination tournament with Brook Kosak back in center field and a healed squad (exception-Dobberstein still out with knee injury). The Blue Devils won two and lost two and finished third in the region. The winner of the tournament advanced to the national tournament. Kelly Jo Leif and Amanda Dahl both were named to the all-tournament team. The Blue Devils (15-11) next play in the state tournament. Riverland overcame a 4-2 deficit into the seventh inning and hung on to defeat Mesabi 8-7 in the opening round of the state tournament. Amanda Dahl went the distance to record the win and Mandy Rogers and Beth Ferch each had three hits. Rochester handed RVLD its first loss of the tournament with a 5-4 win in nine innings.

Riverland scored two in the eighth and but the Yellow-jackets responded with a two run home run to tie it at 4-4 and then scored a run in the ninth to win 5-4. Brienna Seira went 4 for 5 in the game. The Blue Devils defeated Vermilion 10-9 in the loser's bracket to remain alive. Seira had another big game going 3 for 4 with a double. Leif also collected three hits. Overocker went the distance and scattered 12 hits. Fergus Falls eliminated Riverland 12-1 in the loser's bracket as the Blue Devils finished fifth in the tournament. RVLD had only three hits while they surrendered eight runs in the sixth inning. Beth Ferch (.533), Brienna Seira (.500) and Mandy Rogers (.438) were the hitting stars in the tourney for Riverland Community College. The Blue Devils ended the season 17-13. Brienna Seira, Kelly Jo Leif, Mandy Rodgers earned All-Region XIII honors.

Roster Included:

Mandy Rogers	Brienna Seira	Sarah Overocker
Kelly Jo Leif	Amanda Dahl	Jamie Mallory
Beth Ferch	Kelly Ballman	Jennifer Bartholemew
Dawn Dobberstein	Carrie Peterson	Brooke Kosok

**GOLF** Coach David Lillemon The MCCC voted to move spring golf to the fall season for the first time in its existence. The Blue Devils finished fourth in the Minneapolis invite to begin the season. Chad Mickelson was low for RVLD with a 78. The Blue Devils entered the Rochester invitational short handed but Mickelson placed second overall with a 74. Taking part in its own invitational, the Blue Devils finished fourth out of six teams at the Austin Country Club. Josh Usgaard and Chad Mickelson each had a 77 and tied for second place with four others. Mike Willford rounded out the scoring with an 83, followed by Beau Hartman (93) and Ryan Hanson (94). Chad Mickelson earned medalist honors at the Mid-State invitational as he fired a 76 to claim the honors by three strokes. RVLD had no team score due to a number of scheduling conflicts. Riverland Community College hosted the MCCC state and Region XIII tournament at the Austin CC. The Blue Devils tied for third in the state event, shooting a 680. In the Region XIII standings, Riverland finished third alone in the 10 team field. Josh Usgaard qualified for the NJCAA national tournament in North Carolina with a second place finish in the Region tournament. Usgaard shot a 76-82-158 in the rain soaked event and finished one stroke back of the medalist. For Chad Mickelson, who qualified last year for the Blue Devils, it was a disappointing tournament as he shot an 83-90-173. Other scores were Brian White (174), Mike Willford (176), and Ryan Hanson (179). Mike Stensal and Beau Hartman also were members of the team. Josh Usgaard shot an opening round 83 in the NJCAA national championships held at the Riverwood Golf Club in Clayton, North Carolina. Usgaard added rounds of 76, 75 and 79 in route to a 22<sup>nd</sup> place in the field of 96 players.

**GOLF-Women's** Coach Dave Lillemon The Blue Devils opened with the Rochester invitational. Angela Anderson was the only participant and fired a 96 at Eastwood Golf Course. Riverland Community College took second place at the RVLG Golf tournament held at the Austin Country Club. The Blue Devils shot a 337 (three scores) led by Anderson with an 89. Nicole Bibus shot a 117 and Nicole Sanborn had a 131. "It was a good meet for the women" said Coach Lillemon. Riverland took third in the MCCC state tournament held in Mankato. RVLG shot a two day score of 679. Angela Anderson received the last medal for taking fourth place in a playoff. Anderson shot a 202 followed by Bibus with a 236 (8<sup>th</sup>) and Sanborn 241 (10<sup>th</sup>).

**TENNIS** Coach Tim Kjar **MCCC State Champions.** 2-4 The Blue Devils opened the season with a 5-4 win over Ridgewater. "On the men's side I did not use our regular line up" said Coach Tim Kjar. RVLG lost its second match of the year 6-3 to Northwestern. Beau Hartman (#3) and Josh Usgaard (#4) won singles matches along with # 2 doubles team of Jeremy Jones and Garrett Ulrich. Riverland improved to 2-1 with a 7-2 win over Bethany. Jeremy Peterson, Jeremy Jones, Hartman, and Usgaard all won in singles. All the doubles teams won their matches for the Blue Devils. RVLG lost 4-2 in a short handed match with Ridgewater as both teams had only four players. Riverland lost to Bethany 7-2 as they had four players attend a convention and forfeited six matches. Dr. Martin Luther defeated RVLG 9-0 to drop them to 2-4 overall. Riverland Community College competed in the Region XIII and finished fourth capturing only two points. Beau Hartman lost in the finals at #1 as did Jeremy Jones at #2. All other singles and doubles teams lost their opening round match. While the women's team was at the nationals, the men's team was battling the rain in Brainerd in the MCCC state tournament. The rain won the battle but the Blue Devils brought home the championship trophy. The four player team edged Bethany 14-13. In the first day of competition, all four singles members won titles; Hartman, Jones, Usgaard, and Peterson. On day two of the event, #1 doubles of Jeremy Peterson and Beau Hartman never took the court and at #2, Jeremy Jones and Josh Usgaard had split their first two games 6-3, 4-6 before the rains and the rest of the tournament was cancelled. The Blue Devils had earned the state championship. "We never lost a match in the tournament" said Riverland Coach Dave Lillemon (filling in for Tim Kjar). "It was a great team effort by our four guys". Team members: Josh Usgaard, Jeremy Jones, Beau Hartman, Jeremy Peterson, Brent Sisteck, Garrett Ulrich, David Kallis

**TENNIS-Women** Coach Tim Kjar 10-1 **Region XIII**

**Champions.** Coach Tim Kjar believes his team is a lot stronger this season than last year's squad that finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the national tournament. Riverland will be led by Angie Bushaw and Mary Kuiters. The Blue Devils opened with a 6-3 win over Northwestern College of St. Paul. RVL D got wins from singles 3 through 6 and No. 2 and 3 doubles. Angie Bushaw and Nicole Bibus each picked up two wins. Stacy Clingman and Hennifer Ankeny also won at singles. Despite losing four tie breaks in the match, Riverland prevailed over Ridgewater 5-4 to remain perfect at 2-0. Ankeny and Clingman won the #3 doubles to secure the victory. RVL D improved to 3-0 with a 7-2. Pro set were played to ten points. The Blue Devils continued to roll and won their next four matches, including a win over Ridgewater 7-2 to keep their record perfect at 7-0. Renae Bebler, Jessica Shaw, Mary Kuiters and Nicole Bibus all won two matches. Riverland remained undefeated upending Bethany 8-1. RVL D won all the singles matches and lost only one doubles match and that was as at #1 where Bebler and Jessica Maruska lost 8-6 in a pro set. Dr. Martin Luther handed Riverland its first loss with a 6-3 win over the Blue Devils. "Kuiters and Bibus did not play for us today and it gave us a chance to give the other girls an opportunity to show what they have" said Coach Kjar. Riverland defeated Central Lakes 7-2 in the final tune up before the state and regionals. The Blue Devils finish the season 10-1 overall. The Riverland Community College women's tennis team earned its second straight trip to the NJCAA national tournament by winning the Region XIII title. It edged out Central Lakes by scoring 19 to runner-up Central Lakes 15 points. Renae Bebler lost in the finals at #1, while Jessica Maruska also took runner-up honors. At #3, Angie Bushaw lost in the finals and Jessica Shaw got the first title with a 6-1, 6-3 win over her opponent. Mary Kuiters lost her title bid 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 and at #6 Nicole Bibus was the champion. In doubles, Bebler and Maruska won at #1, Bushaw and Kuiters won the #2 doubles, and Shaw and Bibus made it a sweep as they won the #3 doubles. Coach Kjar believes with four returning to the NJCAA tournament that the Blue Devils have a legitimate shot at the national championships. Riverland Community College finished third in the NJCAA national tennis championships. All three doubles combos advanced to the finals and lost. Renae Bebler and Jessica Maruska won their semi 6-3, 6-4, Angie Bushaw and Mary Kuiters won 6-0, 5-7, 7-5 to advance to the title match, and defending national champs Nicole Bibus and Jessica Shaw won 6-3, 6-2 to play in the finals. At #1, Bebler and Maruska lost in the opening round. Three through six all lost in the semifinals. Riverland finished with seven points, trailing Mercer College with 12 and Hudson Valley who had eleven. Honors received: Nicole Bibus, All-Region XIII, 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American. Mary Kuiters, All Region XIII & 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American. Jessica Maruska All-Region XIII & 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American.

Jessica Shaw ALL-REGION XIII & 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American. Angie Bushaw All Region XIII & 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American. Renae Beebler All Region XIII & 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American.

Team Members: Mary Kuiters, Jennifer Ankeny, Stacey Clingman, Jessica Marcus, Sandra May, Missy Jacobsen, Kristin Labat, Renae Beebler, Jessica Maruska.

\*It was announced by Riverland Community College that Suzy Hebrink has been named women's basketball and men's and women's tennis coach. Hebrink replaces Tim Kjar (accepted a coaching position in St. Paul) who coached the basketball team for four seasons and the tennis programs for three years. Hebrink played one year of basketball and two years of tennis at Austin Community College before receiving her graduate degree from Mankato State University in 1997.