1956-57

NO FOOTBALL

BASKETBALL  Hal Cuff  6-9  Coach Hal Cuff will returns the largest holdover of lettermen in his six years as he returns five lettermen which include; Jack Frost, Paul Austinson, Spenser Morgan, Tom Holgate, and John Holgate.  In the opener, Waldorf would down Austin 78-64 as poor shooting and defense were their biggest enemies.  Paul Austinson was the only Blue Devil in double figures with 14 points.  Sparked by Dick Warfield’s 25 points and aggressive play, Austin defeated the St. Cloud freshmen as they would score 22 points in the first ten minutes of the game and led the entire contest.  Austinson would follow with 19, while Joe Wagner (11) and Jack Frost (10) also found double figures.  In their conference opener Austin would rally and defeat Dr. Martin Luther 85-70.  After trailing all first half they would take the lead 58-57 with five minutes to go and never look back.  Austinson would lead them with 25, followed by Warfield’s 17 and Frost who chipped in with 13 points.  Austin would defeat the Mankato Freshmen 83-70 before taking on conference foe Concordia, who they would triumph over 73-53 and stand on top of the conference with a 2-0 mark.  The Blue Devils, winning four of their last five starts, made certain they would remain one of the three undefeated teams left in the title race.  A ten point spurt snapped a 27-27 deadlock to close the half and Austin was in control the remainder of the way.  It was the Austinson (17), Frost (16), and Warfield (13) show again as they led them in scoring.  Dick Warfield and Paul Austinson would score more than half of Austin’s total points in their next victory as they defeated Concordia 97-84.  Warfield would score a career high with 34 points, followed close by Austinson who would tally 33 points.  Rochester would come to town with an 11-2 record and be strong contender of the conference. It would show as their hot shooting carried them over the Blue Devils 69-65 in a game the home town could have won.  Austin shot 28 percent from the field and would drop to 5-2 on the year. Paul Austinson kept up his conference leading scoring pace as he would score 22 points.  Austin Junior College would proceed to lose seven more contest in a row; 85-66 to Worthington, Bethany would edge them 82-81, after trailing by 18 points in the second half. Waldorf would clobber the Blue Devils 85-49 in the what Coach Cuff described as their worst played contest of the year. Bethany would come back and with a strong 96-75 decision over the Austin, followed by the Mankato Freshmen dropping a 96-75 setback and the loss would drop them to 5-7 on the season.
Rochester would remain undefeated in conference play (8-0) as they overran Austin 85-39. Worthington defeated the scrappy Blue Devils 91-78 to close out the conference season. Austin would finish fourth (3-6) after a strong beginning 3-0. In its season finale, Hal Cuff’s team went to extremes for a 71-68 win over Dr. Martin Luther to close out the season 6-9 and a victory. No more than 3 points would separate the teams in the first half. The Blue Devils would then go a run led by Jack Frost (who scored a season high 19) and led by as much as 20 points, before the Luther team refused to quit and would get within three before time ran out. Besides Frost’s scoring honors, Paul Austinson would add 16 and Dick Warfield finished with 15.

Roster Included:

Paul Austinson  Tom Holgate  John Holgate
Larry Peterson  Jim Wagner  Phil Bundy
Jack Frost  Dave Ploof  Spenser Morgan
Larry Turner  Bill Killoran  Gary Tate
Dan McNally  Dick Warfield

Assistant Coach: Al Lehrke

**Tennis**  Coach Bill Evans  SMJCC conference tournament reached the semi-finals before it was rained out and no results were available for the conclusion of the tournament. Competing for Austin were; Eric Bunbiers, Bill Rosch, Dave Crockett, Ken Dougherty, and John Holgate. Jack Knauer, and Bob Remker.

**GOLF**  Coach Bill Evans  Austin would finish third in the SMJCC tournament. Austin’s four man team was paced by Phil Bundy who fired a 90 and earned medalist honors. The match was played in wind and rain. Worthington (397) won the event, followed by Rochester (411), then Austin’s 412. Dr. Martin Luther finished fourth (441), Concordia (447), and Mankato Bethany (544). Other Austin scores were; Dick Wennes 99, Burt Wennes 106 and Duane Fruend 117. Other members of the team included: Joe Wagner, Dale Bensend, Walter Strangman, and Harlan Nelson.