NEW HIRINGS at Riverland Community College:

Late last spring Riverland Community College hired two new coaches on its staff. **Troy Stegenga** was hired as the new men’s soccer coach after serving as an assistant the past three years for the Blue Devils. He served as the goalie coach and other duties for former coach Soner Dogan, who resigned after three years at the helm. Stegenga has not had anyh head coaching experience but brings a wealth of soccer experience and along with his assistant, Mario Garcia they were responsible for many of the head coaching duties in the fall of 2011 in the absence of Soner Dogan. Troy is self-employed in lives in the Hollandale MN area.

**Michele Hoogers** was also hired as the new volleyball coach. Hoogers comes from Sheldon, Iowa where she was very successful at Sheldon High School. Her varsity record was 161-23 and 3 consecutive conference titles, along with five AAU state titles in the summer months at Sheldon. Hoogers replaces Sara Heim, who resigned after one year at the helm.
SOCCER- Troy Stegenga begins his first year as the head coach after being an assistant for three years. He is joined by Mario Garcia as his assistant and inherits thirteen veterans to this year’s squad. Riverland Community College opened its 12-game schedule on the road at Bismarck State College in North Dakota and came away with an impressive 4-2 victory. Valentin Manzano scored the first goal (31:00) and the Blue Devils led 1-0 at halftime. Victor Maltz scored twice in the second half and Diego Luz added a goal. The goalkeeping of Lucas Santos and Maing Garcia held Bismarck in check for the win. “We played very well as a team” said coach Stegenga. “It was hot and humid and I was pleased with our first game of the season. It was the first time in four years we have beaten Bismarck”. Riverland would go to Bethel and beat their JV team 3-2 in another good road win. Led by the pinpoint passing of Valetin Manzano (2 assists) and solid defense the Blue Devils would come away with a victory. Three players scored; Danilo Botelho, Victor Maltz, and Deigo Luz. Luz would score at the 86:00 minute for the winner. The Blue Devils are off for nine days and travel to Carleton for their next contest. RVLD would shut out Carleton 4-0 for its third consecutive win to start the season. Dante Ortiz had a goal and an assist, while Botelho, Maltz, and Sheffler also scored. Lucas Santos and Maing Garcia combined for the shutout. Riverland traveled to Bethel JV and came away with a 4-1 victory. Danilo Botelho had two assists and a goal to lead the way. Victor Maltz, Valetin Manzano and Vincent Awolke each scored in the win. Santos again was the winner in the net for 83 minutes, while Jesse Ledesma mopped up the win. Riverland Community College improves to 4-0 on the year. In its home opener, the Blue Devils would lose to top ranked Anoka Ramsey 4-1. It was tied 1-1 at halftime but the Rams would dominate in the second half to pull away and give RVLD its first loss of the season. Bothlo had the only goal of the game for Riverland. The Blue Devils would go on the road again, this time to Century College and lose a heart breaker 2-1 to another tough region opponent. Riverland traveled to Winona JV and lost 1-0. RVLD outshot St. Marys 19-8 and controlled the game and yet came up short. This was the third consecutive loss to Riverland after winning its first four games. Their record drops to 4-3 on the season. Anoka Ramsey took it to the Blue Devils by defeating Riverland Community College 5-0. The game was totally dominated by the Rams. RVLD was able to snap its four game losing streak by defeating Bismarck College 3-2 in overtime at Wescott Field in Austin. It was sophomore day and they were featured that day. Jesse Ledesma came up big in goal and was a big factor in the decision. Bismarck scored first but RVLD responded with a goal by Diego Luz at 43rd minute of the first half.
The Mystics scored again right before halftime and led 2-1 at the break. Riverland Community College tied the game at the 77th minute on a free kick by Valentin Manzano. In overtime, Victor Maltz scored 4 minutes into the overtime to preserve the victory for the Blue Devils. “I thought the key to the game was the increased intensity with which we played in the second half” said Troy Stegtenga. With the win, RVLD improves to 5-4 on the season. Coach Stegteng’s soccer team let one slip away as they tied the Carleton JV’s 3-3 in a home match played at Owatonna. Riverland would score the first three goals and lead 3-0 with less than 11 minutes to go. But Carleton scored three unanswered goals and tied the contest 3-3. In its final home contest, Riverland Community College lost to Century 7-1. It was disappointing way to end the season. The Blue Devils started the season 4-0 but won only one of its final seven contests. The final contest at Winona was cancelled. Riverland Community College would end the season 5-5-1.

Roster Included:

Maing Garcia        Tiago Ferreira        Anderson Gois Siqueira
Victor Maltz        Valentin Manzano      Darcio Rodriguez de Almeida
Danilo Bothelho     Robedrto Torres        Miguel Sampaio Mareno
Dante Ortiz          Sam Scheffler         Cindy Doan
Corbin Brocker      Rolando Rubio          Diego Mendes Luz
Fernando Garcia      Jesse Ledesma         Juan Luis Valladares
Barush Terrazas     Jun Su Jeong           Lucas Candido Alves
Rafael Bellon       Lucas Santos           Tom Furland

**Assistant:** Mario Garcia
**Graduate Ass’t:** Miguel Cisneros
**Manager:** Jeun Kwan
Volleyball - Michel Hoogers takes over the reign as the new volleyball coach, replacing Sara Heim. She inherits a team that did not win a match in 2011 and will have six veterans on the opening day roster. Leading the way will be Rachel Ihnen, a transfer from Iowa who played for Hoogers in high school. In her debut as head coach, Waldorf JV defeated the Lady Blue Devils 21-25, 18-25, and 21-25. In the first and third games, RVLD were tied late in the contests and had chances to win. An alumni scrimmage was scheduled for the following Saturday and two teams were put together and scrimmaged coach Hooger’s teams. Riverland Community College opened its southern division play hosting Fergus Falls and losing 23-25, 16-25, 21-25. Game one was the deciding factor and RVLD led 22-20 with an opportunity to win game one. This would be the game that set the momentum and Riverland could not get a win in any game. Rachel Ihnen led the way with 20 kills and Kayla Rodgers had 17 set assists. “We need to find more consistency on offense” said coach Hoogers. Top ranked Ridgewater came to town the following day and handled Riverland with ease, winning 25-12, 25-7, and 25-11. The Blue Devils drop to 0-3 on the young season. Rochester hosted an invitational tournament and RVLD participated in four matches. In the opening match (best 2 of 3), Riverland lost to Madison Area Technical College 21-25, 20-25. The then lost a tough three setter to MN West, dropping 20-25, 25-18, 13-15 in a tough third game. In the third match, coach Hoogers got her first win as a head coach as Riverland Community College bounced Hibbing 25-20, 24-26, 15-12. In the final match the Blue Devils lost to NIACC 15-25, 25-23, 5-15. Their record now stands at 1-6 on the year. Riverland Community College traveled to Anoka Ramsey and where defeated 15-25, 22-25, 23-25. The second and third games were hotly contested and could of went either way. MN West defeated Riverland 20-25, 16-25, 14-25 as the Blue Devils were never really in the match. After narrowly being defeated two weeks ago by MN West, coach Hoogers had strong feelings going into this road contest but her girls could not meet the challenge. Riverland snapped its 3 match losing streak and defeated St Cloud Technical College 25-19, 16-25, 26-24, 25-13. “It was nice to get our first conference win” said Coach Hoogers. The girls played well and that third game was pivotal in our victory”. Riverland is now 1-4 in division play and 2-8 overall. Rachel Ihnen was named MCAC Hitter of the Week as she pounded 50 kills (5.0 per game) including 25 against St Cloud. Ihnen hit .436 during thre matches with a .6888 attack % in the St Cloud match. She is a freshman from Sheldon, IA. In a triangular at LaCrosse, RVLD lost to WWTI 3-0 but defeated UW Richland 3-0
Getting back to conference action, the Lady Blue Devils traveled to Ridgewater and lost to the top ranked team 16-25, 12-25, and 24-26. “I was pleased to see us play them tough in the third game” said Hoogers. The following day Riverland traveled to NIACC, losing 16-25, 22-25, 18-25 but bouncing back and defeating the Waldorf JV team 25-20, 25-15, 23-25, 25-15, improving their record to 4-11 overall. Rachel Ihnen had a terrific weekend, leading with 12 kills, 8 digs, and four blocks against Ridgewater. The next day she would have another big match with 15 kills, 6 digs and four blocks. Rachel in the final match had 10 kills and 7 digs.

Back into southern division action, Riverland dropped a match to Rochester, losing 24-26, 8-25, 21-25. In a tightly contested first game, RVLD led 24-23 but lost the final three points and the game. This was a huge momentum swing for Rochester and they went on to win in three. The Blue Devils would travel to Fergus Falls and drop another southern division match, losing 11-25, 18-25, 24-26. Their record falls to 1-7 in the division and 4-13 overall. Riverland Community College lost to MN West 15-25, 18-25, 23-25. They would come home and lose to Anoka Ramsey 15-25, 15-25, and 20-25. Close games do not count for wins as the Blue Devils stayed within five points of the Rochester Yellow Jackets but lost 19-25, 20-25, 19-25. Kayla Rodgers had 20 digs in the loss and Rachel Ihnen had 9 kills and 11 digs in the loss. RVLD drops to 1-10 in the southern division and 4-16 overall. Riverland traveled to Fergus Falls and dropped a southern division clash 11-25, 18-25, 23-25. MN West dropped the Lady Blue Devils to 1-12 in the division with a 15-25, 18-25, 23-25 loss. This was the fourth consecutive loss and their overall record now is 4-18. The Blue Devils would lose their final four matches to extend their losing streak to eight matches. Anoka Ramsey defeated RVLD 15-25, 15-25, and 20-25. Rochester upended Riverland Community College 19-25, 20-25, 19-25. St Cloud would defeat Riverland 15-25, 23-25, 25-16, and 21-25. The season ended with a triangular at home. Western Technical College defeated RVLD 3-0 and the Waldorf JV defeated Coach Hoogers’s squad 3-1. They would end their season 4-19 overall and 1-11 in the southern division. Rachel Ihnen was named to the 1st All-Division Team and earned 2nd Team All-State.

Roster Included:

Amy Thompson  Laura Hemann  Kayla Rodgers
Haley Christensen  KristA Krogh  Ashley Sanderson
Loryn Poole  Nicole Swanson  Natasha Klinghagen
Rachel Ihnen  Ass”t: Ashley Lau
Women’s Basketball- Suzy Hebrink  Suzy Hebrink returns for her 14th season as the head coach with 3 veterans, led by All-Conference center Rebekah Aase. Skylar Anderson and Sophia Hebrink also return with lots of playing time. With the addition of five freshmen, Hebrink’s team will have to stay healthy to make a serious run at a state tournament berth. The Lady Blue Devils opened the season at the MN West Classic Tournament with two victories, defeating Dordt JV team 61-47 and Madison Area Technical College 63-48. Rebekah Aase led the season opener with 25 points and 10 rebounds. Victoria Larson, a freshman from Bangor, WI added 20 points. In the second victory, Aase again led with another double/double, scoring 17 points and grabbing 14 rebounds. Larson would score 17 points with five three-pointers. “Rebekah played well in both games and we were able to get enough scoring from the other girls to record a couple wins” said Hebrink. “Although we missed a lot of free throws, we cleaned up on the boards and played solid defense”.

Roster included:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rebekah Aase</th>
<th>Skylar Anderson</th>
<th>Sophia Hebrink</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jazmin Wilson</td>
<td>Victoria Larson</td>
<td>Morgan Lindenfelser</td>
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<td>Brittany Zuniga</td>
<td>Nicole Swanson</td>
<td>ASST: Ryan Weichmann</td>
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Men’s Basketball- Scott Koenigs  Coach Koenigs enters his second year under the helm with his group of recruits after taking over the job in early October of last year. Ten freshmen will join five returning veterans in what Koenigs describes as a very athletic group.

Roster Included:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Andrew Lau</th>
<th>Tyler (TJ) Adams</th>
<th>Guillermo DeDiego</th>
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<tr>
<td>Loius Bongiovanni</td>
<td>Zach Bunch</td>
<td>Goliath Oboyo</td>
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<td>Ruben Williams</td>
<td>Wayne Cannady</td>
<td>Colton Zuniga</td>
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<td>Leigh Dean</td>
<td>Trent Hosin</td>
<td>Brandon Kawalski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marcus Ratliff</td>
<td>Zach Hinrichs</td>
<td>Vincent Awolke</td>
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<td>Ass’t Coach: Ryan Weichmann</td>
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