History 2013-14

**New Hiring:** Edelgard (Edel) Fernandez has been named new soccer coach at Riverland Community College for the 2013-14. He takes over for interim coach, Troy Stegenga who had the season for one year and will remain on staff as an assistant coach. Fernandez was born in Mexico and arrived in Minnesota in 2000. He has served as a soccer coach in Willmar and affiliated with the soccer officials association. Edel was the head soccer coach at Ridgewater College before coming to Austin.

**Soccer-** Edel Hernandez 3-10-1  Coach Hernandez takes over the program that went 5-5-1 last season. They opened the season at Bismarck College in Bismarck, ND and lost 6-0. In the same weekend at Bismarck, they lost 6-1 to Western Wyoming Community College. The following weekend they traveled to Winona and tied the St. Mary’s JV team 3-3. The Blue Devils would lose their next game 5-0 to Dakota County College. At home Riverland Community College gained its first win of the season with a 4-2 victory over the Waldorf JV team. Anoka Ramsey defeated RVLD 6-0 in region play. The St. Olaf team beat RVLD 4-1 in their next contest. Riverland Community College would win by forfeit (2-0) over Century College to up its record to 2-5-1. Anoka defeated RVLD 4-2 (Riverland Community College only team to score 2 goals in league play against AR) in region play as did Dakota County by the score of 4-0. Bismarck College came to town and won 3-2 and then Century College handed Riverland its 4th loss in row with a 5-1 victory over the Blue Devils. RVLD ended its regular season with a 3-1 win over St. Mary’s JV team. In the Region XIII tournament held in Rochester, the Blue Devils lost 3-1 to end the season 3-10-1. Juan Montealegre was voted the MVP of the team.
Roster Included:

Juan Montealegre  Ignacio Espinosa  Francisco Torres
Emanuel Gage  Jose Garcia  Alejandro Terrazas Lopez
Omot Okell  Jorman de Oliveira  Abunyanyi Lual
Francisco Sanchez  Alexis Guevara  Corbin Brocker
Francisco Mendez  Skyler Heissenbuttle  Brandon Garcia
Iago Gaudio  Carson Hackel  Johann Medina

Ass’s Coaches:  Mario Garcia, Troy Stegenga

Volleyball- Michele Hoogers is in her third season.  2-23  Coach Hoogers would return 5 lettermen to this year’s squad. It would be a tough year, winning only two matches, both at home. They would start the season losing their first five matches. In a tournament at Southeastern Community College, RVLD lost to Parkland College 3-0 (25-11, 25-13, 25-13) and Iowa Central College 3-0 (25-13, 25-8, 25-19). On the second day of the tournament Riverland Community College lost to Kirkwood CC 3-0 (25-8, 25-12, 25-11) and Southeastern CC 3-0 (25-12,25-10, 25-17). The southern division started at Anoka Ramsey and the Blue Devils dropped their fifth straight, losing 3-0 (25-13, 25-13, 25-16). Western Technical College came to for Riverland’s home opener and the home team won 3-0 (25-17, 25-16, 25-14) for their first win of the season. In the Rochester Invitational, RVLD dropped a match to Viterbo JV 3-1 (24-26, 25-16, 20-25, 23-25), and then lost to NIACC 3-0( 25-15, 25-16, 25-22). On day two of the tournament Riverland lost to Northwestern JV 3-0 (26-24, 25-10, 25-18) and then to Dakota County Technical College 3-2 (25-27, 25-17, 25-16, 21-25, 12-15). The Blue Devils got back into division play and lost a tough 5 setter to MN West 3-2 (20-25, 25-20, 25-27, 25-20, 7-15). St. Cloud Technical( 25-19, 25-11, 25-14 ), Rochester (25-15, 25-6, 25-20), and Ridgewater( 25-16, 25-20, 25-13) all defeated Riverland Community College 3-0 in their next three matches, running their losing streak to eight matches. At

**Roster Included:**

Emily Blanchard  Cortney Perrin  Alisa Rudiger  
Rebecca Kopp  Lexi Schunke  Ashley Sanderson  
Jerica Petersen  Mariah Carruth  Danielle Groepper  
Mallory Burrack
Hall of Fame- The 2013 Hall of Fame induction took place on October 26, 2013. Six new members were inducted into this year’s class. They included:

**Matt Cano**   Baseball, 1992-94. He was an outstanding 3rd baseman for the LBlue Devils and was selected All-Conference both season and earning All-State and All-Region his sophomore year.

**Suzy (Jahr) Hebrink**   Tennis, 1985-86, 1987-88. She was an outstanding tennis player, helping her team to a 9-0 record while playing #1 doubles and #2 singles. As a sophomore, she dominated as the #1 singles and doubles player and led her team to another Region #13 title. Suzy also played basketball her second year.

**Jon Iverson**   Tennis   1972-74. He led his team to a 5th place finish in the state his freshman year and was State runner-up at #1 singles. His sophomore year he won the state and Region #1 singles titles and advanced to the NJCAA national tournament in Ocala, Florida. There he would lose his first match and win six consecutive matches to earn consolation (5th ) honors. He was 23-2 on the court.

**Maurice (Ike) Joel**   Baseball   1961-63. He led his team to two consecutive championships and earned All-Conference both seasons. “Ike” was selected to the All-State, All-Region and second team All-American team his sophomore year. He also played basketball for two seasons at AJC.

**Sherri (Bosshart) Keller**   Basketball   1979-81. She was an outstanding center, leading her team to a conference championship, state runner-up and one win away from a national tournament. She earned All-conference, All-State, and All-Region honors her freshman year. A knee injury her 3rd game of the year in her sophomore season ended her career.

**Larry Rensink**   Basketball   1958-60. He was the MVP and league scoring champion his freshman year. Larry earned All-Conference and All-State honors in his first season but a knee injury prevented him from playing a full season.
Women’s Basketball- 6-19 Suzy Hebrink enters her 15th season as the women’s basketball coach for the Blue Devils. Riverland Community College will have five sophomores to build on led by Cortney Perrin. At the annual MN West tournament RVLD lost to Dordt JV 94-44 and Dakota State JV team 100-70. Then they traveled to NIACC and lost 105-42. The Blue Devils would lose their fourth game in a row by dropping a 57-49 contest to the Luther JV, also on the road. The Gustavus JV team would forfeit to Riverland in its next contest to break the losing streak at five and now stand 1-5. NIACC came to town and won convincingly 95-48 but the Riverland Community College came back and defeated Luther JV team 66-54. They would make it two in a row with a 56-44 win over Itasca at home. The following day Itasca defeated RVLD 79-59 in its next contest. RVLD would travel to Rainy River and lose 59-44 but rally the next day and defeat Hibbing 76-57 to go 4-7 overall before the break. In a holiday tournament at Brainerd, the Blue Devils started the second half with a 77-66 victory over Vermilion. The next day they would lose to Hibbing 57-56 in a heartbreaker. Their record is 5-8 going into divisional play. Anoka Ramsey opened the division with a 68-62 win over the Blue Devils. Rochester defeated RVLD 84-45 and then Ridgewater handed Riverland Community College its third conference loss in a row with a 72-55 win. RVLD got its first and only conference win by defeating Fergus Falls at home 61-52. Their overall record is now 6-11 and 1-3 in the division. Western Technical College handed RVLD a 62-37 loss. MN West defeated Riverland Community College 88-44. The second half of the conference started over and RVLD traveled to Anoka Ramsey and lost 62-35. Rochester handed the Blue Devils their 4th loss in a row with a 63-53 win. The Blue Devils traveled to Ridgewater and got beat 70-57 and then went to Fergus and were manhandled 94-44 after beating them the first time. In the final two games of the year, Riverland lost to Western Tech College 68-29 and finished out the season losing 77-44 to MN West. The loss ended the season at 6-19 and seven losses in a row.

Roster Included
Men’s Basketball: Scott Koenigs  11-16  The men’s basketball team won its first two games of the season at the MN West tournament, beating Dordt JV team 86-81 and Northwestern College JV team 78-76. They would go on the road and lost to NIACC 108-80 but come back and defeat Luther JV team 72-65. RVLD would travel for its fifth time in as many games and beat Gustavus JV 94-63 to stand 4-1 on the young season. NIACC came back to town and handed the Blue Devils a 94-63 loss. The Luther JV team also beat Riverland Community College 70-60 in its return tussle. The Blue Devils beat Itasca 80-78 and Northland C & TC 78-63 in back to back games to up their record to 6-3 overall. RVLD traveled to Rainy River CC and won 89-73 but dropped the second game of the trip to Hibbing 75-74 in a heartbreaker. Riverland Community College opened up the second semester schedule with a tournament in Brainerd, losing to Vermilion 73-70 and to Central Lakes 87-61. Entering southern division play with an overall record of 7-6, RVLD would lose its opener in the conference 79-49 to Anoka Ramsey. They traveled to St. Cloud Technical College and lost 84-74 and then lost to Rochester 101-67 to fall to 0-3 in the division and 7-9 overall. The Blue Devils got their first divisional win by defeating Ridgewater College 83-71. Fergus Falls would defeat RVLD 80-72 in its next contest. At home, Riverland Community College defeated Western Tech College 84-82 to win two out of its last three conference games. At MN West they lost 81-70 and at Anoka Ramsey they lost 88-72. In the biggest game of the season, they beat St Cloud Technical at home 68-61.
They lost their next three games; to Rochester 92-78, to Ridgewater College 73-71 and to Fergus Falls 93-87. In the final two games they beat Western Technical College 88-78 and lost their final game 89-83. They ended the season 11-16 overall and 4-6 in the southern division.

**Roster Included:**

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Ass’t Coaches: Paul Anderson, Derek Hahn

**Softball:** Al Eckmann 24-17 Coach Eckmann enters his 3rd season with a good recruiting class and top players from last year in Lexie Schunke, Cortney Perrin, Amy Reinhardt, and Ashley Sanderson. In a season opener in the Rochester Dome, they lost to Ellsworth, IA 15-1 and Marshalltown, IA 13-1. The Lady Devils traveled south to Florida for their spring trip. They would go 1-6 on the trip but gained valuable experience and now stand 1-8 on the year. The remainder of the year RVLD would have a winning record of 21-9. After the road trip to Florida, Riverland Community College played in the Irish Dome beating Hibbing 16-0, defeating Itasca 8-3 and losing to Rainy River 15-4 and completing the four game week-end with a 4-0 win over Vermillion. Their record now stands at 4-9 overall. RVLD opened the conference schedule defeating Anoka Ramsey 7-1 and 6-4. Weather has been very poor in the early spring for any outdoor practices. The following day RVLD would split with national ranked St. Cloud Technical College, losing 9-5 but coming back the second game and winning 9-7. The Blue Devils would travel to Rochester and lose two games, both 8-0.
In a long overnight trip, Riverland travelled to Fergus Falls and won both, 7-6 and 6-4 and came back to Ridgewater and slit the pair, winning 4-0 and losing 10-1. Their division record now is 6-4 and overall 9-13. The Blue Devils stepped out of conference and split with Luther JV team, losing 9-1 and winning the nightcap 6-5. They would continue their good play, beating MN West 9-0 and 3-0 and then coming right back and beating MN West at home 5-3 and 11-2. This would make a five game winning streak and winning 8 of its last 10 games. The Blue Devils would make it seven in a row with two wins over Fergus Falls, 8-1 and 8-0. Ridgewater came to town and RVLD handed them two losses, winning 10-8 and 13-12 in a slugfest. This would make it nine wins in a row. Traveling to St Cloud, Riverland made it ten in a row with a 12-0 win the streak was stopped as they lost the nightcap 5-4. The Blue Devils wrapped up their regular season with two wins over Anoka Ramsey, 6-5 and 15-0. They finished the regular season 22-13 overall and 18-6 in the division. But due to poor weather conditions, not all the southern teams were able to complete their round robin schedule so only the first half scores were used in the tournament pairings. RVLD finished third in the league and were seeded #4 in the Region tournament held in Rochester. The four team double elimination tournament started with Riverland Community College versus Rochester. The Blue Devils lost in a heart breaker 6-5. RVLD would come back to beat St Cloud Tech 9-7 and NDSU-Bottineau 5-2 before losing again to Rochester 7-6 in 10 innings. Their season would end with a 24-17 mark and second place in the Region XIII tournament. Lexie Schunke (hit .404 with 7 HR, 42 hits, 41 RBI and scored 27 runs) earned All-Conference, All-State and All-Region honors. Cortney Perrin (batted .437, with 45 hits and scored 33 runs) earned All-Conference and 2nd team All-State along with All-Region honors. Rebecca Kopp received 2nd team All-Conference. On the All-Region XIII team was Schunke, Samantha LeMay (hit .444 for the season) and Amy Reinhardt. AL Eckmann was named MCAC “Coach of the Year”. The 2014 softball team had a team GPA of 3.14 and was honored by the NJCAA as Academic Team of the Year for having the highest GPA for all softball teams in the United States and member of the NJCAA.
**Baseball**

Scott Koenigs  27-16  Division Champion (10-4)  Koenigs enters his 14th season with the Blue Devils and lots of optimism. The Blue Devils went to Florida again for its annual trip south and went 8-5 on the road trip. They won their opener 3-0 over Ontario Blue Jays and the lose 7-5 in the nightcap. RVLD would win two the following day, defeating Massasoit CC 9-1 and 10-1. The third day they split a doubleheader, defeating Avery Point 9-2 before losing the second game 4-3 to Kirkwood CC out of Des Moines. Their overall record would stand at 4-2. Day four brought Avery point again and RVLD would lose 9-2 and then defeat Inside Pitch Academy 2-1. After a day off, Riverland Community College defeated Bethany College JV 15-0 and 6-5. Westchester CC defeated Riverland twice, 3-2 and 2-0 to well-pitched ball games. In their final day, the Blue Devils beat Cardinal Roy 13-3 to finish their road trip at 8-5. The spring in Minnesota was brutal and lots of rain and postponements. Riverland won their MN opener defeating Fond du Lac 22-1 and Hibbing CC 10-0. They split with Western Technical College, losing 3-2 and winning the nightcap 2-1. They traveled to Marshalltown, IA and lost 5-4 and 4-2. They then traveled to Gustavus JV and split, winning 13-6 and losing 4-2. The southern division opened up and RVLD lost at MN West 5-4 before winning the nightcap 13-1 in five innings. Riverland defeated Central Lakes twice by the scores of 13-1 and 8-1. After getting rained
out to Western Technical College, the Blue Devils split with Luther JV, losing 6-3 and then winning 7-3. Fergus Falls hosted RVLD and won game one 7-0 but Riverland bounced back and won game two 7-3 in nine innings. Traveling to Ridgewater they would split, winning 10-1 and losing 9-0 to the Warriors. The Blue Devils split with Rochester, winning 11-1 in five innings but then losing 5-4 in the nightcap. In the biggest doubleheader of the season to date, Riverland Community College hosted St. Cloud Technical College and swept them 1-0 and 3-2 to wrap up the southern division title. The Blue Devils closed out the regular season with Anoka Ramsey, winning 4-0 and losing the second game 8-4. They would end the regular season 10-4 in the division (champions) and 25-14 overall. In the MCAC State/Region tournament Riverland defeated Northland 6-1, lost to Itasca 7-1, then came back and beat Fergus Falls 1-0 in the loser’s bracket before being eliminated by Century College 10-3. Scott Koenigs was named “Southern Division Coach of the year” by his peers. Cody Schacht, Broke Rude, and Ruben Correa all earned All-Division, All-State, and All-Region status. Schacht went on to earn 1st Team All-American honors.

**Roster Included:**

Andrew Adams   Ruben Correa   Melvin De La Torre
Adam Sellner   Matt Bushbaum  Broke Rude
Mirangelo Muller Brett Thackery Nestor Jimenez
Kenny Perez    Taylor Groth   Clay Fonfara
Miguel Castro  Sam Roosen    Rileyson Liberia
Rudmicheall Brandao Janathon Jones Zachary Nelson
Kevin Soto     Sam Bozyk     Jaron Brezinsky
Christian Nieves Cody Schacht Brandon Heal
Patrick Anderson Jordan Johnson Isaac Tuttle
Mitchell Akemann Ass’t Coach: Ryan Voigt, Derek Hahn
**Athlete of the Year:** Cortney Perrin, a three sport athlete has been named the “Female Athlete of the Year” for the 2013-14 season. Cortney was a sophomore who participated in volleyball, basketball and softball. Cody Schaucht, a standout pitcher (sophomore) for the Blue Devil baseball team has been named “Male Athlete of the Year” by the coaches. Cody was 7-1 for Riverland Community College this season and earned All- Conference, All- State, All-Region, and 1st team All- American Honors.

**Academic All American Team:** The softball team was named by the NJCAA the “Academic Team of the Year” for having the highest team GPA for a softball team. This is the first time in the history of Riverland Community College athletics that such a prestigious honor has been earned. Congratulations!

**Academic All Americans:** There were three individuals who earned academic all American status by the NJCAA for the 2013-14 season. They were:

Andrew Adams: a sophomore baseball player from El Paso, Texas  3.79 GPA
Louis Bongiovanni: a sophomore basketball player from Woodend, Victoria in Australia  3.68 GPA
Brock Rude: a sophomore baseball player from Onalaska, Wisconsin  3.68 GPA