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From these candidates, thirteen were selected to comprise the varsity. Included were the following:

John Ferkul (Jr.; 6'3") - Played basketball for Gilbert high school and Virginia Junior college . . . member of 1951 Gilbert state champs . . . physical education major, social studies minor . . . plans to coach and teach.

\*Chuck Hiti (Sr.; 6') - 1953-54 UMD basketball captain . . . 1953 MIAC All-Conference selection . . . set new UMD high with 306 points in 16 loop games . . . named All-Conference at Eveleth JC . . . mathematics major . . . ambition is to teach.

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*UMD Basketball Review  
for the 1953-54 Season.*

Bob McDonald (Sr.; 6'2") - Transfer from Hastings Junior college . . . All-Conference forward at Hibbing last year . . . played with JC National Junior college champions in 1951-52 Dept. and All-District at Chisholm high school.

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Tom Richardson (Jr.; 5'2") - Transfer from Virginia Junior college . . . earned All-Conference honors at JC . . . All-District, All-Regional and All-State at Gilbert in 1951 . . . sparked Road to state crown . . . starter for Hamline Pipers as freshman.

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\*Bob Seikkula (Jr.; 6'3") - Returning regular . . . played basketball at Esko with Mel Koivisto . . . earned frosh letter at Hamline . . . a forward or center candidate . . . history and social studies major . . . plans to teach.

Tom Stark (Fr.; 6'1") - Outstanding frosh prospect from Proctor high school . . . captain and All-District at Proctor . . . topped Head O'Lakes scorers in '52; runnerup in '53 . . . holds District record of 45 points in one game . . . physical education major.

Dick Veech (Fr.; 5'10") - Guard candidate from Hermantown high school . . . captained the Hawks last year . . . sparked his club to finals of District in 1953 . . . physical education major.

\*Mark Vukelich (Sr.; 6'6") - Tallest man on club . . . second high scorer with 336 points last year . . . earned honorable mention in '53 . . . All-Conference at Eveleth Junior college . . . scored 34 points against Eau Claire T.C. for single game high.

Jerry Wilmot (Fr.; 6'0") - Duluth Central graduate . . . captained the Trojans last year . . . guard candidate . . . lists District crown in '51 as top athletic thrill . . . major still undecided.

\*Returning lettermen.

The Freshman team was also picked which played regular scheduled games with different JC teams and "B" teams of the MIAC and MTC league.

U M D 83 - Eau Claire 73

The first game of the year the Bulldogs traveled to Eau Claire. Trailing at the end of the 3rd quarter 58 - 57, the Bulldogs broke loose with a 26 point splurge to win 83 - 73. Chuck Hiti led the scoring with 24 points with Mark Vukelich adding 15 and Mel Koivisto 14. Richardson and McKeag each connected for 11.

U M D - Stout 57

Although starting slow, the UMD Bulldogs showed much potential scoring power in rapping Stout 95 - 57. This was the 1st game played in the new Phy-Ed Building.

Chuck Hiti once again scored in the twenties making 22 points. Bob McDonald hit the hoop for 14, while John Ferkul and Mel Koivisto each scored 11.

U M D 60 -- Macalester 68

Playing far below par the Bulldogs were edged by the Scotsmen; 60 - 68.

Four regulars left the game via the foul route and weakened any chance of a rally.

Chuck Hiti garnered 14 points to lead the scoring once again for the Bulldogs.

U M D 73 - Gustavus 75  
Capt. Chuck Hiti's hook shot in the waning seconds of the overtime, provided the Bulldogs with this thrilling up-set victory.

The regulation game ended in 66 - 66 tied with Gustavus hitting 2 quick fielders putting them in the lead 70 - 66, but Seikkula and Richardson came back with field goals to tie it up again. A see-saw battle ended with UMD 73, Gustavus 72. Vukelich and Richardson shared scoring honors with 22 points each.

U M D 82 - Concordia 52

The Isenbarger men won their second MIAC game handily with Hiti leading the scoring with 25 points. The Bulldogs used all thirteen men in this ballgame.

U M D 75 - Baldwin-Wallace 71

The Bulldogs came from behind magnificiently in the fourth quarter. From a 56 - 49 deficit at the 3rd quarter mark, they beat a highly rated Baldwin-Wallace team from Ohio.

Tom Richardson broke the deadlock with a jump shot to make the score 73 - 71 with 90 seconds left to play. Mel Koivisto iced the game with 2 free throws. Final score 75 - 71 with Chuck Hiti hitting the hoop for 25 points. Richardson and Seikkula contributed 16 and 12 respectively.

U M D 86 - N D U 62

The Bulldogs opened with a 20 - 9 first quarter lead and coasted to an easy victory in the initial holiday tournament game. Chuck Hiti hit for 20 points, Vukelich and Mc Keag each got 15 and 10 points respectively.

U M D 86 - North Dakota State 73

With the Bisons holding a 43 - 38 lead at half time, U M D put on a 48 point splurge in the 2nd half to wing going away 86 - 73. Scoring was lead again by Hiti with 24 points, followed by Mark Vukelich's 16 and Richardson's 16.

U M D 89 - St. John 68

The Bulldogs, lead by Hiti's 21 points, won their 8th in 9 starts and 3rd in conference play. Aside from Hiti's 21 points, scoring was evenly distributed.

Seikkula had 13, Mc Keag and Paulson 12 and 10 respectively, with Koivisto and Mc Donald contributing 12 each.

U M D 70 - Michigan Tech

U M D 's basketball fortunes suffered a severe blow in this game when Tom Richardson, the star playmaking guard, suffered a fractured bone in his foot. The week before, the Bulldogs lost Vukelich through ineligibility. U M D's rally wasn't enough to upset the upper Michigan team. Hiti hit for 18 points in this game.

U M D 61 - Bemidji 83

U M D held a 43 - 40 half time lead, but fouls beset the Bulldogs as four regulars left the game via the foul route. Hiti scored 20 points, Koivisto 13, followed by Mc Donald with 11 and Seikkula with 10.

U M D 79 - Augsburg 65

Bob Mc Donald and Charles Hiti sparked the Bulldogs to their fourth loop win over the Auggies. Mc Donald fired for 22 points, 16 of which came in the first half.

The crippled Bulldogs were all but eliminated from title contention with an easy victory over Duluth by the Tommies. At half, St. Thomas led 39 - 22. Mel Koivisto topped the Bulldogs scoring with 17 points, followed by Hiti with 12 and Mc Donald with 12. Bruce Paulson contributed 10.

#### U M D 77 - Superior State 65

Bob Mc Donald's 18 points and John Mc Keag's 18 points were just too much to handle for the Superior State Yellowjackets. Bartolutte held U M D's ace to 11 points, but he, in turn, was held to 5 by Koivisto.

#### U M D 67 - St. Mary 89

The Crippled Bulldogs dropped out of tittle contention as a taller Redmen team from St. Mary's crushed them 89 - 67.

Halftime score was 68 - 50 and the Isenbargermen were unable to stage a comeback in the second half.

Bob Mc Donald led U M D scoring with 19 points. Pat Costello, the Conference's leading scorer, had 18 encounters.

#### U M D 70 - Hamline 83

Underdog U M D led the highly rated Pipers at half time 38 - 36, but succumbed to the Piper's second half drive 83 - 70.

Mc Keag, having the flu, did not see much action, but his running mate, Bruce Paulson, set a terrific pace as he hit for 22 points. Mc Donald had 13 points while Mel Koivisto hit for 12.

#### U M D 78 - St. Mary 76

The Bulldogs avenged a defeat suffered a week previous by dumping St. Mary's in a nip and tuck ball game, 78 - 76.

Trailing 49 - 45 at half time, the Maroon and Gold came to life in the 3rd quarter and knotted the score at 65 - 65. The entire ball club was instumental in this 3rd period rally.

Mc Donald and Hiti shared scoring honors with 20 points, followed by Mc Keag, Seikkula, and Koivist, all of whom scored 11 points.

#### U M D 97 - Augsburg 90

A 32 pointsplurge in the final canto provided the Bulldogs with a 97 - 90 victory. Augsburg led through-out most of the game.

Bob Mc Donald had his eye and got himself 27 points, while Hiti got 19.

#### U M D 74 - Macalester 65

The Bulldogs snapped a Scot's jinx that has been bothering them for several seasons. The U M D ites built up a 46 - 31 advantage at halftime and then started off a 3rd quarter rally to win 74 - 65.

It was the Bulldog's tenth win in 11 starts at home.

Bob Mc Donald sunk in 24 points from his forward post. Mel Koivisto added 14 from a guard post and Hiti garnered 12.

U M D 79 - Gustavus 109  
The Gusties hit a season's high 109 - 79. After the first quarter, in which the Bulldogs were a point ahead, the Gusties dominated the boards and the scoring. Chuck Hiti's 22 points and Mel Koivisto's 21 points led the Bulldogs scoring

U M D 61 - Concordia 58

U M D had to come from behind to defeat a hot shooting Concordia five, 61 58. The game was played on even terms throughout

Bob Seikkula set the pace for the Bulldogs as he had his best scoring night of the year. He ended with 21 points for the evening.

U M D 80 - St. Thomas 95

The Bulldogs finished up their home schedule with a respectable record of 11 wins and 2 losses. St. Thomas administered the second loss. U M D led 22 - 12 at the end of the 1st quarter, but fell behind 46 - 42 at the half. Chuck Hiti was high with 20 points, followed by Mc Donald with 19, Paulson 13 and Mc Keag 12.

U M D 74 - St. John 84

The Bulldogs dropped their 7th loop loss to the Johnnies 84 - 74. The two clubs split during the season, each winning one.

Center John Mc Keag had a good night with 24 points followed by Mel Koivisto with 15 and Bruce Paulson's 10.

U M D 65 - Hamline 81

The Hamline pipers continued their jinx over the Bulldogs by beating them 81 - 65 as the Isenbargermen ended their conference season with an 8 - 8 slate.

Guard Bob Seikkula enjoyed a 17 point production as Capt' Chuck Hiti hit for 16.

U M D 70 - Superior State 64

The season, which ended with 15 wins and 10 losses, came to a conclusion with a second win of the season over Superior State.

Bob Mc Donald captured scoring honors with 18. Chuck Hiti, U M D 's scoring all ended his career in this game with 14 points. Hiti surpassed last years total of 422 points by scoring 433, but failed to wipe out Monsons record of 456 in 1950.

RECORDS THAT WERE SMASHED BY 1953-54 UMD BULLDOGS

The Bulldogs finished with a respectable 15-10 over-all record and an 8-8 won-lost slate in the MIAC. The 15-10 record is the best in UMD history.

Capt. Chuck Hiti, who won All-Conference laurels last year, finished his collegiate career with a point total of 433 in 25 games. He surpassed his last year's total of 422, but failed by 24 to overcome the present individual scoring high held by Rudy Monson. Monson tallied the record 456 counters in the 1949-50 season. Hiti broke his own 1953 record when he tallied 20 or more points in 12 games.

In conference play, Hiti hit the hoop for 255 points, well below his total of 306 last season. During his two years at UMD, the ex-Eveleth J.C. star meshed the nets for 855 points to take over second place in Bulldog career totals. Monson is holder of this record also, having tallied 960 in 2- $\frac{1}{2}$  seasons of competition.

Mel Koivisto, the Bulldogs' sentinel, pumped in 248 points to boost his three-year total to 680. Koivisto, a junior, has one year of eligibility remaining. Bruce Paulson notched 156 to make his career total 629.

In the five years that UMD has been a member of the MIAC, The Bulldogs hold winning records over only two clubs, Concordia and St John's. Following are the UMD all-time basketball records against loop teams.

Concordia (6-2); St. John's (5-4); Augsburg (4-4); Macalester (2-5); St. Thomas (2-6); St. Mary's (2-6); and Hamline (0-9)

New records are as follows:

Most points, season, all games 1,897.  
Most points, season, conference, 1,186  
Highest average, season, all games, 75.48  
Highest average, season, conference, 74.13  
Most field goals, season, all games, 641  
Most free throws, season, all games, 615  
Most free throws, season, conference, 406  
Most games scored 90 or more points, 2  
Most games scored 80 or more points, 8  
Most games scored 70 or more points, 19.  
Most games scored 70 or more consecutively, 7  
Most games won in succession all games, 6  
Most games won in succession, conference, 4  
Most games won, season all games, 15.  
Most times winner over conference for (2 games), 3.

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS SINCE 1950

Most points scored, season, all games: Rudy Monson (1950) 456, Chuck Hiti (1954) 433; Chuck Hiti (1953), 422

Most points scored, conference: Chuck Hiti (1953), 306\*; Chuck Hiti (1954), 255\*  
Rudy Monson (1950), 231\*\*

Highest average per game, season all games: Rudy Monson (1950), 20.45; Chuck Hiti (1953), 18.35; Chuck Hiti (1954), 17.25.

Highest average per game season, conference; Rudy Monson (1950), 19.17\*\*\*, Chuck Hiti (1953), 19.13

Most points, college career

Most points, college career: Rudy Monson 960, 2½ years; Chuck Hiti 855, 2 years; Mel Koivisto 680, 3 years; Bruce Paulson 629, 3 years;; Eugene Norlander 501, 2 years Mark Vukelich 444, 1-1/3 years.

Most games scored 20 or more points: Chuck Hiti (1954), 12; Chuck Hiti (1953), 10.

\* Compiled in 16 conference games.

\*\* Compiled in 12 conference games--topped the conference

\*\*\* Best average in 1950 games.

FINAL SEASONS RECORD--1953-54 season

- UM, 83;; Eau Claire, 73.
- UMD, 95; Stout, 57.
- UMD, 60; Macalester, 68.
- UMD, 73; Gustavus, 72.
- UMD, 82; Concordia, 52.
- UMD, 75; Baldwin-Wallace, 71.
- UMD, 86; North Dakota U., 62.
- UMD, 86; North Dakota State, 73.
- UMD, 89;; St. John's, 68.
- UMD, 70; Michigan Tech, 73.
- UMD, 69; Bemidji, 83.
- UMD, 79; Augsburg, 65.
- UMD, 58; St. Thomas, 77.
- UMD, 77; Superior State, 65.
- UMD, 67; St. Mary's, 89.
- UMD, 70; Hamline, 83.
- UMD, 78; St. Mary's, 76.
- UMD, 97; Augsburg, 90.
- UMD, 74; Macalester, 65.
- UMD, 79; Gustavus, 109.
- UMD, 61; Concordia, 58.
- UMD, 80; St. Thomas, 95.
- UMD, 74; St. John's, 84.
- UMD, 65; Hamline, 81.

FINAL SCORING STATISTICS '53-54

ALL GAMES						
Final						
	g.	fg.	ft.	pf.	tp.	ave.
Hiti . . . . .	25	152	129	70	433	17.25
M'Donald	25	114	86	48	314	12.56
Koivisto	24	91	66	34	248	10.34
McKeag	24	61	89	63	211	8.79
Seikkula	25	72	38	88	182	7.28
Paulson	22	33	90	75	156	7.09
Vukelich	8	35	38	28	108	13.50
Rich'son	10	42	24	37	108	10.80
Wilmot	19	19	33	43	71	3.74
Ferkul	19	16	10	22	42	2.21
Stark	15	5	11	7	21	1.40
Pajunen	10	1	1	3	3	.30
Veech	5	0	0	0	0	.00
Totals	25	641	615	566	1887	75.48

CONFERENCE						
Final						
	g.	fg.	ft.	pf.	tp.	ave.
Hiti . . . . .	16	90	75	44	255	15.94
M'Donald	16	80	69	32	229	14.31
Koivisto	16	63	47	58	172	10.75
McKeag	15	36	62	41	134	9.60
Paulson	16	27	68	51	122	7.63
Seikkula	16	45	25	55	115	7.19
Rich'son	4	17	13	18	47	11.70
Vukelich	3	13	15	10	41	13.67
Wilmot	13	9	18	30	36	2.77
Ferkul	11	7	5	13	19	1.73
Stark	10	3	3	4	15	1.50
Pajunen	5	0	0	0	0	0.00
Veech	5	0	0	0	0	0.00
Totals	16	390	406	356	1186	74.13

According to Minneapolis sportswriters, Chuck Hiti and Mel Koivisto received honorable mention on the all-conference selections.



UMD ARCHIVES:  
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