First Athletic Team Name: “Northmen” November 18, 1966
(voted on by student body)

Name Change: Spring 1986 – effective Fall 1986
In an August 1, 1986 memo from Provost Allen Nichols, announcing the athletic team change from the Northmen/Northwomen to the Pioneers: “Nothing negative pops into mind when you say Pioneers. It denotes several kinds of thoughts – initiative, adventure, rugged and able to take it.”

Selection criteria:
- Should not be used by other CC’s or area high schools
- Name must be short and easy to pronounce
- Name must be asexual
- Name should be able to have a good logo
- Name should strike fear, strength, and respect

Runner-up name: Wildcats
Chet’s Name: Cobras

First Men’s Athletic Director: Al Adams (1966-1985)
First Women’s Athletic Director: Deb Jacobson (1974 -
First Homecoming: January 11, 1967
(118-72 Basketball Win over Brainerd)
Queen: Maria Rominski,
Other Candidates: Arlene Ubel, Laurel Rude, Nancy Quam, Sue Daley

First Northland Area Sports Association (NASA) Established March 1968
Scholarship fund was established for students who had financial need, good academic potential and better than average athletic ability.

First NASA Scholarships Presented: January 1969
Recipients: Dave Rodahl - Wrestling; Bruce Nordhagen, Rockey Wilson, Gordon Eftefield, Tom Super and Nick Neiebauer – Basketball.

First College Classes Offered: Fall 1965
(165 Students – 4 Full-time “Members” Mae Isaacson, Merle Krushke, James Dalager, and Charles Samuelson)

College Names: Thief River Falls State Junior College – September 17, 1965
Northland State Junior College – July 1, 1967
Northland Community College – 1973
Northland Community & Technical College – 1985

1985-86 Spring sports were postponed for two weeks because of a measles outbreak.
November 1979 AVTI Students allowed to participate in Northland Athletic programs -