

THE BULLETIN

A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University



Tisa Mason named VCSU president

VALLEY CITY
STATE UNIVERSITY

Homecoming 2014 ♦ Beatles Rendezvous ♦ Football Championship



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Welcome to the *Bulletin!*

The *Bulletin* is published in spring, summer and fall by the Valley City State University Alumni Association.

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Fall Semester Brings Growth and Change

Margaret Dahlberg, Ph.D., Interim President

Welcome to another edition of *The Bulletin*. It has been a busy fall for all of us at VCSU, and in these pages you will read about many of the events and good news we have to report. The story taking center stage for us this year is the successful search for our 13th president, Dr. Tisa Mason, who will begin her work at VCSU on Dec. 15, 2014. We are very grateful for the presidential search committee's long hours these past two months as they sifted through the many applications and spent long days in meetings and interviews—we are certainly pleased with the result!

Fall enrollment and program growth are important indicators that we monitor each year. This year's headcount is 1,378, up from last year and only 6 students short of our record high. The increase is due in large part to the focus on retention last year by our faculty and staff; over the past three years, we have increased retention rates from 57 percent to 69.8 percent this fall. Several programs show some nice growth: our newest major, software engineering, is off to a good start with 13 majors; athletic training, now in its third year, has 39 majors; math education jumped from 19 to 30 majors this fall; and growth in the Health and Physical Education Department (which comprises the four majors of health, physical education, exercise science, and athletic training) now has 160 majors, making this our second-largest program on campus.

Another indicator we watch each fall is the annual *U.S. News and World*

Report "Best Colleges" announcement. We are once again on the "Best Colleges" list—for the 17th year. The steady, annual recognition is a good indicator of the long-term quality of our campus experience for students, and we are certainly pleased to once again receive this recognition.

A few facility updates are also in order: the Old Science Building, which has been used for storage for the past 30 years and which experienced some serious structural failures last summer, is now a tall pile of rubble—I hope that by the time you read this the area will be cleared and replaced with a gravel parking area, as the contractors preparing to commence renovation work on

Vangstad are planning to use this newly cleared area for their construction equipment. The work on Vangstad is slowly moving forward. We were able to bid the project successfully in September, but progress stalled in October when an inspector identified asbestos on the walls—all the walls, on both floors. Removal will require another month's delay, but we are hoping the contractor can be back on the project in December.

Next time you receive *The Bulletin*, Dr. Mason will be writing this column, and we will be well into the first semester of her presidency. I have enjoyed the past six months as interim, and I want to thank you for your support during that period; it has been a pleasure to meet and work with you. I'll still be on campus, of course, so I hope you'll stop by the VPAA office and say hello the next time you visit campus.

The story taking center stage for us this year is the successful search for our 13th president, Dr. Tisa Mason, who will begin her work at VCSU on Dec. 15, 2014. We are very grateful for the presidential search committee's long hours these past two months as they sifted through the many applications and spent long days in meetings and interviews—we are certainly pleased with the result!



The VCSU Alumni Association invites you to join alumni and friends at Scheels Arena for a **FARGO FORCE HOCKEY GAME.**

We have reserved the North Club Lounge for **FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2015**

COST = \$20 per person (includes reserved ticket for seating in the North Club Lounge area, food and fun!)

SOCIAL STARTS AT 6:00 PM • GAME TIME: 7:05 PM

Come out and join your fellow VCSU supporters to cheer on the Fargo Force!

Please RSVP to reserve your tickets—there are only a limited number available on a first come, first served basis!

Call 701-845-7203 to reserve yours today!

Time is Running Out!

Receive a Charitable Tax Deduction Before the Year Ends!



Did you know that you can make a gift of cash or appreciated property before **December 31** and enjoy a charitable tax deduction on this year's tax return?

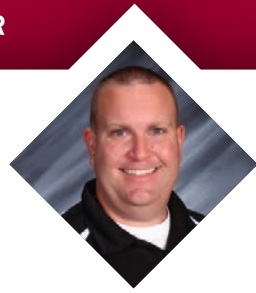
Make Your End-of-Year Gift Today!

leave a Legacy for V-500 at VCSU



The VCSU Foundation Leave a Legacy program is designed to encourage alumni and friends who have supported the university while they were living to continue to have an impact on VCSU after the time of their death. They can do so with a charitable bequest, which can be in the form of cash, stocks, bonds, life insurance, or a percentage of their estate. More often than not, attractive tax benefits are associated with such a bequest.

For further information on the Leave a Legacy program, contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7217 or email Larry Robinson, executive director of university advancement, at larry.robinson@vcsu.edu.



An Exciting Time to Be a Viking!

by Josh Argall '99, Alumni Board President

Greetings from the VCSU Alumni Association! What an exciting time to be a VCSU student, faculty member, alumnus or friend! The past few months have been very exciting for our VCSU family. Enrollment is the second highest in the school's history with 1,378 students; Rhoades Science Center received recognition in the category of Outstanding Design: Post-Secondary Facilities and will be featured in the November 2014 issue of *American School & University* magazine; and this year's Homecoming kicked off a yearlong celebration of our university's 125th anniversary! These are just a couple examples of what is pushing VCSU to the front of the pack among other universities both locally and nationally.

Along with many others, I'm very excited to see some of the facility improvements that VCSU is currently undertaking and also future projects in the early stages of planning. As a music major and music educator, there are a couple things that I look forward to the university accomplishing. First is the Vangstad Auditorium renovation, scheduled to start very soon—what a beautiful space to give a facelift and make a great facility an even better performance space and learning environment. I remember having class in the basement of that building, and it was kind of like taking a class in someone's cellar!

Two other building projects that are going to give VCSU a shot in the arm are the plans for a Wellness Center (if you haven't seen the pictures, they are definitely worth checking out) and plans for the removal and reconstruction of Foss Music Hall. The music building is on the wrong side of the dike and will be

lost in the event of another major flooding event. I believe both of these building projects are necessities for the university and would enhance the great institution we already are so proud of.

I cannot sign off without personally inviting you to a couple of Christmas musical events happening in early December. The EBC Alumni will be putting on our 19th annual "We're In the Christmas Mood" show. The show will feature some of the area's most talented VCSU alumni and friends you can find. From the sounds of an 18-piece Big Band to some of the most heralded Christmas carols, we have planned an event to help usher in your holiday season.

This year we will be having two great performances. The first one will be at Bonanzaville USA in West Fargo, N.D., on Saturday, Dec. 6. This will be a special performance starting off with a 6:30 p.m. dinner and the show immediately following. Tickets can be purchased by calling Bonanzaville at 701-282-2822; get your tickets ASAP as they are starting to go fast!

The second performance will be Saturday, Dec. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Valley City Eagles Club. (We're out of Vangstad Auditorium this year because of renovation work, but we'll be back there next year!) As usual there are no tickets to purchase, but please remember to bring a donation for the Barnes County Food Pantry.

Thanks to all of you for everything you do to make VCSU a great university. I have never been more proud to be a VCSU graduate and I hope to see you at one of our future events. Go VCSU!

2014-15 VCSU Alumni Board of Directors

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Legislature Provides Attractive Tax Credits

by Larry Robinson '71, Executive Director of University Advancement

NORTH DAKOTA ENDOWMENT TAX CREDIT

The North Dakota Legislature has passed legislation providing for an attractive tax credit for gifts made to qualified North Dakota endowments. The credit makes it possible for individuals, businesses and financial institutions to give more, and through their contributions, have a greater impact on the state's overall quality of life.

A qualified endowment is defined as an "irrevocable fund held by a North Dakota incorporated or established organization that is a qualified nonprofit organization; or a bank or trust company holding the fund on behalf of a qualified nonprofit organization." An endowment is a fund held by a tax-exempt organization where the principal of the fund is not used for current operations.

BUSINESSES AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Businesses and financial institutions (C corporations, S corporations, estate, limited liability companies and trusts) that make gifts to qualified endowments may qualify for state income tax credit, which amounts to 40 percent of the value of the gift, up to a maximum credit of \$10,000 per year. Businesses may carry forward any unused credit for up to three taxable years.

INDIVIDUALS

Planned gifts by individuals qualify for an income tax credit of 40 percent for gifts up to a maximum of \$10,000 per person, \$20,000 for a married couple with any excess credit to carry forward for three years. This tax credit for planned gifts is also unique to North Dakota and gives North Dakotans a remarkable opportunity to make meaningful gifts to their favorite charities and obtain a significant reduction in their income tax.

An individual may receive a 40 percent tax credit for contributions of \$5,000 or more (lump sum or aggregate in one year) to a qualified North Dakota endowment. If the donor is in the 28 percent federal income tax bracket, the tax benefit might look like this:

Gift Amount	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
Federal Tax Deduction 28%	-1,400	-7,000	-14,000
N.D. State Income Tax Credit	-2,000	-10,000	-20,000
Net Cost to You	\$1,600	\$8,000	\$16,000

The above information is for illustration purposes only. As always we suggest that you consult with your tax accountant or attorney for the exact impact this program will have on your personal situation. For further information, contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 1-800-532-8641, ext. 7203 or visit us on the web at alumni.vcsu.edu.

Join VCSU Alumni and Friends in

WARM ARIZONA

February 6 and February 7, 2015

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2015 – SURPRISE, ARIZONA

No-Host Luncheon @ 11:30 a.m.

Lou's Tivoli Garden ❖ 12535 West Bell Road ❖ Surprise, Arizona

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2015 – MESA, ARIZONA

Golf and Luncheon

The Terrace Green at Viewpoint Golf Resort
650 North Hawes Road ❖ Mesa, Arizona

Alumni & Friends Golf Scramble ♦ \$25 per person

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Tee-off

Alumni Social & Luncheon ♦ \$15 per person

11:00 a.m. – Reunion Social

12 noon – Luncheon

1:00 p.m. – Program

BRING A FRIEND!

These events are not restricted to VCSU Alumni.

For more information or to be added to the Arizona mailing list, please call the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7203!



Tisa Mason

named VCSU president

The North Dakota State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) appointed Tisa Mason, Ed.D., as the next president of Valley City State University at its meeting on the VCSU campus Thursday, Oct. 30.

Mason will come to Valley City from Hays, Kan., where she currently serves as vice president for student affairs at Fort Hays State University.

Mason succeeds Steven Shirley in the VCSU presidency; Shirley became president of Minot State University in July 2014. Margaret Dahlberg, VCSU vice president for academic affairs, has been serving as interim president since Shirley's departure.

Mason is expected to begin her work at VCSU in mid-December 2014.



A personal profile

When she was in high school, Tisa Mason's guidance counselor told her that she wasn't smart enough to go to college and that her family couldn't afford it.

"Sometimes you just have to learn who to ignore or to prove wrong" is how Mason thinks about that episode now as she is poised to become the 13th president of Valley City State University.

According to Mason, "My personal story fuels my passion for working at an institution that values access, affordability, and student success—an institution just like VCSU."

And she's ready for that move: When asked

by Kirsten Diederich, chair of the State Board of Higher Education, if she was prepared to accept the VCSU presidency, Mason responded, "I'm going to try not to twist my ankle when I jump up for joy!"

Tisa (rhymes with "Lisa") grew up in western Massachusetts—Palmer, then South Hampton and then Springfield. Her parents, Arlene and Doug Mayer, now live in Feeding Hills, Mass.

A first-generation college student (in fact, her grandfather had a sixth-grade education), she did her undergraduate work at Transylvania University (please, no Dracula jokes; she's heard them all) in Lexington, Ky., which put her on an academic arc that includes a

master's degree from Eastern Illinois University and a doctorate from the College of William and Mary. Now 53, Mason has enjoyed a 30-year career of progressively responsible administrative experience in higher education, culminating in her position as vice president at Fort Hays State University and next—the president of Valley City State University.

An achiever with a strong work ethic, Tisa also takes time for herself, including early morning workouts in Hays. "Our 5:15 a.m. class always ends in spiritual reflection," says Mason. "It sets a great tone for the day." She's an avid reader, and although much of that involves higher education tomes, she





(above) Bill and Tisa Mason proudly sport their Viking apparel.



(left) Tisa Mason poses with SBHE chair Kirsten Diedrich (left) and NDUS Interim Chancellor Larry Skogen.

(opposite page, bottom, from left to right)

Tisa and Bill Mason visit with Shou-Ching Chao, associate professor of language and literature.

VCSU student Tarah Cleveland introduces herself to the Masons.

The Masons visit with VCSU student Tanner Clark and his mother, Jackie Owen, education instructor.

takes time to escape with the occasional Jodi Picoult or John Grisham novel. But “there’s nothing like spending a quiet night in watching movies with Bill and enjoying his great cooking,” she says.

That Bill is her husband, Bill Mason; the couple recently celebrated their 26th wedding anniversary in early October 2014. Retired from a long career in sales, Bill has had several successful start-up companies and loves tinkering in the stock market. He stays busy gardening and cooking, and enjoys attending campus events.

An accomplished linguist, Bill has tutored ESL students and exchanged recipes with them. In Valley City, he’s looking forward to connecting with fellow golfers and experiencing his first ice-fishing outing.

Rounding out the Mason household is Bailey, an 11-year-old Maltese dog. According to Tisa, Bailey is all set for North Dakota winter weather with a wardrobe including a hooded jacket and a down vest.

In describing her call to Valley City State, Mason says she “was pulled here by the mis-

sion and the good work being done. I loved the focus on the learner, and I heard and observed the phrase ‘student-centered’ in action.” Also resonating strongly with Tisa and Bill on a personal level were “the genuineness and friendliness of the people.”

Although she knows transitioning to the VCSU presidency will be no small task, Mason has a plan. That plan includes three elements: personal introductions, listening and learning, and relationship building. Mason firmly believes leadership is a process and not a position, and she embraces the personal mission statement she learned from a student in a leadership program many years ago—“to lead with integrity and to follow with love.”

Mason is looking forward to her start at Valley City State, and she’s especially glad she’ll be on hand for commencement in May. “Watching the powerful transformation of students as they discover their purpose and their talents” is one of the joys of her career—“the moment the procession begins at commencement still fills me with emotion every time.”

Tisa A. Mason, Ed.D.

Experience

- Vice president for student affairs, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kan. (July 2008–present)
- Dean of student life, University of Wisconsin–Whitewater, Whitewater, Wis. (July 2004–2008)
- Executive director, Sigma Kappa Sorority and Foundation, Indianapolis, Ind. (1994–2004)
- Director of student life/assistant professor, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Va. (1987–1994)
- Assistant dean of students, Hanover College, Hanover, Ind. (1984–1986)
- Administrative/graduate assistant, Office of Student Activities, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Ill. (1983–1984)

Education

- Doctor of Education, higher education, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va., August 1992

Recipient of the Armand J. and Mary Faust Galfo Education Research Award given annually to the graduate student who has demonstrated outstanding promise in educational research and helpfulness to fellow students, 1992

- Master of Science in Education, counseling and guidance/student personnel work in higher education, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Ill., May 1984

Recipient of the McCullough Scholarship, provided by the NACA Educational Foundation to individuals pursuing graduate work in preparation for, or to enhance, a career in campus activities

- Bachelor of Arts, sociology/anthropology, Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky., May 1983

Recipient of the Dr. and Mrs. Russell I. Todd Award for best use of time spent outside of the classroom, 1983; recipient of the Virginia Bowman Cecil Outstanding Junior Woman Award, 1982

Meet the Foundation Board of Directors

With this piece we continue a series of profiles in question/answer format with the Board of Directors of the Valley City State University Foundation. In future issues of *The Bulletin*, we will feature our remaining board members.

Ryan Botner '05

Name, occupation and family information:

Hi, I'm Ryan Botner, and I'm a managing partner with Red River Financial Group in Fargo, where I've been for the last three years.

My wife, Amanda, and I have two sons, Will (age 3) and Sebastian (1).

Tell us your experience as a Foundation Board member.

The VCSU Foundation Board is the first board experience I have had in my young career. With that being said, I've always wanted to be a main player in anything I have been associated with, but I first had to get to know the rest of the members to see where I can make the most impact in future.

VCSU has selected such a great group of leaders that it makes it easy to grow together and make the best decisions for the college. I have only been on board for a year, but I'm excited about the future!

In your opinion, what are VCSU's strengths?

Tradition and core values stand out the most when I think of VCSU's strengths. Granted there are many strengths the small town college has, but I just think of the great leaders that have come from VCSU that have made a path for our future students.

What are VCSU's greatest opportunities?

Technology is taking over our world but I see the biggest opportunity for VCSU is to ingrain the values of relationship-building skills just like it has done in the past. Our world has a great need for individuals with networking skills. My experience at VCSU pushed me to grow as a person with great people around me.

Why is it important for alumni to stay engaged with their alma mater?

Alumni are the bloodline of a college. We all have a spot in our heart for VCSU and need to take time to give back to the place that gave us so much.

Do you have advice for alumni or anything else you would like to add?

VCSU is in need of loyal alumni now more than ever. When I say that I don't just mean giving money. I mean promoting, uplifting, and having passion for this small North Dakota college that has so many things to be excited about. To be specific, one of those exciting developments is a new Wellness Center—so close to being a go—to enhance the experience for not only col-

lege recruits but to be a fixture in the Valley City community for years to come. The world today is very health conscious and having a Wellness Center would be a huge difference maker.

Mark Richman '74

Name, occupation and family information:

I'm Mark Richman, and I work in business development with Dakota Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) and Valley Realty; I began my work with both in 2011.

My wife Carole—also a '74 VCSU graduate—and I have two adult children, along with one grandchild.

Tell us your experience as a Foundation Board member.

Getting reacquainted with old college friends as well as meeting and working with new people has been both challenging and rewarding.

It's been very enjoyable to reconnect with VCSU, and it's gratifying to help and support VCSU as it goes forward.

In your opinion, what are VCSU's strengths?

VCSU continues to graduate great educators. They are some of the most important graduates any university can have. North Dakota and our country need those educators!

We have had great people in leadership positions at the university. They have challenged and encouraged everyone to pursue excellence.

VCSU has some very progressive and innovative faculty, including those in education, business and the sciences.

What are VCSU's greatest opportunities?

We need to not lose site of the importance of graduating excellent educators.

Expanding STEM education and encouraging our faculty to be progressive and innovative are also key for VCSU.

Why is it important for alumni to stay engaged with their alma mater?

The real-world experiences that alumni have can influence the university's direction.

Your college experiences shaped who you have become. Staying close to the university provides an opportunity to reflect back while at the same time look forward with your life.

And, of course, staying connected with a university full of young people broadens your horizons.

Erin Welken

Name, occupation and family information:

My name is Erin Welken, and I live in Valley City. I work for John Deere as a project manager for the factory operations. Prior to joining John Deere, I worked at VCSU as a graduate assistant athletic trainer. I married my husband, Steve Welken, in 2007, and we have two daughters, Reanna (6) and Kaelyn (3).

Tell us your experience as a Foundation Board member.

My experience with the VCSU foundation board is unique. Steve had been an active member on the board for many years and truly enjoyed his experience. He had a passion for education and making a difference for both the students and the community of Valley City.

Steve passed away in a car accident in August 2013. I asked to take his place on the foundation board as this was a commitment that he felt strongly about. He would come home and tell me about the meetings, what was discussed, and his visions for the future. I felt a strong connection to the foundation board, and I wanted to continue some of the activities that Steve had been involved in. I am very thankful that the board has given me the opportunity to sit in his seat at the table.

In your opinion, what are VCSU's strengths?

One of the first things that comes to mind is the commitment of the people in this community to ensure the success of the university. Businesses, alumni, students, and faculty all come together to provide strong educational opportunities coupled with a strong sense of community—a home—for the students.

VCSU has invested and supported new programs including athletic training and STEM degrees. This has helped drive enrollment to near record levels. The university also has some great faculty and staff which helps it earn top honors year after year on the "Best Colleges" list.

What are VCSU's greatest opportunities?

One of the greatest opportunities for VCSU is partnering with corporations to help modify and assist with curriculum development, identify mentorship and internship opportunities, and to help with funding.

Real-world applications can help students understand how the information they are

learning is applied and can help drive them to understand key concepts even more than before.

Networking has become more critical as companies are expanding and going global. This is a key skill that cannot be taught in a classroom so the more exposure students can have to real-world application, the better.

Additionally, by partnering with these businesses and corporations, VCSU students become prime candidates for employment when they graduate.

Why is it important for alumni to stay engaged with their alma mater?

This is a tough question for me to answer! I am much more engaged with VCSU than I am with my alma mater, NDSU. What I have learned is the power of the individual in making a difference.

Every person that is engaged with VCSU through

time, treasure, or talent has the opportunity to leave a lasting impact on generations to come.

Do you have advice for alumni or anything else you would like to add?

I'm going to speak from the heart with this question. Steve truly believed in the town of Valley City and VCSU. I'm not a VCSU alumna, but I can tell you that I feel like I am. The VCSU organization and especially the foundation have come to mean a lot to me this past year.

Steve and I had talked about what we wanted to be remembered for, and he wanted to be remembered as a person who was dedicated to his family, his community, and to the development of others. When he died, I realized that he achieved his goals without question. He lived everyday with his vision, purpose, and priorities in mind.

Following Steve's death I spent more time thinking about my priorities. There isn't always

tomorrow, and I decided to align my time to my priorities. The VCSU Foundation was one of those priorities, as was Steve's scholarship.

I started the Steve Welken Memorial Scholarship to enable him to continue to help with the development of others and support the students at VCSU. A couple of months ago, I had the opportunity to meet the first three recipients of Steve's scholarship and even had a chance to mentor one of them beyond the first meeting. His scholarship gave me a chance to make a difference for three students, and that is only a start. I am excited about the difference these students are going to make in this world, and I am proud of VCSU for attracting and developing such quality individuals. I'm looking forward to many more years of engaging with students through his scholarship.

One final thought, as you choose how you spend your time, talent, and treasure: Do your choices align with the legacy you want to leave?

Students share thanks with donors at scholarship dinner

The annual VCSU Scholarship Dinner was held on Thursday, Oct. 9, with 60 attendees. The dinner provides an opportunity for individuals and organizations who have established named scholarships to meet the students who were awarded their scholarships, providing a time for the students to say "thank you" in person to their scholarship donors.

The VCSU Foundation has approximately 155 endowed and memorial scholarships that pay honor to those who built the foundation of our university. Anyone interested in establishing a scholarship can contact the Office of Advancement at 800-532-8641, ext. 7203, for more information.



- 1) Student Zach McBeain (JLG Architects Endowment) with Todd Medd of JLG
- 2) Mark '74 and Carol (Jenson) '74 Richman with student Karlie Hernandez (Jenson & Johnson Memorial Scholarship)
- 3) Paul Finstad, student Jacob Olson (Ole & Mary Finstad Theatre Scholarship), student Logan Olesen (James & Elsie Ostrem Memorial Scholarship), and Mark Finstad
- 4) Howard Langemo with student Jeena Schmidt (Marlys Langemo Memorial Scholarship)
- 5) Beve Melgaard, students Barbara Ector and Madelyn Zane (David Melgaard Business Scholarship), and David Melgaard
- 6) Student Stephanie Miller (Sommerfeld Scholarship), Myron '62 and Jenneice '67 Sommerfeld, and student Kaitlyn Heuring (Sommerfeld Scholarship)



Alumni honorees included (l to r) Matt Nielson '06, Kathleen (Burchill) Lentz M. Ed. '07, Lyle Halvorson '72, Bethany (Loibl) Karnick '94 and Tiffany (Ost) Fylling '09.

Alumni honored with Certificate of Merit Award at Homecoming

The Valley City State University Alumni Association honored six alumni with the Certificate of Merit award at its annual Alumni Honors Breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 4. The Certificate of Merit was established by the VCSU Alumni Association to recognize alumni for service, accomplishments, or other noteworthy honors. The alumni and the accomplishments for which they were honored are:

Kevin Blaskowski '86

Kevin is the head women's softball coach at West Texas A&M University. Now in his ninth season at the helm of the Lady Buff softball program, he led the team to a 44-13 overall record in 2013, which included the program's third appearance in the NCAA postseason tournament and fifth consecutive Lone Star Conference tournament appearance. Coach Blaskowski reached another career milestone in 2013, claiming his 600th career victory against St. Edward's in Austin, Texas. The 2014 season was even better as the team went 60-7 and claimed the NCAA Division II National Championship in May.

Honors & Awards

- 2014 NCAA-II National Champions
- 2014 & 2011 Lone Star Conference Champions
- 2014 National Fastpitch Coaches Association NCAA-II National Coach of the Year
- 2014 Captain U NCAA-II National Coach of the Year
- 2014 & 2010 Lone Star Conference Coach of the Year
- 2000 Gulf South Conference Co-Coach of the Year
- 1994 NAIA District 10 Coach of the Year
- 1993 Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference Coach of the Year
- 1992, 1993, 1994 Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference Softball Champions

Tiffany (Ost) Fylling '09

Tiffany is the advising coordinator for the TRIO Program at Minot State University. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in counseling from North Dakota State University.

Honors & Awards

- 2012 Minot State University Outstanding First Year Advocate Award
- 2014 Minot State University Student Government Association Advisor of the Year Award
- 2014 Minot State University Board of Regents Staff Achievement Award

Lyle Halvorson '72

Lyle lives in Wyndmere, N.D., and works for Pepsi.

Honors & Awards

- 2000 North Dakota Baseball Hall of Fame
- 2001 North Dakota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame
- 2009 North Dakota Softball Hall of Fame

Bethany (Loibl) Karnick '94

Beth is a high school English teacher for West Fargo Public Schools.

Honors & Awards

- 2012 North Dakota English Teacher of the Year
- 2013 High School Teacher of Excellence Award (1 of 16 recognized nationwide)

Kathleen (Burchill) Lentz, M.Ed. '07

Kathy teaches fifth grade at Washington Elementary School in Valley City and is also an adjunct professor at VCSU.

Honors & Awards

- 2012 Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching for K-6 Science
- National Board Certified as a Middle Childhood Generalist
- 2012 Recipient of Teachers & Technology Grant from the North Dakota Education Technology Council
- 2008 Finalist for North Dakota Teacher of the Year
- 2007 ITEEA (International Technology and Engineering Educators Association) Donald Maley Spirit of Excellence Award
- 2007 ITEEA Program Excellence Award

Matt Nielson '06

Matt is currently teaching science in the Valley City Public Schools.

Honors & Awards

- 2013 Girls Tennis State Coach of the Year
- 2006 Coached the Valley City Junior High to State Science Olympiad Championship
- Awarded three Army Achievement Medals and a State Achievement Medal in the North Dakota Army National Guard

Deutsh and Neuharth receive the Young Alumni Achievement Award



The Young Alumni Achievement Award was established in 2012 to recognize VCSU's more recent outstanding alumni as they embark on their chosen paths and strive for greatness. The award is presented to recognize future leaders under the age of 40 based on the criteria of demonstrated achievement in chosen career, demonstrated leadership and commitment to service of others. Our first two recipients of this award are:

Joe Deutsh '99

Joe graduated from Valley City State University in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science degree in physical education. He earned both his master's and doctorate from North Dakota State University.

He taught physical education for six years in Fort Yates, Bismarck, and Fargo, before taking a job in the Department of Health, Nutrition and Exercise Sciences at North Dakota State University in 2007. Joe currently serves as an assistant professor in that department.

For the last eight years Joe has been a member of the Fargo Park Board and is currently serving as president of the board. He is also very involved with the North Dakota Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (NDAHPERD).

In Joe's nomination, Dr. Sharon McCarriar noted that he has returned to campus each December since 2007 to speak to her methods classes. McCarriar said, "Joe has served as a high positive role model for our physical education majors as a former graduate with the attainment of the Ph.D. His enthusiasm for teaching physical education is supported by his continued research and academic studies in education."

When asked "What does being a graduate of VCSU mean to you?," Joe responded "I am truly honored to be a graduate of VCSU. Attending a school the size of VCSU afforded me the opportunity to be heavily involved in several aspects of college life. While intercollegiate sports (wrestling) drew me to VCSU, I soon grew to enjoy fraternity life (EBC) as well as Student Senate. Professors and staff at VCSU didn't just know your name, they knew you well. This is something that I appreciated immensely and strive to accomplish as a professor myself every day."

Joe's special memory of his time at VCSU is sitting in the first day of a class taught by Dave Bass. Joe said, "As Dave went over the syllabus, he got to the part about office hours and contact information. He basically told us that if we had any questions at any point in our studying, that we could call him day or night on either his office phone or home phone. His only stipulation was that when he answered the phone he asked that we didn't apologize for calling him so late. That sent the message right there that he truly cares about his students."

Jeremy Neuharth '01

Jeremy is a 2001 graduate in computer information systems from Valley City State University. He holds certifications in Project Management

Professional (PMP), Certified Scrum Professional (CSP), Professional Scrum Master II (PSM) and PMI Agile Certified Practitioner (PMI-ACP).

He has worked as a project manager and software engineering supervisor with Bell State Bank & Trust of Fargo for six years and prior to that served as director of operations at Ecliptic Technologies, Inc.

During Jeremy's time at Bell State Bank & Trust, he co-founded a software development company named Sycorr, an organization fixated on creating exceptional software for the financial services industry.

Jeremy is very involved in many IT associations in the state and has been a member of the Computer Systems and Software Engineering (CSSE) advisory board at VCSU.

When asked "What does being a graduate of VCSU mean to you?," Jeremy responded, "My local North Dakota college education served as a great foundation for my professional career. The unique combination of business and technical classes within the computer information systems degree directly applied to the skills I needed in my role as a project manager. The environment of smaller class sizes and caring educators, along with the forward-thinking enhanced learning experience of using laptops in the classroom, all added to the valuable skills I sharpened during my time at VCSU."

Jeremy has many special memories about VCSU, and most revolve around the people who worked and studied there. "The campus community is composed of many great professionals invested in the students who attend there, and the students are invested in each other's success. That said, one of the most enjoyable times was working on my capstone project. Being exposed to a real-life business problem that challenged our class to apply the knowledge instilled in us over the years is a key memory for me. To this day, one of the most satisfying aspects of my professional career is discovering creative solutions to difficult business problems."



Nielson named company commander

Matt Nielson '05 was promoted this fall to company commander of HHC, 231st Brigade Support Battalion, Army National Guard, in Valley City. Helping Matt celebrate his promotion were the family members pictured:

(front, l to r) Ty Peterson '52; Kailee and Skye (daughters of Matt and Annette); and Anika (daughter of Mark and Cathy)

(standing) Peter Nielson; Pat Nielson; Steve and Mary Lee (Peterson) '79 Nielson; Carol (Watson) Peterson '50; Matt '05, Lane (held by Annette) and Annette Nielson; and Mark '06, Lily (held by Cathy) and Cathy (Bernhagen) '07 Nielson

Philomathian Sorority celebrates 100 years

The ribbons are gone but the memories remain. The Philomathian Sorority began its 100 year celebration during VCSU homecoming weekend Oct. 3–5, 2014, organized by President Natalie Monilaws and Philo actives.

The weekend was full of sisterhood, laughter, tears and memories as we wore our “Some Have a Story, We Have a Legacy” T-shirts.

We started as the Home Economics Society in 1914, and the 14 pearls surrounding our hexagonal emblem represent the 14 original members. “Philomathian” means lovers of learning. The Philomathian Literary Society (PLS) began in 1919.

A good time was had by all over the weekend. Tom (EBC) and Nichola (PLS) Kjelland hosted a Welcome Social on Friday night. Philos Ruth Torres Valdes and Luly Macias Villarreal traveled from Mexico to also visit Luly’s son Patricio, who is attending VCSU.

EBC Jeff Lagodinski served breakfast to the 1980s crew who stayed at the President’s House and our 1970s guests.

We sang “Boom Boom Philos” and other songs during the parade while wearing PLS pledge badges and pink ribbons in our hair. Thanks to EBC John Monilaws for pulling us through the parade.

At half time of the football game, the Philos were recognized, and a group photo was taken near the Bubble.

Following the game, some cheered on active Philo Jodi Wilde and the VCSU volleyball team as they defeated the Dickinson State Trojans. Others took a journey through campus and met the Viking mascot. The former Philo floor lounge is



(front, l to r) Natalie Monilaws*, Nicola Monilaws Kjelland '89, Shelley Hanson Lagodinski '88, Luly Macias Villarreal '85, Amy Keegan-Anderson, Ruth Adriana Torres Valdes, Janice Schultz '81, Kecia Ellison*, DeAnn Schmitt*, Wendy Eszlinger*

(row 2) Peggy Person '82, Mary Olstad Anderson '93, Ashley Marie Bogardus, Brenda Johnston Gripentrog '87, Kimberly Pollert Coffel '87, LuAnn Winter Knoke '77, Berber Szklarski, Bridget Walsh, Amber Ussatis Aberle '03, April Moen '14

(row 3) Jenny Hunt '00, Nicole Gendreau-Olson '00, Erin Jay Tombarge '05, Cindy Ewert, Kati Reisenauer*, Taylor Lynn Crosby*

(back) Chrissy Judd '06, Diane Kronebusch Nelson '83, Barb Hendrickson Skjefte '85, Robin Madsen Greff '78, Denise Subart '80, Alvina Wieler Deyle '80, Kristi Froeber Frahm '80, Sue Kunert Judd, Holly Schmidt Stromsodt '97 (pink hat), Tina Alice Margaret DeHoff Rice '94, Denise Engebretson '94 (behind Bridget in pink sweatshirt), Anessa Preifer-Johnson '92

Not pictured: Jodi Wilde*, Yvonne Overn Cannon '89, Maria Schnabel Reidman '90, Gay Breske Blazek '87, and Kari Stricklin '92

* current active

now a workout room (and it’s still 85° F!). Naps were taken by a few at the President’s House.

Our Bon Voyage Social on Sunday morning in the Student Center cafeteria included a slideshow of photos, more singing and discussion of current Philo activities. A scholarship in honor of alumna Mary Jo McCann is given yearly to a Philo at VCSU. A time capsule is being made to be opened when VCSU celebrates 150 years so bring items to the gathering for VCSU’s 125th

celebration next year. Linda Shields (aka Deb Smith) would be happy to know that it contains a 1984 Delphi Directory.

Plans next fall include renting the President’s House and celebrating DEPT ASK (Delphi, EBC, Philo and Tau Sig Annual Spring Kampout) because the Greeks will be honored at the 125th celebration. — *Love in PLS, Brenda Gripentrog*
p.s. All Philos are encouraged to join Philomathian Sorority on Facebook!

Homecoming 2014

Homecoming week kicked off with the Bill Osmon Fun Run and the introduction of the new VCSU Viking Mascot on Monday, Sept. 30. The event was also the kickoff of VCSU’s 125th anniversary celebration, which will run through Homecoming 2015.

On Friday, Oct. 3, the VCSU Foundation/Alumni Office hosted an afternoon ice cream social in McFarland Hall for alumni, friends and the university community. The Viking Athletic Hall of Fame social and banquet took place Friday evening in the Student Center. (See p. 17.)

Saturday, Oct. 4, brought a sunny day and the Alumni Honors Breakfast (see p. 8.) in the Student Center, followed by the Homecoming parade down Central Avenue. A social was held after the football game, and there was also



Bob '55 and Nancy King, Chuck '59 and Lynann Solberg, Larry Grooters '57

a late-night dance for students and alumni; both events were held at the Valley City Town & Country Club.

It was a perfect weekend for Viking athletic teams, with the volleyball squad picking up wins

over Presentation College and Dakota State, football knocking off Waldorf College and the Viking baseball team sweeping a triple-header vs. the University of Winnipeg.

Loberg leads group to China

Myron Loberg '68 didn't plan on being in the travel business; in fact, he was a teacher and coach in Devils Lake, N.D., for 37 years. But a family tradition of vacations during his childhood, coupled with a European trip by the high school track team he coached, set him on a course, and now Loberg has led more than 50 trips throughout the United States and Europe.

This past August, Loberg led a group to China, which included some of Loberg's friends from his VCSU days. Among those joining Loberg was Phil Mueller '68—a high school and college classmate of Loberg's—and his wife, Darlene.

Mueller called the journey to China—"a 4,000-year-old country with 1.3 billion people"—"an absolutely amazing trip, a combination of the very, very old and the very, very new, and all that goes with it." (Phil and Darlene celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary on the trip and were honored guests at a Tang Dynasty dinner and show for the group that evening.)

Highlights of the first days of the trip included staying in a five-star hotel in Beijing, visiting the Temple of Heaven, and walking on the Great Wall. Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, and seeing the pandas at the Beijing Zoo were also on the early part of the itinerary.

The group enjoyed wonderful meals throughout China, and the friendly people they encountered "made for the trip of a lifetime," according to Loberg. "We were treated like royalty," he added.

After touring the Beijing area, the tour included a visit to the museum with the army of terra cotta warriors and horses near Xi'an, a four-day riverboat cruise on the Yangtze River and a side trip to see the mile-wide Three Gorges Dam.



Proud VCSU supporters on an August 2014 tour of China included (l to r) Bev VanOosting, Sally Wieland, Pat (Gately) Beil '64, Charlotte (Hanson) Jorissen '90, Darlene Mueller, Phil Mueller '68 and Myron Loberg '68.

Traveling to a tea farm, taking a cave tour and visiting formal gardens were all part of the tour as well, as were visits to Shanghai (population 23 million, a little more than Beijing's 20 million) and a trip-closing stay in Hong Kong.

In addition to the friendliness of the Chinese people, things that stood out for Loberg along the way included the tour guide (Michael Meng, "an amazing man" who had attended Mao's funeral as a teenager and had also taken part in the Tiananmen Square protests in 1989), the driving ("crazy, with cars, three-wheels and

motor scooters all trying to share the same lane, and traffic signals and stop signs only 'suggestions'") and the "huge numbers of skyscrapers built or being built."

Loberg encourages everyone to visit China if given the opportunity, but if you're interested in joining him on one of his trips, reserve January 2016 on your calendar for travel to Australia or South America. Regardless of destination, you'll have a fantastic trip if the China excursion is any indication.



Pat and Deb Horner



Homecoming Queen
Jessica Sanden and King
Zach Nelson



Homecoming Court



VCSU Viking float



Loree Morehouse '89 and Nikki Hanson
(and Hunter)



Howard Langemo, Mary (Osmon) Flam,
Viking mascot, Carol (Osmon) Wolf,
Lillian (Langemo) Jacobson '40



U.S. News ranks VCSU No. 2 among public regional colleges in Midwest

Valley City State University has been ranked No. 2 among Top Public Regional Colleges in the Midwest in the 2015 edition of *U.S. News Best Colleges*. VCSU held the same position in the 2014 *U.S. News* rankings.

For six consecutive years, VCSU has been ranked either first or second in its category and has been North Dakota's highest-rated Public Regional College. For 17 consecutive years VCSU has been recognized by *U.S. News* as a "Best College."

"The *U.S. News* ranking is an affirmation of the quality education experience offered at Valley City State," said Margaret Dahlberg, VCSU interim president. "This recognition is a reflection of the good work that our faculty and staff—and our students—do every day in creating a successful teaching and

learning environment."

In the *U.S. News* rankings, accredited U.S. colleges and universities are grouped according to their mission and, for some categories, by location. Then the institutions are compared based on data related to academic excellence from up to 16 areas.

VCSU fared well on the criteria, particularly in the categories of average class size, peer assessment, student-faculty ratio, alumni giving, and graduation rate exceeding prediction.

The "Regional Colleges in the Midwest" category includes 95 colleges and universities, with 13 public institutions, across 12 states.

The rankings are available online at www.usnews.com/colleges and will be published in the 2015 edition of the *U.S. News Best Colleges* guidebook.

VCSU reports second highest enrollment in school history

Valley City State University has released its final enrollment figures for Fall Semester 2014, showing a total headcount of 1,378 students, the second highest in university history.

VCSU set enrollment records in 2011; since then enrollment has remained stable.

"We're pleased with these enrollment numbers," said Margaret Dahlberg, VCSU interim president. "Because the number of new students on campus each year has remained relatively consistent since 2011, it's clear that enrollment growth is coming through increased retention—having our students come back each semester, each year until they graduate," added Dahlberg. "That's the real story—that everyone on campus has come together to create a place where students thrive."

VCSU's FTE (full-time equivalent) enrollment of 989 students for Fall 2014 also represents one of the university's highest totals ever, and the undergraduate FTE count of 940 represents an increase of 22 FTE over Fall 2013 figures.

In addition to the enrollment increase, VCSU continues a positive, upward trend in residence hall occupancy in Fall 2014. Those numbers increased 6 percent over Fall 2013 figures, and since Fall 2010, there has been a 33 percent increase in occupancy. Recent physical upgrades to the residence halls and a renovation of the VCSU cafeteria, along with an increased emphasis on programming in the halls, have helped bring students back to campus.

Projects improve campus

During the 2013 legislative session, VCSU received appropriations of \$3.45 million for the renovation of the Vangstad Auditorium building, about \$480,000 to stabilize the hillside slope behind McCarthy Hall and \$250,000 to renovate the historic VCSU President's House.

Construction on the President's House was completed this fall. Improvements there targeted improved accessibility, with the additions of a first-floor bedroom and bath, a library/reception area and a new door enabling a circular traffic flow on the first floor, an elevator attached to the garage and a gently sloping ramp from the elevator to the house. About \$170,000 in additional funding was needed for the President's House project; those funds were raised by the President's House Preservation Society and the VCSU Foundation.

The hillside slope project is essentially complete now. A drainage system was installed on the slope, and a large retaining wall was constructed.

The Vangstad project includes a refresh of the auditorium; installation of a new heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system for the lower levels of the building; renovation of the lower floors with new classrooms and offices for the Department of Business (now in McFarland); and updated facilities for the Learning Center (currently in Allen Memorial Library) and Student Academic Services (now in McFarland). The building's main entrance will also be reworked to provide a more attractive and operational entryway.

Foss Architecture & Interiors of Fargo did the design work for Vangstad, with Meinecke Johnson Co. of Fargo serving as general contractors and Enterprise Electrical of Valley City doing the electrical work and Midwest Mechanical doing the mechanical work. Completion of the Vangstad renovation is slated for July 31, 2015.

An additional project developed with the April 2014 discovery of a buckled wall in the old science building south of McFarland. The building had been used by Facilities Services for a carpentry shop and warehouse since the construction of Rhoades Science Center in 1973, but an analysis by structural engineers deemed the structure unsound. Salvage operations took place throughout the summer, and the demolition was completed over the weekend of Nov. 1-2, 2014.



Tenure, promotion and advanced degrees recognized at reception

VCSU Interim President Margaret Dahlberg hosted a recognition reception for faculty and staff who were granted tenure, appointed or promoted to new positions, and/or earned advanced degrees at the President's House Guest Inn on Wednesday, Aug. 20. Those recognized and their honors are listed below.

Tenure

The following VCSU faculty members were granted tenure; new appointments, promotions and degrees are also noted.

- James Adams, assistant professor, department of music
- Shou Ching Chao (promoted to associate professor, department of language and literature)
- Anthony Dutton (earned Ph.D., North Dakota State University; promoted to assistant professor, department of social science; also serving as department chair)
- Brenda Finger (promoted to associate professor, department of business; appointed dean of academic planning and budget; also serving as department chair)
- Peder Gjovik, assistant professor, department of technology (also serving as department chair)
- Armando Ramos, assistant professor, department of art (also serving as department chair)
- Rob Walsh (earned Ph.D., North Dakota State University; promoted to assistant professor, department of communication arts)

- Jamie Wirth (earned Ph.D., North Dakota State University; promoted to assistant professor, department of mathematics)
- Dina Zavala-Petherbridge, instructor/director of Spanish program, department of language and literature
- Jonna Ziniel, assistant professor, department of communication arts (also serving as department chair)

- Richard Ross, promoted to associate professor, department of technology
- Julie Russell, professor, department of language and literature, appointed dean of faculty and student academic affairs
- Hilde van Gijssel, promoted to professor, department of science

Appointments and Promotions

The following VCSU faculty members were promoted within the faculty ranks or appointed to new positions.

- Morgan Keasler, promoted to assistant professor, department of business
- Steven King, associate professor, department of social science, appointed dean of curriculum and assessment
- Lee Kruger, promoted to associate professor, department of language and literature (also serving as department chair)
- Susan Pfeifer, promoted to associate professor, department of computer systems and software engineering (also serves as department chair)

Advanced Degrees

The following VCSU staff members earned advanced degrees.

- Tuya Dutton, MSLIS degree, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; promoted to electronic resources librarian, Allen Memorial Library
- Marcia Pritchert, earned MBA degree, North Dakota State University; serves as assistant director of financial aid
- Stephanie Roelfsema, earned M.Ed. degree, Valley City State University; serves as director of housing
- Emma Tufte, earned M.Ed. degree, Valley City State University; serves as administrative assistant and assessment assistant, school of education and graduate studies



- 1) Among those granted tenure at VCSU are (l to r) Peder Gjovik, Brenda Finger, Anthony Dutton, Jonna Ziniel, Rob Walsh and Shou Ching Chao.
- 2) Those promoted among the faculty ranks include (l to r) Lee Kruger, Susan Pfeifer, Hilde van Gijssel, Morgan Keasler and Richard Ross.
- 3) Staff members earning advanced degrees include (l to r) Emma Tufte, Marcia Pritchert, Tuya Dutton and Stephanie Roelfsema.

Library's Lincoln bust a model for sculpture in Norway

Prior to traveling to Norway for a family reunion this past summer, Laura Langemo of Fargo visited Allen Memorial Library on the VCSU campus to see the Abraham Lincoln bust created by Paul Fjelde, a Valley City Normal School student in the early 1900s who went on to become a renowned U.S. sculptor.

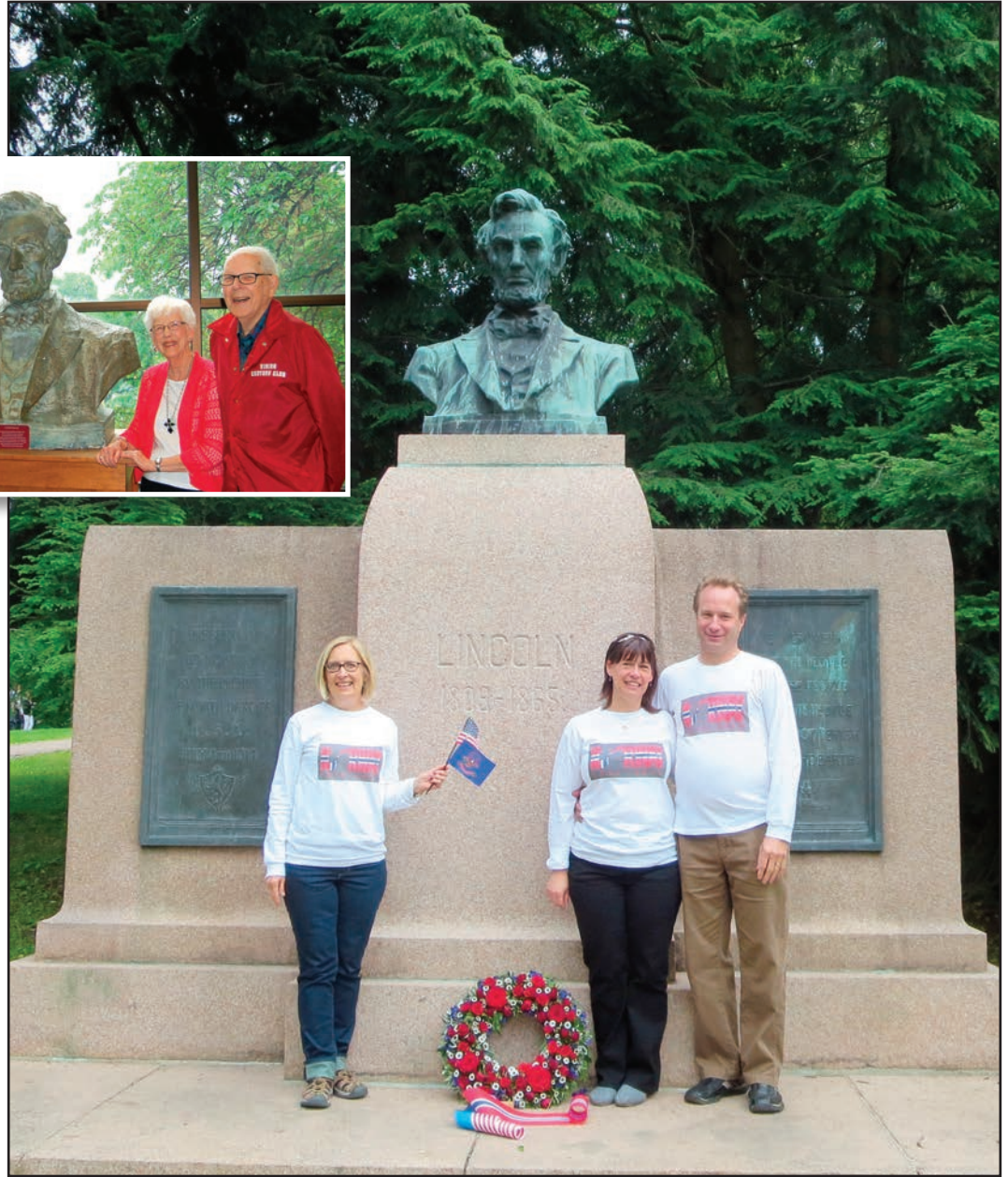


The bust on display in the library was the model used to create the mold for Fjelde's bronze sculpture that was given to the nation of Norway to commemorate the 100th anniversary of its Constitution Day in 1914 by North Dakota Governor Louis Hanna.

Located in Frogner Park in Oslo, Norway, the Lincoln Memorial is the site of a yearly July 4 gathering to celebrate the ties between Norway and the United States. During German occupation during World War II, the gathering served as a silent protest against the Nazi regime.

Laura Langemo traveled with extended family members for the 2014 version of the July 4 gathering, the 100th anniversary of the gift to Norway. Her distant relative, Bill Skjerven, a 13-year-old boy at the time, was the U.S. flag-bearer for the 1914 celebration and presentation of the Lincoln sculpture.

Laura Langemo is married to David Langemo, the son of Howard Langemo, VCSU supporter, and nephew of Lillian (Langemo) Jacobson '40, librarian emeritus.



(to left) Laura Langemo, Lillian Jacobson and Howard Langemo pose with VCSU's Lincoln bust in Allen Memorial Library. (bottom right) Laura Langemo and cousins pose at Lincoln Memorial in Frogner Park, Oslo, Norway.

Dunn, Vangstad grandnephew and playwright, thanks readers

Tom Dunn, grandnephew of Lena and Thilda Vangstad, asked *The Bulletin* staff for help in reaching those VCSU alumni, faculty and friends who knew his great aunts. A notice requesting information was published in the August 2013 issue of *The Bulletin*, and now Dunn has followed up that notice with this message:

"Thanks to your magazine, the trip I made to Valley City last summer, and a number of web sites and newspapers, I've now heard from 110 people who had Lena or Thilda—or sometimes they weren't sure which one—as a teacher either at VCSU or in one of the other schools

they taught at, Langdon in particular.

"Some of the hidden treasures that have surfaced include a radio interview with both of them on the occasion of the naming of Vangstad Hall and a photograph of the man who we think was Lena's fiance who died of the flu at the end of World War I while in the Army. (His death was the catalyst for both of them to give up plans on being traditional housewives like most 'good Norwegian farm girls.')

"The plan for the play is to have a first draft ready to be read by next spring and to follow in the Twins' footsteps some 115 years later with

the first reading to be in the Osakis area of Minnesota where they were born, the second reading in Minneapolis where they did much of their higher education and the third reading in Valley City where they spent the majority of their lives.

"At each reading, I hope we'll be able to include former students and colleagues of theirs because one dream I have is to record on video/digital tape each of the people who has shared stories about them so that those images can be part of the full production of the work at a later date."—Tom Dunn (phone 603-568-5102, email dunn.t@comcast.net)

Scholarship fund established to honor Dan and Katherine McRoberts

In 1993, Dan and Katherine McRoberts joined the Valley City State University community. During Dan's time on campus, he became very involved with student activities, such as leading the speech team and directing the Kathryn Center.

In 2003, he and Shannon VanHorn created the professional communication major at VCSU. Katherine served the university in many ways as well, including teaching as an adjunct for the university, assisting with the forensics team and directing Reader's Theatre at VCSU.

To honor their commitment and work for the university, the Department of Communication Arts has founded a scholarship fund in their honor. According to Shannon VanHorn, former department chair, "For many years, Dan McRoberts exemplified the heart and soul of the professional communication program and VCSU.

He and Katherine worked very hard for the university and the community, and they touched many lives here. It's only fitting that this scholarship be named after them."

Was Dan McRoberts your forensics coach? Then watch your mail, because you may be the recipient of a special "gift" from the Department of Communication Arts this year! As part of their scholarship drive, the department will be sending out trophies and certificates that were won during the McRoberts's time at VCSU. You may be able to win that extemp trophy you have always wanted!

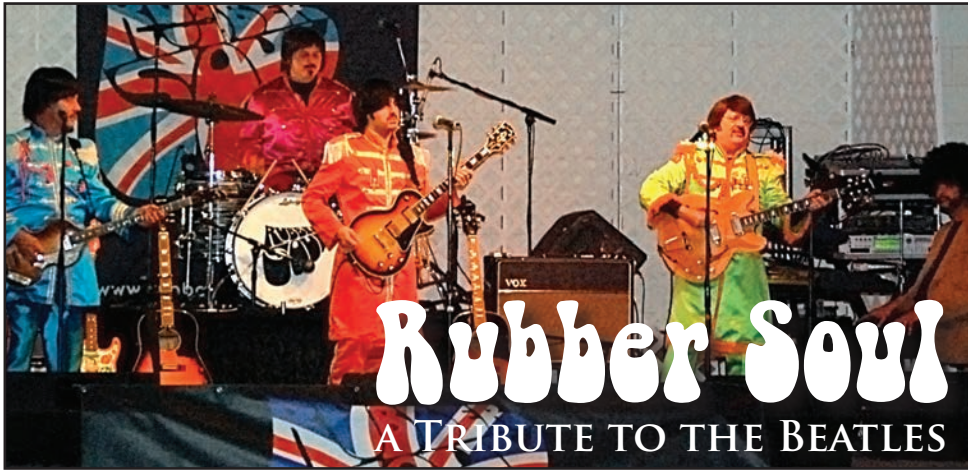
Jonna Ziniel, current chair of the Department of Communication Arts, said, "This is a great way to recognize the lasting impact the McRobertses had on campus, and the contributions they made to student success." Dan and Katherine currently reside in Wisconsin.



Katherine and Dan McRoberts

To support the McRoberts Scholarship Fund, contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7203.

Third annual Rendezvous a 'Fab-ulous' success



The third annual VCSU Rendezvous was held Friday, Oct. 17, at the Valley City Eagles Club. This year's entertainment was Rubber Soul: A Tribute to the Beatles. The Fab Four look-alikes—Paul, Ringo, George and John—used authentic wardrobe and instruments, taking us back to relive the magic of the Beatles. Proceeds from the event benefit the V-500 Scholarship Program.



Rick and Cindy Ross



Matt Pedersen, Jen Mastro-Pedersen, Katie Sather, Andrea Jensen

Wellness Center moving forward

Plans for the Valley City Health, Wellness and Physical Education Center received two major stamps of approval recently.

The VCSU student body voted in favor of a fee increase to cover student use of the proposed facility. About 64 percent of student voters approved a fee based on their registered credit load.

In the Nov. 4 election, Valley City voters approved a measure continuing a half-cent local sales tax and using a portion of that tax revenue to help fund the wellness center.

A partnership between the university and the community, the Wellness Center will be situated on campus east of 8th Avenue SW along Viking Drive, with the W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse to the west and University Housing apartments to the east.

The Wellness Center will be owned and managed by the Valley City Parks and Recreation Department. VCSU will essentially rent classroom and lab space in the building for its Health and Physical Education program, and VCSU students will be able to use the facility along with Valley City community members.

Fundraising for the facility will continue through mid-December 2014. Contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7203 to make a gift or pledge to the project.





INSIDE ATHLETICS

by Mark Potts, VCSU Sports Information Director

At the time of this writing, it is officially crossover season in the VCSU athletic department. Viking men's and women's basketball are going full swing while the fall sports of football, volleyball and cross country are in their final month of competition.

You can read preview stories for the basketball teams in this issue of *The Bulletin*, and be sure to visit www.vcsuvikings.com to keep up to date with the football, volleyball and cross country teams as they push into the postseason.

Quick Hits

Viking football won its 29th conference championship and its fourth straight championship this season, going 9-1 overall and 6-0 in the North Star Athletic Association. The Vikings were ranked No. 15 in the nation and will play their first-round playoff game Nov. 22.

Viking volleyball finished the season 15-18 in its first year under head coach Adam Longmore. VCSU was the No. 4 seed for the playoffs and won its first round playoff match Nov. 7 in the NSAA postseason tournament. The Vikings advanced to the semifinals of the NSAA tournament where they lost to top-seed University of Jamestown.

Viking cross country opened the season by hosting the VCSU Invitational in late August. This year's harriers feature six men and seven women, which is the biggest women's team at VCSU since cross country was reinstated in 2011. Valley City's cross country teams

finished the regular season Nov. 7 at the NSAA/Frontier Conference national qualifier. Richard Langdeaux was the top NSAA men's finisher at the meet and qualified to race at the national championships on Nov. 22 in Lawrence, Kan.

October was the busiest month I've seen in my 16 months on the job at VCSU. We had 17 home games spread across 12 different days in the month of October. In those home games, our teams posted an impressive 14-3 record. On Homecoming weekend, our teams posted a perfect 6-0 record.

In mid-August, we launched a new athletic website—www.vcsuvikings.com—with a complete redesign and update. Response has been positive, and in our first month we received more than 100,000 page views. I encourage you to check out the website on your computer for the full effect and experience, but we also have a mobile version that offers the basic info in a slimmed down version on your phone or tablet.

Along with our new website, we also launched a new partnership with Stretch Internet to live stream video from all of our home contests in football, volleyball and basketball. We are proud to offer one of the best streaming experiences in the NAIA, streaming our video in high definition and accompanying the video with live stats and usually a radio broadcast. You can access the live stream through www.vcsuvikings.com. We are currently the only school in the North Star Athletic Association offering high definition broadcasts of our home events.

We have also ramped up our presence on social media, with the additions of VCSU Viking Facebook and Instagram accounts, which both feature action pictures of our student-athletes. If you'd like to follow the Vikings online, just remember VCSU Vikings!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/vcsuvikings
Twitter: @vcsuvikings
Instagram: vcsuvikings
Website: www.vcsuvikings.com
Go Vikings!



Go Vikings!



Calling all members of the Viking Hall of Fame
SAVE THE DATE!
As part of VCSU's 125th Celebration, we will hold a reunion of all Viking Hall of Fame members. Please make plans to attend next Homecoming—October 2-3, 2015. Watch for more details in the next issue of *The Bulletin* and on Facebook.



Football wins 4th straight conference championship, heads to playoffs

Eight wins in a row, a fourth straight conference championship and a playoff berth. It's been quite the season so far for Viking football, which wrapped up the regular season Nov. 8 with a 36-14 victory at Presentation College.

The win improved Valley City State's overall record to 9-1 and locked up the outright North Star Athletic Association conference championship with a 6-0 conference record. The Vikings were ranked No. 15 in the country following the regular season and locked up a spot in the NAIA playoffs with their eighth straight win. The first round of the playoffs is Nov. 22.

It was the sixth conference championship that head coach Dennis McCulloch and assistant head coach Gregg Horner have orchestrated in their 18 years in charge of the Viking football program and the 29th championship in program history. It is also the fourth playoff berth in their time and the eighth playoff berth in program history.

"It never gets old, that feeling of winning a conference championship," said McCulloch, who won his 100th career game early in the season. "It's a lot of work by a lot of people to get to that point. So to celebrate, in the end zone, with a group of guys who have worked extremely hard for it; it's hard to tell people exactly how that feels, but there's no question it's very rewarding and a great feeling for our team and our coaching staff."

Nine victories and 55 touchdowns have given

the Vikings plenty of opportunities to celebrate in the end zone this season. VCSU is scoring 40 points per game while allowing just 19 points a game.

"Both sides of the ball have played extremely well," said McCulloch. "There wasn't any one side that we said, 'because of them we won a game.' Offensive, defense and special teams have all had a major part this year of us being successful. I don't know that we've had this kind of balance in past years."

The Viking offense set numerous records this season in the passing game as sophomore quarterback Kurtis Walls and freshman receiver Antoine Griffin developed an immediate chemistry. Walls set new VCSU records for passing yards in a game (428) and touchdown passes in a season (35). Both of the old records were held by Jason Beilke. Griffin set new school records for single-game receptions (15) and season receiving yards (1,174), breaking the old records held by Chauncey Calhoun and Steve Battle, respectively. Walls threw touchdown passes to six different players, including five players who finished with four or more touchdown catches.

On special teams, Viking kicker Thomas Cortes set new single-season and career records for PAT kicks made and attempted. The Vikings also scored two touchdowns on special teams, returning a punt and a blocked punt for TDs.

On the defensive side of the ball, the Vikings

have been ball hawks, creating 30 turnovers (16 interceptions, 14 fumbles) in 10 games. That's the most turnovers in a season since the 2005 defense created 35 turnovers. Four of the turnovers this year have been returned for touchdowns.

"We have some very athletic players on that side of the ball," said Horner, who is the defensive coordinator. "That helps create turnovers when they're flying around. A lot of credit to those guys, they are really hungry to get the ball back. They understand how good our offense is, and if we can steal an extra possession here and there, we're going to be in good shape."

The Vikings' only loss in the regular season came against Morningside College, which finished undefeated and is the No. 1-ranked team in the country heading into the playoffs. In the six conference games this year, the Vikings averaged a 26-point margin of victory. The only team that kept the Vikings close into the fourth quarter was Dickinson State. In that game, the Vikings had to rally from a 17-13 halftime deficit for a 22-17 victory.

"This group has somewhat separated itself from the league in how they've played this year," McCulloch said. "There's a little bit of a statement in that.... Even though we had good games, when it came to the fourth quarter we had a lead, and our guys did a good job of maintaining that."



Hall of Fame Banquet

The Viking Hall of Fame inducted five individuals into its ranks during Homecoming 2014. From left, Rod Skytland '87 (football), Doug Schindele '87 (football), Pat Horner (football) and Darrin Boehm '89 (cross country/track) were honored at a banquet on Friday, Oct. 3. Also honored and inducted posthumously was Pat O'Brien (football).



Baseball enjoys fall season success

The Valley City State University baseball team finished the fall portion of its schedule with an 8-3 record, capping off the successful fall with a big sweep of Mayville State University.

VCSU posted a 2-2 record against Mayville State, a 3-1 record against Presentation College, and a 3-0 record against University of Winnipeg. The games count towards VCSU's overall record for the 2014-15 season.

The Vikings wrapped up the fall season Oct. 19 with a doubleheader sweep of Mayville State—a perennial conference power—13-9 and 5-4. In game one, the Vikings scored five runs in the bottom of the eighth to pull away. In game two, VCSU rallied for a walk off win by scoring three runs in the bottom of the ninth. It was the first time the Vikings have swept Mayville State in a doubleheader since April 13, 2003.

"It was a good day and good games—the guys played well," said head coach Casey Olney. "It's something we haven't done before, so it's another step forward for our program and our guys. It feels good.... We still have work to do to get better, and we're going to try and do that this offseason."

The Vikings had three players with significant plate appearances bat more than .400 this fall, while eight players batted more than .300. Newcomer Jesus Arvizu led the Viking offense with a .429 batting average, one home run, eight RBIs and nine runs scored.

Nate Bagby hit .424 and scored nine runs, and leadoff hitter Anthony Necochea batted .417 with 10 runs, three doubles and three triples. Joe Demers batted .381 and had a .762 slugging percentage after hitting two doubles, four triples and two home runs. He led the Vikings with 13 RBIs in the fall.

On the mound, Jaime Villarreal posted a 3-0 record with a 4.26 ERA in 12 2/3 innings. Chip Rosales led the Vikings with 22 innings pitched. He went 1-1 with a 6.14 ERA. Newcomer Alan Sandoval pitched 15 innings with a 1-0 record and a sparkling 1.20 ERA. Freshman Breion Barron emerged as a quality relief pitcher, earning three saves and two wins. He had a 3.00 ERA in six innings.

Olney said the addition of fall games has been a big plus for the program.

"Mostly, it's a really good experience for our guys," he said. "There's no simulating real games in practices, intrasquads and scrimmages. It's just not the same thing. So the young guys learn what the game speed is like at the college level, and the older guys sharpen up a few things."

Valley City State resumes the 2014-15 season this spring with games in early March. The Vikings will be playing their annual spring break trip games in Tucson, Ariz.

Golf brings balanced attack to fall

The Valley City State University golf teams had a successful fall portion of the 2014-15 schedule as the Viking men's team won three events and had two players win medalist honors.

The men's golf team took first place at the Lake Region State College Invitational, the Bismarck State Invitational and the Minnesota Morris Invitational.

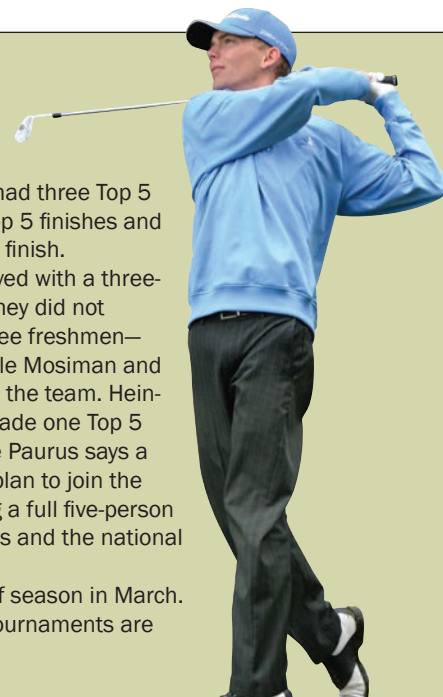
At the Morris invite, the five-man scoring team of Ben Sorenson, Shane Ost, Jake Richels, Kyle Wiebe and Danny Sam scored a season-best 297. Sam took medalist honors with a 3-under par 67. Kyle Wiebe won medalist honors at the Bismarck State Invite, shooting a 2-over 146 over the two-day tournament. Wiebe (pictured right) and Sam each won a North Star Athletic Association Golfer of the Week award.

The Vikings also took second at the Viking Invite and third at the Jimmie Invitational. The men were

balanced throughout the season as Wiebe, Ost and Sorenson each had three Top 5 finishes. Sam had two Top 5 finishes and Richels added one Top 5 finish.

The Viking women played with a three-person team all fall, so they did not record a team score. Three freshmen—Nicole Heinitz (left), Nicole Mosiman and Hannah Gress—made up the team. Heinitz and Mosiman each made one Top 5 finish. Head coach Jamie Paurus says a pair of women's golfers plan to join the trio in the spring, making a full five-person team for the spring meets and the national qualifying tournament.

VCSU resumes the golf season in March. The national qualifying tournaments are scheduled for April.





2014-15 Viking Basketball

Check out our website, vcsuvikings.com, to view the latest schedules for all sports.

*NSAA Conference Games, home games in **bold**

DATE	TEAM	OPPONENT	TIME
Nov 22	W	@ Viterbo University	1:00
Nov 23	W	@ Waldorf College	1:00
Nov 26	M	@ Augustana College (exh.)	7:00
Nov 28	W	@ MSU-Northern	7:00
Nov 29	W	@ University of Great Falls	6:30
Nov 28-29	M	@ Bellevue University Classic	
Dec 2	W/M	Trinity Bible College	5:30/7:30
Dec 5	W/M	Johnson & Wales	5:30/7:30
Dec 8	W/M	Crown College (Minn.)	5:30/7:30
Dec 10	W	@ Concordia-Moorhead	7:00
Dec 13	M	University of Winnipeg	6:30
Dec 19	W/M	UM-Morris	5:30/7:30
Dec 29-31	W	@ St. Thomas Classic (Fla.)	
Dec 30	M	@ Embry-Riddle	5:00
Jan 2	M	@ University of Sacred Heart	TBA
Jan 3	M	@ U. Puerto Rico Bayamon	6:00
Jan 6	W	Bemidji State Univ. (exh.)	7:00
Jan 9-10	W/M	@ Johnson & Wales Classic	
Jan 17	M	@ Grace University	4:00
Jan 21	W/M	@ University of Jamestown*	5:30/7:30
Jan 24	W/M	Presentation College*	4:00/6:00
Jan 28	W/M	Dakota State University*	5:30/7:30
Jan 31	W/M	Dickinson State University*	4:00/6:00
Feb 4	W/M	@ Mayville State University*	5:30/7:30
Feb 7	W/M	University of Jamestown*	4:00/6:00
Feb 11	W/M	@ Dickinson State Univ.*	6:30/8:30
Feb 14	W/M	@ Dakota State University*	4:00/6:00
Feb 18	W/M	Mayville State University*	5:30/7:30
Feb 21	W/M	@ Presentation College*	4:00/6:00
Feb 25, 28, Mar 2	W	NSAA Tournament	
Feb 26, Mar 1, 3	M	NSAA Tournament	
Mar 11-17	W	NAIA National Tournament	
Mar 11-17	M	NAIA National Tournament	

Women's Basketball Preview

After a year away, Jill DeVries is back this season as head coach of the Valley City State University women's basketball team. DeVries is no stranger to VCSU, serving as head coach of the Vikings from 1999 to 2013 and leading VCSU to national tournament appearances in 2011, 2012 and 2013.

The Vikings return the bulk of their players from the 2014 team that had a 13-12 record and finished third in the inaugural North Star Athletic Association standings.

Leading the way this season will be four seniors who were all recruited to VCSU as freshmen. Steph Pedersen, Sadiqah Jihad, Sierra Even and Megan Trautman are all entering their final season as a Viking, and all will be asked to play a larger role this season.

"We have four seniors who have really high expectations for the season," said DeVries. "Our goal has always been to reach the national tournament and that doesn't change this year."

The Vikings also have four juniors this season and a handful of new faces in four freshmen and two transfers. One of the new faces on the Vikings this year is sophomore transfer Georgia Williams, who played last season at Cal State Los Angeles. Williams impressed in her debut with the Vikings, scoring 18 points and draining five three-pointers during the Vikings' season opener—a 58-44 win over Brandon University.

Valley City State plays 14 games before Christmas and plays a three-game road trip in Florida over Christmas break. The Vikings open conference play Jan. 21 against the University of Jamestown. The conference postseason tournament runs Feb. 25, 28 and March 2. The winner advances to the NAIA national tournament. VCSU was picked to finish third in the NSAA preseason coaches' poll.

Matt Karlgaard joins DeVries's staff as the lead assistant coach this year. He worked the previous seven seasons as a student assistant and assistant coach with the VCSU men's basketball program.



Men's Basketball Preview

The Viking men's basketball season is officially underway as head coach Jeff Kaminsky begins his 10th season with the Vikings.

Since taking over the program, Kaminsky has restored the Vikings to competitiveness, and in 2013 the Vikings made their first national tournament appearance since 1987. With only a handful of returners from that 2013 team, the Vikings battled their way to a 14-14 record last year and a third-place finish in the North Star Athletic Association.

This season, VCSU enters with a good mix of returning faces and new faces. Eight players are back from last season's team, including seven that played significant minutes. Eight players this year are completely new to the program.

"It's almost a perfect blend," said Kaminsky. "Some of the guys had a chance to play a little bit over the summer and got to know each other in that capacity. Some of the new guys have certainly blended in really well with the holes we had and the things we were missing."

Sophomore Mac Kroepin was named preseason all-conference by the NSAA coaches after averaging nine points per game in his freshman season. As a team, the Vikings are picked to finish third in the NSAA preseason poll.

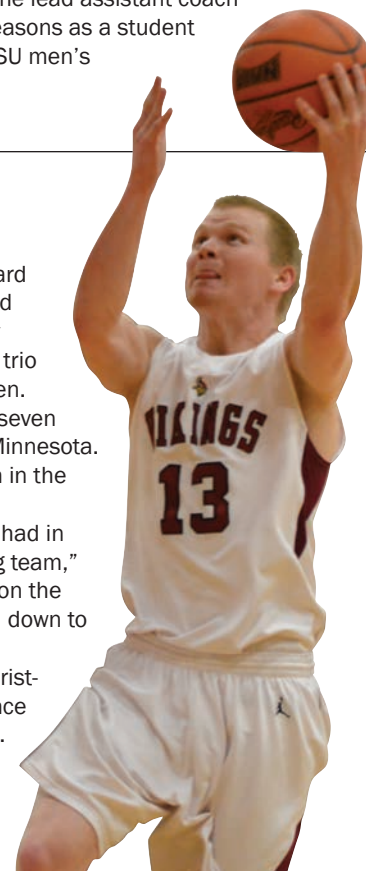
Thirteen of the 16 players this year are freshmen (6) or sophomores (7).

The Vikings feature just one senior in forward Russell Robinson and two juniors in forward Anthony Saavedra and transfer guard Riley West (right). The eight new faces include a trio of transfers and five new incoming freshmen. The 2014-15 team has a local flavor with seven players from North Dakota and four from Minnesota.

Kaminsky said he's liked what he's seen in the preseason and first few games.

"It's probably as good of group as we've had in term of a good preseason and hardworking team," he said. "It's made a really difficult choice on the coaching staff to narrow a 16-man rotation down to a manageable size."

The Vikings will play 16 games before Christmas this season. They open NSAA conference play Jan. 21 at the University of Jamestown. The NSAA tournament runs Feb. 26, March 1 and 3. The tournament champion advances to the NAIA national tournament.



WINTER 2014-15 FINE ARTS

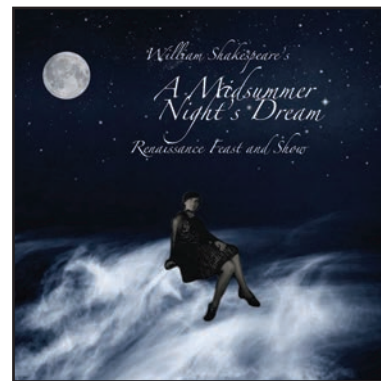
Music

Dec 4	Christmas at St. Catherine's	7:30 p.m.
Dec 6	Valley City Civic Orchestra, Valley Voices, Valley Youth Choir	3 p.m. Nazarene Church
Dec 6	Concert Band, Jazz & Chamber Ensembles	7:30 p.m. Graichen Gym
Dec 13	Community School of Arts Recitals	2 & 4 p.m. Froemke
Dec 16	Community School of Arts Carol Sing	7:00 p.m. Barnes County Courthouse
Jan 26	Opera Ensemble	7:30 p.m. Froemke
Jan 28	Garage Bands	noon Froemke
Feb 9	Geraldine Ong, piano	7:30 p.m. Froemke
Mar 2	Garage Bands	7:30 p.m.
Mar 6	Concert Choir and University Singers	12:15 p.m.
Mar 7	Lisa McCarroll, guest artist, piano	7:30 p.m. Froemke
Mar 9	General Student Recital	7:30 p.m. Froemke
Mar 28	Community School of Arts Chamber Concert	7:30 p.m. Froemke

Visual/Theatre Arts

Nov 20-22	"I Never Saw Another Butterfly" Theatre 320, McFarland
Feb 16-27	Sherri Slag Art Show Art Gallery, McCarthy
Mar 2-13	Eric Schauer Art Show Art Gallery, McCarthy
Mar 23-April 2	Derek Rode Art Show Art Gallery, McCarthy
Mar 26-28	"A Midsummer Night's Dream" Theatre 320, McFarland

Theatre to present Shakespeare with Renaissance feast



VCSU Theatre will present Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in McFarland Hall's Theatre 320 on March 26, 27 and 28.

Presented as dinner theatre, the production will include three evening performances and a matinee.

"This is one of Shakespeare's most popular works, says Jenni Lou Russi, director, "and combining it with a Renaissance Feast makes this event a perfect combination. The students are very excited about the production and the fun of dinner theatre."

Dinner will feature games of skill and entertainment by VCSU students in character for the show, as well as guest student performers. The meal includes beer cheese broccoli soup or chili served in a bread bowl, along with hot cider or lemonade, prepared by Sodexo, VCSU's dining services provider.

All performances will be held in Theatre 320. Evening performances Thursday-Saturday, March 26-28, will include dinner at 6:30 p.m. and show at 7:30 p.m. The matinee performance on Saturday, March 28, will include the meal at 1 p.m. and show at 2 p.m.

Seating is limited so all audience members are asked to purchase their tickets in advance. Tickets for the meal and show are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors, and \$10 for students. Reservations can be made by calling the VCSU Theatre Box Office at 701-845-7320 or online at www.vcsu.edu/theatre.

Contingent on availability, show-only tickets will be available for purchase 30 minutes prior to curtain for each show.

Two inducted into Music Hall of Fame

The VCSU Music Hall of Fame inducted two members at a recognition banquet held Saturday, Sept. 27, at the Valley City Town and Country Club. Inductees included the late John Reed, longtime VCSU choir director who was honored posthumously, and alumnus Myron Sommerfeld '62, retired music teacher and leader of the "Myron Sommerfeld and His Music" band. Pictured are VCSU Music Department chair Christopher Redfearn, Sommerfeld, and Connie Reed, the wife of John Reed and retired VCSU nurse.



Dieken named assistant professor of art



The VCSU art department has welcomed Karri Dieken to campus as assistant professor of art. Her areas of expertise include drawing, printmaking, painting, and art history.

Dieken earned an MFA in printmaking, sculpture and photography from Washington State University (Pullman, Wash.) in 2010 and a Bachelor of Science in art education from Black Hills State University (Spearfish, S.D.) in 2007.

Growing up in the Badlands region, Dieken was inspired by the landscape, heritage, craft and the handmade. She participates in print exchanges and fiber-based installations exploring the narratives of the nuclear family and her childhood growing up in rural South Dakota. As a performance artist, she is interested in fibers and polymers as mediums for documenting perceived moments in time.

Since 2007, her work has been featured in solo and group exhibitions across the United States, New Zealand and Germany, including exhibits at the Washington State University Museum of Art, Boise Art Museum, Essex Art Center and the South Dakota State Museum of Art. A selection of her prints have been acquired

for the permanent collections at the Washington State University Museum of Art, Boise Art Museum, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art and the Missoula Art Museum.

In October 2014, Dieken participated in *Nuit Blanche* in Toronto, Canada. Her work is included in the South Dakota Governor's 6th Biennial Art Exhibition, now touring throughout South Dakota through January 2016. In 2015, Dieken's performance piece "Cadence of Grass" will be on display in the group show "Heart to Heart" at the South Dakota State Art Museum in Brookings, S.D. In February 2015, a solo exhibition of Dieken's work, "The Silence of Sound," will be held at Mott Community College in Flint, Mich.

Recreating the past: Theatre offered tintypes at Homecoming

VCSU Theatre offered tintype photographs at Homecoming for those interested in a unique keepsake. Set up in Vangstad Auditorium, Valley City photographer Kevin Klein created the

tintypes of subjects posed with costumes and props provided by the theatre department.

Among those participating was Marc Almklov '79, a retired principal from El Paso, Texas, who

posed with his wife, Ana.

More information about Klein's tintype process can be found online at cwfp.biz/kevinklein.



University plans include new communication and fine arts facility



Valley City State University has included two significant capital projects in its budget request to the North Dakota University System. Funding of the requests is subject to an appropriation from the North Dakota Legislature in its upcoming 2015 session.

The first request involves replacing VCSU's heat plant. Outdated boilers in an inadequate

facility have threatened the university's ability to provide heat to campus buildings, and the installation of a new, energy-efficient boiler system would result in an energy-cost savings.

Construction of a new heat plant is estimated to cost about \$14.3 million; the new plant would expand capacity to accommodate future campus growth and eliminate more than \$12.4 million of

deferred maintenance. Plans call for the removal of the existing facility and replacement with a new heat plant on the same physical footprint.

The second request is for the construction of a new communication and fine arts building. The new building would replace Foss Music Hall, an impediment to permanent flood protection along the Sheyenne River. In addition to consolidating the art, theatre and music programs in one facility, the building would also include the communication arts and the language and literature departments. By shuffling classrooms and offices, this would also allow for the razing of McCarthy Hall.

Estimated at more than \$25.8 million, the project would facilitate the installation of permanent flood protection along the river and allow VCSU to retire more than \$7.7 million in deferred maintenance by razing Foss and McCarthy.

Vikings on the Move

1930s

Loren Law '36 and '42 recently turned 98; he says "the Lord has been good to me." His wife of 75 years, Arlene, died four years ago. Loren has seen lots of changes since 1934 when he entered VCSU. He taught for six years in North Dakota until he entered the business world in 1942. Loren was president of the Minnesota Mayors Association for two years and president of the VCSU Alumni Association from 1971-73. Loren fondly remembers the days of Louis Bruhn, Mabel Snoeynbos and Art Froemke.

1960s

According to **Jay Morgan '69**, the North Dakota Suncoast Association held its 50th annual luncheon at the River Wilderness Country Club on Feb. 22, 2014, near Parrish, Fla. Sixty North Dakotans attended. DeAnna Zink, the new CEO of the UND Alumni Association, shared a PowerPoint presentation that was full of information about North Dakota, including news on the oil and gas industries, employment and higher education. Jay says a great time was had by all and invites VCSU alumni to join them in February 2015.

1980s

Susan Nielsen '81 retired four years ago after teaching in the Texas public school system for 28 years; she decided to retire to pursue other interests. Susan started a small but successful organizing business and became an active volunteer with San Antonio Pets Alive, a group trying to make San Antonio a no-kill city for shelter animals. Recently, she moved back into education by accepting a student-teacher supervisor position with the University of Texas at San Antonio and is excited for the opportunity to make an impact on young educators.



Pat Bellmore '83 has been promoted to chief marketing officer and vice president of marketing at Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota (BCBSND). Pat, a Valley City native, took over his

new duties on Sept. 1, providing leadership and direction for the development and implementation of strategic marketing and member objectives and plans. He's worked at BCBSND since 1985 and has spent the last 16 years as manager of district marketing, including serving as regional manager for eastern North Dakota since 2012. Pat and his wife, **Carla (Hill) Bellmore '83**, live in Horace, N.D.

1990s

Wendy Birhanzel '98 is now assistant superintendent of curriculum, instruction, and assessment for a Colorado school district. A news article recently released highlighted the school she left as principal in March 2014. When Wendy arrived at the school, their proficiency on the state reading test was 46 percent proficient or advanced and 18 percent unsatisfactory. At that time 76 percent of students qualified for free and reduced lunch. When she left the school three years later, more than 80 percent of students were scoring proficient or advanced on the state reading test (with more than 90 percent of the students qualifying for free and reduced lunch). The school will receive a cash award from the state for making the most growth in three years of any school in the state with more than 90 percent of students qualifying for free and reduced lunch. Many other districts are sending representatives to the school to see what effective strategies are in place that they can take back to their own schools.

2000s



Martin Olsen '08 and Stephanie Bina '08 are currently living in Sandefjord, Norway. Their daughter, Briana Olsen Bina, was born Dec. 29, 2013. Stephanie currently works at *Framnes Musikkorps* as the junior band conductor and saxophone instructor (age

9-11) and gives lessons at *Haukerød Skolekorps*, also in Sandefjord. Martin is the musical conductor and drum major at *Haukerød Skolekorps*, which in June won the Norwegian championship in marching for schoolbands. (You can view the band's award-winning performance online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2_Bj7GEJrU.)



Malgorzata "Gosia" (Debicka) Olson '08 received her doctorate in physical therapy from A.T. Hill University in Mesa, Ariz., in August 2014. She and her husband, **Pat Olson '08**, have a son, Blake.

2010s

Emma Nelson '13 accepted a position in The Dalles, Ore., as a park ranger with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, immediately following graduation. After almost a year and a half, she advanced to the St. Louis District, working St. Rend Lake in Benton, Ill., as a natural resource specialist. There she will have more opportunities to advance in her career in both experience and promotion potential. She is also about 15 hours closer to her home in Minnesota, making the trek for deer season and holidays much easier.

Tis the Season of Giving

There is no better way to give and receive than to make a gift that helps others at this time of year.

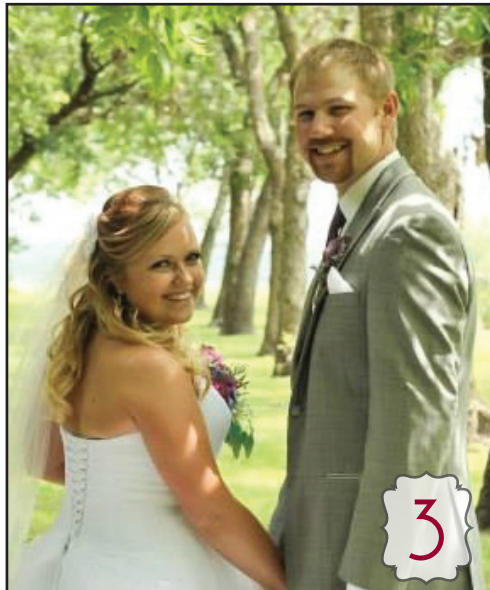
Your gift can go a long way toward helping others. This holiday season, take a moment and consider the gifts you would like to make, then make them happen. Support our V-500 scholarship program and assist a needy student to realize their dream of a college education. Your investment will pay big dividends. Better yet, the contribution is tax deductible for this tax year if postmarked by December 31. You may wish to make a gift online at alumni.vcsu.edu.



1) Gunnar Swanson '05 and Dawn Kihlstrom were married May 31, 2014. The couple resides in Bismarck, N.D. Gunnar works as the North Dakota/South Dakota area manager for Anytime Fitness, and Dawn works as a registered nurse consultant for Aetna Health Insurance.

2) Mandi Freeman '12 and **Aaron Freije '13** were married April 26, 2014.

3) Courtney Halverson '14 and Matt Jorissen were married July 12, 2014. Courtney teaches Title I in Fargo and Matt farms. They reside in Valley City with their dog, Diesel.



In Remembrance

- Ellen (Murphy) Garland '27, Farmington, N.M.
 Ruth (Kjelland) Carpenter '31, Richfield, Minn.
 Vae (Nelson) Kruschwitz '34, Moorhead, Minn.
 Harriet (Ogren) Blomquist '38, LaMoure, N.D.
 Helen (Gunness) Childs '41, Fargo, N.D.
 Mary (Brinkman) Miller '41, North Liberty, Iowa
 Edwin Osten '41, Jensen Beach, Fla.
 Florence (Kluck) Schmid '43, New Rockford, N.D.
 Elmer Schmiess '48, Grand Forks, N.D.
 Terrence Halvorson, Lakota, N.D.
 Donald Ford '50, Walnut Creek, Calif.
 Edward Otto '50, Grafton, N.D.
 Lucille (Triepke) Hettich '51, Kulm, N.D.
 Carleton Opgaard '52, Tacoma, Wash.
 Morris Martin '57, Dickinson, N.D.
 Warren Syverson '60, Valley City
 Bruce Elsner '66, Lidgerwood, ND.
 John Wall '70, Battle Lake, Minn.
 Rita Goldade '71, Bismarck, N.D.
 Cavin Andersen '72, Watford City, N.D.
 Roger Kvien '85, Valley City
 Cindy (Daugherty) Peterson '02, Kindred, N.D.
 George Golz, Valley City
 Helen (Hoge) Hubbard, Sundance, Wyo.
 Sheila Kummeth, Fargo, N.D.
 Jeffrey Weber, West Fargo, N.D.
 Melvin Wieck, Litchville, N.D.
 DeLores Yeager, Valley City

In Memory of...

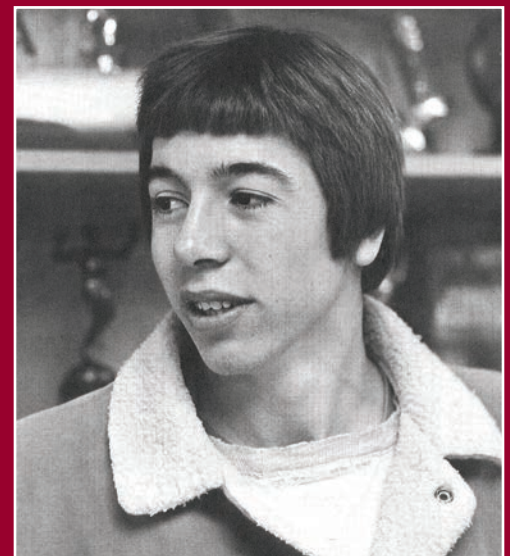
Cavin Andersen '72 died on Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2014, at his home in Watford City. Andersen was an active child and became an athlete early on, playing baseball and football, and running cross country and track, in addition to excelling at his best game, basketball.

After graduating from high school in 1968, Andersen moved on to Valley City State, where he ran cross country, high jumped in track and pursued his basketball career. His Viking basketball teams won two conference championships, and Andersen was a three-time All-American in basketball. He was drafted in 1972 by the Chicago Bulls (NBA) and Indiana Pacers (ABA), and later had an opportunity with the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Anderson's basketball success was fully realized in North Dakota amateur basketball, as his Class A KFVR and Class B Watford City teams achieved success with numerous state championships, and he earned several state tournament MVP awards. He was inducted into the North Dakota Amateur Basketball Hall of Fame.

In 1986 Andersen was honored as one of the inaugural inductees in the VCSU Viking Hall of Fame. He is the Vikings all-time leading scorer in basketball.

Andersen worked in Bismarck and later in Watford City for many years. He is survived by his sister, Candace (Michael) Cox, along with aunts and many cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, Earl and Lorraine Andersen.





Lil' Vikings

Have you had an addition to your family within the last six months? We want to know!



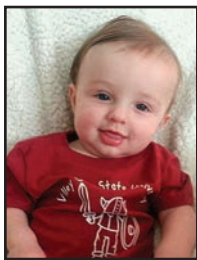
Harper Noelle Reardon

April 5, 2014
Joins brother Carter (3)
Jodi (Barnick) '13 and
Shannon Reardon



Christian Rudolph Buttke

July 15, 2014
7 pounds 13 ounces
21 1/2 inches
Matt and Randi (Tompt)
'06 Buttke



Lincoln Matthew Haaby

April 9, 2014
6 pounds 15 ounces,
19 inches
Joins sister Savannah (4)
Steve and Kellie (John-
sen) '04, M.Ed. '14,
Haaby



Scarlet Bonnie Alexander

July 17, 2014
6 pounds 5 ounces,
19 inches
Loren '06 and Hope
(Keyser) '07 Alexander



Esther Maureen Deal

April 23, 2014
6 pounds 3 ounces
19 inches
Josh and Beth (Leinen)
'08 Deal



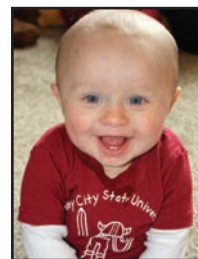
Adley Ann Rerick

March 12, 2014
8 pounds 3 ounces
Joins sister Ava (5)
Jeff '06 and Kelda
(Weigel) '06 Rerick



Haidyn Elizabeth Freije

January 1, 2014
8 pounds
20 1/2 inches
Joins brother Landyn (8)
Aaron Freije '13 and
Mandi Freeman '12



Paetyn Lahlum

January 14, 2014
6 pounds 13 ounces
19 inches
Keriann (Eggert) '03 and
Chad Lahlum



Halle Kate Walters

May 7, 2014
8 pounds 1 ounce,
21 inches
Joins brothers James (8)
and Reese (5)
Darin '02 and Beth
Walters



Addison Rae Neville

April 22, 2014
5 pounds 15 ounces
19 inches
Clinton '11 and Miranda
(Beier) '11 Neville



Adric Conley Jirges

September 9, 2014
4 pounds 13 ounces
18 inches
Chandra (Dewald) '08
and Travis Jirges



Leah Jenae Swenson

April 21, 2014
7 pounds
20 1/2 inches
Joins brother Drew (8)
and sister Tanna (5 1/2)
Brady '01 and Jill (Legge)
'02 Swenson



Hailey Rose Schlosser

February 3, 2014
7 pounds 7 ounces
20 1/4 inches
William '06 and
Nicole (Richardson) '10
Schlosser

Contact Kim Hesch at kim.hesch@vcsu.edu to receive a free t-shirt for your new Lil' Viking. Please be sure to tell us your baby's name and birthdate. After you have received your baby's Lil' Viking shirt, send us your baby's photo so we can include it in the next issue of *The Bulletin*. Email the photo to kim.hesch@vcsu.edu.

125th anniversary celebration has begun



The Bill Osmon Fun Run and the appearance of the new VCSU Viking mascot officially kicked off VCSU's yearlong celebration of its 125th anniversary, which will culminate at Founders Day, Oct. 13, 2015.

Efforts to collect VCSU memorabilia for display in the Soroos-Bruhn Alumni Center in McFarland Hall have begun, and several items and pieces of furniture have been added to the collection.

The VCSU Beautification Committee has added a sitting area to the main entrance of McFarland Hall and has created a patio area and enhanced the rear entry to McFarland and Vangstad.

Work by VCSU professors Stephen King and Julee Russell continues on an update to the centennial history of the university, *Cornerstones: The Legacy Continues—A Quasiquicentennial History of Valley City State University 1990-2015*.

The 125th celebration will piggyback on other annual VCSU events, including the EBC Fraternity's 2014 "We're In the Christmas Mood" performance (Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014) and the annual VCSU Scholarship Auction (Friday, April 24, 2015).

A tour of North Dakota with Tisa Mason, VCSU's incoming president, appearing at gatherings of VCSU alumni and friends is being planned; her inauguration will also figure into the 125th plans.

The Summer 2015 issue of *The Bulletin*, the VCSU alumni magazine, will feature a special issue including a historical timeline and "125

Things We Love about VCSU." An all-campus/community picnic on the campus green is also slated for Summer 2015.

At Homecoming 2015, all members of the Viking Hall of Fame will be invited back to campus, and all sorority and fraternity members will be invited to return to Valley City for an All Greek Reunion as well.

On Oct. 13, 2015, Founders Day—the 125th anniversary of VCSU's opening day—will be celebrated with a concluding event including birthday cake.

I ♥ VCSU

VCSU has begun celebrating its 125th anniversary, and we're now asking alumni and friends of the university to contribute to a list of "125 Things We Love about VCSU" for publication in the Summer 2015 issue of *The Bulletin*.

We need your help. Please email your list of the things you love about VCSU (it can be fewer than 125!) to alumni@vcsu.edu.

HELP US LOCATE THESE LOST ALUMNI

If you know the address of any of these individuals, please contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 1-800-532-8641 ext. 37203 or email alumni@vcsu.edu.

1981

Martin Dahl
Kim (Monson) Oberlander
Thomas Rustvang

1982

Francine (Netzer) Harter
Robin (Orr) Kohler
Patricia Kouba
Rick Reding
Gene Riedinger
Massoud Safiri
Daniel Stephan

1983

Nancy (Lambrecht) Burchill
Jane Habiger
John Kirkeby
Sherri (Frederikson) Knutson
Brooke Lilly
Thomas Peterson

1984

Barbara Bue
Erick Ferris
Gayleen (Hieb) Hoggarth
Rick Kohler
Julia Reis
Brian Samdahl
Pamela (Vagle) Sand
George Yarbrough
Evelyn (Laube) Youle

1985

Beverly Fulsebakke
Ronald Reardon
Lisa Tollefson-Larson
Sue Whitney

1986

Joel Aas
Marc Davis
Janette Erickson
Kristi (Kramlich) Kuball
Joni (Thornton) Nelson
Shannon Rose
Dawn (Krahler) Sackman

1987

Theresa (Baker) Marcellais
LeRoy Robinson
Elizabeth Schmitt
Renee (Huschka) Wilson

1988

Lee Finnon
Kent Harding
Susan Larson
Ward Lunneborg
Mary (Edlund) Manock
Darwin St. Clair
Julie Ulrich

1989

Olivia Matthews
Mark Wilson

1990

Thomas Brogden
Dawn (Barber) Cunningham
Rhonda Denbow
Kimberly Hansen
James Heapy
Julie VenHuizen

1991

Barbara (Remore) Bakken
Paulo Costa
Lisa (Holmgren) Keilman
Melissa Kramer
Sheila (Johnson) Nelson
Marvin Olson
Penny (Anderson) Pekarski
Frank Peterson
Lena Throlson

1992

Donna Casey
Kevin Gietz
Randall Hanson
Tamera Henderson
Lloyd Joseph
Natalie (Heyd) Loomis
Michael Morris
Melonie Ramsey
Troy Reinertson
Cathy (Plum) Rienstra
Ronald Schumacher
Robyn (Hinrichs) Wallis

1993

Theodore Brown
Monserrat (Cordova) Cabrera
Angela Clark
Lisa Gaden
Robert Greenwood
Lynn Johnson
Jodi (Sitte) Johnson
Timothy Kramer
Joyce McClaffin
D'Lisa Mitchell
Correna (Jensen) Perry
Sarah Sander
Andrew Smith
Theresa Thompson

1994

Darla Gestvang
Kraig Hickel
Wendy Hornberger
Michele (Wentz) Isaacson
Darragh (Wicks) Killilea
Karen Mauch
Stacy Miller
Layne Pethick
Kelly Ranisate



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Alumni Association
101 College Street SW
Valley City, ND 58072

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PARENTS: If this issue is addressed to your son or daughter who no longer lives at this address, please contact the Alumni Office with an updated address at alumni@vcsu.edu or 701.845.7203. Thank you for your help in keeping our records current.

