



VALLEY CITY
STATE UNIVERSITY

THE BULLETIN

A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University

ISSUE 071661 | AUGUST 2022



> From Higher Ed to Higher Life

Dr. Margaret Dahlberg and Charlene Stenson have transformed VCSU's campus, their colleagues and paved the way for thousands of students to succeed. – PAGE 6

THE BULLETIN

ISSUE 071661 | AUGUST 2022



From Higher Ed to Higher Life

FEATURE STORY

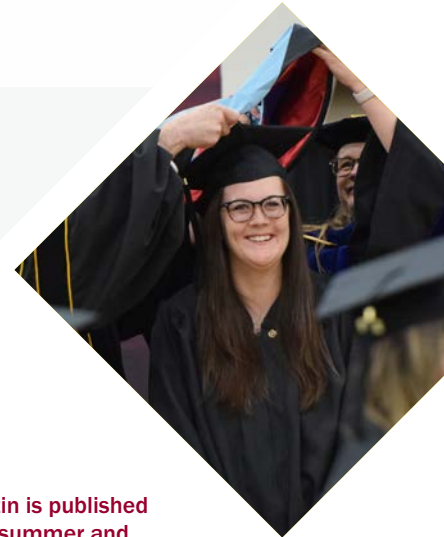
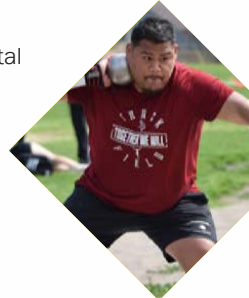


Spring Recap, Fall Schedules, Dennis McCulloch

ATHLETICS INFO

Features

- 1 Message from President LaFave
- 2 Alumni Association
- 3 A Message from the Foundation Director
- 4 News from the Capital Campaign Director
- 6 Feature Story
- 10 Foundation News
- 14 VCSU News
- 18 Viking Athletics Highlights
- 24 Vikings on the Move
- 26 In Remembrance
- 27 Just Married
- 28 Lil' Vikings
- 29 Continuing the Connection



Acknowledgments

Cory Anderson '89

701-845-7216
Executive Director for Advancement
cory.anderson@vcsu.edu

Kim Svenningsen-Hesch '91

701-845-7403
Asst. Director for Advancement
kim.hesch@vcsu.edu

Loree Morehouse '89

701-845-7203
Data Processing and Research
loree.morehouse@vcsu.edu

Larry Robinson '71

701-845-7217
Capital Campaign Director
larry.robinson@vcsu.edu

Dennis McCulloch

701-845-7425
Interim Athletic Director
dennis.mcculloch@vcsu.edu

Mark Potts

701-845-7228
Sports Information Director
mark.m.potts@vcsu.edu

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

Learn more at vcsualumni.org

1-800-532-8641 EXT 7203

Kayla Elston

701-845-7362
Graphic Designer
kayla.elston@vcsu.edu

Tammy Jo A. Taft

701-845-7227
Marketing and Communications Director
tammyjo.taft@vcsu.edu

Summer Renovations and Honoring Excellence

President Alan LaFave, D.M.A.

These months are among the busiest for many on campus. Building maintenance, summer camps, alumni meetings, foundation events, golf tournaments, athletic team camps and work on the campus grounds are just a few of the activities underway. Specifically, there has been a lot of activity on campus this summer beginning with the demolition of Foss Music Hall.



This building has served the campus well as a center for learning, musical development and performance. The recent spring flooding event heightened the awareness of the devastating potential of flooding. We are thankful for having the new facility built in a way to avoid any future flooding issues.

While recognizing the history and impact of Foss Hall, we also recognize VCSU Athletics history. The Coaches Hall of Fame is a new addition to VCSU that honors Viking alumni who have gone on to successful and influential coaching careers. The inaugural class includes alumni from five different decades. Combined, the class coached nine different sports at the collegiate and high school level, won national championships and numerous national coach of the year awards.

Inductees into the VCSU Coaches Hall of Fame receive the Osmon Icon Award which honors individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in the field of coaching through their careers. The award is named in honor of Viking Icon Coach Bill Osmon. Coach Osmon's teams won 24 conference championships in four different sports making him the all-time winningest coach in Valley

City State history while providing dedication and influential service during his tenure at Valley City State from 1947–1982.

Here are some interesting facts regarding the group:

- 4 of the inductees have also received VCSU Distinguished Alumni Awards
- Several are inducted into various Halls of Fame including Respective State Coaches Hall of Fame (14); Collegiate Hall of Fame; National High School Coaches Hall of Fame (2); NJCAA Hall of Fame, NAIA Hall of Fame, Officials Hall of Fame, ND Sports Hall of Fame
- 85 total Coach of the Year Awards
- 4 National Coach of the Year Awards
- 52 Collegiate Conference Championships
- 101 State Championships
- 1 NCAA National Championship



Farewell to Foss

This building has served the campus well as a center for learning, musical development, and performance.

Staying Connected with Your Alma Mater

Kim Svenningsen-Hesch '91

Asst. Director for University Advancement and Alumni Relations

We welcomed a new class of graduates this spring as part of our alumni. We now have more than 12,326 active alumni living in 15 different



countries. Did you know that more than 57 percent of our alumni live in North Dakota?

Staying connected with your alma mater provides you the opportunity to reflect on your time at VCSU and allows you to add new memories to the special ones you already have. Here are a few ways you can continue building your relationship with VCSU:

Participate in Activities

Throughout the year we provide many opportunities for our alumni to participate in our hosted activities. VCSU Tuesday socials are a chance to connect with other alumni in your area, reconnect with your alma mater and find out what is new at VCSU.

Attending alumni events in your area and returning to campus for Homecoming activities (page 12) is a great way to stay connected.

For the alumni who live outside of North Dakota, consider hosting an event. Give us a call, and we'll help you with the details to connect you with other alumni in your region.

Refer a Student

As a former Viking, you know firsthand what it was like to be a VCSU student. You understand the type of lasting impression professors, numerous activities, and fellow students had on your college life.

You can help by sharing that

experience with others. Do you know a high school junior or senior who might consider becoming a Viking? If so, we would love to hear about them.

We still believe in recruiting students the old-fashioned way—with personal attention, care and concern for them as individuals.

Call the Enrollment Services office at 1-800-532-8641, ext. 3719, email them at enrollment.services@vcsu.edu or go to our website, vcsualumni.org, click on "Get Involved," then "Refer a Student."

Giving Back

There are several ways you can support your alma mater financially such as our Annual Fund/Phone-a-thon, Viking Day of Giving, Century Club Scholarship Program, V-500 Scholarship Program or our Capital Campaign.

For more information about these programs, please call our office at 701-845-7203 or check out our website at vcsualumni.org (click on "Ways to Give").

Update Your Information

To keep your contact information up to date, you can reach us at:

800-532-8641, ext. 37203 (toll-free phone)

701-845-7203 (phone)

alumni@vcsu.org (email)

vcsualumni.edu and click on the

"Get Involved" tab (website)

This won't take you long and will ensure you receive VCSU communications, like our alumni magazine, *The Bulletin*, and invitations to alumni events.

Your participation in your alma mater is vital. We count on you. With consistent alumni support, we can do more now and plan more for the future. We look forward to seeing you soon!

2022–2023 VCSU Alumni Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Zach McBeain '15

FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE

Dave Bass '77

VICE PRESIDENT

Kendra Krueger '12

PAST PRESIDENT

Paul Keidel '86

BOARD MEMBERS

Paige Fettig '18

Wendy (Reidman) Hogue '85

Robert Keller '89

Nicholas Lee '16

Paul Leier '85

Stacy Wendel-Monilaws '02

Tristan Ross '08

William Tyrrell '83

Brianna (Johnson) Walsh '16

2021–2022 VCSU Foundation Board of Directors

CHAIR

Mary Simonson

VICE CHAIR

Matt Pedersen

TREASURER

Jeff Nathan

SECRETARY

Dave Bass '77

BOARD MEMBERS

Ken Astrup '73

Kirsten Baesler, M.Ed. '10

Bob Bergan '82

DuWayne Bott '58

Ray Braun

Mark Finstad

George Gaukler '62

Gigi Goven

Dick Gulmon

Robert Horne '59

Dee Jensen '66

Josh Kasowski '05

Ryan Leroux '99

Karsten Melgaard '03

Phillip Mueller '68

Mark Richman '74

Larry Robinson '71

Paul Sandness '76

Jerry A. Topp '74

Cory Anderson '89, *ex officio*

Alan LaFave, *ex officio*

VCSU TUESDAY SOCIALS

September 20, 2022

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Jamestown

Sabir's Buffalo Grill

October 18, 2022

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Bismarck

TBD

November 8, 2022

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Fargo

Crooked Pint

Aiming Big, Being Bold, Changing our Best

Cory Anderson '89

Executive Director for University Advancement

The VCSU Foundation exists to support opportunities for both students and the University that are not provided through state funds. This is done by raising and managing private resources of time, talent and financial contributions.



There is no group more giving than Viking Nation. For any of you that have given to Valley City State for any of our new projects – I commend you.

You have answered the call so many times this past year: from our alumni volunteers who work events or serve on boards to those who gave generously to help us raise the largest auction total in VCSU Foundation history. I can't thank you enough for supporting our work. We simply couldn't do it without you.

We've got big things in store.

Our intent for your favorite University is to have you join us in aiming big, being bold and changing our best.

Aiming BIG means our life stance is one of growth and partnership with others. The V-500 program embodies this idea. This year, the V-500 Scholarship program will celebrate its

50th year by rewarding more than 6,500 deserving students with an opportunity to jump-start their career success. This program set a standard that became a model for other programs moving forward.

There have been years when we were in a competitive struggle for survival in the North Dakota University system. Our campus, community, alumni and friends changed our focus, empowered our voice and provided financial support and have made VCSU a state jewel in the region.

We have been willing to own and recognize our blinders when they appear, move on from them and create a bold plan together. Doing more with less is no longer on our agenda. We have a vision to strengthen our sustainability.

Being BOLD is the essence of possibility. After going 40 years without a new building on campus, the Rhoades Science Center expansion ushered in an era of development on campus. The new Center for the Arts is already transforming student experiences and will be matched soon by renovation to the McCarthy School of Education, the Osmon Fieldhouse addition and the repurposing of the Student Center pool area.

Reaching these extraordinary results takes thinking extraordinary thoughts and taking the steps to achieve them. We are moving from impossible, to improbable, to inevitable.

Changing our BEST is an ongoing process, not a finite event. We continue to create a brighter future for ourselves by stepping outside our comfort zone and being better today than we were yesterday – but not as good as we will be tomorrow.

Comfort is a sign we are not reaching high enough. Our courage to fulfill our vision comes from the passion of our alumni and community base.

As a graduate of VCSU, your diploma is a certificate of stock in our university. The value of that diploma goes up, or down, depending on what VCSU does, how it's portrayed in the news and how we improve it throughout the years.

Our goal is for that diploma to increase in value throughout the years. One way that we can still influence that is by giving back in time, talent or treasure to VCSU. Aim big, be bold, and change your best to protect your investment in Valley City State University.

It's always a great day to be a Viking.



Your Gift Multiplies with the Challenge Grant

Submit gift by December 1, 2022 to make every dollar given go twice as far.



Gerald and Cindy Urlaub
West Fargo, N.D.

NORTH DAKOTA CHALLENGE FUND MAKES YOUR GIFT GO FURTHER

Matching dollar pledges are allowed over a seven year period. Leveraging a portion of an estate to receive matching dollars is also available.

With a minimum \$5,000 endowment gift to VCSU through the VCSU Foundation, you may benefit from a North Dakota income tax credit equal to 40% of the charitable gift AND also qualify for your donation to be matched \$1 for every \$2 you give.

\$700,000
TOTAL MATCH AVAILABLE

VCSU IS ALMOST THERE
THROUGH THE HELP OF
GENEROUS DONORS.

\$594,734
HAS BEEN RAISED TO
DATE.

VCSU's *Forward Together* Capital Campaign Update

Larry Robinson '71
Capital Campaign Director

Progress continues on VCSU's Capital Campaign **Forward Together.**



We are excited about the success and support the campaign has garnered. It has also been an exciting time to work with our architects and see plans for the future become reality.

Earlier this year, ICON Architects of Grand Forks was awarded the architectural contract for the athletic facility portion of the campaign effort. This was all done through the competitive bidding process guided by state guidelines.

Our team has been working closely with ICON to design a facility that meets our needs and is within our budget. This spring, ICON brought new architectural renderings with updated cost estimates. The architects also refined various features to ensure

the best and most efficient use of the facilities.

Our committee has been sensitive to increases in construction materials and labor costs. In the past year these costs have increased significantly. This has resulted in challenges for our team to finalize the building design and identifying the funds necessary to offset these increasing costs.

Fund-raising efforts continue and we are humbled to witness the support of so many dedicated supporters. To date, we have had 78 donors step to the plate and support this effort. The height to which these donors have taken our campaign is inspiring. Our forward momentum is attributed to their generosity.

Our team continues to reach out, work with families interested in supporting the effort, or in the case of businesses, their respective Boards of Directors to confirm their level of their support.

Many of our contributors to date are taking advantage of making a pledge to the campaign, payable

over a five year time period. For those over the age of 70 ½, the IRA Charitable Deduction is a very attractive option. Donors can contribute up to \$100,000 with significant tax advantages.

This is an exciting time at Valley City State University! **This is our time and this is our day!**

We encourage you to consider supporting this important campaign. This is the first ever Capital Campaign in the history of Valley City State University and it will change the future trajectory of our entire institution. The improvements made through this campaign will position the university for the next 50 years and beyond.

Every contribution, big or small, is important. Every gift moves us closer to success as we continue to create an environment for every student to succeed.

If you would like to learn more about how to support the **Forward Together** campaign, or make a gift to VCSU, contact the VCSU Foundation at 701-845-8641.



Forward Together

Valley City State University's
First Capital Campaign

Pledges to the Campaign payable over a 5-Year time period. Attractive IRA Charitable Deductions available for those over 70 ½.
This is our Day and this is our Time!

Join us in
**BUILDING THE
FUTURE
TODAY!**



For more
information
contact the
VCSU Foundation
701-845-7203



From Higher Ed TO Higher Life

Dr. Margaret Dahlberg and Charlene Stenson have been a staple of VCSU. We look at their success as they look forward to their future.



The second floor of McFarland feels different.

Behind the office door for the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Margaret Dahlberg has been carefully packing her books and preparing for new opportunities. Down the hallway, Charlene Stenson has been sorting through files and wrapping up projects.

Dahlberg and Stenson were hired at VCSU within three years of each other; Dahlberg as an English professor and Stenson as an admissions counselor. They both excelled at leading and caring for students. They simultaneously drove institutional success. Now,

after decades of acclaimed service to VCSU, Dahlberg and Stenson are retiring and handing the reins to new leaders. They are headed off to see the world as retirees with fifth-wheel campers.

“The mark these dedicated, hardworking and visionary leaders left on our campus is undeniable,” VCSU President Alan LaFave said. “We will miss them dearly and wish them all the happiness in the world in their next chapters.”

FINDING EVERYONE’S STORY

Stenson’s first chapter at VCSU was an unexpected one. “I never thought I would go to college,” she said. Stenson grew up on a farm near Cooperstown and school, she admits, never came easily. Basketball was a different story.

Her senior year of high school the team went to state and earned second place. Recruiters started showing up and proposed the idea of college basketball. The next fall she found herself living in Snoeyenbos Hall, playing basketball, running track and finding jobs to pay for school.

College proved to be a refreshingly different educational experience.

“In high school I was the kid in the back, too scared to speak up,” she recalled. “College was a brand-new start and I think my success in sports and support from the teachers and coaches at VCSU built my confidence.”

Stenson lettered every year in basketball and was named MVP in 1981 and 1983. She graduated, got married, moved a few times and decided she wanted to teach. She earned her license and jumped into the classroom. “I wanted to coach, but I also wanted to help students who struggled in school like I did,” she said. “My goal was to help students find out what they were good at. Working on the skills that they were strong in helped them build in other areas too.”

Stenson loved working in the elementary classroom regardless if it was a small class of six students in Page, or a large class of almost 30 students in Limon, Colorado.

By 1999 she had moved back to North Dakota and saw an opening for an Admissions Counselor position at VCSU. She had just been inducted into the VCSU Basketball Hall of Fame in 1995 and the Softball Hall of Fame in 1997. Working full time at VCSU was the perfect fit for a motivated, talkative problem-solver like Stenson.

“How could you not love talking to people in a state you already knew,” she said with a smile. “I loved my job and talking to people is my favorite part. I like to get to know people because everyone has a story.” After Stenson had spent ten years in the admissions office, then director Dan Klein left and wanted to appoint her as interim director. She wasn’t convinced it was the right fit.

Stenson loved her job and didn’t think that position was the right fit. But after talking with a professor she had known since being a student, Stenson changed her mind. “I lacked self confidence and she told me I was going to be fine. I would have to learn to write like a leader, but she knew I could do it.”

Her professor was right. Stenson successfully led the Enrollment Services Office for more than a decade and brought the University to the point of nine consecutive years of fall enrollment growth. Through that time, she built a team and helped others focus on their strengths.

Bridget Blunck joined Enrollment in 2009, shortly after Stenson was tasked with leading the department. “One of the biggest things about Charlene is that she works to find your strengths and build on that,” Blunck said, describing how much she has learned as a part of Stenson’s team. “She pushes you a little over your comfort zone, but slowly.”

Stenson is a strong, fun, empathetic leader who takes pride in every part of VCSU, Blunck said. “Her commitment to VCSU is amazing.”

Now, as her time as an employee at VCSU draws to a close, Stenson still feels the pull of the Viking spirit.

“I have never gotten tired of this place,” she explained. “It might be how I felt about it starting as a student. There is nothing like walking down that front sidewalk. When I was teaching, I would get tired and move on. But here, it’s such a great experience.”

Stenson said she will miss being in the office and hearing stories from prospective students and their parents. She will miss having old Viking Ambassadors come back to catch up. She will miss being around people she genuinely cares about, but she is ready for new adventures in the outdoors fishing, hunting and camping.

“I know this place will continue to be a University that really cares about the students. VCSU has always been student based and provides a great education.”



Continued on page 8

CONFIDENT, COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP

The educational experience on campus used to include elementary students as well. In the early 1960s, Margaret Pearce was a Kindergarten student in the room that houses the Enrollment Office.

“First grade was in the Registrar’s office,” she said. “I was here a lot before I even went to school. I was here playing as my mother was the librarian and my dad was the superintendent of the lab school.” The lab school closed and Harry and Hulda Pearce moved their family to Wisconsin where Margaret learned the violin.

After high school she went to school to be an English teacher and taught for four years in Wisconsin. She decided to pursue graduate school in order to move up the pay scale as a public school teacher. After enrolling at UND, she met her future husband, Paul and found herself married with the last name Dahlberg, now an active-duty military spouse.

“We moved to Omaha and then he got orders to Turkey,” Dahlberg recalled. She spent some time teaching for the University of Maryland while living overseas, helping her realize she didn’t want to teach high school. She knew she needed a doctorate degree. The couple returned to the United States just prior to the first Gulf War searching for a place for their young family to land.

“I returned to Grand Forks and finished my master’s degree in 1991. Then I started my doctorate work. I was going to school, working as a TA and sitting on the floor in the playroom with my children,” she said.

In 1996, she was a newly minted Ph.D. and ready to teach. “I applied at 80 places that spring and had two interviews,” Dahlberg said. “One would’ve taken us to Ithica, New York. It didn’t go well. The other was here in Valley City. After the interview, someone called my advisor at UND and asked if I could adjust to living in a small town.”

Dahlberg laughs at that memory. She was born in Valley City and the transition was easy. “I consider myself fortunate,” she said. “I feel safe here and being a mom, this was a great opportunity. I knew a lot of people here and it was an easy move.”

Thus began a storied career that has spanned more than a quarter of a century.

Dahlberg was hired the same year VCSU became a laptop university. She found the machines to be liberating and helpful in the classroom.

“I guess I just thought we were all supposed to have them open and be using them,” Dahlberg recalled. Alumnus Mark Rerick remembers Dahlberg’s first semester, as it was his freshman year at VCSU. Rerick always knew he wanted to be a teacher but started with a double major in social studies and physical education. One day in a conversation with professor Al Olson, Rerick mentioned his enjoyment of reading.

Olson suggested trying English as a major.

“In my first courses with Dr. Dahlberg I immediately felt welcomed and valued. I stayed with Dr. Dahlberg for the next four years,” Rerick said. “When you were in her classes there was a lot of collaboration and conversation. Even as a 22-year-old knucklehead, you felt like your opinion and comments were valued. I always enjoyed going to class.”

Rerick also watched how Dahlberg led the classroom as a teacher. Her leadership inspired his career path, steering him toward education. He began teaching in the fall of 2001 and moved into administration almost a decade later. This year he is starting a new career as an assistant professor of kinesiology with the sports leadership program at UND.

Dahlberg’s leadership continued to grow and change at VCSU. She was promoted to department chair, and then assumed the role of Vice President for Academic Affairs after an interim period. She served as interim president twice and has guided numerous Higher Learning Commission reaccreditation reviews, most recently in 2021.

“My job is to help department chairs and faculty do the best work and to support students that need help when things are going wrong,” she explained. This ethos led to her developing relationships with academic department chairs and other faculty and staff to achieve the common goal of student success.

That approach was always rooted in empathy and assertiveness. “I think when you are responsible for people’s livelihood, you invest a lot of care and concern for them. If people show up with a good idea, I tried to provide resources and be a cheerleader,” she explained. Although her time as the Vice President of Academic Affairs is coming to an end, she is not done working yet.

“There are still things to do and I realized I am ready to do something different,” she explained. “I’m not leaving because I’m done, but because I’m ready to see what the next opportunities are.”



**Dahlberg
Chosen
Teacher
of the
Year**



Mrs. Margaret Dahlberg was presented with the “Teacher of the Year” award by the Student Senate for the first year of the new millennium. Mrs. Dahlberg is an assistant professor of communication at



Center for the Arts Ribbon Cutting Event

Valley City State University held an official ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of the new Center for the Arts on April 21.

The ribbon cutting event included a short program, musical performance and light refreshments. Students offered guided tours of the new building.

At 7:30 p.m. there was a full concert performance featuring the VCSU Percussion Ensemble, Wind Ensemble, Concert Choir, and Concert Band. The annual Juried Art Exhibition featuring pieces created by VCSU students was on display.

“This was a historic day for our students, faculty, and the

community,” VCSU President Alan LaFave said.

During the evening concert, Carol Houghlum, daughter of VCSU Music Hall of Fame member James Ployhar, spoke. The final piece performed during the concert was The Flickertail, composed by Ployhar. The Flickertail is the state march of North Dakota.



VCSU Foundation Recognizes Donors at Annual Recognition Luncheon

On Monday, June 13, the Valley City State University Foundation honored its donors who have reached a new level of giving.

The event was held on the campus of Valley City State University in the Student Center cafeteria. This year's Recognition Luncheon drew over 90 attendees. Individuals and businesses were recognized for their continued support to the university through donations, volunteerism, and other efforts.

During the luncheon attendees heard campus updates from Foundation Board Chair, Mary Simonson, VCSU President Alan LaFave and Cory Anderson, executive director of the VCSU Foundation.

Footbridge Level (top left): Dalene Brock from Dacotah Bank, President Al LaFave.

Platinum Level (bottom left): Lorny Behm representing the VC Eagles Club, President Al LaFave.

Diamond Level (top right): Krista Johnson and Stephanie Ness (Representing Grotberg Electric, Inc), Dr. Joe Sticker and President Al LaFave.

Regent Level (bottom right): President Al LaFave, Tom & Tara Glandt, Karen Richman and Bob & Rosalyn Bruhschwein.

Gold Level (bottom): Back Row, from left: Myron Sommerfeld, Phillip Mueller, Dave Zeller and President Al LaFave. Middle Row, from left: Karen Richman, Darlene Mueller, Roger Rand, Mark Finstad and Lynn Holcomb. Front Row, from left: Howard Langemo, Joy Rand, Kathy Finstad and Nancy King.





Donors recognized for reaching a new level of giving in the past two years

(July 2021 to June 2022)

Footbridge Level

(\$500,000–\$999,999)

Dacotah Bank
Chuck* and Jan Stowman

Platinum Level

(\$250,000–\$449,999)

Joy Braun
Valley City Eagles Aerie 2192

Diamond Level

(\$100,000–\$249,999)

Grotberg Electric, Inc.
Dr. John F. Keller*
Dr.* and Mrs.* Arthur McFee
Oliver Nathan Funeral Chapel
Joseph Stickler and Diana Skroch

Gold Level

(\$50,000–\$99,999)

AgCountry Farm Credit Services
Mark and Kathy Finstad
Dick and Debra Gulmon
Lynn and Linda* Holcomb
Bob* and Nancy King
Howard W. and Marlys J.* Langemo
Phillip and Darlene Mueller
Roger and Joy Rand
Myron and Jenneice Sommerfeld
Wallace and Jeanette Stangler
Ethel T. Stangler*
Casey and Sue Stoudt
Dave Zeller

Regents Level

(\$25,000–\$49,999)

Bridges Car Wash
Robert and Rosalyn Bruhschwein
Valley Wealth Advisors
– Tom and Tara Glandt
Bobby and Deborah Koeplin
John and KaSaundra Olstad
Peter* and Karen Richman
Luke and Loni Trapp
David E. Wright

* Deceased



– VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY – **HOMECOMING 2022**

The VCSU Alumni Association invites you to join alumni and friends of VCSU for many of the activities we have planned for Homecoming this year!

> **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

40th Annual Bill Osmon Fun Run | 4 p.m. | Lokken Stadium

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Alumni Welcome Back Ice Cream Social | 2:30 p.m. | Student Center

VCSU Bookstore Open | 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. | Student Center

Campus Tours | 3 p.m. | Student Center

Hall of Fame Social | 5 p.m. | Valley City Eagles

Alumni and friends are invited to stop by and socialize with the Hall of Fame inductees.

Hall of Fame Banquet & Ceremony | 6 p.m. | Valley City Eagles

Banquet tickets are available by contacting the VCSU Foundation at 701-845-7403.

All Alumni Social | 8 p.m. | Valley City Eagles

Please join us for a no-host social! Visit with the Hall of Fame inductees and other alumni as we gather in one location.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Alumni Honors Breakfast | 8:30 a.m. | Student Center

The Alumni Honors breakfast provides the VCSU Alumni Association with an opportunity to present the Alumni Service, Distinguished Alumnus, Young Alumni Achievement and Certificate of Merit Awards. We will also recognize the Bill Osmon Fun Run winners from the past 40 years! Tickets for the breakfast will be available at the door and are \$15 each.

VCSU Bookstore Open | 8 a.m. – noon | Student Center

Homecoming Parade | 10:30 a.m. | Central Avenue

VCSU Walking Tour

Enjoy a self-guided tour as you explore our beautiful campus. The tour will highlight some of our most notable places on campus and a chance to see our new Center for the Arts.

Viking Tailgating | 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. | Lokken Stadium

Vikings vs. Dickinson State University | 3 p.m. | Shelly Ellig Field

Postgame and All-Alumni Social | 6 p.m. | Valley City Eagles

This social is open to all VCSU alumni and friends to enjoy an opportunity to socialize and reminisce. No charge to attend this event. (There will be a taco bar set up for attendees and a no-host bar.)

College Student and Alumni Dance | 9 p.m. | Valley City Eagles

The dance is open to all alumni, friends, and college students. No charge to attend.



For up-to-date schedules and more information, visit [VCSU.edu/homecoming](https://www.vcsu.edu/homecoming) or call 701-845-7203.

VCSU Auction “Back to the 80’s” a Success



The 27th annual Valley City State University Scholarship Auction—with the theme “Back to the 80’s” — was Friday, April 29, at the Valley City Eagles Club.

More than 430 people attended, many in costumes and some with lots of big hair.

“It was fun to see our auction attendees get into the theme this year by dressing up. It’s what makes the atmosphere of our event so fun,” Kim Hesch, assistant director of advancement, said.

“The scholarship auction is the single biggest event in terms of generating scholarship dollars that the VCSU Foundation Office works on each year,” said Hesch. “Scholarships are vital to VCSU’s success, and all proceeds from the auction go directly to V-500 and Century Club scholarships.”

The Scholarship Auction is a collaborative effort of the VCSU Booster Board and V-500 Board. All proceeds from the event are split 50/50.

There was also an online silent auction allowing our alumni across the globe to bid on custom VCSU items and apparel as well as giving folks that can’t attend an opportunity to participate.

“We continue to have record enrollment numbers, and scholarships play a large role in our continued success in attracting students to Valley City State,” said Hesch. “We were able to exceed our goal of \$100,000 this year raising over \$114,000 for scholarships.”

The scholarship committee thanks all the businesses and individuals for donating items to the auction; they play a key role in the success of the event. The committee also thanks all those who bought tickets and attended the event. The successful auction contributed to the support of the V-500 and Century Club scholarship programs.

Top: (front) Allie Critchley and Reed Graham. (middle) Keaton Kvilvang, Joelle Lamontagne, and Jacob Gottenborg. (back) Troy Dietz, Joseph Salas, Riley Perryman, Hunter Sand and Dustin Kasowski. Middle: Kari and President Al LaFave Bottom: E.T. characters, Tyler and Angela VanBruggen and Top Gun's Goose, Wade Hesch



Employee Recognition

Teacher of the Year

David Hanson was honored as the VCSU Teacher of the Year for 2022.



Faculty Excellence Awards

There were three faculty awarded the Faculty Excellence Awards. Special Appointment Faculty Award of Excellence was awarded to Harmony Richman. Trent Kosel was presented the Junior Faculty Award, and Susan Pfeifer was honored the Senior Faculty Award.



Student Advocate

Dr. Margaret Dahlberg was awarded the 2022 Student Advocate Award by Student Senate President, Madison Yoder.





Honoring Retirees

The seven retirees honored during the recognition supper, as a group, represented 155 years of service to Valley City State University.



Connie Stavens

34 years



Curt Hill

27 years



Dr. Margaret Dahlberg

26 years



Charlene Stenson '83

23 years



Patti Rickford

23 years



Gary Ketterling

10 years

Alumni Anecdotes



Kyle Vareberg '12

is currently living in Tahlequah, OK teaching at Northeastern State University as an assistant professor of communication and media studies. Since graduating from VCSU, Vareberg worked 5 years as a high school English teacher in Rugby, N.D. He also served as a head forensics coach, the assistant one-act director and on the school improvement committee. In 2017 he left Rugby to pursue his Ph.D. in communication from NDSU.



Darrien Cantelo '17

is working as a pediatric physical therapist in Port Moody, British Columbia, Canada. She treats ages 0-18 in a wide variety of conditions from musculoskeletal, neurological, cardiorespiratory and gross motor development. As far as a favorite memory as a student, Cantelo says, "I can't pick just one. Every minute I spent learning, every minute in labs, every minute in the AT room, every minute on the field, every interaction with professors, every interaction with student-athletes, every minute walking the VCSU campus – they all stand out to me."

2022 Spring Commencement



Valley City State University (VCSU) held spring commencement Saturday, May 14, 2022, at W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse. This academic year, VCSU awarded 304 diplomas including 272 undergraduate degrees and 32 graduate degrees. The in-person ceremony was also livestreamed at www.youtube.com/vcsuvikings.

President Alan LaFave presided over the commencement exercises. Jeffry Volk represented the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education. Graduating senior, Riley Perryman, delivered the undergraduate reflection, and the faculty reflection was presented by David Hanson, assistant professor of education.

VCSU has now conferred 27,222 diplomas and degrees.





I N S I D E ATHLETICS

vcsuvikings.com



Dennis McCulloch to Serve as Interim Athletic Director

This summer, Valley City State University appointed Dennis McCulloch as the Interim Athletic Director. McCulloch has served as the assistant athletic director for many years and has been VCSU's head football coach for the past 25 seasons.



"Coach Mac is a proven leader and a heart for VCSU. His leadership inspires confidence and a culture of engagement and success," LaFave said. "There are few people who love VCSU athletics more than Coach Mac and I look forward to working with him to continue our forward momentum."

McCulloch replaces Jill DeVries, who resigned from her position as VCSU's athletic director this summer. McCulloch will remain

VCSU's head football coach while also serving as interim athletic director, effective July 1.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to step in and fill an important role in our athletic department and look forward to working with a great group of coaches to keep pushing our athletic department forward," said McCulloch. "It's a lot easier to step in and fill a role when the ship has been pointed in the right direction and on a good course thanks to Jill DeVries. I appreciate the trust of President LaFave to give me this opportunity, and I'm excited about his vision for VCSU and Viking Athletics. I look forward to continue working with him to achieve the university's goals."

McCulloch joined the VCSU staff in 1994 as the defensive coordinator for the Viking football team. He was named the team's head coach in 1996 and has held that position for the past

25 years – guiding the program to a 151-99 overall record, six conference championships and four NAIA playoff appearances. He has earned Conference Coach of the Year six times and in 2021 he was named President of the NAIA Football Coaches Association.

McCulloch has also worked as an assistant athletic director since 2009 and previously served as the interim athletic director for a period in 2016. VCSU football's fundraising efforts have grown exponentially during his time at VCSU as McCulloch and his staff have created and expanded the Oarsmen Club and several fundraising events.

A native of Milbank, S.D., McCulloch received his Bachelor's Degree from Northern State and went on to receive his Master of Science Degree from NSU in 1989.

McCulloch has three children who have all graduated from VCSU: Ryan '10, Meghan '13 and Alexa '19.





Viking Softball wins NSAA Championship; advances to nationals

The Valley City State softball team won the North Star Athletic Association conference tournament championship for the second time in three seasons.

The Vikings defeated regular season champion Bellevue University to earn the North Star Athletic Association Tournament title and an automatic bid to the national tournament. VCSU's season came to an end at NAIA National Softball Championship Opening Round in Gulf Shores, Ala., where they were paired against the nation's top-ranked team, Mobile (Ala.). It was VCSU's second national tournament run in its last three seasons.

VCSU posted a 33-18 record in 2022 and set multiple team and individual school records including team home runs (60), RBIs (352) and walks (164). Senior shortstop Joelle Aiello was named NSAA Player of the Year after batting .416 with school records of 18 home runs and 61 RBIs. The Viking softball team totaled eight All-Conference players and four Gold Glove awards.

First Team All-Conference players included Aiello,



SOFTBALL - Continued on Page 22



Baseball posts .500 record during 2022 season

The Valley City State baseball team finished the 2022 season with a 22-22 overall record and a 12-11 mark in conference play, finishing fifth in the North Star Athletic Association regular season standings.

The Vikings had their season come to an end in the NSAA Postseason Tournament, posting a 1-2 record in the postseason.

The year was highlighted by one of the best individual seasons in Viking history. Infielder and closer David Demeter was named 1st Team All-Conference after he led the team in every major batting category, including a .371 batting average, a .494 on-base percentage, 13 doubles, 14 home runs and 49 RBIs in just 38 games.

As a pitcher, Demeter recorded 7 saves and averaged 16 strikeouts per nine innings. Despite playing in just 38 games, Demeter set a new school record with 29 extra-base hits this season. His 7 saves, 14 home runs and .835 slugging percentage all rank 2nd in school history, and his 49 RBIs is the fifth-best season ever by a Viking.

Other postseason accolades included 2nd Team All-Conference selections for outfielder Dustin Mertz and first baseman Avery Bennefeld. Outfielder Drew Nixon was named Honorable Mention All-Conference, along with senior pitcher William Hlady. Senior shortstop Jayden Shipman was named VCSU's Champion of Character.

Hlady was VCSU's best pitcher down the stretch and led the team with 18 appearances and 62 innings. He struck out 71 batters in those 61 innings, including a career-high 12 strikeouts in a dominating performance against Viterbo.

Four Viking Golfers named Honorable Mention All-Conference

The Valley City State golf teams competed at four tournaments this spring opening with the Jimmie Spring Invite in late March. The Vikings also competed at the Dickinson State Spring Invite and Hardrocker Invite before concluding the season at the NSAA Golf Conference Championships in Albert Lea, Minn.

Four Vikings earned Honorable Mention All-Conference honors after finishing in the Top 14 at the NSAA Championships. Senior Jayden Ewoniuk was VCSU's top finisher, placing eighth in the men's tournament as he carded a 157 (78-79) on the par-72 course. Sophomore Rory Gentzkow placed 11th with a two-day total of 160 (79-81).

Senior Jocelyn Braunberger earned honorable mention All-Conference as the top women's finisher for VCSU. Braunberger placed 11th with a two-day total of 174 (89-85). Junior Hayley Shanks finished in 13th with a 175 (98-83).

Shanks and Ewoniuk were named NSAA Champions of Character.

Ewoniuk



Braunberger



2022

FOOTBALL

SCHEDULE

Aug. 25
@ Jamestown
7 p.m.

Sept. 1
vs. Concordia-
Moorhead
7 p.m.

Sept. 17
vs. Dickinson St.
(Homecoming)
3 p.m.

Sept. 24
@ Presentation
College
7 p.m.



Oct. 8
vs. Dakota State*
4 p.m.

Oct. 15
vs. Iowa
Wesleyan*
1 p.m.

Oct. 22
@ Waldorf
University*
1 p.m.

Oct. 29
@ Dickinson State*
4 p.m.

Nov. 5
vs. Presentation
College*
1 p.m.

Nov. 12
@ Mayville State*
1 p.m.

* NSAA Conference Game

Home games in bold

Co earns All-American; Vikings win 5 conference titles

Viking senior Zachary Co earned All-American honors and three Vikings qualified for the NAIA National Championships during the 2022 outdoor track and field season.

Co picked up the fifth All-American honor of his career as he placed 3rd in the nation in men's shot put. It was the best career finish for Co, one of the most decorated throwers in Viking history. Kendra Odegard placed 14th in the women's javelin competition at nationals, while Co also placed 15th in the men's weight throw. Clay Kummer qualified for nationals in the 400 hurdles but had to withdraw due to injury.

VCSU track and field athletes won five conference championships and had 13 All-Conference performances as Valley City hosted the two-day North Star Athletic Association Conference Meet in early May.

The Vikings won five individual titles in events, headlined by a sprinting sweep from Brooke Malsom. The Viking senior raced to conference championships in both the women's 100 (12.24) and 200 meter dashes (25.74). Malsom finished the meet scoring 35.25 team points and four All-Conference honors, also placing second in triple jump and third in long jump.

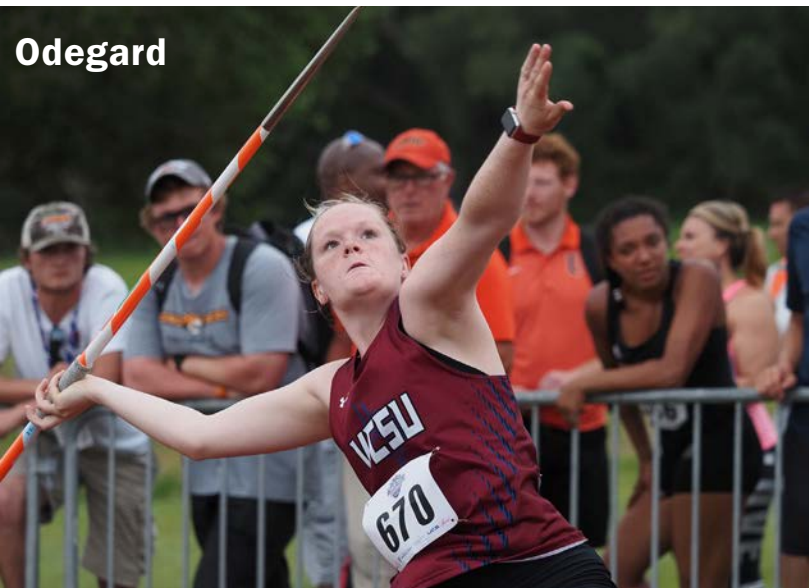
Odegard threw a new personal record of 43.29 meters to win the women's javelin championship. That throw ranked Odegard sixth in the nation heading into the national meet. Odegard won the women's javelin event at seven of the eight meets she competed in.

On the men's side, Co won the men's shot put title for the second straight year, recording a top mark of 16.05 meters. The Viking senior has now won the shot put title at five straight conference meets, including the last two outdoor and last three indoor NSAA meets. Co finished the meet with three All-Conference honors, placing first in shot put, second in hammer and third in discus. In the men's 400 hurdles, Kummer raced to his first conference championship for VCSU. Kummer raced out to an early lead and then held on down the backstretch against a brutal headwind, beating second place by just .02 seconds in one of the most exciting races of the day.

Valley City State's women placed fourth overall out of seven teams. The Viking men took fifth out of seven teams.

The Vikings set three school records during the outdoor season. Kummer broke the 400 hurdles record with his time of 54.56 seconds, while Malsom lowered her own record in the 200 meters (25.25) and Taylor Sargent lowered her record time in the women's 100 hurdles (15.37).

Odegard



Co



SOFTBALL - Continued from Page 19

Jessica Husband, Anne-Elise Gest, Joelle Lamontagne, Riley Perryman, Marissa Hawkins and Sierra Crocker. Andrea Rodriguez was named Second Team All-Conference.

Aiello, Lamontagne, Rodriguez and Ashlynn Copinga were each named to the NSAA Gold Glove team which recognizes outstanding defense. Perryman was named the NSAA Champion of Character.

In the last three full seasons of North Star softball, the Vikings have now won two regular season titles and two conference tournament championships. Valley City State won the NSAA regular season and tournament titles in 2019. The 2020 season was canceled due to COVID, and in 2021 the Vikings won the regular season title before losing in the NSAA Tournament championship game.

In early June, VCSU announced Matt Gable as next head coach of the softball program. Gable has over 14 years of coaching experience and most recently served as the owner and pitching coordinator for Diamond Academy, a competitive summer softball program for high school athletes who are interested in playing college softball.




Lamontagne



Aiello

2022 VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

<p>Aug. 18 vs. Montana St-Northern 10 a.m.</p> <p>Aug. 26-27 @ Briar Cliff Tournament - Sioux City, Iowa</p> <p>Sept. 1-3 @ Bellevue Invitational - Bellevue, Neb.</p> <p>Sept. 9-10 @ Frontier-NSAA Crossover - Havre, Mont.</p> <p>Sept. 14 vs. Dickinson State* 7 p.m.</p> <p>Sept. 15 vs. Concordia-Moorhead 7 p.m.</p> <p>Sept. 23 @ Waldorf University* 7 p.m.</p> <p>Sept. 24 @ Viterbo University* 1 p.m.</p> <p>Sept. 30 vs. Dakota State* 6 p.m.</p>		<p>Oct. 1 vs. Bellevue University* 1 p.m.</p> <p>Oct. 5 @ Mayville State* 6 p.m.</p> <p>Oct. 8 @ Presentation College* 2 p.m.</p> <p>Oct. 11 @ Dickinson State* 7 p.m.</p> <p>Oct. 12 @ Univ. of Jamestown 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Oct. 21 @ Bellevue University* 6 p.m.</p> <p>Oct. 22 @ Dakota State* 2 p.m.</p> <p>Oct. 28 vs. Viterbo University* 6 p.m.</p> <p>Oct. 29 vs. Waldorf University* 1 p.m.</p> <p>Nov. 2 vs. Mayville State* 6 p.m.</p> <p>Nov. 4 vs. Presentation College* 6 p.m.</p>
--	---	--	--

*NSAA conference game Home games in bold

Coaches Hall of Fame Ceremony

Valley City State University inducted 27 VCSU alumni into the new VCSU Coaches Hall of Fame this spring.

They received the Osmon Icon Award during a ceremony on Friday, June 10, at the Valley City Eagles Club. The Coaches Hall of Fame is a new addition at VCSU and honors Viking alumni who have gone on to successful and influential coaching careers.

The inaugural class included alumni from five different decades spanning 67 years. Combined, the class coached nine different sports at the collegiate and high school level, and won national championships and numerous national coach of the year awards.

Inductees into the VCSU Coaches Hall of Fame receive the Osmon Icon Award – named in honor of Viking icon coach Bill Osmon.

The inaugural class included alumni from five different decades spanning

67
YEARS



Al Dosch '55



Nancy for *Bob King '55



Larry Grooters '57



Don Lemnus '58



Jim McPherson '59



Linda for *Al Bortke '60



Dick Stiles '61



Dee Jensen '66 & for *Owen Jensen '65



Dwight Leier '68



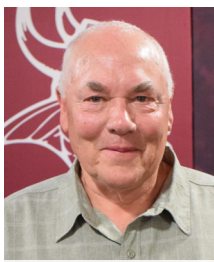
Rod Oksendahl '73



Karen for *Craig Murie '74



Brian Anderson '75



Gary Schauer '75



Tim Jacobson '77



Dave Bass '77



Jim Trett '79



Kathy Berglund '79



Darrell Berglund '79



Mark Brown '84



Dave Cresap '84



Kevin Blaskowski '86



Perry Piatz '86



Carolyn Olson '87



Greg Hoeckle '90

Not Pictured: Jerry Olson '55 & Dianne Lovec Moser '73 *awarded posthumously

CLASS OF 2010s

Jean Garcia-Beck '12 and her family live in the seaside town of Seward, Alaska where she teaches 5th grade at the elementary school. Her husband, **Coty Beck '11** teaches physical education at the middle school. Coty and Jean first taught in Tioga, N.D. before they came back to their hometown. They have 3 children going into grades 3, 4, and 6! Jean coaches the high school cheerleading squad, tutors for their homeschooling program, tutors for their district's migrant education program, is a private tutor, as well as collaborates with teachers in the Personalized Learning Champs Program integrated through Education Elements. She has taught for 10 years and is finally on her way to obtaining a Master's of Education in Educational Leadership!



Ronnie Blagg '14 currently lives in East Los Angeles, California and is the program director for SPARK Academy Corp, which is a private after school program in Monterey Park, California. He and his girlfriend (Jazmin Valencia) recently welcomed their first child together on September 2nd, 2021. Their son's name is Esao Anthony Valencia-Blagg.



Jake Miller '15 graduated with a degree in wildlife management. In 2016, he started his career as a game warden for North Dakota Game and Fish. He served as the Killdeer game warden until 2020. In 2020,

he moved to Wyoming to work for Wyoming Game and Fish as a game warden. Jake is currently the Senior Game Warden in Elk Mountain. He decided to go to Wyoming because of the diversity of work from law enforcement, wildlife surveys, and public outreach. He says he is fortunate to get to spend a lot of his summer horsebacking in the mountains.

Rachel Hummel '16, M.Ed. '21 is teaching high school math at Fargo North High School along with coaching volleyball. This fall will be her second year as head coach. Rachel is so thankful for VCSU and all the memories from her undergrad years and her Masters!

Alumni Anecdotes



Bonita Roswick, '12

was worried about the transition back to school as an older than average student. Once she got to VCSU, those worries shed. Roswick graduated in 2012 and was hired one year later as an Education Specialist at VCSU's Prairie Waters Education and Research Center. She is in a non-traditional teaching role where she teaches environmental education to K-12 field trip groups, teacher workshops and water quality professionals.



Edynn Glatt '20

is currently a fifth grade teacher at Rita Murphy Elementary in Bismarck. Glatt credits VCSU for helping shape her into a strong and confident leader. "At VCSU, I took up many leadership roles that helped me gain more confidence with those around me. Throughout my time in the elementary program, I had several opportunities to put my skills to use in actual elementary classrooms, which helped me prepare for my career."

VCS We Love the Red and Blue.....VCSU past and present students gather at the wedding of Thomas '16 and Tori (Enstad) '16 Houdek on July 1.



In Remembrance

Former Faculty & Staff

Henrik Voldal, Department of Education & Psychology



Henrik Voldal died March 1, 2022 at his farm home near Valley City, North Dakota. He was born May 14, 1935, in Valley City. Henrik served in the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged in 1956. He taught at Valley City State University, where he also served for a time as Chairman of the Division of Education and Psychology.

Connie Pederson '91, Registrar's Office 1982 – 2007



Constance "Connie" Emerson was born July 8, 1942. She received her BS in Office Administration and Management from Valley City State University in May of 1991. Connie and her husband, Larry, were co-owners of the Dario Drive-In for two years. In the fall of 1982, she started at Valley City State University and worked in the Registrar's Office there for 25 years. She retired on July 31, 2007. Connie Pederson, 79, passed away at SMP Health-St. Raphael in Valley City on March 19, 2022.

Juanita Luessen '57, Department of English

Juanita Ruth Cozort was born November 18, 1920 in Fulton County, Arkansas. She married Frank Luessen in 1939. The couple moved to Valley City, ND and Juanita attended and graduated from Valley City State University. She taught English at Valley City State University. Juanita Luessen, age 101, died Saturday, May 28th at SMP St. Raphael, in Valley City.

Pat Horner, Facilities Services



Patrick Blaine Horner, 58, of Valley City, ND unexpectedly passed away due to medical complications on July 5th 2022. He was born in Mayville, ND to Margaret and Jon Horner on January 15th 1964. Pat played football and pursued studies at Valley City State University. In 1986, he married his high-school sweetheart Debra Lemnus, and together they raised three sons.

Pat loved making a difference in

his community. He loved his career at Valley City State University, where he took great pride in executing many of the expansions and beautification projects across the campus. Pat would never say no to anyone who needed help. His final gift on this earth was organ and tissue donation through Life Source. At this time, the family knows of at least two individuals who have a chance to live their lives to the fullest through Pat's gifts.

Memorials can be sent to the VCSU Foundation to be added to Beautification fund.

Doris (Tompt) Elness '40, Bismarck, N.D.
Viola (Syvertson) Medd '41, Portland, Ore.
Cynthia (Roe) Smith, Jamestown, N.D.
Luella (Krieg) McTiernan '49, Sunnyvale, Calif.
Milton Kane, Mesa, Ariz.
Jane (Sheldon) Knecht '51, Moorhead, Minn.
Auriel (Abbott) Luedtke '53, Bismarck, N.D.
Hildegard (Eberle) Anderson '54, Valley City
Jeanette Stone '54, Walcott, N.D.
Iris (Gonzalez) Walle, Williston, N.D.
Edmund Gienger '56, College Place, Wash
Lois (Gilbert) Larsen '57, Port Angeles, Wash.
Carol (Tweten) Bellmore, Valley City
Dennis Lindstrom, Finley, N.D.
Mark Carrico '61, Longmont, Colo.
Irvin Smith III, Bismarck, N.D.
William Rickford '67, Binford, N.D.
Charlotte (Bruns) Risgaard '68, New Rockford, N.D.
Karen (Wilen) Brodehl '69, Vancouver, Wash.
Barbara (Meade) Moos '69, Fargo, N.D.
Clarilyn (Anderson) Riedinger '69, Bismarck, N.D.
Norma (McCallum) Moberg '71, North Branch, Minn.
Randy Spitzer '72, Mandan, N.D.
Darcy (Medenwald) Haugen '76, Jamestown, N.D.
Daniel Keegan '76, Bismarck, N.D.
Carol (Berg) Opdahl '84, Lisbon, N.D.
Cynthia Andren '01, West Fargo, N.D.

Mary Crosby, Fargo, N.D.
Odella Henley, Valley City
Joyce Johnson, Vancouver, Wash.
Marjorie Meredith, Mankato, Minn.
Dorothy Olson, Valley City

Just Married

Send us your wedding photo so we can include it in the next issue of **The Bulletin**. Email the photo and a short description to kim.hesch@vcsu.edu.



1



2



3

1 - Courtney Dixon '16 and Avery Lock '18, June 18, 2022

2 - Thressa Platz '20 and Jonah Wolla '20 were married Feb 12, 2022. They met back in 2017 when they were both sophomores attending VCSU for elementary education. It was their very first education class 'Intro to Education.' Jonah and Thressa graduated in 2020 after completing their student teaching virtually thanks to the covid pandemic. They continue to live in Valley City and both teach 6th grade. Jonah at Hope-Page Elementary and Thressa at Litchville-Marion High School.

3 - Isaac Samuels '21 and Amelia Anderson were married June 13, 2022. After living in Fairbanks for the past year, Isaac and Amelia will both be teaching in Bethel, Alaska starting this fall.

Rylee Nudell '20 & Grant Lindemann, April 9, 2022

Elissa Berg '11 & Brandon Toothaker, May 7, 2022

Katie Pautz '18 & **Aaron Schuster '19**, June 4, 2022

Lana Blakeman & Harrison Maas, June 11, 2022

Megan Boe & **Alex Pfeifer '12**, June 16, 2022

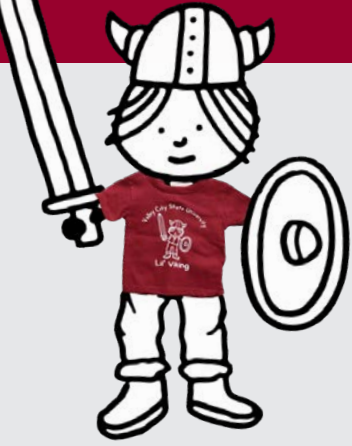
Miriah Yoder & **Eli Luna '19**, June 18, 2022

Leah Ruter '20 & **Christopher Brogdon '19**, June 25, 2022

Riley Loeks '20 & **Johnathon Van Peursesem '22**, June 25, 2022

Tori Enstad '16 & **Thomas Houdek '16**, July 1, 2022

Not Pictured



Lil' Vikings

Have you had an addition to your family?

Share your good news with the Viking family!

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



Brynlee Marie Scherr

April 24, 2021
7 lbs. 5 oz., 20 in.

Arick '13 and Sabrina Scherr



Chiara Mary Fries

October 22, 2021
8 lbs. 6 oz., 21 in.

Joins siblings: Maria, Lily & Thomas

James '10 and Kimberly (Wanner) '10 Fries



Grayson Wisnewski

August 15, 2021
7 lbs. 14 oz.

Wylie '09, M.Ed. '17 and Brittany Wisnewski



Dean Michael Williams

December 1, 2020
7 lbs. 9 oz., 19.5 in.

Big Sister: Tess

Sarah (Helseth) M.Ed. '17 and Taylor Williams



Kamden Kyle Stewart

September 26th, 2021
5 lbs. 11 oz, 18 3/4 in

Siblings: Greyson (7) and Gage (5)

Kyle '08 and Eileen (Grieger) '09 Stewart



Emrie Kay Good

June 18, 2021
7 lbs. 12 oz., 19.5 in.

Joins big sister, Charlotte, and her puppy, Piper

Bradyn and Cassandra (Kunze) '14 Good



Arthur Von Schaefer

January 25, 2022
7 lbs. 8 oz., 21 in.

Austin Schaefer & Chelsey (Olauson) '20 Schaefer

Grandparents: Mike '94 & Holly (Paulson) '94 Olauson



Charlotte Poitra

November 30, 2021
6 lbs. 11 oz., 21 in.

Devin Poitra '19 and Sierra Heinrich



Continuing the Connection

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.



2006

Man Chu
Michael Dietz
Jonathan Hanson
Melie Ilogu
Deric Ingram
Elizabeth (Dosland) Kleinke
Jenifer (Wollman) Peterson
Jacquelin (Zimmerman) Shekore
Sarah (Fehr) Stewart
Dena (Muri) Wells

2007

Kimberly Bilokreli
Sheena (Hamilton) Blanchard
Skye Braun
Drew Calanchie
Michelle Castillo
Jamie Flath
Jenna (Poepel) Jewett
Ashley Kunz
Dawn (Sandbeck) Ransom

2008

Michael Fox
Cody Johnson
Riley Klassen
Andrew Kuester
Tessa (Ham) Nelson
Andrea Smith
Monica Townsend
Alexander Wheal

2009

Megan Anderson
Kelly Harrington
Daniel Hill
Rachel (Wilson) Hill
Kristine Krall
Erin (Ottinger) Low
Christina Moreno
Yusuke Oikawa
Karissa (Fahlman) Peterson
Mary Varner Zimmerman

2010

Eva Dusolier
Timothy Eppen
Luke Jones
Stephanie Kosman
Courtney (Roberts) Montgomery
Nicole Nelson
Marineo Toslluku
Lisa (Paille') Wheal

2011

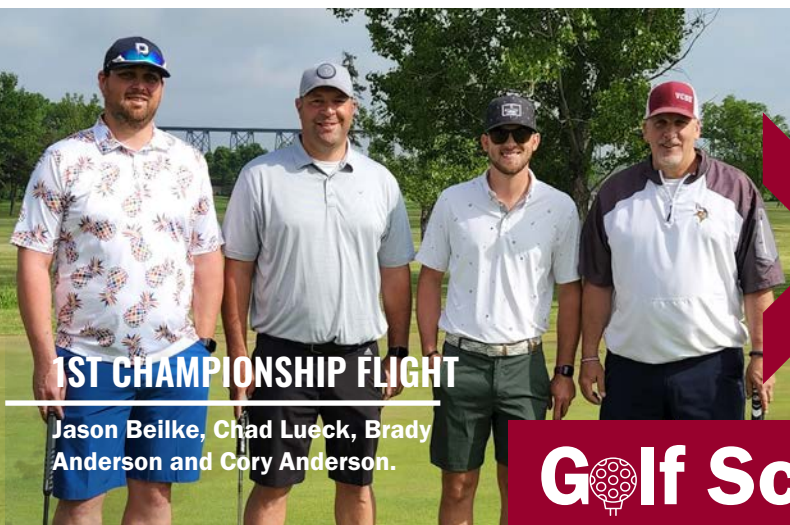
Willie Ard III
Matthew Borgford
Caitlin (Bonnstetter) Burckhard
Kendria (Orvik) Chowdhury
Jesse Martin
Bethany Myles
Philip Russell
Katherine Swanson

2012

Hantao Bian
Stephanie Conley
Greg Di Stefano
Samantha Hendrickson
Karissa (Keever) Koehler
Oluwatoyin Oladosu
Ashley (Walker) Peterson
Di Wu
Jing Yang

2013

Luis Betancur
Destinee Capman
Kelly Jo (Campbell) Dickmann
Lyle Hager
Cody Hutchinson
Devon Lura
Shauna Nissen
Stevie (Hagen) Ostenson
LeTheo Proctor
Benjamin Snyder
Robert Sorensen
Michelle Vaughn
Colin Waldner



1ST CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Jason Beilke, Chad Lueck, Brady Anderson and Cory Anderson.



1ST VIKING FLIGHT

Megan Beck, Lynn Gustafson, Brent Gustafson and Jeff Brown.

**Golf Scramble
Winners**



Valley City State University
Alumni Association
101 College Street SW
Valley City, ND 58072

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FARGO, ND
PERMIT NO. 1159

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.



**SEPTEMBER
24**

Registration - Lokken Stadium
11 - 11:45 a.m.
Cruise Starting at 12 noon
\$30 per entry

This fun run and cruise is open to anyone wanting to ride their motorcycle or drive their classic car.

STOPS INCLUDE

- Hungry Pelican (The Crossing)
- Punky's Bar (Dazey)
- J&L's Bar & Grill (Sanborn)

There will be prizes given out at each stop. A meal will be provided at our final stop at J&L's Bar and Grill in Sanborn.

All proceeds raised will be donated to the V-500 Scholarship program which funds academic scholarships at Valley City State University.

To preregister, call the VCSU Alumni/Foundation at 701-845-7203 or email: alumni@vcsu.edu