

# THE BULLETIN

*A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University*



## Forward Together

The Inauguration of President Alan LaFave

**VALLEY CITY**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

Homecoming 2019 ♦ Alumni Honors Breakfast ♦ Fall Enrollment Records



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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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**Cover Story**

**4 Forward Together: The Inauguration of President Alan LaFave**

A year after the State Board of Higher Education chose Alan LaFave as VCSU's 14th president, he was inaugurated in a formal installation ceremony in W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse on Friday, Sept. 27. The ceremony was sandwiched between two music events: a star-studded recital featuring President LaFave and friends on Thursday night, and a Friday night concert by Chicago tribute band Transit Authority.



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**6 Homecoming 2019**

The students celebrated throughout the week, and alumni and friends gathered Friday and Saturday for a host of activities including the inauguration of President LaFave, an ice cream social, the Viking Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony, the annual parade, a first-time Classic Car/Motorcycle Cruise, tailgating, football vs. Dakota State and more.



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**8 Alumni Honors Breakfast**

The Alumni Association handed out awards to deserving VCSU graduates at its Annual Honors Breakfast on Sept. 28. Mel McNea '78 was named the 61st recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award, while three alumni — George Berger '75 and Teresa (Pritchard) '80 and Todd Christiansen '82 — received the Alumni Service Award. Galen Brantley '98, Kevin Bratland '90, David Griffin '80, Scott King '81, Rhonda (Scheekloth) Nudell '92, and Wayne Steiner '97 received Certificate of Merit Awards.



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**10 VCSU student Shane Hitch wins cybersecurity award**

After solving 250 cybersecurity challenges, Shane Hitch, a VCSU sophomore from West Fargo, emerged from the Cyber FastTrack competition involving 13,000 students as one of 100 finalists earning a full scholarship for advanced cyber skills training through the SANS Technology Institute.



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Cover: President Alan LaFave is pictured presenting his inaugural address in W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse.



## Enrollment growth: Moving forward together

Alan D. LaFave, D.M.A., President

One of the most important measures and validations of a university's success is enrollment. We have seen our fall enrollment numbers increase every year for the past 10 years, and in the last 4 years, our efforts to continue that growth have been very purposeful and focused.

Our faculty, administration and staff have been diligent in this effort. This focus has been centered on the notion of continuous improvement, with specific attention to recruitment, retention, student engagement and success, and quality academic and cocurricular opportunities, as we aim to create a community of scholars and learners, offer excellent advising, and provide an affordable higher education option with abundant scholarship offerings. This list of our goals and efforts, while not exhaustive, has been a big part of the discussion and work with our enrollment management team here at VCSU.

This fall we set enrollment records with a 1,665 total headcount and an undergraduate headcount of 1,524, breaking the 2018 records of 1,547 and 1,404 respectively. Our FTE (full-time equivalent) also increased over last year; we're now at 1,164, compared to 1,096 in 2018. (You can read more about our enrollment records on p. 10.)

VCSU is one of only two North Dakota University System institutions that grew in both headcount and full-time equivalent categories this year.

Taking a bit of a deeper dive into the numbers, it's interesting to note that 54% of our students are face-to-face, on-campus students, while 26% are online only. The remaining 20% take a combination of face-to-face and online courses. While online is a preferred method of delivery for approximately a quarter of our students, 45% of our face-to-face students are not taking any online courses, and 47% of our online-only students are North Dakota residents.

We understand the importance of providing high quality in both face-

to-face and online delivery methods and have implemented measures to address quality assurance in content and consistency in the online courses. This assures an online student of receiving the same, high-quality experience as our face-to-face students.

Retention plays an important role in the success of our overall enrollment management plan. As you might imagine, many hours are spent in the recruiting process identifying prospects; making initial contacts with them; inviting them to campus to meet with faculty, staff and coaches (if they are being recruited as athletes); giving campus tours; and maintaining regular communication all the way through registration and orientation. With these extensive efforts invested in recruiting prospects, it becomes just as important for us to retain them once they become VCSU students.

Our retention rate for our first-time full-time students is also at a record high for VCSU. This rate, measured by the number of students retained from fall semester freshman year to fall semester sophomore year, was 72.85% this fall, nearly 5 percentage points over the 68.13% last year. A task force has been assembled to provide recommendations for actions and programs that will help our retention remain strong; this is a top priority.

These are very exciting times at VCSU! The record numbers represent the active choice that students make when they enroll. The numbers are also a positive indicator of the tremendous work being done by our faculty and staff, and the strong support we receive from alumni, donors and the Valley City community, along with the North Dakota University System and North Dakota Legislature. The personal attention that students receive both on campus and online makes for an outstanding education and tremendous value, and I'm so very proud of the people who make that happen.

Go Vikings!

Join **VCSU ALUMNI**  
and **FRIENDS**  
for Gatherings  
in Arizona

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2020 — PEORIA, ARIZONA

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

The Links Neighborhood Grill  
18823 North Country Club Parkway  
Peoria, Arizona

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2020 — MESA, ARIZONA

#### Golf and Luncheon

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

#### Alumni & Friends Golf — \$28 per person

(9 holes of golf)  
Golf with VCSU President Alan LaFave  
8:00 a.m. Registration  
8:30 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! To RSVP, contact Kim Hesch at 701-845-7403 or kim.hesch@vcsu.edu.



# 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](mailto:larry.robinson@vcsu.edu).**



## A Time to Give Thanks

**Kim Svenningsen-Hesch '91, Assistant Director for University Advancement and Alumni Relations**

As the year comes to close, we all have an opportunity to reflect our lives and give thanks. I am thankful for — and constantly amazed by — the reach and passion of our Viking family. In October we held the inauguration ceremony for our new president, Alan LaFave, in conjunction with Homecoming. He was greeted by alumni attending activities who were eager to reconnect and share their excitement for Valley City State University.

We are very thankful for the number of alumni that returned home for Homecoming this year who attend the Hall of Fame Banquet, Alumni Honors Breakfast and Post-game Social. We also hosted our first annual Classic Car/Motorcycle Cruise with over 20 entries! Fun was had by all, and we look forward to our second annual next year. It was clear that regardless of how far from VCSU life may take us, the bonds our alumni create through their shared experiences as students are truly unique.

With the end of the year approaching, we would encourage you to consider giving back to the university through our annual giving programs. Annual giving is an essential part of the VCSU philanthropic tradition. Through annual giving, our loyal donors make an immediate impact, supporting areas of importance to them.

The students who attend VCSU depend on the support of alumni. Without the participation of alumni in fundraising and scholarship initiatives, the students and university cannot succeed. We have several ways you can support your alma mater financially. Here are a few examples:

**Annual Fund/Phone-A-Thon:** Gifts made to the Annual Fund/Phone-A-Thon Fund support Alumni Association initiatives, including The Bulletin, alumni socials, reunion events and alumni award programs. By supporting this fund, you are investing in your alma mater. Donations help increase Valley City State's alumni participation rate, an important and impactful number that helps strengthen the University's national rankings and recognition.

**Century Club Scholarship Program:** The VCSU Booster Board is committed to raising scholarship funds for the VCSU athletic department and strengthening the Viking athletic programs.

**V-500 Scholarship Program:** The purpose of the V-500 Scholarship Program is to raise funds on behalf of the VCSU Foundation for the benefit of VCSU and its students, faculty and staff. The V-500 program funds academic scholarships to support VCSU's vision of attracting and retaining talented individuals who advance quality learning opportunities and economic growth through technology and innovation.

To find out more about any of these programs or others, please call our office at 701-845-7203 or check out our website at [vcsualumni.org](http://vcsualumni.org) (click on "Ways to Give").

Your participation each and every year is vital. We count on you. With consistent alumni participation, we can do more now and plan for the future. Participation rates are an indication of alumni loyalty and a reflection on the Viking experience. Make your contribution today and expand your reach to the next generation. Go Vikings!

## ALUMNI Socials

<b>January 15, 2020</b> 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Valley City Town & Country Club	<b>February 18, 2020</b> 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Jamestown Sabir's Buffalo Grill	<b>March 17, 2020</b> 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Fargo Crooked Pint
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### 2019–20 VCSU Alumni Board of Directors

**PRESIDENT**

**Paul Keidel '86**

**FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE**

**Dave Bass '77**

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**Zach McBeain '15**

**PAST PRESIDENT**

**Jim Vandrovec '74**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**Brianna Busch '12**

**Wendy (Reidman)**

**Hogue '85**

**Maryellen (Vandrovec)**

**Homan '75**

**Robert Keller '89**

**Kendra Krueger '12**

**Paul Leier '85**

**Stacy Wendel-Monilaws '02**

**Tristan Ross '08**

**Jonathan Stenslie '97**

**Sheri (Sweere) Wetch '98**

### 2019–20 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**

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**Ray Braun**

**Mark Finstad**

**George Gaukler '62**

**Dick Gulmon**

**Gigi Goven**

**Robert Horne '59**

**Dee Jensen '66**

**Josh Kasowski '05**

**Alan LaFave**

**Phillip Mueller '68**

**Mark Richman '74**

**Paul Sandness '76**

**Gene Smestad**

**Jerry A. Topp '74**

**Larry Robinson '71,**

**ex officio**

**Wesley Wintch, ex officio**



## The Challenge Grant, Your IRA and Required Minimum Distribution

Larry Robinson '71, Executive Director of University Advancement

In my last Foundation Corner Report, I shared with you the excitement of the North Dakota Legislature's renewal of the Challenge Grant program. This program has been in existence for the past few years. VCSU has been allocated a total of \$700,000 to match on a 2:1 basis for the establishment of **endowed and memorial scholarships**. We therefore need to raise a total of \$1,400,000 in private money by December 1, 2020, to fully realize this match. The matching funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Challenge Grant program has been very exciting for our donors. This program provides a golden opportunity to memorialize a loved one, a coach, a former faculty member, or someone who has been special in your life. With a minimum \$5,000 endowment to the Valley City State University 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 by \$1 for every \$2 you give.

The VCSU Foundation has used this exciting program to establish over 200 endowed and memorial scholarships. Some folks have used this program to establish a family scholarship. Others have contributed to an

existing scholarship. **Note that pledges can be made to make the match up to a period of seven years.**

If you own an IRA and you are age 70 1/2, you are required to make a minimum distribution. Why not consider using your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to make a scholarship contribution? By doing so, you can satisfy your IRA's RMD and help us meet the Challenge Grant match. You may distribute up to \$100,000 to charity each year to make your RMD. For the IRA charitable rollover to work, it is important that you do not take the distribution. **Ask your IRA administrator to make the distribution directly to the VCSU**

**Foundation.** While you will not receive an income tax deduction for your gift, you avoid including your RMD in your taxable income and will receive the joy of knowing that the full amount will go to support our scholarship programs.

For further information on this exciting opportunity, contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7203 or visit us on the web at [vcsualumni.org](http://vcsualumni.org).

In closing, happy holidays to you and yours! Should your travels bring you this way, stop by for a visit. The coffee is always on.

*The VCSU Foundation has used this exciting program to establish over 200 endowed and memorial scholarships.*



*"VCSU is an excellent environment for students to learn and to earn their teaching credentials. Establishing and contributing to scholarship endowment through the VCSU Foundation enables us to assist students/future teachers with their college expenses."*

— Noreen (Stevens) '81 and Gene Noreen Smestad, Valley City

## WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT?

An endowment is a special fund in which the principal is invested in perpetuity and never used. The interest earnings support the annual scholarship allocation. Endowments are an excellent way to honor or memorialize a loved one, teacher, coach or your family.

*The VCSU Foundation requires a minimum investment of \$10,500 to establish an endowment.*

Donors can invest the funds all at one time, or make periodic contributions to the fund until such time that the \$10,500 minimum is met. Once the fund is established, contributions to the fund can continue into the future.

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[www.vcsualumni.org](http://www.vcsualumni.org)



# FORWARD TOGETHER

## THE INAUGURATION OF

# Dr. Alan D. LaFave

The Fourteenth President of  
Valley City State University

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2019



1. Chancellor Hagerott and SBHE Chair Hacker place the VCSU Presidential Medallion on President LaFave.  
2. Student Senate members pose with President LaFave after the ceremony. Pictured (l to r) are Ethan Eckholm, Megan Billadeau, Misako Inaoka, Christian Spencer, President LaFave, Angeline Gannon, Riley Roy-Lagasse, Taylene Mendiola, Abby Bladow, and Reed Graham.

On Sept. 27, 2018, the State Board of Higher Education selected Alan LaFave, then provost of Northern State University, as the next president of Valley City State University. On exactly the same date a year later, Sept. 27, 2019, President LaFave was formally inaugurated as the 14th president of VCSU.

LaFave had begun his work on campus in mid-December 2018 but chose to have the inauguration coincide with the 2019 Homecoming celebration. An inauguration committee — co-chaired by Rhonda Fairfield, Kim Hesch, Kari Stricklin and Greg Vanney — organized the celebratory events.

The inauguration events kicked off with a student reception with President LaFave late Thursday afternoon, Sept. 26. An inaugural recital followed, with the president performing on his clarinet along with a host of talented musicians, including faculty members from VCSU and Northern State University, along with a couple Aberdeen musicians. James Gai, LaFave's clarinet teacher during his undergraduate days at Northern State, and Robert Spring, the president's graduate school teacher at Arizona State University, also played. A highlight of the recital was a performance of Bassi's "Fantasia from I Puritani" by Spring on clarinet and William Wieland '86, a VCSU alumnus now teaching at Northern State, on piano. A reception for inaugural guests at Sabir's in Valley City followed the recital; the Aberdeen Jazz Quintet provided music there.





Friday morning brought the inauguration ceremony itself in W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse. There President LaFave received the formal investiture of office from Nick Hacker, chair of the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education, and Mark Hagerott, chancellor of the North Dakota University System.

Robert Spring shared reminiscences and insights from LaFave's graduate school days, and James Smith, former Northern State president who now serves as president of Eastern Michigan University, spoke of the power and the need for public higher education.

In his address — centered on the inaugural theme, "Forward Together: Building on a Tradition of Excellence" — President LaFave highlighted recent VCSU accomplishments and successes and spoke of his drive to ensure a bright future for the university.

A reception at Epworth United Methodist Church followed the ceremony, and Friday evening the inauguration events were capped off by a concert by Transit Authority, a Chicago tribute band from Minneapolis, in the fieldhouse.

"The inauguration was truly remarkable," said President LaFave. "To have so many of the people who have made a difference in my life and career come together with our students, faculty, staff and community members for this special event gave me a feeling I'll never forget."

A video of the complete inauguration ceremony can be viewed online at [www.vcsu.edu/inauguration/inauguration-ceremony-video](http://www.vcsu.edu/inauguration/inauguration-ceremony-video). "Forward Together," a celebratory video produced for the inaugural ceremony, can be found online at [www.vcsu.edu/inauguration/forward-together-video](http://www.vcsu.edu/inauguration/forward-together-video).



3. Remarks from Robert Spring of Arizona State University bring a smile to President LaFave, his former graduate student. 4. Concert Choir, directed by Christopher Redfearn, performs at the inauguration. 5. The crowd applauds as President LaFave enters the fieldhouse during the ceremony. 6. James Smith, president of Eastern Michigan University and former president of Northern State University, presents remarks. 7. President LaFave (in Vikings sweatshirt) and members of Transit Authority mug for the camera after the concert Friday night. 8. Friends and family of President LaFave watch the ceremony from the front row. Pictured (l to r) are Logan Fahnhorst (son-in-law), Ashley Fahnhorst (daughter), Kari LaFave (wife), Amy McGee (sister), Mark McGee (brother-in-law), Steve LaFave (brother) and Scott Geffre (friend). 9. Steve Shirley, Minot State University president and former VCSU president, poses with President LaFave outside the inaugural reception at Epworth United Methodist Church.





## Homecoming 2019

The annual Bill Osmon Fun Run on the afternoon of Monday, Sept. 23, kicked off a week of spirited events for Homecoming 2019, and later that evening Denzel Kennedy and Edynn Glatt were crowned Homecoming King and Queen.

The student homecoming chairs, Brandi Aranda and Carter Buelow, riffed on the inauguration with their weeklong Homecoming activities, sharing “LaFave’s faves,” the president’s favorite snack items, with students, and distributing Viking bandanas campus-wide in honor of the Harley-riding president. Aranda and Buelow emceed a pep rally Thursday morning in Vangstad Auditorium. The final events in the weeklong Viking Olympics were featured, which brought spirited participation from students and howls of laughter from all those assembled.

Alumni, students, faculty and staff gathered in Student Center lounge Friday afternoon for an ice cream social hosted by the Foundation Office and Alumni Association. Later that evening at the Eagles Club, individual athletes Dave Olson '79, Mike Jewett, Donna (Bader) Young '83, and Amy (Ottinger) Kitching '83 were inducted into the VCSU Viking Athletic Hall of Fame. The late Mark Nordeen '76 was inducted posthumously, with his wife and son accepting the award. Also inducted were the following teams: the 1971-72 and 1972-73 women’s basketball team, the 1974-75 and 1975-76 men’s basketball team, and the 1980-81 and 1981-82 gymnastics team.

Saturday morning, Sept. 28, featured the annual Alumni Honors Breakfast in the cafeteria with a host of alumni receiving awards (see pp. 8-9). Next up Saturday was the homecoming parade down Central Avenue, followed by the first annual Classic Car/Motorcycle Cruise, in which more than 20 entries traveled to Ashtabula Crossing, Dazey and Sanborn. Alumni and friends gathered to tailgate outside Lokken Stadium prior to the game, and the Viking football squad ground out a victory over Dakota State 10-6.

The postgame celebration was held at the Eagles Club, with a student/alumni dance there in the evening capping off Homecoming 2019.



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1. The Vikings celebrate a hard-fought victory. 2. The Viking ship sails in the Homecoming parade. 3. Students Jared Mendoza, Elise Pietron, Jenna Pommerer, Emma Maguire and Alexander Mejia participate in tailgate fun. 4. Loyal Viking fans fill the stands at Lokken Stadium. 5. Homecoming King Denzel Kennedy and Queen Edynn Glatt ride in the parade. 6. Homecoming Co-Chairs Brandi Aranda and Carter Buelow pose during tailgating. 7. Bill Osmon Fun Run winners Kristina Fricke (left) and Jayden Wheeling (third from left) pose with President LaFave and Howard Langemo, brother-in-law of the late Bill Osmon. 8. Viking linebacker Sal Avila closes in on a Dakota State runner.





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1. Mel McNea (center), Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, poses with President LaFave and Paul Keidel, VCSU Alumni Association president, at the Alumni Honors Breakfast. 2. Pictured at the Alumni Honors Breakfast are Alumni Service award winners George Berger (left) and Tres (Pritchard) and Todd Christiansen. 3. Alan and Kari LaFave cheer on the Vikings. 4. Posing for the camera are some of the "Cruise Crew," those who participated in the first annual Classic Car/ Motorcycle Cruise after the Homecoming parade. 5. Loyal, smiling alumnae enjoy the Ice Cream Social in the Student Center lounge Friday afternoon. 6. Tailgaters include (l to r) Tres (Pritchard) Christiansen, Paulette and Jim Dew, Todd Christiansen, John Hill and Jan Bitz. 7. Pictured tailgating are (l to r) Sheila Zinke, Judy Anderson, Dave Olson, Dan Smith, and Linda Olson. 8. "LaFave's Faves," the president's favorite snacks (in this photo, Scotcharoos) were offered to students throughout the week. Pictured are (l to r, seated) Alexis Bentz, Mackenzie Huber, (standing) Sofia Muruato, President LaFave, Carter Buelow, Wolley Tuala and Taylon Sad. 9. The VCSU Athletic Band, directed by Jerrold Heide, marches in the Homecoming parade.



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## McNea recognized with Distinguished Alumni Award



The Distinguished Alumni Award was adopted by the VCSU Alumni Association to recognize alumni/alumnae who have achieved prominence in their chosen field of endeavor. The nominee must have received national or international recognition and must have been identified as an expert in the individual's chosen field.

Mel McNea has been selected by the Valley City State University Alumni Board of Directors to become the 61st recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award. The award was presented to McNea at the

annual Alumni Honors Breakfast at Homecoming, Sept. 28, 2019.

McNea earned a Bachelor's Degree in biology education from VCSU in 1978. In 1980, he earned the American Society of Radiologic Technologists certificate from St. Luke's School of Radiologic Technology, and in 2009, McNea earned a Master's Degree in healthcare administration from the University of Phoenix.

While McNea spent a few years teaching, he has spent over 40 years dedicated to creating access to safe and quality healthcare in rural America. McNea joined Great Plains Health in 1987 as the director of diagnostic imaging, leading that department through tremendous growth in volume and changes in technology and process improvement. He

was selected for the prestigious Caring Kind Award from the Nebraska Hospital Association in 1998. In 2004, he was promoted to vice president of operations. McNea is currently chief executive officer with Great Plains Health in North Platte, Neb., a position he has held since 2014.

McNea has led the Great Plains Health system through a period of unprecedented growth and expansion. His leadership has produced many successful projects, including the addition of a heart and vascular program, the \$100 million patient tower construction project, the development of the Great Plains Physician Network, a spine surgery center and the first mobile CT program in western Nebraska.

In 2018, McNea was presented with the Nebraska Hospital Association's Excellence of Service Award.

When asked what does being a graduate of VCSU mean to him, McNea responded, "The educators and advisors at Valley City State University provided me not only the knowledge to be a successful leader but provided me the courage to do great things. I grew up in the small rural community of Bottineau, North Dakota, and the transition to a large community and academic setting was difficult but successful because the faculty treated me as an individual not a number. There were many individuals who influenced my educational pursuit, but a few names stand out. Archie Moore, Dr. Lade, Dr. Rankin, and Dr. Dafoe not only shared their academic wisdom but were great role models. When I share with Nebraskans where I received my college education, I feel a sense of pride and gratitude for what the institution and staff did to help guide my development as a leader."

## Alumni honored with Certificate of Merit Award



The Valley City State University Alumni Association honored six alumni with the Certificate of Merit Award at the annual Alumni Honors Breakfast at Homecoming, Sept. 28, 2019. The Certificate of Merit was established by the VCSU Alumni Association to recognize alumni for service, accomplishments and

other noteworthy honors. This year's alumni honorees, listed with their accomplishments and accolades, include the following:

### GALEN BRANTLEY '98

Galen is a teacher and head football coach at Kenai Peninsula Borough School District in Alaska. He has also earned his Master's in Educational Leadership, from the University of Alaska Anchorage.

#### Honors & Awards

- 2017 American Family Insurance Coach of the Year
- Golden Apple Award
- 10 state football championships
- State record for consecutive wins with 59
- Currently the fifth winningest football coach all-time in Alaska

### KEVIN BRATLAND '90

Kevin currently teaches K-5 and high school fitness at Enderlin (N.D.) Area Public Schools. Kevin also has coached baseball at Enderlin since 1987.

#### Honors & Awards

- Region I Baseball Coach of the Year, 2015 & 2019
- Region I 11-Man Football Coach of the Year, 2001

### DAVID GRIFFIN '80

Retired after 34 years of service from the Basin Electric Synfuels Plant as a senior chemist.

#### Honors & Awards

- Started the Synfuels Club in 1990
- David was instrumental in starting up a new and complex lab.

His senior lab superintendent said, "David takes great pride in everything he does and helped make our lab what it is today."

### SCOTT KING '81

Scott continued his education, receiving a Master's in Educational Leadership from the University of Montana. He retired in May 2019 after serving in the area of education for 38 years! Scott finished his career at Malta High School in Montana, serving as high school principal and activities director.

#### Honors & Awards

- 2019 Montana Association of Secondary Principals Principal of the Year
- 2018 National High School Athletic Coaches Association Distinguished Service Award
- 2016 Montana High School Association Service Citation Award
- 2018 Montana Coaches Association Outstanding Contributor Award
- 2014 National High School Athletic Coaches Association Coach of the Year Finalist
- 2013 Montana Association of Secondary Principals Principal of the Year
- 2012 Montana Coaches Association Hall of Fame Inductee
- 2011 Montana Coaches Association Activities Director Service Award
- Three-time Montana Coaches Association Football Coach of the Year

### RHONDA (SCHNEEKLOTH) NUDELL '92

Rhonda is a 5th grade teacher at Valley City Public Schools. She earned her Master's in Educational Leadership in 2006 from Southwest Minnesota State University.

#### Honors & Awards

- 2019 Valley City Public Schools "Teacher of the Year"

### WAYNE STEINER '97

Wayne was a construction technology instructor at Southeast Career and Technology Center in Wahpeton until 2019, when he left to pursue other career options.

#### Honors & Awards

- 2019 North Dakota Knights of Columbus "Outstanding District Deputy Award"
- 2018 State CTE Director's Award of Excellence



## Berger, Christiansens honored with Alumni Service Award

The Alumni Service Award was adopted by the VCSU Alumni Association to recognize alumni or university friends who have attained exceptional achievement in their careers and have made significant contributions to the university through dedicated service, promotion, financial support or other efforts.

The Alumni Association honored three alumni – George Berger '75 and Teresa (Pritchard) '80 and Todd Christiansen '82 – with the Alumni Service Award at the Alumni Honors Breakfast on Sept. 28, 2019.



### GEORGE BERGER '75

George has given of his time and talent to support various Valley City State University activities and activities in our community. He has done so with the greatest of humility.

Berger graduated in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree, majoring in physical and history education. While attending VCSU, Berger was a member of the Tau Sigs and served as the president of the Letterman's Club. Berger is owner of Baldhill Creek Adventures located in Binford, N.D.

Berger served on the VCSU Booster Board for many years, stepping down in 2015. He still continues to support the annual Booster Fish Fry. This event contributes thousands of dollars to athletic scholarships each year. Berger fishes year around for this event. He has done so without any expectation of compensation of any kind. Not only has he donated the fish, but he has also been there to help prepare it and cook it during the night.

He has assisted with the VCSU Scholarship Auction, donating and acquiring items for the live and silent auctions. This past year he even helped an out-of-state bidder purchase items from the live auction.

In addition, Berger has been a tireless promoter of VCSU. He and his family have established a scholarship in memory of his parents. He is also a regular at VCSU events and activities.

Berger has been recognized with the North Dakota Forest Service Conservation Achievement Award and the Soil Conservation Award. He was recognized for planting 33 miles of trees and his contribution to forestry activities.

He is also involved in the Injured Military Wildlife Project of North Dakota. This group of North Dakota citizens provide hunting and fishing opportunities to military personnel who have been injured in the line of duty.

Berger also sponsors and volunteers with the Outdoor Adventure Foundation, a foundation that helps make outdoor dreams come true for children and young adults with life-threatening illnesses as well as for combat-disabled veterans who have lost a limb or are in a wheelchair.

Berger has clearly "Made a Difference" at VCSU and in our community.



### TERESA (PRITCHARD) '80 AND TODD CHRISTIANSEN '82

Todd and Tres exemplify the very best of active and engaged alumni at Valley City State University.

The Christiansens are both graduates of Valley City State University. Tres received her Bachelor of Science in Education degree in 1980 with a major in physical education. Todd earned his Bachelor of Science in Education degree in 1982, also majoring in physical education.

Tres is currently the credit administrative assistant with Cornerstone Bank in Fargo, N.D. Prior to working at Cornerstone Bank, Tres worked for many years at Wells Fargo Bank in Valley City, holding positions of teller, customer service representative, personal banker and customer service manager.

Todd is the owner of the Window Man. He and his crew service the greater Barnes County area, cleaning both residential and business windows. Prior to taking over the ownership of the Window Man, Todd managed the Valley City Country Club for 8 years and was the sales/business manager at Stoudt Ross Ford for 16 years.

Both Todd and Tres have been tremendous ambassadors for VCSU. Their ongoing commitment to VCSU is without question. Todd has served on the V-500, Alumni and Booster boards. Tres has served on the Booster and Foundation boards, including serving as the president of the VCSU Foundation Board. Both have served on the auction committee and solicited items for the auctions; Todd served as the emcee for the event.

The Christiansens were named to the Board of Regents in 2006; in 2008, they were named VCSU Fans of the Year.

When asked what does being a graduate of VCSU mean to you, Tres replied, "I feel like part of a large family. When you tell someone you graduated from VCSU, they usually have a family member or know someone who has attended at some time. No matter what years people attended, stories can be shared."

Todd's special memory of his time at VCSU is this: "Our 1980 football team qualified for the national playoffs. We are the only team to win a playoff game, beating McMurry College 16-7 in Abilene, Texas."



## VCSU student Shane Hitch wins cybersecurity award

Shane Hitch, a VCSU sophomore from West Fargo, N.D., majoring in software engineering, was one of 100 students from across the nation – and the only student from North Dakota – named a Cyber FastTrack finalist.

Hitch competed over several months to solve more than 250 cybersecurity challenges. More than 13,000 students completed the first phase of this year’s Cyber FastTrack. Over the course of several months, the competition was narrowed to 2,579 quarter-finalists, then 541 semi-finalists, and finally, 100 finalists, including Hitch, who were selected to receive a full scholarship for advanced cyber skills training through the SANS Technology Institute.

Hitch was recognized on the VCSU campus Friday, Oct. 4. Participating in a gathering in Hitch’s honor were President Alan LaFave; Susan Pfeifer, associate professor and chair of the Computer Systems and Software Engineering Department; and three representatives from the North Dakota Information Technology Department: Tony Aukland, information systems security analyst, North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center; Rosi Kloberdanz, EduTech director; and Tabitha Teel, EduTech professional learning and outreach manager. Aukland and Teel are both VCSU alumni.

Joining the group via video conference was Sean Wiese, chief information security officer for the State of North Dakota.



Shane Hitch (seated, far right) was recently honored for his selection as a finalist in the Cyber FastTrack cyber security competition. Pictured with Hitch are VCSU President Alan LaFave (seated, center) and Susan Pfeifer, associate professor and chair of the Computer Systems and Software Engineering Department (standing, far right), along with three representatives from the North Dakota Information Technology Department: Tony Aukland '97, information systems security analyst, North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center; Rosi Kloberdanz, EduTech director; and Tabitha Teel '91, EduTech professional learning and outreach manager.

## VCSU sets enrollment records

Valley City State University has set enrollment records with a total headcount of 1,665 students and an undergraduate headcount of 1,524, according to official fall term 2019 figures released by the university.

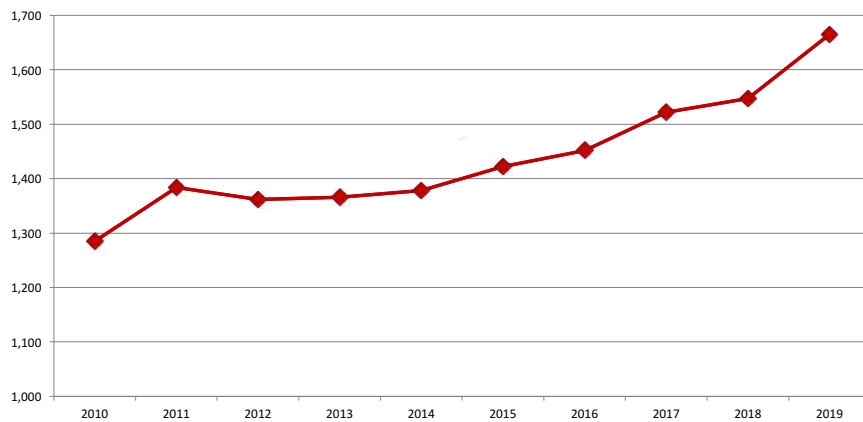
The 1,665 total headcount surpasses the previous record of 1,547 set in fall 2018, a 7.6% increase, and the undergraduate headcount of 1,524 surpasses the previous record of 1,404, also from fall

2018, an 8.5% increase.

The full-time equivalent (FTE) figure has also increased from 2018 to 2019, moving from 1,096 to 1,164, a 6.2% increase.

The headcount enrollment marks the fifth consecutive year of record-breaking numbers for VCSU, beginning with a 2015 mark of 1,422 that surpassed the previous record of 1,384 set in 2011.

VCSU Headcount Enrollment, 2010-19



Year	Headcount	Undergraduate	Graduate
2005	1,035	1,013	22
2006	1,037	959	78
2007	982	899	83
2008	1,019	900	119
2009	1,083	961	122
2010	1,285	1,138	147
2011	1,384	1,227	157
2012	1,362	1,214	148
2013	1,366	1,211	155
2014	1,378	1,234	144
2015	1,422	1,278	144
2016	1,452	1,295	157
2017	1,522	1,372	150
2018	1,547	1,404	143
2019	1,665	1,524	141



## VCSU ranked No. 2 public regional college in Midwest by U.S. News

Valley City State University has been ranked the No. 2 public regional college in the Midwest in the 2020 U.S. News Best College Rankings. VCSU was ranked third in the 2019 rankings.

VCSU has now appeared in the U.S. News “Best College” rankings for 22 consecutive years, and the university has been ranked in the top three Midwest public regional colleges each year since 2010.

“Valley City State has maintained a record of academic excellence for decades,” said President Alan LaFave, “and we’re proud to see VCSU once again ranked among the top public schools in our region. The rankings speak to the good work done together by our students, faculty and staff, along with the strong support of our alumni, friends and the Valley City community.”

The U.S. News rankings are based on data including retention and six-year graduation rates, graduation rates for low-income students (based on federal Pell Grant recipients), measures of student excellence (ACT/SAT scores and high school class standing), the alumni giving rate, and educational expenditure per student. A peer assessment by college and university officers also factors into the rankings.

The Midwest region comprises 12 states: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas.

The U.S. News rankings can be found in the “Best Colleges 2020” guidebook and online at [www.usnews.com/best-colleges](http://www.usnews.com/best-colleges).



## VCSU recognized in Washington Monthly national college rankings

Valley City State University has been recognized in Washington Monthly’s 2019 national college rankings in two categories.

VCSU is ranked 51st of 372 schools in the Midwest in Washington Monthly’s Best Bang for the Buck Colleges (Midwest) listings. Among all U.S. bachelor’s institutions — defined by Washington Monthly as “four-year institutions that award almost exclusively bachelor’s degrees” — VCSU ranks 84th of 216 schools.

VCSU is the top-ranked North Dakota institution in both ranking categories.

As defined by Washington Monthly, the category “America’s Best Bang for the Buck Colleges” is their “exclusive list of schools ranked according to how well they help non-wealthy students attain marketable degrees at affordable prices. The list is created by isolating the social mobility metrics from the main rankings of four-year institutions.”

Factors in the rankings include eight-year graduation rates, percentage of first-generation college students, median earnings 10 years out, school loan repayment, and performance ratings based on differential between predicted and actual data in a number of categories. Also included is the net price of attendance for families below \$75,000 income level, a measure of “affordability for students from lower- to middle-income families” according to Washington Monthly.

“We’re pleased to see Valley City State ranked highly,” said VCSU President Alan LaFave. “We try to manage tuition and fees to keep VCSU affordable for our students and their families, and we’ve made strategic decisions to help students who fall into aid gaps. First-generation students face educational challenges that others don’t, and we actively support them on campus with services and programming.”

Washington Monthly describes the bachelor’s institution rankings this way: “Since 2005, the Washington Monthly has ranked colleges based on what they do for the country...We rank baccalaureate colleges...based on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories: social mobility, research, and promoting public service.”

In addition to the social mobility metrics used in the “Best Bang for the Buck” rankings, metrics associated with public service and research are used as ranking criteria in the bachelor’s listings. These include research expenditures, the number of alumni with bachelor’s degrees who earn Ph.D.s., and measures of military, national and community service, including participation in programs such as ROTC and the Peace Corps, along with the percentage of federal work-study funds directed toward community service programs.

The full Washington Monthly rankings can be found at [washingtonmonthly.com/2019college-guide](http://washingtonmonthly.com/2019college-guide).

## The 56th Annual North Dakota Suncoast Luncheon

The 56th Annual North Dakota Suncoast Luncheon will be held at the beautiful River Wilderness Golf and Country Club, Parrish, Fla., on **SATURDAY, FEB. 22, 2020.**

Updates from our North Dakotans will be the theme of this year’s gathering, as we continue the tradition started by a Luverne, N.D., farmer and a Hope, N.D., rural mail carrier in 1965.

Please join us! **CALL JAY MORGAN, 941-378-4444, FOR MORE INFORMATION.**



## Students thank donors at annual VCSU Scholarship Dinner

The annual scholarship dinner was held Monday, Oct. 9, with 115 attendees. The dinner provides an opportunity for individuals and organizations who have established named scholarships to meet the students who were awarded their scholarships. This is also a time when the student scholars are able to say thank you in person to their scholarship donors. The VCSU Foundation has approximately 220

Endowed and Memorial scholarships that pay honor and memorialize those folks who built the foundation of our university.

Anyone interested in establishing a scholarship and/or taking advantage of the North Dakota Challenge Grant Program (see opposite page) can contact the Foundation Office at 800-532-8641 ext. 37203 for more information.



Larry Grooters '57 and London Anadel (Larry Grooters Scholarship)



Nancy Sours and Matt Breslin (Aaron Sours Memorial Scholarship)



Dan Klein, Alexis Bentz and Patty Klein (Kunnandi Scholarship)



Jesse Johnson, Nate Zerface (Dacotah Bank), and Megan Roswick (Dacotah Bank Scholarship)



Paul & Carol Houglum and Rochelle Van Bruggen (Roy & Helga Ployhar Memorial Music Scholarship)



Ginny Trousdale, Emily Smith and Tom Trousdale '71 (Tom Trousdale Scholarship)



# ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE!

**Deadline: December 1, 2020**

## NORTH DAKOTA CHALLENGE FUND MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

The 2019 North Dakota legislators have once again created the North Dakota Challenge Fund Matching Grant Program. VCSU has been allocated up to \$700,000 of matching dollars if we can raise \$1,400,000 in private dollars. The VCSU Foundation is using this program to enhance more than 225 scholarship endowment funds. **Pledges for the matching dollars are allowed for up to seven years.**

YOUR GIFT AMOUNT	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
State Match	\$2,500	\$12,500	\$25,000
<b>TOTAL GIFT TO VCSU</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>	<b>\$37,500</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>

With a minimum \$5,000 endowment gift to Valley City State University 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. **Consider using your IRA Required Minimum Distribution to fund an endowed scholarship with the Challenge Grant program.**

## NORTH DAKOTA ENDOWMENT GIFT CREDIT

The endowment 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 quality of life. An endowment is a fund in which the principal is invested and remains intact in perpetuity. Only the interest is used to fund the scholarship allocation.

An individual may receive a 40% tax credit for contributions of \$5,000 or more (lump sum or aggregate in one year) to a qualified North Dakota endowment.

YOUR GIFT AMOUNT	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
N.D. State Income Tax Credit (40%)	-\$2,000	-\$10,000	-\$20,000
<b>NET COST TO YOU</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>

As you can see, your charitable gift can cost **LESS** and do **MORE** than ever before thanks to the North Dakota Tax Credit and Challenge Fund Matching Grant Program! Please consider making a gift today. As always, this information is provided for educational purposes only. Please consult your own attorney, accountant or financial adviser for advice on your individual situation.

**Learn more by contacting the VCSU Foundation at [alumni@vcsu.edu](mailto:alumni@vcsu.edu) or (701) 845-7203.**

*We accept the challenge!*



Shelley (Hanson) '75 and Jim Williamson, Jr.  
Commerce, Ga.

*We challenge you!*



Amy (Stowman) '94 & Pete Kvien '95  
Bismarck, N.D.

*Join us in the challenge!*



Noreen (Stevens) '81 & Gene Smestad  
Valley City, N.D.



**VALLEY CITY**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

Valley City State University Foundation  
101 College Street SW  
Valley City, ND 58072

Phone: 701 845 7203 • Fax: 701 845 7464  
Toll Free: 800 532 8641 x37203  
[www.vcsualumni.org](http://www.vcsualumni.org)

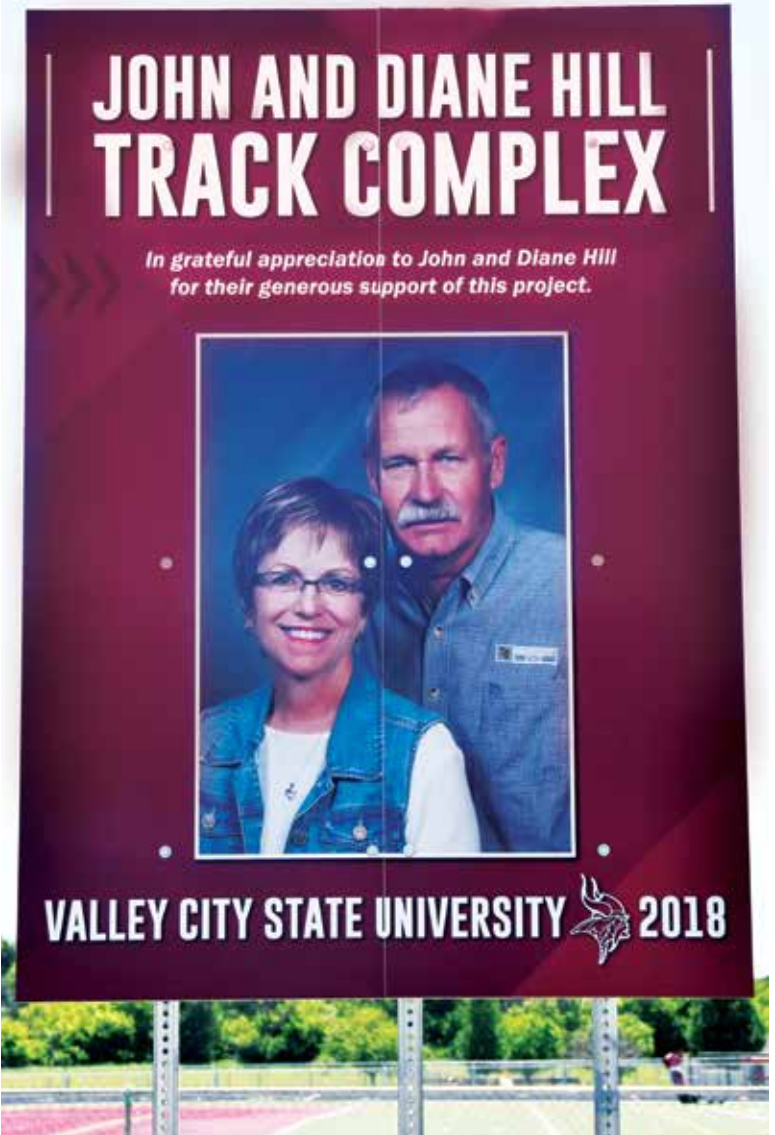
## Hills recognized for contributions to track rebuild

On August 26, Valley City State University recognized John Hill and his son, Phillip, at the VCSU all student-athlete meeting held in Lokken Stadium.

John and his late wife, Diane, made a generous donation that funded a complete rebuild of the track at Lokken Stadium.



Pictured (from left) are President Alan LaFave, Phillip Hill, John Hill and Larry Robinson, executive director of the VCSU Foundation.



## Join VCSU students, faculty on tour of Eastern Europe



Hungarian Parliament on the Danube River in Budapest

VCSU social science professors Steven King and Anthony Dutton will be leading a tour of Eastern Europe from June 18-29, 2020.

Alumni and friends of the college are invited to join the tour leaders and 15 VCSU students who have enrolled in the tour — “Urban Environments and Culture in Eastern Europe” — thus far.

The 12-day trip itinerary will take participants to Budapest, Krakow, Auschwitz, Prague and Vienna. Highlights include a boat cruise on the Danube River in Budapest, Wawel Cathedral in Krakow, a sightseeing tour of Prague and Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna.

Accommodations, daily breakfasts, expert local guides, ground transportation and round-trip airfare are all included. (The group will fly out of Fargo, but if you prefer to fly from an airport closer to your home, that can be arranged.)

This is a fantastic opportunity to connect with current students, rekindle your VCSU ties, and explore Eastern Europe with a friendly (and scholarly!) group.

For costs and other information, visit [www.efcollegestudytrips.com/professors-trip/2182393MX](http://www.efcollegestudytrips.com/professors-trip/2182393MX). If you have any questions, please email Professor King at [steven.king@vcsu.edu](mailto:steven.king@vcsu.edu).





# ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S CORNER

## JILL DEVRIES



Facebook: [www.facebook.com/vcsuvikings](http://www.facebook.com/vcsuvikings)  
 Twitter: @vcsuvikings  
 Instagram: vcsuvikings  
 Website: [www.vcsuvikings.com](http://www.vcsuvikings.com)

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

One of the first lessons we learn in life is to say “please” when we ask for something and “thank you” when we receive it. We teach young children to use their manners by saying “please” and “thank you” almost before they can truly speak.

I'd like to say “thank you” to the people in the VCSU Viking Athletic Department who tirelessly do their job, mostly behind the scenes, in order for us to provide a great experience to the student-athletes, fans, and visitors to the W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse, Lokken Stadium, and Graichen Gym.



Diane Olson

Thank you, Diane Olson. Thank you for doing our laundry and ensuring that our cardinal and white uniforms are not only clean, but not pink. Thank you for staying the extra hours to ensure we have locker rooms ready for VCSU as well as visiting teams. Thank you for not complaining when we have all 12 sports in season and there are game uniforms and practice gear to wash daily for over 250 student-athletes. Thank you for taking pride in the smelliest job on campus! I'm not sure how you do it, but I'm glad you do.

Thank you, Keith Biggers. Thank you for mowing the grass, cleaning the stadium, cleaning the fieldhouse, and for removing snow off the turf on the weekends so that we can practice and play our games.



Keith Biggers

Thank you for helping to fix things when they are broken, and for loading and unloading items delivered to VCSU Athletics. Thank you for doing all the jobs you do at VCSU.

Thank you, Deb Feuerherm. Thank you for your 25 years of service to VCSU – 24 in athletics. You have survived five athletic directors, numerous head coaching changes as well as new assistants almost yearly. Thank you for taking pride in everything that you do and for going above and beyond the job responsibilities to make Viking Athletics the best it can be. Thank you for keeping fantastic records and for keeping us on our toes with all the “little things” we need to do yearly. Thank you for truly living Viking Pride!



Deb Feuerherm

I can't possibly explain all the things these three do in the Athletic Department at VCSU. And I can't thank them enough for helping me in my new role as Athletic Director these first three years. There have been many changes, and the consistency of these three in our department allows all of us to continue to row toward our goals: Engage, Educate and Elevate the student-athletes who choose VCSU.

## Five individuals and six teams were inducted into the Viking Athletic Hall of Fame on Sept. 27 at the Valley City Eagles Club.

Dave Olson '83, Mark Nordeen '76 (posthumous award), Mike Jewett, Donna (Bader) Young '83 and Amy (Ottinger) Kitching '83 were all inducted into the Viking Hall of Fame as individual athletes.

**Right:** (l to r) Mike Jewett, Donna (Bader) Young, Dave Olson, Amy (Ottinger) Kitching, Kathy and Jeremy Nordeen (wife and son of the late Mark Nordeen)

**Below:** Six teams were also inducted, including the 1971-72 and 1972-73 women's basketball teams, the 1974-75 and 1975-76 men's basketball teams, and the 1980-81 and 1981-82 gymnastics teams.



## Fall Recaps

### Baseball

The VCSU baseball team posted a 4-7 overall record during its fall season, playing countable games in September and early October for the seventh straight year. The Vikings picked up two wins against Viterbo University and then won two games in a three-game series against Morningside College to wrap up the fall season.



Kyle Leapaltd

After losing 14 seniors from last year's team, the roster this fall looked extremely different with several new players taking on key roles. Transfer JT Reed led the Vikings during the fall season with a .421 batting average and 12 runs, while freshman Kyle Leapaltd impressed with a .364 batting average, a .636 slugging percentage and seven RBIs.

On the mound, transfer Chase Feller was 1-0 with a 3.38 ERA in 13.1 innings pitched, while Tyler Kliniske posted a 3.12 ERA in 8.2 innings, struck out a team-high 13 batters and picked up a save.

Valley City State is set to resume its season in early March. The Vikings will play doubleheaders at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis on March 6 and 8, and then will travel to Tucson, Ariz., for their annual spring break trip from March 11-17.

Chase Feller



Govani Garza



Angeline Gannon

### Cross Country

The VCSU cross country teams competed in five meets this fall with a young roster.

The Vikings featured many new faces after graduating a large crop of seniors from last year's team. Between the men's and women's teams, Valley City State had 14 freshmen on the rosters for the 2019 season.

On the men's side, freshmen Govani Garza and Jayden Wheeling were the top two finishers for the Vikings each meet. On the women's side, freshman Kirsten Ranke and sophomore Angeline Gannon led the Vikings, each crossing the line as the top VCSU finisher twice during the season.

The Viking women placed fourth of six teams at the NSAA Championships, while the VCSU men placed sixth. Three Vikings – Grace Bachmeier, Angeline Gannon and Govani Garza – placed in the Top 20.



Govani Garza



Angeline Gannon

### Football

Valley City State's football team enjoyed a successful 2019 season, posting a 7-3 overall record and a 5-2 mark in conference play. VCSU had a chance to claim a share of the conference championship in its season finale, but a loss to Waldorf University dropped VCSU into second place in the final North Star Athletic Association standings.

Highlights of the season included a season-opening win against rival University of Jamestown and an upset victory of No. 13-ranked Dickinson State University.

The Vikings hosted Jamestown to start the season Aug. 29 in the second annual VCSU Ag Bowl, presented by First Community Credit Union. It was also the Paint Bucket Game with their archrivals, and the Vikings did not disappoint on the field. In front of a standing-room-only crowd of 2,500 people, VCSU picked up a 20-14 victory and reclaimed the Paint Bucket Trophy.

On Oct. 26, the Vikings hosted and upset No. 13 Dickinson State University. VCSU rallied from a 22-10 fourth-quarter deficit to earn a 23-22 win. Andrew Hanretty returned a blocked punt for a touchdown, and Louis Quinones capped the comeback with a 40-yard touchdown run. The VCSU defense held Dickinson State to just 24 yards rushing on 22 carries. The win vaulted the Vikings into a tie for first-place and put them in the receiving votes section of the NAIA Top 25 Coaches' Poll.



Arron Martin



Louis Quinones

VCSU senior running back Louis Quinones left his mark on school history, setting a new record for career rushing yards in the season finale. Quinones finished with 3,530 career rushing yards and 36 career rushing touchdowns – breaking the yards previously record held by Derek Elliott and tying Elliott for the rushing touchdowns record.





**Men's Golf**



Collin Hoss



Cameron Rall

The VCSU men's golf team earned two individual medalist honors and took home two team victories in five tournaments this fall. At the Minnesota State Invite (Fergus Falls, Minn.), the Vikings had a winning team score of 306 with senior Tanner Schnathorst shooting an even-par 72 to win medalist honors.

VCSU also earned a victory at its own invite hosted at Maple River Golf Course (Mapleton, N.D.), leading the way with a team score of 312. Schnathorst earned medalist honors again with a 73 (1 over par). Collin Hoss also recorded a season-low score of 71 (1 under par) on day two of the Dickinson State Invite at Bully Pulpit Golf Course (Medora, N.D.).

Individually, the men earned 13 Top 5 finishes and 24 Top 10 finishes this season. Cameron Rall had the best scoring average at 75.8, with Schnathorst next with an even 76 this fall.



Tanner Schnathorst



Jocelyn Braunberger



Hayley Shanks

**Women's Golf**

The Valley City State womens' golf team earned three individual medalist honors and took home one team victory in five tournaments this fall.

VCSU won the Minnesota State Invite (Fergus Falls, Minn.) with a team score of 352, with freshman Hayley Shanks shooting an 83 (11 over par) to win individual medalist honors. Jocelyn Braunberger earned medalist honors twice this fall with an 84 (12 over) at the DSU Dual and a 92 (20 over) at the Valley City State Invite.

Individually, the Viking women earned 12 Top 5 finishes and 26 Top 10 finishes. Shanks had the top scoring average at 89.2, while Braunberger followed with an 89.7.



Hayley Shanks



Jocelyn Braunberger

**Volleyball**

A young Valley City State University volleyball team finished the 2019 season with a 5-20 overall record and a 1-13 mark in the North Star Athletic Association.

VCSU's lone conference win was a memorable one, coming in a five-set battle at home during Parent's Night against then conference-leader Dakota State University. Katie Juarez recorded 14 kills in the match, while Charlotte Huschka tallied a team-high 21 digs. Morganne Eppard added six service aces, including four straight in the second set to spark VCSU's momentum.

The team was young this season, featuring nine freshmen and just three seniors.

Huschka, senior libero, recorded her 1,000th career



Katie Juarez



Katie Juarez



Charlotte Huschka



Morganne Eppard

dig on Sept. 20 and was ranked Top 20 in the nation with an average of 5.7 digs per set this year. Juarez, a sophomore, established herself as VCSU's top attacker, averaging 2.67 kills per set, while freshmen Caitlyn Fischbach, Bailey Nelson and Clara Wieland all topped 100 kills on the season.



## Winter Previews

### Men's Basketball

The VCSU men's basketball team is looking to take a big step forward this season in their fourth year under head coach Ryan Montgomery.

The Vikings, who started their season in mid-October, were picked to finish third in the North Star Athletic Association Preseason Coaches' Poll. VCSU finished fifth in the conference standings last year, posting a 5-9 conference record and a 9-19 overall record. This season, the Vikings appear poised to take the next step forward. A strong group of returning players has been

supplemented by three transfers and some steady freshmen, likely giving the Vikings the most depth they've had in Montgomery's tenure.

"We're excited to see where we're at," said Montgomery. "We've worked really hard over the offseason. We've had a lot of dress rehearsals, and now it's time to put it all together for real and see where all this hard work has taken us."

The Vikings return their top three scorers from last year's squad - a team that battled close losses all season before finishing strong with three straight conference wins. Logan Nelson, a first-team all-conference guard headlines the returners after averaging 17.5 points per game and shooting 43 percent from 3-point range last year. Also back is versatile guard Michael Cornelious, who averaged 12.5 points and 7.2



Logan Nelson



Connor Entzi



Logan Nelson

rebounds per game and was named honorable mention all-conference. Back for his junior year, forward Connor Entzi averaged 11.1 points per game last season.

Also back from last year's squad are seniors Austin Lee and Denzel Kennedy, junior Hunter McCalla, and sophomore Hunter Sand.

A total of eight players return from last year, and the Vikings have added eight new faces as well. Among the additions this season are three junior college transfers expected to play big roles: junior Jalen Addison, a 6-foot-

2 guard who played at Madison Area Tech; sophomore Chris Thompson, a 6-foot-5 guard from Bryant and Stratton College; and junior Kevin Schramm, a 6-foot-6 forward who played two seasons at Anoka-Ramsey Community College.

"I'd like to say we're going to be better than last year," Montgomery said. "But that's something we still have to go prove."

Through the end of October, the Vikings had posted an 0-3 record against tough non-conference competition, but the team did earn a big victory in an exhibition game against NCAA Division II Minot State University. VCSU will start conference play Dec. 7.



Jalen Addison

### Women's Basketball



Mackenzie Huber



Gabby Martin



Alexis Bentz

The VCSU women's basketball team was picked to finish third in the NSAA preseason coaches' poll. The Vikings went 14-14 last season and 7-7 in the conference for a third-place finish last season. Through the end of October, the Viking women were 0-2 to start the young season. Conference play opens Dec. 7, when the Vikings travel to Dickinson State.

After adding nine new players to their roster this season, preseason activities have been critical leading up to season play.

"Preseason training has been effective for us to get everyone on the same page, says head coach Vanessa Johnson. "Once we can get that to happen this is going to be a special group."

The Vikings return senior leaders Mackenzie Huber and Emily Schafer this season. Huber was an NAIA All-American Honorable Mention last season and was a first-team all-conference pick. She averaged 13.8 points per game and 7.1 rebounds per game last season. Schafer averaged 4.8 points per game and 2.2 rebounds per game. Additional returners include Gabby Martin, Zoie Breckheimer, Allison Bartholomay and Alexis Bentz.

Some of the new faces this season include Macey Kvilvang, a 6-5 center who joins the Vikings from North Dakota State, an NCAA Division I program. Guards Dani Schwanke and Maara Nelson both transferred from Lake Region State College to join the Vikings roster. The group of newcomers also includes six freshmen.

"I am very proud of this group for their work in the offseason," says Johnson, in her third season leading the Vikings. "With nine new faces in our program, it's critical to get them acclimated as soon as possible, and that takes buy-in and hard work during the off season. Adding this recruiting class to our core of returners is exciting, and I can't wait to see what they can accomplish together."



Mackenzie Huber and Emily Schafer



# VIKING SPORTS SCHEDULE

## 2019-20 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
<b>Oct. 24</b>	<b>Minot State University (DH)</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
Oct. 28	@ Mounty Marty (Watertown, S.D.)	6 p.m.
Oct. 30	@ Dakota Wesleyan	6 p.m.
<b>Nov. 2</b>	<b>Providence College</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>
<b>Nov. 3</b>	<b>Providence College</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
Nov. 9	@ St. Cloud State (Exhib)	5:30 p.m.
<b>Nov. 13</b>	<b>Univ. of Jamestown (DH)</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
Nov. 19	@ Bemidji State University	7 p.m.
<b>Nov. 23</b>	<b>Dakota Wesleyan</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
Nov. 26	@ Minot State University (Exhib)	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 7	@ Dickinson State* (DH)	4 p.m.
Dec. 28	@ Briar Cliff Classic - Sioux City, Iowa	
Dec. 29	@ Briar Cliff Classic - Sioux City, Iowa	
Jan. 4	@ Bethany Lutheran	3 p.m.
Jan. 7	@ Univ. of Jamestown	6 p.m.
<b>Jan. 10</b>	<b>Dakota State University* (DH)</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Jan. 11</b>	<b>Bellevue University* (DH)</b>	<b>3 p.m.</b>
Jan. 17	@ Waldorf University* (DH)	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 18	@ Viterbo University* (DH)	3 p.m.
<b>Jan. 21</b>	<b>Trinity Bible College (DH)</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Jan. 24</b>	<b>Mayville State University* (DH)</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Jan. 25</b>	<b>Presentation College* (DH)</b>	<b>3 p.m.</b>
Jan. 31	@ Presentation College* (DH)	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 1	@ Mayville State* (DH)	3 p.m.
<b>Feb. 7</b>	<b>Viterbo University* (DH)</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Feb. 8</b>	<b>Waldorf University* (DH)</b>	<b>3 p.m.</b>
Feb. 14	@ Bellevue University* (DH)	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 15	@ Dakota State University* (DH)	3 p.m.
<b>Feb. 21</b>	<b>Dickinson State* (DH)</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
Feb. 25-March 1	NSAA Tournament	
March 11-17	NAIA National Tournament	
Home games in bold - All times Central Time (DH) - Women's and Men's Doubleheader		
*NSAA Conference Game		

## 2019-20 MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Oct. 18	@ Jamestown Tourn. (Brandon U.)	5:30 p.m.
Oct. 19	@ Jamestown Tourn. (Winnipeg)	2 p.m.
<b>Oct. 24</b>	<b>Minot State University (DH)</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
Oct. 28	@ Univ. of Jamestown	7 p.m.
<b>Nov. 1</b>	<b>Dordt University</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>
<b>Nov. 2</b>	<b>Northwestern College</b>	<b>3 p.m.</b>
<b>Nov. 8</b>	<b>Mount Marty College</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>
<b>Nov. 13</b>	<b>Univ. of Jamestown (DH)</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
Nov. 26	@ Minot State University	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 29-Dec. 1	Battle at the Beach - Panama City, Fla.	
Dec. 7	@ Dickinson State* (DH)	6 p.m.
<b>Dec. 9</b>	<b>Oak Hills Christian College</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>
Dec. 11	@ Dakota Wesleyan University	7 p.m.
<b>Dec. 18</b>	<b>Univ. of Maine at Fort Kent</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>
<b>Jan. 10</b>	<b>Dakota State University* (DH)</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Jan. 11</b>	<b>Bellevue University* (DH)</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>
Jan. 17	@ Waldorf University* (DH)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 18	@ Viterbo University* (DH)	5 p.m.
<b>Jan. 21</b>	<b>Trinity Bible College (DH)</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Jan. 24</b>	<b>Mayville State University* (DH)</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Jan. 25</b>	<b>Presentation College* (DH)</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>
Jan. 31	@ Presentation College* (DH)	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 1	@ Mayville State* (DH)	5 p.m.
<b>Feb. 7</b>	<b>Viterbo University* (DH)</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Feb. 8</b>	<b>Waldorf University* (DH)</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>
Feb. 14	@ Bellevue University* (DH)	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 15	@ Dakota State University* (DH)	5 p.m.
<b>Feb. 21</b>	<b>Dickinson State* (DH)</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
Feb. 25-March 1	NSAA Tournament	
March 11-17	NAIA National Tournament	
Home games in bold - All times Central Time (DH) - Women's and Men's Doubleheader		
*NSAA Conference Game		



## 2019-20 GOLF SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
March 28-30	Hardrocker Invite	Rapid City, S.D.
April 12	Dickinson State	Dickinson, N.D.
April 27-28	NSAA Championships	La Crosse, Wis.

## 2019-20 TRACK & FIELD SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	Location
<i>Indoor Season</i>		
Dec. 7	University of Mary Invite	Bismarck, N.D.
Jan. 11	Minnesota Open	Minneapolis, Minn.
Jan. 25	Cobber Open	Moorhead, Minn.
Feb. 7-8	Bison Open	Fargo, N.D.
Feb. 14-15	SDSU Indoor Classic	Brookings, S.D.
Feb. 22	NSAA Indoor Championships	Brookings, S.D.
March 5-7	NAIA Indoor Championships	Brookings, S.D.
<i>Outdoor Season</i>		
March 20-21	Rhoades Invitational	Memphis, Tenn.
April 4	Dordt Invitational	Sioux Center, Iowa
April 8-9	Red Raider Open	Orange City, Iowa
April 10	Al Bortke Open	Bismarck, N.D.
April 21	Cobber Twilight Meet	Moorhead, Minn.
April 24-25	Ron Masanz Classic	Moorhead, Minn.
May 1-2	Howard Wood Relays	Sioux Falls, S.D.
May 7-8	NSAA Outdoor Championships	Forest City, Iowa
May 20-22	NAIA Outdoor Championships	Gulf Shores, Ala.

## 2019-20 BASEBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
March 6	@ U.S. Bank Stadium (Midland Univ.)	10 a.m.
March 8	@ U.S. Bank Stadium (Midland Univ.)	5 a.m.
March 11-17	Spring Break Trip - Tucson, Ariz.	
<b>March 21</b>	<b>Dakota State* (DH)</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
<b>March 22</b>	<b>Dakota State* (DH)</b>	<b>12 p.m.</b>
March 29	@ Concordia College (1x9)	TBA
April 1	@ Minnesota-Morris (1x9)	3 p.m.
April 4	@ Bellevue* (DH)	1 p.m.
April 5	@ Bellevue* (DH)	12 p.m.
April 8	@ Presentation College* (DH)	3 p.m.
<b>April 10</b>	<b>Viterbo University* (DH)</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
<b>April 11</b>	<b>Viterbo University* (DH)</b>	<b>12 p.m.</b>
April 13	@ Presentation College (1x9)	2 p.m.
April 14	@ NDSU (1x9)	6 p.m.
April 18	@ Waldorf University* (DH)	1 p.m.
April 19	@ Waldorf University* (DH)	12 p.m.
<b>April 22</b>	<b>Presentation College* (DH)</b>	<b>3 p.m.</b>
<b>April 24</b>	<b>Mayville State* (DH)</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
<b>April 25</b>	<b>Mayville State* (DH)</b>	<b>12 p.m.</b>
May 1-4	NSAA Tournament @ Valley City	
May 11-14	NAIA Opening Round - TBA	
May 22-29	NAIA World Series - Lewiston, Idaho	

DH = Doubleheader Home games in bold

## 2019-20 SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Feb. 14-15	PC Dome Tournament - Aberdeen, S.D.	
Feb. 21-22	PC Dome Tournament - Aberdeen, S.D.	
Feb. 29-March 1	Minot State Dome Tourn. - Minot, N.D.	
March 4-10	Spring Break Trip - Tucson, Ariz.	
<b>March 21</b>	<b>vs. Dakota State* (DH)</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
<b>March 22</b>	<b>vs. Dakota State* (DH)</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
March 28	@ Dickinson State* (DH)	2 p.m.
March 29	@ Dickinson State* (DH)	2 p.m.
April 4	@ Bellevue University* (DH)	1 p.m.
April 5	@ Bellevue University* (DH)	1 p.m.
<b>April 8</b>	<b>vs. Presentation College* (DH)</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
April 10	@ Viterbo University* (DH)	1 p.m.
April 11	@ Viterbo University* (DH)	1 p.m.
April 14	@ Univ. of Jamestown (DH)	4 p.m.
<b>April 18</b>	<b>vs. Waldorf University* (DH)</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
<b>April 19</b>	<b>vs. Waldorf University* (DH)</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
April 22	@ Presentation College* (DH)	1 p.m.
April 24	@ Mayville State* (DH)	2 p.m.
April 25	@ Mayville State* (DH)	2 p.m.
April 30 - May 4	NSAA Tournament @ Valley City	
May 11-13	NAIA Opening Round - TBA	
May 21-27	NAIA World Series - Springfield, Mo.	

Home games in bold \*NSAA Conference Game

## Whitney receives prize at International Mezzotint Festival



Linda Whitney, professor emerita of art, won the Prize for Originality and for Breaking Classical Boundaries at the Fifth International Mezzotint Festival held in Ekaterinburg, Russia, beginning Aug. 16. Her prize was one of four

major awards presented, which also included Grand Prize, Prize for Full Correspondence of Technique and Imagery, and Prize for Adhering to the Traditions and Skills of Graphical Work. The award comes with an invitation for a solo exhibition of her mezzotints during the Sixth International Mezzotint Festival in 2021.

About 1,000 mezzotints created by 113 artists from 31 countries were installed at three venues, and 19 workshops were held as part of a printing marathon.

The Open Competition category included 356 works. Whitney entered seven mezzotints, and all seven, including “Red Fancy Shawl Dancer” (pictured), were accepted for the exhibition. Whitney spent close to two weeks in Russia; a fellowship she received from the U.S. State Department helped defray travel expenses.

Whitney began teaching art at VCSU in 1994 and retired in 2014; she served as chair of the Art Department throughout her tenure



at the university. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in painting and printmaking, and a Master of Fine Arts degree in printmaking, both from the University of North Dakota.

## 'Tis the Season for Giving



There is a way for you to share in the spirit of giving this holiday season that you may not have heard about. It's called the IRA charitable rollover and it is a way you can make a gift to support our cause and save on taxes this year.

If you are 70½ or older, you can use the IRA charitable rollover to help charities like us complete our important work. The IRA charitable rollover, allows you to meet your required minimum distribution (RMD) requirement by directing your distribution to charity rather than taking it yourself.

### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

1. Call your IRA administrator.
2. Tell them you want to make an IRA charitable rollover gift to support our mission.
3. Direct the distribution to our nonprofit organization.

You can distribute up to \$100,000 to charity from your IRA each year to meet your RMD.

**Consider using your IRA Required Minimum Distribution to fund an Endowed Scholarship with the Challenge Grant Program. (See ad on p. 13.)**

For the IRA charitable rollover to work for you, it is important that you do not take the distribution. Ask your IRA administrator to make the distribution directly to our organization. While you will not receive an income tax deduction for your gift, you will receive the joy of knowing the full amount will go to support our cause.



## Music Events 2019–20

### Thursday, December 5

*Christmas at St. Catherine's*

7:30 p.m.

St. Catherine's Church

### Friday, Dec. 13

*Holiday Instrumental Concert*

7:30 p.m.

Vangstad Auditorium

### Saturday, Dec 14

*Community School of the Arts Recital*

10 a.m.

Froemke Auditorium, Foss Hall

### Friday, Feb. 21

*Mid-Winter Instrumental Concert*

7:30 p.m.

Vangstad Auditorium

### Friday, Feb. 28

*Guest Artist: Jamie Karp, Brass*

7:30 p.m.

Froemke Auditorium, Foss Hall

### Saturday, Feb. 29

*North Dakota Federation of Music Clubs*

all day

Froemke Auditorium, Foss Hall

### Friday, March 6

*Winter's End Choral Concert*

7:30 p.m.

Vangstad Auditorium

### Friday, April 3

*Grayson Marty Senior Recital*

7:30 p.m.

Froemke Auditorium, Foss Hall

### Friday, May 1

*Spring Instrumental Concert*

7:30 p.m.

Vangstad Auditorium

### Friday, May 8

*Spring Choral Showcase*

7:30 p.m.

Vangstad Auditorium

### Saturday, May 16

*Community School of the Arts Recital*

1 p.m.

Froemke Auditorium, Foss Hall

## Art students and faculty participate in Plains Art Museum print exchange

VCSU art students Jenna Cameron, Zander Dale and Zoey Koch, along with Angela Mircsov, assistant professor of art, placed work in the "Print Portfolio Exchange: Interpretation of Dreams" exhibition that ran from Oct. 10 – Nov. 30 in the Xcel Energy Gallery at the Plains Art Museum in Fargo.

Each artist created an edition of 25 impressions and received a portfolio of 25 prints through the exchange. In addition to VCSU, participating universities include North Dakota State University, Minnesota State University Moorhead, Concordia College, Minot State University and the University of Manitoba.

The exchange is inspired by Salvador Dali's prints and an upcoming exhibition at the Plains Art Museum titled "Salvador Dali: Stairway to Heaven," opening on Dec. 19.



"Forks," Angela Mircsov



"Head in the Clouds" Jenna Cameron



"Keep," Zander Dale

## VCSU musicians perform at Royal Winnipeg Ballet

Select musicians from the VCSU Music Department presented a showcase recital in conjunction with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet at Centennial Concert Hall in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, on Sunday, Oct. 6.

The hour-long recital — featuring works by Schubert, Lutoslawski, Mozart, Puccini, McKay, Grieg and Handel, among others — was performed for ballet patrons prior to the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's matinee performance of "La Bayadère." The VCSU musicians attended the ballet following their recital.

Students performing in the recital included Rachel Baker, horn; William Egan, baritone; Abigail Ingstad, soprano; Samuel Isaac, piano; Riley Loeks, soprano; Grayson Marty, piano; Rochelle Van Bruggen, clarinet; Johnathon Van Puersem, trombone; and Jami Wells, clarinet.

Robin Allebach, VCSU music faculty member, facilitated and directed the recital, assisted by faculty members Daniel Becker and Kenneth Jimenez. Jimenez also performed on trumpet in the recital; staff member Sarah Larsen also performed on piano.



## Vikings On The Move

**Robert Broschat '60** attended VCSU (formally "State Teachers College" then) from 1951- 53 and played football. The army and other circumstances got in the way so he didn't earn his B.S. degree until 1960.

**Janet (Mielke) Randall '74** loved her years at Valley City State. Great birding with Archie Moore, basketball with the Vi-Queens – what was not to like? Janet student taught in 1973 at the Mandan Reform School and signed her first contract at Fingal, N.D. Janet married her husband, Robert, in 1974, and they moved to Wahpeton, N.D., where she taught in both her majors for 35 years. They have two married sons and three grandkids. Janet and Robert spend seven months in south Texas and five months at a lake home outside of Vergas, Minn. Life is good.

**Genelle (Rumer) Brunner '76** and her husband, Jim, live in beautiful Redmond, Ore., in the summer and in Yuma, Ariz., in the winter. They retired in 2013. They are avid pickleball players!

**Daryl Miller '92** is a photographer for findagrave.com. He fulfills requests from people looking for photos of graves of their loved ones. He is in his eighth year and recently hit a milestone of visiting 134 cemeteries and taking over 10,000 pictures of 3,500 grave sites.



**Leah (Ptacek) '93 and John Miller '93** said it has been 26 years since they graduated from VCSU and moved to California to start their lives as educators. John has been a high school teacher for 26 years, and Leah went back to school to become a speech language pathologist. They still live in a small rural town in northern California where they are very involved in the community

and their church. They lost their son Robert (age 31) in September 2018 to a horrible car accident. He had been living in Houston, Texas. The whole family is learning to cope and find their new normal, even in the midst of great pain. Daughter Ellie is 19 and attends Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif. She is studying business administration. Son Andrew is 18 and just started his freshman year at North Dakota State University in Fargo. He is preparing to enter the education world as well and wants to teach mathematics. Son Evan is a 16-year-old junior in high school. He enjoys football, snowboard racing and video games. They wish everyone well in the future and look forward to hearing from their VCSU friends. Look them up on Facebook!

**Ben Bernard '01** earned a Master's Degree in computer science with an option in cybersecurity at North Dakota State University in August. Bernard is the first to complete the new cybersecurity option. He is on his 16th year of working with design technology at NDSU and attributes his successful IT career to the wisdom and patience of VCSU professors Curt Hill and Terry Corwin. Bernard encourages all who remember Dr. Corwin's legacy to contribute to the new Dr. Terry Corwin Memorial Scholarship.



**Jenna Coghlan '16** graduated with her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree in June 2019 from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities. She is working as a physical therapist at Life Wellness Center in Lakeville and Egan, Minn. Jenna resides in Minneapolis, where she also works part-time on the tarp crew for the Minnesota Twins.

**Hannah Schlecht '19** is a financial reporting analyst for Razor Consulting Solutions in Fargo, N.D. The firm does accounting services for Microsoft.

## Alumnus Hodgins named Wyoming 'Librarian of Year'



Devin Hodgins '14, M.Ed. '17, was named "Outstanding Librarian of the Year" by the Wyoming Library Association (WLA). Hodgins, who serves as librarian at Crest Hill Elementary School in Casper, received the award on Aug. 8 at the WLA conference in Cheyenne.

Hodgins was recognized for a project he created last year which put 5th grade classes to work constructing two Little Free libraries from old newspaper dispensers. Each class had to work as a team to design and complete their libraries using the school library's makerspace. The dispensers were auctioned and raffled to raise funds for the parent-teacher organization. As part of the project, the students investigated libraries and their community impact.

According to information on the WLA website, Hodgins "... obtained a Carol McMurry Library Endowment grant through the Wyoming Community Foundation to purchase tools, paint, and supplies, as well as a handful of computers for students to use in the library for research. He rounded up additional supplies from local businesses including paint, shop supplies, and the old newspaper racks that would be filled with books once the Little Free Libraries were completed and out in the community. What stood out about Devin was the way he fostered community involvement, bringing together the entire school, its stakeholders, and the wider community."

In an email to his VCSU mentor, Donna James, Hodgins said, "I am grateful to have had the opportunity to attend VCSU, to learn from you and its other instructors. Your teaching, leadership, and passion shall always resonate in my approach toward education and librarianship."



**IT'S NOT TOO LATE!**  
*Don't get caught unprepared.*

Consider a **Year-End Gift** to the Valley City State University Foundation now and take advantage of tax savings when you prepare your 2019 income taxes.

**Gifts must be postmarked by December 31 to qualify for 2019 tax purposes.**



## In Remembrance

**Edna (Geisen) Rose '36**, Langdon, N.D.  
**Jeanette (Jones) Olson '40**, Portland, Ore.  
**Frederick Schnieder '46**, Hartford, Conn.  
**\*Harold Pedersen '48**, Helena, Mont.  
**Marilyn (Moffet) Pfeifer '48**, Osage, Iowa  
**Jane (Kingston) Pittenger '48**, Issaquah, Wash.  
**Harold Hurmence '49**, Spokane, Wash.  
**Gayle (Reynolds) Gibbons '50**, Spokane, Wash.  
**Duane Taylor '50**, Grand Forks, N.D.  
**Mary (Menke) Wiens '53**, Livingston, Mont.  
**Genevieve (Johnson) Richardson '55**, Camarillo, Calif.  
**Phyllis (Jansen) Sauer '55**, Valley City, N.D.  
**Norman Anderson '56**, Lubbock, Texas  
**Agnes (Modahl) Hass '57**, Valley City  
**La Roi Robertson '58**, Fairview, Ore.  
**Betty Sackman**, Bismarck, N.D.  
**Christ Ley '59**, Rugby, N.D.  
**Allan Zimmerman '59**, Fargo, N.D.  
**Carol (Braa) Sortland '60**, Davenport, N.D.  
**Ron Estes '61**, Casper, Wyo.  
**Laura (Lang) Marquart ST '61 and BS-ED '79**, Bismarck, N.D.  
**Virginia Eck '65**, Bismarck, N.D.  
**Rudy Hanson '66**, Valley City  
**Karen (Kessler) Boschee '67**, Sun City West, Ariz.  
**Elaine (Lockwood) Manstrom '67**, Valley City  
**Karen (Grenz) Strand '71**, Valley City  
**Cynthia (Vogt) Berger '75**, Valley City  
**Elizabeth (Schauer) Hanson '88**, Jamestown, N.D.  
**Holly Reynolds**, Carberry, Manitoba, Canada  
**Menzo Regnerus '91**, Lisbon, N.D.  
**Joan Falstad**, Valley City  
**Wayne Walen**, Glenfield, N.D.  
**Victor Weigel**, Edgeley, N.D.

### Former Faculty & Staff

**Diane Peterson**, Oriska, N.D.

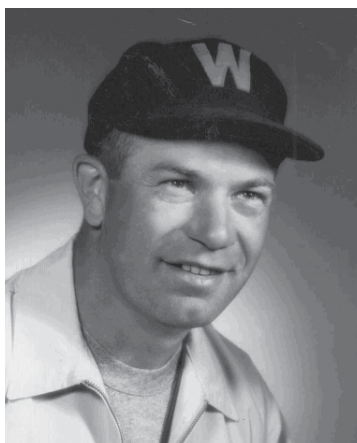
## Obituaries

### Floyd Martin

Floyd Dwaine Martin died July 14, 2019, at age 86 from complications of Lewy body dementia. Martin was born in Stirum, N.D., on June 21, 1933, and graduated from Cooperstown (N.D.) High School in 1951. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1951-55, spending some of his service time on Guam.

Martin met Mary Louise Birmingham in Victoria, Texas, and they were married on June 7, 1957, in Valley City. Martin attended Victoria College from 1957-59 and then earned a B.S. degree in education from Valley City State Teacher's College in 1961. He then went on to graduate school at the University of North Dakota, earning a master's degree in 1962. Martin then taught school in Sheboygan, Wis., in 1962-63, before moving back to Valley City, where he taught and served as chair of the Art Department at Valley City State College from 1963-1977. In 1972, he took a year's sabbatical to pursue an MFA at Ohio State University, also teaching there as he finished his degree. In 1977 he moved his family to New Brighton, Minn., where he joined Northwestern University in Roseville, Minn., serving as professor and chair of the Art Department from 1977 until his 1994 retirement.

Martin and his wife, Mary, enjoyed collecting antiques and participating in antique shows after his retirement. His survivors include his wife; a sister, Carol (Milton) Scherf; three children, Carrie Kronebusch (and husband Paul), Jason Martin (and wife Sara), and Candace Reid; and eight grandchildren.



### Harold Pedersen '48

Harold Leslie Pedersen died Sept. 7, 2019, at age 96. Born Feb. 19, 1923, in Valley City to Morris and Lura Pedersen, he graduated from College High School in Valley City, where he was an outstanding athlete in football, basketball and track and field. Pedersen continued his education at Valley City State Teachers College until World War II, when he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He served with the USMC's 5th Division Raiders as a machine gunner, landing on Iwo Jima on his 22nd birthday. Pedersen served in Japan during the Allied Occupation, returning home in 1946 and returning to college at VCSTC, where

he resumed playing basketball and football. In 1948, he earned an education degree from Valley City State, where he majored in physical education and geography. He later earned a master's degree at Colorado State.

Pedersen's high school teaching and coaching career started in Williston, N.D. in 1950. In 1952, he started the sport of wrestling in North Dakota and was considered the "Father of North Dakota Wrestling." He transformed the winless Williston Coyotes football team into state champions in 1953 and was subsequently named North Dakota Football Coach of the Year. In 1962, Pedersen became the first president of the North Dakota High School Coaches Association. In 1963, he became head wrestling coach, assistant football coach and assistant athletic director at the University of North Dakota. In 1971, he was named the first athletic director for the 17 Fargo Public Schools and managed state tournaments in every sport.

He was inducted into the North Dakota Coaches Hall of Fame in 1973, the North Dakota Athletic Directors Hall of Fame in 1974 and the National High School Coaches Association (NHSCA) Hall of Fame in 1999. He received the VCSU Distinguished Alumni Award in 1981, and in 1985 he was named NHSCA National Athletic Director of the Year.

Pedersen had married Genevieve Dieterich in 1947. They loved to travel and moved to Montana after his 1985 retirement. The Pedersens also had a winter home in Mesa, Ariz., for several years. They were married for almost 72 years before Genevieve's death in 2018. Pedersen is survived by his son, Tom Pedersen, and daughter, Diane Bailly, along with their partners, and three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

# Just Married

- Clarissa Olson '19** and **Dustin Miller '19** were married July 27, 2019, in Valley City. Clarissa and Dustin moved to Woodbury, Minn., where Dustin works as a software engineer at Robert Mark Technologies and Clarissa is a long-term substitute high school teacher.
- Jessica Frerich '10** and **Joel Gortmaker '10** were married Dec. 31, 2018, in Vangstad Auditorium on the VCSU campus. Jessica works for VCSU in the Facilities Services and Safety Office. Joel manages Handy Hardware & Rental in Valley City. The couple resides in Valley City.
- Alexandra Sullivan '19** and Samuel Borowicz were married June 21, 2019, in Barnesville, Minn. They met at North Dakota State University while playing intramural soccer! Alexandra graduated from the VCSU@NDSU elementary education program. Samuel is finishing his last year at NDSU as a finance major. The couple is happy to be married and is excited to begin their journey together!
- Amanda Aune '13** and Peter Atiemo were married Aug. 9, 2019, in Duluth, Minn.



- 
- Katelyn Willer '18 & Andrew Hirsch '18**, June 22, 2019
  - Nicole Mauch '15** & Brandon Larson, July 27, 2019
  - Stephanie Pedersen '15 & Mark Zinke '16**, August 3, 2019
  - Kara Fike & **Brady Anderson**, August 9, 2019
  - Brenna Winter '19** & Colin Schroeder, August 10, 2019
  - Kaitlen Uecker '18 DCB at VCSU & Nicholas Lee '16**, September 7, 2019
  - Courtney Pederson '16** & Toby Haas, September 14, 2019
  - Sara Stanley '16** & Mackenzie Nordland, October 5, 2019
  - Tiffani Velure '18 & Dillon Thomas '18**, October 19, 2019

## 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](mailto:alumni@vcsu.edu).

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>1950</b><br>Margaret Born  | <b>1953</b><br>Doris (Christianson) Andrews<br>Carol Carlson<br>Ninita (Phillips) Kings<br>Marilyn Nelson | Beverly Meyer<br>Lois (Hollinberger) Michelson<br>Roy Schultz<br>Janet (Hanna) Schwalbe  |
| <b>1951</b><br>Ruby Berg<br>Agnes Fritz<br>Marilyn Murphy<br>Phyllis Oien<br>Loretta Schneider                                      | <b>1954</b><br>Marilyn Barr<br>June (Slagerman) Polk<br>Jeanette Stone<br>Grace Williams                  | <b>1956</b><br>Cheryl Amundson<br>Janet (Freeman) Anderson<br>Shirley Bratlie<br>Carol Brown<br>Arlene Cichos<br>Jo Hanson<br>Arlys Hanson<br>Robert Johnson<br>Vivian Kalmbach<br>Eleanora (Jangula) Lund<br>Vera Olsen |
| <b>1952</b><br>James Anderson<br>Jeanne Fiedler<br>Ellen (Webster) Olson<br>Patricia (Myhre) Samuelson<br>Bernice (Ferguson) Schutt | <b>1955</b><br>Edwin Carlson<br>Marie Eissinger<br>Georgena Ertelt<br>Dorothy Mattson                     |  |

## Important VCSU directory project underway

Staying connected to our alumni is very important to us. Valley City State University is launching an alumni data verification project next month. To make this a successful project, we are partnering with a nationally recognized publishing firm, Publishing Concepts (PCI), to help us reach out to alumni near and far.

Starting in December, you will receive communication from Publishing Concepts that will let you know how to participate in the project and update your educational, professional and contact information. The last Valley City State University alumni directory was published eight years ago, and we look forward to completing this project by November 2020.

We understand security and privacy are concerns, but please know that PCI is a trusted partner with us on this project. Up-to-date information is vital for us to connect alumni with former classmates and friends, and we want to be sure that you receive the latest news and invitations to our events.

If you have any questions about the project, feel free to contact Kim Hesch directly at 701-845-7403 or [kim.hesch@vcsu.edu](mailto:kim.hesch@vcsu.edu).





# Lil' Vikings

Have you had an addition to your family within the last six months? **We want to know!** Contact Kim Hesch at [kim.hesch@vcsu.edu](mailto: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](mailto:kim.hesch@vcsu.edu).



**Jackson Albert Boone**  
August 23, 2019  
7 pounds 5 ounces,  
20 1/2 inches  
Joins sister Aubrey  
Amber and Jacob  
Boone '07



**Theodore Charles Olson**  
October 9, 2018  
8 pounds 2  
ounces, 21 1/2  
inches  
Katie (Paulson) '13  
and Isaac Olson '12



**Lincoln Alexzander Burchill**  
July 8, 2019  
8 pounds, 22 inches  
Joins sisters Reagan  
(6) and Kennedy (3)  
Beth (Jochim) '14  
and Preston Burchill



**Grey James Heidorn**  
6 pounds, 19 1/2  
inches  
Joins brother Cam  
Lindsay (Elsner)  
'06 and Jonathan  
Heidorn



**Aven Mathias Foth**  
May 9, 2019  
7 pounds 8  
ounces, 20 1/2  
inches  
April (Hendrickson)  
and Cory Foth '04, '10



**Cali Maurice White**  
May 22, 2019  
8 pounds 9 ounces,  
20 1/2 inches  
Tarra (Miller) '15 and  
Lance White



**Brocket Maxwell Swanson**  
May 8, 2019  
7 pounds 14 ounces,  
19 1/2 inches  
Joins brothers Brecken  
(6) and Bridger (3)  
Ashley and Matt  
Swanson '06



**Philip Allen Aune**  
July 16, 2019  
8 pounds 6  
ounces, 19 1/2  
inches  
Keary and Spencer  
Aune '18



**Madison Mae Wisnewski**  
June 14, 2019  
5 pounds 13 ounces,  
19 1/2 inches  
Brittany and Wylie  
Wisnewski '09



**Drey Mark Dechant**  
October 2, 2018  
9 pounds 1 ounce,  
21 1/4 inches  
Amanda (Brown) '11  
and Damon Dechant

## RECOMMEND A FUTURE VIKING!

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY?**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Your Information: Name \_\_\_\_\_

VCSU Class Year \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Student \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO: VCSU ALUMNI OFFICE, 101 COLLEGE ST. SW, VALLEY CITY, ND 58072**



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**Valley City State University**  
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](mailto:alumni@vcsu.edu) or 701.845.7203. Thank you for your help in keeping our records current.

