

THE

# BULLETIN

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



**Another BIG Step Towards Master's Authority!**



**VALLEY CITY**  
**STATE UNIVERSITY**

# VCSU

VCSU Gets New Technology ♦ Welcome Back 141st ECB ♦ Teaching Teachers Diversity



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**ON THE COVER** Dr. Don Mugan, Chair of VCSU's Department of Technology Education, demonstrates the online Tech Ed program, one of the concentrations VCSU is proposing for a M.Ed degree. VCSU recently cleared a major hurdle towards receiving master's authority, and is now taking final steps towards the single most significant change of status in 84 years! See article on page 4.

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## Onward and Upward

by Dr. Ellen-Earle Chaffee, University President

I just rediscovered a Chinese fortune cookie slip that my father pasted to a small mirror on his desk not long before he died. The slip said, "All your hard work will soon pay off." There was no doubt about his hard work, and I enjoy thinking of him reaping an appropriate reward in heaven. I find myself thinking about that fortune cookie now in connection with Valley City State University, although with a different kind of payoff. The hard work of the university and community is beginning to pay off in so many ways, both on campus and off.

*"All your hard work will soon pay off."*

It started to come together that way in my mind last Tuesday when we were testifying on behalf of the university's budget before the Senate Appropriations Committee. We were so fortunate that Ken Behrendt, the president and CEO of Eagle Creek Software Services, made a point of coming to Bismarck from the Twin Cities to testify on our behalf. While there, Ken also met with the governor to be sure that everything is in order in terms of state support for the company's opening in Valley City.

As I introduced Ken, I said, "While we were recruiting him, he was often amazed at how well Valley City people were able to answer his questions before he even asked them, and to work with him on solving any remaining concerns. I told him, 'Ken, we've been preparing for you for ten years – we just didn't know your name.'"

The faculty and staff were pioneers in their commitment to information technologies in 1996, and right away local economic development and civic leaders recognized the potential to work together for the benefit of all. That

led to building the Regional Technology Center, a number of new businesses, and Eagle Creek. Another big IT company is coming to town now, and we have had an inquiry from *ComputerWorld* about doing another story on Valley City and the university.

At the same time, a project with even deeper historical roots appears about to flower. Teacher education was a short program in 1890, growing to two years long and then to four years during the 1900s. The need for continuing education and master's degrees in order to teach well throughout one's career has been recognized for decades, and most former normal schools in the country now offer them. The State Board of Higher Education approved the university's request on January 27! We are now pursuing approval from the regional accrediting association, aiming to offer graduate education by fall 2005.

The master's degree opens up a whole new world of service for our historic mission in teacher education at a time when learning opportunities for teachers have never been more in demand. It is also the launch pad for our cutting-edge technology education program to recruit and serve students throughout the country. The new program in customer relations management software, triggered by the Eagle Creek partnership, opens up whole new worlds of opportunity for current and future students. Ken predicts that IBM Global and other major firms will be recruiting students for us because we will have the only campus-based program to help fill a huge workforce shortage nationwide.

The tide is turning. These are tremendously exciting times for Valley City State. ♦

## VCSU Gets Ready for New Technology

by Barb Bachmeier, Times-Record Staff Writer; Reprinted with permission of the Valley City Times Record

While most of the campus was enjoying their Christmas break, crews consisting of contracted electricians, ITC staff and Facilities Services staff were hard at work upgrading the audio/visual capabilities in classrooms all over campus.

Approximately 31 classrooms underwent a facelift, during "Level 1" of a renovation project that will make the already technologically advanced college even more cutting edge.

The "Level 1" classroom upgrades improve presentation capabilities in the classrooms as well as prepare the rooms for implementation of "Level 2" technology, the plans for which are currently being finalized.

The "Level 2" upgrades, tentatively called MIMIC (Multiple Instruction Modes Integrated Classroom), are an effort to further digitize the classroom setting, allowing recording, storage, live transmission and easy archiving and retrieval of classroom activities.

Joe Tykwinski, chief information

officer at VCSU, says the goal is to try to capture as much of the classroom experience as possible in a digital format. The digitized information would enhance learning opportunities for traditional students in the classroom as well as those taking the courses online.

"It's a powerful learning tool," Tykwinski said. The new software will allow access to more classes for distance learners, who have location or time conflicts that render them unable to attend classes on campus.

Tykwinski said the classroom instruction can be delivered simultaneously to students at a distance, to be viewed live over the computer so the students could participate in real time, or the classes can be recorded and viewed at a later time for students with a conflicting schedule.

Students in the classroom will also benefit from the new technology. The notes they take during class can be synchronized with the recorded

information, so they can return at any time to gather information they missed, or to review a particular part of the class.

"The ability to review information will be a huge bonus," Tykwinski said, explaining that the new technology is the future of education.

"The chalkboard has to go," Tykwinski added. He said chalkboards may be replaced by digital white boards or tablet PCs (personal computers), which would allow users to write directly on the screen.

VCSU is known for being on the forefront of technologically advanced education, having issued notebook computers to each student since the late 1990s. This new equipment and technology is made possible through state funding and the student technology fee. It falls under the replacement cycle in the school's budget. Classroom equipment, such as the large screen TVs, were up for replacement, so the time was right to start bringing in the new equipment.

The equipment currently being

installed during "Level 1" will make the technology of "Level 2" possible. Screens and LCD projectors are replacing large TVs in classrooms. Consoles housing audio equipment are becoming the professors' new desks. Most of this work is being done during the winter break, with the rest to be completed as soon as possible.

"Level 2" is contingent upon choosing an affordable, easy-to-use software. An extensive pilot project was tested last spring, with positive results. Tykwinski said faculty members are excited to start using the new technology, and there are only a few more kinks to be ironed out before a suitable software is chosen and installed campus-wide. He is hopeful the new technology could be implemented as early as next year.

For the time being, students will notice only the physical changes in the classroom that allow for improved presentations. However, much bigger changes are on the horizon. ♦



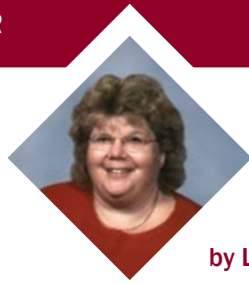


## In Memory of Aaron Sours

VCSU alum Aaron Sours '02 (age 27 of Lisbon, ND) was killed in a tragic car accident this past November. He was a member of the Planetarium Science Class for several semesters from 1995-1998 working on the shows Century 23, Mission from Mars, Grandpa Hydrogen and Mighty Orion as well as being very involved with the VCSU Medicine Wheel Project. It was during this time that I met Aaron and we became good friends. Aaron was a very dedicated student whom I knew as someone that I could count on when needed. The three of us, Bonnie Ranum, Aaron and myself, became the perennial keepers of the planetarium headed by our professor and great friend Dr. Eileen Starr. If something broke, it was usually Aaron and I who tried to fix it. If a show needed presenting, it was usually one of us who stepped in to do it. Aaron had a great sense of humor with a contagious thirst for knowledge that he did his best to impart to his students. He was one of the few people I've known who was born to be a teacher. He will be missed by so many as a son, brother, husband, father, student, teacher and friend. As Joe Stickler so eloquently put it, "Aaron was a delightful person and a pleasure to be with. He always wanted to return to Lisbon to teach. Now he is home. Now he is connected to the Universe."

A fund has been created in Aaron's memory, dedicated to providing a scholarship to sponsor future Planetarium Science students. It is in this way that Aaron will always be connected to VCSU's planetarium. Thank you to those who have so generously donated towards making this happen.

Wes Anderson '97  
Planetarium Director



# Happy New Year from Cooperstown, ND!

by Linda Olson '77, Alumni Association President

In the days following the Holidays, Charles and I hosted back to back episodes of influenza, sinusitis, and viral pneumonia in a small block of time, so believe me, we are looking forward to happier and healthier days ahead!

I strongly encourage you to attend the VCSU socials scheduled throughout the year in different parts of our country and on the campus. We've invited the graduates from the 1950's back to the campus this summer and look forward to visiting with them when they gather the weekend of June 24 & 25.

*Keep in mind all that the University has done for each of us, and take advantage of this opportunity to give a little something back!*

The VCSU Phone-A-Thon kicked off in January. This year, the Foundation office contracted with several VCSU student organizations to make the calls to alumni.

If you didn't have an opportunity to visit with one of our students during Phone-A-Thon, it's not too late to make a donation to this year's Annual Fund. We have

a very ambitious goal of \$100,000 this year and know that with everyone's support, we can raise the money needed to support a wide variety of programs. The dollars generated from the Phone-A-Thon are part of the Foundation's Annual Fund and help support activities by the Alumni Association. These activities include Homecoming, alumni reunions, recognition programs and the publication of *The Bulletin* and *News & Views*. Thank you to those of you who have already pledged or sent in your donation.

Keep in mind all that the University has done for each of us, and take advantage of this opportunity to give a little something back! Another way to help is to act as an ambassador for Valley City State to students looking for an excellent education.

Finally, it is always great to hear from you! Please drop the Foundation Office a note about yourself and your family. Feel free to include accomplishments and happenings in both your personal and professional lives. This can be included in the "Vikings on the Move" section of *The Bulletin*.

Hope your winter is treating you well. ♦

### 2004-2005 VCSU Alumni Board of Directors

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### 2004-2005 Foundation Board of Directors

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<b>Terry Dunphy* '68</b>	<b>Mary Simonson</b>
	<b>Jerry A. Topp '74</b>

\*New members elected at the December, 2004 Foundation Board meeting



## Investing in the Future of North Dakota

by Larry Robinson '71, Director of University Advancement

As I write this letter, I am in Bismarck for the 2005 Legislative session. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I have spent the last few weeks in hearings in which the many needs of the state of North Dakota are presented. Feel assured that those needs are many.

Among the hearings, each campus of the North Dakota University System had a turn in front of the Appropriations Committee to describe how they plan to use their appropriation to fulfill their mission. It was an outstanding display that clearly showed why we should be so proud of our University System.

Representing Valley City State University, Dr. Ellen Chaffee and Bill Ament, Comptroller, gave a compelling presentation on both the accomplishments and the future of the university. The presentation was capped off with testimony by Ken Behrendt, the President of Eagle Creek Software, on the instrumental role VCSU played their decision to locate a development and service center in Valley City. It was a powerful reminder of the importance of VCSU in the regional economy. We were also able to have a group of students attend, and they had an opportunity to introduce themselves to the committee. Needless to say, our presentation to the committee was outstanding. That, coupled with the attendance of several of our students, made the day! I don't think I've ever been more proud of VCSU.

Clearly, the University System is a wise investment in the future

of North Dakota. It educates our young and gives them an important first step in their careers. For those who have already entered the workforce, the University System presents opportunities for continuing education that can mean exciting new opportunities. Additionally, as demonstrated so clearly by the example of Eagle Creek, the University System provides an essential avenue for economic growth.

Unfortunately, as a legislator, I also see first-hand the other pressing needs of our state. Many of them are both urgent and unavoidable. Were it possible, I would see to it that every student has an opportunity for the higher education they deserve at levels they can afford. But these

*If this continues, the quality education offered at VCSU may slip beyond the reach of many deserving students.*

legislative sessions remind us that we do not, in fact, live in an ideal world, and therefore must make difficult choices.

Like the State of North Dakota, VCSU is facing needs greater than its immediate resources.

At a time when our costs are increasing, the state has reduced its general fund appropriation to the University System from 21 percent to 19 percent. Currently the Governor's budget proposal is to provide funding at parity levels – the same level as the last biennium with adjustment made for inflation alone. Meanwhile, students have seen tuition increases of 20% last year and 18% this fall. If this continues, the quality education offered at VCSU may slip beyond the reach of many deserving students.

To close this gap, we are asking for the help of our alumni to reach our fund raising goals. The good news is that we have already seen many step-up to the plate. In December, Doug Peters, VCSU Athletic Director, announced that the Century Club, which funds athletic scholarships, raised over \$110,000 – \$20,000 more than was brought in last year. This is a sure sign that our alumni are with us when it comes to supporting VCSU.

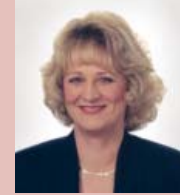
But much work remains to be done. Our annual V-500 drive, traditionally our main academic scholarship drive, is essential to attracting talented students to VCSU. Our goal this year is to raise \$80,000 of new

membership income. Our annual Phone-A-Thon has a goal of \$100,000. If you have already made a pledge when we contacted you recently, please accept our sincere thanks. To those of you who promised to pledge but did not specify an amount, why not take a moment at this time to insert your check in the enclosed self-addressed and stamped envelope. Don't forget, we also have an option for making donations online at <http://alumni.vcsu.edu>.

Every gift counts! If you feel that you have benefited from your education at VCSU, this is your opportunity to give something back. VCSU is a great university with a rich tradition. With your support, we can have an even brighter future together. ♦

## Note From Val

by Val Moritz '75,  
Director of Alumni Relations



I have many fond memories of the holiday season; parties, family gatherings, good food

and Christmas lights. And one of the things I look forward to every year is "We're In the Christmas Mood" produced by the Alumni Committee of the EBC Fraternity.

Beginning the first Sunday in October a group of dedicated and talented individuals begin rehearsals that continue through the second Saturday in December when this annual event is held. Under the direction of maestro John Monilaws '87, these alumni, current VCSU students, and area high school students put together a professional and entertaining holiday program. Then, to make it even more unbelievable, they don't charge admission but rather ask for a donation to the local food pantry!

Alumni participating in this program include \*John Monilaws '87, \*Randy Hajek, \*H. Dean Johnson, \*Josh Argall '99, Cassie (Blanchard) Bastian '99; Tricia (Brandt) Lebahn '98; \*Monte McDaniel '59; \*Paul McDaniel '73; Dale Conrad '84; Larry Hegvik '68; Stacy Wendel '02; Mark Ertelt; \*Lance Drevecky '77; \*Brian Bubach '97; \*Erik Opdahl; \*Nathan Johnson '02; David Piper '77; Judy Johnson Berg '94. (\*Indicates EBC Fraternity alumni member.) Over 50 high school students from eight area high schools participate in the All Star High School Honor Choir and orchestra. What a wonderful opportunity to welcome these prospective students to our campus.

From outstanding vocalists to a terrific orchestra, this program is a favorite of the entire community. Held in Vangstad Auditorium, there is not an empty seat in the hall. We are so fortunate to have alumni willing to donate their time and talent to bring us this very special holiday program. Thank you for your wonderful gift! ♦

## VCSU Takes Another BIG Step Towards Master's Authority

In the January meeting of the State Board of Higher Education, the Board of Directors approved VCSU's request for a change of status from an undergraduate to a graduate degree granting institution and approval for a Master of Education (M.Ed) degree. The decision paves the way for VCSU to pursue a final key step to receiving authority to offer a master's level degree — delivering a proposal to the regional accrediting organization detailing the specifics of the programs VCSU proposes to offer. If all goes as planned, VCSU believes it will receive approval from the accrediting organization this summer and be able to offer its first graduate level classes in the fall of 2005.

Dr. Ellen Chaffee, President of VCSU, said, "Master's authority for VCSU represents the single most significant change in our status since we received authority to offer a bachelor's degree in 1921. We are very excited about this opportunity and plan to capitalize on it to extend VCSU's strong tradition of leadership in education and technological innovation."

The Master of Education (M.Ed) that VCSU plans to offer will be designed for practicing teachers in either elementary or secondary education. VCSU's proposal describes two concentrations: Technology Education and Teaching and Technology.

The Technology Education concentration will be based on VCSU's current online degree program in Technology Education. Dr. Don Mugan, Department Chair for VCSU's Department of Technology Education, said, "The Tech Ed program at VCSU is the nations first and only online program to comply with the standards for technological literacy defined by the International Technology Education Association (ITEA). Extending this

program to the Masters level gives teachers who currently hold a Bachelor's degree a compelling opportunity to achieve a higher level degree in a field facing a dramatic shortage of qualified teachers nationwide."

The Teaching and Technology concentration would focus on use of technologies to enrich teaching and learning. Dr. Larry Grooters, Chair of VCSU's Division of Education, Psychology and Technology, said, "With the rapid advances in technology that our graduates face, teachers themselves must become effective users of technology and develop strategies for successfully integrating technology into the classroom to enhance the learning experience. This concentration provides a background that will enable graduates to fill this role."

One important reason for VCSU to pursue master's authority is to fill a substantial and unmet demand for graduate level degrees in the fields VCSU plans to offer. Dr. Chaffee said, "With rapid changes in society and education over the last few decades, teachers are finding that even four-year degrees are not sufficient to be competitive in the teaching job market. Nonetheless, the North Dakota District Profiles for school districts in VCSU's service region report that their percentage of staff with a master's degree or higher is below the state average. Nationwide, the need is even greater — a 2003 study by Old Dominion University documents a nationwide demand for about 9,000 new technology education teachers by 2006, while currently only about 600 are produced annually. A master's degree in technology education offered by VCSU is one effective way to address this shortage." ♦

*"Master's authority for VCSU represents the single most significant change in our status since we received authority to offer a bachelor's degree in 1921."*

## V-500 Holds Annual Recognition Banquet

The Valley City State University V-500 Board of Directors held their annual recognition banquet for new and renewed members on Saturday, December 11 at the VCSU Student Center.

In addition, several members were recognized for reaching a milestone in their lifetime commitment to V-500. Also attending the event were VCSU students who were current recipients of V-500 scholarships. They were there to thank V-500 members first hand for their generous support of V-500.

Following dinner and an awards ceremony, the banquet guests attended the EBC Show, "We're in the Christmas Mood," held in historic Vangstad Auditorium. ♦



### New Book Features Chapter on Electronic Portfolios Written by VCSU's Corwin

Dr. Terry Corwin, Director of Instructional Technology for VCSU, recently made a significant contribution to a new book *Best Technology Practices In Higher Education*

(Medford, NJ, Information Today, Inc., edited by Les Lloyd).

The book provides information on the most important technology issues in higher education, and has been praised as being "authored by national and international experts in the field."

In the book, Corwin wrote Chapter One: "Electronic Portfolios." This chapter describes VCSU's pioneering use of electronic portfolios and their role in the technologically enhanced education that VCSU offers. At VCSU, electronic portfolios are used to present a "best works" collection of student projects and assess the student's competence in eight specific abilities (University Abilities). VCSU first adopted a Portfolio Initiative in 1995, and senior portfolios have been a requirement of graduation since 2002. ♦

PHOTOS FROM THE V-500 RECOGNITION BANQUET BELOW FROM LEFT 1. Nyle and Arlene Burchill, JoAnn Nathan, Pat Nielson 2. Allen and Pat Nielson, Sharon McCarriar, Dr. Ellen Chaffee 3. Jim and Nadine Van Dyke, Bruce Jones, Dena Muri (VCSU student) 4. Tom Glandt, Maggie Machayya, Dolly and Deforest Peterson





# Testimony and Recommendation of Alumni Key in Student Choice

by Dan Klein, Director of Enrollment Services

About a year ago, head VCSU baseball coach Cory Anderson bought a Ford Explorer Sport Trac. It's a nice looking unit with a lot of nice features and for a color blind guy, it even has a sharp color. I had never really thought too much about a Sport Trac before Cory got his, and when my wife suggested we get something with a little more room in the back for the girls, I thought of what Cory had said about how he and Kristi likes theirs.

While I'm not a big fan of equating the complicated process of choosing a college to attend to the purchase decision of a vehicle, there are some simple parallels that can be drawn between the value of alumni testimony and a car owner's testimony in the decision making process. Like the numerous commercials and print media ads for a Sport Trac, students are exposed to a constant stream of materials and contacts from campus recruitment personnel. For some, it can become a mind-numbing exercise of sorting through piles of brochures of colleges trying to catch the eye of the student long enough to compel them to read on. What they need is valuable, real testimonies of confidence from people who have benefited from the experience. This is where you come in.

As an alumnus of Valley City State University, you know first hand the outstanding advantages VCSU provides its students. By taking a proactive interest in

the search that young people in your lives are conducting, you can provide them details about what VCSU meant and means to you. This first-hand testimony takes what we try to get across in colorful brochures and personal interactions we have with prospective students to another level and gives it credibility. Students will be much more willing, perhaps more excited, to consider VCSU when they hear someone they know and respect recommend its advantages. Encourage them to visit and we'll reinforce what you told them. We strive to provide students the great personal experience you received as a student here. Additionally, let us know of students you think will be a great fit at VCSU. After receiving their contact information from you, we'll be happy to connect with them and go to work at matching their interests and talents with what VCSU has to offer.

If you ever question the impact you can have on a student's decision of where to attend college, just think of my simple car buying example. With all of the advertising the auto industry does to try to get one to buy a vehicle, the key factor in getting me to consider the Sport Trac was the review and recommendation of a trusted colleague. I test drove one and found what Coach Anderson said was true, and there are now two Sport Tracs on the campus. ♦

## VCSU Hosts Saturday Campus Visit Days

Recognizing that prospective students and their families can't always break away from their busy schedules during the school/work week, the VCSU Office of Enrollment Services provides a number of Saturday Campus Visit Days. This year, four published events were scheduled to provide even more opportunity than what has been provided in the past.

The two fall Visit Days were held on October 2 and 30, with numerous prospective students attending, including a couple of transfer students from Florida. One of the high school seniors who attended was considering three much larger campuses, but after attending the James Ployar festival hosted by the music department in September, VCSU jumped to the top of her list of choices.

The January Visit Day was rescheduled to February 5 due to a blizzard, with one of the highest visit day crowds we've had. There is still one visit day left and it will be held Saturday, April 2. The group encouraged to attend that day are current high school juniors, although seniors who haven't yet decided are very welcome to attend as well. ♦

### 2005-2006 Saturday Visit Days Preliminary Schedule

Sept. 17, 2005  
Oct. 15, 2005  
Oct. 29, 2005  
Jan. 21, 2006  
Feb. 4, 2006: Transfer Visit Day  
Apr. 1, 2006: Junior Visit Day

# VCSU

## ALUMNI REUNION

DECADE OF THE 1950'S

**FRIDAY, JUNE 24**  
Lunch with VCSU Alumni Board of Directors and VCSU Retired Faculty and Staff  
Campus and Community Tours  
No-Host Social & Dinner

**SATURDAY, JUNE 25**  
Ice Cream Social

**June 24 & 25, 2005**  
**\*Note date change**  
We decided to coordinate our reunion with Valley City High School's reunion of the 1940's since many of our graduates will be returning for this event!

*Join your classmates for a reunion at Valley City State University. Plans are still being made, so watch your mail for specific details.*

MORE PHOTOS FROM THE V-500 RECOGNITION BANQUET BELOW FROM LEFT 1. Vince and Dorothy Olson, M.G. Machayya 2. Chuck and Jan Stowman, Sharon McCarriar, Dr. Ellen Chaffee 3. Peter and Karen Richman, Sue and Stan Johnson 4. Allen Nielson, Dennis Nathan, Greta Trader (VCSU student)



# VCSU Rolls Out CRM Track

## New program offers exciting career opportunities in a growing field

With Eagle Creek Software Services rapidly gearing up for operations in Valley City staffed by VCSU graduates (see article in *The Bulletin*, August 2004), VCSU has been busy implementing the coursework that formed an essential part of the agreement with Eagle Creek. Dubbed the “CRM Track”, the coursework consists of one class and two semesters of paid internship that tailors VCSU graduates to fulfill the unique qualifications Eagle Creek requires of its employees.

“CRM” refers to Customer Relationship Management, a rapidly growing segment of the commercial software market. CRM software is used to manage an organization’s “customer-facing” activities such as marketing programs, call centers, help desks, and field services. Eagle Creek provides development and support services to Fortune 1500 organizations that use CRM software from the industry’s leading provider: Siebel Systems. VCSU’s CRM Track gives graduates a solid background in Siebel CRM software that includes both specialized coursework and hands-on experience, making them

outstanding candidates for jobs in the field.

With its high demand and specialized requirements, the field of CRM software is a fantastic career opportunity for graduates. Eagle Creek plans to have over 200 employees in its Valley City facility

*“These are quality, high-paying jobs and an important part of the ‘win-win’ in this relationship....”*

within a few years, most of them coming from the VCSU CRM Track. In addition, there are literally thousands of Siebel CRM implementations all around the world, so graduates have the flexibility to live just about anywhere. Ken Behrendt, President of Eagle Creek Software, said, “These are quality, high-paying jobs and an important part of the ‘win-win’ in this relationship: graduates won’t need to move to the major metros in order to find a great job.”

In addition, students who complete the CRM Track can qualify for other compelling economic benefits as well. VCSU offers the coursework in the CRM Track at standard tuition rates, but the same coursework would cost students over \$10,000 if purchased through commercial training organizations (VCSU is the only university in the

nation offering this training). Graduates may also qualify for up to \$8,000 of financial incentives offered by the Valley Development Group and the State of North Dakota.

The CRM Track will be offered through the VCSU Division of

Business and Information Technology. Rick Ross, Chair of this Division, said, “We have hired an instructor that will be dedicated to teaching the CRM coursework, and are in the process of remodeling a classroom with state-of-the-art equipment to provide the right educational experience” (see accompanying article, “VCSU Business Institute Designed to Spur Economic Growth”). “We should be ready to begin taking applications from students by spring and plan to offer our first CRM course this summer.”

Individuals who are interested in applying to the VCSU CRM Track should contact Rick Ross at 701-845-7723 or e-mail [rick.ross@vcsu.edu](mailto:rick.ross@vcsu.edu). ♦

## VCSU Business Institute Designed to Spur Economic Growth

The CRM Track is actually the first example of the vision behind a new VCSU entity. The “Business Institute” is a collection of VCSU educational assets in applied technology that will be focused on growing the economy through education, training, and service. Dr. Ellen Chaffee, VCSU President, said, “The Business Institute will directly serve the needs of businesses by providing specialized curriculum and building unique graduate abilities. It represents both a significant growth opportunity for VCSU and a new source of jobs for the region, and is another good example of VCSU fulfilling its role as an economic engine for Valley City.”

The Business Institute is initially being housed in Vangstad 117. Joe Tykwinski, VCSU Chief Information Officer, is supervising a \$30,000 remodeling of the room that will include all new furnishings and state-of-the-art audio/visual capabilities using economic development funds. Several adjacent rooms and some rooms in the basement of Vangstad are being considered for future expansion. An open house for the Business Institute is being planned for June. ♦

## Sorry We Missed You!

The 2005 VCSU Alumni Association Phone-A-Thon is underway! Over 75 students are making calls this year representing a variety of campus organizations including the women’s softball team, the tennis team, the Inter Fraternity-Sorority Council, Music Majors, and the university ambassadors.

The Phone-A-Thon is a major fund raising initiative of the university that offsets the costs of several important programs and services including *The Bulletin*, *News and Views*, alumni socials, reunions, recognition programs, and scholarship support.

If you have not yet received a call from one of our students, there is still time to make your annual pledge. You can make your pledge online at <http://alumni.vcsu.edu>, you can call us at 800-536-8641, or simply mail your check to the VCSU Foundation/Phone-A-Thon, 101 College St. SW, Valley City, ND 58072. ♦





# Welcome Home to the 141<sup>st</sup>!

## VCSU Professor and students among the soldiers who completed their tour of duty and returned to Valley City from Iraq!

The 141<sup>st</sup> Engineer Combat Battalion, whose members include VCSU Professor Joan Aus and approximately 21 VCSU students, were among the units that completed tours of duty in Iraq and returned home during February.

The unit was mobilized in December, 2003, and deployed to Iraq in February, 2004. SFC Eldred Knutson said their mission was both very dangerous and very important. "The 141<sup>st</sup> was on a trailblazing mission searching for and removing explosive devices along roadways to make them safer to travel. Going in, there really weren't established rules for how this kind of mission should be handled under the conditions that were prevalent in Iraq, so their work also set the policy for the way future units will operate." SFC Knutson added, "The battalion lost four soldiers during this deployment, and several others were wounded. Our hearts go out to these soldiers, their families and their loved ones."

Aus is a professor at VCSU, the coordinator of the English as a Second Language (ESL) Program and usually teaches four or five classes per semester in educational methods and cultural diversity. She is also a Sergeant with the 141<sup>st</sup> serving as a diesel mechanic combat engineer and computer operator for such duties as dispatching vehicles and ordering replacement parts. She also served in the Persian Gulf war with the U.S. Air Force.

While in Iraq, she taught communications classes to dozens

of students in the 141<sup>st</sup>. For the first semester she taught, the 141<sup>st</sup> was in Kuwait, and classes were held in tents or in the shade without benefit of electricity or Internet. Later in Iraq, she traveled between locations held at FOB Speicher (near Tikrit), where she taught 11 students, and FOB O'Ryan (about 120 miles apart), where she taught 10 students. Though these classes were officially offered through Valley City State University, the credits students earned are completely transferable as part of the "General Education" requirements for the North Dakota University System.

Cooperation from the senior leadership of her battalion was key, providing support such as transportation and convoy protection, and even securing tuition. Major Pulvermacher and Major Pauling (Bismarck) worked for 6 months to get the army to pay the tuition for all of these students.

Aus is also pursuing her Doctorate in Education with emphasis in English Language Learners (ELL) at the University of North Dakota. While in Iraq, Joan completed 9 semester hours by arrangement with her UND professors.

A large community party is being planned for sometime in the summer to celebrate the return of the 141<sup>st</sup> and welcome its members home. ♦



Sargeant/Professor Joan Aus sent photos of some of the students enrolled in classes she taught while in Iraq. Here, she is pictured with some of her students at FOB O'Ryan. TOP ROW Fieldings Olson, Kelly Grotte. IN FRONT OF THE HMMV Dean Kadrmas, Jeff Steinke, Corey Moen, Joan Aus and Amy Omlid.

## Topp to Deliver VCSU Commencement Address



Jerry Topp ('74), Managing Partner and Chief Executive Officer of Eide Bailly LLC, will

deliver the Commencement address during the 2005 Commencement ceremonies at Valley City State University.

In his role with Eide Bailly, Topp oversees the management and profitability of the firm and is responsible for implementing and monitoring actions to achieve the firm's strategic and long-range plans. He is also responsible for monitoring developments in the profession and business

environment, and determining their relevance to the firm, to ensure continuity and success.

Topp is a native of Grace City, ND. He has a bachelor's degree in Business Education from Valley City State University. He also is a graduate of the University of North Dakota where he earned a master's degree in Accounting and Business Law. Jerry lives in Fargo with his wife, Marie (VCSU '74), who is a regional vision consultant with the North Dakota School for the Blind.

Commencement will be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, May 14 in historic Vangstad Auditorium. ♦

PHOTOS BELOW FROM LEFT 1. Chuck Solberg '59, Bill Luetgerodt '79, Vern Hansen '52, Jim Nielson '48 in Portland, OR. 2. Astrid and Arlen Thorstenson '56 of San Diego, CA. 3. Former VCSU professor Mary Lenaburg and Dean Lenaburg in San Diego, CA. 4. Sandra (Voorhees) and Hank Toring '64 in Los Angeles, CA.



## VCSU Instructors Receive Academic Recognition



Kerry Gregoryk (above left) and Heather Metcalf (above right) have been inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society at NDSU. This is the highest academic recognition at NDSU and the only one to appear on transcripts.

The selection process was based on academic achievement and personal character. Both are nearing the completion of their coursework in the Occupational and Adult Education track of NDSU's new Ph.D. in Education program. Metcalf and Gregoryk will start working on their dissertations this summer after oral and written comps. ♦

# VCSU

## Scholarship Auction

Friday, April 22, 2005  
Valley City Eagles

Silent Auction & Social at 5pm  
Live Auction at 7pm

Help us set a new record!

We're looking for  
donations for our annual  
scholarship auction.  
Will you help us?

These items are always popular:

POTTERY VACATIONS  
ART JEWELRY  
TIME SHARES COLLECTIBLES  
SPORTS MEMORABILIA

Your contributions can be  
directed to Val Moritz  
800-532-8641 ext. 37403  
val.moritz@vcsu.edu



## Teacher Ed Teaching Teachers about Diversity

With its long heritage in teacher education, VCSU is respected for innovative practices that help students prepare for teaching in the real classroom. One great example of these innovative practices is the Cultural Diversity Practicum offered by VCSU.

The Cultural Diversity Practicum is an opportunity for VCSU teacher education students to get experience in classrooms that feature students from a variety of cultures. The program, which is now being run by VCSU Instructor Heather Metcalf, has become increasingly important to the program to the point that it was made a requirement for graduation in 2001. Metcalf is a firm believer in the value of diversity to an educator – in fact, she is writing her Ph.D dissertation on the subject. But Metcalf is also seeing a growing interest nationwide in the subject. “Diversity is a particularly hot topic today because the ‘No Child Left Behind’ legislation requires that teachers be ‘highly qualified’ in the ability to teach any student – including those in other socioeconomic situations and other cultures. The Cultural Diversity Practicum is one way to satisfy that requirement.”

But beyond satisfying requirements, Metcalf says that students have lots of good reasons to be interested in learning more about cultural diversity. “Any student heading for a career in just about any of the major metros will see students from a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds, and this can come as somewhat of a shock to a student who’s only experience has been in rural North Dakota. But even for students that intend to teach right here, exposure to different cultures can add to the depth of experience the student offers when they move into the classroom. Many VCSU students come from small town rural ND, and this is their first experience with another culture.”

The practicum consists of a trip out of state to spend 25 hours in a school in which the students are particularly diverse. Most students choose to go to one of the schools in St. Paul, MN with which VCSU

has a long-standing relationship: High School destinations include Como Park and Arlington High Schools, while options for elementary education include Como Park Elementary and North End Elementary. VCSU students in the Cultural Diversity Practicum have been coming to these schools every semester for the last 10 years.

Some students who complete the Practicum found many parallels between schools with diverse populations and those from their own experience. Jamie Huelsman had her Practicum at Como Park High School, where the student population includes Caucasian, Asian (including many Hmong refugees), and African American. Said Huelsman, “This school turned out to be the opposite of what I expected. Even though there were different races walking around and their school population is about 1,400, the school turned out to be a lot like the school in which I grew up.”

Despite these parallels, the Practicum helped Huelsman gain an understanding of the differences among students that she will apply when she begins teaching. Said Huelsman, “This experience has opened my eyes to the differences in schools and how teachers must adapt to meet the needs of their students. Not all students will be able to learn the same, be disciplined the same, or will be able to achieve the same. So many of the practices that the teachers in St. Paul were using were different than ones I have seen used and it was very interesting to see how the children react to it.”

But the most important lesson VCSU students seem to take away from the Practicum is an appreciation for the importance of caring and the importance of hard work. Greta Trader, another VCSU student who recently completed the Practicum, said “I will always remember how hard those teachers work to show the student that they care and want to help them learn. It made me want to be a teacher like that – so no matter what materials I have I can help students learn. I think that is a goal any teacher would want to have.” ♦





VCSU Linebacker Josh Kasowski (who graduated in December, 2004) and parents Joe and Jodee Ukestad. Josh was named to the NAIA All-American 1st Team – only the fifth Viking to be named to the 1st Team. See story on p. 10.



FROM LEFT Dave Rausch, Nancy (Maresh) ('97) and Alfred Melo ('97) and two daughters Madison and Brinkley. FAR RIGHT Mark ('99) and Jacqueline ('98) (Bisson) Pippin.



Scott ('77) and Lynn ('77) (Lundgren) Rerick with their son (and Senior Viking Defensive Back) Jeff and his sister Elizabeth.



FRONT Gregg Horner ('90), John Olstad ('93), Jim Dew, John Thomas ('76), Jerry Pederson ('82), Kevin Brewer ('82). ROW 2 Cory Anderson ('89), Joe Peterson ('91), Dave Rausch ('78), Jeff Letasse ('83), Head Coach Dennis McCulloch. INSET John Olstad and Joe Peterson were instrumental in arranging the trip.

## Big City... Bright Lights... Viking Football

The Viking Football team ended its 2004 campaign in Los Angeles, CA, with a loss to eventual national semi-finalist Azusa Pacific this past fall. Not part of the annual schedule, the Vikings called on its past to make the present something to remember. The trip was externally funded by members of the Viking Football Family. A golf tournament this past July, coupled with several other events geared towards Viking Football Alums and Fans provided the funding for the party of 70 to travel to the coast and have an

experience to remember. Although the game didn't go as planned, several other opportunities provided memories of a lifetime. Twenty-five of the travel party had never flown before and the post-game gathering provided the opportunity for the present players and families to meet several alumni and friends of Viking Athletics. The trip ended with the same excitement as when it started with attendance at the USC Homecoming Game. Thanks to all the Viking Fans and Friends that supported this effort! ♦

SATURDAY, JUNE 4th, 2005

# VIKING SCRAMBLE

register now at:

<http://vikings.vcsu.edu/vikingscramble/>



# Kasowski Named All-American

Valley City State University linebacker Josh Kasowski was named to the NAIA All-American 1st Team. Kasowski became the 35th Viking to receive the honor but only the fifth to be named to the first team.



The last Viking first teamer was defensive tackle Lloyd Joseph in 1990. Defensive end Jim Theis made first team in 1983, linebacker Dave Rausch accomplished the feat in 1977 and Linebacker Jim Ukestad earned first team honors twice, in 1976 and 1977. Rausch was Kasowski's linebacker coach at VCSU.

"Although this is an individual award, I couldn't have accomplished any of this without the help of my teammates and coaches and the support of my parents," Kasowski said.

Kasowski was an integral component of the Vikings success since arriving in 2000 to the Viking program. He was a three-year starter at linebacker for the Vikings, leading them in tackles each of the last two seasons. Kasowski, a captain for the 2004 team, broke two school records, recording a school record 31 tackles against Minot State and a record 346 tackles for his career. On the national level, Kasowski finished the season as the second leading tackler in the NAIA.

"There is a reason why Josh is as good as he is," said Coach Dennis McCulloch. "If you go down into our weight room you will see Josh's name at the top of most every list. He is our hardest worker both on and off the field."

Kasowski graduated from VCSU in December and has taken a position with Edward Jones Investments. After completing his tests, Josh will be placed in an office somewhere in North Dakota or Minnesota, where he begins life after football. ♦

# VCSU Summer Athletic Camps

### Line of Scrimmage

#### Football Camp

July 13-14, 2005

For More Information:  
Nat Hill 701.845.7159

#### 9-Man Football Team Camp

June 5-8, 2005

For More Information:  
Nat Hill 701.845.7159

#### 11-Man Football Team Camp

June 9-12, 2005

For More Information:  
Nat Hill 701.845.7159

### Girls Basketball Team Camp

June 11, 2005

For More Information:  
Jill DeVries 701.845.7164

### Girls Basketball Position Camp

June 12-15, 2005

For More Information:  
Jill DeVries 701.845.7164

### HS Boys Basketball Team Camp

June 25-26, 2005

For More Information:  
Adam DeHaan 701.845.7240

### Basketball Shooting Camp

June 26-29, 2005

For More Information:  
Adam DeHaan 701.845.7240

## Spring 2004-2005 Viking Schedules

(Home games in BOLD)

### Baseball Schedule

Mar. 3	St. Mary's, MN (at Metrodome)	9:45 pm
Mar. 12	Dana College (at Blair, NE)	12:00 pm
Mar. 13	Midland Lutheran (at Fremont, NE)	12:00 pm
Mar. 15	U of MN-Crookston (at Maryvale, MO)	10:00 am
Mar. 15	NW Missouri State (at Maryvale, MO)	3:00 pm
Mar. 16	NW Missouri State (at Maryvale, MO)	1:00 pm
Mar. 19	Park University (at Kansas City, MO)	12:00 pm
Mar. 26	Dickinson State (at Dickinson)	1:00 pm
Mar. 28	University of Mary (at Mary)	1:00 pm
Mar. 29	Concordia College, MN (at Concordia)	1:30 pm
Mar. 31	North Dakota State (at Newman Field, Fargo)	4:00 pm
Apr. 2	Minot State (at Minot, ND)	1:00 pm
Apr. 3	Jamestown College (at Jamestown, ND)	1:00 pm
Apr. 9	<b>Si Tanka University/Huron</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
Apr. 10	<b>Dakota State</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
Apr. 13	Mayville State (at Mayville, ND)	2:00 pm
Apr. 16	<b>Dickinson State</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
Apr. 17	<b>University of Mary</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
Apr. 19	Northern State (at Aberdeen, SD)	2:00 pm
Apr. 23	Si Tanka University/Huron (at Huron, SD)	1:00 pm
Apr. 24	Dakota State (at Madison, SD)	1:00 pm
Apr. 27	<b>Mayville State</b>	<b>2:00 pm</b>
Apr. 30	<b>Alumni Game</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>
Apr. 30	<b>Jamestown College</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
May 1	<b>Minot State</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
May 5	DAC 10 Tourney (at Mayville, ND)	TBA
May 12	Region III Tourney (at TBA)	TBA
May 19	Super Regional (at Region IV Winner)	TBA
May 27	NAIA World Series (at Lewiston, ID)	TBA

### Softball Schedule

Mar. 12	William Woods University (MO) (at Jefferson City, MO) (William Woods Tourney)	12:30 pm
Mar. 12	The Fransiscan University (IA) (at Jefferson City, MO) (William Woods Tourney)	9:00 am
Mar. 12	Mount Mercy College (IA) (at Jefferson City, MO) (William Woods Tourney)	2:15 pm
Mar. 13	Iowa Wesleyan College (at Jefferson City, MO) (William Woods Tourney)	9:00 am
Mar. 13	Columbia College (MO) (at Jefferson City, MO) (William Woods Tourney)	10:45 am
Mar. 15	Briar Cliff University (at Sioux City, IA)	3:00 pm
Mar. 16	Mount Marty College (at Yankton, SD)	2:00 pm
Mar. 23	Presentation College (at Aberdeen, SD)	3:00 pm
Mar. 26	Dickinson State University (at Dickinson, ND)	1:00 pm (MT)
Mar. 28	University of Mary (at Bismarck, ND)	2:00 pm
Mar. 30	<b>Presentation College</b>	<b>3:00 pm</b>
Apr. 2	Minot State University (at Minot, ND)	2:00 pm
Apr. 3	Jamestown College (at Jamestown, ND)	2:00 pm
Apr. 6	U of MN-Morris (at Morris, MN)	3:00 pm
Apr. 9	<b>Si Tanka University/Huron</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
Apr. 10	<b>Dakota State University</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
Apr. 13	Mayville State University (at Mayville, ND)	2:00 pm
Apr. 16	<b>Dickinson State University</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
Apr. 17	<b>University of Mary</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
Apr. 23	Si Tanka University/Huron (at Huron, SD)	1:00 pm
Apr. 24	Dakota State University (at Madison, SD)	1:00 pm
Apr. 27	<b>Mayville State University</b>	<b>2:00 pm</b>
Apr. 28	U of MN-Crookston (at Crookston, MN)	3:00 pm
Apr. 30	<b>Jamestown College</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
May 1	<b>Minot State University</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
May 6	DAC 10 Conference Tournament	TBA
May 7	DAC 10 Conference Tournament	TBA
May 12	Region III Tournament	TBA
May 13	Region III Tournament	TBA

## Viking Baseball Preview

The youth movement has arrived in the baseball program at Valley City State University in 2005. The reloading stage is in gear for 14<sup>th</sup>-year head coach Cory Anderson '89 as he looks to replace a veteran team that won 50 games over the past two seasons.

Four starters headline a cast of 10 returning lettermen. Senior **Casey Huntsinger** (Milton, WA) took control of the catching duties last season and provided a large part of the Viking offense as he led the team in doubles, home runs and runs batted in.

First baseman **Bryan Carter** (Plymouth, MN, Sr.) performed well in his Viking debut, hitting .309 and a .429 on-base-percentage. **Doug Lonski**, OF, (Valley City, ND, Jr.) battled the effects of shoulder surgery for most of the season that prevented him from duplicating his freshmen production. **Colin Thilmony** (Enderlin, ND, Jr.) filled in admirably in both the outfield and infield while hitting .316 and leading the team in on-base-percentage

The pitching staff suffered the greatest hit to

graduation as only three wins return from last season. **Bryce McLean** (Calgary, AB, Sr.) returns from arm surgery and his increased work load should provide relief for the pitching corp. **Gavin Black** (Grace City, ND, Sr.) returns after throwing 45 innings last season and **David Skogen** (Johnstown, ND, Sr.) accounted for 23 innings out of the bullpen.

A handful of sophomores and 20 freshmen will vie for playing time at many important positions. **Dustin Grabowska** (Stephen, MN, So.) and **Matt Huonder** (Vadnais Heights, MN, RFr.) will add depth to the middle infield. Augustana transfer **Kory Foss** (Northfield, MN, So.) brings college experience to the mound having won three games for Augustana as a freshman in 2003.

The Vikings begin their spring schedule in the Metrodome on March 3 before heading to Omaha and Missouri the following weekend. DAC 10 conference play begins March 26 with the home opener at Charlie Brown Field slated for April 9. ♦

## Viking Softball Preview

Optimism is in the air for the Viking Softball squad in 2005. Second year Head Coach Chad Slyter '96 restored the competitiveness and hard work ethic back into a program that saw an increase of 10 wins in his first season at VCSU. With key players returning and the addition of several great newcomers, the Vikings will look to close the gap to the DAC 10 elite.

Two returning upper classmen know the lows of the program and will steer the team towards experiencing the highs. **Nicole Swenson**, OF, (Sanborn, ND) is the lone senior on the squad. Swenson began to swing a hot bat at the right time last year before suffering a season ending injury. **RaeAnne Cote**, IF, (Sprague, MB) is the only returning junior from the 2004 team and she provides great flexibility and versatility to the team by playing many infield positions. Look for Cote to have a breakout season offensively.

A slew of returning underclassmen gained valuable experience and will lead the Vikings again this spring. **Alana Purvis**, P-1B, (Calgary, AB) led the team in almost every pitching category as a freshman. A complete player, Purvis has the potential to be one of the most well rounded players in the DAC 10. **Jackie O' Neill**, SS, (Maplewood, MN) despite missing two weeks of the season to illness, announced her presence with authority, breaking the 22 year old single season stolen base record (18) and will look to add to that total this season. **Jenni Crom**, OF, (Watertown, SD) will return to the team after spending a year at a VCSU sister University in Mexico. Crom's left handed bat and defensive desire will be welcome additions to the lineup. Returning pitcher **Brandy**

**Hart**, (Glasgow, MT) will be red shirting this season due to injury, but will return to the Viking lineup in the 2006 season.

Other returning players that will battle for starting positions and innings are **Molly Schultz**, OF, (Casselton, ND) and **Cassie Francis**, OF, (Cooperstown, ND) both of whom shared starting roles last season.

A highly touted recruiting class will help the Vikings lay the next stone in the rebuilding process. Junior college transfers **Alisha Sackman**, OF, (Glendive, MT) and **Charla Bick**, OF, (Ronan, MT) both participated in the Junior College World Series the last two years and will bring that winning attitude with them to VCSU.

**Karalea Morris**, P, (White Rock, BC) and **Ruby Garza**, 3B-SS, (Mission, TX) transfer from a Division I Kansas Junior College and will also add much needed college experience to the club. Anchoring the catching duties behind the plate will be **Kate Cavallaro**, (Clearwater, FL). Cavallaro, defensively, is as good as they come and will bring a wealth of softball knowledge to the team and pitchers that she will work with.

A long list of freshmen and first year transfers will make contributions as well. Look for **Jessica McDougall**, IF, (Portage La Prairie, MB) and **Amy Morrison**, IF, (Hartney, MB) to battle for starting positions and add an offensive punch to the lineup. Others looking to provide innings and contributions to the Vikings in the upcoming season include **Amanda Bryson**, 3B, (Nashua, MT), **Sadie Smith**, P, (Eagle River, AK), **Michelle Edwards**, OF, (Kenaie, AK) and **Jennilee Regis**, OF, (Seward, AK). ♦

## Seven Vikings Receive NAIA Scholar All-American Honors

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) announced the 2004 Daktronics-NAIA Volleyball All-America Scholar-Athletes and the 2004 Daktronics-NAIA Football All-America Scholar-Athletes. Recipients must be a junior or above in academic standing and maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

Valley City State University Viking Volleyball placed juniors



Campbell

Kendall Campbell, Sheena Hamilton and Jackie Rohde on the All-American team.



Hamilton

Campbell from Glenboro, Manitoba is majoring in Exercise Science, Hamilton from Hamiota, Manitoba is a Psychology major and Rohde from Coppell, Texas is majoring in History Education.



Rohde

Four Valley City State Vikings were named 2004 Daktronics-NAIA Football All-America Scholar-Athletes.

Named to the team were: Gregory Dobitz, a Sr. Bowman, ND majoring in Elementary Ed./Coaching; Justin Messer, a Sr. from Bertha, MN majoring in History/Social Studies; Shaun Williams, a Sr. from Soldotna, AK, majoring in Business Marketing and Jeremy Payne, a Jr. from Bertha, MN majoring in History Education.



Dobitz



Messer



Williams

Dobitz, Messer and Williams received the honor for the second season. ♦



Payne

## New String Bass Presented to VCSU Department of Music

VCSU student, Rusty Bender, recently surprised the Department of Music with a truly magnificent gift: a Fenlin ¾-size double bass.

Bender, a Cooperstown native who is majoring in Music Education and minoring in Theatre, wanted to give something back to his department. He thought first of the "Friends of Music" scholarship program: however, as he himself benefits from this program, Bender decided to search in a different direction.

"I knew that the bass we were using for the Civic Orchestra was in pretty bad condition and so I went looking for a new one. I found this beautiful instrument on the internet and two weeks later, it was delivered to Foss Hall, just in time for Christmas."

When questioned about his interest in string instruments, Bender stressed that his primary instrument is voice and his secondary instrument is piano, while he also plays trombone with the university's concert band and jazz ensemble. However, recently he inherited a violin from his great-grandfather, who had been a dedicated amateur musician, performing at parties with his band. In addition to the violin, Bender's grandfather played harmonica and musical saw. "My grandfather and I are the only two musicians in my immediate family," said Bender, who now studies the violin in addition to his other instruments,



VCSU student Rusty Bender and Dr. Sigurd Johnson, Director of Bands and Percussion and Director of the Valley City Civic Orchestra, with the double bass Bender donated to the Department of Music.

and plays his grandfather's instrument in the Valley City Civic Orchestra.

The new double bass will be used by the university for courses in String Methods, by the Civic Orchestra, and for string lessons through the Community School. "This instrument is a wonderful addition to our growing string program," state Dr. Sigurd Johnson, director of the Civic Orchestra. "We're looking forward to hearing it." Dr. Margaret Dahlberg, Director of The Community School's string program added, "We really appreciate Mr. Bender's generous gift, which gives us the opportunity to offer bass lessons to interested members of the community." ♦

## VCSU Season of Great Music Spring 2005

- |         |  |                     |
|---------|--|---------------------|
| Mar. 6  | <b>Stephanie Leadens</b> , Saxophone, and <b>Cathy Bernhagen</b> , Soprano/Percussion Recital .... | 3:00 pm             |
|         | <i>Froemke Auditorium</i>  |                     |
| Mar. 13 | <b>Hooten Cruz</b> , Trumpet and Guitar Recital .....  | 7:30 pm             |
|         | <i>Vangstad Auditorium</i>   |                     |
| Mar. 31 | <b>General Student Recital</b> .....   | 7:30 pm             |
|         | <i>Froemke Auditorium</i>  |                     |
| Apr. 7  | <b>Bill Lydell</b> , Jazz Pianist .....  | 7:30 pm             |
|         | <i>Froemke Auditorium</i>  |                     |
| Apr. 10 | <b>Leesa Levy</b> , Soprano Recital .....  | 3:00 pm             |
|         | <i>Froemke Auditorium</i>  |                     |
| Apr. 14 | <b>General Student Recital</b> .....   | 11:00 am            |
|         | <i>Froemke Auditorium</i>  |                     |
| Apr. 15 | <b>Class A East Sub Region Vocal Festival</b> .....  | All Day             |
|         | <i>Foss Hall</i>   |                     |
| Apr. 17 | <b>University Singers, Percussion, Bells</b> .....   | 3:00 pm             |
|         | <i>Froemke Auditorium</i>  |                     |
| Apr. 19 | <b>Region V Vocal Festival</b> .....   | All Day             |
|         | <i>Foss Hall</i>   |                     |
| Apr. 21 | <b>Jazz Ensemble</b> .....   | 7:30 pm             |
|         | <i>Memorial Student Union Cafeteria</i>  |                     |
| Apr. 24 | <b>Valley Voices and Valley City Civic Orchestra</b> .....   | 7:30 pm             |
|         | <i>Froemke Auditorium</i>  |                     |
| Apr. 30 | <b>Concert Band and Concert Choir</b> .....  | 3:00 pm             |
|         | <i>Vangstad Auditorium</i>   |                     |
| May 1   | <b>Bridget Ertelt</b> , Mezzo-Soprano Recital .....  | 3:00 pm             |
|         | <i>Froemke Auditorium</i>  |                     |
| May 5   | <b>New Composition Recital</b> .....   | 7:30 pm             |
|         | <i>Froemke Auditorium</i>  |                     |
| May 8   | <b>Community School Recitals</b> .....   | 2:00, 4:00, 6:00 pm |
|         | <i>Froemke Auditorium</i>  |                     |

## VCSU Art Exhibitions All Exhibitions in the VCSU Gallery

3rd floor McCarthy

March 21 – April 1

**Chris Judd Senior Exhibition**

April 4 – 15

**Tara Triebold Senior Exhibition**

April 18 – 29

**Brad Hohnadel Senior Exhibition**

May 2 – 13

**Erin Jay Senior Exhibition**

*All events are subject to schedule change.*

*Please feel free to confirm dates before attending any event by calling:  
1-800-532-8641, ext. 3-7272 or 1-701-845-7272*

**VCSU Theatre**  
is proud to present

a festival  
of **One-Act Plays**

April 27-30, 2005  
7:30 pm

Box-Office Open  
April 20-30, 2005  
or call 701-845-7320

Can we actually have student written and directed one-act plays that are better than last year? Everyone agrees that last year we had the best one-acts ever, and our writers are already busy creating scripts that they hope will be staged in Theatre 320. Join us again for the insights of our students, revealing their own unique relationships and some rollicking comedy. We promise that you will leave feeling glad that you were there!



# VCSU Theatre Produces Shakespeare's Greatest Love Story

Beautiful Vangstad Auditorium was the site of VCSU Theatre's production of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. The play was staged with costumes created especially for this show by several ladies in the community who designed the costumes especially to fit the period of the Italian Renaissance.

"This show involved over thirty actors," said Dr. Martin Kelly, Director of Theatre at VCSU. "Most were students, but we also had faculty participating as cast members." Dr. Curt Hill, professor of mathematics played Juliet's father, Capulet, and Juliet's nurse was played by Dr. Hilde van Gijssel, professor of science. Dr. Clarence Bina, director of the North Dakota Mentoring Academy, assigned to VCSU, played Romeo's father, Montague.

"This was a challenging production," said Kelly. "*Romeo and Juliet* called for nine characters to have swordfights, so last semester, we taught a stage combat class to prepare for the fight sequences. Our actors did a wonderful job - the scenes came off as the serious fights that they were."

"The play is very engaging," said Kelly. "We see two young people who fall in love, and are married by a local friar in an effort to help heal a feud between their families. Friar Laurence's efforts are very sincere, and owing to the fact that he is fully aware of Romeo's "doting" - but not really loving another girl named Rosaline, the Friar knows that the love between Romeo and Juliet is genuine."



"In our production, Romeo was played by Tanner Beauchman, a senior English Education major of Valley City, who has played many roles in several VCSU Theatre productions. He is also an accomplished director and playwright," said Kelly. "We have produced three plays that Tanner wrote for our annual one-act play festival, some serious and some comic, and all have shown a good understanding of theatre and a maturity in thought. Last year, he directed our production of *Proof*, by David Auburn, and it was a very strong production. Now he has the chance to demonstrate his acting talents, and they are considerable."

The role of Juliet was played by Sarah Finstad of Valley City, who is still in high school. "Sarah is an outstanding talent, and we were fortunate to have her with us," said Kelly. "She is in her junior year of high school, but will finish all of her requirements for graduation this spring. In addition, she is also a full-time student at VCSU. She also performed with the Governor's School summer theatre production that toured the entire state last summer. She is talented, smart, and highly motivated, and she also has the ability to appear as young as Juliet, whose age is given as almost fourteen in the play."

"These people all have experience and some training," said Kelly, "and it is wonderful to work with them. I think the greatest reward in teaching theatre is to see the many young people who are given the chance to discover and use the blessings their talents really are." ♦

## Valley City State University's V-500 Program Begins 32<sup>nd</sup> Year

This fall marks the 32<sup>nd</sup> year that the V-500 Scholarship Program has provided scholarships to students attending the university. Each year approximately 160 students benefit from the V-500 Program. In the early years scholarships were at the \$75 level. Today, scholarships range up to \$1,500. Please consider joining V-500 and becoming a member of our V-500 team.

### V-500 Membership Application 2004-05 ~ "It takes two, V-500 & you!"

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

#### Annual Commitment:

- \$150 per year for 5 years  
 \$250 per year for 5 years  
 \$500 per year for 5 years  
 \$1,000 per year for 5 years  
 Other (Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_)  
 \$2,000 per year for 5 years  
 \$2,500 per year for 5 years  
 \$5,000 per year for 5 years  
 \$10,000 per year for 5 years

Benefits of membership reduce the amount of your tax deduction. This amount will be reflected on your receipt.

#### Payment Option:

- Check:** Payable to VCSU Foundation/V-500  
 **Credit Card:**  MasterCard  Visa  Check here to automatically charge this credit card when payments are due.

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Signature on Account \_\_\_\_\_

Validation Code # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

A total of \$\_\_\_\_\_ according to the payment frequency designated above to complete my pledge.

- Automatic Withdrawal:** (Enclose voided check & sign below.) I authorize the VCSU Foundation/V-500 to withdraw \$\_\_\_\_\_ semi-annually on the 15th of the months \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ months to complete my pledge.

Signature on Account \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

- Donate Online:** <http://alumni.vcsu.edu>

#### Payment Frequency:

- Annual  
 Semi-Annual  
 Quarterly  
 Monthly

If you would like to make your payment during a specific month, please list: \_\_\_\_\_

I request that my entire donation be applied to VCSU V-500 Scholarships and do not wish to receive any gifts as part of my membership.

**Weddings**

- Rhea Allen  
Scott Goffe '03 & ..... Dec. 27, 2003
- Connie Fogderud '70 &  
Kent Peterson ..... Oct. 2, 2004
- Dedriene Taylor '94 &  
Brad Mills ..... Oct. 8, 2004
- Chantel Hager '98 &  
Brent Hoffert '97 ..... Oct. 16, 2004
- Bridget Nelson '04 &  
Matt Orner ..... Nov. 26, 2004
- Lindsay Watterson '01 &  
Terry Gaudreau ..... Nov. 27, 2004
- Angie Johnson '02 &  
Steve Saxlund ..... Dec. 31, 2004

**In Remembrance**

- Janetta (Sandness) Tomt, *Sandpoint, ID*
- Jon C. Anderson '89, *Lisbon*
- Agnes (Holstad) Domek, *Jamestown*
- Tamara (Klundt) Schrupp '97, *Vergas, MN*
- Julie (Goeller) McLain, *Valley City*
- Eldon Harris, *Moorhead, MN*
- Clayton Moe, *Valley City*
- Aaron Sours '00, *Starkweather*
- Richard 'Dick' Schindler '53, *Bismarck*
- Leila Soma, *Seattle, WA*
- Dawn (Hovland) Johnson, *Lisbon*
- Douglas E. Skroch, *Bismarck*
- Darla (Hansen) Henkel, *Fargo*
- Agnes (Bouck) Bietz, *Valley City*
- Sidney Haugan '30, *Renton, WA*
- Margaret (Bjornson) Blumhardt '56, *Fargo*
- Joyce (Bjornstad) Morrison, *Wahpeton*
- Roman Wieland '60, *St. Paul, MN*
- LeRoy Larson '52., *Valley City*
- Charles Aaker '57, *Lodi, CA*
- Robert Taylor '51, *The Dalles, OR*
- Leslie Wagner '79, *New Rockford*
- Nora (Carroll) Dafoe '39, *Fargo*
- Wilbur "Bud" Gullickson, *Sioux Falls, SD*
- Robert Anderson '62, *Streeter*
- Ronald Seavert '68, *Fairmount*
- Frances (Gondriger) Voigt, *Bismarck*
- Robert Swartout, *Dallas, OR*
- Lillian (Liebenow) Hanson '35, *Fargo*

**Former VCSU Staff**

- John J. Reed, *Valley City*
- Anna Tamke, *Valley City*
- Gilmour Hanson '36, *Valley City*
- Claire McTavish '30, *Valley City*

**EBC presents We're in the Christmas Mood**



top The EBC Fraternity Alumni Committee proudly presented "We're In the Christmas Mood IX" in Vangstad Auditorium on Saturday, December 11, 2004. The orchestra under the direction of John Monilaws, Maestro, included: Saxophones: Josh Argall, Monte McDaniel, Larry Hegvik, Kelsey Wilhelm, Kelsey Sumption; Rhythm: Mark Ertelt, Lance Drevecky, Tricia Lebahn, Katelyn Birkliid; Trumpets: H. Dean Johnson, Randy Hajek, Stacy Wendel, Brad Lambrecht and Elisa Beuhler; Trombones: Brian Bubach, Erik Opdahl, Nathan Johnson, Erin Markestad.

Other performers included Paul McDaniel – organ; Lexie Nims, Nateal Falk, Amy Rourke, Melissa Olson – flute; Brad Lambrecht – horn. Vocalists included: Cassie Bastian, David Piper, Judy Johnson Berg, Tricia Lebahn, Hillary Scherweit, Rachel Piper, Dale Conrad, Paul McDaniel, Erik Opdahl, the All Star High School Honor Choir.

ABOVE LEFT David Piper '77, Erik Opdahl , Paul McDaniel '73 and Dale Conrad '84

ABOVE RIGHT Nathan Johnson '02 and John Monilaws '87



## Reunions & Socials

The annual VCSU socials in Sun City West and Mesa Arizona were tremendous successes!



Gerry and Marian ('59) Gerntholz.



Joyce and RQ Johnson. RQ is a former VCSU instructor of music.



Russ ('52) and Ruth (Saar) McMillan ('52).



Darlene (Popp) Zabel ('58) and Donna (DeKrey) Else ('62).



Leone (Langemo) Osmon ('42) and Si Seiwert ('42).



Pauline (Elston) Lentz ('51), Jim Ployhar ('49), and Bob Lentz ('54).



Bob King ('55), Dick Stiles ('61), Bill Osmon ('42), Jerry Pederson ('60), and Julian Carlson ('63).



Marjorie and Dr. Don Meredith with VCSU President Dr. Ellen Chaffee. The Meredith's have established two scholarships at VCSU: one in memory of Dr. Meredith's parents and one in their own name. With them is a representation of their granddaughter, Morgan, which the Meredith's take with them on trips when ever the real Morgan can't join them.



Mike Haddican ('63), Bill Osmon ('42), and Bob Pearson ('63).

## Homecoming '05

**Friday, Sept. 23**

**Class of 1945 &  
Class of 1955 Reunions  
Hall of Fame Banquet &  
Induction Ceremonies**

**Saturday, Sept. 24**

**Alumni Honors Breakfast  
Homecoming Parade  
Tailgating Picnic  
Football Game  
Alumni Social  
Homecoming Dance**

## Music Alumni Advisory Committee Formed

The VCSU Music Department recently formed a Music Alumni Advisory Committee with the purpose of gathering input from alums, recruiting new students, fund raising, and increasing exposure of the department.

Anyone else who is interested in participating with this committee should contact Diana Skroch at [diana.skroch@vcsu.edu](mailto:diana.skroch@vcsu.edu). ♦



FRONT Beth Klingenstein (VCSU), Diane Townsend '71, Leesa Leevy (VCSU). BACK Harold Foley '66, Verna (Paulson) Lindvall '76, John Monilaws '87, Deb (Hill) Bopp '77, Dr. Sara Hagen (VCSU) and Dr. Diana Skroch (VCSU). NOT PICTURED Duane Ost '70 and Val Moritz '75 (VCSU Alumni Relations).



## Vikings On The Move

### 1930's

**Curtis Rime '33** is now residing in Glendive, MT. While a student at VCSU, he played varsity basketball and is still proud of the Vikings. Curtis taught school and was an administrator in North Dakota for 35 years, retiring at Rolette, ND in 1973. The school Athletic complex there is named CURTIS RIME FIELD. He just celebrated his 97th birthday.

### 1950's

**Hannah (Paulson) Thompson '56** graduated from VCSTC in 1956 and taught kindergarten in Fargo for a year before marrying Dale Thompson in 1957. They both taught in Ashland, Oregon for one year and then moved to Columbus, Ohio where Dale attended graduate school and Hannah taught kindergarten. The Thompsons moved to Rugby, ND, where Dale taught and Hannah stayed home awaiting the birth of their first child, son Corey. That summer Dale worked at Mount Rushmore in SD, as a seasonal, and then moved to Sheridan, WY. The next summer, they moved to Joshua Tree National Park, in 29 Palms, CA, and their daughter, Bryn, was born that fall. In 1962, the Thompsons moved to Dinosaur National Park in Utah as Dale began employment with the National Park Service. Their son, Mark, was born in 1964. In 1966, they moved to Lava Beds, in northern California, and from there to Mount Rainier National Park in spring of 1968. In 1972, the Thompsons moved to the Grand Canyon, AZ, where they lived on the south rim. Hannah returned to teaching as all their children were in school. In 1976 they moved to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park & lived near the rim of the volcano, very interesting! In 1978, they moved back to Mount Rainier National Park, where Dale retired from the National Park Service to take up art full time in 1981. In 1985, Hannah went back to teaching again in the elementary school, and retired in 1998. Dale and Hannah have four grandchildren, the oldest in college, the youngest, a year old. They have had so many neat experiences over the years, like a raft trip down the Green River, through the Split Mount Gorge, at Dinosaur. They hiked across the Grand Canyon, from north to south (a 2-day trip); hiked across the Kilauea Caldera, in HI; watched a volcano erupt and Dale has hiked to the top of Mount Rainier six times! The Thompsons have enjoyed a life of adventure; met people from all over the world; and lived their life as fully as possible. Since retirement, Hannah has taken up making quilts. The Pacific Northwest is a wonderful place to be living, so much to see and do. Dale and Hannah have been living in Eatonville, WA since 1981. Mount Rainier is just out their picture window, and they can see it most days, when it isn't raining. They enjoy where they are living and have been back to ND many times over the years.

### 1960's

**Karen (Berge) Baeth '62** earned her standard degree in 1962 and was excited for her first teaching experience in Carrington, ND. She spent two years there followed by two years in LaMoure. The rest of her teaching career has been in the Marion and Litchville districts. After over 40 years, she is enjoying retirement. Her husband, Ken, retired in June 2004, also. Together they're able to spoil their five grandchildren and spend time with their children Kristin Shipley, Kirk (Lisa) Baeth, and Kara (Steve) Kluvers.

**Margaret Erickson Botnen '67** retired 22 years ago from the Bismarck public school system. It was her childhood dream to be a teacher. She taught in rural schools for four years; then went on to Driscoll, Steele and the last 18 years were spent in Bismarck for a total of 39 ½ years of teaching. Since retiring, Margaret does a lot of volunteer work. She spent 16 years volunteering at Medcenter One Hospital and works one day a week at the senior center. She enjoys singing in two chorus groups and helps her church wherever she's needed. Margaret belongs to Alpha Delta Kappa and thoroughly enjoys her sister educators.

### 1970's

**Lyle Ferch '71** taught high school science for one year in Hector, MN, and then attended University of Minnesota Dental School. He practiced dentistry in Kenmare, ND, for seventeen years and then moved to Tacoma, WA, in 1992. Lyle now resides in Goldendale, WA, and invites all friends to stop in if you are in the area.

**Sandy Maasjo '75** has joined Olympic Funding in Jamestown, ND.

**Antigone Karapetsa '76** is employed as a lecturer in education at Croydon College in London. She will soon begin her Ph.D in Education studies. Antigone studied for four years at VCSU from 1972-1976 and although she was a foreign student, she felt welcomed and looked after by classmates and the friends she made in Valley City. Antigone feels her time in Valley City was a truly smashing experience which she cherishes and will continue to do so for a very long time. She feels her work experience and scholastic achievements as a professional have been guided by the quality of education received at VCSU. She will always be grateful for that.

### 1980's

**Lennell Guertin '80** has completed an insurance education program and has earned the designation Certified Insurance Counselor.

**Delton Steele '80** has been promoted to senior lender for U.S. Bank, Fargo. He previously worked ten years as vice president and lead business banker for the Grand Forks location.

**Karen (Thompson) Hejtmanek '80** is a black jack dealer and supervisor at Dakota Magic Casino. Her husband, Brad, is the office manager at Southeast Water Users. Karen and Brad have two sons; Doug (19) and Jason (16). The Hejtmaneks live in Manatador, ND.

**Michael Zinck '82** earned a Master of Science degree in Computer Information Technology from Regis University in Denver, CO, on December 19, 2004. He and his wife, Laurel, have two children, Ian and Kira.

**Jaci (Miller) Gately '84** has been promoted to office manager by Job Service North Dakota's Fargo office.

**Dianne(Winter) Becker '82** was one of four North Dakota Title I teachers to received a "Caught in the Act" award. She was recognized for her initiative and willingness to get involved through the State Reading First Team and the committee to develop the 2005 State Reading Month packet. In addition, she was recognized for helping to create one of the few Title I pre-school programs in the state.

### 1990's

**Connie Pederson '91** assumed a new position as Assistant Registrar in the VCSU Office of the Registrar. Connie's duties include management of the master catalogue, Center for Customized Learning/@VCSU, transfer articulations, summer school, and the term schedule. Her husband Larry worked for Farm Credit Services for 33 years, and retired two years ago. They have two children. Their son Larry and his wife Latha live in St. Michael, MN and have two sons, Brennan and Therin. Their daughter, Sara and her husband Mark live in Becker, MN and have one son, Christopher. Connie and her husband love to go camping with their RV, and they enjoy traveling and take frequent walks. Connie loves to read, go to movies and plays, and spend time with her family and grandsons.

**Ryan Hanson '92** was named Principal at Devils Lake High School. Previously he taught math and science at Devils Lake High School. He and his wife, Maari, have a 3-year old son, Parker.

**Jason Lindgren '92** has accepted the position of supply management planner at John Deere Seeding Group in Valley City. He joined John Deere in 1997 and has held several positions including most recently the position of quality technician.

**Matthew Johnson '94** and his wife, Shelly, have recently purchased The Sports Bubble in Fargo, ND. Matt has worked at The Sports Bubble for the past eight years as their golf professional and for the past seven years as the general manager. Matt and Shelly live in West Fargo with their son, Nick.

**Lori Wang '95** and Brian Youngdahl had a baby boy on March 17, 2004, Shane Alvin Youngdahl. They reside in Albertville, MN, where Lori is a stay at home mom for the time being.

**Ken Felchle '95** is one of two school teachers in the Kenai (Alaska) Peninsula Borough School District who are trading classroom lessons for camouflage clothing. Ken is a member of an Alaska Army National Guard unit being called to involuntary active duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. On his last day in school, Ken was honored with a patriotic concert at Kenai Middle School, where he teaches seventh-grade history and outdoor survival. Staff and students decorated the school and dressed in red, white and blue for the occasion and emotions ran high as the Kenai Central High School marching band played a medley of military and patriotic tunes. Ken is married to **Kristi (Feuerherm) '95**. She teaches first grade at Kalifornsky Beach Elementary School. They have a four year old son, Connor. The day Ken officially went on active duty, September 24, was the 14th anniversary of his enlisting in the Army National Guard. As of February 1, Ken is stationed in Iraq. His address is: SGT Felchle, Ken G., 2-299 (A/3-297), APO-AE 09342. His email address is ken.felchle@us.army.mil.

**Terry Moser '96** has been promoted to quality engineer for John Deere Seeding Group in Valley City.

**Jody Klier '96** joined the staff of Valley City State University on January 3, 2005 as the Assistant Registrar. Jody earned a B.S. in Human Resources from VCSU and previously was an Admissions Counselor at MSU-Bottineau.

## 2000's

**Joelle Hansen '00** is in her 5th year in Kenmare, ND, and still loves her job! She teaches earth science (8th grade), biology, anatomy, and environmental science. She also has teams active in many activities; science olympiad, quiz bowl, and envirothon. Her students work really hard at these activities and have won the Mouse River Loop envirothon 4 years in a row (this year they took the top three places). In July, they were 10th at the Canon Envirothon in West Virginia. Besides coaching the science activities, Joelle is also the speech coach. Her team seems to grow by leaps and bounds every single year. The first year she had five kids and now has over 30. Joelle was also very excited to find out that she will be able to attend the national science teacher convention in Dallas in March.

**Tami (Anderson) Hunt '00** graduated from Pacific University College of Optometry in May 2004. She and Jason Hunt were married in 2004. Tami is currently working as an optometrist in Madison, WI.

**Merri Mooridian '02** has been promoted to communications director for Garrison Diversion. She has been employed with Garrison Diversion since February 2003 as the assistant communications director.

**Darren Wandy '02** will marry Sharon Roach in July 2005 in Yorkton, Saskatchewan. Darren teaches physical education in grades 9-11 at Yorkton Regional High School. Sharon teaches at Melville Composite School in Melville, Saskatchewan.

**Jackie (Wolf) Broberg '04** has accepted the position of information technology associate at John Deere Seeding Group in Valley City. She will be responsible for IT support within the unit.

## Alums in Leadership

Several VCSU Alums have gone on to positions of leadership in North Dakota government. Here are the alums currently holding office:

### SENATE



**Senator Ed Kringstad '60:** Retired. BS Valley City State University. MS University of North Dakota. United States Army. Amvets. American Legion. Elks. Valley City State University Hall of Fame. National Wrestling Hall of Fame. 3-time National Coach of the Year. NDHPER Athletic Director of the Year and Dance Teacher of the Year. Past president National Coaches Association. Married. 3 children. Wife's name Faye. Senate since 1995.



**Senator Larry Robinson '71:** Director of University Advancement, Valley City State University. BS Valley City State University. MS North Dakota State University. St. Catherine's Catholic Church. Past president Valley City Area Chamber of Commerce. Elks. Eagles. Knights of Columbus. Kiwanis. Phi Delta Kappa. Married. 2 children. Wife's name Mary Lee. Legislative Council 1991-2001. Senate since 1989.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



**Representative Joe Kroeber '65:** Retired teacher. Athletic trainer. BS Valley City State University. MS North Dakota State University. Part-time teaching at Jamestown College. Athletic Trainer at Jamestown High School. Elks. Married. 3 children. Wife's name Bonnie. House in 1991-95, since 1999.



**Representative Phillip Mueller '68:** Farmer. BS education - Business and English majors. Master's degree in school administration. Local Cenex Board. Draft Prairie Advisory Board. Transition Steering Committee. First Responder. Mercy Hospital Board. Valley City Area Meth Task Force. Married. 3 children. Wife's name Darlene. House since 1999.



**Representative Chet Pollert '77:** Owner/operator G&R Grain and Feed. Pingree High School. BA in business administration Valley City State University. Trinity Lutheran Church. Married. 3 children. Wife's name Jo. House since 1999.



**Representative Ken Svedjan '66:** President ALTRU Health Foundation. BS education Valley City State University. BS business administration University of North Dakota. MS counseling University of North Dakota. United States Army 1968-70. Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce. Rotary. United Lutheran Church. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Long-Term Care, and Health Task Forces. 1995 Legislator of the Year, North Dakota Psychological Association. 1997 Legislator of the Year, North Dakota Library Association. 1995 Legislative Leadership Award, ARC of North Dakota. Guardian Award, NFIB 1999. OT Advocate of Year 1999. Married. 1 daughter. Wife's name Loretta. House since 1991.



**Representative John Wall '60:** Retired Secondary Journalism and English Teacher (34 years). BS from Valley City State University. MS NDSU. Past president, ND Council of Teachers of English. Past president, Northern Interscholastic Press Association. 2004 recipient of ND Council of Teachers of English Distinguished Service Award. Bonanza Farm Historic Preservation Society. Married. Wife's name Margaret. 2 children. First term in House.



**Representative Clark Williams '64:** Retired. 38 years in education, the last 32 years at Wahpeton Senior High School. Lidgerwood High School 1960. BS Valley City State University 1964. Master's degree North Dakota State University 1969. Former Co-chair 25th District NPL Party. Wahpeton Eagles. Married. 2 children. Wife's name Gail. House 1983-87, and 2003.





**VCSU**

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

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