

# THE BULLETIN

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



**VALLEY CITY**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

## VCSU, Valley City community to partner on wellness center

Commencement 2014 ♦ Viking Scramble ♦ Sports Hall of Fame Inductees



DEPARTMENTS

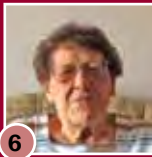
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Welcome to the *Bulletin!*

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

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# New Opportunities for the Coming Year!

Margaret Dahlberg, Ph.D., Interim President

As you read this column sometime in August, President Shirley and his family will have completed their move to Minot, N.D., where they are likely still unpacking boxes and organizing furniture to fit their new home...and a new office at Minot State University. We will certainly miss them and wish them well in their new adventure.

I am pleased to introduce myself as the interim president at VCSU. As you will read elsewhere in this *Bulletin*, I have a long history here at VCSU, first as faculty brat and more recently as a professor and vice president for Academic Affairs. Valley City and VCSU have a special place in my heart, as I'm sure is true for many of you, as well. I look forward to working with you as we prepare for a new president in 2015.

VCSU is experiencing good enrollment growth this summer, up about 9 percent from last year with the highest headcount and FTE numbers ever reported for summer term. Most of our students take courses online during the summer, which allows them convenient access while they live and work elsewhere. The faculty enjoy this flexibility as well. So that means campus is relatively quiet during the summer, as staff are completing end-of-year financials, preparing for fall, and working online to provide student services.

Our facilities folks always take advantage of the good weather to complete building projects, and this year is no exception: the library has updated carpeting and restroom renovations; the entrance to Circle Hall (between Vangstad and McFarland) is being updated; flowerbeds and landscaping have been refreshed and are in full bloom.

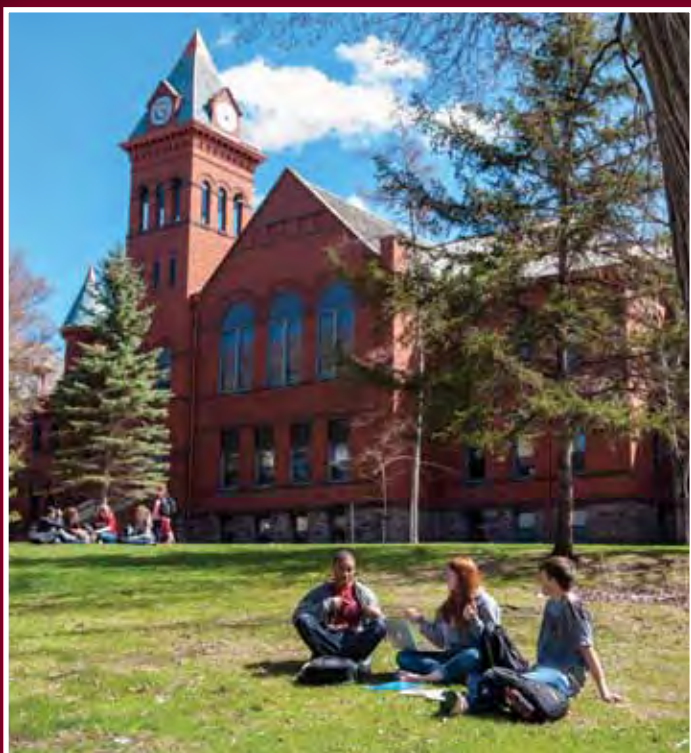
On a larger scale, we have two building projects moving forward on campus this summer. The President's House Guest Inn renovation/

addition is nearing completion. The updates include a bedroom, bathroom, and gathering room on the main level, which replace the back porch on the south side of the building, along with an elevator and an accessible walking path. These changes will allow convenient access for all our guests, and we encourage you to visit this lovely, historic home when you are next in Valley City.

The second project is the demolition of the classroom building south of McFarland. Built in 1911 as the Industrial Arts building, it originally housed agriculture, manual training, and domestic science, and later, many of the science programs. It was originally connected to McFarland Hall via an arched, second-floor bridge walk, which was removed in 1973 because of shifting ground pressure.

With the completion of the new Rhoades Science Center in 1973, this old building, which had been housing the science programs, was condemned. However, it was not removed, and Facility Services utilized the main floor as a workshop and the upper floors for storage. Unfortunately, this spring the building experienced significant decay, and it is no longer a safe work/storage space. Facility Services has moved its work and storage materials from the old science building to the facilities building just east of Osmon Fieldhouse, and we are preparing for demolition yet this summer. It will be replaced with a retaining wall and some additional parking.

I'm excited, as we look ahead, to the new opportunities we will face this coming year, as we select a new president. VCSU will celebrate 125 years this year, 125 years of providing quality and innovative education. We should all feel proud to be part of that tradition of excellence.



## Alumni Association Get-Togethers Fall 2014

Watch for more VCSU events coming soon on our Facebook page and at [alumni.vcsu.edu](http://alumni.vcsu.edu).

- Sept. 15 ..... VCSU Tuesday ..... Jamestown  
Location TBD, 5:30–7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 28 ..... VCSU Tuesday ..... Fargo  
Green Mill, 5:30–7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 3–4 ..... VCSU Homecoming ..... Valley City  
See schedule of events on p. 15.
- Oct. 17 ..... Third Annual VCSU Rendezvous ..... Valley City  
Rubber Soul Beatles Tribute Band  
Valley City Eagles Club, 7:30 p.m.  
See ad on p. 15.
- Dec. 13 ..... EBC Fraternity Alumni ..... Valley City  
“We’re In the Christmas Mood”  
Valley City Eagles Club, 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 6–7 ..... Arizona Events ..... Surprise and Mesa

*RSVP is requested.* Please contact Kim Hesch at 800-532-8641 x7403 or [kim.hesch@vcsu.edu](mailto:kim.hesch@vcsu.edu).





## VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

### Want to Make a Difference? Become a V-500 Scholarship Sponsor

Sponsor a V-500 Student Scholarship in increments beginning at \$250 per year. The sponsorship requires a four-year commitment. Increment levels are also available at \$375, \$625 and \$1,250 per year. You will also be able to take advantage of an income tax incentive.

As a sponsor, you will be provided with the name of the student recipient, their major, minor and hometown. Opportunities will be organized for your student to meet you and thank you in person for your scholarship support.

You will be recognized at our annual V-500 Recognition Banquet in December and in our publications.

Act today! Contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7203.



## Stay Connected with Your University

**Kim Svenningsen-Hesch '91**  
Assistant Director for Advancement & Alumni Relations

Greetings from your alma mater!

It took only a few years after graduating from Valley City State for me to realize the impact the university has made on my personal and professional life.

I am sure that many of you still remember the individual who mentored you at VCSU. I felt blessed to have many, especially my advisor, Dr. John F. Keller, who encouraged me like none other. I encourage all of you to reflect on your experience at VCSU and that special individual who went above and beyond to help you.

Never would I have imagined the degree of loyalty I now have for my alma mater. I trust that our current students will have the same type of experiences I had, and I hope that they will develop the same loyalty I feel for my alma mater.

As director of our Alumni Association, I intend to engage and excite our Alumni Network throughout the 2014-15 academic year. My goal is to strengthen the participation, involvement and communication with our young alumni, to build upon our relationships with our mature alumni and to continue to serve as the primary communications link between alumni and the university.

Take a moment to peruse our website—[alumni.vcsu.edu](http://alumni.vcsu.edu)—and learn more about the VCSU Foundation and Alumni Office. We encourage our alumni to participate in and support our many scholarship programs and numerous activities and events. We're also on Facebook; please "Like" our page and get updates on our events and the latest news.

Join alumni on the first Friday of every month by wearing your Cardinal Red or Viking attire to show your support for your alma mater. We ask that you wear your VCSU Viking apparel to your place of work, at home and/or around town to help promote your school pride and celebrate our great university. Email your pictures to [alumni@vcsu.edu](mailto:alumni@vcsu.edu), and we'll post them on our Facebook page and website. If you don't have any VCSU Viking gear, purchase some online from the VCSU Bookstore at [bookstore.vcsu.edu](http://bookstore.vcsu.edu). Please stay connected through involvement and participation in the Valley City State University Alumni Association.

We also encourage all alumni of the university to serve as ambassadors for VCSU in your respective communities by assisting with the recruitment of students. If you know of a potential student, please call our Enrollment Services Office at 701-845-7101. Help us keep the "Viking Experience" alive.

Finally, please join us for Homecoming 2014. We're kicking off our events to celebrate Valley City State University's 125th anniversary and will celebrate throughout the year. See the article on p. 16 for more details on our 125th celebration, "Making a Difference—Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow."

I look forward to connecting with each of you throughout the year and learning more about your experiences at VCSU and your thoughts on how we can continue to serve as alumni. Until we meet, please do not hesitate to reach me through the Alumni Office.



*Deb (Swanson) Beilke '84 shared this photo of alumni on the faculty and staff at Valley City High School celebrating Viking Pride Day on April 4 by wearing their VCSU garb. Pictured are (front row, l to r) Beilke, Eric Counts '13; (second row) Kyle Roelfsema '08, Stacey Berntson '94, Kathleen Horner, Sheila (Lindeman) Zinke '80, Eydie (Denning) Wagar '86, Cynthia (Penner) Klabo '06, Andrea Swartz '14; (third row) Sarah (Pedersen) Lerud '00, Joanne (Lutz) Bear '73, Kelly (Magee) Callahan '87, Carol (Strand) Foth '73; (fourth row) Cindy Creviston '91, Brian Engelhard, Sheila (Schafer) Cummings '87, Matt Nielson '05; (back) Toni (Legler) Haglund '99, Barbara (Foxen) Gendreau '72, Randy Toppen '87, Mel Klingenberg '81.*



# VCSU's Legacy Society and You

Larry Robinson '71, Executive Director of University Advancement

A few years ago the VCSU Foundation established a **Legacy Society** to encourage folks who have supported the university during their lifetime to include the VCSU Foundation in their will and/or estate plan. By doing so, their support of the university will continue long after they are gone. Members of the Legacy Society send a strong endorsement of their belief in Valley City State University and their strong support for education. Their donation will become **"Gifts That Keep on Giving"** long after they are gone. Their gifts will impact future generations of students. By becoming members of the Legacy Society, you will encourage others to do the same.

We are pleased to announce that membership in our Legacy Society is growing. More and more folks are electing to ensure that their support for VCSU continues after their passing. Their membership in the Legacy Society makes for a stronger VCSU Foundation and serves to insure the vitality of VCSU well into the future.

Membership in the Legacy Society is relatively easy. You simply need to decide on what level of support you wish to provide to the VCSU Foundation in your will and/or estate plan. Often folks will decide to leave a specified amount, while others chose to set a flat percentage of their estate after their family obligations are addressed. More often than not, there are attractive tax benefits for these **planned gifts**. Gifts come in the form of money, stocks, paid-up life insurance policies, real estate,

and mineral interests. Some folks have elected to leave real estate or a valuable automobile.

We encourage folks to seek professional advice when including such a provision in your estate plan. Visit with your lawyer, accountant, financial planner, or life insurance agent. If you do not have a relationship with a professional, contact the VCSU Foundation Office, and we can provide you with the names of several reputable professionals.

Once you have decided to include the VCSU Foundation in your will and/or estate plan, we ask that you contact our office to advise us accordingly. By doing so, we will be positioned to include your name(s) on our listing of Legacy Society members. That list is included in

our annual *Donor Edition* and on our foundation website.

We want to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for your continued support of our university. Your support is playing a major part in building an even stronger Valley City State University. The VCSU Foundation is pleased to report that scholarship allocations for next year will set another all-time record at \$1,024,000! That's exciting. Needless to say, we couldn't do it without you!

Should your travels bring you this way stop by for coffee. Until next time, enjoy the summer months!

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## 2014-15 VCSU Alumni Board of Directors

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# VCSU, VALLEY CITY PURSUING FUNDS FOR NEW HEALTH, WELLNESS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION CENTER

The Valley City State University Foundation and the Sheyenne Valley Community Foundation are actively pursuing fundraising for the Valley City Health, Wellness and Physical Education Center, a community wellness center to serve the needs of VCSU and the greater Valley City community. A Wellness Center Task Force comprised of community and university officials has met over the course of the last year to develop plans for the proposed facility.

The \$16 million wellness center—to be open to both the VCSU and Valley City communities—would likely include a multipurpose arena and court space, a pool/aquatic center, a walking track, a cardiovascular fitness center, a weight room, classrooms, locker rooms, children’s playground, a community room and administrative offices.

Although several sites have been suggested, the location for the facility has not been finalized at present.

Representatives of VCSU, the Valley City Parks and Recreation Department, City Commission, Mercy Hospital and several others have been included in the task force discussions; these representatives include Larry Robinson, executive director of the VCSU Foundation; George Gaukler, board

member, VCSU Foundation and Valley City–Barnes County Economic Development; Mary Lee Nielsen, city commissioner; Jennifer Feist, executive director, Valley City–Barnes County Economic Development; Keith Heuser, administrator, Mercy Hospital; Sharon Buhr, chair, Barnes County On The Move Partnership; and Dick Gulmon, chair, Valley City Parks and Recreation Board.

“Without question, we need a wellness center in Valley City,” said Robinson. “With so much emphasis on wellness and healthy living, a center providing a wide array of services has

of Barnes County. According to Buhr, “The proposed wellness center would be a boon to the Valley City area. Community members would have increased options, all under one roof, to help them make choices toward a healthy life.”

Members of the Wellness Center Task Force have toured a similar facility in Alexandria, Minn. That visit helped the task force focus their ideas regarding the features and amenities included in the wellness center.

The campus need for the new facility has been sparked by significant growth in the

number of VCSU students pursuing academic programs in physical education, health, exercise science and athletic training. The wellness center will consolidate

*A Wellness Center for our community would certainly be a ‘game changer’ – it would be a tremendous investment in our community, and it would serve Valley City residents and VCSU students for years to come.*

become a central part of communities across the country. From the beginning, we have been in complete agreement that such a facility in Valley City must be a community-based facility, providing services to all constituencies.”

Sharon Buhr is chair of the On The Move Partnership, 16 nonprofit and government organizations whose mission is to reduce the rate of obesity and the risk of developing chronic disease—diabetes, cancer, heart disease, hypertension—in the residents

the classrooms, facilities and equipment used in the VCSU Health and Physical Education Department, currently dispersed in a variety of spaces throughout campus. The new building will allow for most—if not all—of the activities and classes to be held in a single building, providing better learning space and a better student-user experience.

Much of the wellness center would be used for academic teaching and learning space for VCSU students and faculty, and all VCSU



students would be able to use the facility for wellness activities, as would members of the greater Valley City community.

VCSU was founded in 1890 to prepare teachers, and the preparation of health and physical education teachers is a significant part of the Valley City State curriculum yet today. At a time when lifetime wellness is so important to counter problems of nutrition, obesity and the lack of physical fitness, it's important to prepare pre-service teachers in physical education so that they, in turn, will be effective in the elementary and secondary physical education programs they manage in school systems across the state and region.

A facility that provides adequate space and appropriate equipment to focus students and faculty on the issues, tools, techniques and practice in this key field of study will help VCSU develop new professionals prepared to make a wellness difference in the lives of those they work with in schools and communities.

The university will partner with the Valley City Parks and Recreation Department in the construction and operation of the facility. Future operating costs will be paid for from a variety of sources, including student fitness facility fees, parks and recreation user fees and institutional revenues related to the academic space.

A key component of funding for the center is a two-for-one \$1 million challenge grant available through the state-funded Education Challenge Fund for university foundations in the North Dakota University System. According to Robinson, "two individuals from the Sheyenne Valley Community Foundation have stepped forward, and each has pledged \$1 million to make the match for the \$1 million in state money."

The challenge grant carries a tight timetable, however; the Task Force will have until December 2014 to raise the necessary dollars and pledges to finance the center. Pledges can be accepted for a seven-year time period.

"It's no accident that the legislation approved by the 2013 Legislative Assembly was referred to as the Challenge Grant; raising \$16 million will clearly be a challenge for our community," said Robinson. "The question is whether or not we are up to the challenge and can work to make this project a reality. A Wellness Center for our community would certainly be a 'game changer'—it would be a tremendous investment in our community, and it would serve Valley City residents and VCSU students for years to come."

VCSU and the Sheyenne Valley Community Foundation will continue fundraising until it meets the Challenge Grant criteria (no later than December 2014). ♦

## Wellness Center Potential Features

- large multipurpose gymnasium
- swimming pool with 3 lap lanes, zero-depth entry, hot tub
- child watch area with indoor children's play area, including a multilevel indoor play structure
- physiology lab
- classrooms
- training room
- cardiovascular room
- wellness and cardio space
- exercise studios
- running track
- locker space, including men's, women's and family locker rooms



*Diane Burr, chair, VCSU Department of Health and Physical Education*

"The proposed Valley City Health, Wellness and Physical Education Center would have a direct and positive influence on those students seeking degrees within the Department of Health and Physical Education.

"In the past several years, we've seen a tremendous enrollment growth in the majors offered by the department. As a result we are certainly in need of the increased space to accommodate our students.

"Plans for the new facility include dedicated space for state-of-the-art laboratories that will give VCSU students unparalleled experiences as they prepare for careers in health and physical education, athletic training, and exercise science and leisure studies.

"This building will give our students the hands-on opportunities that are so important in career preparation. We would be remiss not to also recognize the benefit that the Wellness Center would offer the general student body as well as the Valley City community."

— Diane Burr, chair, VCSU Department of Health and Physical Education ♦



# Alumni Profile

## Mary Arendes '51

*Mary's teaching mantra can be condensed into three sentences:*

*"If you are bored, it is your own fault. Work hard and you can succeed. Expect the best from yourself."*

At age 93, Mary Arendes of Langdon, N.D., is still going strong.

Educated at Valley City State Teachers College, Arendes spent 34 years teaching, including a year each in the Philippines, Japan, and England; 3 in Germany, and 21 years in Fargo.

Her experience as an educator was wide-ranging, including teaching elementary grades in the one-room Waterloo Township School west of Langdon; stints in Fargo and Grafton, N.D.; and six years in Air Force dependent schools overseas, followed by a return to Fargo to teach ninth grade world geography.

Mary was born in December 1920 on her great uncle's homestead farm near Langdon. Her parents—Herman Arendes and Theresa Rohde—had immigrated to the United States from Germany and were married in Langdon in 1905. Her father farmed his entire life, and Mary

was the youngest of eight children, four boys and four girls, who grew up on the farm.

She was educated in country schools and

graduated from high school at St. Alphonsus Parochial School in Langdon in 1937 at age 16. The death of her father and a brother that year delayed her entering college for three years, but in 1940–41, Mary earned a rural teaching certificate from Valley City State.

World War II interrupted her education, with Mary serving as an airplane mechanic at Davis-Monthan Field in Tucson, Ariz., during the war. But she returned to Valley City in 1946–47 and earned an upper elementary standard diploma. She finished her VCSTC education from 1949–51, earning a B.S. degree in education, with a major in geography and minor in German.

Mary retains many fond memories of her schooling in Valley City, including the four years she lived in East Hall Dormitory and the lifelong friends she made there. She remembers her superb instructors, particularly Miss Robertson—Ina Cullom Robertson—head of the Department of Geography who taught at Valley City State from 1921–58. (Robertson Hall dormitory on campus is named after her.)

Arendes was a good student: she was inducted into both the Gamma Theta Upsilon geography honor society and Kappa Delta Pi education honor society, and she was selected as a Viking Pilot award-winner. She went on to attend graduate school, on a one-year, full-tuition scholarship, at Clark University School of Geography in Worcester, Mass.

But it was at the front of the classroom where Mary Arendes shined brightest and where she received much press.

In the *Parade* magazine section of the *Sunday Fargo Forum* from Jan. 8, 1956, Mary was mentioned in an education feature covering the school life of David Monson, a fifth grader at Roosevelt Elementary School in Fargo. "Geography is interesting, and I like the teacher," said Monson. "I think that Miss Arendes is the nicest teacher in the whole school."

Monson's shout-out to "Miss Arendes" was taken a step further by another former student, Jeff Guinn, who was one of 39 fourth-grade students of hers in 1960 at the military school at Rhein-Main Air Base near Frankfurt, Germany.

A self-described Army brat who attended 23 schools during his father's military career, Guinn considered Arendes his best teacher. Under her tutelage and encouragement, Guinn was able to focus on academics and discover his writing talent; in adult life he became a journalist, book editor with the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and the author of numerous books.



One of his books was dedicated to Arendes, and when a friend of hers shared that news with Mary, she reconnected with her former student, with Guinn visiting her in Langdon in 1997. "I wish everyone had a chance to have her as a teacher one year," said Guinn in an article in the Cavalier County Republican, Langdon's newspaper. "I had hundreds of teachers and there's no question she was the very best."

Guinn wrote a feature story about his fourth-grade teacher and his journey to Langdon to thank her. In the piece, which was picked up for syndication and ran in many U.S. papers, Guinn recalled the respect that was shown him by Miss Arendes and the lessons he learned from her.

Mary's teaching mantra can be condensed into three sentences: "If you are bored, it is your own fault. Work hard and you can succeed. Expect the best from yourself." Those words stuck with Guinn, and he gives her credit for changing his life.

She emphasized organization and discipline to her students, but another key to Mary's successful teaching was her ability to bring coursework to life by sharing artifacts, photographs (in the form of colored slides), and personal experiences from her travels to 50 foreign countries, including Australia, southeast Asia, the Middle East, East Africa, and all of Europe.

In 1983 Mary retired from teaching in Fargo and moved back to Langdon, where she was active with the Cavalier County Historical Society and its museum in Dresden, N.D., along with the Catholic Daughters and other church activities. She lived with her older brother Herman for many years but now lives in Wheatland Estates, a congregate living facility in Langdon. Reading is a favorite activity for Mary there.

"Mary has been a longtime benefactor of Valley City State," said Larry Robinson, VCSU executive director of university advancement. "We're very appreciative of her lifelong commitment to education and, at this point in her life, her strong support of VCSU students through

our scholarship program. I have had the pleasure of getting to know Mary just this past year, and I feel fortunate that our paths have crossed. She is a teacher through and through, and she has touched so many lives—what an inspiration! This world is a better place because of folks like Mary."

Mary considers the highlight of her 34-year teaching career not what she taught but rather what she learned from her students, and that's the true mark of a top teacher...and a lifelong learner. ♦



Mary Arendes (fourth from left) was pictured with her fellow teachers and student David Monson from Fargo's Roosevelt Elementary School in the Parade magazine of the Sunday Fargo Forum of Jan. 8, 1956.

# TURN YOUR PROPERTY INTO INCOME

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# Commencement 2014

A beautiful Saturday morning brought friends and family members of the graduates to VCSU's 122nd Commencement Exercises on May 17, 2014.

President Steven W. Shirley greeted the crowd assembled in W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse for the 10 a.m. ceremony, reminding them that North Dakota is one of the few U.S. places where May 17 is also known as Syttende Mai, Norwegian Constitution Day. Shirley congratulated the graduates, reminding them that the day was the culmination of their VCSU studies and noting "It's a big deal, and it's worth celebrating" while also thanking them for helping the campus achieve so much.

Douglas Munski, Ph.D., faculty adviser to the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) and professor of geography at the University of North Dakota, brought congratulations on behalf of the SBHE. "It is the board's responsibility to make education the best that it can be, and you can see it being fulfilled at this very institution," said Munski, who congratulated the graduates for equipping themselves with tools for learning, adapting and thriving. With such tools, he said the graduates could "stride into the future with confidence."

The VCSU graduate student speaker was Emily (McDaniel) Kracht '99, M.Ed. '14, a Spanish teacher at Loyola Catholic School in Mankato, Minn. Kracht shared her Spanish with those assembled, greeting them with "¡Qué día fantástico! (What a fantastic day!)" She spoke of her Valley City State teaching roots; her great-grandmother McDaniel attended the Normal School, and her parents attended Valley City Teachers College, and she attended VCSU. All became teachers. Kracht stressed "the importance of getting to know your students and their life experiences" and

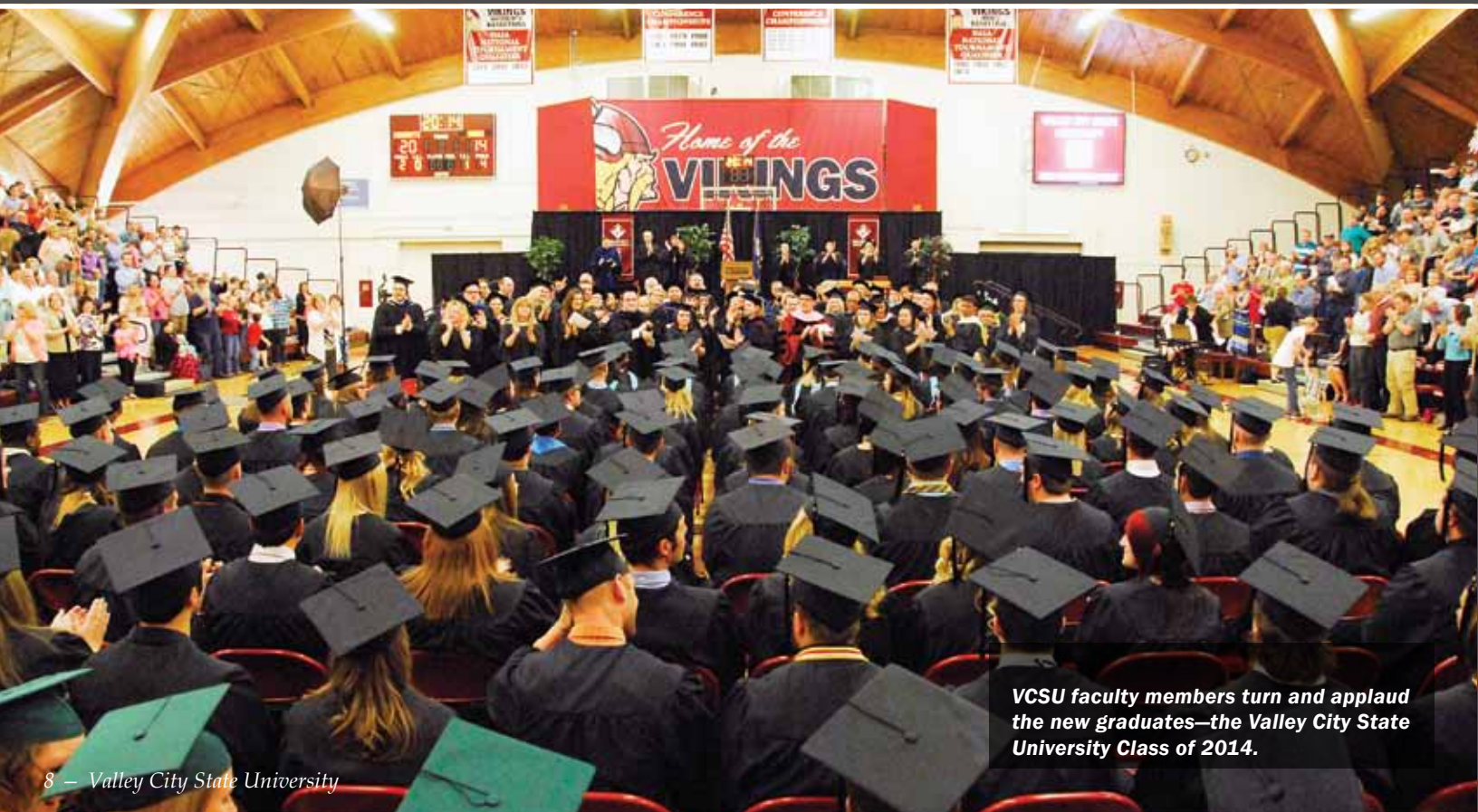
reminded her fellow graduates that "life is full of opportunities; we just have to grab hold of them."

Harrison Weber of Casselton, N.D., served as the undergraduate speaker at commencement 2014. A business management major who will attend the University of North Dakota Law School in the fall, Weber sprinkled his speech with humor but spoke seriously about a VCSU education providing one with the ability to seek out answers, "to answer the question even when you have no idea."

Alumnus Paul Sandness '76, general counsel and corporate secretary of MDU Resources Group (MDU) in Bismarck, N.D., delivered the keynote address. Sandness defined success as "a life well-lived" and shared with the graduating class a six-part rubric to achieve that. The rubric comprised the following:

1. Live honestly
2. Do good.
3. Be kind.
4. Remember that every family has crap (challenges); don't be envious.
5. There is no free lunch.
6. People skills are the key to success.

Two hundred sixty-three undergraduates and graduate students who completed degree requirements in Summer 2013, Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 were eligible to march in the ceremony, which included the awarding of a posthumous degree to Dan Buehner, a VCSU student whose death in April shook the campus. Buehner's sister, Jessica, accepted the degree, with his parents and family friends in attendance.



**VCSU faculty members turn and applaud the new graduates—the Valley City State University Class of 2014.**





1. Classmates Jordan Udem, Philip Reuer and Wayne Engelhard pose for the camera.

2. VCSU President Steve Shirley presides at his final VCSU commencement ceremony.

3. VCSU staff members Emma Tufte and Stephanie (Trautman) Roelfsema '07 are happy to be receiving their M.Ed. degrees.

4. Members of the VCSU Class of 2014 file out of W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse after the 2014 Commencement ceremony.

5. It's all smiles for members of the Class of 2014.

6. The stage—and the scoreboard—are all set for Commencement 2014.

7. Master of Education degree candidates attending the graduate school breakfast and hooding ceremony prior to commencement included: (front, l to r) Quenna Beston, Kelly (Johnsen) Haaby '04, Heather Harper, Darla Jacobson '97, Erin Kub, Brenda Leon, Tara Hutchinson, Stephanie Kunze '08, (back) Amy Pahl, Stephanie (Trautman) Roelfsema '07, Emma Tufte, Carmen Shannon, Kelly Tebben, Reagan Urbanec, Melissa Froseth-Sorge, and Emily (McDaniel) Kracht '99. ♦



## Meet the Foundation Board of Directors

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



### Jan Stowman

**Name, occupation and family information:**

Although I cannot claim Valley City State University as my alma mater, 17 family members can! My mother-in-law, Lorraine

Stowman Engelstad, and my sister, Linda Sundstrom Holcomb, were both professors at VCSU. Our daughter, Missy Stowman Vollmers, who teaches in Bismarck; our daughter, Amy Stowman Kvien, who teaches in the Mandan school system; and my Mom, her three sisters, my brother, sister-in-law, son-in-law, niece and many cousins are all proud VCSU graduates. Besides our two married daughters, my husband, Chuck, a retired banker, and I also have a married son, Casey, also in the banking business, who lives in Fargo. We have been blessed with four grandchildren, ages 4 through 13, and another grandchild is due in October. Since Chuck and I are natives of Valley City, it seems VCSU has always been a part of our lives. We still list Valley City as our permanent address but spend equal amounts of time at our lake home on Lake Eunice in Detroit Lakes, Minn., and in Sarasota, Fla.

**Tell us your experience as a Foundation Board member.**

I have been on the VCSU Foundation Board for 18 years, and it has been a great experience for me. As a community volunteer for many years, I have had the opportunity to serve on various boards, but I have found the VCSU Foundation Board to be the most gratifying and fulfilling. I have had the opportunity to serve with many wonderful people who share my passion to make VCSU even a more important part of the North Dakota University System. I have enjoyed working with two wonderful presidents and am so appreciative of four great Foundation Board staff.

**In your opinion, what are VCSU's strengths?**

It has been exciting to see that VCSU enrollment is at an all-time high, but a strength is still a very low student-to-teacher ratio that allows staff to get to know their students and personally care for them. Programs like the Learning to Live, Living to Learn class required of freshmen provides leadership, character, and service development. Being one of the first laptop universities has given VCSU a jump on technology in higher education. With our new state of the art Science Center, our STEM education classes are exemplary. US News and World Report has acknowledged our great strengths as one of the top universities in the nation 16 years in a row!

**What are VCSU's greatest opportunities?**

I believe VCSU has done a great job of embracing our rich history of teacher education while

creating many new programs of study that are important now and for the future. VCSU also recognizes the importance of online education while also enhancing the on-campus experience. A college/community Wellness Center would be a wonderful addition to the college experience. The restoration and preservation of VCSU's 113-year-old President's House proves that our history is also important.

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

Alumni and friends of VCSU can provide very valuable financial and promotional support. Scholarships are critical to VCSU students and VCSU growth. Enrollment numbers are one way the North Dakota University System judges the value of the institution. In order to become a good VCSU ambassador, one needs to know about all the good things that are happening here. It's impossible to "tell the story" if you don't know about it!

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

My advice would be to attend some of the many activities that our VCSU Foundation Board plans—Homecoming, the VCSU Auction, and VCSU socials are fun and great ways to connect with VCSU staff, alumni, and friends. As a part of the VCSU President's House Preservation Society, I would like to invite everyone to come back to the campus and see, and perhaps stay, at the preserved—and soon to be accessible—President's House Guest Inn.



### Matt Pedersen

**Name, occupation and family information:**

I live in Valley City and am business manager at Microsoft, managing over \$100 million in IT project spending. I have been

with Microsoft for 16 years. I am married to Jen Pedersen.

**Tell us your experience as a Foundation Board member.**

It is has been rewarding to maximize scholarship dollars for the VCSU student population and exciting to be part of the transformation at VCSU as it launches new programs, constructs new buildings, and manages continued growth in enrollment.

**In your opinion, what are VCSU's strengths?**

VCSU has a strong tradition in teacher education. The university is successfully capitalizing on this recognized strength through new undergraduate degree offerings, launching master's degree programs, and forming collaborative partnerships with other universities. By using the strong heritage of teacher education as its

foundation, VCSU is well positioned to attract regional and global students who wish to excel in their studies on a nationally recognized campus.

**What are VCSU's greatest opportunities?**

VCSU's greatest opportunity is to expand its education in the area of technology. Filling the large number of job openings in the technology field in the United States is unmanageable as companies struggle to find enough properly skilled talent.

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

A sense of connection and purpose is important to a well-balanced life. Staying engaged with your alma mater is an integral way to give back and satisfy the responsibility for community involvement at the same time.





## Mark Finstad

### **Name, occupation and family information:**

I currently live on Paulson Lake in rural Erskine, Minn. We moved here from Valley City nine years ago. My grandparents

had Minnesota lake property when I grew up, and it had been a dream to move back to a Minnesota lake when our children graduated from Valley City High School. Kathryn, my wife of 35 years, has horses, and I like to hike. The area where we live is conducive to both hobbies. I have been president of Ultima Bank Minnesota (UBM) in Fosston, Minn., for the last eight years. We have two children. Christopher (Sheri) Finstad, age 29, lives in Fargo and works for Food Services of America. His wife is a child protection social worker for Cass County. Our daughter, Sarah (Brent) Tenhoff, is 26 and lives in Grand Junction, Colo. She is an attorney and works for the Colorado Public Defenders Office. Her husband is a logistics manager for Staples Corp. Sarah attended VCSU during and after high school before transferring to the University of Minnesota and later to University of North Dakota Law School. No grandchildren—yet.

### **Tell us your experience as a Foundation Board member.**

I joined the VCSU Foundation Board when I was president of Wells Fargo Bank in Valley City. When we moved to Minnesota, I resigned from the board but rejoined after taking the president's job at UBM. It has been a great way to stay in contact with many friends and professional associates in Valley City. I particularly enjoy my role on the Scholarship Committee. Our daughter benefitted tremendously from her student experience at VCSU and, with the growing cost of higher education, we enjoy doing our part to make sure other students have the same opportunities that she did. Since joining the Foundation Board, Kathy and I have had the opportunity to establish two endowed theatre scholarships and, in the last year, an endowed STEM scholarship. We so much enjoy hearing from the students who these annual scholarships support and getting a chance to meet them at VCSU functions. In addition to helping the students, we have used these scholarships to memorialize family members who have guided and helped Kathy and me as we attended school and raised our family.

### **In your opinion, what are VCSU's strengths?**

VCSU delivers a more personal higher education experience for our students without sacrificing quality, as evidenced by the college's repeated recognition of excellence in U.S.

News and World Report. As with our daughter, VCSU provides a higher education opportunity for VCHS students ready to begin their college career early.

### **What are VCSU's greatest opportunities?**

Partnering with the city of Valley City, the State of North Dakota and private business to custom design higher education to meet the changing needs of the region, especially with regard to the STEM program.

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

Higher education is one of our greatest renewable resources. Those of us who benefitted from it must re-invest our time and money to make sure future generations receive the quality education needed for a world-class work force.

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

You can make a real difference by getting and staying involved with the university. Gifts of time and money—small and large—all count when it comes to ensuring the availability of quality, affordable higher education for generations to come.



## Gigi Goven

### **Name, occupation and family information:**

I'm Genevieve "Gigi" Goven, M.D., a family-medicine physician employed by Sanford Health in Valley City

for 21 years. I'm single but live with my brother Tom, who serves as municipal judge. I've lived in Valley City all of my life except while at college and medical training at the University of North Dakota. I attended summer school in 1982 at VCSU.

### **Tell us your experience as a Foundation Board member.**

I have enjoyed participating on the Foundation Board. I have met some very interesting and committed individuals who are passionate about the future of VCSU.

### **In your opinion, what are VCSU's strengths?**

VCSU produces well-rounded students who connect with their communities.

### **What are VCSU's greatest opportunities?**

To continue to be flexible in the changing job market and to want to be a destination college for students.

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

Don't base your education on what you paid for it in tuition, but by the generosity of others who came before you. It's time to give back, and even a little amount of money at a time has returns many fold.

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

I'm so proud of how VCSU has helped the community of Valley City. Without the college, this town would be half the size it is. Both students and faculty add to the life of Valley City.

## VCSU faculty, alumni and students form key part of ITEEA



A large VCSU contingent attended the ITEEA Conference March 27–29, including (l to r) Lana Fornes M.Ed. '09, Cory Booth M.Ed. '10, Peder Gjovik '77, Dan Houston '94, James Boe '91, Benjamin Elder '02, Blaire Booth M.Ed. '10, Andy Rohwedder '77, Tonya Isabell (current graduate student) and Aleksandr Sadiwynk M.Ed. '14. Others attending but not pictured were Don Fischer '79, Melvin Klingenberg '81, Misty (Ross) Lindgren '91, and Robert Poselli (current undergraduate student, Charlton, Mass.).

VCSU's influence and participation continues to grow as evidenced by the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA) Conference held in Orlando, Fla., from March 27–29. Current faculty, alumni and current students were recipients of several awards or hold positions within the ITEEA.

James Boe, DTE (Distinguished Technology Educator), VCSU director of graduate studies and previous chair of the Department of Technology, began a one-year term as ITEEA president. Boe presented on future directions of the association, strategies to effectively address technology and engineering education in STEM, and the importance of meeting the needs of pre-service and in-service teachers.

Boe and alumnus Don Fischer '79 currently serve on the ITEEA Board of Directors. The board serves to organize and set future direction for the organization. Fischer represents Region 3 on the board and is the current North Dakota state supervisor for technology and engineering education.

Lana Fornes, M.Ed. '09, instructor in the

VCSU Department of Technology, chaired the Teacher Excellence Awards program at Orlando, a position she has held for two years. Fornes is a former recipient of the Donald Maley Spirit of Excellence Outstanding Graduate Student Citation in 2008.

ITEEA began a new Emerging Leader (EL) Recognition Program at the 2014 conference. The award recognizes "outstanding performance and accomplishments by those who have at least five years of professional experience in delivering technology and engineering education." There were 14 national winners of the award, and four VCSU graduates—Blaire Booth M.Ed. '10, Cory Booth M.Ed. '10, Peder Gjovik '77 and Dan Houston '94—were included in this first group of recipients. The Booths serve as adjunct faculty in the VCSU Department of Technology; Gjovik is department chair.

Gjovik was also a recipient of an Outstanding Affiliate Representative Award for his work with NDTEEA. He also presented his recent research, "Factors that Impact K-12 Integrative STEM Implementation," to the Council on

Technology and Engineering Teacher Education (CTETE).

Alumnus Benjamin Elder '02 (Dazey, N.D.), Brian Drelick (former graduate student, Franklin, N.J.) and Tonya Isabell (current graduate student, Duluth, Ga.) received Program Excellence Award designations. Alumni Mel Klingenberg '81 (Valley City) and Cory Booth received Teacher Excellence Awards. The Program Excellence and Teacher Excellence Awards are considered the highest honors a technology and engineering teacher can receive for outstanding contributions to the profession.

Aleksandr Sadiwynk (Short Hills, N.J.), M.Ed. '14, received the Donald Maley Spirit of Excellence Outstanding Graduate Student Citation for his work in the VCSU technology program. In addition, Sadiwynk received the Maley/FTEE Teacher Scholarship for 2014.

Misty (Ross) Lindgren '91, administrative assistant in the VCSU Office of Graduate Studies and Research, represented the VCSU graduate studies program and made contact with several new potential students. ♦

## Alumni Office seeks Homecoming buttons

The VCSU Foundation and Alumni Office is looking to complete their collection of Homecoming buttons. We are planning to display them in the Soroos-Bruhn Alumni Room. Please check your mementos of your time at VCSU and considering donating your Homecoming buttons to us.

We are missing the following buttons:

- 1927
- 1929
- 1930
- 1932–52
- 1954
- 1959
- 1960
- 1962
- 1998–2000
- 2003
- 2004
- 2006
- 2010

For more information, contact Kim Hesch at [kim.hesch@vcsu.edu](mailto:kim.hesch@vcsu.edu) or 701-845-7403.







The VCSU Alumni Association, along with parent hosts Neva and Jeff Hamre and Kristi (Tait) '93 and Cory Anderson '89 invited the VCSU baseball and softball families to join them for a St. Paddy's Day Viking Rally while the teams played in Tucson, Ariz., over spring break.

The VCSU softball team played 20 games while they were in Tucson March 12–22. The Vikings are coached by Elle Fracker, who served as assistant coach last season and took over as head coach this year.

# A Viking rally in Arizona!

The Viking baseball team is coached by Casey Olney, who completed his ninth season at VCSU and seventh season as head coach. The baseball team played 15 games while in Tucson (March 13-24). ♦

- ◀ Pictured in Tucson are (front) Neva and Mackenzie Hamre, and Kadie and Kristi (Tait) Anderson '93; (back) Kayl and Jeff Hamre, and Cory '89 and Brady Anderson.





# 2014 VIKING SCRAMBLE Golf Tournament



A total of 22 teams competed in the annual Viking Golf Scramble held June 21 at Bjornson Park and the Valley City Town and Country Club.

Hosted by the Viking Century Club, the scramble is one of the largest fundraisers for VCSU student-athlete scholarships. Major sponsors of the tournament included: Dacotah Bank, Farmers Union Insurance, LaFarge, Miller Motors, Leavers Foods, Heritage, Valley Realty and Wick Construction.

The field of teams was split into two groups: Championship Flight and Open Flight. Fourteen different teams finished at least 8-under par (63) on the day. Players also enjoyed a dinner, raffle and several hole contests. Miller Motors and Farmers Union Insurance both sponsored Hole-In-One prizes, but no one was able to cash in. ♦



Championship Flight 1st Place: (l to r) Cody Flatten, Steve Sedler, Jerod Satrom, Kory Klubben and James Thornton '02



Championship Flight 3rd Place: (l to r) Doug Bergan '78, Pat Bresnahan, Chad Bergan, Bob Bergan '82, Ken Dodd



Championship Flight 2nd Place: (l to r) Zach Johnson, Danny Hangaard, Tyler Stearns, Jesse Brooks, Danny Sam, Trevor Goerts



Open Flight 1st Place: (l to r) Mark Potts, Kirk Olson, Brian Yanish, Casey Olney, Kari Olney



# VCSU HOMECOMING 2014

The VCSU Alumni Association invites you to join alumni and friends of VCSU for the many events scheduled for Homecoming 2014. Visit our website at [alumni.vcsu.edu](http://alumni.vcsu.edu) for more information and updates.

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

4 p.m. Bill Osmon Fun Run @ W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse  
*Kickoff Homecoming by participating in the Fun Run and meet the new VCSU Viking mascot.*

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

2 p.m. Alumni Welcome Back Ice Cream Social @ VCSU Foundation & Alumni Office, McFarland Hall  
*Join the office staff and alumni board members for ice cream.*

2-4 p.m. Campus Tours @ VCSU Foundation & Alumni Office, McFarland Hall

5 p.m. Meet and Greet Hall of Fame Social @ VCSU Student Center Skoal Room  
*Alumni and friends are invited to stop by the Student Center Skoal Room and socialize with the Hall of Fame Inductees.*

6 p.m. Hall of Fame Banquet @ VCSU Student Center Cafeteria

7 p.m. Volleyball vs. Presentation College

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

8:30 a.m. Alumni Honors Breakfast @ VCSU Student Center Cafeteria  
*The Alumni Honors breakfast provides the VCSU Alumni Association with an opportunity to present fellow alumni with the Certificate of Merit, Alumni Service and the Young Alumni Achievement awards. Special guests this year will be former Viking Ambassadors.*

10:30 a.m. Homecoming Parade

11 a.m. Tintype Fundraiser @ Vangstad Auditorium  
*See p. 31 for details*

noon Pre-game Picnic sponsored by the VCSU Booster Board @ Lokken Stadium

1 p.m. Football vs. Waldorf College @ Lokken Stadium

4 p.m. Post-game Social @ Valley City Town & Country Club (500 12th Ave NE, Valley City)

5 p.m. Volleyball vs Dakota State @ Graichen Gym

10 p.m. College and Alumni Street Dance @ Valley City Town & Country Club

The 3rd Annual  
**VCSU Rendezvous**  
presents

# Rubber Soul

A TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES



**Friday, October 17, 2014**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
AT VALLEY CITY EAGLES CLUB

Tickets on sale in August.

Proceeds benefit V-500 Scholarships.

Contact the VCSU Foundation Office  
at 701-845-7203 for ticket information.

## VP Dahlberg named VCSU interim president



Margaret Dahlberg, Ph.D.

Margaret Dahlberg, Ph.D., vice president for academic affairs at Valley City State University, has been appointed interim president of VCSU by the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education.

Dahlberg will begin serving as VCSU interim president on

July 1, 2014. She will succeed VCSU's current president, Steven W. Shirley, who has been appointed president of Minot State University.

Dahlberg has served on the VCSU faculty since 1996. Formerly professor of English and chair of the communication arts department, she was appointed interim vice president for academic affairs in April 2009. In January 2010 she was named vice president for academic affairs.

She holds a B.A. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and M.A. and Ph.D.

degrees from the University of North Dakota.

A native of Valley City, Dahlberg has lived in Valley City for a total of 24 years, 6 years as a child and 18 years as a VCSU employee.

Her academic efforts at VCSU actually began when the university was named Valley City State Teachers College; she attended its Model School while her father, H.O. Pearce, served as its superintendent.

Dahlberg serves on the Mercy Hospital Board of Directors; she is also a board member and secretary of the Barnes County Library Board.

She is married to Paul Dahlberg; they have three adult sons—Kevin, Nathan, and Brian, who all attended VCSU.

Kevin Dahlberg '08 of Bismarck, N.D., holds a B.A. degree in music from VCSU. Brian Dahlberg '12, who earned a B.S. degree in computer information systems and business administration from VCSU, lives in Plymouth, Minn. Nathan Dahlberg, who attended VCSU as an early-entry student in 2004–05 and 2005–06, earned a computer science degree from the University of Minnesota, Morris in 2009 and lives in New Hope, Minn. ♦

## NDUS launches search for next VCSU president

The North Dakota University System (NDUS) has officially launched its search for the next president of Valley City State University.

The search has been prompted by the appointment of VCSU President Steven W. Shirley to the presidency of Minot State University, another NDUS institution, effective July 1, 2014.

The VCSU Presidential Search Committee is chaired by Kirsten Diederich, SBHE chair. NDUS has retained the services of James McCormick, senior consultant at AGB Search, a national higher education leadership search firm, to assist in the process.

More information about the search can be found at online at [www.vcsu.edu/presidentialsearch](http://www.vcsu.edu/presidentialsearch). Nominations and applications for the VCSU presidency should be sent electronically (in Word or PDF format) to [vcsu@agbsearch](mailto:vcsu@agbsearch). Application deadline for best consideration is Aug. 25, 2014. ♦

## University to begin celebrating its 125th anniversary

According to *Cornerstones: A Centennial History of Valley City State University 1890–1990*, “The State Normal School at Valley City opened its doors on October 13, 1890, with one ‘professor,’ less than 25 students, and no building of its own.”

That’s a far cry from today’s Valley City State University, with more than 200 faculty and staff, 1,300 students and 20 buildings.

In recognition of the changes, growth and achievements over the years, VCSU will begin a yearlong celebration of its 125th anniversary with the theme “Making a Difference—Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow” at Homecoming Week 2014 and continue through Homecoming 2015.

Cardinal Red Days—with proud alumni, students, faculty, staff and alumni wearing their VCSU apparel—will be designated throughout the year.

A Heritage Room in the Soroos-Bruhn Alumni Center in McFarland Hall will become a repository for VCSU memorabilia; efforts to collect and display items related to VCSU’s history are underway.

Projects to spruce up campus, organized by the VCSU Beautification Committee, are also part of the 125th efforts. These include creating an enhanced interior at the main entry in McFarland Hall and making a more attractive entrance and efficient traffic pattern near Circle

Hall, the “backdoor” entry to McFarland and Vangstad halls.

To commemorate the 125th anniversary, VCSU professors Stephen King and Julee Russell are writing an update to the centennial history of the university with the working title *Cornerstones: The Legacy Continues—A Quasiquicentennial History of Valley City State University 1990–2015*.

Included in the celebration will be the rollout of a new Viking mascot at Homecoming 2014 and an all-campus photo of students, faculty and staff in front of McFarland Hall.

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

VCSU’s next president should be named in Fall 2014, and it’s hoped that the presidential inauguration and a tour of North Dakota with the new president, faculty, staff and students appearing at gatherings of alumni and friends of the university can be added to the list of celebratory events in 2015.

The Summer 2015 issue of the *Bulletin*, the VCSU alumni magazine, will focus on the university quasiquicentennial with a special issue featuring a historical timeline and “125

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

Homecoming 2015 will feature a Viking Hall of Fame Reunion with all members invited back to campus, along with an All Greek Reunion, with all sorority and fraternity members invited to return to Valley City as well.

On Oct. 13, 2015, the 125th anniversary of VCSU’s opening day will be celebrated with a birthday cake.

Please join us for any and/or all of the 125th events; we welcome your participation in recognizing this milestone in the university’s history. ♦







# FACULTY STAFF RECOGNITION



VCSU held its annual Employee Recognition and Retirement Dinner May 15, 2014, in the Student Center cafeteria.

**Years of Service Recognition:** Faculty and staff members honored for Years of Service anniversaries at the recognition dinner were:

- 25 years of service—Steve Olson, Ron Pommerer
- 20 years of service—Preston Bush, Jane (Speyers) Hammer '97, Wayne Hammond, Gregg Horner '90, Beth Klingenstein, Dennis McCulloch, Barbara Schroeder, Linda Whitney
- 15 years of service—Donna (Vandrovce) James '73, C.J. Kotta '99, Patricia Geggelman, Brad Mills, Patti Rickford, Charlene (Stromsodt) Stenson '83, Kari Stricklin '92, Shannon VanHorn
- 10 years of service—Amy (Grotberg) Anderson '74, K.O. Bolstad, Louis Wieland '01
- 5 years of service—Richard Clark, Brenda Finger, Rachelle Hunt M.Ed. '13, Joey Nix '00, Jackie Owen, Armando Ramos, Jenni Lou Russi, Jodi Shorma, Alyssa Sorensen '07

**Employee of the Quarter and “The Difference Is Me”**

**Recipients:** Employee of the Quarter award recipients for the 2013–14 academic year—Kim (Svenningsen) Hesch '91, assistant director of university advancement and alumni relations; Emma (Bartle) Tuft M.Ed. '14, administrative assistant/assessment assistant; Doug Hamilton, facilities services maintenance; and Irene Groth, administrative assistant/certification officer—were acknowledged at the dinner, as were “The Difference Is Me” award recipients—Wayne Hammond, building services/store keeper; Jody Henjum, administrative assistant; and Jenn Larson, faculty materials center assistant—for the same time period.

**Student Advocate Awards and Teacher of the Year Award:**

Erin Edinger, 2013–14 Student Senate president, and Michaela Halvorson, 2014–15 Student Senate president, presented Student Advocate Awards to Chris Carpenter, general manager, Sodexo food service; Richard Clark, building services; and Rhonda Fairfield '09, executive assistant, President's Office. Edinger and Halvorson also presented the Teacher of the Year Award to Casey Williams, assistant professor in the fisheries and wildlife science program.

**Presidential Recognition:** The appointment of Margaret Dahlberg, vice president of academic affairs, to interim president July 1, 2014, was acknowledged, and outgoing President Steve Shirley's VCSU tenure was recognized as well. ♦

## VCSU recognizes eight retirees and their contributions to university

Eight faculty and four staff members have retired from Valley City State University this spring.

Staff retirees are Doug Hamilton, Randy Jess and Steve Olson of the Facilities Services staff, and Ann Kelly '85, administrative assistant for communication, arts and social science.

Faculty retirees are Sara Hagen, professor of music; Don Hoff, professor of science; Sharon McCarriar, associate professor of health and physical education; and Linda Whitney, professor of art.

All eight faculty and staff members were nominated and recommended for emeritus status, and each was granted that status by the university president, with former president Steve Shirley granting emeritus status to Hagen, Hamilton, Hoff, Jess, McCarriar and Whitney, and interim president Margaret Dahlberg recognizing Kelly and Olson with the status. Emeritus status recognizes individuals' contributions to the VCSU community and carries with it privileges that facilitate remaining active members in the community. Profiles of the eight retirees follow.



**Sara Hagen** retired as professor of music at VCSU, where she taught music education, theory and business and served as fine arts instructional designer, emphasizing distance education pedagogy. Her responsibilities included music education methods and student teaching supervision.

In addition to her teaching at VCSU, Hagen has contributed much to the music community in the greater Valley City area. Hagen's teaching experience includes six years of K-12 music education and more than 25 years of private

studio teaching; she is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM) through Music Teachers National Association (MTNA). She played an active role in the VCSU Community School of the Arts, teaching piano and directing the Valley Children's Choir.

An expert in music distance education and related technology, Hagen developed and taught nine online music courses at VCSU. She has been a regular presenter at local, state and national conferences delivering workshops on technology pedagogy in music education.

Her recent presentations include "Using Blackboard's Self- and Peer-Assessment Tools for Creative Juicing" and a panel presentation, "Tech Divas and Girl Geeks: Supporting the Rising Generation of Women in Music and Technology," both at the joint conference of the College Music Society (CMS) and the Association for Technology in Music Instruction at Boston, Mass., in November 2013.

Articles by Hagen have been published in *Keyboard Companion*, the *Journal of Technology in Music Learning (JTML)*, the *North Dakota Music Educator* and the online *Journal of Music, Technology, and Education*. She co-wrote a chapter in *Research Perspectives and Best Practices in Educational Technology Integration*, published by IGI Global.

Her professional service includes a term as president of the North Dakota Music Educators Association (2008-14); she also served on the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) Council for Innovations (North Central Division representative) and on the New and Emerging Technologies (NET) Committee for the College Music Society (CMS). She served as an editor for *JTML* and for the *College Music Symposium*, an online publication of CMS.

Hagen was named Teacher of the Year by the North Dakota Music Teachers Association in 2004 and Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant at Florida State University in 2000.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in education (with K-8 music certification) and a Master of Music degree, both from the University of North Dakota, and a Ph.D. in music education from Florida State University. In addition she holds certificates in computers in music (Florida State), music business specialist (Berklee Music Online) and distance education (University of Wisconsin-Madison).

Hagen is married to Ted Hagen, a dentist in Valley City. The couple has an adult daughter, Jocelyn Hagen Takach, an accomplished musician and composer.



**Doug Hamilton** retired after 22 years at VCSU. Hamilton began his career as custodian in the Student Center and then went on to take care of McCoy and Kolstoe halls before returning to the Student Center as maintenance person.

Hamilton grew up in Topeka, Kan., and after a stint in Hawaii doing construction, he worked for the Gallo brothers winery in California for 21 years, where he supervised the loading of box cars, before coming to North Dakota and VCSU.

Along with some cattle, sheep and chickens, Hamilton and his wife, Videlle,

an R.N. at Mercy Hospital, live on a farm northeast of Valley City. Hamilton has children and grandchildren in California and North Dakota.

Hamilton says he loved his work here at VCSU—"it was a job that turned into something better" and highly values the relationships he established with his "work family." He credits VCSU students with keeping him young.

In retirement Hamilton plans to continue work on the finer points of his golf game and indicates he may even make an appearance at a VCSU Vikings football game or two.



**Don Hoff**, professor of science at VCSU, retired after teaching 12 years at the university after a lengthy career as a high school science teacher.

At VCSU, Hoff taught chemistry, earth science, geology and science teaching methods. He also supervised the VCSU science student teachers.

Hoff holds a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Dickinson State University and a Master of Science degree in earth science and science education from North Dakota State University. In addition, he did extensive

postgraduate work beyond the Master's Degree, accumulating more than 100 semester hours in science and almost 40 semester hours in education from several institutions.

Prior to joining the Valley City State faculty, Hoff taught secondary science in Velva, N.D., and the Marshall Islands for more than 30 years. He also worked for NASA for a year. Hoff enjoys travel and photography; he often has combined the two vocations to enrich his teaching.

In his tribute to Hoff at the Employee Recognition and Retirement Dinner on May 15, Andre DeLorme, chair of the science department, stated that he thought Hoff was perhaps "The Most Interesting Man in the World," citing his work experience and wide-ranging travel.

Indeed, Hoff has visited all 50 states, Namibia, Peru (Amazon), Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Kenya, Morocco, Great Britain, Italy, France, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Turkey, Canada, Mexico, Central America, China, Mongolia, Borneo, Sweden, Croatia, Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, Latvia,



Lithuania, Estonia and the Caribbean. Hoff says he's working on ways to visit Antarctica, his last remaining continent.

In retirement, Hoff and his wife, Sharon, also a retired teacher, plan to spend summers in Velva and winters in Sun City West, Ariz. They have an adult son, Ryan, a home contractor in Velva.



**Randy Jess** retired after completing 12 years of employment with building services at VCSU. He started in 2002 and worked in many buildings on campus, including Graichen, Kolstoe, McFarland, the Student Center and Vangstad. He ended his career working in Robertson and Mythaler halls.

Jess lives on a farm outside of Valley City; although he rents out the farmland, he does keep some animals, including cats, dogs, chickens, guinea fowl, rabbits, horses, donkeys and sheep. In retirement he hopes to clean up the farmstead

and spend time fishing and riding motorcycle. He also restores vehicles, including a '59 Edsel and '59 Ford and '48 Chevy pickups.

In addition he plans to spend more time with his five grandchildren, traveling to Chico, Calif., and Las Vegas, Nev., to visit his sons and, much closer to home, to Hope, N.D., to visit his daughter.

Jess, a native of Pillsbury, N.D., says that VCSU is a great institution and that he's proud to be part of it. In a thank-you note to the university community, he added, "We as employees should be thankful that no matter our job title, VCSU still recognizes us as part of the success of the campus and appreciates our work."



**Ann Kelly** began working at VCSU in 1978, and after a few interruptions, ended up working at the university for a total of 29 years (what she calls "half of her life"). For most of her time at VCSU, she served as administrative assistant in the communication, arts and social science division (CASS), but she also worked in Allen Library.

After five years of working at VCSU and also taking classes, Ann resigned her position to finish up a VCSU Bachelor of Science degree in Spanish education with a minor in library science. She came

back to CASS for a couple years before becoming a librarian and teaching Spanish in Oakes. The long commute was difficult, however, and Ann returned to VCSU, working in the library for five years before once again returning to CASS in 1997.

Ann's husband, Don Kelly, works for the Corps of Engineers at Lake Ashtabula. The couple live on a 20-acre farmstead 4 miles northwest of Valley City where they keep horses and raise a few chickens. In retirement Ann is looking forward to relaxing, reading and enjoying her dogs.

Ann says she's met lots of interesting people and enjoyed her time here at VCSU. She values the friendships she's made over the years with faculty, staff, and students, especially the close relationships she developed with some of her student workers. Ann is proud of the work she did serving four departments—art, communication arts, language and literature, and social science—a third of the departments on campus!



**Sharon McCarriar** retired as associate professor and chair of the health and physical education department.

A native of Castlewood, S.D., McCarriar attended Northern State College (now Northern State University) in Aberdeen, S.D., earning a Bachelor of Science degree in health and physical education in 1972. At Northern State, she competed in 12 varsity sport seasons in 4 sports over 4 years.

Following graduation, McCarriar taught four years of junior and senior high

school health and physical education at Milbank, S.D., where she also coached gymnastics and track and field, along with the first year of high school girls competitive basketball in 1975.

From 1976–78 McCarriar attended graduate school at South Dakota State University in Brookings, where she earned a Master of Science degree in health and physical education.

In 1978 McCarriar came to Valley City State, where she was hired as an instructor in health and physical education and intramural director. She taught for a decade, along with coaching women's tennis and track and field, at VCSU before spending the 1988–89 year in residency at the University of North Dakota (UND) while she worked on her doctorate. McCarriar returned to teaching, coaching and intramurals at VCSU in 1989, and in 1992 she earned a Doctor of Education degree in secondary teacher education from UND.

McCarriar became Health and Physical Education (HPE) Division chair in 1994, and in 2004 the position changed to HPE Department chair, in which she served until her 2014 retirement.

A member of Our Saviors Lutheran church for 36 years, McCarriar was a member of Valley Voices for 14 years and the Sheyenne Valley Garden Club for 7 years. She was a 10-year member of VCSU's V-500 Board and served 2 years as president.

In retirement, McCarriar plans to continue her work as curator of Mindy's Memorial Garden in Valley City along with relaxing and enjoying her family of cats. She'll also take occasional trips to visit her sister in Wood Lake, Minn., and friends back home in South Dakota.



**Steve Olson** worked for Facilities Services at VCSU for 25 years until health issues precipitated his retirement this spring.

Olson started his career at the university in the Student Center, first as night custodian, then as day custodian and finally as maintenance person. He then moved to the campus locksmith position, where he also assisted the carpenters, working with Don Schaack for many years and then Ray Nelson.

In retirement Olson plans to continue to hunt, fish and play golf to the extent his health allows. He and his wife of 42

years, Gaylene, live on a farm south of Valley City where he was born and raised; the couple has two adult children, son Chris, who works at Perkins auto dealership, and daughter Nicole, who works as the evening supervisor for Sodexo in the VCSU Student Center.

Olson says he appreciated the folks at VCSU, especially the students. He adds that he'll always remember the camaraderie he enjoyed with his coworkers and that he's thankful for the good bosses he had on campus.

**Continued...**

Retirees continued from page 19



### Linda Whitney

began teaching art at VCSU in 1994 and served as chair of the art department throughout her tenure at the university. She also served as instructor and art director for the VCSU Community School of the Arts,

in addition to serving as president of the board from 1995–2005.

From 1994–2001, she served as art director and instructor for the art section of the International Music Camp at the International Peace Garden near Dunseith, N.D. She also served as head docent at the North Dakota Museum of Art in Grand Forks, N.D., in the early '90s.

In 1999 Whitney served as professor of printmaking at the *Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur* (UABCS) in La Paz, Mexico. She has been a visiting artist in North Dakota at Dickinson State University, Minot State University and the Grand Forks Public School System; in Minnesota at the Bemidji Community Arts Center; and in Indiana at Anderson University.

She is the recipient of a North Dakota Council on the Arts Fellowship (1999) and the North Dakota Governor's Award for the Arts (2002).

Throughout her career, Whitney has served on various boards and committees, including the North Dakota Arts Education Task Force, the Print Studio Advisory Board at the Plains Art Museum (Fargo), Bridges Arts Council, 2nd Crossing Arts Center, Art Endowment Board of the Grand Forks Education Foundation and the Grand Forks Arts and Humanities Association, among others.

Whitney has served as a juror for several North Dakota shows and exhibits and several international exchanges. She has exhibited her own work throughout the United States, and, through various print exchanges, in Australia, Brazil, Britain, Canada, France, Holland, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Russia, Serbia, South Africa and Spain.

Her most recent exhibit, "Linda Whitney: The Space Between History and Hollywood," ran May 1–June 14 at the Jamestown (N.D.) Art Center. It featured 29 mezzotints drawn from a body of work created in the last 5 years; the imagery in these cross-cultural artworks was "derived from Pow-wow interlaced with Hollywood and the indigenous people of Turtle Island."

Whitney 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. Linda's daughter, Jessica Christy, is an accomplished mixed-media artist and a faculty member at Minot State University. ♦

# SENIOR PROFILES ▶

## Good chemistry between Haugeberg and VCSU



**Benjamin Haugeberg** came southeast to Valley City State from Watford City, N.D., to play football, and he did suit up for the Vikings his freshman year.

But an academic awakening, which Haugeberg credits to his VCSU chemistry professor, Joe Stickler, spurred him to leave the football field behind and devote his energies elsewhere.

Football's loss was a boon to the rest of campus as Ben immersed himself in a host of activities—serving on Student Senate, giving Medicine Wheel Park tours and planetarium shows, writing for the *Forge* literary magazine and participating actively in Preprofessional Club, Psych Club and English Club—all while maintaining a stellar

academic record as a chemistry and psychology double major.

At the senior awards luncheon Haugeberg was named the Outstanding Chemistry Student and shared the Gordon Hoff Outstanding Social Science Award; the next day he graduated *summa cum laude*.

His investment in extensive cocurricular involvement and strong academics reaped significant dividends; this spring Haugeberg had his choice of attractive graduate school offers from the University of Arkansas, the University of Kansas and the University of Oklahoma. Fall 2014 will find him at Kansas in a doctoral program in chemistry, pursuing research in chemical synthesis—creating new molecules—at the university in Lawrence.

Between VCSU graduation and the start of classes in Kansas, Haugeberg will be busy as usual. His summer plans include coaching Babe Ruth baseball in Watford City and spending three weeks in Europe on his own version of the Grand Tour.

Haugeberg cites the aforementioned Joe Stickler, along with Lee Kruger, Jody Sharma, Hilde van Gijssel and Katie Woehl, among his faculty mentors at VCSU, and their range of disciplines—chemistry, literature, health science and psychology—reflects his broad interests as well.

And the admiration Haugeberg holds for his professors is reflected in their admiration of him as a student.

"I always looked forward to having Ben in class," says Woehl, "because I knew he would ask questions and make observations that would challenge not only his fellow classmates but me as the instructor to think about things in new ways and make unique connections to the course content. The fact that he did it with a great sense of humor was a bonus!"

That sense of humor was evident at Stickler's retirement roast in October 2013, when Haugeberg, in costume as Stickler, deftly skewered the pony-tailed chemistry professor with an over-the-top but spot-on spoof of his classroom antics.

Stickler thinks highly of one of his star students: "Ben is a 'renaissance man.' He showed immense enthusiasm for learning in all subjects, and he did so with energy and discipline. My main duty as his professor was to ensure I was challenging him with the material."

In a recommendation letter Stickler put together, he added: "Ben Haugeberg is an outstanding student at Valley City State University. He has a pleasant personality and a very positive attitude that is not easily discouraged. He is curious and seeks out opportunities to widen his exposure."

That's good stuff from professor emeritus Stickler, who true to his name was known for his tough classes and grading, but if you know Ben Haugeberg, you know that description rings true.

Look for more good things to come in the future for this young man from Watford City... and Valley City State University. ♦



*Benjamin Haugeberg and Brittany Lehner, two of VCSU's high achievers, graduated from the university May 17. In Valley City, they both distinguished themselves with their scholarship and participation in cocurricular activities, and now they'll continue their academic careers on other campuses, with Haugeberg pursuing graduate work in chemistry and Lehner looking to earn a doctorate in physical therapy. Kudos to Ben and Brittany on their VCSU accomplishments!*

## Lehner epitomizes Viking student-athlete



When **Brittany Lehner** walked across the stage May 17 to accept her diploma at VCSU's W.E. Osmon Field-house it was a fitting end to the college career of a student-athlete who had already made so many memories inside that same gymnasium.

As a two-sport athlete and a standout student, Lehner left her mark well before accepting her diploma in May. The Watertown, S.D., native leaves VCSU as one of the top women's basketball players in school history, a conference player of

the year in softball, and a stellar student with a double major in health science and biology.

### *A balanced education*

As both a basketball and softball player, Lehner was in-season from October through May, busy with games, practices and road trips while juggling a full class load. What might be a daunting workload to others, Lehner made look easy, earning seven President's List or Dean's List honors and graduating with magna cum laude honors.

Lehner said playing two sports and spending time with teammates were her best memories as a Viking, but she kept a level head on her shoulder when it came time for academics. Lehner was named an NAIA Scholar-Athlete four times in her career—the maximum two times each in basketball and softball—and this spring was named to the Capital One Academic All District Basketball Team.

"Brittany epitomizes the term student-athlete," said women's basketball coach Jill DeVries. "Her ability to balance her academics and athletics is something many students would find difficult, but Brittany was able to compete at a very high level in two collegiate sports as well as focus on her career goals to become a physical therapist."

Time-management was key, said Lehner, and the realization that academics were the key to her future success and future career.

"My tip to anyone looking to be a student-athlete would be to learn time management early," she said. "Once you figure out that balance it's a lot less stressful and you can better enjoy both your athletics and academics. Being a student-athlete can be stressful and frustrating but it can also be very rewarding by bringing you amazing friends, memories and lifelong lessons."

### *VCSU lives up to the hype*

After graduating from Watertown High School in 2010, Lehner chose to attend VCSU because she had the chance to play her two sports, but also because of the small community setting, small class sizes and one-on-one time with professors.

Four years, two majors, dozens of friendships and hundreds of games (and perhaps just as many science labs) later, Lehner could not be more pleased with her choice as VCSU lived up to her expectations.

"I received a great education and played for two competitive sports teams," she said. "My experience was everything I expected. Professors and faculty care about every student and their success. And the campus is like a family, coming together in both good and bad times to support one another."

### *Lehner delivers*

Coming out of high school, Lehner was no stranger to the big stage, being a part of high school state championships in both basketball and softball at Watertown High School.

At VCSU, the 5-foot-10 forward continued to deliver on the big stage. As a true freshman on the basketball team, Lehner was not the star but came off the bench to average 7 points per game. That squad went on to deliver the first NAIA National Tournament appearance in program history after beating Jamestown College 74-69 in the conference championship. Lehner scored 10 points, pulled down four rebounds and dished out three assists in that game.

"The bubble was packed full and the fans were amazing," she said, calling it one of her favorite memories at VCSU. "After the game everyone stormed the court. To play in that sort of atmosphere was something I would never forget."

It was the first of many big moments on the basketball court for Lehner, who went on to lead the team in scoring her final three seasons. In her sophomore and junior years, Lehner helped lead the Vikings back to the NAIA National Tournament for three straight appearances. And as a senior, Lehner averaged a career-high 18 points and seven rebounds en route to being named an Honorable Mention All-American.

Lehner ended her college basketball career at VCSU 4th all-time in scoring (1390), 6th all-time in rebounding (592), and 2nd all-time in career shooting percentage (54.2 percent). During her four years, the Vikings went 79-44 and posted school records for wins in her freshman (23) and junior (24) seasons.

On the softball field, it took some time for Lehner to adjust—especially since the national tournament runs in basketball carried over into the softball season. Lehner struggled offensively as a freshman and played sparingly as a sophomore. But her persistence paid off as she had a breakout season her junior year, batting .324 with 10 extra-base hits and 15 RBIs.

In her senior season, Lehner delivered even more for the Vikings, batting .382 with six home runs and 27 RBIs—earning Conference Player of the Year in the North Star Athletic Association. She helped the team to its first conference championship since 1990 as VCSU won the North Star Athletic Association regular season title with a 10-2 conference record.

### *Viking for life*

Currently, Lehner and her fiancé, Josh Evans '12, are living in St. Paul, Minn., where she will be attending St. Catherine University's Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

VCSU may be in her rearview mirror, but for Lehner it will never be far from her heart.

"The friendships and memories I made at VCSU are something I will cherish for the rest of my life," she said. ♦



## VCSU Distinguished Service Award Recipients

<b>Orville Barber</b>	1978
<b>Ray Braun</b>	2011
<b>Jennifer Feist</b>	2014
<b>George Gaukler</b>	2007
<b>Dick Gulmon</b>	2007
<b>Russell Hanson</b>	1978
<b>Donald L. Heimes</b>	1975
<b>Ernest J. Miedema</b>	1977
<b>Mary Lee Peterson Nielson</b>	2007
<b>Dale Olson</b>	1976
<b>Carol Watson Peterson</b>	1982
<b>Roger Reierson</b>	2005
<b>Riley Rogers</b>	2008
<b>Janet Schultz</b>	2007
<b>Mary Simonson</b>	2014
<b>Herman Stern</b>	1978
<b>Jan Stowman</b>	2007
<b>Theron L. Strinden</b>	1977
<b>Jerry Topp</b>	2005
<b>Valley Development Group</b>	2005
<b>C. "Van" Vandestreek</b>	1976
<b>Steven Welken †</b>	2014

† posthumous award

## Feist, Simonson and Welken honored with Distinguished Service Awards



Jennifer Feist



Mary Simonson



Steve Welken

President Steven W. Shirley presented three Valley City State University Distinguished Service Awards, two at the annual VCSU Foundation Recognition Luncheon held in the Student Center cafeteria Monday, June 16, along with an award at a special recognition event Tuesday, June 10.

Accepting a posthumous Distinguished Service Award at the June 10 event was the family of the late Steve Welken, a 1997 graduate of VCSU and avid supporter of the university.

Jennifer Feist, executive director of the Valley City–Barnes County Development Corporation, and Mary Simonson, executive director of the Open Door Center in Valley City and chair of the VCSU Foundation Board of Directors, received Distinguished Service Awards at the June 16 luncheon.

“Steve Welken, Jennifer Feist, and Mary Simonson are very deserving of this special recognition,” said President Shirley. “Their dedication, support, and tireless efforts have been instrumental in helping VCSU succeed and fulfill its mission.”

The VCSU Distinguished Service Award—the university’s highest honor—is given at the discretion of the president in recognition of exceptional contribution toward the university’s vision. Since the first award was given in 1975, a total of 22 individuals and organizations, including the 3 recent awards, have been recognized with Distinguished Service Awards. Profiles of Distinguished Service Award recipients Jennifer Feist, Mary Simonson and Steve Welken follow.

### Jennifer Feist

Jennifer Feist serves as executive director of the Valley City–Barnes County Development Corporation. A fixture in Valley City and Barnes County for more than 25 years, Feist began her local career as executive vice president of the Valley City Area Chamber of Commerce. Her first meeting with the Development Corporation was July 20, 1987.

With Feist’s leadership, Valley City and Barnes County have become an economic force in the region. She was instrumental in attracting John Deere Seeding Group, Eagle Creek Software Services, Malach USA and the expansion of Drug Plastics. The I-94 Corridor will allow for further development, including a John Deere expansion and a new National Guard Armory.

Feist’s knowledge of and support for financial programs (Flex PACE) has helped bring new businesses to the area and allow for the expansion of existing businesses, including Cinema Flix, the Open Door Center, Pizza Ranch, and Stoudt Ross Ford, among others.

VCSU has been a beneficiary of Feist’s efforts as well, with the creation of the Regional Technology Center, the recruitment of Eagle Creek Software to the center and the development of a partnership between Eagle Creek and VCSU. Feist also played a key role in helping secure financing to support development of the Dakota College at Bottineau’s nursing education program at VCSU.

### Mary Simonson

Mary Simonson, executive director of the Open Door Center in Valley City and Lisbon, N.D., is chair of the VCSU Foundation Board of Directors and also chair of its scholarship committee, which has greatly increased scholarship support for VCSU students under her leadership.

An adjunct instructor of psychology at VCSU since 1978, Simonson holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and a master’s degree in counseling and guidance from the University of North Dakota. She joined the Open Door Center in 1982.

Simonson helped reestablish the Special Olympics in North Dakota, and she was inducted into the Special Olympics North Dakota Hall of Fame in November 2013. She also received the 2011 Public Health Service Award from City–County Health District



in Valley City and has been honored with numerous other awards as a champion of the developmentally disabled.

She serves on the Valley City-Barnes County Development Board and serves or has served on many other boards and organizations, including the North Dakota Association of Community Facilities, the Brain Injury Association of North Dakota, Valley City Rotary, State Council of Developmental Disabilities, Special Olympics North Dakota, Beta Sigma Phi sorority, and Wells Fargo Community Bank, among others.

Simonson and her husband, Mikal, a VCSU alumnus, are members of the VCSU Foundation's V500 Club and are VCSU annual fund donors; they are recognized at the Regent level for lifetime giving to the university. The couple has also established the Simonson Scholarship at VCSU.

The couple has two adult sons, Nick and Ben (a VCSU graduate), and one grandson.

### Steve Welken

Steve Welken died at age 39 in August 2013 from injuries sustained in an auto accident. He was serving as treasurer of the VCSU Foundation Board and as a member of the board's Corporate Task Force and Investment Committee at the time of his death.

Welken held a business administration degree from VCSU; he joined Grotberg Electric in Valley City in 1996 and was named president of the company in 2010.

Welken also taught accounting classes at VCSU and was a staunch supporter of VCSU Viking athletics. In addition, he served on the Valley City-Barnes County Development Board, the Valley City Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club.

Welken's wife, Erin, and their two young daughters accepted the Distinguished Service Award from VCSU President Steven W. Shirley at a reception with Steve's parents, Larry and Deloris Welken, other family and friends, and VCSU administrators June 10 in the McFarland Hall Alumni Room on the VCSU campus. ♦



Welken's wife, Erin, and their two daughters accepted the Distinguished Service Award from VCSU President Shirley.

## VCSU Foundation holds annual Recognition Luncheon

The VCSU Foundation Board hosted its annual Recognition luncheon on Monday, June 16 on the campus of Valley City State University with over 60 donors attending the luncheon. The luncheon is hosted each June to recognize the donors who have reached a new level of giving over the past year. VCSU Foundation Board chair Mary Simonson welcomed the attendees to the luncheon, and updates on VCSU were given by VCSU President Steve Shirley, followed by recognition of donors. Recipients this year included:

### Platinum Level (\$250,000-\$499,999)

George and Audrey Gaukler  
Stop-N-Go Stores

### Diamond Level (\$100,000-\$249,999)

John & Diane Hill  
Sanford Health

### Gold Level (\$50,000-\$99,999)

Mary Arendes  
MDU Resources Foundation  
Steven & Jennifer Shirley  
Chuck & Jan Stowman

### Regents Level (\$25,000-\$49,999)

James & Sharon Buhr  
Mark & Kathy Finstad  
Sharon McCarriar  
North Dakota Corn Council  
Wick Construction, Inc.

### New Legacy Society Members

Betty Bender  
Ryan & Amanda Botner  
Jack & Jan Fuller

In one of President Shirley's last official duties, he awarded Jennifer Feist, Mary Simonson, and the late Steve Welken with Presidential Distinguished Service Awards. (See p. 22.) ♦



**1:** Regent Level Recipients: Debbie Magnuson (Wick Construction), James and Sharon Buhr, Sharon McCarriar, and Kathy and Mark Finstad.  
**2:** Platinum Level Recipients: Stop-N-Go representatives, including Shelia Carney  
**3:** Diamond Level Recipients: Chuck Gulsvig (Sanford Health) and John & Diane Hill  
**4:** Gold Level Recipients: Steve and Jennifer Shirley, and Jan Stowman  
**5:** New Legacy Society Members: Ryan Botner and Jack & Jan Fuller



## Wiebe named annual giving officer



Jeremy Wiebe '08 has been named assistant director of annual giving in the VCSU Foundation Office. He succeeds Alison Kasowski '06, who left the foundation in April 2014 to pursue other opportunities.

Wiebe had been serving VCSU as an admissions counselor in the Enrollment Services Office. He holds a bachelor's degree in exercise science and leisure studies from VCSU.

An all-conference baseball player for the Vikings in 2007 and 2008, Wiebe served as VCSU assistant softball and volleyball coach from 2009-11. He worked as an account representative for Ingstad Family Media in Valley City from 2011-13.

An avid golfer and a Valley City baseball umpire, Wiebe is married to Kara (Wendel) '08; the couple has a 2-year-old son, Gavin. ♦

# VIKING PRIDE DAY!



Join alumni, friends and students in showing your passion as a Valley City State Viking by wearing your Cardinal or Viking attire the **FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH** to show your support for your alma mater.

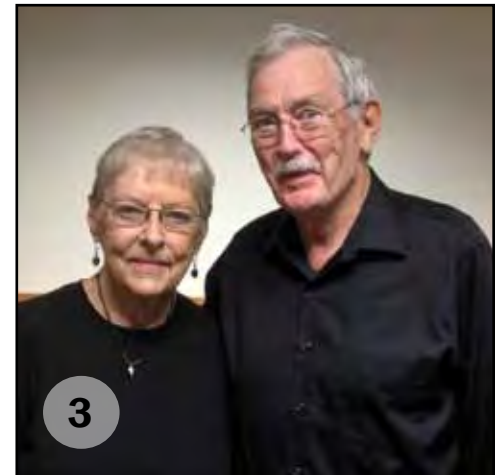
We ask that you wear VCSU Viking apparel to your place of work, at home and/or around town to help promote your school pride and to celebrate our great university on the first Friday of every month.

Email your pictures to [alumni@vcsu.edu](mailto:alumni@vcsu.edu), and we'll post the photos on our VCSU Alumni Association Facebook page and, of course, put your name in a drawing for VCSU gear. If you don't have any gear, go online to the VCSU Bookstore at

[bookstore.vcsu.edu](http://bookstore.vcsu.edu)  
[merchandise.aspx](http://merchandise.aspx)

## Retired faculty and staff gather in Student Center

A group of loyal faculty and staff retirees gathered in the Skoal Room of the Student Center July 10 for a chance to reminisce and hear about the current state of VCSU from Interim President Margaret Dahlberg. Among those in attendance at the event, hosted by the Alumni and Foundation Office, was Charles House, president emeritus, and his wife, June.



1. (front, l to r) Betty Gibbons, Margaret (Meys) Wieland '57, Lillian (Langemo) Jacobson '40, Margaret Dahlberg (interim president), Archie Moore, Carl Peter '60; (back) Charles House (president emeritus), Gordon Hoff, Sara Hagen, Connie Pederson '91, Larry Grooters '57, Bob Bruhschwein '57, Tim Schilling '70, Don Schaack, Richard Betting, Roger Rand, John Keller '55
2. President Emeritus Dr. Charles House with Interim President Dr. Margaret Dahlberg
3. June and Charles House
4. Math and Science Retirees: Bob Bruhschwein '57, Roger Rand, and Archie Moore





# VIKING SPORTS

## Fall Schedule 2014

Check out our website, [vcsuvikings.com](http://vcsuvikings.com), to view the latest schedules for all sports.

\*NSAA Conference Games, (HC) = Homecoming Week  
Home games in bold

### FOOTBALL

<b>Aug. 28</b> .....	<b>University of Jamestown</b> .....	<b>7 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 6</b> .....	<b>Morningside College</b> .....	<b>7 p.m.</b>
Sept. 13 .....	@ Dakota State University*	6 p.m.
Sept. 20 .....	@ Dickinson State University	3 p.m.
Sept. 27 .....	@ University of Jamestown*	1 p.m.
<b>Oct. 4</b> .....	<b>Waldorf College* (HC)</b> .....	<b>1 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 11</b> .....	<b>Mayville State University</b> .....	<b>1 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 18</b> .....	<b>Dickinson State University*</b> .....	<b>3 p.m.</b>
Nov. 1 .....	@ Mayville State University*	1 p.m.
Nov. 8 .....	@ Presentation College*	6 p.m.

### VOLLEYBALL

Aug. 22-23 .....	@ Morningside College Tourn., Sioux City, Iowa	
Aug. 22 .....	Morningside College .....	4 p.m.
Aug. 22 .....	Central Methodist .....	6 p.m.
Aug. 23 .....	Briar Cliff .....	10 a.m.
Aug. 23 .....	Evangelical .....	2 p.m.
Aug. 29-30 .....	@ Corn Palace Classic, Mitchell, S.D.	
Aug. 29 .....	Dakota State .....	1 p.m.
Aug. 29 .....	Johnson and Wales .....	5 p.m.
Aug. 30 .....	Dakota Wesleyan .....	12 p.m.
Aug. 30 .....	Dickinson State .....	4 p.m.
<b>Sept. 2</b> .....	<b>Concordia College</b> .....	<b>7 p.m.</b>
Sept. 5-6 .....	@ Viterbo University Tourn., LaCrosse, Wis.	
Sept. 5 .....	Haskell .....	1 p.m.
Sept. 5 .....	Dakota Wesleyan .....	5 p.m.
Sept. 6 .....	Viterbo .....	11 a.m.
Sept. 6 .....	Ashford .....	3 p.m.
Sept. 12-13 .....	@ College of St. Mary's Tourn., Omaha, Neb.	
Sept. 12 .....	Avila .....	9 a.m.
Sept. 12 .....	AIB .....	1 p.m.
Sept. 13 .....	Southwestern .....	9 a.m.
Sept. 13 .....	York .....	11 a.m.
Sept. 19 .....	@ University of Jamestown*	7 p.m.
Sept. 20 .....	@ Dickinson State Univ.* .....	2 p.m. MST
Sept. 23 .....	@ Mayville State Univ.* .....	7 p.m.
<b>Sept. 27</b> .....	<b>VCSU vs Waldorf</b> .....	<b>12 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 27</b> .....	<b>VCSU vs BSC</b> .....	<b>4 p.m.</b>
Sept. 30 .....	@ Concordia College .....	7 p.m.
<b>Oct. 3</b> .....	<b>Presentation College* (HC)</b> .....	<b>7 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 4</b> .....	<b>Dakota State Univ.* (HC)</b> .....	<b>5 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 10</b> .....	<b>University of Jamestown*</b> .....	<b>7 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 11</b> .....	<b>Dickinson State Univ.*</b> .....	<b>5 p.m.</b>
Oct. 14 .....	@ Bismarck State College .....	7 p.m.
Oct. 17-18 .....	@ Waldorf College Tourn., Forest City, Iowa	

Oct. 17 .....	Stephens College .....	4 p.m.
Oct. 17 .....	Mount Mercy .....	5:30 p.m.
Oct. 18 .....	Waldorf .....	9:30 a.m.
<b>Oct. 21</b> .....	<b>Mayville State University*</b> .....	<b>7 p.m.</b>
Oct. 31 .....	@ Presentation College*	7 p.m.
Nov. 1 .....	@ Dakota State University*	3 p.m.
Nov. 8 .....	NSAA Tournament .....	TBA
Nov. 12 .....	NSAA Tournament .....	TBA
Nov. 15 .....	NSAA Tournament .....	TBA

### CROSS COUNTRY

<b>Aug. 29</b> .....	<b>VCSU Invitational</b> .....	<b>Valley City</b>
Sept. 12 .....	Randy Smith Invitational .....	Moorhead, Minn.
Sept. 27 .....	Roy Griak Invite .....	Minneapolis, Minn.
Oct. 10 .....	Jimmie Invitational .....	Jamestown, N.D.
Oct. 24 .....	Mike Thorson Invitational .....	Bismarck, N.D.
Nov. 8 .....	NSAA/National Qualifier .....	Billings, Mont.
Nov. 22 .....	NAIA Championships .....	Lawrence, Kan.

### GOLF

Aug. 27 .....	Jimmie Fall Kick-Off .....	Jamestown, N.D.
Sept. 3 .....	Lake Region Invite .....	Devils Lake, N.D.
Sept. 7-8 .....	Mystic Open .....	Bismarck, N.D.
Sept. 12-13 .....	Corn Palace Invite .....	Mitchell, S.D.
Sept. 18 .....	Cougar Invite .....	Morris, Minn.
Sept. 21-22 .....	Jimmie Invitational .....	Jamestown, N.D.
Sept. 28-29 .....	Viking Invite .....	Carrington, N.D.



### Athletes of Year

Derek Elliott (Valley City, N.D.), left, and Brittany Lehner (Watertown, S.D.), right, were named the 2014 VCSU Male and Female Athletes of the Year during the annual Viking Awards Night on May 12. They are pictured with VCSU athletic director Jack Denholm. Elliott competed in football and baseball this past season and was named a first-team All-American as a running back. Lehner competed in both basketball and softball and was named an honorable mention All-American in basketball.

## 2014 Spring Sports Recaps

### BASEBALL

The 2014 Valley City State University baseball team posted the program's highest win total since 2007, finishing 19-29 this season.

Under head coach Casey Olney, the Vikings finished third in the North Star Athletic Association (NSAA) standings with a 6-8 record.

The Vikings hosted the year-end North Star/Frontier Conference tournament and entered the 6-team field as the No. 3 seed. VCSU won its opening round game in dramatic fashion vs. Dakota State—tying the game in the bottom of the 9th and then winning on a walk-off single by freshman Nate Bagby (Hemet, Calif.) in the bottom of the 11th. The Vikings dropped out of the tournament with losses in their next two games.



Brady Anderson

The 2014 season was marked by a stellar year from sophomore Brady Anderson. The Jamestown, N.D., native was named the NSAA Player of the Year and earned honorable mention on the NAIA All-America Team.

Anderson was also named all-conference as a utility player and was one of six Vikings to receive NSAA postseason honors.

Cole Honl (Moorhead, Minn.) was named all-conference as a designated hitter. Honl batted .339 this season with 18 extra-base hits and a .517 slugging percentage. He led the Vikings in runs scored (35), home runs (5) and RBIs (44).

Dan Buehner (Blaine, Minn.), who died in a rafting accident late in the season, was honored posthumously as an all-conference catcher for the Vikings. He batted .348 on the season with a .411 on-base percentage and a .470 slugging percentage.

Viking starting pitchers Corey Pudas (Menahga, Minn.) and Bryce Venaas (Fargo, N.D.) both earned honorable mention all-conference honors. Pudas posted a 6-2 record with a 4.11 ERA in his second season at VCSU. He worked 61 1/3 innings and pitched 3 complete games. Venaas led the Vikings with a 4.08 ERA. He posted a 3-5 record and pitched 68.1 innings with 2 complete games.

On the defensive side, Pudas was also named to the Gold Glove team as a pitcher, committing just one error all season. Viking senior Kayl Hamre (Leonard, N.D.) was also honored with a Gold Glove award in the outfield. Hamre had a .968 fielding percentage, with just two errors in 63 chances, and made a handful of spectacular catches in the outfield.



Cole Honl



Dan Buehner

### GOLF

The Valley City State men's and women's golf teams were able to play three spring meets this year, which was actually two more than last spring.

VCSU wrapped up the season with the North Star/Midlands Conference Championships in Ashland, Neb. The conference meet was shortened to just one day due to weather.

After a strong fall season, the Viking men were led in the spring by Ben Sorenson, who had two Top 15 finishes. Jake Richels also played well, recording a pair of Top 20 finishes. He was the top Viking at the conference meet, finishing tied for 20th.

As a team, VCSU's men shot a 337 during the opening round of the conference meet, but bounced back in the final round with a 317—their best round of the spring.

Ben Sorenson was named the VCSU Male Golfer of the Year.

Haley Christofferson was named the VCSU Female Golfer of the Year. She finished the spring with two Top 20 finishes, taking 12th during a meet in Jamestown and 18th at the conference meet.



Ben Sorenson



Haley Christofferson

### SOFTBALL

#### First conference championship since 1990!

The Valley City State University softball team ended a 23-year drought when it won the inaugural North Star Athletic Association conference title this spring.

It was the program's first conference championship since a string of five straight titles from 1986-90. The 2014 Vikings finished 22-21 overall but rolled through conference play with a 10-2 record to fend off University of Jamestown for the NSAA title.

For first-year head coach Elle Fracker and her team, doing something that hadn't been done since 1990 was definitely exciting.

"It's funny, because most of our players weren't even alive," said Fracker of the last conference championship. "So they're looking at that date as something that's historic almost. It's exciting—it takes years of hard work for them to get to this point. The team has worked hard, and they've definitely earned it."

After dropping their first two conference games to Jamestown, the Vikings reeled off 10 consecutive conference victories, including a road sweep of Jamestown. In that stretch, VCSU averaged almost 8 runs per game.

The Vikings entered the North Star/Frontier Conference Postseason Tournament as the No. 2 seed, but went 1-2 and were ousted early on day two of the 6-team, double-elimination tournament featuring teams from the NSAA and the Frontier Conference.

For leading the Vikings to the conference title, Fracker was named NSAA Coach of the Year. Senior Brittany Lehner was named the NSAA Player of the Year. A native of Watertown, S.D., Lehner played first base and designated player and led the Vikings with a .382 batting average. She knocked out six home runs and drove in 27 runs. She also had a .629 slugging percentage and a .409 on-base percentage.

Five Vikings, including Lehner, were voted to the all-conference team: Senior Liz Hall-Sewell (North Pole, Alaska) was named all-conference





Lindsey White

at third base after batting .371 with seven home runs and 25 RBIs. Sophomore Katie Cameron (Alameda, Saskatchewan) earned all-conference at second base; she hit .331 and scored 25 runs. Sophomore Cejay Hilhorst (Killarney, Manitoba) was named all-conference as a designated player. Hilhorst hit .259 for the Vikings, scored 17 runs, hit two home runs and drove in 18 RBIs. Viking junior Savannah McMillin (Roseville, Calif.) earned all-conference as an outfielder. She batted .324 and led the Vikings with 29 runs scored. She also hit two home runs and drove in 22 runs.

VCSU did not have a pitcher named all-conference, but used a rotation of steady arms throughout the season. Senior Samantha Nalley (Pocatello, Idaho), junior Lindsey White (Menahga, Minn.) and freshman Ashley Metcalf (Seneca, Ore.) all earned at least six wins and pitched at least 60 innings. Nalley emerged as the staff leader late in the season, pitching 106 innings and 11 complete games.

The defending-champion Vikings will return a solid core next season as they graduate just four seniors in Hall-Sewell, Lehner, Nalley and Stephanie Lahey (Calgary, Alberta).

## TRACK

The 2014 outdoor track and field season saw Valley City State University host its first college track meet in more than 10 years and one Viking qualify for the NAIA National Championships.

Sophomore Jessica Meland (Harvey, N.D.) qualified for the national championships in hammer throw with a school-record throw of 50.29 meters during the season. It shattered her old school record by more than 5 meters and ranked her No. 12 in the nation at the time. Meland placed 24th at the national competition with a throw of 45.33 meters.

On May 9, Valley City State hosted the North Star Athletic Association Invitational at Lokken Stadium. This was the first college track meet VCSU had hosted since the return of the program in 2010. The Vikings took full advantage of being at home. Meland won the women's hammer throw

**Continued on page 28...**

## Anderson enjoys breakout season

VCSU sophomore Brady Anderson earned honorable mention on the NAIA Baseball All-America Team after his strong 2014 season.

A catcher and infielder from Jamestown, N.D., Anderson was voted Player of the Year in the North Star Athletic Association (NSAA) after a breakout season. He batted .443 this spring with 38 RBIs, 23 extra-base hits and a .678 slugging percentage.

Anderson finished the season ranked Top 20 in the nation in six different batting categories. His .443 batting average ranked sixth in the nation, and he was third in hits per game (1.65), fifth in total bases per game (2.525) and fifth in triples per game. He was named the NAIA National Player of the Week on April 1 and was twice named the NSAA Player of the Week.

He is the first Viking baseball player to be named honorable mention All-American since Casey Huntsinger and Doug Lonski in 2005.

Brady's summer started with a bang as well after he signed to play summer baseball with the St. Joseph (Mo.) Mustangs in the MINK Collegiate Baseball League. The St. Joe coach, Matt Johnson '01, is a VCSU alumnus and played baseball for the Vikings when Brady's father, Cory Anderson '89, was coaching at VCSU. Years ago, Brady was even the ring bearer in Johnson's wedding. ♦



Brady Anderson

(continued on page 27)

**Spring Sports Recaps (cont'd.)**

and shot put, Jenna Coghlan (Valley City) won the women's javelin, and Wayne Engelhard (Valley City) took first in the men's 1,500-meter run. VCSU athletes also added three second-place finishes.

The University of Jamestown also used Lokken Stadium to host the Al Cassel Relays on April 26, due to resurfacing work on the Jamestown track. Again, Viking athletes enjoyed their home facilities en route to three first-place finishes and four second-place finishes. Malik Jackson (Las Vegas, Nev.) won the men's 1,500-meter run, Joshua Avila (Apple Valley, Calif.) won the men's 3,000-meter run and Jordan Aus (Valley City) took first in men's javelin.



Jessica Meland

VCSU competed in seven different outdoor meets, beginning April 5 at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Throughout the outdoor season Meland, Coghlan, Aus, Engelhard and Philip Reuer (Napoleon, N.D.) all won NSAA Athlete of the Week awards.

Middle-distance runner Malik Jackson was named the Men's Team MVP, and sprinter Niklas Ernst (Kronshagen, Germany) earned the Iron Viking Award.

For the Viking women, thrower Jessica Meland was named Team MVP and Jenna Coghlan, javelin, earned the Iron Viking Award.

Complete results from all meets can be viewed on the Viking Track and Field schedule/results webpage at [vcsuvikings.com](http://vcsuvikings.com). ♦



# INSIDE ATHLETICS

by Mark Potts, VCSU Sports Information Director

Exciting, busy and successful, the 2013-14 athletic season went by in a blur. Now that the last games have been played, it gives us a chance to relax and appreciate some of the big accomplishments this year. We saw the Viking football team win its third straight conference championship and 29th overall in program history. The Viking men's cross country team qualified for the NAIA National Championships for the first time since 1986. The Viking softball team won its first conference championship since 1990, and several athletes received national honors in their chosen sports.

Our new athletic conference, the North Star Athletic Association, began operations and completed the first year of competition with five schools: VCSU, University of Jamestown, Mayville State University, Dakota State University and Presentation College. For the 2014-15 season, Dickinson State University joins as the sixth full-time member and Waldorf College will join as a football-only member. More growth could be on the horizon as several schools are having discussions with the conference about joining in the near future.

The expansion of the North Star is just one of several exciting changes coming in 2014-15.

For my office, the most exciting change will be online, where we plan to unveil a new athletic website prior to the fall seasons. It's our hope that a stronger web presence will allow us to better promote our student-athletes and better inform and engage our fans and alumni. Prepare for a more modern look to our website, with more pictures, better information and a continuation of the commitment we've made to improve the sports information arm of VCSU athletics.

We're excited to welcome back head women's basketball coach Jill DeVries, who resumed her duties this spring after taking a year off from coaching. She was previously head coach at VCSU from 1999-2013, leading the Vikings to three straight NAIA national tournament appearances from 2011-13.

VCSU will also feature a new head volleyball coach this fall. Adam Longmore was named the 11th head volleyball coach in school history on March 28. He worked the previous six years as an assistant coach at Southern Utah University, an NCAA Division I school. He also worked as head coach for four seasons at William Woods University, an NAIA school.

Look for new editions of "Vikings Update" coming in August. Last fall, we launched the weekly video update series that features highlights, scores, news and interviews. Thank you to everyone who takes the time to watch. We produced 29 editions of "Vikings Update," receiving almost 7,000 views on our YouTube channel. We'll look to improve our work this season and hopefully attract more viewers to the weekly one-stop update on Viking athletics.



And finally, congratulations to our 2014 Hall of Fame inductees, who you can read more about in this section. They will be inducted at our annual Hall of Fame Banquet during Homecoming Week in October. When the new class is officially inducted, we will have 134 individuals and 51 teams in our Hall of Fame—a great representation of Viking history.

If you haven't already, I encourage you to browse our Hall of Fame online at [vikings.vcsu.edu/vp.htm?p=1847](http://vikings.vcsu.edu/vp.htm?p=1847).

*Go Vikings!*



# 2014 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



## Darrin Boehm (Track, Cross Country – 1985–89)

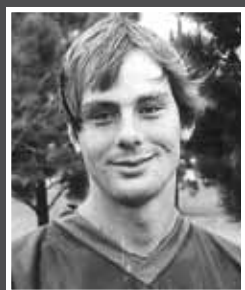
A native of Mandan, N.D., Darrin Boehm excelled in both cross country and track and field while at VCSU, lettering all four years in both sports.

Boehm's greatest success came on the cross country trails as he was a two-time conference champion (1987, 1988) and is the only four-time national qualifier in program history. Boehm qualified for the national championships as an individual in 1985, 1987 and 1988. He was also MVP of the 1986 team that qualified for nationals, winning the conference championship and the NAIA District 12 championship.

In his freshman season, Boehm was named Most Dedicated by the team and earned All District honors while qualifying for nationals. As a sophomore, Boehm picked up the first of his three Team MVP awards as he led the Vikings to the NAIA National Championships. He was named All Conference and All District along the way, and the team won the NDCAC championship and the NAIA District 12 championship.

In 1987, Boehm earned his first individual conference championship and took second at the District 12 meet. He was named Team MVP for the second year in a row. Boehm earned All Conference and All District, and placed 60th at the national meet as an individual qualifier. In 1988, his senior season, Boehm won his second straight conference championship and again placed second in NAIA District 12. As team captain and Team MVP, Boehm led the Vikings to second-place finishes at both the conference and District 12 meets.

On the track, Boehm was a four-year letter winner beginning in his freshman season of 1986. In 1987, he qualified for the national meet in steeplechase and placed 15th. During his junior season, Boehm was named Team MVP and also earned the NAIA Scholar-Athlete award. As a senior in 1989, Boehm led the Vikings as team captain. He also earned the team's Spirit Award and Hardest Worker Award. Boehm qualified for nationals in the 1,500-meter run as a senior and earned his second NAIA Scholar-Athlete honor.



## Pat O'Brien (Football – 1981–84)

A native of Baltimore, Md., Pat O'Brien made Valley City and the football field his home from 1981–84. A three-year letter winner and three-time conference champion from 1982–84, O'Brien had his best season as a senior on the defensive line.

He led the team with 132 total tackles in 1984, while also racking up three forced fumbles and two sacks. O'Brien was named Honorable Mention All American in 1984. He was also named All Conference and All District, and received the team awards of MVP and Top Defensive Player. The Vikings went 5-1 in conference play in 1984, winning the third of three straight NDCAC championships.

The Vikings posted a 17-9 overall record and a 15-3 mark in conference play from 1982–84. As a junior in 1983, O'Brien had 50 total tackles, two sacks and two fumble recoveries.



## Pat Horner (Football – 1982–85)

A hometown Hi-Liner from Valley City, Pat Horner excelled at the collegiate level as a Viking tight end.

Horner earned All Conference and All District honors in both 1984 and 1985, and was named Honorable Mention All American as a junior in 1984 after catching 22 passes for 346 yards and a touchdown. He was a four-year letter winner from 1982–85, and played a part in three straight conference championships from 1982–84.

Horner totaled 45 receptions for 691 yards and three touchdowns in his final two seasons. The Vikings went 22-13 overall during his career, and were nearly unbeatable in NDCAC play with an 18-5 conference record



## Doug Schindele (Football – 1982–85)

A fierce linebacker, Doug Schindele topped 100 total tackles in both his junior and senior seasons at VCSU and ended his career with 283 tackles.

A native of Stephen, Minn., Schindele was a four-year letter winner for the Vikings. During his time at VCSU, the Vikings went 22-13 overall and posted an 18-5 record in conference play—winning three straight conference titles from 1982–84.

As a senior in 1985, Schindele led the Vikings with 127 total tackles. He broke up six passes, forced two fumbles and tallied one sack. He was named Honorable Mention All American in 1985; he also received All Conference and All District honors. Schindele was a team captain in 1985 and earned the team awards of MVP and Top Defensive Player.

During his junior season, Schindele earned Honorable Mention All Conference after tallying 110 total tackles and one sack. He also had an interception, a forced fumble and two passes broken up. In 1983, his sophomore season, Schindele had 35 tackles and two interceptions and was named the team's Most Improved Player.



## Rod Skytland (Football – 1982–85)

A native of Carrington, N.D., Skytland played running back for the Vikings, racking up more than 1,000 career rushing yards, including 701 yards his senior season.

Skytland was the main offensive threat out of the backfield in his senior season of 1985. He carried the ball 130 times for 701 yards and two touchdowns. He also emerged as a receiving threat with 16 catches for 190 yards and a touchdown. Skytland was named Honorable Mention All American in 1985, along with being named All Conference and All District. He was also named the team's Top Offensive Player.

As a junior, Skytland had 46 carries for 251 yards and a touchdown. He was a four-year letter winner from 1982–85 and rushed for 1,047 yards from 1983–85. The Vikings went 22-13 overall and 18-5 in conference play during his career—winning three straight conference championships from 1982–84.

## FALL 2014 FINE ARTS

### Music

- Sept. 8 ..... James Adams, trombone, ..... 7:30pm  
and Nick Meyers, percussion, Froemke
- Sept. 27 ..... VCSU Music Hall of Fame Banquet, ..... 6pm  
Town & Country Club
- Oct. 10 ..... VCSU Choir and University Singers, ..... 12:15pm  
Vangstad
- Oct. 10–11 ..... Ployhar Festival, Vangstad
- Oct. 19 ..... Chiew-Hwa Poon, guest artist, ..... 3pm  
piano, Froemke
- Oct. 20 ..... Garage Bands, Vangstad ..... 7:30pm
- Oct. 25 ..... Concert Band/Jazz Ensemble, Vangstad ..... 3pm
- Oct. 27 ..... General Student Recital, Froemke ..... 7:30pm
- Nov. 1 ..... Piano Seminar (tentative), Froemke ..... TBA
- Nov. 10 ..... Jason Laczkoski, woodwinds, Froemke ..... 7:30pm
- Nov. 10–21 ..... Samantha Lokemoen, Art Show, VCSU Gallery
- Nov. 15 ..... Solo Song Symposium, Vangstad
- Nov. 17 ..... General Student Recital, Froemke ..... 7:30pm
- Dec. 4 ..... East Region Instrumental Contest
- Dec. 4 ..... Christmas at St. Catherine's ..... 7:30pm
- Dec. 6 ..... VC & Univ. of Jamestown Orchestras, ..... 3pm  
Valley Voices, Youth Choir, Nazarene Church
- Dec. 6 ..... Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, ..... 7:30pm  
Chamber Ensemble, Graichen
- Dec. 13 ..... CSA Recitals, Froemke ..... 2 & 4pm
- Dec. 15 ..... Garage Bands ..... 4pm

### Visual/Theatre Arts

- Aug. 25–Oct. 10 ..... Visiting Artist, Art Gallery
- Oct. 13–24 ..... Lisa Jensen, Art Show, VCSU Gallery
- Oct. 27–Nov. 7 ..... Drawing/Painting Show, VCSU Gallery
- Nov. 20–22 ..... I Never Saw Another Butterfly, Theatre 320
- Dec. 1–12 ..... Fall Semester Student Exhibition, VCSU Gallery

## Music Hall of Fame to honor Reed, Sommerfeld



John Reed

The Valley City State University Music Hall of Fame Recognition Banquet will be held Saturday, Sept. 27 at the Valley City Town & Country Club. This event will honor two outstanding VCSU alumni—Myron Sommerfeld and the late John Reed.

All VCSU alumni are invited to attend this special event, with a social hour beginning at 6 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. The evening will be filled with memories and stories celebrating the service of these distinguished individuals to VCSU and the music culture of North Dakota and beyond.

John Reed spent more than 25 years as choir director at VCSU. Prior to joining VCSU, he taught in California and North Dakota, including five years at Valley City Junior–Senior High School. While at VCSU, Reed taught voice and directed the Concert Choir and University Singers. He also served as director of the VCSU Christmas Madrigal Dinner Concerts, the 1986 “Christmas Masterpieces” productions of Bach’s *Magnificat* and the opera *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, and the 1987 VCSU Choral Union presentation



Myron Sommerfeld

of Handel’s *Messiah*. Reed frequently served as an adjudicator, clinician and massed choir director throughout North Dakota.

Myron Sommerfeld attended Valley City State College and graduated in 1962. He earned a Master’s degree in music education from the University of North Dakota in 1973. For over 25 years he taught music in North Dakota.

Sommerfeld has been in the music business for 58 years and is still performing with his band—Myron Sommerfeld and His Music. He writes and arranges every piece of music that his band performs. His many accomplishments include having his composition “Stepping Out” chosen as the theme song for National Ballroom Dance Week in 1992 and having his orchestra voted as “The Outstanding Band” by the National Ballroom & Entertainment Association. His band has had the privilege of playing for several governors and has toured extensively throughout the Midwest region and into Canada.

Alumni are encouraged to contact the Department of Music about the criteria for this award and to nominate candidates who meet the criteria for the 2016 Hall of Fame awards. For nomination forms or to make reservations (\$35.00 per person) for the 2014 Music Hall of Fame Banquet, contact Paula Larson in the music department office: paula.larson@vcsu.edu; (701) 845-7272. *Payment must be received no later than September 12; tickets will not be available at the door.* ♦





The VCSU Concert Choir and director Christopher Redfearn are pictured in the historic Church of St. Nicholas in Prague, site of their final performance on a 10-day tour of Europe.

## Concert Choir tours Europe

The Valley City State University Concert Choir traveled to Europe for a 10-day tour of Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic from May 22–June 1, 2014.

The choir performed five concerts on tour: at the Landesmusikschule Reutte on May 24, at St. Michael's Cathedral in Mondsee on May 25, at Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna on May 27, at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna on May 28 and at Old St. Nicholas Church in Prague on May 30. The performance program included sacred Renaissance works, American folk songs and hymns, and contemporary compositions. To prepare for the tour, members of the choir attended special weekly evening rehearsals in addition to their scheduled class rehearsals.

In addition to the performance schedule, the choir visited renowned musical and cultural sites, including Neuschwanstein Castle, Mozart's birthplace in Salzburg, St. Florian Abby, Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna and historic Prague.

Valley City State University's Concert Choir is directed by Christopher Redfearn, assistant professor and chair of the VCSU music department. "I could not have been more pleased with the choir's performance," said Redfearn. "To sing this music in the venues for which they were composed is an experience that these students will never forget. They worked hard for an entire school year to be ready for this tour, and the audiences were very appreciative."

The Concert Choir documented their European tour in real time online at [www.facebook.com/VCSUChoirTour2014](http://www.facebook.com/VCSUChoirTour2014). Visit the page to see photos and a video clip of their final performance at the Church of St. Nicholas in Prague. ♦

## Celebrate 125 years with a tintype fundraiser



Curtain Call on the Vangstad Stage (tintype by Kevin Klein, photographic artist)

by Jenni Lou Russi, director, VCSU Theatre

VCSU Theatre is celebrating 125 years of higher education in Valley City with tintypes featuring students on the historic Vangstad stage. The tintypes will be displayed in the Theatre 320 lobby during the university's anniversary year. Kevin Klein, a local alternative-process artist, created the tintypes on metal plates. VCSU Theatre is offering this unique opportunity to the entire VCSU community in Vangstad Audi-

torium during Homecoming 2014.

Popular during the American Civil War, tintypes were in common use through the beginning of the 20th century. These unique photographs have made a resurgence as novel artistic keepsakes.

"Kevin took tintypes of our Tintypes in Motion cast in 2010. We used two of them in our recent production of *The Glass Menagerie*, and I realized that tintypes would be the perfect way to celebrate our anniversary, instead of the 8x10s we usually display. After our second shoot with Kevin I thought that a fundraiser would be a fun way to celebrate with alumni, friends, and families during Homecoming. Our students enjoyed these shoots, and I'm sure it'll be fun for our VCSU Community," says Jenni Lou Russi, VCSU Director of Theatre.

Monika Browne, VCSU Theatre minor, was a singer/dancer/actress in *Tintypes in Motion* and played Amanda in *The Glass Menagerie*. "Participation in a tintype-making process gave me the knowledge and appreciation for photographs from the old days when a smile was rarely seen since the exposure time of any photograph was much longer than what we are used to currently," said Browne. Browne has two individual tintypes and is featured in two group tintypes from the shoots.

Though this opportunity will be especially appealing to alumni who have been in shows in Vangstad Auditorium, everyone is welcome to participate. Tintypes will be taken immediately following the Homecoming Parade on October 4 before the 2014 Homecoming football game. Basic costume pieces and accessories will be on hand for the shoot with individuals and groups. While groups—families, classes, clubs, and casts are welcome—can be shot, only one tintype can be processed for each exposure. Special discounts will be applied for groups that require more than one tintype, so each group member can have their own unique photograph.

For more information about the fundraiser, contact Jenni Lou Russi at [jennilou.russi@vcsu.edu](mailto:jennilou.russi@vcsu.edu) or call 701-845-7320. ♦



## Klingenstein named NDCA executive director, Redfearn succeeds her as music department head

Beth Klingenstein, VCSU professor and chair of the music department, has resigned to accept an appointment as executive director of the North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA) effective July 7, 2014.

The NDCA has an annual budget of about \$1 million, supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and an appropriation from the North Dakota State Legislature. More than 75 percent of the NDCA budget is awarded to organizations and individuals through its various grant programs. The NDCA partners with a variety of state agencies and nonprofit organizations in the presentation and support of arts-related programs throughout North Dakota.

Klingenstein served VCSU for 20 years. As the founding director of the VCSU Community School of the Arts, she initiated a number of community arts programs, including a community orchestra, an annual chamber music festival, a women's choir, a children's choir, art classes and a literary

magazine. She holds a Bachelor's degree in piano performance from Syracuse University, a Master's degree in piano performance from the University of Michigan, and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of North Dakota. Her husband, Kal, is a Valley City pharmacist; Kal and Beth have two adult children.

Klingenstein was nominated and recommended for VCSU emeritus status, which was conferred by President Shirley.

Christopher Redfearn, assistant professor of music, will succeed Klingenstein as chair of the VCSU Department of Music. Redfearn holds a Doctor of Arts degree from the University of Northern Colorado, a Master of Music degree from Michigan State University and a Bachelor of Music degree from Brigham Young University. He conducts the University Singers and teaches choral conducting, vocal methods and applied voice at VCSU. Redfearn previously taught high school vocal music for seven years in Idaho and Michigan. ♦



# Vikings on the Move

## 1940s

**Irene (Sad) Becker '43** and husband, Clarence, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary Jan. 12, 2014. Their son Brad lives in Indiana, Pa. They have three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

**Jeannette Ertelt '43** is "hanging on for dear life speeding toward her 90th year on this great planet." She is still happy in her apartment on the 26th floor in the middle of Manhattan overlooking the Empire State Building and New York City. In February, Jeanette had a joyous visit with her three sisters: Mary Ann (Ertelt) Stack from Valley City, Dorothy Stangler from Fargo and Joan (Ertelt) Olson '56 from Iowa. They saw Broadway's very successful show, "Motown," which had great dancing and music. She sends her love and says hello to all alumni.

## 1950s

**Mary (Schulz) Meras '53** and her husband, John, downsized four years ago. They were very actively involved in starting the only locally owned bank, Bank of Napa, in 2006. John is now director emeritus because of the age limits. The bank will celebrate seven years in August and has been ranked nationally as with a "Five Star Superior Rating." Mary says it has been a great experience.

**Nancy (Emery) Peterson '55** is one of several Emerys who have strong memories of Valley City State University. She and her husband, Boyd, have retired from careers in teaching and are now enjoying their homes near Seattle and Sequim, Wash. They have a strong appreciation for the senior center near their neighborhood. Nancy and Boyd's three sons and six grandchildren give them hope for the future!

**Tilford '59 and Mary (Christensen) Kroshus '59** are enjoying retirement. They have a beautiful lake home in Ottertail County. They are both very proud that they graduated from VCSU.



▲ **James "Jim" D. Kieley '59** and his wife, Mary, celebrated the 60th wedding anniversary May 29, 2014. They gathered with family members at their home in southwest Virginia over Memorial Day weekend to recognize the momentous occasion. Jim, a graduate of VCSC, North Dakota State and Virginia Tech, pursued a career as a school business administrator. He was certified as a Registered School Business Administrator with the International Association of School Business Officers. Jim completed 34 years as a school business official for public schools and universities; he also completed 36 years of qualified military service in the U.S. Army NSARNG and Army Reserve, retiring as a full colonel in 1989. Jim and Mary retired from employment in 1993 and currently reside in the mountains of southwest Virginia near the Blue Ridge Parkway. Their five surviving children, nine grandchildren and (currently) five great-grandchildren reside primarily in Virginia and surrounding states.

## 1960s

**Curtis Olson '62** made the best decision of his life following his graduation in 1958 from Lisbon High School—the decision to attend VCSTC. VCSTC was the right size and location for him. Upon marrying Lorna Gunderson (from Crosby, N.D.), they moved to Alaska. Curtis and Lorna are both retired and still live in Homer, Alaska, but spend three winter months in Rio Verde, Ariz.

**Gladwin Lynne '65** is totally retired and busy planning a VCSU reunion in northwest Minnesota for alumni from the mid-1960s. Gladwin is very active with Lions Club activities and volunteer work.

**Don Schuler '65** and his wife, Joy, are looking forward to their oldest granddaughter's (Courtney Halvorson '14) wedding in July. Joy is fully retired, and she and Don love spending time with their children and family members, including both of their mothers, who are well into their 90s.

**Larry Wicks '66** retired after 47 years in education, including 4 years teaching and 43-plus years as a staff member for National Education Association state affiliates. With the education association, he served 4 years as executive director in Wyoming, 20 years as executive director in Minnesota and 5 years

as executive director in Ohio. Larry and his wife are planning on spending time with their two children and five grandchildren in the Twin Cities area.

**Gary Zick '67** just retired in February after 42 years as an account rep for Cole Papers in Fargo, N.D. Gary taught for four years at Almont, Mich., and one year in Edgeley, N.D., before joining Cole Papers. He and his wife, Roberta, have lived in Grand Forks, N.D., for 42 years. They have two children, Tom (and wife Lindsey) and Mary (and husband Riley) Rogers.

**Diane (Miller) Kouba '68** and her husband, Larry, took a 16-day river cruise down the Rhine and Mosel rivers in 2013. They traveled through Germany, where their Miller and Hissen ancestors had lived. In February 2014, their grandsons Jack and Ben celebrated their eighth and fourth birthdays, respectively.

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

**Frederick '68 and Sheila (Holmgren) Snarr '69** are enjoying retirement. They love being around their kids and grandkids and watching them grow.

## 1970s

**Faye (Ross) Matson '71** retired from teaching in the Sauk Rapids-Rice (Minn.) School District June 1, 2012. She enjoys doing what she wants, when she wants.

**Diane (Kunze) Loberg '73** retired from West Fargo (N.D.) Public Schools in July 2013. She is able to spend more time with her family and granddaughter, and doing the hobbies she had put on hold.

**John Schmidt '73** retired from education in 2013 after serving for 38 years as a teacher, coach, athletic director and principal at various high schools and middle schools in North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota.

**Richard '71 and Carol (Hurley) Schmidt '74** report that Richard retired June 1, 2014, after 41 years of teaching at Glades Day School in Belle Glade, Fla. Over the years, he has received several academic and coaching awards (seven state championships and seven runner-ups in football and other district, regional and sectional championships in football and other sports).

**Shelley (Hanson) Williamson '75** recently observed her 35-year service anniversary with AT&T in Atlanta, Ga. She currently works as a tax accountant in the sales and use tax research and planning unit in AT&T's Atlanta tax office. In 1975,



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she graduated from VCSU with a B.S. in education and worked three years as an elementary educator before relocating to Georgia. Shelley is married to Jim Williamson, who is employed as a research technologist at Georgia Tech University Research Institute. Shelley says hello to her classmates from the Class of 1975!

**Janis (Paulson) Wallender '77** was retired for three months before returning to Beulah (N.D.) Public Schools to work as a part-time elementary counselor. She was thrilled to have the opportunity. Janis and her husband, Brent, have been blessed to spend time with their twin daughters and their oldest daughter this year. Daughter Kelcey visited from Alaska, where she works in parole and probation. Janis and Brent spent time in Washington and on the Oregon coast, where daughter Karlee lives and works in the banking industry. They proudly watched daughter Kylie cross the stage to receive her Master's Degree in school counseling. Both Janis and Kylie attended the North Dakota Counseling Association conference together as mother and daughter and also as equals in the counseling field. What an honor!

**Joan (Kapaun) Halland '77** is still teaching and coaching at Kindred (N.D.) Public School. Joan and her McCoy friends still get together for fun; last fall they had a mini-reunion. In February 2015, they and their husbands will be taking a trip to Las Vegas. Joan's husband, Steve, will retire soon, but Joan says she's not ready yet.

**Dave Katzenmeyer '78** says hello to all the former Vikings and alumni. Dave is still teaching in Apple Valley, Minn. He has been teaching for 35 years and is looking at a couple more years before retiring and becoming the permanent taxi for his two boys and their activities. Go Vikings!

## 1980s

**Lorrie (Kirsch) Milford '87** is happy to be retired.

**Mary Halvorson '89** is in her 25th year of teaching. She spent 12 years as a first grade teacher in Carrington, N.D., and 9 years teaching second grade at Jefferson Elementary School in Valley City. Currently, Mary is in her fourth year teaching second and third grade Title I at Jefferson. She spends her summer months working for Bank Forward in the crop insurance department.

**Lisa Udem** retired from the Air Force in 2013 after 22 years and 5 months of service. She has moved back to North Dakota and is glad to be back.

## 1990s

**Laurel (Howe) Neurauter '92** moved to Kathryn, N.D., in the summer of 2013 due to her home on College Street in Valley City being torn down to provide permanent flood protection from the Sheyenne River. Laurel is blessed with two daughters and a beautiful granddaughter named Hanna (after her grandmother's maiden name).

**Daryl Miller '92** and his wife, Melissa, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on June 5. They took a vacation to Montana as part of the celebration. Daryl is a customer service manager at Econofoods in Wahpeton, N.D., and Melissa is a home daycare provider. They have three children: Rebecca (33) and her children, Hannah (15) and Joseph (12); Matthew (27) and wife Paige; and Katelyn (21).

**Terra (Wagner) Engelhart '96** and her husband, James, continue to live on the family farm. The couple have three daughters, Tiffany (14), Allison (8) and Jillian (4). Terra is in her 18th year of teaching; she has enjoyed having daughter Allison in her second grade classroom this year.

**Marty '98 and Tressa (Braun) '99 Lanter** are both employed by the Wheaton (Minn.) School District. Marty completed his Minnesota K-12 principal licensure and recently accepted the position of middle school/high school principal in the Wheaton district, where he has been the instrumental music director and drama director for the past five years. Tressa teaches first grade at Pearson Elementary. They have two children, Braeden and Amanda.

**Throy '99 and Krisit (Turnquist) '00 Haadem** have three sons. John is 12 and in 7th grade; he likes basketball, football and track. Noah is 10 and in 4th grade; he likes basketball and wrestling. Brennen is 7 and in kindergarten; he likes everything his big brothers like. Throy is a paraprofessional at the Rolla (N.D.) School, where he works with a number of students in the special education area. Kristi also works in special education at Rolla, St. John, Rolette and Wolford schools. She also teaches pre-school at Rolla three days a week.

## Hughes '81 named coach of year in Maryland

**Pete Hughes '81** has been named the *Baltimore Sun's* Indoor Track Coach of the Year. Hughes led his Long Reach Lightning boys team to the Maryland Class 3A State Championship. It was the team's first state title in indoor track and Hughes's second state championship in 32 years of coaching.

Hughes starred as a football player at VCSU from 1977-80. A three-time all-conference and two-time all-district performer, he was named an honorable mention All American in 1980. Hughes was inducted into the VCSU Hall of Fame in 2003.

Hughes coached football at Finley (N.D.) High School following his college graduation and later moved back to his home state of Maryland. He was head coach of the Long Reach football team for 17 years before stepping down in 2012.

## 2000s

**Tanya (Hurlimann) Bennett '02** and her husband, Eric, got out of the restaurant business with Another Time to enjoy the sun in Florida. Both Eric and Tanya are working at Walt Disney World and loving it. Tanya missed working with exotic animals so she now works at Disney's Animal Kingdom and at the Seas with Nemo and Friends at Epcot.



▲ **Trista Williams '06** of Savannah, Ga., has worked with State Farm Insurance for more than four years. Her son turned three this past April, and they are members of the Savannah Christian Church. Trista continues to volunteer with the children's programs at the church as well as with local homeless camp cleanup projects. They visit North Dakota annually, and even though the weather tends to be nicer down south, Trista misses "home" and her family. She has not stopped painting and still does commission work from coast to coast.

## We would love to hear from you!

Contact the VCSU Alumni Office to submit your:

- ♦ *Vikings on the Move*
- ♦ *Weddings*
- ♦ *Lil' Vikings*

701-845-7203 ♦ 800-532-8641 x7203  
alumni@vcsu.edu



▲ **Jessica Trautman '09** & John O'Day, June 7, 2014



▲ **Sara Henderson '12** and Jeffrey Waldner were married June 14, 2014. They live in Huron, S.D.

▲ **Kayla Woodley '06 & Anthony Cross '09**, April 26, 2014

▲ **Stephani Steffen '13 & Dustin Krueger '11**, May 3, 2014

▲ **Tess Klemer '14 & Kaleb Dahl**, June 7, 2014



▲ **Elizabeth Davis '13** and Christopher Smith were married Dec. 21, 2013. The couple resides in Jamestown, N.D. Christopher works at the James River Correctional Center, and Elizabeth works for the U.S. Postal Service and serves in the North Dakota National Guard.

## 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).

### 1971

William Albert  
Phyllis (Hanson) Christianson  
Rita Goldade  
Ruth (Anderson) Goll  
Larry Hehr  
Laura Jacobson  
Kathryn Jones  
Astrid Mills  
Glende Olson  
M. Pederson  
Richard Pederson  
Albert Ruckaber  
Marland Sarles  
Ed Schliep  
Mari Shaw  
Jane Thoemke  
Linda Thompson  
Barbara (Bunney) Van Enk  
Glenn Van Enk  
Jane Vander Voste  
Barbara VanVugt  
Daniel Welander

### 1972

Kory Austin  
Linda (Evanson) Blasczyrk  
Doris Dahl  
Susan Ferguson  
Dennis Frisch  
James Friskop  
Phyllis Gaspers  
Muriel King  
Sandra Kutz  
Bill Martell  
Sandra Olson  
Marlys Palmer  
Larry Schaefer  
Marilyn (Sims) Sudbeck  
James Walsh  
Richard Wright

### 1973

Lane Bergman  
Debra (Scoular) Broome  
Rayanne (Doyle) Dahl  
Hidemasa Ioka  
Mark Syvertsen  
Victor Van Enk

### 1974

Robert Becker  
Diane Bevins  
Gail Bopp  
Mark Clark  
Colette (Kosse) Clouse  
David Hollen  
Maureen (Kennedy) Hollen  
Rachel Koehn  
Eileen Mack  
Gerald Nagel  
Rosemary Olson  
Phillip Schmidt  
Marcia (O'Brien) Weisser

### 1975

Donna (Dawes) Flemmer  
Larry Hanson  
Michael Hellman  
Edna Olson

### 1976

Cynthia Abraham  
Carlos Alvarez  
Helen (Feist) Gassmann  
Lynda (Carlson) Goggin  
Judith Kaiser  
David Lloyd  
Koreen Schlecht

John Thomas  
Adeline Thorne  
David Tischer  
Robert Young

### 1977

Connell Dillard  
Ralph Parenio  
Tatsuya Saji

### 1978

Cora (Weisz) Jepson  
Kathryn (Eddy) Roth  
Nancy (Bodiford) Smith

### 1979

Faye Anderson  
Frederick Kalbus  
Debbie (Erdmann) Smith  
Tom Stevenson

### 1980

Geraldine (Ruud) Ableidinger  
Leon Ableidinger  
Charles Gibson  
Jon Gilbertson  
Lois (Franklund) Hanson  
Anthony Huck





# 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).



**Avery Amelia Sczepanski**  
January 7, 2014  
9 pounds, 14 ounces  
Joins brother Jacob (2) Barrett '07 and Katie Sczepanski



**Emmitt Douglas Engen**  
March 4, 2014  
8 pounds 11 ounces, 22 inches  
Phil '99 and Kenzie Engen



**McKenna Fayth Blikre**  
February 10, 2014  
7 pounds 11 ounces, 19 1/4 inches  
Joins brother Kellen Andrew Ashleigh (Crockett) '07 and Jared Blikre



**Bo David Manz**  
March 15, 2014  
7 pounds 14 ounces, 21 inches  
Stephanie (Topp) Manz '06 and Joshua Manz



**Griffin Douglas Houdek**  
January 13, 2014  
9 pounds 14 ounces, 22 1/2 inches  
Heidi (Gienger) '07 and Matthew Houdek



**Olivia Joyce Tuhy**  
December 10, 2013  
7 pounds, 18 1/4 inches  
Dan '09 and Jessica '08 Tuhy Casey Burchill



**Camryn Grace Radermacher**  
November 11, 2013  
8 pounds 6 ounces, 21 inches  
Allison '12 and Troy Radermacher



**Kaesen Nicholas Maher**  
February 8, 2014  
8 pounds 9 ounces, 21 inches  
Jordan Maher '12 and Mandi Bindas '12



**Reagan Jo Burchill**  
October 11, 2013  
7 pounds 5 ounces, 21 inches  
Beth Jochim '14 and Preston Burchill



**Donovan Charles Hubbard**  
August 19, 2013  
7 pounds 4 1/2 ounces, 19 3/4 inches  
John '11 and Valerie Hubbard



**Kinsley Amelia Job**  
March 11, 2014  
5 pounds 6 ounces, 19 inches  
Joins brother Rhiley James Job '10 and Ashley Sevik



**Zoey Dawn Dale**  
September 13, 2013  
7 pounds 15 ounces, 20 1/2 inches  
Joins brother Ezra Dewayne '07 and Sarah '08 Dale



**Eva Marie Eberle**  
January 11, 2014  
7 pounds 14 ounces, 21 inches  
Joins brother Peter (3) Donny and Jen '07 Eberle



**Marit Egstad**  
March 6, 2014  
7 pounds 12 ounces, 20 1/2 inches  
Pete and Jenni (Crom) '07 Egstad

**In Remembrance**

- Ruth (Hempel) Shearer '36, Oakes, N.D.  
 Agnes (Moen) Christianson '40, Devils Lake, N.D.  
 Avis (Olson) Busche '41, Valley City  
 Florence (Engdahl) Oanes '41, Galesville, Wis.  
 Josephine (Rueckert) Koch '42, Valley City  
 Virginia (Mosher) Homan '43, Fargo, N.D.  
 Solveig (Granlund) Nelson '43, Valley City  
 Jennie (Jambert) Spiegelberg, '43, Billings, Mont.  
 Hazel (Ness) Holzwarth '44, Jamestown, N.D.  
 Olaf Aune '54, Valley City  
 Duane Engle '59, Fargo, N.D.  
 James F. Wieland '60, Dazey, N.D.  
 Thomas Haas '63, West Fargo, N.D.  
 Roger "Jake" Jacobsen '63, Dana Point, Calif.  
 Howard Dahlen '64, Detroit Lakes, Minn.  
 Rodney Burgad '71, Wishek, N.D.  
 Timothy Kaim '73, Watertown, S.D.  
 Lorna (Maack) Frantz '74, Fridley, Minn.  
 Marjorie (Hedblad) Christensen '80, Napoleon, N.D.  
 Perry R. Entzi '85, San Antonio, Texas  
 Douglas Martin '86, Valley City  
 Jill (Heise) Engler '88, Valley City  
 Dianna (Jund) Steele '94, Jamestown, N.D.  
 Sara Banyai '02, Cavalier, N.D.  
 Walt Bauer, Moorhead, Minn.  
 Stephen Burkhart, Dazey, N.D.  
 Marge (Crossman) Danner, Fremont, Neb.  
 Lester DeKrey, Bismarck, N.D.  
 Evelyn Hilden, Starkweather, N.D.  
 Marian (Huether) Gerntholz, Valley City  
 Norman Jewett, Valley City  
 Drew Kreidelcamp, Valley City  
 Donald Leetch, Sanatee, Calif.  
 Robert McKibben, Minneapolis, Minn.  
 Dr. Donald Meredith, Mankato, Minn.  
 Marcella "Sal" (Johnson) Metcalf, Valley City  
 Lois (Olson) Reidman, Fargo, N.D.  
 Allen Schlenker, Montpelier, N.D.  
 Delores (Sad) Tharaldson, Mesa, Ariz.  
 Frank Weis, Valley City
- FORMER FACULTY & STAFF**
- Don Mugan, Fargo, N.D.  
 Walter Holm, Valley City
- STUDENT**
- Dan Buehner, Blaine, Minn.

*In Memory of ...*

**Dan Buehner**

Dan Buehner, a VCSU senior, died April 22, 2014, following a rafting accident on the Sheyenne River in Valley City. A business administration major, Buehner was the starting catcher on the VCSU Viking baseball team.



The son of Dianne and Lynn Buehner of Blaine, Minn., Daniel Charles Buehner was born Jan. 28, 1991.

A 2009 graduate of Centennial High School in Circle Pines, Minn., Buehner was interested in cars and the guitar and played golf. He was also fond of his golden retriever, Riley (the Wonder Dog), who went to all of his baseball games in the summer.

Baseball was No. 1 in Buehner's life. At Centennial High, his team was coached by his father. In Dan's senior year, the team placed third in the state, and he was named all-conference.

Although his senior season at Valley City State was cut short by the accident that took his life, Buehner was named to the 2014 North Star Athletic Association all-conference team.

At VCSU's commencement ceremony May 17, 2014, Buehner was awarded a posthumous degree, which was accepted by his sister, Jessica.

He is survived by his parents, his sister, and his grandparents, Charles and Alleen Buehner.

Two scholarships, one at Valley City State and one at Centennial High in Circle Pines, are being established in Dan Buehner's name. Contributions may be sent to Wells Fargo Bank, 640 Apollo Drive, Lino Lakes, MN 55014.

**Don Mugan**

Donald Francis Mugan, age 68, of Fargo, N.D., died April 3, 2014, at his home, surrounded by his family, after a two-year battle with ALS.



Born in Emmetsburg, Iowa, Mugan attended Minnesota State University, Mankato, earning a bachelor's degree in industrial arts. After being drafted into the U.S. Army in 1968 and serving in Vietnam, Mugan married Patricia Zwiefel. The couple moved to Greeley, Colo., where Mugan earned master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Northern Colorado.

In 1973 Mugan accepted a teaching position in the industrial arts department at VCSU. He became chair of the science and technology department in 1990 and was a key player in the development of VCSU's online program.

A strong advocate of the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) disciplines, Mugan led efforts at VCSU to establish the Great Plains STEM Education Center in 2010; he was named its first director.

Health issues precipitated his retirement in June 2012 after 39 years as a teacher and administrator at VCSU.

Mugan is survived by his wife, Pat; four children: Bridget Nielsen, Christa Crane, Ryan Mugan and Alexander Mugan; four grandchildren; and a sister, Marilyn Holmes.

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## 20th annual Scholarship Auction celebrates 'VCSU Mardi Gras Style'

The 20th annual VCSU Scholarship Auction was held Friday, April 25, at the Valley City Eagles Club. This year's theme was "Mardi Gras." The Valley City Eagles was transformed as if you were in New Orleans for Mardi Gras, including jazz, balconies and beads! All attendees were encouraged to come dressed in keeping with the theme. Prizes were given for most creative individual, couple and group.

The evening started with a social hour and the silent auction, followed by a buffet dinner featuring Cajun-rubbed roast beef, coconut shrimp, rosemary baby red potatoes, Louisiana green beans, chicken/sausage jambalaya, dirty rice, red beans and dinner rolls.

"The scholarship auction is the single biggest event in terms of generating scholarship dollars that the VCSU Foundation office works on each year," said Kim Hesch, VCSU assistant director of advancement. Scholarships are vital to VCSU's success, and all proceeds from the auction go directly to V-500 and Century Club scholarships. The Scholarship Auction is a collaborative effort of the VCSU Booster Board and V-500 Board, with all proceeds from the event split 50/50.

All proceeds from the auction go directly to scholarships. Some of the items up for bid this year included a six-course authentic Italian dinner for

four, golf packages, Twins tickets, UND hockey tickets, a customized VCSU Vikings office chair, tools, car washes, an iPad Air, quilts and more.

"We had another record enrollment this spring. Scholarships are important for our continued success in building a strong enrollment," said Hesch. "The auction netted \$73,000 that will be split between V-500 and Century Club for scholarships."

Mark your calendars for the 21st Annual Scholarship Auction scheduled for Friday, April 24, 2015!

1. Mike Morehouse and Wade Hesch
2. VCSU students helping out at the auction included (front, l to r) Zach McBean, Emily Plowman and Aurissa Martens; (back) Shane Ost, Kelsey Hunter, George Trujillo and Wayne Engelhard '14.
3. Troy Orr of Orr Auctioneers get the auction kicked off.
4. Kim (Becker) '98 Jorissen and Kirk Olson
5. Live auction items ready for the auction
6. The VCSU Eagles is decorated, set up and ready. Let the fun begin!
7. Tyler and Angela VanBruggen
8. Robin and Rick Island
9. Chad '06 and Trish (Maus) Lueck '04, Heidi Larson and Jody Klier '97 viewing the silent auction items.





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