

THE BULLETIN

A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University



'I Am' photos focus on self-defined labels



VALLEY CITY
STATE UNIVERSITY

Commencement ♦ Distinguished Service Award ♦ Scholarship Auction



DEPARTMENTS

- 1 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
- 2 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CORNER
- 3 FOUNDATION CORNER
- 24 VIKING HIGHLIGHTS
- 34 VCSU CONNECTIONS

Welcome to the *Bulletin!*

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

Larry Robinson '71.....	701-845-7217
Executive Director of University Advancement	larry.robison@vcsu.edu
Kim Svenningsen-Hesch '91.....	701-845-7403
Assistant Director of University Advancement	kim.hesch@vcsu.edu
Jeremy Wiebe '08.....	701-845-7216
Assistant Director of Annual Giving	jeremy.wiebe@vcsu.edu
Loree Morehouse '89.....	701-845-7203
Data Processing and Research Coordinator	loree.morehouse@vcsu.edu
Greg Vanney.....	701-845-7227
Director of Marketing and Communications	greg.vanney@vcsu.edu
Nate Stewart.....	701-845-7160
Athletic Director	nathan.a.stewart@vcsu.edu
Mark Potts.....	701-845-7228
Sports Information Director	mark.m.potts@vcsu.edu
Tara Praska '05.....	701-845-7362
Graphic Designer	tara.praska@vcsu.edu
Toll Free.....	800-532-8641 ext. 7203
Alumni/Foundation Website.....	alumni.vcsu.edu

Cover Story



4

4 'I Am' exhibit displayed on campus

Far too often labels are applied to us. In the "I Am..." project, participants chose their own labels and were photographed to share their self-definitions with the world. The collection of photographs makes a powerful statement, reminding us to avoid stereotypes and empowering us to declare and be who we want to be.



20

6 Commencement Spring 2016

May 14 brought the VCSU community together to celebrate the university's 124th spring commencement exercises. The day of celebration was marked by a student reflection from Malik Jackson '16 and a faculty reflection by Luis da Vinha, with remarks also given by President Mason and Greg Stemen '88, State Board of Higher Education member.



22

12 Ribbon cut on Vangstad renovaton

Vangstad Auditorium was built in two stages in the 1900s. After 100-plus years, it was time for an upgrade facilitated by a \$3.45 million appropriation from the North Dakota Legislature in 2013. That upgrade was completed this spring, and on May 4, the Valley City State community celebrated the renovation.

20 Archuleta '92 heads North Dakota United

Nick Archuleta '92 leads a union of more than 11,000 North Dakota teachers, school staff and government employees. Learn more on the background of this Bismarck-based alumnus who advocates for public servants.

22 Mueller receives VCSU Distinguished Service Award

He's taught high school English, worked at VCSU and Eastern Montana College, farmed and served in the North Dakota Legislature, and through it all he's held his alma mater and the local community dear to his heart. In recognition of commitment to the university, the community and the state, Phil Mueller '68 was recognized with the Distinguished Service Award.

Cover photo: (l to r) Hilde van Gijssel and Richard Langdeaux

Photo credits: cover, pp. 4-5—Vincent Vallejo

p. 1—Wade Tufte

p. 32—Michael Bichler, Angela Martini



Distinctively VCSU!

President Tisa Mason, Ed.D., CAE

We are so proud of our students and pleased to share profiles of four recent graduates in this issue of The Bulletin. They represent our newest alumni as they graduate equipped with a VCSU degree and a powerful college-student experience. I am confident their futures are bright. You will also read about our highly successful student-athletes. These stories will bring a smile to your face, and I know your Viking pride will grow deeper in your heart.

I am particularly excited about sharing the “I Am....” campaign. College is designed to be a time of personal transformation—a time for our students to discover their talents and sharpen their sense of who they are and how they will contribute professionally and personally to a better world. That’s our mission—to prepare students “to succeed as educators, leaders, and engaged citizens in an increasingly complex and diverse society.”

We know as educators and leaders that intentionality is so important to achieving our goals. That is what I loved about the “I Am....” campaign. The photo shoot gave students a guided opportunity to reflect about who

That is what I loved about the “I Am....” campaign. The photo shoot gave students a guided opportunity to reflect about who they were and define that sense of self in one simple but deeply personal word.

they were and define that sense of self in one simple but deeply personal word. Throughout the photo shoot students engaged with a photographer who approached each photo with guidance but not direction. The students who participated will tell you that they felt inspired, confident, and uniquely themselves as they shared with the outside world their self-defined trait or value.

The “I Am....” campaign is a platform for participants to choose their identity instead of the labels that society or well-intentioned family and friends often impose on them. Similarly, the university has been deeply engaged in a parallel “We are...” campaign through a strategic enrollment planning process. As state resources—financial as well as human capital (students, faculty, and staff)—become increasingly limited, I believe our abundance and ability to achieve our mission will rely on a strong identity.

We can develop that identity by immersing ourselves in our history, current realities, and mission-driven vision for the future, and by focusing on our talents, a sharpened sense of who we are, and how we contribute to a better world.



Alumni Association Get-Togethers Fall 2016

You are invited to stop by, enjoy some complimentary appetizers, spend time reminiscing and catching up with other alumni and find out what is new at VCSU!

Please put these dates on your calendars, and if you are in the area, please join us (and bring other alumni with you). All socials are from 5:30–7:30 p.m.

A RSVP is requested. Please contact Kim Hesch at 800-532-8641 ext. 7403 or kim.hesch@vcsu.edu.

- September 20**VCSU Tuesday Social in Jamestown (Grizzly's)
- October 18**.....VCSU Tuesday Social in Grand Forks (Green Mill)
- November 15**.....VCSU Tuesday Social in Fargo (Green Mill)
- December 6**.....VCSU Tuesday Social in Bismarck (TBD)

Watch for more VCSU events on our Facebook page or at alumni.vcsu.edu.

leave a Legacy for V-500 at VCSU



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

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



Stay Connected with Your Alma Mater

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

It's an exciting time for the Valley City State University Alumni Association. We welcomed a new class of graduates this spring as part of our alumni and now have over 11,420 active alumni living in 13 different countries. And did you know that more than 57 percent of our alumni live in North Dakota?

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

Participate

During the year we offer many opportunities for our alumni to participate in activities we host. Our VCSU Tuesday socials offer chances for our alumni to connect with alumni in the area, reconnect with your alma mater and find out what is new at VCSU.

I encourage you to attend any alumni events in your area and to return to campus for Homecoming activities (see page 13).

For those of who live outside North Dakota and want to meet alumni in your area, considering hosting an event. Give us a call, and we'll help you work out the details and get you connected with other alumni in your region.

Refer a Student

As a former Viking, you know firsthand what it was like to be a Valley City State University student. The benefits of attending a smaller college where you knew your professors (often they were even your advisors), could participate in numerous activities, and were known as an individual, not a number, hopefully left a lasting impression on you.

We are now asking you to help share that experience with others. Do you know of a high school junior

or senior who you think should consider becoming a Viking? If so, we would love to hear about them.

It is impossible for us to know the names of every high school student so we have to rely on direct mail, college fairs and ACT name acquisition to identify potential future students. However, we feel the best way to get in touch with a student is to hear about them from others. We still believe in recruiting students the old fashioned way—with personal attention, care, and concern for them as individuals.

Give our Enrollment Services office a call at 1-800-532-8641, ext. 37191.

Update Your Information

This won't take you long and will ensure you receive critical VCSU communications, like the alumni magazine, *The Bulletin*, and invitations to alumni events. To keep your contact information up to date, you can reach us at:

800-532-8641, ext. 37403 (toll-free phone)
701-845-7403 (phone)
701-845-7464 (fax)
alumni@vcsu.edu (email)
alumni.vcsu.edu (website)

Alumni and Foundation Office
Valley City State University
101 College St SW
Valley City ND 58072

Thank you in advance for staying engaged with VCSU. Please feel free to contact the Alumni and Foundation Office with any comments, suggestions or questions. We look forward to seeing from you soon! Go Vikings!

2015–16 VCSU Alumni Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Greta (Trader) Delparte '06

FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE

Dave Bass '77

VICE PRESIDENT

Jim Vandrovce '74

PAST PRESIDENT

Josh Argall '99

BOARD MEMBERS

Deb (Gruman) Burchill '98

Mary Halvorson '89

Maryellen (Vandrovce) Homan '74

Paul Keidel '86

Stacy Wendel-Monilaws '02

Ashley (Smette) Krinke '09

Stephanie (Trautman) Roelfsema '07

Tristan Ross '08

Sheri (Sweree) Wetch '98

CHAIR

Mary Simonson

VICE CHAIR

Matt Pedersen

TREASURER

Jeff Nathan

SECRETARY

Dave Bass '77

BOARD MEMBERS

Ken Astrup '73

Bob Bergan '82

Ryan Botner '05

DuWayne Bott '58

Ray Braun

Mark Finstad

George Gaukler '62

2015–16 Foundation Board of Directors

Dick Gulmon

Gigi Goven

Robert Horne '59

Dee Jensen '66

Tisa Mason

Phillip Mueller '68

Mark Richman '74

Harvey Schilling '61

Gene Smestad

Delton Steele '80

Jan Stowman

Jerry A. Topp '74

Erin Welken

Larry Robinson '71,

ex officio

Wesley Wintch, ex officio



Gone, But Not Forgotten

Larry Robinson '71, Executive Director of University Advancement

It is a natural desire for us to want our lives to count long after we are gone. We hope that our values and influence will not evaporate into thin air at the time of our passing. That is precisely one of the reasons why parents and grandparents seek to instill their values in the younger generation—so that their influence will stretch into the future to help shape the world of tomorrow.

The Valley City State University Foundation is preparing for the future because we expect to be around for years and years to come. We want to continue to do what we are doing, perpetuating the same values you now know and expect from this university.

That is why so many of our alumni and friends have established endowment funds with the VCSU Foundation. They want their names and some of their resources attached to an organization that will communicate their values to future generations of students. Your own named endowment fund will be here long after you are gone and will ensure that you will not be forgotten.

Endowment funds are commonly established to support a scholarship program here at the university. You can create a fund now with a modest investment and add to it with an estate gift, or make the necessary arrangements to establish such a fund in your will. The fund can be named after yourself, your family, or a loved one. Others choose to add to an existing fund. There are many possibilities.

The Valley City State University Foundation is preparing for the future because we expect to be around for years and years to come. We want to continue to do what we are doing, perpetuating the same values you now know and expect from this university.

There is no better time than now to create an endowment or to add to an existing endowment fund. The North Dakota legislature has created the North Dakota Challenge Grant Fund. For a limited time only, your contribution to an endowment fund with the VCSU Foundation will be

matched on a one-to-two basis. North Dakota Challenge Grant Fund matching funds are subject to availability.

For further information on this exciting program, contact the VCSU Foundation at 701-845-7203 or visit us on the web at alumni.vcsu.edu. Hurry, because time is running out.

Continue the Viking Family Tradition!

Valley City State University will award a \$1,000 Alumni Scholarship to each of five freshman students attending VCSU for continuing the Viking Family Tradition!

Pictured are the 2016-17 Legacy Scholarship recipients.

For information on the Alumni Scholarship application, contact Enrollment Services at 701.845.7101 or refer a student at alumni.vcsu.edu/tradition.



(l to r) Bradyn Sand, Dalton Ondracek, Patrick McCarthy and Jessica Ronning
(not pictured: Tyler Clark)

I AM...



(top to bottom) Tiffannie Justesen, Tonya Van Dyke, Shannon Opdahl



“I Am” exhibit displayed on campus

“I Am...,” a series of photographs of VCSU students, faculty and staff, made their debut on campus on May 11, 2016, in the Art Gallery on the third floor of McCarthy Hall. The exhibit was well received, and a portion of it was chosen to become a permanent display in the Student Center Skoal Room in early June.

The “I Am...” project was brought to VCSU by Nadja Johnson, then director of diversity and student success on campus (now assistant dean of students at Clark University in Worcester, Mass.). Amy Fuglestad, who served as coordinator of diversity and retention services after Johnson’s departure, carried the project forward to the exhibit stage, with help from VCSU graphic designer Tara Praska.

“I wanted to do something that would get students thinking reflectively about how important it is that we don’t simply subscribe to the labels others put on us,” said Johnson, “but that we have an opportunity to tell others who we are, what is important to us, and how we define ourselves.”

Developed by Paper Napkin Marketing in Los Angeles, Calif., the “I Am...” project “hopes to encourage conversations around what diversity really means, who defines it, and what we can do to broaden the acceptance among family, friends, and the community.”

Johnson heard of the project from a colleague who had used it at Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Moorhead, Minn., and made arrangements to bring photographer Vincent Vallejo of Paper Napkin to campus in September 2015.

More than 50 students, faculty and staff chose their own word labels and queued up to pose for Vallejo. “What a better way to start reflecting on who we are than with a photograph,” said Johnson.



Madelyn Zane '16



Barbra Babler



Donovan Williams



Albert Schultz



Amy Fuglestad



Nadja Johnson and Jenna Kolosky



Abbigail Hesse



Alyshia Kom



Nya Chakin



Mikel Hastings



Taylor Puno



Heather Gensler

Commencement Spring 2016

A total of 288 students—242 undergraduates and 46 graduate students—were eligible to participate in the 124th VCSU spring commencement exercises held May 14, 2016, in W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse.

Speakers at the ceremony included VCSU President Tisa Mason; alumnus Greg Stemen '88, a member of the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education (SBHE); graduating senior Malik Jackson of Las Vegas, Nev.; and Luis da Vinha, assistant professor of social science.

President Mason told the graduates that she and her colleagues at VCSU were “proud of you and your many accomplishments,” encouraging the members of the Class of 2016 to keep the university informed of their postgraduate activities as well and noting that commencement day was “the beginning of a lifetime association with your university.”

SBHE member Stemen emphasized that “the board’s focus is on you, our students, our graduates,” and he encouraged them “to be willing to give back.” Among his advice was “Please don’t let adversity catch you off guard...but please know you’re prepared to handle it.”

In his student reflection, Jackson thanked family members who had traveled to the ceremony and recognized his “family” in Valley City for helping him and his fellow graduates succeed, acknowledging that “without your support...it would be much more difficult.”

Da Vinha, the 2016 Student Senate Teacher of the Year, encouraged the graduates to accept the uncertainty of their new situations—“It’s okay; it’s perfectly fine...to not know what to do,” and he advised that it’s “when we acknowledge that we don’t know everything...that allows us to build and grow.”

The ceremony also recognized the green-robed Dakota College of Bottineau nursing graduates, who do their course work on the VCSU campus.



2016 Graduate Profiles

Tarah Cleveland



Tarah Cleveland's résumé is chock-full of VCSU activities and achievements. The talented young woman from Menahga, Minn., accomplished much in her time in Valley City, but what sets her apart from other outstanding students is that she did it all in three years.

That résumé of hers includes playing on the Viking basketball team for part of her VCSU career and receiving the Viking Pilot award in 2016. She also served as a Learning to Live mentor, a New Student Orientation leader, a writing tutor, an RA (Kolstoe this past year, Snoey the previous), a Viking Ambassador, and Student Senator. She was also voted Homecoming Queen in 2015.

In addition, Tarah was a SOAR (Student Opportunities for Academic Research) scholar, doing research under the mentorship of Razib Iqbal on a project titled "Investigating a New Approach to Web Visitor Engagement Measurement." She parlayed that project into a highly successful poster presentation, earning top honors in the VCSU Student Scholar Symposium in 2015, winning both best in show and viewers' choice. (She also earned honorable mention at the 2016 symposium.)

Two summer internships in Fargo helped prepare her for the "real

world." In 2014, Tarah participated in the Student Experience Program at Microsoft, researching software personas among other activities. In summer 2015, she worked at Appareo Systems, building software applications and writing integration testing plans.

Senior year saw her working on another real-world project, developing a community resources website for the Valley City-Barnes County Development Group as her capstone project in the Computer Systems and Software Engineering (CSSE) Department. Tarah worked with fellow CSSE students Baylee Swenson and Brandon Wiggert on the project, and Sue Pfeifer of the CSSE faculty served as advisor. (The site can be found at valleycitynd.org/community-resources.)

It's no wonder Tarah received the Outstanding Software Engineering Student Award from the CSSE Department—she graduated *summa cum laude* in software engineering with a concentration in enterprise systems, a minor in computer science, and a certificate in enterprise applications.

Tarah is quick to give credit to others at VCSU for their contributions to her success. Among those she holds dear are Marcia Foss (former career services director), Stephanie Roelfsema (residence life director), Erin Klingenberg (counseling director), Kari Stricklin (student activities director), and Sue Pfeifer, Tarah's mentor and academic advisor in the CSSE Department.

But it's not just that quintet of women Tarah credits; she recognizes VCSU people in general for being friendly and helpful. "They genuinely care about you," she says. "You'll not be treated better anywhere else."

A gifted, hard-working student, it's no doubt Tarah is on target for a successful career post-VCSU; in fact, Target Corp. in the Twin Cities offered her a software engineering position prior to the start of her third and final year in Valley City. She accepted the position in September 2015, and she began her work there in late June 2016.

Cejay Hilhorst



Cejay Hilhorst was first told about Valley City State University by former Viking Jen Shadlock. It didn't take long to sell the Killarney, Manitoba, native on the idea of crossing the border and attending school at VCSU.

"From the day I toured VCSU, I fell in love," said Hilhorst. "From walking around campus seeing friendly faces, to the small-town atmosphere, I knew it was a place I was ready to call my home."

And call it home, she did. Hilhorst spent four years immersing herself at VCSU, getting involved in campus through softball, Viking Ambassadors, Pre-Professional Club, the

Learning Center and intramural sports, among other things.

At the end of her four years, Hilhorst had an impressive list of academic and athletic achievements to her name. On the softball field, she was honored as a three-time all-conference athlete, set a new school record for RBIs in a season (58) and played a major role in helping the 2016 squad set eight new team records—including a school-record 40 wins.

Hilhorst put together a tremendous senior season this spring, batting .463 with 44 runs, 17 doubles, 13 home runs and 58 RBIs. She was named to the NAIA All-American second team by the national office, becoming just the third Viking in program history to earn that honor.

In the classroom, Hilhorst's accolades were just as impressive. She was named a Daktronics NAIA Scholar-Athlete twice, made the President's List (4.0 GPA) three times, and graduated this spring with a bachelor's degree in exercise science, *magna cum laude*.

But even with all the honors and awards bestowed on her, the most memorable part of Hilhorst's four years at VCSU were the people.

"It's hard to leave because those friendly faces turned into my family, and that small community became a home to me," she said. "From faculty, to students, to people in the community, I made lifelong friends and experiences that I will never forget."

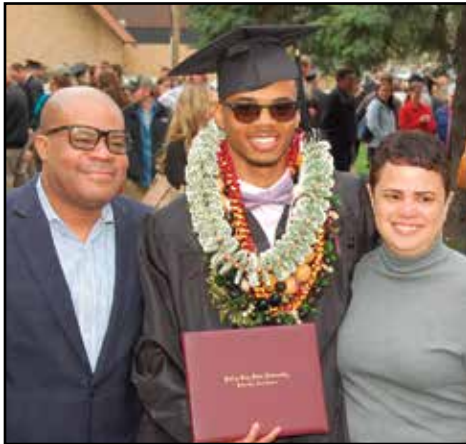
Hilhorst was a fixture at athletic events: cheering on many different Viking teams, working stats behind the scenes at basketball and volleyball games, and, of course, playing on the softball team. On campus, she used her knowledge to help other students at the Learning Center, and used her passion for VCSU to help prospective students as a Viking Ambassador.

"One of the best parts of VCSU was being known by your name and not just a student number," she said. "Wherever you were on campus, with whatever situation, someone was always willing to help, and that is something I will forever respect about VCSU."

With four memorable years at VCSU behind her, Hilhorst now has plans to pursue a master's degree in occupational therapy and to continue being involved with the sport she loves by giving back to the softball community in various ways.

And while she is no longer an "official" Viking Ambassador on campus, with Hilhorst, the VCSU community has graduated a lifetime ambassador. Her advice for high school students considering VCSU was simple: "It will be the best decision you ever make."

Malik Jackson



Malik Jackson came to Valley City State University sight unseen. For Malik, it was definitely culture shock to arrive in small-town Valley City after leaving his hometown of Las Vegas, Nev., but, as he put it in the student reflection he presented at Spring Commencement 2016, “It was exactly what I was looking for—something the complete opposite of where I was.”

A distance runner, Malik had been recruited to run cross country and track by Ken Frenette, then a coach at VCSU. An email from Frenette piqued his interest and led Malik to VCSU. “As time narrowed down to make my decision, I chose to commit in what I believed was the best opportunity for me,” says Malik. “It is a decision that changed my life, and one I will never regret.”

That life-changing education included a double major in psychology and human services, with a concentration in criminal justice, along with a minor in sociology. Malik also stuck with his commitment to the Viking athletic program, running cross country and track all four years, and enjoying considerable success in the middle distances (400, 600 and 800 meters) his senior year.

At the North Star Athletic Association (NSAA) indoor championships in Brookings, S.D., in February, Malik took all-conference honors in three events and set two VCSU records. He placed second in the 600-meter run, setting a new school record with a time of 1:22.53, and in a second-place finish with teammates Lenzel Koskela, Niklas Ernst and Oscar Suniga in the 4x400m relay, he helped shatter the school record with a time of 3:27.23. Malik also added a third-place finish in the 800-meter

run that day.

In the indoor Cobber Open at Concordia–Moorhead in early February, he took first in the 800 meters, and in April, he won the 800 at the Dickinson State Blue Hawk Games. In May, he won the 400 at the Masanz Invitational in Moorhead. He was named NSAA Track Athlete of the Week twice, and he was named the VCSU’s male Senior Athlete of the Year at the Viking Athletic Banquet in May.

Malik gave back to the university as well. He worked four years in Allen Memorial Library, doing special projects and creating marketing displays, among other work, and he served as a Viking Ambassador and New Student Orientation leader. Malik was also vice president of the local chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success and a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta honor society.

Apart from all that he did at VCSU, it was the supportive environment that Malik found here that shaped his experience in Valley City. He cites “the families and friends local to this area who have welcomed us into their homes with open arms...those close friends that make you feel like this is your second home.”

Malik credits his VCSU mentors Nadja Johnson (former diversity director) and Vitaliano Figueroa (former student affairs VP), and Emily Fenster (assistant professor of social science), along with his advisor, Katie Woehl, associate professor of psychology, for encouraging and nurturing him. Of Woehl, he says, “From the start, she’s always been there for me.”

In the long term, his plans are to attend graduate school, either to obtain a master’s degree in social work or pursue an advanced degree in clinical psychology. For now, Malik is staying close to Valley City, working as an activities assistant at North Dakota State Hospital in Jamestown.

He’ll continue to follow his own advice that he shared with his fellow members of the Class of 2016—“to take advantage of those opportunities that are presented to you throughout your life”—and he’ll continue to sing the praises of VCSU: “I am proud to say that here I received my education, here is where I ran, here is where I was presented with more opportunities than I can count, here is where I was able to be a difference maker, here is where I found the most support, here is where I made lifelong friends, here is where my second family is, and here is my home away from home.”

Kelsey Labodi



A native of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, Kelsey Labodi was participating in a recruiting camp in a small town in Saskatchewan when she was approached by the VCSU volleyball coach. She decided to give it a shot and flew down with her family to visit the university. Immediately she felt at home and fell in love with the campus itself. Looking back four years later, she still adores the welcome she received from the Enrollment Services Office. Being greeted with ‘Welcome, Kelsey!’ on an iPad has continued to be her strongest memory of the visit.

Once Kelsey moved into her dorm room, started her first collegiate volleyball season and got in the swing of things with classes, she was impressed and overwhelmed with how kind everyone at VCSU was. “It was a very welcoming atmosphere,” Kelsey remembers, “and I was really drawn to the small campus where you, as a student, are not just a number.”

Unfortunately, knee surgery cut Kelsey’s collegiate athletic career short. She played two seasons of Viking volleyball but remained close to the team through the friendships she’d built during that time. The memories of playing volleyball, especially home games, are among her favorites

when thinking back on her years at VCSU. “The atmosphere and support in Graichen Gym made it so easy to get fired up about the games,” she says.

Kelsey also enjoyed being a member of the Athletic Training Club, which she served as president. Her athletic training major and club involvement helped her bond with two faculty members—Rachelle Hunt and Sharon Bratrud—whom she credits with helping her through her college years. Of Rachelle Hunt, director of the athletic training program, Kelsey says, “She made it so easy to show up to class. She was always concerned about us as students, and she would do anything for us.” And of Sharon Bratrud, clinical coordinator of athletic training program, Kelsey says, “She is one of the most honest, tough, kind and caring individuals that I have known, and she is always willing to go above and beyond to help her students.”

Dave Bass is another person Kelsey truly appreciated while at VCSU. From athletics to academics, he maintained involvement and “always wanted the best for me, and was one of my biggest supporters through my undergrad years.” The people of VCSU are what drew Kelsey in and helped her thrive during her college experience; she’s glad she made the decision to hop the border and become a Viking!

Kelsey will continue her education at North Dakota State University, pursuing a master’s in athletic training. She looks forward to this next adventure but will always treasure the memories she made at VCSU.

Faculty/Staff Retirements

Amy Anderson



Alumna Amy (Grotberg) Anderson '74 has been a teacher just about all of her adult life.

After graduating from VCSU with a degree in elementary education, she spent 23 years teaching kindergarten, first and second grade in Valley City Public Schools between 1974–99. Amy then took a hiatus from teaching from 1999 to 2003, but that break involved more school—she earned a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Minnesota State University (2003) and also spent two years working alongside her husband, Bruce, in the family business, Hi-Line Electric.

In 2003, Amy began a new job “teaching the teachers” as a member of VCSU’s School of Education and Graduate Studies (SEGS) faculty. That second career came to an end this spring when she retired from VCSU.

Amy says she is enjoying retirement; she spends much of her time with family and friends. Bruce works part-time now, so the couple is able to enjoy each other’s company and pursue activities with their lifelong friends in Valley City and their three adult children and their families. (Bruce and Amy’s daughter, Tracey Zaun, is an adjunct at VCSU for SEGS.) The couple has seven grandchildren who all live within a 60-mile radius of Valley, with five of them right in town; those kids keep their grandmother busy!

When she isn’t helping with grandchildren, Amy enjoys gardening and quilting; she also has a part-time music gig as an organist at Trinity Lutheran Church in Valley City. (Amy credits her church connections with friends Larry Grooters and Vern Almlie, VCSU professors in education and psychology, in helping her land her position on the university faculty in 2003 after completing her graduate degree.)

Amy is a member of the North Dakota Association of Teacher Educators, the Prairie Reading Council, and the North Dakota Education Association. She represented SEGS—VCSU’s School of Education and Graduate Studies—on the Valley City Public Schools Curriculum Council from 2004–06 and on the Library Committee from 2005–11. Amy also served as advisor to the Student North Dakota Education Association from 2006–09 and as VCSU’s representative on the North Dakota Higher Education Early Childhood Consortium from 2006–10. In addition to her bachelor’s and master’s degree in education, she earned 25 credits in a North Dakota State University doctoral program in occupational and adult education. She received the Certificate of Merit Award from the VCSU Alumni Association in October 1999.

Amy misses her many dear friends on campus; she says that’s the toughest part of her retirement. “They bring such passion to their work,” she says. “I miss those conversations.”

She is missed on campus, too; her friend and teaching colleague at VCSU, Laurel (Ploium) Westby '84, says, “I’ll miss her wonderful laugh. And she was the very best at reading a story aloud!”

Kristi Anderson



Kristi Anderson worked in VCSU’s Allen Memorial Library as library assistant for a few months’ shy of four years before retiring in May 2016.

Kristi, who holds a bachelor’s degree in education, was a retired high school educator when she began her career at VCSU. She enjoyed her work, especially helping students.

According to Donna James, library director, “Kristi was a very positive person who always brought a smile to work.”

**THE IRA
CHARITABLE
ROLLOVER IS
PERMANENT!**



**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN EASY WAY
TO HELP THE CAUSES YOU CARE THE
MOST ABOUT?**

Congress has extended the IRA charitable rollover and made it permanent. With the IRA charitable rollover, you can make a gift from your IRA account to help support the work of our organization and benefit. Gifts made from your IRA (up to \$100,000 per year) are not reportable as taxable income. They also qualify for your required minimum distribution (RMD) which can lower your income and taxes.

To learn more about the benefits of making an IRA charitable rollover gift, please contact us at:

(701) 845-7203 or alumni@vcsu.edu

2016 Employee Recognition Dinner

The annual Employee Recognition Dinner was held May 12 in the Student Center cafeteria. John O'Day, assistant football coach and head resident, served as emcee. A host of individuals were recognized, including those listed below.

Years of Service

FIVE YEARS

Tomina Andel
J. Gregory Brister
Enkhtuya Dutton
Kayla Evenson
Janet Gierke
Richard Gruman
Jay Komrosky
Elizabeth Maher
Jessica O'Day*
John O'Day
Kaleen Peterson
Susan Pommerer
Harmony Richman
Jennifer Richman
Robert Rohla
Betty Tykwinski
Casey Williams
Brooke Yanish

TEN YEARS

Mike Rasmussen
Tyler Tufte

FIFTEEN YEARS

Fred Charnetzki
Pat Horner
Steven King
Lee Kruger
Loren Lemer
Trisha McElroy
Dennis Triebold

TWENTY YEARS

Margaret Dahlberg
Andre DeLorme
Kim Hesch
Mike Nix

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

Drew Storbeck

THIRTY YEARS

Joe Tykwinski

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS

Dave Bass
Diane Burr
Gilbert Kuipers

FORTY-FIVE YEARS

Betty Schumacher

Student Senate Awards

STUDENT ADVOCATE 2016

Kari Bodine, administrative assistant,
Student Affairs
Pat Johnson, Sodexo barista
Facilities Snow Removal Crew

TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2016

Dr. Luis daVinha, assistant professor,
Department of Social Science

Staff Senate Awards

"THE DIFFERENCE IS ME" AWARDEES

Jody Henjum, administrative assistant, Academic Affairs
Diane Olson, building services staff
Joseph Munowenyu, computer programmer
Tara Praska, FMC director/graphic designer

"THE DIFFERENCE MAKER" AWARD

Kari Bodine, administrative assistant (March)
Jody Henjum, administrative assistant (April)
Heidi Lindemann, administrative assistant (April)
Mark Potts, sports information director (January)
Scott Westby, enrollment services (February)

VCSU STAFF EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER AWARDEES

Deb Feuerherm, administrative assistant,
Athletics Department
Erica Buchholz, controller
Kaleen Peterson, admissions counselor
Enkhtuya Dutton, electronic resources librarian

Completion of Degrees and Professional Certification

LaDonna Anderson, administrative assistant,
Business Department
Kayla Evenson, housing assistant/head resident
Jennifer Larson, director, Human Resources

Retiring Department Chair

Brenda Finger, Department of Business
Lee Kruger, Department of Language and Literature

Retirements (see p. 9)

Amy Anderson, instructor, School of Education
and Graduate Studies (May 2016)
Kristi Anderson, library assistant (May 2016)

Faculty Awarded Promotion for 2016-17 Academic Year

(listed with new title)

James Adams, associate professor,
Department of Music*
Anthony Dutton, associate professor,
Department of Social Science
Peder Gjovik, associate professor,
Department of Technology; co-director,
Don Muga CTE Leadership Center
Sheri Okland, associate professor,
School of Education and Graduate Studies
Jamie Paurus, assistant professor, Department
of Computer Systems and Software Engineering
Jodi Shorma, assistant professor,
Department of Language and Literature
Kathryn Woehl, associate professor,
Department of Social Science

Faculty Awarded Tenure for 2016-17 Academic Year

Sarah Milner, Department of Kinesiology and
Human Performance (formerly Department
of Health and Physical Education)
Sheri Okland, School of Education and Graduate Studies
Jodi Shorma, Department of Language and Literature
Kathryn Woehl, Department of Social Science

Faculty Excellence Awards 2016

ADJUNCT/SPECIAL APPOINTMENT

Lee Grossman, Department of Social Science

JUNIOR FACULTY MEMBER

Kathryn Woehl, Department of Social Science

SENIOR FACULTY MEMBER

Andre DeLorme, Department of Science, Prairie Waters
Education and Research Center

* has since departed from VCSU



5 Years



Difference Maker/Difference is Me Awards



10, 15, 20 Years



Employee of the Quarter



Faculty Excellence



30, 35, 45 Years



Faculty Awarded Promotion



Student Advocates



Teacher of the Year



Faculty Awarded Tenure

Ribbon cut on Vangstad Auditorium

Valley City State University held a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house for its newly renovated Vangstad Auditorium building on Wednesday afternoon, May 4.

The ceremony included remarks from VCSU President Tisa Mason and Richard Rothaus, vice chancellor for academic and student affairs for the North Dakota University System, along with VCSU student leader Madelyn Zane.

The open house included tours of the offices, classrooms and study spaces used by the VCSU Department of Business, the Learning Center, and Student Academic Services, along with the building's signature auditorium.

The university's Quantum Brass ensemble performed at the ribbon-cutting ceremony, and VCSU actors presented a staged reading of a scene from "The Twins"—a play about the building's namesakes, twins Lena and Thilda Vangstad—written by playwright Tom Dunn, great-nephew of the twins.

Lena Vangstad taught education at VCSU from 1937–71; Thilda was principal of College High from 1945–65 and then taught social science until 1971.

The Auditorium was built in two phases, starting in 1907 and ending in 1909. In 1971, the year the Vangstad twins retired, the auditorium space within the building was named Vangstad Auditorium in their honor, and although originally the Vangstad name applied only to the auditorium space, that distinction has disappeared over time.

During the 2013 North Dakota legislative session, VCSU received an appropriation of \$3.45 million for the Vangstad renovation.

The project included a refresh of the auditorium; installation of a new heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system for the lower levels of the building; and renovation of the lower floors with new classrooms and offices for the Department of Business and updated facilities for the Learning Center and Student Academic Services.

The building's main north entrance was also reworked to provide a more attractive and functional entryway.



(clockwise from top) 1. The ribbon-cutting group on stage included Wesley Wintch, Brenda Finger, Tisa Mason, Ellen Chaffee, Larry Robinson, Jodi Shorma, Richard Rothaus and John Andrick. 2. VCSU actors led by theatre director Jenni Lou Russi presented a staged reading of a scene from a play about Lena and Thilda Vangstad. 3. The renovated Vangstad Auditorium includes a reworked front entrance. 4. Presidents Mason and Chaffee visit with NDUS vice chancellor Richard Rothaus.



VALLEY CITY
STATE UNIVERSITY

Valley City State University

HOMECOMING 2016

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Ice Cream Social	2:00–3:00 p.m.	McFarland Hall 205
Campus Tours	2:30 p.m.	McFarland Hall 205
Meet and Greet Viking Hall of Fame Social	5:00 p.m.	Student Center Skoal Room
<i>Alumni and Friends are invited to stop by the Student Center Skoal Room and socialize with the Hall of Fame inductees.</i>		
Viking Hall of Fame Banquet	6:00 p.m.	Student Center Cafeteria
VCSU Volleyball vs. Bellevue University	7:00 p.m.	Graichen Gym
VCSU Alumni Reunion Social	8:00 p.m.	The Labor Club 184 2nd St. NE

We welcome back all our alumni to help us celebrate Homecoming 2016. It's the perfect time to reconnect with the University, catch up with old friends, and get Homecoming started off right! Music will be provided.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Alumni Honors Breakfast	8:30 a.m.	Student Center Cafeteria
<i>The Alumni Honors breakfast provides the VCSU Alumni Association with an opportunity to present the Distinguished Alumnus, Alumni Service, Young Alumni Achievement and Certificate of Merit Awards. Tickets are \$10 each.</i>		
VCSU Baseball Alumni Game	10:00 a.m.	Charlie Brown Field
VCSU Softball Alumni Game	10:00 a.m.	College Softball Complex
Homecoming Parade	10:30 a.m.	Central Avenue
Viking Hall of Fame Tailgating	11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.	Lokken Stadium
VCSU Football vs. Waldorf University	2:00 p.m.	Shelley Ellig Field
Postgame Social	5:00 p.m.	Valley City Country Club 500 12th Ave. NE

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

VCSU Volleyball vs. Presentation College	5:00 p.m.	Graichen Gym
College Student and Alumni Dance	9:00 p.m.	Valley City Country Club 500 12th Ave. NE

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

For up-to-date schedules and more information visit alumni.vcsu.edu or call **701-845-7203**.



HOF INDUCTEES

LEROY ANDERSON '66
Men's Basketball

DWAYNE SMITH '97
Men's Basketball

LORI (JOHNSON) PEDERSON '96
Women's Basketball

KATHY (MANS) NIELSEN '93
Women's Basketball/Volleyball/
Softball/Track & Field

KENDALL RAILING '93
Cross Country/Men's Basketball/
Track & Field

LLOYD JOSEPH '92
Football

HONORED ALUMNI

PAUL SANDNESS '76
Distinguished Alumnus Award

KIM (SVENNINGSEN) HESCH '91
Alumni Service Award

CORY SCHALL '99
Young Alumni Achievement Award

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT RECIPIENTS:

Dale Hogie '78
Timothy Jacobson '76
Tricia (Brandt) Lebahn '98
Sarah (Baertsch) Lutz '05
Amy (Ashley) Neal '96
Ruth (Langemo) Steen '45
Richard Swanson '66
James Trett '79

VCSU Foundation recognizes donors at annual luncheon

The Valley City State University Foundation recognized several individuals and businesses at its annual Recognition Luncheon on June 13.

President Tisa Mason presented Phil Mueller '68 with the university's Distinguished Service Award (see p. X), and a host of others were recognized for their continued support of the university through donations, volunteerism and other efforts year after year. This year's recognition luncheon was held in the Student Center Cafeteria with more than 80 attending.

The following donors were recognized for reaching a new level of giving over the past year:

Footbridge Level (\$500,000-\$999,999)

DuWayne Bott '58

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

Chuck† and Jan Stowman
 Jerry '74 and Marie (Vining) Topp '74
 Wells Fargo Bank

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

AmericInn Lodge & Suites
 Bergan Enterprises
 The Bob Bergan Family
 Robert and Bonnie Burchill
 KLJ
 Hulda M. Pearce

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

Ken '73 and Linda (Anderson) Astrup '73
 Bridge City Dentistry
 Ross and Caron Berg
 Nyle and Arlene Burchill
 Enterprise Sales Co.
 FEI, Inc.
 James D. '59 and Mary A. Kieley
 Kohler Farms
 Karen Lorig
 Dr. Arthur† and Mrs. Iris McFee '49
 Barney† '34 and Dolly Neumann
 Petro Serve USA
 Larry '71 and Mary Lee (Haugland) Robinson '71
 Valley Realty, Inc.

† deceased



Diamond Level

Wells Fargo Bank (Ross Powell '99 and Deb Ross);
 Marie (Vining) '74 and Jerry Topp '74; Jan Stowman

Gold Level

(front) Bonnie and Robert Burchill; (back) Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson, Inc. (Chad Petersen); AmericInn (Bev Watkins); Bergan Enterprises (Joni '83 and Bob Bergan '82)

Regents Level

(front) Nyle and Arlene Burchill; (back) Enterprise Sales Co. (Robert Burchill); Larry '71 and Mary Lee (Haugland) Robinson '71; Ken '73 and Linda (Anderson) Astrup '73; Valley Realty, Inc. (George Gaukler '62)

VCSU Retired Faculty and Staff Luncheon 2016



(front) Meryl O'Connell, Betty Gibbons, Archie Moore, Connie Reed, Ellen Kienitz, Joan Noeske

(back) Jim Dew, Richard Betting, Don Schaack, Keith Baumgartner, Willis Wagar, Gordon Hoff, Dave Melgaard, John Keller, Joe Stickler, Roger Rand, President Tisa Mason, Larry Grooters

Great River Energy supports STEM scholarships



Larry Robinson, VCSU executive director of university advancement (center), presented an appreciation gift to Great River Energy's Eric Olsen, vice president and general counsel (left), and Al Christianson, director of business development and governmental relations, for support of STEM scholarships at VCSU.

Great River Energy of Maple Grove, Minn., recently presented the VCSU Foundation with a check to support STEM scholarships at the university.

A nonprofit electric cooperative, Great River Energy provides electric power to 1.7 million Minnesotans through 28 member cooperatives. Great River Energy owns and operates Coal Creek Station, North Dakota's largest power plant near Underwood, N.D., and Spiritwood Station, a plant in Spiritwood, N.D.

According to Al Christianson, Great River's director of business development and governmental relations, "Great River Energy supports STEM educational programs as the basis of learning needed to have qualified individuals available for our workforce needs now and into the future."

HOW CAN I BENEFIT FROM A PLANNED GIFT?

You may have heard about planned giving, but perhaps you are not familiar with the benefits.

A planned gift is really quite easy—it involves some planning that helps both you and our mission.

The planning tools on our website can help you create a legacy in your will or trust, increase lifetime income for you and your spouse and pass on property to your heirs through a charitable plan.



To learn more about the benefits of making a planned gift, please call 701-845-7203 or visit our website at www.vcsugift.org.

Stewart named Viking athletic director



Nate Stewart is Valley City State University's new athletic director.

Previously the director of athletics and athletic development at Eastern University in St. Davids, Pa., Stewart began his new responsibilities at VCSU on July 29.

Stewart will be responsible for the development, administration, vision and leadership of the men's and women's athletic programs at VCSU.

He replaces Jack Denholm, who resigned after six years to take the athletic director position at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa.

"We are excited to have Nate Stewart join our athletic department," said

President Tisa Mason. "His vision for the role athletics plays on campus will serve us well, and his leadership as a member of the Cabinet will contribute to our growing success."

A native of Christiansburg, Va., Stewart has been director of athletics for one year at Eastern University. Prior to that he was the school's head men's basketball coach for four seasons and also served as the assistant athletic director for advancement.

Before joining Eastern University, Stewart worked as an assistant men's basketball coach for NCAA Division I schools Radford University and University of Maryland Baltimore County. Stewart played college basketball at Roanoke College, where he earned a bachelor's degree in health and human performance. He earned a master's degree in athletic administration from Marshall University while coaching as a graduate assistant.

Stewart and his wife, Lauren, have a young son, Noah.

Athletic training program granted accreditation

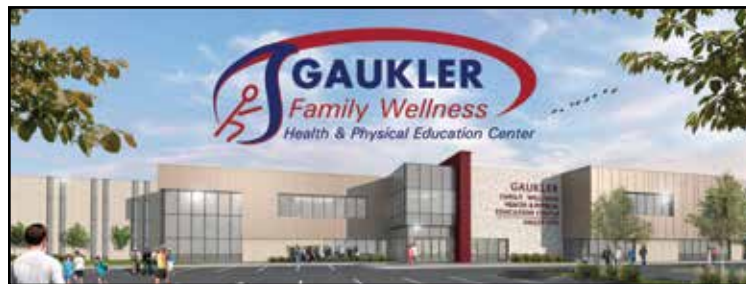
The athletic training program at Valley City State University has been granted a five-year initial accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE).

The program accreditation is the capstone of a multiyear process which began at VCSU in the 2011-12 academic year with the application for an athletic training major with the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education. That application was approved in 2012, and VCSU began admitting students for the program for the 2012-13 academic year.

Part of the university's Department of Kinesiology and Human Performance (formerly the HPE Department), the VCSU athletic training program is directed by Rachelle Hunt, M.Ed., ATC, LAT. Sharon Bratrud, M.S., ATC, LAT, serves as assistant professor and clinical coordinator.

Athletic training is the healthcare profession responsible for the prevention, evaluation, management and rehabilitation of athletic injuries. Graduates of the VCSU athletic training program may sit for the Board of Certification (BOC) Examination; successfully passing the exam qualifies an individual as a Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC). Certified athletic trainers are an integral part of athletic programs at the high school, university, club and professional levels. They may also work in clinical settings such as sports medicine clinics.

Going forward, VCSU will maintain compliance with the CAATE Standards, submitting updates by Oct. 15 annually. VCSU's next self-study will be due June 30, 2020, with a CAATE site visit to be scheduled between Oct. 15, 2020, and Feb. 15, 2021.



Wellness Center named in honor of Gaukler family

At its meeting in City Hall on Wednesday, April 20, 2016, the Valley City Park Board passed a resolution naming the Valley City Wellness Center in honor of the George and Audrey Gaukler family. The center, to open in fall 2016, will be named the Gaukler Family Wellness, Health and Physical Education Center.

In presenting the resolution, Dick Gulmon, Park Board president, said that the construction of the Wellness Center would not be happening without the inspiration, driving force and financial support that came from George Gaukler and his family.

Valley City businessman and philanthropist George Gaukler—a 1962 VCSU graduate—serves on the VCSU Foundation Board of Directors. His wife, Audrey (Dohman) Gaukler is a 1967 VCSU graduate, and their son, Michael Smith, is a 1984 graduate.

Members of both the VCSU and Valley City communities will be able to use the 65,000 square-foot wellness center upon its completion. Located east of Osmon Fieldhouse on the VCSU campus, the facility will feature a fitness center, swimming pool, multi-use court space, an indoor playground and gathering spaces.

The wellness center—replete with classrooms, offices and a physiology lab—will serve as the home of the VCSU Kinesiology and Human Performance Department (formerly the Health and Physical Education Department), which includes programs in athletic training, coaching, exercise physiology, health education, physical education, sport management, strength and conditioning, and wellness.

The Valley City Parks and Recreation Department will manage the facility, and its offices will also be located in the wellness center.

For a webcam view of Wellness Center construction, visit technology-services.vcsu.edu/vp.htm?p=3420.

N.D. Legislature's higher education committee meets on campus



Natalie Boe '91, M.Ed. '07 (left), fourth-grade teacher at Washington Elementary in Valley City, discusses a Lego soccer activity with Representative David Monson (right) and Lisa Feldner, NDUS vice chancellor for information technology and institutional research, and interim chief of staff.



Representatives Larry Robinson '71 (center) and Mark Sanford (right) visit with Valley City commissioners Matt Pedersen (left) and Mary Lee (Peterson) Nielson '79, along with Valley City city manager Dave Schelkoph.

The Interim Higher Education Committee of the North Dakota Legislature met on the Valley City State University campus on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 7–8.

Included on the agenda were presentations and committee discussion regarding higher education budget issues, student financial assistance programs, the North Dakota University System (NDUS) campus master plan and space utilization study, and potential legislation to be recommended by the committee, along with updates on issues affecting VCSU.

Chaired by Representative Mark Sanford of Grand Forks, representing District 17, the Interim Higher Education Committee heard from several NDUS administrators, including Chancellor Mark Hagerott; Tammy Dolan, chief financial officer; Rick Tonder, director of facilities planning; and Lisa Feldner, vice chancellor for information technology and institutional research, and interim chief of staff.

VCSU presenters included President Tisa Mason; Peter Smithhisler, vice president for student affairs; and Julee Russell, professor of English.

Russell presented on VCSU's new three-year programs, which allow undergraduates to complete bachelor's degrees in three years in business administration, elementary education, English education, mathematics education, and professional communication. (See more on VCSU three-year programs on p. 19.)

Higher Education Committee members were also shown the construction work being done on the Valley City flood wall in front of Foss Hall, and members toured the Gaukler Family Wellness, Health and Physical Education Center, which will open this fall.

At an evening reception, area K–12 teachers working with the Great Plains STEM Education Center at VCSU presented some of the hands-on activities they are using to engage their students in a variety of disciplines.

Area school administrators meet on campus



At the invitation of VCSU President Tisa Mason, area school superintendents and principals gathered for a luncheon on campus June 21 with Mike Ness, State Board of Higher Education member, and VCSU administrators, faculty and students to discuss college preparation, student success and VCSU initiatives.

Pictured are participants (l to r) Adam Gehlhar (Jamestown), Mike Ness (State Board of Higher Education), Josh Johnson (Oakes, now Valley City), Mitch Carlson (LaMoure), James Bear '98 (Montpelier), Morgan Forness (Central Cass) and Kristi Brandt (Valley City). In attendance but not pictured were Pat Adair '97 (Lisbon Public Schools) and Cory Steiner (Northern Cass Public Schools).

President Mason receives Sigma Kappa's Colby Award

Tisa Mason, Ed.D., CAE, president of Valley City State University, received the Colby Award from the Sigma Kappa Sorority at its Achievement Banquet on Saturday, July 9, during the organization's convention in Chicago, Ill.

The Colby Award, Sigma Kappa's highest honor bestowed upon alumnae members, is named in honor of Colby College, where Sigma Kappa was founded in 1874. The award is presented at each national convention to Sigma Kappa alumnae in recognition of their career achievements. Career fields considered include (but are not limited to) the arts, literature, public service, business, industry, education, science and athletics.

President Mason, originally a member of the Epsilon Kappa chapter of Sigma Kappa at her undergraduate institution, Transylvania University, received the award in recognition of her accomplishments in the field of higher education.

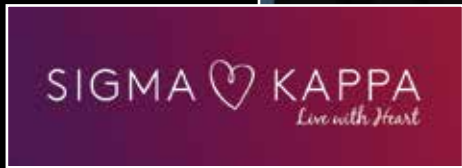
Sigma Kappa, a national organization of college women with headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind., provides its members with lifelong opportunities and support for social, intellectual and spiritual development by bringing women together to positively impact communities.

With 120 collegiate chapters in 36 states and 120 alumnae chapters in 40 states,

Sigma Kappa supports philanthropy in three areas: gerontology, with a focus on Alzheimer's disease research and programs directed at improving the lives of older citizens; Inherit the Earth; and Maine Seacoast Mission. The Sigma Kappa Foundation provides scholarship to collegiate and alumnae members each year, including scholarships for leadership, continuing education, and gerontology.

A native of Massachusetts, Mason served as executive director of the Sigma Kappa Sorority and Foundation from 1994–2004. She began her presidency at VCSU in December 2014, coming to Valley City from Hays, Kan., where she served as vice president for student affairs at Fort Hays State University. She previously served as dean of student life at the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater in Whitewater, Wis.; director of student life and assistant professor at Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Va.; and assistant dean of students, Hanover College, Hanover, Ind.

Her academic credentials include a Doctor of Education degree in higher education from the



College of William and Mary in Williamsburg,

Va.; a Master of Science degree in education from Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Ill., and a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology/anthropology from Transylvania University in Lexington, Ky. She has also earned the professional credential of Certified Association Executive (CAE).

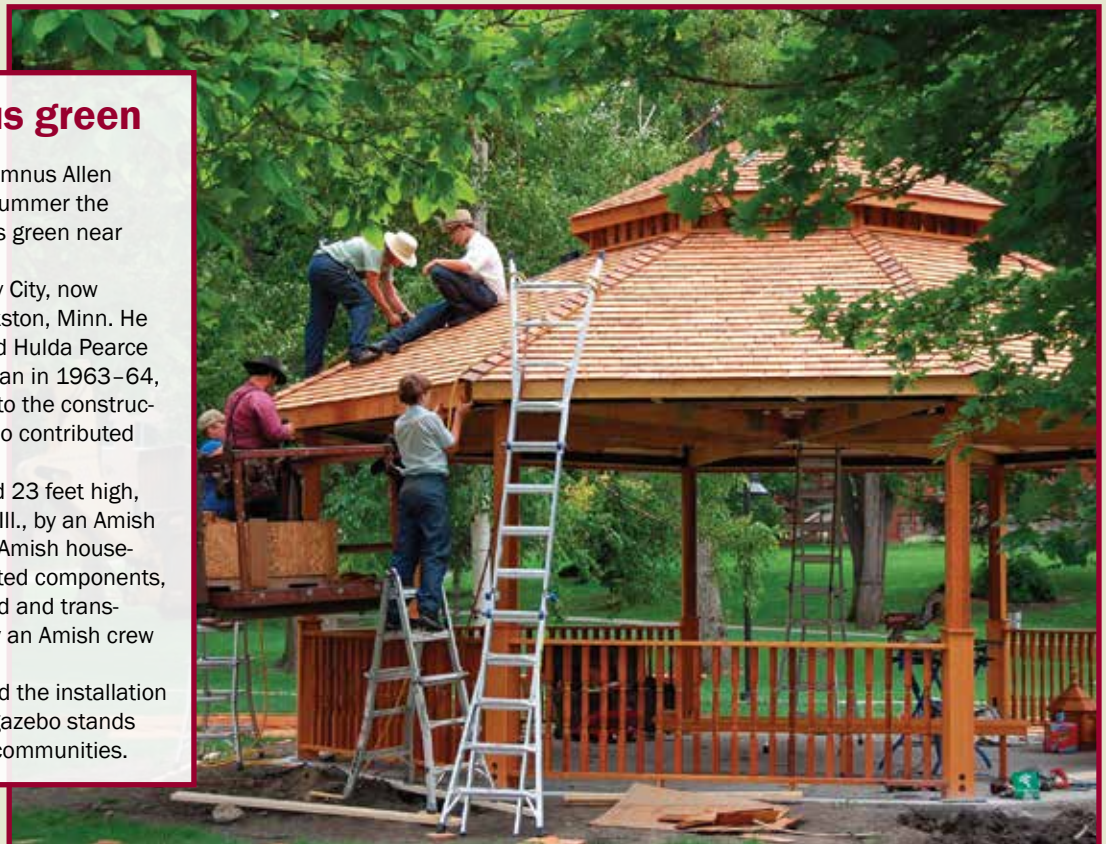
Gazebo graces campus green

Spurred by the vision of 100-year-old alumnus Allen Pedersen, a 1940 VCSU graduate, this summer the university added a gazebo to the campus green near Graichen Gym.

Pedersen, who grew up south of Valley City, now lives in an assisted-living facility in Crookston, Minn. He provided the lead gift for the gazebo, and Hulda Pearce of Valley City, who served as VCSU librarian in 1963–64, added a significant gift and her support to the construction effort. The VCSU Student Senate also contributed \$6,000 toward the gazebo.

The structure—28 feet in diameter and 23 feet high, with a 9-foot ceiling—was built in Arthur, Ill., by an Amish construction firm. (There are about 900 Amish households in the Arthur area.) The prefabricated components, built from cedar, were then disassembled and transported to Valley City and reassembled by an Amish crew on site in two days, July 12–13.

Finish work—including landscaping and the installation of Wi-Fi—was completed in August. The gazebo stands ready to serve the VCSU and Valley City communities.



Teacher preparation programs at VCSU reaccredited



The teacher preparation programs at Valley City State University have been reaccredited under the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) standards at both the initial teacher preparation and advanced preparation levels.

The NCATE standards are administered by the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). The recommendation to continue VCSU's NCATE accreditation was approved by CAEP's Selected Improvement Commission at its April 30–May 3, 2016, meeting in Baltimore, Md.

“Special congratulations are in order because the Commission cited no areas for improvement relative to any of the standards,” said Christopher Koch, CAEP president, in a May 17, 2016, letter to VCSU President Tisa Mason conveying the reaccreditation news.

VCSU was founded as Valley City State Normal School, a teacher's school, in 1890. VCSU's teacher programs have been nationally accredited since NCATE was founded in 1954.

The university now offers bachelor's degrees in elementary education and in secondary education in the following areas: art, biology, business, chemistry, English, health, history, mathematics, music, physical education, social science, and technology. VCSU also offers a master's degree in education (M.Ed.) and a new master of arts in teaching (MAT) degree.

VCSU will complete and submit CAEP annual reports each year during the accreditation period; VCSU's next national accreditation visit—scheduled for Fall 2022—will be under the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) standards.

VCSU offers Master of Arts in Teaching

Valley City State University is now offering a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree. This graduate program provides a means for non-teachers with bachelor's degrees to add both a master's degree and teacher certification in a content area, and for teachers to add graduate credentials for career and salary advancement.

Over the years, VCSU has earned a positive reputation for its teacher preparation programs, offering a renowned undergraduate program and an online Master of Education (M.Ed.) program. VCSU's new MAT program will build on those strengths, and like the M.Ed. program, it will be offered entirely online.

The MAT program will provide an entry-level professional degree that will move teachers more quickly into higher-paying salary lanes while supporting professional development and a deeper understanding of subject material.

The program will also help address the recognized secondary teacher shortage in North Dakota and across the nation by providing non-teachers an opportunity to earn teaching credentials while continuing their current employment.

The MAT's 33-credit course sequence meets North Dakota standards for teacher certification, as well as standards associated with secondary education majors.

For more information on VCSU's MAT program, contact James Boe, Ph.D., director of graduate studies, at 701-845-7303 or graduate@vcsu.edu, or visit www.vcsu.edu/graduate.



Shelby Hartman '16 is one of a number of recent VCSU alumni who have graduated in less than four years.

VCSU to offer 3-year bachelor's degree programs

Valley City State University will offer three-year bachelor's degree programs in a number of disciplines beginning in the Fall 2016 semester. Majors in the three-year program include business administration, elementary education, English education, mathematics education, and professional communication.

Students would complete the degree requirements, including a full set of 120 credits, over three years, including two summer sessions. Participants would save a year's worth of room and board costs typically associated with traditional four-year programs, and graduates would be able to enter the work force or attend graduate or professional school a year earlier.

“Over the last five years, 43 students have completed their VCSU degrees in less than four years,” said President Tisa Mason. “This led us to look at what they did and prompted us to formalize the three-year program, while removing barriers they had to overcome. We're excited to offer this additional pathway for highly motivated students.”

In the three-year program, participants would be placed into a cohort, a group that would move through the three-year process together, which would strengthen relationships, sharpen the focus on studies and increase opportunities for degree completion.

Fall and spring semester classes would be taken on campus all three years of the program, as would classes in the eight-week summer session after the first year. The summer session following the second year could involve online or face-to-face classes; in some disciplines, this session would be used to complete an internship.

For more information about the three-year programs, contact Charlene Stenson, director of enrollment services, at 701-845-7101 or enrollment.services@vcsu.edu, or visit www.vcsu.edu/three.

Archuleta '92 heads North Dakota United



Nick Archuleta is the first to admit his path through Valley City State University wasn't quick—he started in 1978 and earned his bachelor's degree in Spanish and history in 1992—but the non-traditional approach he took to college, taking time off to work and then coming back to school on multiple occasions, hasn't hindered his progress since. Instead, it's led to an appreciation of "working people," coupled with a belief

that "children are our future," both of which serve him well as the head of a public workers union.

Since July 2013, Archuleta has served as president of North Dakota United (NDU), the 11,000-plus-member union which includes North Dakota K-12 teachers, education support professionals, higher education faculty and staff, and state, county and municipal employees, as well as students and retired workers.

After graduating from VCSU, Archuleta began his teaching career at LeRoy-Ostrander Public School in LeRoy, Minn., in 1992. There he taught American history, political science and Spanish. His accomplishments in LeRoy included developing a course on U.S. history in the 1960s and creating the LeRoy High School Heritage Tour to raise funds and bring his students to historical sites in and around Washington, D.C.

In 2000, Archuleta moved to Bismarck to teach Spanish at Century High School; he is currently on leave from the faculty there to serve in his

NDU position. Archuleta earned a master's degree in secondary education from the University of North Dakota in 2005.

In 2010, Archuleta ran as the Democratic candidate for the North Dakota Senate seat in District 35, which serves much of the Bismarck area. Although his campaign was unsuccessful—"It was a tough year for Democrats," says Archuleta—he learned a lot and has "great friends on both sides of the aisle."

Archuleta previously served on the board of directors of the North Dakota Education Association (NDEA), which merged with the North Dakota Public Employees Association (NDPEA) to become North Dakota United (NDU) in 2013. His election as president of NDEA propelled him to the NDU presidency after the merger. Archuleta is beginning his second three-year term as NDU president.

"I love this job," says Archuleta. By visiting classrooms and work sites, he's able to learn much about what teachers and public employees do and see firsthand the dedication and devotion they bring to their work, along with the creativity they display on a daily basis. His position gives him access to state decision-makers, and in that arena, it's his job to advocate for teachers and public servants to ensure they're treated fairly and with respect for all they do.

Archuleta is former vice chairman of the North Dakota Education Standards and Practices Board, to which he was appointed by both former Governor John Hoeven and current Governor Jack Dalrymple. Archuleta also serves on the screening committee which recommends State Board of Higher Education candidates to the governor.

A graduate of Valley City High School, Archuleta has "great respect" for Valley City and Valley City State; he maintains a personal connection with individuals here and the community in general. He speaks reverently of Spanish professor emerita Kay Kringlie—"she's a second mom to me"—and also credits Don Welsh and Claude Burrows among his VCSU social science professors as key contributors to his education and success.

Archuleta's wife, Mary Pat, is the director of choral music at Century High in Bismarck. They have three adult daughters—Bridget, Rachel and Allison—and a son, Christian, a seventh-grader at Mandan Middle School.

home.

\$25 per shirt

\$3 extra for sizes 2X and larger

\$4 Shipping per package

Sizes Available:

Ladies S•M•L•XL **Men's** S•M•L•XL•2X•3X•4X



*sponsored by the
National Society of Leadership and Success*

Taking pre-orders through October 1 or once we have an order of 50.

To order or for more information,
call Kari Stricklin @ 845-7120 or e-mail kari.stricklin@vcsu.edu.

NORTH DAKOTA HIGHER EDUCATION CHALLENGE FUND

FACTS & FIGURES

**as of August 16, 2016*

Gifts of at least \$5,000 that are used to fund endowments supporting scholarships may take advantage of the North Dakota Higher Education Challenge Fund. To date, gifts through the Valley City State University Foundation utilization matching dollars from this 2015–16 Higher Education Challenge Fund are impacting the University as follows.*

\$1 MILLION

in matching funds available to VCSU from the State of North Dakota

Used: \$850,000

Remaining: \$150,000

Donors have given VCSU

\$1,700,000

North Dakota Challenge Fund Match

\$850,000

Total investment in VCSU

\$2,550,000



A total of 21 ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS have been created in the VCSU Foundation and 16 ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS had contributions added to them with the help of the North Dakota Challenge Fund.



“We strongly believe in the value of education at all levels as well as continued education. VCSU is an excellent environment for students to learn and to earn their teaching credentials. Establishing and contributing to a Scholarship Endowment through the VCSU Foundation enables us to assist students/future teachers with their college expenses.”

*~Gene and Noreen Smestad,
Valley City*

“We were pleased to use the North Dakota Challenge Grant Program to establish an endowed scholarship at VCSU. This ‘Gift of Education’ will impact students for generations to come. It is a great feeling to give something back for such a worthy cause.”

*~James '59 and Mary Kieley,
Christiansburg, Va.*



North Dakota Challenge Higher Education Challenge Fund matching funds are subject to availability. Learn more by contacting the VCSU Foundation at alumni@vcsu.edu or (701) 845-7203.

Mueller '68 receives VCSU Distinguished Service Award



President Tisa Mason presented alumnus Phil Mueller '68 with the Valley City State University Distinguished Service Award at the VCSU Foundation's Donor Recognition Luncheon in the Student Center cafeteria on Monday, June 13.

"Phil has set a high standard with his work for and in support of the university, the community and the state," said President Mason. "He epitomizes what we hope our graduates will become and is very deserving of this award."

The VCSU Distinguished Service Award, the university's highest honor, is given at the discretion of the president in recognition of exceptional contribution to the university's vision. Since its 1975 inception, the award has been given to a total of 24 individuals and organizations, including Mueller.

Mueller currently serves on the VCSU Foundation Board of Directors. He graduated from Valley City State University in 1968 with majors in business education and English education, along with a minor in physical education. He

also holds a master's degree in school administration, awarded in 1972, from the University of North Dakota

From 1968-71, Mueller taught English at Grand Forks Central High School; he then returned to Valley City State, where he served as director of the student center and student activities for four years. Mueller then worked at Eastern Montana College in Billings before returning to North Dakota to buy and run his grandfather's farm, three miles east of Wimbledon, in 1979.

Mueller served as a state representative representing District 24 in the North Dakota Legislature from 1999 to 2012. In addition, he has served on many state and local boards and committees.

Now retired, Mueller and his wife, Darlene, live in Valley City. They are the parents of three adult children; their son, Markus, is now the fourth generation to run the family's farm.

EBC fraternity alumni to present the 21st annual concert

We're In the Christmas Mood

featuring the Big Band sounds of the 18-piece EBC Orchestra, along with several vocal soloists and ensembles.

December 10, 2016 ♦ 7:30 p.m.
Vangstad Auditorium

Open to the public free of charge; no tickets are required, but attendees are asked to bring a nonperishable food item to donate to the Barnes County Food Pantry.



Bass named NSAA faculty rep of year



Dave Bass '76, assistant professor in the School of Education and Graduate Studies, was named the North Star Athletic Association (NSAA) 2016 Faculty Athletic Representative of the Year during the NSAA Summit meetings May 24 in Brookings, S.D. The award was voted on by all Faculty Athletic Representatives (FAR) in the conference.

This is the second consecutive year Bass has received the award.

Bass is VCSU's FAR, serving as a liaison between the athletic department and the

institution, as well as handling any eligibility questions. He also serves as the NSAA eligibility chair and the FAR liaison to the NSAA Board of Directors.

Bass has served nine years as the eligibility chair for three difference conferences. At the national level, he has served three years on the NAIA Council of FARs and four years on the Learning Disability Advisory Committee.

Bass will now be nominated for the Wally Schwartz Award, which recognizes the NAIA's national Faculty Athletic Representative of the Year.

Viking Scramble supports athletics

The 2016 Viking Scramble Golf Tournament was held June 17 at Bjornson Park Golf Course and the Valley City Town & Country Club. The annual fundraiser raises money for VCSU athletics.



Championship Flight
(19 Under)

(l to r) Jamie Wirth, Cam Walker, Jamie Paurus, Josh Brouse, Nate Zerface



Open Flight
(9 Under)

Kari Olney, Casey Olney, Brian Yanish, Mark Potts, Kirk Olson

VCSU First Fridays

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

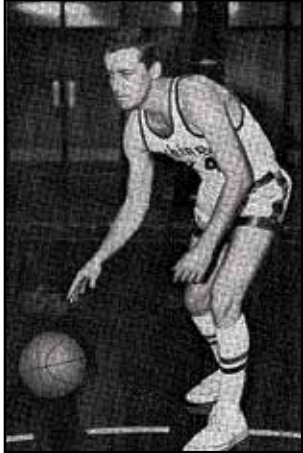


Hall of Fame to add 6 Vikings

The Valley City State University athletic department has announced the addition of six new members to the Viking Hall of Fame. These six individuals will be honored with a banquet and induction ceremony during Homecoming Weekend, Sept. 23–24, 2016. The induction banquet will be held Friday, Sept. 23, at the VCSU Student Center cafeteria. Tickets can be purchased by calling the VCSU Athletic Office at 701-845-7161.

2016 Viking Hall of Fame Inductees

Leroy Anderson '66 (Park River, N.D.)—Men's Basketball



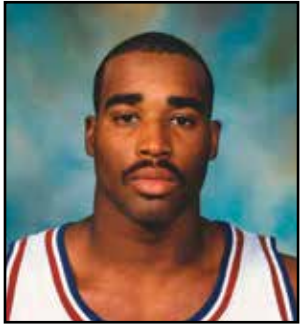
Anderson currently ranks ninth all-time in scoring at VCSU. He wore the Viking uniform from 1961–66 and finished his career with 1,271 points.

Anderson was part of two conference championship teams during his career, including his junior season when the 1964–65 Vikings went 11-1 in conference play and advanced to the NAIA National Tournament. That season, Anderson hit game-winning free throws with 15 seconds left in a 77-76 win over rival Jamestown. He also scored seven points in the last 95 seconds of a game against Huron, leading the Vikings back from a 75-72 deficit en route to an 81-76 victory.

Anderson was named all-conference

both his junior and senior seasons (1964–65, 1965–66); the Vikings posted a 21-3 conference record in those years.

Dwayne Smith '97 (Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.)—Men's Basketball



A standout on the basketball court at VCSU from 1994–97, Smith earned All-American honors during his 1996–97 senior year and finished his career fifth all-time in scoring and seventh all-time in rebounds. He continues to rank fifth all-time in scoring at VCSU with 1,509 points. He now ranks ninth all-time with 615 rebounds.

During his freshman season, Smith earned the team's Most Improved Player Award, and he went on to earn all-conference honors during his sophomore, junior and senior seasons.

Lori (Johnson) Pederson '96 (Cando, N.D.)—Women's Basketball



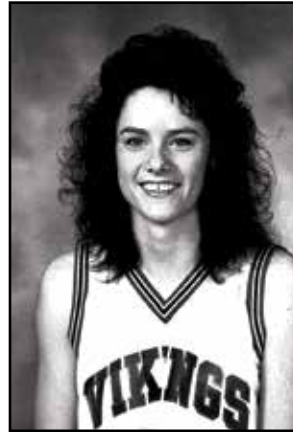
A three-time all-conference selection on the basketball court, Johnson ended her career near the top of the scoring and rebounds lists at VCSU.

The Vikings posted a 57-46 record during Johnson's 1993–96 career. She earned all-conference honors in her sophomore, junior and senior seasons and was named Team MVP during her 1995–96 senior season.

Johnson ended her career sixth all-time in scoring and third in rebounds. She is currently 10th all-time in scoring at VCSU

with 1,200 points and ranks fourth all-time with 716 rebounds.

Kathy (Mans) Nielsen '93 (Williams, Minn.)—Women's Basketball/Volleyball/Softball/Track & Field

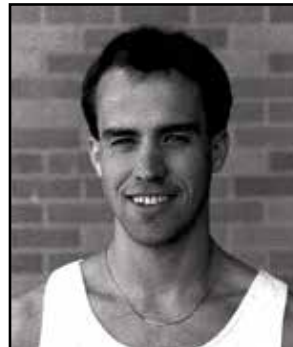


A four-sport standout at VCSU, Kathy Mans participated in women's basketball, volleyball, softball, and track and field during her time from 1990–92. She had her most success on the courts, earning all-conference honors in basketball and volleyball.

On the volleyball court, Mans earned all conference honors in both the 1990–91 and 1991–92 seasons. In 1991–92, Mans was named all-district and conference Co-Most Valuable Graduating Senior. The Vikings posted a 21-11 overall record and an 8-2 conference mark that season, earning runner-up honors in the conference and sub-district.

On the basketball court, Mans played on back-to-back conference championship teams in 1990–91 and 1991–92, the last VCSU women's basketball teams to win regular-season conference titles. During the 1991–92 season, Mans was named all-conference. That Viking season came to an end in the sub-district title game with an 80-74 loss to eventual national champion Northern State University.

Kendall Railing '93 (Devils Lake, N.D.)—Cross Country/Men's Basketball/Track & Field



Kendall Railing qualified for six national meets during his career, creating an outstanding legacy on the track and trails at VCSU.

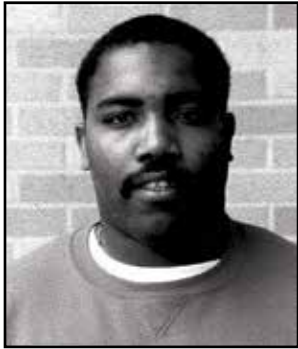
Railing was a three-time national qualifier in cross country from 1990–92 and won an individual conference championship in 1992. He was named Team MVP, all-conference and all-district all three years as well. He twice placed in the top 150 athletes at nationals, taking 126th in 1991 and 147th in 1992.

On the track, Railing was just as dominant, racking up three national appearances, four conference titles and three District 12 titles from 1991–93. In 1992, Railing won the 800 and 1,500 at conference and then won the 1,500 at the District 12 meet. He went on to finish eighth at nationals in the 1,500 with a school-record time of 3:52.53. During the 1993 season, Railing won the 800 and 1,500 at both the conference and district levels. He was named the conference Most Valuable Graduating Senior and the District 12 Most Valuable Athlete. He placed 11th at nationals that year in the 1,500.

Railing also earned a NAIA All-American Scholar Athlete honor during the 1993 season. He still holds school records in the 800, 1,500 and half marathon.

Amazingly, Railing also found time to play basketball for the Vikings and earned all-conference honors during the 1991–92 season.

Lloyd Joseph '92 (Winnipeg, Manitoba)—Football



One of just two VCSU football players to be named All-American three times in his career, Lloyd Joseph was a terror on the Viking defensive line.

Joseph was a four-time all-conference selection for the Vikings from 1987–90. VCSU posted a 26-11 record during his career and a 17-4 mark in conference play. The 1988 Vikings went 6-0 in conference play to claim a conference championship.

He made an immediate impact during his freshman season with 56 tackles

and 7.5 sacks, a sign of larger things to come at VCSU. He went on to earn all-district and All American honors three consecutive seasons from 1988–90. In 1988 Joseph earned All-American honorable mention after recording 61 tackles and five sacks. In 1989, he tallied 77 tackles and a career-high 14 sacks and was named to the All-American second team. As a senior in 1990, Joseph earned first team All-American honors after recording 83 tackles and eight sacks. Joseph finished his career with 277 tackles; he still holds the school record with 34.5 career sacks.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS OF VCSU VIKING HALL OF FAME

Join us for a celebration on
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- **Induction Ceremony — Tickets: \$20**
- Social at 5 p.m. — Student Center Skoal Room**
- Meal at 6 p.m. — VCSU Cafeteria**
- Induction Ceremony about 7 p.m. — VCSU Cafeteria**

For a complete listing of Homecoming activities, see page 13.



INSIDE ATHLETICS

by Mark Potts, sports information director

Viking Football marked by consistent leadership

Over the last 42 seasons the Valley City State football team has featured just three head coaches. Let that sink in a little bit: 42 seasons, 246 wins, 3 head coaches.

In the increasingly tumultuous profession of college coaching, VCSU and its football program have been lucky to feature great stability at the top. A consistent coaching staff with a consistent message has bred consistent success for the Vikings over the last four decades.

Current head coach Dennis McCulloch, now 10th among active NAIA coaches with 113 wins, is entering his 20th season leading the Vikings. He was preceded by Steve Legrand, head coach from 1994–96 with a 17-13 record, and Jim Dew, who compiled a 116-65 record

from 1974–93.

During that 42-year time frame, the Vikings have won 15 conference championships and made all eight national playoff appearances in program history. The Vikings won eight conference titles and three playoffs under Dew, one conference title and one playoff under LeGrand, and six conference titles and four playoffs under McCulloch.

McCulloch will likely pass Dew as the all-time winningest coach in program history this season as he enters the year just three wins shy of tying Dew's 116 career wins. The two have combined for 229 wins, more than half of the 437 wins in a program history that dates back to 1909.

While each season has its up and downs, and some years offer surprises both good and bad, it's important to put things in perspective sometimes. For 42 straight years, Valley City State football fans have been spoiled with consistent coaching and consistent success.

That's 42 seasons, 246 wins, 3 head coaches. Not bad at all.

As always, for the latest news in Viking Athletics, check out our website and social media.

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



Go Vikings!



Geisler claims javelin national championship

Valley City State University track and field athlete Seri Geisler made her freshman season a memorable one. The native of Grand Rapids, Minn., won VCSU's first national championship since 2013 as she became the top NAIA javelin thrower in the nation this spring.

Geisler rose to the occasion with a career-best throw on May 26 as she took home the national title in women's javelin during the first day of the NAIA

Outdoor Track & Field National Championships in Gulf Shores, Ala.

With her throw of 51.37 meters (168 feet, 6 3/4 inches) Geisler topped the field of 22 throwers, outdistancing the second-place throw by more than two meters. Geisler's national championship throw came on her first attempt of the day as she took control of the event early.

"It certainly wasn't given to her today," said VCSU head coach Chris Johnson. "I think the top five finishers all threw personal records, and she had the defending national champion right on her heels."

Geisler's achievement gave VCSU its first national title ever in women's track and field, and the school's first national title in any program since Darien Moore won the indoor weight throw in 2013.

Geisler entered the meet with the top throw in the nation (50.20 meters) by more than three meters. In her first season ever throwing javelin, she set a new school record, broke several meet records and now has a national title. She was named the NAIA National Field Athlete of the Week on April 27.

VCSU's previous best finish in women's track and field was by Danielle Olson in 1998; she placed second in the triple jump that year. The last Viking woman to earn All-American honors was Amber Volanti, who placed eighth in javelin in 2011.

The VCSU women's track program now has 19 All Americans in program history, and eight of those performances have come in women's javelin: Melissa Hagel, Kelley Utt (twice), Wanda Schwab (three times), Volanti and now Geisler.



Seri Geisler



Jake Peterson

Track & field sports a winning season

Seri Geisler's national title may have been the highlight of the 2016 track and field season, but Viking athletes found success at the conference level as well.

Geisler and Jake Peterson each won individual conference titles, and the VCSU track & field team brought home 11 all-conference finishes at the NSAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

Geisler won the women's javelin and shot put, and Peterson won the men's pole vault to pace the Vikings during the conference meet in Forest City, Iowa.

The Viking men finished fifth of six teams with 77 team points. VCSU's women placed sixth with 39 team points. All-conference honors went to the top three individuals in each event and the top two teams in each relay event.

For the women—in addition to Geisler's titles in the javelin and shot put—Alexandra Cardenas earned an all-conference award by placing third in the 1,500 meter run. Kaitlin Connor also earned all-conference recognition by taking third in the triple jump.

On the men's side VCSU took home seven all conference awards. Peterson led the way with a strong double, winning the pole vault and adding a third-place finish in the javelin.

Andrew Hanretty also doubled up with all-conference performances in the jumping events. He placed second in both the triple jump and long jump.

Niklas Ernst finished second in the 400 meter hurdles, and Orin Rambow ran a strong race in the 800 for a third-place finish. Lenzel Koskela rounded out the all-conference finishes with a third place in the 400 meter dash.

Misael Herrera, Alex Askerooth and Ernst were all named Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes at the conclusion of the season.

Sorenson leads Viking golfers

The Valley City State men's golf team placed fourth and the Viking women took fifth in the final standings of the 72-hole North Star Athletic Association conference meet.

Conference golfers played 36 holes in April at Wilderness Ridge Golf Course in Lincoln, Neb. Those results were combined with 36 holes from the fall conference meet played in September at Oxbow Country Club in Oxbow, N.D.

The Viking men shot a 323 in their final round, finishing with a 72-hole total of 1,282 strokes. That was good for fourth place among seven teams. Two Vikings, Ben Sorenson and Tyler Baukol, were named to the all-conference second team after placing in the top 12.

Sorenson finished in 10th place overall with a 72-hole total of 315, capping an outstanding career at VCSU. Baukol placed 12th with a 320 total. Jared Lentz tied for 16th overall, and Kyle Wiebe placed 18th. Tyler Stevens rounded out the Viking men at 22nd.

Valley City State's women were led by Nicole Heinitz, who placed 15th in the 72-hole standings with a 379 total. Haley Christofferson had a 36-hole total of 186 at the spring portion of the meet, good for 18th, but she did not compete at the fall qualifier.

Due to weather and cancellations, the Vikings were only able to play two meets during the spring portion of their season.

Sorenson, who graduated in May, was named an NAIA Scholar-Athlete for the second time in his career.

Softball wins school-record 40-games

The 2016 Viking Softball team broke more than a dozen school records this spring under first-year head coach Michael Mook.

VCSU finished with a school-record 40 wins and took second place in the North Star Athletic Association. The Vikings were a contender to earn an at-large bid to the NAIA National Championship Opening Round but were the second team left out of the 40-team national tournament.

The Vikings met Dickinson State in the NSAA Championships Series but lost 2-1 in the series' decisive third game as Dickinson won the conference's automatic berth to the national tournament.

VCSU's 40-13 overall record ranked the Vikings 17th in the nation in winning percentage (.755), and they were one of just 19 teams with 40 or more wins. The Vikings' 40 wins broke the old school record of 36 wins set by the 2006 team, the last VCSU squad to make the national championships.

Under Coach Mook, the Vikings set eight new team records and five new individual school records.

The team set records for wins (40), hits (537) at bats (1,536), runs scored (355), runs batted in (318), home runs (44), doubles (79) and steals (148). Individually, Katarina Boychuk set new records for at bats (178) and walks (26); Katie Cameron set a new mark of 82 hits; Cejay Hilhorst drove in a record 58 runs; and Morgan Nalley tied a record with 22 pitching wins.

The accolades of the record-breaking season continued to roll in long after VCSU had played its final game. Five Vikings earned all-conference honors, including seniors Cameron, Hilhorst and Boychuk, junior Nalley, and sophomore Kathleen Gallais.

Hilhorst and Cameron both went on to receive all-region and All-American awards. Both were named first-team all-region by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association. Hilhorst earned second-team All-American honors from the NAIA national office, while Cameron earned second-team All-American honors from the NFCA.

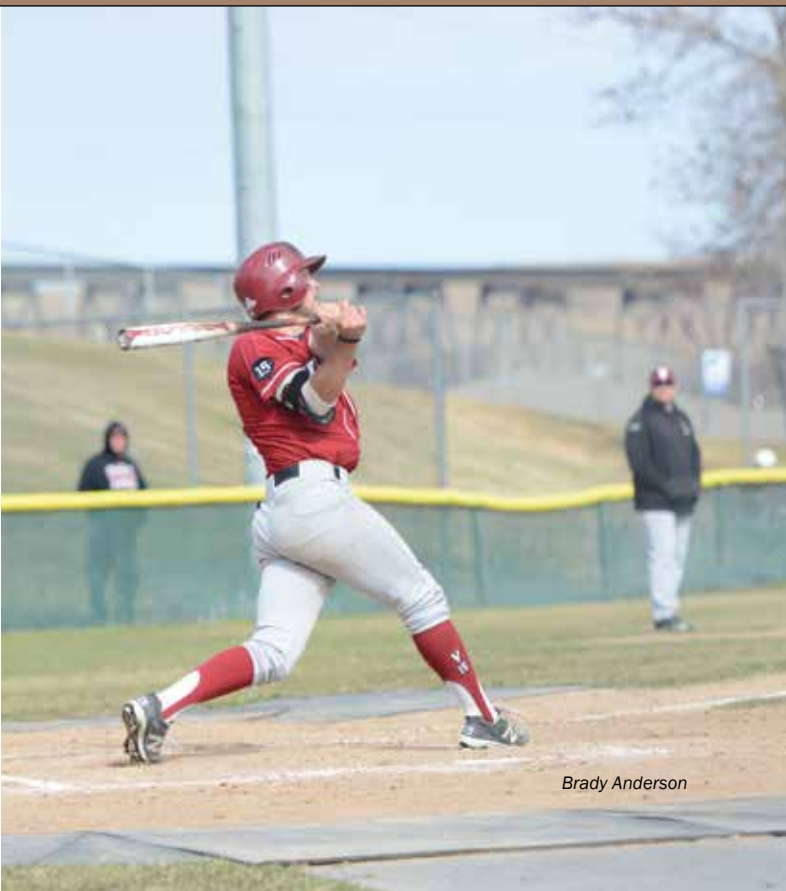
Cameron (Alameda, Saskatchewan) led the Vikings with a .480 batting average this season and played stellar defense at second base. She set a new VCSU record with 82 hits, breaking the old mark of 73 set by Cyndi Figol in 2010. Cameron hit 14 doubles, scored 55 runs and drove in 55 runs. She also went 41 of 43 on stolen base attempts. Cameron ranked Top 25 in the nation in 11 offensive categories.

Hilhorst (Killarney, Manitoba) anchored third base for the Vikings this season. She batted .463 and set a new school record with 58 RBIs, breaking the old mark of 50 set by Amanda Carter in 2010. She hit 17 doubles and 13 home runs, scored 44 runs and led the team with a .817 slugging percentage. Hilhorst ranked Top 35 in the nation in 11 offensive categories.

Six Vikings were named Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes: Boychuk, Cameron, Hilhorst, Nalley, Ashley Metcalf and Cassie Pautz.



Cejay Hilhorst



Brady Anderson

Baseball finishes at 21-35

The Valley City State University baseball team posted a 21-35 record during the 2015-16 season.

The Vikings advanced to the Bracket B Championship of the NSAA Conference Tournament before losing to eventual NAIA World Series participant Bellevue University. The Vikings entered the tournament seeded No. 8 but went 2-2 in the tournament to advance to the Bracket B title game.

A trio of Vikings earned all-conference honors during the season. Junior Joe Demers was named to the all-conference first team, while senior David Whitaker and junior Brady Anderson were named to the second team.

Demers (1B) batted .335 with 48 runs, six home runs and 30 RBIs. He led the team in runs scored (48), hits (67), walks (28) and on-base percentage (.429). Anderson (C/UTIL) batted .349 with 34 runs, 15 doubles, seven home runs and 42 RBIs. Anderson led the team in doubles (15), home runs (7), RBIs (42) and slugging percentage (.590).

Whitaker posted a 6-4 record with a 4.34 ERA this season as the Vikings top starting pitcher. He worked a team-high 83 innings and struck out 64 batters. Whitaker led the team in wins (6), starts (12), complete games (2), innings pitched (83) and strikeouts (64).

Junior Jared Meiklejohn (OF) and sophomore Andrew Frank (SP) received all-conference honorable mention.

Junior Mitch Scheer was named a Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete at the conclusion of the season.

The Vikings graduated just four seniors from the team. VCSU is again scheduled to play several games this fall that count toward the 2016-17 overall record.

Fall sports previews

Football: Vikings seek 5th conference title in six seasons

The 2016 VCSU football season will once again start with a bang. For the fourth straight year, Valley City State will play rival University of Jamestown in the season opener.

Winners of three previous season openers against Jamestown, the Vikings opened with the Jimmies this year on Thursday, Aug. 25.

That game started what looks to be another successful season of Viking football. After winning four straight conference championships from 2011-14, the Vikings finished second in the North Star Athletic Association last season, posting a 7-3 overall record. Over the last five seasons the Vikings are 37-15 overall and 25-4 in conference play. During that time the Vikings have won four conference titles and advanced to the NAIA playoffs twice.

The Vikings return a strong core from last year's squad, including the majority of a defense that ranked seventh in the nation in scoring defense, allowing just 17.1 points per

game. VCSU is slated to return nine defensive starters and seven offensive starters.

Headlining the returning defensive players are senior defensive back Jawuan Pugh, a two-time first-team all-conference selection, and junior linebacker Nicholas McBeain, who has topped 100 tackles and been named all-conference each of his first two seasons.

Offensively, the Vikings are led by returning senior quarterback Kurtis Walls, the 2014 conference Offensive MVP who has thrown 70 career touchdown passes—tied with Jeremy Peschel for most TD passes at VCSU. Walls's favorite target last year was receiver Colby Lum, back for his senior season after catching 50 passes for 777 yards and five TDs last season.

Entering the 2016 season, head coach Dennis McCulloch has a 113-80 overall record. He is just three wins shy of tying the all-time wins leader at VCSU, Jim Dew, who posted a 116-65-2 mark at VCSU from 1974-93.



Zackary Schmidt

2016 Viking volleyball blends old with new

The 2016 Viking Volleyball team will be an even mix of returners and new faces.

A trio of returning seniors lead the way this season as the Vikings look to improve on last year's 9-20 overall record.

All-conference libero Jaycee George is back for her senior season, as well as setter Taylor Balkan and hitter Darrien Cantelo. Junior Hailie Wilds is back again this year, as are three sophomores: Clarissa Olson, Autumn Johnson and Emily Weatherstone.

Those returners will mix with a group of seven incoming players, including four transfers and three freshmen.

Head coach Adam Longmore enters his third season leading the Vikings, and he will once again be assisted by Steve Rindfleisch.

The Vikings are scheduled to officially open the season Sept. 2-3 with four matches at the Corn Palace Classic in Mitchell, S.D. VCSU's first home match is Sept. 13 when they host a conference contest with Dakota State. The Vikings have a full slate of 16 conference matches, playing each NSAA team at home and away.



Jaycee George



Alex Askerooth

Cross country adds several new faces

The Viking cross country teams will look significantly different this year. After a busy year of recruiting, head coach Chris Johnson has added several new faces to the teams for the 2016 season.

The men's and women's teams have added a combined seven new athletes, including five transfers who add instant collegiate running experience to the lineup.

VCSU is scheduled to open the 2016 season Sept. 9 at the MSU-Moorhead Twilight Meet.

Last year, VCSU had three athletes qualify for the NAIA Cross Country Championships.

Hoops coaching additions include 2 alumni assistants



Ryan Montgomery

Three new faces, including two alumni, have joined the basketball coaching ranks at VCSU.

Ryan Montgomery takes over the VCSU men's program as head coach after working as the top assistant coach at Bemidji State University since 2010. Montgomery

succeeds Jeff Kaminsky, who moved to the head men's basketball position at Wayne State College in Nebraska.

Montgomery has hired VCSU alumnus Karl Sorby '13 as his top assistant. Sorby, who served as a student assistant during his time at VCSU, was most recently a graduate assistant for three years at University of Mary.

Jill DeVries, Viking head women's basketball coach, has hired alumna Courtney Titus '13 as her lead assistant coach for this season. Titus played women's basketball four seasons at VCSU from 2009-13 and was a key figure on three straight national tournament teams in 2011, 2012 and 2013. Following graduation from VCSU, Titus attended Creighton University School of Law (Omaha, Neb.) and recently completed her Doctor of Law degree.



Karl Sorby



Courtney Titus

2016 FALL SPORTS

Visit vcsuvikings.com, to view the latest schedules for all sports.

Home games in **bold**. All times are Central Time.
*NSAA conference game

VOLLEYBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 2-3	Corn Palace Classic, Mitchell, S.D.	
Sept. 2	Mount Marty College	10 a.m.
Sept. 2	Dickinson State	4 p.m.
Sept. 3	Clarke University	10 a.m.
Sept. 3	Dakota Wesleyan	4 p.m.
Sept. 7	@ Concordia-Moorhead	7 p.m.
Sept. 9-10	St. Mary/Grace Tourney, Omaha, Neb.	
Sept. 9	William Penn	10:30 a.m.
Sept. 9	Mount Mercy	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 10	Mount Marty	8:30 a.m.
Sept. 10	Peru State	12:30 p.m.
Sept. 13	vs. Dakota State*	7 p.m.
Sept. 16-17	Clarke University Tourney, Dubuque, Iowa	
Sept. 16	IU-South Bend	2 p.m.
Sept. 16	Calument College of St. Joe	6 p.m.
Sept. 17	Judson College	10 a.m.
Sept. 17	Trinity International	2 p.m.
Sept. 23	vs. Bellevue University*	7 p.m.
Sept. 24	vs. Presentation College*	5 p.m.
Sept. 27	vs. Concordia-Moorhead	7 p.m.
Sept. 30	@ Waldorf University*	7 p.m.
Oct. 1	@ Viterbo University*	3 p.m.
Oct. 5	vs. Mayville State*	7 p.m.
Oct. 7	vs. University of Jamestown*	7 p.m.
Oct. 8	vs. Dickinson State*	3 p.m.
Oct. 14	vs. Morningside College	6 p.m.
Oct. 15	Mayville State Tournament, Mayville, N.D.	
Oct. 15	Dakota Wesleyan	11 a.m.
Oct. 15	Grace University	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	@ Bellevue University*	7 p.m.
Oct. 22	@ Dakota State*	3 p.m.
Oct. 26	@ Presentation College*	7 p.m.
Oct. 28	vs. Viterbo University*	7 p.m.
Oct. 29	vs. Waldorf University*	3 p.m.
Nov. 2	@ Mayville State*	7 p.m.
Nov. 4	@ Dickinson State*	8 p.m.
Nov. 5	@ University of Jamestown*	3 p.m.

FOOTBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Aug. 25	vs. University of Jamestown	7 p.m.
Sept. 3	@ Dickinson State	3 p.m.
Sept. 10	vs. Hastings College	1 p.m.
Sept. 24	vs. Waldorf U. (Homecoming)*	2 p.m.
Oct. 1	vs. Dickinson State*	3 p.m.
Oct. 8	@ Mayville State*	1 p.m.
Oct. 15	@ Dakota State*	4 p.m.
Oct. 22	vs. Presentation College*	1 p.m.
Oct. 29	@ University of Jamestown*	1 p.m.
Nov. 10	@ Southeastern College (Fla.)	6 p.m.

GOLF

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Aug. 28-29	Mystic Open @ Prairie West GC	Bismarck, N.D.
Aug. 31	Jimmie Early Bird @ Jamestown CC	Jamestown, N.D.
Sept. 8-9	Blue Hawk Invite	Dickinson, N.D.
Sept. 18-19	Jimmie Fall Classic @ Jamestown CC	Jamestown, N.D.
Sept. 22	Cougar Invite @ Pomme de Terre GC	Morris, Minn.
Sept. 26-27	NSAA Fall Qualifier—Wedgewood GC	Albert Lea, Minn.
April-May	Spring Meets—To Be Announced	TBD

FALL BASEBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 7	vs. Mayville State	6 p.m.
Sept. 14	@ University of Jamestown	6 p.m.
Sept. 21	@ University of Jamestown	6 p.m.
Sept. 28	vs. Mayville State	6 p.m.
Oct. 2	vs. Dickinson State (DH)	2 p.m.
Oct. 8	@ University of Winnepeg (DH)	1 p.m.

CROSS COUNTRY

DATE	EVENT	TIME
Sept. 9	MSUM Twilight, Moorhead, Minn.	8 p.m.
Sept. 24	Roy Griak Invite, St. Paul, Minn.	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	Jimmie Invite, Jamestown, N.D.	4 p.m.
Oct. 22	Mt. Marty Invite—Yankton, S.D.	TBA
Nov. 5	NSAA Championships—Dickinson, N.D.	TBA



(l to r) Carla Kelly, Phillip Godel '02, Martin Kelly



Eric '05 and Jill (Friestad) '02 Bergstadt

Kellys rekindle bonds with alumni and friends of VCSU Theatre

by Jenni Lou Russi, associate professor and theatre director

Teaching in a cocurricular program like theatre requires additional responsibilities with students outside the classroom. The student-teacher relationship in these programs is unlike most on campus. As a group, they work, play, learn new skills, and face unusual challenges— in and out of the classroom, and often in public settings, on and off campus. As students graduate their career choices and potential are influenced by the many hours they spent with their professor outside the classroom.

Martin “Doc” Kelly, former VCSU director of theatre, and his wife, Carla, returned to campus for the Vangstad Ribbon-Cutting in May. When they were here in Valley City, the couple worked together on the productions, with Carla, a professional writer and novelist, writing the press releases and creating many of the costumes worn by the students.

Understanding the unique and close relationship the Kellys had with their students, current VCSU theatre director Jenni Lou Russi knew alumni would want to see them when they returned to campus, so she organized a VCSU Theatre event for the couple to meet with alumni and community leaders, high school teachers, and VCSU faculty and staff who knew them in their time here. This was Doc Kelly’s first visit to campus since his retirement in Spring 2009.

Alumni from as early as the Class of '81 gathered with more recent alumni and current students during the event. The gathering proved to be a family event when alumni brought their children so they could meet their former professor and his wife, whom they consider their personal friends.

Kaitlin Huss, a current VCSU student majoring in communication, has fond memories of working with Doc in Community Theatre productions in Valley City before the Community Theatre closed. He inspired the Huss family to participate in theatre. Kaitlin’s father, Gerry Huss, an older actor who became a mentor for VCSU theatre students while performing in “Third” and “Post-Its” after Martin retired, also shares warm memories of working with the Kellys.

In 2013, Gerry and his grandson, Kaitlin’s son Michael Huss-Reeves, joined several VCSU students, faculty, and staff with their families on the stage for the musical “The Jungle Book.” Later Kaitlin became a student at VCSU and was the assistant sound designer for “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” as a practicum student in Theatre 201 in Spring 2015. The Kellys and the Huss family enjoyed reminiscing about their work at the former Valley City Community Theatre.

During the reunion gathering, couples introduced their children to the Kellys and reminisced about meeting their spouse during rehearsals with Doc. Andrea (Kelsch) Jensen '08, M.Ed. '12, met her husband, James Jen-

sen, during rehearsals for “Something’s Afoot” in Spring 2006. Andrea is a fifth-grade teacher at Washington Elementary in Valley City, and James is a real estate broker in Valley City and active with civic organizations. The Jensen family visited with the Kellys and other alumni families.

Active members of the Enderlin Fine Arts Association, the Bergstadt family was strongly influenced by Doc, and each member of the family participates in the community musical each year. This year Eric '05 and Jill (Friestad) '02 Bergstadt played the leads in “The Music Man.” Eric leads the vocal and instrumental music programs at Enderlin Middle/High School and also serves as assistant football coach. Jill is active in Enderlin at the schools, with the theatre, and as a manager with student music events around the state. Their first show together at VCSU was “Godspell” in Spring '03.

Doc had a special reunion with alumnus Phil Godel '02, who returned to VCSU Theatre in Fall 2013 as technical director. Phil worked closely with Doc on many productions while earning his degree in English education. Now based in Fargo, Phil is a professional actor in commercials, most recently the “Noodling” Doritos commercial featuring him as a “merman” in a spot that aired internationally. He is also a member of LineBenders, a professional comedy improv touring group.

Zack Lee '11, a Minneapolis-based actor, also returned to VCSU for the event to visit with the Kellys. Zack was active in theatre when Doc retired in his second year at VCSU. After graduation from VCSU, Zack earned a graduate degree in theatre at the University of North Dakota. He is now a working actor performing at professional theatres in and around the Minneapolis area.

The Kellys enjoyed their visit to Valley City and a chance to see so many familiar faces. They remain in close contact with many VCSU graduates via social media from their home in Idaho Falls, Idaho. The lifelong bonds they created—the product of their shared cocurricular activity of theatre—remain strong.

2016–17 Theatre Productions

Lysistrata ♦ November 11–13, 17–19

Almost, Maine ♦ February 10–12, 16–18

Student Director Showcase ♦ April 6–8



LIKE **VCSU Theatre** on Facebook for more events and updates!

Music Hall of Fame banquet

The VCSU Music Hall of Fame Recognition Banquet will be held Saturday, Sept. 10, 2016 in the Student Center Skoal Room. This event will honor two outstanding VCSU alumnae: Linda (Stevenson) Banister '72 and Connie (Juntunen) Turner '69.

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.

Linda (Stevenson) Banister



Linda has served as professor of music at Augusta University in Augusta, Ga., for 27 years, teaching studio voice, vocal diction, and opera literature, among others. She completed her undergraduate degree at Valley City State College, now VCSU, with majors in music education and elementary education, along with a minor in English, in 1972. She then in Jamestown, N.D., for 15 years at the elementary and collegiate levels.

Banister earned a Master of Music degree in vocal performance from the University of Missouri in Columbia and earned a Doctor of Music degree in voice performance from Florida State University in Tallahassee. She has been a frequent solo recitalist and guest artist, with performances throughout the central and southeastern United States, central Italy, China and Hong Kong.

Banister's performances and presentations include: soloist/presenter at the International Jazz and the Germans Conference (1995); a soloist of Henry Purcell songs on a program of music at the court of Queen Victoria for two regional conferences of the Carolinas Symposium on British Studies (1995, 1997); a paper at the national convention of the Music Teachers National Association (1996), artist-in-residence at the Instituto Musicale Orazio Vecchi in Modena, Italy (1996), and at the Hong Kong International School (1999). Her operatic roles include The Mother in Humperdinck's "Hansel und Gretel," Dido in Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas," Katisha in Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado," Princess Marganza in Sousa's "El Capitan," Mrs. Paroo in "The Music Man," Public Opinion in Offenbach's "Orpheus in the Underworld," La Principessa in Puccini's "Suor Angelica," Marthe in Gounod's "Faust," and Giovanna in Verdi's "Rigoletto." Most recently, Banister performed "Voi lo sapete" from "Cavalleria Rusticana" by Mascagni and Beethoven's "Ah! Perfido," as well as performing as a soloist on the Bruckner "Te deum," in concerts with the Augusta University Symphony Orchestra.

Banister has conducted choral and vocal workshops and adjudicated in the Dakotas, Wyoming, Missouri, Florida, and Georgia. She served as secretary for the Southeastern Region of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) and district governor of NATS in Georgia, and held offices in the North Dakota and Georgia chapters of NATS. A member of Pi Kappa Lambda and Kappa Delta Pi, Banister serves as artistic director for the Harry Jacobs Chamber Music Society, Augusta, Ga.

Connie (Juntunen) Turner



Connie teaches conducting and music education as an adjunct professor at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, where she founded and conducted the university's Concert Band for 10 years and served on the faculty of the university's Canadian Wind Conductors Development Program.

Serving on the advisory board of the Canadian Rocky Mountain Festival, Turner coordinates their prestigious Teachers' Professional Development Program held each April in Banff, Alberta. Turner is a proud supporter of the International Music Camp at the International Peace Garden near Dunseith, N.D. She has served as an International Music Camp board member for 39 years and most recently returned for her fourth visit as guest conductor. This past year she also conducted the Manitoba Provincial Honor Band and the Western Manitoba Honor Band.

Born in Rolla, N.D., Turner earned a music education degree from Valley City State University in 1969, and a master's degree from the University of North Dakota, followed by two years of teaching in Souris, N.D. She crossed the border to Canada in 1971 and enjoyed an illustrious career as a music educator in the Winnipeg School Division for 35 years, developing nationally recognized instrumental and choral ensembles; her Technical Vocational High School Jazz Band was selected in 1987 as the most outstanding jazz band in Canada.

Turner has worked for 15 years in the music industry as a repertoire and program consultant for band directors. In recognition of her career achievements, she has been awarded the Manitoba Band Association Award of Distinction and the University of Manitoba Excellence in Teaching Award. Turner is very active as an adjudicator, clinician, workshop presenter, and guest conductor.

Nominations/Ticket Information Alumni are encouraged to contact the Department of Music about the criteria for this award and to nominate candidates for the 2018 Hall of Fame awards. For nomination forms or to make reservations (\$35.00 per person) for the 2016 Music Hall of Fame Banquet, contact Paula Larson in the Music Department office at paula.larson@vcsu.edu or 701-845-7272. Payment must be received no later than September 1; tickets will not be available at the door.

Fall 2016 Department of Music Events

Sept. 9	Guest Artists - Monroe Crossing Vangstad	7:30 p.m.	Oct. 18	General Student Recital Froemke	11 a.m.
Sept. 10	Music Hall of Fame Skoal Room	6 p.m.	Oct. 14	Choir Concert Vangstad	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 17	Choir Retreat, Wesley Acres		Oct. 22	MTNA State Competitions Froemke	all day
Sept. 19	Nicholaus Meyers, Composition Recital Froemke	7:30 p.m.	Oct. 28	Instrumental Concert Vangstad	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 30	Faculty Recital Froemke	7:30 p.m.	Nov. 1	General Student Recital Froemke	11 a.m.
Oct. 7	Ployhar Honor Band	all day	Nov. 7	Laczkoski & Meyers, Faculty Recital Froemke	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 7	Geraldine Ong, Faculty Piano Recital Froemke	7:30 p.m.			
Oct. 8	Ployhar Honor Band Concert	TBA			

For a complete up-to-date list of events please visit music.vcsu.edu

Art Briefs



Photography Prize

“Barbwire,” a photograph by Michael Bichler, a December 2015 VCSU graduate, was a college finalist in Photographer’s Forum magazine’s 2016 Best of College & High School Photography Contest.



Dieken participates in Midwest Artist Studios Project

Karri Dieken, assistant professor of art, was interviewed in July 2016 in her Valley City State studio as part of the Midwest Artist Studios Project, a series of visits to regional artists who embrace the importance of art education.

In the interview, Dieken expressed her belief that art is for everyone and should be shared with all. A portion of the interview can be found online at midwestartiststudios.com/2016/07/13/day-4-view-from-the-road.

The project will continue through the 2016–17 academic year with Dieken doing Skype interviews with Wisconsin K-12 art students. Works created will be exhibited in March 2017 in Wisconsin and published in a K-12 art curriculum catalog.

Gilbertson works featured in art hunt



VCSU art student Cassy Gilbertson painted insect images on 12 tiles for use as the hidden art objects in Jamestown’s Mini-Art Hunt, which was held July 9. An article about the artwork and the hunt is described in the July 7 Jamestown Sun article, “Insect artwork by Gilbertson featured in Art Center’s Mini-Art Hunt,” available online at www.jamestownsun.com/news/local/4069166-insect-artwork-gilbertson-featured-arts-centers-mini-art-hunt.

VCSU artists attend print workshop

In July 2016, Karri Dieken, assistant professor of art, and VCSU art student Megan Fuller attended the 35th annual Frogman’s Print Workshop at the University of Nebraska Omaha, learning from contemporary artists working in print from across the country.

Fuller invested two weeks at the workshop, studying stone lithography and polyester plate lithography. Dieken took part in the photogravure course, experimenting with cyanotype printing and the photogravure process using digital negatives and contact printing. Pictured is a copy plate with photogravure image etched into the surface and a cyanotype print of the same image from a negative.



‘Daisy’ by Megan Trautman

McCarthy Gallery Schedule 2016

FALL SEMESTER 2016

August 25–September 16

Megan Trautman Student Exhibition/Senior Portfolio

Gallery Talk – September 2 at 5 p.m. with reception to follow

September 26–November 2

Visiting Artist Exhibition

November 11–December 7

Student Spotlight Exhibition

VCSU VIKING Heroes UNITE



22nd Annual SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION

The 22nd annual Valley City State University Scholarship Auction—with the theme “VCSU Viking Heroes Unite”—was held Friday, April 15, at the Valley City Eagles Club.

The social event of the season, the auction filled the Eagles with a capacity crowd of loyal VCSU supporters, who enjoyed a buffet dinner and silent and live auctions, with proceeds going to V-500 and Century Club scholarships for VCSU students.

The auction committee worked hard to plan a fun night that brought out the hero in each and every participant; all attendees contributed directly to student success at VCSU as the event raised more than \$77,500 for scholarships!



Just Married



1. **Jon Schilling '06** and Kristin Grunert were married in Show Low, Ariz., on June 4, 2016, with friends and family attending. The couple resides in Phoenix, Ariz., where Kristin works for Vanguard and Jon is the director of life enrichment at the Beatitudes Campus.

2. Hannah Schmidt and **Michael Danielson '11** were married on May 28 at the same church where they met during a small group gathering in Willmar, Minn. Hannah is a third grade teacher at Roosevelt Elementary in Willmar. Michael started a construction company in 2013. Since then, he has built several residential homes, completed renovations galore and done roofing projects from time to time. He currently designs and prices out twin-home plans for senior citizens to rent in the west central Minnesota area. Michael is hoping to start building the first two units in the coming months.

3. Katelyn Midtbo and **Dusty Renner '12** were married June 9, 2016, in Maui, Hawaii. Katelyn grew up in Kansas City, Mo., and moved to Fargo to attend Minnesota State University Moorhead. Dusty is from Britton, S.D., and moved to Fargo after graduating from VCSU. They are now enjoying married life and excited about the house they are building, which will be completed this fall.

4. **Megan Good '16** and Tyler Thielges were married in LaMoure on June 18, 2016. (Tyler attended VCSU from Fall 2013 to Spring 2015.)

5. **Alyssa Sorensen '07** and Travis Albrecht were married July 1, 2016, in Valley City. Travis farms near Wimbleton, N.D., and Alyssa is the K-12 PE/health teacher and athletic trainer at Barnes County North. They live near Wimbleton.



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 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.



Kansas Wayne Hooley
January 22, 2016
10 pounds 4 ounces,
22.5 inches
Joins big brother Radke
(age 3.5)
Mallory (Undlin) '08 and
Randy Hooley '08



**Albert "Albie"
Fernando Santaella**
May 26, 2015
7 pounds 8 ounces,
20.75 inches
Allison (Rubie) '13 and
Robert Santaella



**Eva Hannelore
Thoms**
December 30, 2014
5 pounds 10 ounces,
18.5 inches
Leah (Rogina) '10 and
Jason Thoms



**Andrew Jason
Burchill**
November 13, 2015
5 pounds 12 ounces,
18.7 inches
Mary (Weshnevski) '04
and Jason Burchill '04



**Eliana Grace
Waldner**
April 21, 2016
7 pounds 11 ounces,
19 inches
Sara (Henderson) '12 and
Jeff Waldner



Owen Michael Haugen
June 19, 2015
6 pounds 4 ounces, 19.75 inches



Riston James Leier
November 28, 2015
7 pounds 5 ounces,
20 inches
Joins big brothers Brayson
and Corbin
Andrea (Rodlund) '09 and
Derrick Leier



**Ainsley Jade
Bommersbach**
April 25, 2016
7 pounds 3 ounces,
20.75 inches
Kristine (Dammel) '13 and
Adam Bommersbach '12



**Lux Victoria
Nielsen**
February 11, 2016
8 pounds 2 ounces,
21 inches
Amanda (McKay) '11 and
Nick Nielsen '07



**Miles William
Blunck**
November 13, 2015
8 pounds 3 ounces,
20 inches
Joins sister Kaydence (age
5)
Bridget (O'Brien) '05 and
William Blunck '03

Maddox J. Haugen
June 19, 2015
6 pounds 1 ounce, 20 inches
Andrea (Brand) '04 and Wade Haugen '14
The twins join big brother Grady (age 4)

Vikings on the Move

1950s

Donald Frost '50 and his wife, Joanne, celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary on June 1, 2016. They spent three weeks this winter in the Florida sun and returned to Illinois to finish the bowling season and start golf league.

Gen (Johnson) '55 and **John Richardson '53** are retired and live in southern California. They have many fond memories of their State Teacher College years.

Barbara (Langdahl) Gilbertson '54 and her husband, Russ, moved into Sun Center Assisted Living in Mayville, N.D., in April 2014. Russ passed away in October of that year. Barbara enjoys activities in her church, cardiac cares caring club and the hospital. She still likes to travel, but it is not nearly as much fun traveling alone.

Joan (Ertelt) Olson '56 spends the winter months in Naples, Fla. She enjoys traveling to her grandchildren's graduations and weddings.

Roger Rasmusson '58 and his wife, Delores, have moved from Willmar, Minn., to Chisago City, Minn., to be closer to family.

Robert Hermann-Keeling '58 is the director of the Life Course Institute of Adlerian Psychology. The only practicing Adlerian psychologist in Connecticut, he conducts Adlerian education on Skype and has written seven books on Adlerian psychology. Robert has four children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He recently underwent Whipple surgery to remove three benign tumors, had a sprained back for six months and had a stroke leading to partial immobility of his left arm. Robert would be happy to hear from fellow class of 58 "STC" alumni via email at bobhk@aol.com.

1960s

Marilyn (Lunneborg) Worner '65 and her husband retired in 2003. Marilyn was a teacher at Ben Franklin Middle School in Fargo, and her husband, Michael, was a professor at Mayville State. They spend their summers at White Earth Lake in Minnesota and visit their grandchildren in Fargo on a regular basis. They see **Audrey (Dohman) Gaukler '67** and **Helen (Dahlen) Busche '75** on a regular basis because they were classmates in Milnor, N.D., along with Nancy King.

Wayne Shustrom '65 substitute teaches and volunteers at other schools. The last two years he has spent the month of March in Mesa, Ariz. A real highlight of his retirement is spending time with his six grandkids.

1970s

Paul Hentges '70 and his wife, Patty, live in Great Bend, N.D. (He notes that Great Bend is the smallest city in North Dakota with a population of 51.) They are busy taking care of their 17 grandchildren: Kaylee, age 17; Cade, 13; Ally, 12; twins Aidan and Caleb, 11; Haylee, 7; Cambri, 6; Gavin, 6; Hunter, 5; Conner, 5; Phoebe, 4; Cruz, 3; Owen, 3; Cee Cee, 2; Piper, 2; Paityn, 1; and Olivia 1 month. Life has been great!



Jay Morgan '69 attended the 52nd Annual North Dakota Suncoast Luncheon on Feb. 20, 2016, at the River Wilderness Golf & Country Club in Parrish, Fla. Jay and his wife, Louise, are pictured in the foyer of the beautiful country club with friends Loretta and Roger Etzell. Both Roger and Jay are 1965 graduates of Valley City High School. The welcoming address was given by NDSU President Dean Bresciani with 99 people in attendance. Door Prizes from VCSU, UND, NDSU and Bank Forward were distributed. Call Jay at 941-378-4444 for information on the 2017 annual luncheon to be held on Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017.

Judy (Holt) '71 and **Walt Vollmers '71** spent the winter in Lake Havasu, Ariz., after Judy retired from North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF) in January. They are looking forward to spending the summer at their cabin at Lake Tschida. They get together with the Delphi group every summer and other times during the year. They are enjoying retirement.

Verna Moos '73 is enjoying retirement while working at Alpha Opportunities, Inc. in Jamestown, N.D. She taught special education for 42 years in North Dakota and Texas.

Kay (Haugen) Omdahl '77 and her husband, Neil, are still living in Rogers, N.D. Neil works in Jamestown, and Kaye is blessed to babysit her grandson every day. They also have three granddaughters and another grandson. Kay states, "Life is good!"

Janell (Johnson) '78 and **John Quinlan '77** reside in Bismarck. Janell continues to work with the state in the Division of Emergency Management Services. In August, she will have been there 25 years. John retired from the Office of State Tax Commissioner in April 2015 after 38 years. He worked in sales and special taxes as a compliance officer. For many years he gave sales tax workshops across North Dakota and with sales tax representatives from Minnesota and South Dakota. At the time he retired he was also a member of the Federation of Tax Administrators Tobacco Tax Executive Committee, having served as a past national chair.

1980s

Mary Halvorson '89 is in her 27th year of teaching. She currently teaches second and third grade Title I at Jefferson Elementary in Valley City. She spends her summer months with Insure Forward in the crop insurance department.

1990s



Karl Blake '94 has been named as the new CEO/general manager of Polar Communications. Karl, formerly COO at the company, has been with Polar since 1996. "I am very excited about this opportunity

and look forward to continuing my career with a progressive company and great employees," said Karl. "North Dakota is one of the most connected states, and it's a great place to be."

Laurie Zacher '95 will be retiring from the North Dakota Army National Guard in August after 30 years of service. She says she may finally put her teaching degree to work and do some substituting until she decides what she wants to be when she grows up.

In Remembrance

Catherine (Powers) Johnson '35, Mankato, Minn.
Agnes (Klein) Oxton '38, Sauk Rapids, Minn.
Dorothy (Skonnord) Bennett '42, Seattle, Wash.
Florence (Reidburn) Giebel '42, Burnsville, Minn.
Eloise (Stading) Heidkross '42, Mason City, Iowa
Audrey (Nayes) Primos '42, Madison, Miss.
Ruth (Rickbeil) Vincent '42, Nampa, Idaho
Margaret (Dooley) Baumler '43, Casselton, N.D.
Twila (Rognlie) Marshall '44, Davis, CA
Faye (Whitman-DeKrey) Knoblich '45, Jamestown, N.D.
Gerturde (Kressin) Nelson '45, Alexandria, Minn.
Mary (Kurtz) Lang '45, Lynden, Wash.
John B. Nelson '45, San Diego, CA
Stella (Schramm) Bennett '46, Shelton, Wash.
Doreen (Nohrenburg) Noltimier '48, Charles City, Iowa
Kay (Willson) Grager '52, Booney Lake, Wash.
Shirley (Lovell) Wilson '52, Bismarck, N.D.
Louis Wolter '57, Fargo, N.D.
Gordon Ringdahl, Milnor, N.D.
Isadora (Borah) Sandmeier '59, Kennewick, Wash.
Yvonne (Maluski) Anderson '65, Starbuck, Minn.
Arthur Goffe '67, West Fargo, N.D.
Kay McPhail '68, Oakes, N.D.
Ronald Putz '69, Bismarck, N.D.
Shirlee (Sagaser) Van Erem '72, Bismarck, N.D.
Diane (McGuire) Shape '78, Litchville, N.D.
Kimberly (Sheldon) Vetter '87, Wilmington, N.C.
Troy Reinertson '92, Fargo, N.D.
Matthew Klein '96, Golden Valley, Minn.
Virginia Monroe, Ellendale, N.D.
Wanda (Anderson) Newkirk, Valley City
Myles Trapp, Valley City
Ted Zaun, Valley City

Former Faculty & Staff

Donald Cannon, Mayville, N.D.

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.

1973

Lane Bergman
Rayanne (Doyle) Dahl
Hidemasa Ioka
Verna Weber
Nancy Wolhart

1974

Robert Becker
Gail Bopp
Rachel Koehn
Eileen Mack
Gerald Nagel
Phillip Schmidt
Thomas Weinmann
Marcia (O'Brien) Weisser

1975

Larry Hanson
Michael Hellman
Edna Olson
Linda (Jenner) Paluck

1976

Cynthia Abraham
Vernon Engblom
Helen (Feist) Gassmann
Lynda (Carlson) Goggin
Judith Kaiser
David Lloyd
Koreen Schlecht
Leo Schweitzer
John Thomas
Adeline Thorne
David Tischer

1977

Tatsuya Saji

1978

Kathryn (Eddy) Roth
Nancy (Bodiford) Smith

1979

Faye Anderson
Debbie (Erdmann) Smith
Tom Stevenson

1980

James Brewer
Jon Gilbertson
Lois (Franklund) Hanson
Roy Ottinger

1981

Martin Dahl
Kim (Monson) Oberlander
Kimberly (Buchholz) Werlinger

1982

Julie Bassingthwaite
Francine (Netzer) Harter
Robin (Orr) Kohler
Patricia Kouba
Rick Reding
Gene Riedinger
Massoud Safiri
Daniel Stephan
Lisa (Webster) Webster-Ott

1983

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

1984

Gayleen (Hieb) Hoggarth
Vanessa (Heintz) Jodock
Rick Kohler
Lori (Krueger) Oldenburg
Brian Samdahl
Pamela (Vagle) Sand
Vernel Schneider
Michael Thompson
Christine Wiese
George Yarbrough
Evelyn (Laube) Youle

1985

Kim Lawler
Laurelle Mehus
Ronald Reardon
Lisa (Tollefson) Tollefson-Larson
Sue Whitney

1986

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

1987

Steven Barreth
Todd Goolsbey
Theresa (Baker) Marcellais
Hopie Qual
LeRoy Robinson
Elizabeth Schmitt
Renee (Huschka) Wilson

1988

Camille (Rinehart) Brandt
Lee Finnson
Susan Larson
Ward Lunneborg
Lisa (White) Nelson
Beth Sorenson
Darwin St. Clair
Julie Ulrich

1989

Olivia Matthews
Sherri (Gums) Stokes
Mark Wilson





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

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

