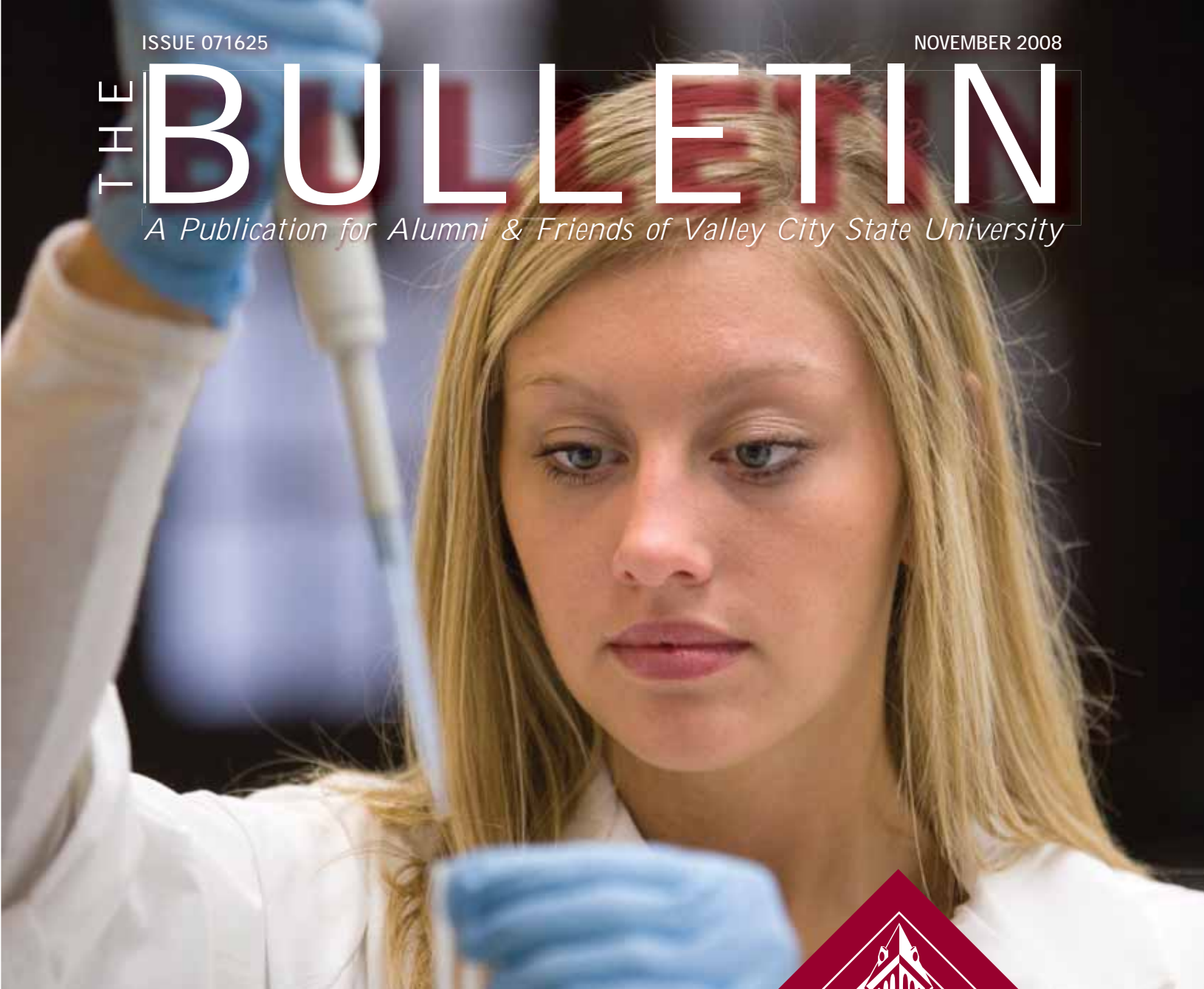


THE BULLETIN

A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University



VCSU Takes Lead in STEM Education



VALLEY CITY
STATE UNIVERSITY

VCSU

Homecoming 2008 ♦ Viking Sports Go Online ♦ Golf Set to Return



DEPARTMENTS

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

COVER STORY



4 STEM Education

In an alarming trend that can have severe economic and strategic consequences, the United States is rapidly losing its leadership in the field of engineering. To reverse this trend, leaders in education are making fundamental changes to K-12 curriculum in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics - the STEM fields. Read our cover story to learn what VCSU is doing to develop solutions in this important effort.

VCSU HEADLINES



2 Dr. Shirley Delivers First State of the University Address

VCSU's new president reviewed his thoughts on both the challenges and opportunities VCSU faces. You can view the entire address via the internet at www.vcsu.edu/media



6 VCSU Promotion Goes Outdoors

The university launched a new promotional campaign combining outdoor advertising (billboards), direct mail, and interactive promotion, all focused on increasing enrollment.



8 Homecoming 2008

Fantastic fall weather, alumni returning to campus, and students having a great time enjoying their school spirit made for a memorable Homecoming week.

15 Golf ball lost for 60 Years Stirs Memories of Another Era at VCSU

Say the name "Rhoades" on campus, and most people immediately think of the Rhoades Science Center, named in honor of Dusty Rhoades, professor of Chemistry and Physics from 1919 - 1961. But what was Durwin Berntson '77 to make of a golf ball bearing the name he found while on a stroll through Medicine Wheel Park?

ON THE COVER: VCSU senior Brittany Olson, a Health Science major from Halstad, MN, works in VCSU's aquatic macroinvertebrate laboratory conducting research on the pesticide Atrazine and its effect on the environment. "Hands-on" work like this is a key element of STEM education (which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), and VCSU is taking a leadership role in preparing the teachers of tomorrow in this emerging teaching philosophy. See our cover story on page 4 for more.

The Bulletin is published in spring, summer and fall by the Valley City State University Alumni Association, Valley City, ND. Postage paid at Valley City and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER Send address changes to: The Bulletin, 101 College Street SW, Valley City, ND 58072.

Welcome to The Bulletin!

Larry Robinson.....	701-845-7217
Executive Director of University Advancement	larry.robinson@vcsu.edu
Kim Hesch.....	701-845-7403
Assistant Director of University Advancement	kim.hesch@vcsu.edu
Loree Morehouse.....	701-845-7203
Data Processing and Research Coordinator	loree.morehouse@vcsu.edu
Doug Anderson.....	701-845-7227
Director, Marketing and Communications	doug.anderson@vcsu.edu
B.J. Pumroy.....	701-845-7160
Athletic Director	bj.pumroy@vcsu.edu
Toll Free.....	800-532-8641 ext. 37203
VCSU Home Page.....	www.vcsu.edu





Above and beyond...

Dr. Steve Shirley, President

What an exciting time for Valley City State University, higher education, our state, and region! North Dakota's economy is flourishing in a variety of sectors such as energy, agriculture, manufacturing, service, and retail. Despite national issues, the economy of our state and region remain strong. Higher education in North Dakota is also experiencing significant advancements as new and expanded research, collaborations, academic programs, and partnerships are continuing the connection between higher education and economic development throughout the state. Certainly, there are also some very exciting activities occurring right here at VCSU. Recently released Fall 2008 enrollment figures indicate a 3.8% increase in overall headcount compared to Fall 2007. Graduate enrollment of 119 students in our Master's programs this fall is a new record for VCSU. Our Freshmen-to-Sophomore retention rate was 68% this year, the highest that figure has been since 2002. These are all positive indicators of growth and important steps in the right direction.

Ensuring campus growth is on a firm foundation, VCSU has embarked on a number of important collaborations with various partners both within and outside North Dakota. These relationships with external partners and institutions of higher education are critical to VCSU expansion. I am particularly pleased with the spirit of collegiality and cooperation shown by our faculty and staff in securing these relationships – it is at the very core of what higher education is all about. Of course, most importantly, these relationships establish new opportunities and potential new experiences for our students.

Several new collaborations include VCSU's partnering with Minot State University-Bottineau and the Dakota Nursing Program to offer nursing programs crucial to Valley City and the surrounding region. VCSU's Center of Excellence, Enterprise University, is partnering with the NDSU Research and Technology Park to deliver software training and utilize virtual incubator technologies. VCSU has professors working with their peers at a number of the Tribal colleges throughout North Dakota creating win-win partnerships for all involved. VCSU partners with the National Center for Technological Literacy at the Boston Museum of Science in the national education initiative, "Closing the Technology and Engineering Teaching Gap." We are now delivering education

A final, critical partnership VCSU enjoys is the relationship we have with each and every one of you as our alumni, friends, and supporters. These are the most important relationships we have.

programs to students at Northwest College in Powell, Wyoming addressing shortages in Elementary Education programs in that state. We have begun conversations with the UND College of Business to deliver MBA programs in Valley City for our graduating seniors and others in the community. VCSU professors have long delivered the Elementary Education program to NDSU students in Fargo, and new partnerships are emerging with NDSU in the area of Art Education. VCSU is exploring new and expanded partnering opportunities on articulation and course/program delivery agreements with universities at regional, national, and international levels.

These are just a few of the numerous collaborations occurring at Valley City State University with partners both within the state and beyond. These relationships provide new opportunities for VCSU students as well as students from other universities.

Opportunities for VCSU to use its expertise and serve unmet academic needs are especially gratifying and certainly fulfilling of our mission as a public institution of higher education. It is partnerships such as these that are the hallmark of a strong institution and strong system, such as the North Dakota University System.

A final, critical partnership VCSU enjoys is the relationship we have with each and every one of you as our alumni, friends, and supporters. These are the most important relationships we have. My first few months as president have flown by, and one of the most gratifying aspects has been meeting VCSU alumni and friends. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting many of you during the past several months at various events, Homecoming activities, VCSU socials, and professional meetings. Your continued interest and commitment as alumni and friends of Valley City State allow the university to pursue unique relationships and grow new opportunities for our students. There is much more potential ahead as we seek to increase our involvement with other educational entities as well as with the private sector. The future is certainly a bright one, and your continued interest in VCSU and your connection to the University will no doubt assist as we move forward, reach new heights, and grow the campus in new and exciting directions! ♦

Dr. Shirley Delivers First State of the University Address

On October 15, Dr. Shirley delivered his first VCSU State of the University address. His comments included how the campus is presently positioned, current challenges, and his vision for growth. This article is a brief synopsis.

There are many positive initiatives underway at VCSU including our recently completed NCATE accreditation visit. NCATE is the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. VCSU is reviewed every seven years by NCATE, and by all accounts we had another highly successful review this fall. As NCATE is the "gold standard" for teacher education accreditation, this speaks volumes to the outstanding quality of our preeminent teacher education program. Thanks to everyone in the Education area for their efforts and hard work ensuring a successful accreditation visit and for establishing and maintaining a world-class teacher education program.


We have also added or expanded academic programs in many areas including Library & Information Technologies, Fisheries & Wildlife, Enterprise Applications, and Health Sciences. Significant advancements have been made with teaching technologies, online education, and distance delivery. Two new intercollegiate athletic programs, Men's & Women's Golf, will begin in Fall 2009. Major infrastructure upgrades across campus have occurred including installation of a new campus steam line, a renovated running track, and office and entryway upgrades. A new VCSU marketing plan has been implemented this year along with a new Internet homepage.

An ongoing challenge for VCSU is increasing the number of freshmen, and we need to address this to continue our growth in the future. Several new priorities have been identified including an expanded focus on recruiting and retaining international students. These students can help VCSU achieve on-campus enrollment growth, and also help the university succeed with campus diversity objectives.

Men's & Women's Track & Field and Cross-Country will be reinstated effective Fall 2010. This decision is contingent upon raising new, external dollars for operational and scholarship funding of the programs during the first couple years. Successfully raising new dollars ensures the addition of these sports do not negatively impact or financially detract from any of our current athletic programs or other campus departments. If the funds are not successfully raised during the next year, we will not launch the programs.

More emphasis will be on a growing student segment – the adult learner. Having the technology and partnerships in place to serve these learners will be important. We will continue collaborating with other institutions of higher education and external partners as we successfully move ahead. We will also begin to explore the role of technology in the classroom, the environmental responsibility of our campus, the continued role of undergraduate research along with the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) disciplines. The VCSU Foundation, our alumni, and friends of the university will remain critical to our success.

The future is bright; certainly there are some challenges ahead of us, but with creative and thoughtful decisions we will successfully navigate the terrain. ♦

 **The entire State of the University address is available via streamed video at:**

www.vcsu.edu/media



VI-KI-NGS!

by Missy Vollmers '89, Alumni Board President

Are you tired of being blown by the winds of a fluctuating market?

Find security through a Charitable Gift Annuity.

Hello, Valley City State Alumni, family and friends. My name is Missy (Stowman) Vollmers and I am a 1989 graduate of this great institution. I am the president of the Alumni Association this year and my "real job" is playing with kindergarten students in Bismarck. My VCSU roots grow deep—my immediate family all attended, many of my relatives are graduates and two of them were instructors here. My grandmother was Lorraine Stowman Engelstad who was the school nurse for many years and my aunt is Linda Holcomb, an instructor in the Education Department for 36 years.

The years of 1986 and 1987 were quite interesting for Valley City State College. It went through three name changes in one year. The students started the school year of 1986 as VCSC and then in the winter our name changed to State University of North Dakota at Valley City (that was a mouth full). Finally, the fall of 1987 the name changed to Valley City State University. That was a very rough time for the bookstore; Meryl O'Connell the bookstore manager had a tough time keeping up with all the name changes. Where does the time go? This seems like yesterday to me!

If you haven't been back to Valley City to visit your alma mater since you graduated, you have truly missed out.

Homecoming 2008 was a fun, fulfilling and beautiful weekend. The football team couldn't quite come through with a win, but that didn't matter. What mattered is getting the Valley City State Alumni together and reminiscing about the good times. It was so fun to see the 1963 & 1964 football team, the 1958-59 & 1965-66 Men's basketball teams be inducted into the Hall of Fame and enjoy each other's company again. The 2008 Certificate of Merit winners shared what

Valley City State meant to them and what we heard through and through from each of the recipients is how proud they are to have graduated from one of the best small universities in the Midwest and how the

students, faculty and staff have made VCSU such a wonderful place to learn and grow.

If you haven't been back to Valley City to visit your alma mater since you graduated, you have truly missed out. Make it a point to get back for the 2009 Homecoming or come to one of the other VCSU events and meet our new VCSU president, Dr. Shirley. I know that it would be well worth your time. Once you're a Valley City State Viking, you will always be a Viking! ♦

2008-2009 VCSU Alumni Board of Directors

PRESIDENT Missy Vollmers '89	FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE Dave Bass '77
1ST VICE PRESIDENT John Monilaws '87	PAST PRESIDENT Mike Hangaard '77
2ND VICE PRESIDENT D.C. Lucas '96	
Josh Argall '99	Jerry Krosbakken '86
Coleen Asche '86	Marty Lanter '97
Jason Drake '96	Dan Mimnaugh '75
Mary Halvorson '89	John Olstad '93
Tiffany Hieb '03	Bruce Stein '76
Paul Keidel '86	Rae Ann Vandrovec '75

2008-2009 Foundation Board of Directors

PRESIDENT Tres Christiansen '80	TREASURER Steve Welken '97
VICE PRESIDENT Mary Simonson	SECRETARY Jan Stowman
Dave Bass '77	Dick Gulmon
DuWayne Bott '58	Scott W. Handy
Ray Braun	Dee Jensen '66
Dr. Ellen Chaffee	Phillip Mueller '68
Mark Finstad	Matt Pederson
George Gaukler	Gene Smestad
	Jerry A. Topp '74

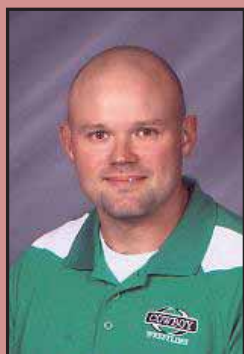
With fixed income for life, you no longer need to watch the markets.

Help charity and have security.

- Secure fixed income for life
- Higher income based on age
- Charitable deduction/ tax savings
- Bypass of capital gain on gift
- Tax-free income portion
- Remainder to charity

To learn more about Gift Annuities, go to our web site at alumni.vcsu.edu/givingopp/.

The Alumni Association Welcomes Lanter '97 to the Board



Marty Lanter recently joined the VCSU Alumni Association Board of Directors for a three year term. Marty is a December 1997 graduate with a B.S. in Composite K-12 Music Education. While at VCSU, he was a member of the EBC fraternity and served as president for 2 years and also was band director for the EBC orchestra during 2 spring Hit Parades.

Marty taught 5-8 band and choir in Rugby, ND for the 98-99 school year and moved to Wheaton, MN where he taught 5-12 band for 5 years while coaching wrestling. In the fall of 2004, he started teaching 5-8 band in Breckenridge, MN and serving as head wrestling coach and assistant track coach.

He is currently on the Minnesota State Wrestling Coaches Association Scholarship Committee, is a member of the EBC Fraternity Alumni Committee and is on the Friends of Music Alumni Board.

Marty enjoys spending time with his wife, Tressa and children, Braeden (7) and Amanda (5), playing golf, softball, hunting, fishing and coming back to VCSU each winter to perform in the EBC Alumni Committee's "We're in the Christmas Mood" show. ♦



Learn, Earn, Return

by Larry Robinson '71, Executive Director of University Advancement

The holiday season is here. What an exciting time of the year. Christmas shopping, social gatherings, office parties, and precious time with our families. It is a time of giving and a time of sharing. Our homes, communities, and churches, are decorated for this special season. We look forward to having our loved ones home, exchanging gifts and spreading joy. It is also a time to be thankful, to reflect on the past year and to wonder what the new year will bring.

As we approach the end of calendar year 2008, I reflect on a visit we had with a friend just a few weeks back. My friend had stopped by the office to visit. This individual is a long time supporter of VCSU. He is obviously very thankful and appreciative to VCSU for his education. As we reflected on our years of association with VCSU, he underscored the important role this institution played in his life. He also emphasized the importance of charitable support for our alma mater. In his words, we learn, earn and then we

should return. His message was very clear. Those of us who have benefited from our education here at Valley City State University need to make a point of giving back, so the students of today and tomorrow will have the same opportunities that we had at Valley City State University.

My friend's advice is so relevant, as we close out another calendar year. What a great time to give

Those of us who have benefited from our education here at Valley City State University need to make a point of giving back, so the students of today and tomorrow will have the same opportunities we had at Valley City State University.

something back and to consider a gift to VCSU. A gift of cash at this time of year is fully deductible on your 2008 tax return up to 50% of your adjusted gross income, with a five year carry over allowed for any excess contribution. Your dollars would "Make a Difference" in the lives of our students here at the university. Contributions can be earmarked to

our scholarship programs, or simply to the area of greatest need. For specific information regarding our various scholarship programs, please consult our web page at alumni.vcsu.edu. Although we have witnessed tremendous instability in the markets lately, I can assure you that an investment in Valley City State University continues to pay big dividends. This is a special place. We have a rich tradition

and an exciting future. We have a dedicated faculty and staff and some of the best students anywhere. Last, but certainly not least, we have great alumni and friends. Your support of VCSU insures the future vitality of our alma mater. Don't wait for

others, do your part. Consider a gift today. You may do so online at alumni.vcsu.edu or simply use the enclosed postage paid envelope in this issue of *The Bulletin*.

Thank you.

Happy Holidays to you and yours. Stop by and visit us anytime. The coffee is always on! ♦

The Inauguration of Dr. Steven Shirley

as the twelfth president of
Valley City State University
will take place on Friday
the third of April
two thousand and nine

please reserve the date

Additional information
will be posted at
www.vcsu.edu





STEM Education

In a field receiving national attention, VCSU is on the leading edge

Even before the troubles our economy currently faces, business and education leaders were sounding warnings about another threat to the American economy: the dangerous loss of competitive advantage in science, technology, engineering and mathematics – the STEM fields.

For example, in a study conducted by the National Science Board, the United States ranked 20th in the world for the percentage of twenty-four-year-olds with first university degrees in natural sciences or engineering – just slightly ahead of Kyrgyzstan. The source of this problem is likely the way that students think of STEM subjects in school: a 2005 survey of American middle school students, sponsored by the Raytheon Company, found that 84% would “rather clean their room, eat their vegetables, go to the dentist or take out the garbage than learn math or science.”

This is a key issue because engineering talent is a basic resource for the economy. If America doesn’t produce this talent at home, we are forced to get it from other countries. And like our dependence on foreign oil, dependence on foreign engineering talent has a dramatic and negative

impact on our economy. Eventually, it can even pose a threat to our national security.

But there are two pieces of good news: this issue is finally gaining national attention, and VCSU is among the institutions taking a leadership role in developing solutions.

A big step in the right direction is rethinking our approach to teaching math and science in K-12 schools. In the last several years, the field of Technology Education (or “Tech Ed”) has grown as a leading school of thought in this area.

VCSU’s Department of Technology Education, first established in 1999, has earned a national reputation for leadership. Led by department chair Dr. Don Mugan, the department developed the nation’s first (and to this day, only) online program to comply with the standards for technological literacy defined by the International Technology Education Association (ITEA). In 2005, VCSU received approval for a fully online Master of Education degree with a concentration in Technology Education. This fall semester, a total of 58 students are pursuing either master’s degrees or bachelor’s degrees in Tech Ed, a 21% increase over 2007.

Growth through Collaboration

VCSU isn’t going it alone in this emerging area. In February, 2008, VCSU formed a partnership with the National Center for Technological Literacy (NCTL - a unit of the Museum of Science in Boston) to increase the number of K-12 educators in technology and engineering who can effectively use NCTL materials. One of the first products of this partnership was a workshop delivered last summer entitled “Closing the Technology & Engineering Teaching Gap.” The workshop was taught by instructors from the NCTL and attended by 35 teachers from schools across the region. VCSU also delivers NCTL curriculum as part of both its graduate and undergraduate coursework in Technology Education.

The NCTL curriculum is a big hit for teachers who are using it. Daphne Heid is a teacher at the North Dakota Youth Corrections Center and is working on her M.Ed. through VCSU. Last August, she was introduced to the NCTL unit “Building Math: Everest Trek.” In the unit, students experiment with various insulating materials to design a winter jacket capable of withstanding the extreme

cold of Mount Everest, then test the thermal resistance of their design using ice cubes and thermometers. “These kinds of hands-on exercises bring the subject of mathematics to life and give students a much clearer understanding of how math is used and why it is important. This is especially important for the at-risk students I work with who really need to understand why they are studying this material.”

The Technology Education department is not the only part of VCSU working to improve our standing in STEM fields. VCSU’s Department of Math, Science and Health & Physical Education offers several bachelor degree programs that fall under the STEM education umbrella including such cornerstones as biology education and chemistry education. Dr. Joe Stickler, chair of the Division, said, “With very high demand for teachers in these fields, graduates typically have their choice of job offers.”

The division also has offered workshops aimed specifically at helping in-service teachers hone their skills. Over the summer, faculty from the division worked with alum

Alum Works the STEM National Scene

Paul Keidel '86 has been a busy guy since graduating from VCSU with his B.S. degree in Education. Currently a science teacher at Wachter Middle School in Bismarck, he has taken an active role at both the state and national levels shaping the future of science education. He has served the North Dakota State Science Teachers Association, and he is currently serving the National Science Teacher Association (NSTA) in several capacities including on the council representing North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota.

STEM is an area of special interest for Paul. The NSTA is one of the co-chairs of the STEM Education Coalition, and at the National Congress of Science this last summer in Indianapolis, Paul served on the STEM committee. "Our society must improve the way our students learn science, mathematics, technology and engineering," said Paul. "STEM communities, education centers, and businesses must work together to reach this goal."

Paul holds a Master's degree in Education with a major in Educational Leadership from NDSU, and he has been accepted into a specialist program at NDSU concentrating on the Superintendent. He is married to VCSU alum Kelly Hagerty '88 and lives in Bismarck with their two daughters. They also have a son living in Minneapolis.



Ryan Hanson '92, the principal of the Devils Lake High School, to prepare and deliver a workshop for teachers in the Devils Lake School District. Hanson worked with Don Hoff, VCSU associate professor of science, to assemble the workshop, and along with Hoff, VCSU faculty members Dr. Andre DeLorme, Dr. Hilde Van Gijssel and Dr. Bob Anderson delivered the workshop to 26 Devils Lake High School faculty members. "All of these presentations took a 'hands-on, minds-on' approach," said Hoff. "Our hope was that the teachers could apply this material to any grade level they taught."

These and other rapidly growing programs in science have led to some impressive growth for the division in recent years. Two recently-added programs in particular, Health Science and Fisheries & Wildlife Science, have shown very rapid growth. Added demand is coming from students working through the new collaborative degree program in Nursing that VCSU worked out with Minot State University – Bottineau and local healthcare providers.

Expanding VCSU's STEM Capabilities

The 2009 legislative session and its treatment of the North Dakota University System's biennial budget request may hold some exciting developments for expanding VCSU's STEM capabilities.

For example, a partnership that includes VCSU, the NCTL and NDSU's College of Engineering and Architecture is competing for a \$490,000 slice of a \$4 million "STEM Initiative" the University System has included in its budget request. The VCSU/NCTL/NDSU proposal describes a "STEM bridge" for North Dakota educators and their students consisting of workshops and courses with a combination of online and hybrid delivery. An innovative element of the proposal is development of the region's first graduate and undergraduate STEM certificates that can lead to a STEM endorsement.

Also in the NDUS budget proposal is an \$11.2 million capital project to renovate and expand VCSU's Rhoades Science Center. Stickler said, "We have begun to reach the capacity that our existing facility can support, so this project is important to our continued growth." ♦

Life Insurance: The Forgotten Gift?

Do you have a life insurance policy you no longer need? Perhaps your other assets have grown to provide the protection you require, and the insurance policy lies forgotten in a safety deposit box.

Your policy could make a wonderful charitable gift to the VCSU Foundation!

Instead of giving cash or stock, you could sign over your policy to the VCSU Foundation and, generally speaking, receive a charitable income tax deduction for the replacement value of the policy (or the cost basis if less). The VCSU Foundation could cash in the policy and put those dormant dollars to work right away.

Your gift of life insurance can be used to establish a future endowment fund in your name. . . or you can honor someone else through the fund. The policy could also be used to assist with a capital project or to simply give the annual fund a mighty boost.

If you have insurance you might like to contribute, or if you are currently paying premiums on a policy and want to discover how this policy might work as a gift, contact Larry Robinson. He will be pleased to meet with you and describe the various ways insurance can be used prudently to make a planned gift. He is available to meet with your life insurance professional, if you wish. You can reach Larry at 701-845-7217 or email at:

larry.robinson@vcsu.edu

We also have a complimentary brochure for you on giving insurance. You can request it over the phone or by using the handy response form below.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM

Please send the free brochure on giving Life Insurance to the VCSU Foundation.

Please send me free information about the VCSU Foundation Legacy Society.

Please contact me by phone.

Phone: _____

The best time to call is: _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Mail this form to:

Attention: Larry Robinson
VCSU Foundation, 101 College St.
Valley City, ND 58072

Online Master of Education:

This practitioner-oriented degree is ideal for elementary or secondary teachers. Students complete coursework anywhere an Internet connection is available at times convenient to them.

Accredited by the HLC, NDESPB, and NCATE.

www.vcsu.edu/graduate

VCSU Named to "Best Colleges" List for 11th Consecutive Year

VCSU was recognized in the "America's Best Colleges 2009" edition of *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top 4 Public Baccalaureate Colleges in the Midwest. This marks the 11th year in a row that VCSU has received this recognition from *U.S. News*.

Dr. Steven Shirley, president of VCSU, said, "The faculty, staff and students should be very proud of this accomplishment as it is a direct result of their hard work and dedication. Our ranking in the *U.S. News* survey is an important acknowledgement of the exceptional educational environment at VCSU, and we are pleased to be recognized for providing such a high-quality academic experience."

The U.S. News ranking system is based on quantitative measures that education experts have proposed as reliable indicators of academic quality and their nonpartisan view of what matters in education. These measures fall into seven broad categories; VCSU appeared to have strengths in average graduation rate (47%), % of classes under 20 students (76%), student/faculty ratio (12/1), % of faculty who are full-time (85%), and alumni giving rate (20%). ♦



VCSU Promotion Goes Outdoors

If you live in North Dakota or northern Minnesota, you have probably come across a billboard or two featuring VCSU. These are part of a new promotional program aimed at increasing enrollment by improving awareness of VCSU. "There are lots of great reasons students should consider VCSU, but we don't have much awareness outside of our local service area, so we don't get onto the list of colleges that prospective students consider as often as we should," said Doug Anderson, director of marketing and communications.

"The intention here is to increase awareness, particularly outside our local service area but within specific areas, so that we get considered more often."

Each billboard features a photo of a student, and these same students are featured in direct mail materials that are sent to prospective students and the VCSU web site. The theme that is carried through all media is "The Difference is Me" highlighting the idea that VCSU is unique in the way students can build a college experience to match their individual needs and personality. ♦

If you know of any prospective students that should consider VCSU, please contact our office of Enrollment Services at enrollment.services@vcsu.edu or 800-532-8641.



VCSU Alumni Receive Awards at Homecoming

The Valley City State University Alumni Association honored nine alumni with the Certificate of Merit Award at the Homecoming Alumni Honors Breakfast on Saturday, October 4. The Certificate of Merit was established by the VCSU Alumni Association to recognize alumni for service, accomplishments, or other noteworthy honors. The alumni and the accomplishments for which they are being honored are:

Faye (Olson) Bubach '65 retired from Litchville-Marion schools in May 2008. She was the elementary school principal. She received the Service to Children Award by the ND Association of Elementary School Principals this spring.

Mary Ellen (Christmann) Erickson '58 is an author, publisher, and speaker. She has also been a teacher in nine different schools in North Dakota from 1958-1998 and a School Counselor at Carington, ND from 1980-1998.

Carol (Strand) Foth '72 is the art, journalism, and drama instructor for Valley City Public Schools. Carol was named Valley City Education Association Teacher of the Year in May of 2008 and was also the recipient of the Northern Interscholastic Press Association Advisor of the Year for 2008.

Neil Goter '83 is the High School principal and athletic director at Wagner Community School in Wagner, SD. He was selected the South Dakota Principal of the Year in 2008.

David Hanson '83 is an elementary administrator and technology coordinator at Wyndmere Public School in Wyndmere, ND. He was recognized as the National Distinguished Principal for ND in 2008.

LaMonte Johnson '74 retired as the Registrar from Valley City State University in the Spring of 2008 after 30 years of service. Monte is currently pursuing his dream of farming.

Paul McDaniel '73 retired after 35 years teaching at Valley City Public Schools in May 2008. He is currently substitute teaching in the St. Peter, MN area.

Teresa Luthi McDonough '94 is a Military Personnel Management Officer for the North Dakota National Guard. Teresa received the Air National Guard Security Forces Company Grade Officer of the Year in 2006, which is a national award, and the ND Air National Guard Company Grade Officer of the Year in 2006.

JoAnn (Banning) Schmidt '62' retired after teaching for 42 years. JoAnn is a member of the Who's Who Among America's Teachers and was the Valley City Public Schools Teacher of the Year in 2000.

The Alumni Association also honored **David ("Rouper") Rasch '78**, with the 2008 Alumni Service award. The Alumni Service Award was adopted by the VCSU Alumni Association to recognize alumni or university friends who have attained exceptional achievement in their careers and have made significant contributions to the university through dedicated service, promotion, financial support or other efforts. Rouper has been involved with the Vikings for over 30 years as a player, supporter, and coach. He not only has volunteered his time coaching the Vikings for the last 22 years, but he has been the major driving force behind starting the 12th Man Club for our football alumni. Under his leadership the 12th Man Club raised over \$70,000 for scholarships in the last three years. Rouper is the sixth recipient of the Alumni Service Award. ♦



Certificate of Merit Honorees: Back row left to right: Monte Johnson '74, Neil Goter '83, David Hanson '83, and Paul McDaniel '73. Front row left to right: JoAnn Schmidt '62, Teresa McDonough '94, Faye Bubach '65 and Carol Foth '72.



Missy (Stowman) Vollmers '89 presents David (Rouper) Rasch '78 with the Alumni Service Award.

NCATE Completes Accreditation Visit

The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) visited the VCSU campus in October for their accreditation visit, which is conducted once every seven years. Though their final report will not be available until after this issue of The Bulletin has gone to press, their visit was by all accounts highly successful. In his State of the University address, VCSU President Steve Shirley, commented, "As NCATE is the 'gold standard' for teacher education accreditation, this speaks volumes to the outstanding quality of our preeminent teacher education program. Thanks to everyone in the Education area for their efforts and hard work ensuring a successful accreditation visit and for establishing and maintaining a world-class teacher education program." ♦



The NCATE Accreditation Team included (left to right) Back Row: JoNeel Bakke, David Bartz, Theron Nunley, Robert Carr. Front Row: Cynthia Harper, Cheryl Nilsen, Melanie Greene, Barbara Combs.

e-Delivery of The Bulletin!

Did you know that you can save the VCSU Foundation money by electing to have your copy of *The Bulletin* electronically delivered to you via e-mail? Visit: <http://www.vcsu.edu/newsletter/> and provide your email address, first and last name. Then, you can subscribe to any of several VCSU electronic newsletters, including one for *The Bulletin* (others include "VCSU Alumni News," "Viking Sports News," and several others). Select the newsletters you wish to receive. You can unsubscribe to any of these newsletters at any time, and VCSU will keep your information confidential.

If you have any questions please call Kim Hesch at 800-532-8641 ext. 3-7403. ♦



Save the Date!

Don't miss
Homecoming 2009

HOMECOMING 2008

It was a tough weekend for Homecoming sports – the football team lost to Dickinson State 28-21 on a 70 yard punt return for a touchdown in the 4th quarter. The Viking volleyball team also had a tough time with Dickinson losing 3-0. Everything else went well, particularly on the social side of Homecoming. This year featured two new alumni events: a social Friday afternoon and a reception Friday evening, and both were well received. All our usual events were big hits, too, including the Hall of Fame banquet, the Alumni Recognition breakfast, the parade, and Saturday socials.

If you weren't able to make it this year, be sure to mark your calendar for next year!

VCSU Homecoming was kicked off with the traditional Bill Osmon Fun Run. This year marked the 26th annual fun run. Pictured are fun run winners Calvin Kraft and Jacklyn Mitchell with Leone Osmon. Calvin is the son of VCSU alumni Barb '84 and Tim '82 Kraft.



October '09

				2 nd	3 rd
4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30
				31	

The Alumni Association is pleased to announce they will be holding a reunion of all the classes from the **Nine's** along with hosting a **Greek Reunion** for the EBC & Tau Sigs Fraternities and the Philo & Delphi Sororities

Homecoming 2010 we will host a Greek Reunion for the TDK Daughters, Tri Sigma & Sisters of the White Star Sororities and the TKE & Sigma Nu Fraternities

Watch for more details in the next issue of The Bulletin and on our website!





Hall of Fame 2008



1958-59 Men's Basketball Team: Left to Right: Jerry Pederson '60, Gordon Baumgartner '61, Dick Stiles '61, James McPherson '59, and Roger Lonbaken '60.



1965-66 Men's Basketball Team: Left to Right: Larry Houser '68, Bill Coghlan '67, Tom Kirchoffner '68, Leroy Anderson '66 and Larry Grooters '57.



1963 Football Team: Back Row Left to Right: Gary Zick '67, Charles Kinn, Curt Johnson, Mike Sheldon '67, Irvin Smith, Dick Koppenhaver, Art Goffe '67, Ron Smedshammer '65, Rudy Steidl '67, Bud Schmitz '64, Bob Bruhschwein '57, Jim Johnson, Larry Ukestad '66, Dennis Friestad '66, Del Schwartz '66, Darrald DeWald '65. Front Row Left to Right: Bill Coghlan '67, Don Kopp, Bruce Jacobson '67, Lester Hintz '65, Joe Kroeber '65, Rollie Penfield '64, Don Lemnus '58, Ed Miller '65 and Ed Nystrom '64.



1964 Football Team: Back Row Left to Right: Mike Sheldon '67, Bob Bruhschwein '57, Don Kopp, Rudy Steidl '67, Don Lemnus '58, Bruce Jacobson '67, Bud Schmitz '64, Dick Koppenhaver, Ron Smedshammer '65, Larry Ukestad '66, Jim Johnson, Roger Pommerer '71, Del Schwartz '66, Darrald DeWald '65, and Dennis Friestad '66. Front Row Left to Right: Ed Nystrom '64, Bill Coghlan '67, Gary Zick '67, Lester Hintz '65, Jack Fisher '65, Joe Kroeber '65, Rollie Penfield '64, and Ed Miller '65.

Lokken Field Track Resurfaced and Restriped.

The week of the Jamestown College football game is always an exciting one but this year it was turned up a notch by a facility upgrade. The track at Lokken Field was resurfaced for the first time since Fall 1996. VCSU and the Valley City Public Schools split the cost of resurfacing the track and making improvements to the jump areas. VCSU's Foundation supported the investment by allocating money donated by Gary and Connie Tharaldson. The resurfacing project will allow Valley City High School to host track meets again after not hosting any in 2008. The Barnes County Track Meet and the Little Yellowstone Conference Track Meet will continue to be held at Lokken Field. ♦



Mac's Back and Mac Never left

Over Memorial Day weekend, head football coach Dennis McCulloch fell off his roof doing some home repair. He suffered a fractured Lumbar 1 vertebra. That injury led to a surgery to fuse the broken vertebra with the 2 above and below it. Besides going stir crazy while having to limit his physical activity trying to heal, Coach Mac had a normal recovery process. After a few weeks, he renewed his commitment to conditioning while going for walks early in the morning. According to him, he came into fall camp in great shape. A month prior to practice starting he sent the following e-mail to the 12th Man Club back in July.

"I'm sure some of you have heard that I fell off a ladder at the end of May and broke a vertebra in my back and had surgery to help support the break. I'm recovering nicely but I still have to wear a great looking brace probably thru August. Today I don't feel

like it should affect my coaching this fall, as long as I don't have to make any tackles."

His hard plastic brace had the look of an albino Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle, but Coach Mac stuck to the rehab plan and protected himself. He made it through ½ the season before the brace was tested out on a snowy muddy sideline at Black Hills State. He bounced up and is no worse for the wear (other than trying to get the mud stain out of his khakis).

Coach Mac, the athletic department and campus all appreciated the inquiries to his health and knowing how much the Viking Family cares about the man who has put so much time, effort and sweat equity into our institution. The outpouring of support provided assistance in overcoming the obstacles to his rehabilitation. ♦



Viking News and Notes

VIKINGS GOING WORLD WIDE

With the 2008-09 season following Viking sports became a great deal easier. The Dakota Athletic Conference has entered a partnership with the B2 Network, a company which produces Internet pay-per-view broadcasts of college sporting events. The technology is something that a smaller institution can handle without a large resources need. The system works in that B2 provides us a computer that we connect to our network cable. Then we plug in a cable from the camera filming the game and a cable from the radio broadcast. It all is sent to the B2 networks studios and they put the game up live on the Internet for purchase.

B2 plans to broadcast all **Dakota Athletic Conference** football, volleyball and basketball (men's and women's) games. Single games can be purchased for \$7 and **football** season passes are available for \$40.

To connect with B2, check our website

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

or directly from B2 at

http://www.b2livetv.com/partner_members.sp?id=72



In another case of things moving forward for the Vikings in the media, the Dakota Athletic Conference Radio Show is on the air. KOVC's Ryan Cunningham has spearheaded the show from a production standpoint and will be the main on air talent. The show will have a synopsis of all 8 DAC teams with interviews from each location. At this time it will air in 7 of the 8 DAC media markets. The number of stations will grow as the word spreads about this great show.

If you are not in the listening area of a DAC school you can catch the show on-line at <http://www.dakotaac.org/>

For up-to-the-minute news on Viking Sports go to
VIKINGS.VCSU.EDU

VIKINGS

2008 Men's Basketball

Home games in BOLD

Dec. 4, 2008	Jamestown College	7:30 pm
Dec 10, 2008	University of North Dakota (Grand Forks, ND)	
Dec. 18, 2008	NDSU Exhibition (Fargo, ND)	7:00 pm
Dec. 29, 2008	Warner Southern College (Lake Wales, FL)	7:00 pm
Dec. 30, 2008	Concordia, MI (Lake Wales, FL)	5 or 7:00 pm
Jan. 3, 2009	University of South Dakota Exhibition (Vermillion, SD)	3:00 pm
Jan. 6, 2009	UM-Morris (Morris, MN)	7:30 pm
Jan. 9, 2009	Dakota State (Madison, SD)	7:30 pm
Jan. 10, 2009	Mayville State (Mayville, ND)	6:00 pm
Jan. 15, 2009	Dickinson State	7:30 pm
Jan. 18, 2009	Minot State	6:00 pm
Jan. 23, 2009	Black Hills State (Spearfish, SD)	7:30 pm MST
Jan. 24, 2009	South Dakota Mines (Rapid City, SD)	6:00 pm MST
Jan. 29, 2009	Jamestown College (Jamestown, ND)	7:30 pm
Feb. 6, 2009	Mayville State	7:30 pm
Feb. 7, 2009	Dakota State	6:00 pm
Feb. 11, 2009	Dickinson State (Dickinson, ND)	7:30 pm MST
Feb. 14, 2009	Minot State (Minot, ND)	6:00 pm
Feb. 18, 2009	South Dakota Mines	7:30 pm
Feb. 19, 2009	Black Hills State	7:30 pm
Feb. 22, 2009	DAC Quarterfinals	TBA
Feb. 25, 2009	DAC Semi-finals	TBA
Mar. 1, 2009	DAC Finals	TBA
Mar. 11-17, 2009	NAIA National Tournament (Point Lookout, MO)	TBA

2008 Women's Basketball

Home games in BOLD

Dec. 1, 2008	MN-Morris	7:00 pm
Dec. 4, 2008	Jamestown College	5:30 pm
Dec. 9, 2008	Presentation College (Aberdeen, SD)	7:00 pm
Dec. 20, 2008	Winona State at CSP Exhibition (St. Paul, MN)	1:00 pm
Dec. 21, 2008	Concordia St. Paul Exhibition (St. Paul, MN)	3:00 pm
Dec. 29, 2008	University of Sioux Falls Tournament (Sioux Falls, SD)	8:00 pm
Dec. 30, 2008	Viterbo at USF tourney (Sioux Falls, SD)	4:00 pm
Jan. 6, 2009	MN-Morris (Morris, MN)	5:30 pm
Jan. 9, 2009	Dakota State (Madison, SD)	5:30 pm
Jan. 10, 2009	Mayville State (Mayville, ND)	4:00 pm
Jan. 15, 2009	Dickinson State	5:30 pm
Jan. 18, 2009	Minot State	4:00 pm
Jan. 23, 2009	Black Hills State (Spearfish, SD)	5:30 pm MST
Jan. 24, 2009	SD Mines (Rapid City, SD)	4:00 pm MST
Jan. 29, 2009	Jamestown College (Jamestown, ND)	5:30 pm
Feb. 6, 2009	Mayville State	5:30 pm
Feb. 7, 2009	Dakota State	4:00 pm
Feb. 11, 2009	Dickinson State (Dickinson, ND)	5:30 pm
Feb. 14, 2009	Minot State (Minot, ND)	4:00 pm MST
Feb. 18, 2009	SD Mines	5:30 pm
Feb. 19, 2009	Black Hills State	5:30 pm
Feb. 22, 2009	DAC Quarterfinals	TBA
Feb. 25, 2009	DAC Semi-finals	TBA
Mar. 1, 2009	DAC Finals	TBA
Mar. 11-18, 2009	NAIA National Tournament (Sioux City, IA)	TBA



Valley City State University
presents

The Official University Collegiate Ring

	Size (top of ring)	Celestrium	10K Gold	14K Gold
Small:	5/16" x 7/16"	\$220	\$365	\$433
Medium:	7/16" x 9/16"	\$220	\$381	\$465
Large:	9/16" x 11/16"	\$230	\$395	\$497

Ring Side Choices: 2 or 3 letter degree
Year date
Plain sides (not available with Celestrium)

Inside Engraving: Small-15 Sp. Medium-20 sp. Large: 20 sp.
Encrusting in Garnet Stone Matches Ring Color

For more information or to purchase:
Dave Cross, Balfour • 1-877-746-1744 or 406-281-3331 • dgrblu@btigate.com

Prices subject to change

VCSU SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

The annual Scholarship donor luncheon is an opportunity for individuals and organizations that have established named scholarships to meet the students who were awarded the scholarships. This time also gives the students a chance to say "Thank You" to the donors.

Anyone interested in establishing a scholarship can contact the Office of Advancement at 800-532-8641 ext 7203 for more information. ♦



Tom Trousdale '71 and Matt Karlgaard (Tom Trousdale Scholarship)



Alison Jensen, Sharon and Llewellyn Alexenko, and Micki Buchholz (Brent Alexenko Memorial Scholarship)



Mary Lou Edland and Ashley Smette (Matt Edland Memorial Scholarship)



Bonnie Burchill and Cameron Lentz (Beta Sigma Pi Scholarship)

In Remembrance: Dr. Donald Hugh Welsh



Dr. Donald Hugh Welsh, age 91, of Wibaux, MT, formerly of Glendive, MT, passed away on Wednesday, October 29, 2008.

Donald was born on March 3, 1917, on the family homestead near Yates, MT, the son of Burton and Mamie (Mengel) Welsh. He attended elementary school in Wibaux County and graduated from Wibaux County High School with the class of 1933. He attended Eastern Montana State Normal College in Billings, Montana, from 1935 to 1938 and Billings Polytechnic College from 1939 to 1941 earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Social Sciences. Donald attended summer sessions at the University of Montana in Missoula from 1946 to 1950 and received a Master of Arts degree in History.

Dr. Welsh taught at Valley City State College from 1967 to 1985 serving as the college's chairman in the Division of Social Sciences and later in the Division of Communication Arts and Social Science. Donald published numerous articles on Missouri history and on ranching in the Badlands. He was the author of Cornerstones: Valley City State University 1890-1990.

Donald and Eva especially enjoyed their years in Custer, MT, and Valley City, ND, though very different communities, both were a delight in which to live and work. ♦

Reconnect at VCSU Tuesdays

The VCSU Office of Advancement and the VCSU Alumni Association is hosting a series of informal socials in the Fargo-Moorhead area. For alumni, this is a chance to catch up on the latest news from VCSU and to network with other alumni in the FM area.

Mark Your Calendar
for the next "VCSU Tuesdays"!

January 27	February 24
March 24	April 28

The events will be held 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month during the academic year.

The events will be held at the Speedway Restaurant in West Fargo. Please join us for complementary snacks and refreshments!

For more information or to RSVP please contact:
Kim Hesch at 800-532-8641 ext 37203 or kim.hesch@vcsu.edu

Men's and Women's Golf Set to Return

As part of the campus's continuing efforts to increase full-time on campus enrollment, VCSU will resume sponsorship of men's and women's golf as a varsity sport for 2009-2010. Previously VCSU sponsored women's golf in 1978, 1979, 1981, and 1983. The program was discontinued due to lack of participants. Men's golf was a fixture on campus from 1936 to 1938 and then resumed from 1947 to 1993. The men won conference titles in 1947, 48, 59, 60, 61, 63, 64, 65, 71, 72, 73, 91, and NAIA District Titles in 1961, and 1979. The 1947 and 1948 teams have been inducted into the VCSU Hall of Fame.

VCSU's golf team will become the 5th men's team in the Dakota Athletic Conference and the 6th women's team in the DAC. The teams will practice at both the Valley City Town and Country Club and the Bjornson Public Course. Collegiate golf has both a fall and spring season with the national tournament coming in the spring semester. In the Dakota Athletic Conference, each school hosts a

meet with both men's and women's teams competing at the same site in a two day 36-hole format. The first anticipated home meet for the Vikings would come in Spring 2010.

Coaching the Vikings teams are Nathan Stover for the men and Ryan Bomstad for the women. Both coaches serve as assistant basketball coaches for the associated teams as well.

"We are excited to begin the process of growing the athletic department," said B.J. Pumroy, VCSU athletic director. "There is a history of golf being popular in the state and area and with the fine courses in town we can start the program up relatively quickly and without strain on our current teams. I know our coaches have been working the phones making contacts to fill the teams for next year. We hope this is the first step in returning teams to campus and in growing the on-campus enrollment." ♦



V-12 Memorial In Place at VCSU

After years of work, a memorial honoring the over 500 participants of the WWII Naval V-12 Program is in place on the campus of Valley City State University. The V-12 Program was a United States Naval training program during World War II. Over 500 men and women participated in the program on the campus of Valley City State Teacher's College. The memorial commemorating their service was recently unveiled on the front lawn of the campus. The memorial features a WWII Naval Anchor that was transported to the campus by John Schwehr Trucking of Sanborn, ND. The anchor came from the Portsmouth, VA Shipyard. According to Larry Robinson, Executive Director of University Advancement at VCSU, "We are pleased that the memorial is finally in place. Unfortunately, we have already lost many of the participants of the V-12 Program. These men and women from America's Greatest Generation, served their country with distinction. We are also very thankful to Ken Brown of Wichita, KS, who was extremely instrumental in coming to the campus years ago to initiate this project. Ken was a member of the V-12 Program here at VCSU. We have been fortunate over the years to have several alumni of the V-12 Program stop by the campus for a visit."



The Naval V-12 Program included training programs on a number of campuses across the country during WWII. Robinson noted, "Some believe that the program saved a number of campuses from actually closing. The fact is, a significant number of our young men and women were helping with the war effort and were in uniform. There were not many left to go to college."

Robinson further pointed out his appreciation to several organizations that financed the project including the North Dakota Veteran's Coordinating Committee, the Valley City Eagles Aerie 2192, VFW Club Number 2764 of Valley City, the American Legion Post 60 of Valley City, the Amvets Post Number 9 of Valley City, and the Amvets Post Number 3 of Bismarck, North Dakota. ♦

First Alumni Career Fair

Friday, October 3, 2008 was really a Homecoming for 24 VCSU alums. Career Services hosted the first Career Fair and 24 alums answered the call. The day began with a keynote address from Kathy Ringdahl '92 on *The Importance of First Impressions*. Following the opening sessions, current students could select from a variety of speakers during four different rounds. The speakers were from education, government agencies, finance, sales, marketing, insurance, corrections/law enforcement.

The speakers and employment are:

Debbie Anderson '05
Director of Social and Behavioral Services at Mercy Hospital

Ryan Botner '05
Financial Representative, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network

Brian Bubach '97
Assistant Executive Secretary with the ND High School Activities Association.

Jenny Callahan '06
Account Marketing Executive, KOVC Radio

Teresa Duffy '05
Partnered Staffing Manager, Kelly Services

Jeff Evenson '02
Commercial Sales and Operations, Northern Valley Communications

Brent Everson '02
Technical Lead, Microsoft

Heidi Gienger '07
Laboratory Technician, UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences

Daniel Harris '01
Financial Advisor, Ameriprise Financial

Darren Holaday '97
Investigator, US Food and Drug Administration

Bryan Kriewald '98
Technology Coordinator, Valley City Public School District

Brady Larson '04
Fiscal Analyst, State of ND Legislative Council

Sheila Larson '04
Inventory Planner, Border States Electric

D.C. Lucas '96
Professional Sales Rep, Takeda Pharmaceuticals

Jay Matthews '83
Owner/Chief Marketing Officer, Producers Financial Group

Janelle Narum '04
IT Support Supervisor, Verety LLC

Charity Nix '02
Consultant, EduTech

Beth Orthman '07
Correctional Officer / Deputy Sheriff, Barnes County Law Enforcement

Kathy Ringdahl '92
Instructor, ND State College of Science

Sharon Schmalz '74
HR/IR Manager, John Deere Seeding Group

Kristel Strittmatter '04
OSJ Delegate/Compliance Principal, Producers Financial Group

Steve Strittmatter '02
Network Claims Rep, Progressive Auto Insurance

Cameron Walker '02
Installation Manager, Verety LLC

Jessica Walker '04
School Counselor, Shakopee High School

Duey Yliniemi '92
Director of Software Development, Feed Management Systems, Inc.

We hope to host this event every other year, so Alums watch for your invite to the 2010 Alumni Career Fair. ♦

Golf Ball Lost for 60 Years Stirs Memories of Another Era at VCSU

As VCSU alum Durwin Berntson '77 was taking a walk through Medicine Wheel Park one day, he couldn't help but notice that a few trees had been knocked down by recent high winds. As he approached one of these trees, he spotted a white dot lodged among its roots – a dot that turned out to be a golf ball. "I'm a big golfer myself, so that's why I went to get a closer look." Upon retrieving it, he found the ball to be quite weathered, as if it had been there for some time. Examining it closely, he could make out a name written on it: "J Rhoades." Could this ball have something to do with Dusty Rhoades, professor of chemistry and physics from 1919-1961 and after whom the Rhoades Science Center is named?



This started a chain of conversations among several long-time VCSU personalities including Professor Emeritus Archie Moore, Roger Ludwig, Dale Sorenson, and Library Director Emeritus Lillian (Langemo) Jacobson '40, all surrounding the history behind the find. It turns out that Dusty Rhoades had a son by the name John who attended the college in the 1940's and was an avid golfer.

The golf ball was at that particular spot because the land had served as the college golf course from 1930 until the early 1950's (when the team moved to the Valley City Country Club). Many alumni have fond memories of that course. The site even today is one of the most scenic in Valley City. It had history, too: a clubhouse was built in 1934 by Rasmus Soroos and his son, Adolf (who went on to graduate from VCSU in 1926, and later served the college in several capacities most notably as the Registrar and/or Business Manager from 1935 until he was granted Professor Emeritus in 1974). The course shared the land with a football field and track, and was joined to the main campus by "Deadman's Path."

"It was a fun course, and I played lots of golf up there because it was free," said John. "I was just an average golfer, so I'm sure I lost a few balls at that course." John is being modest: he was actually the Intercollegiate Golf Champion one year. "Winning that championship was a fluke – that particular day was very windy, and not many teams showed up. I only did well because I always kept the ball low so it stayed under the wind."

John Rhoades currently lives in Campbell, Calif., with his wife Marilyn (Thompson) Rhoades. He kept playing golf until about the age of 70 when, of all things, he developed an allergy to fresh-cut grass. "That kind of allergy really doesn't work well with golf," John said. ♦

Native American Game Ball Also Found at Medicine Wheel Park

Apparently the current site of Medicine Wheel Park has been the scene of relaxation and games even before it was used by VCSU as a golf course. While a group of students were at Medicine Wheel Park hard at work volunteering for Dr. Stickler (who else?), one of them came upon a rock that got her attention. Unlike any other rock that she had ever seen, this rock appeared to be perfectly round and nearly perfectly smooth. It looked more like a baseball than a rock, but it was clearly a rock.

When she showed it to Dr. Joe Stickler, he came up with an idea as to what it might be: a "game ball." Native Americans used these stones for games that sometimes involved hundreds of players at a time. They were made from regular stones, first chiseled to a roughly round shape, then smoothed to a near perfectly round shape. Stickler said that, although game balls are fairly common (these are often found at Native American archaeological sites), they can be very old. "These lands were the home of Native Americans all the way from a few hundred years ago to a few thousand years ago. If this is a game ball, it could have been made anywhere along that line." ♦



2008–2009 VCSU Theatre Season

February 18–21

Death of a Salesman

by Arthur Miller ~ Vangstad Auditorium

This is America's greatest play, about a man who tries to understand what went wrong in raising his adult sons, Biff and Happy. In a story of success, honesty, and the pursuit of happiness in a time bursting with opportunity, Willy Loman must make important choices for himself and his beloved wife and sons. What can he do to leave his family a happy and honest legacy? Perhaps if we don't feel like a hypocrite once in a while, we haven't set our standards very high. Could this be Willy's challenge?

April 15–18

A Festival of One-Act Plays

by our own students ~ Theatre 320

Again, we don't know what creativity and originality our students will present to us, but we have full confidence that it will be even better than before, as these young people find the comic, the tender, and the hilarity that seems boundless. Be sure to see what our student and community audiences often describe as the best show of the season. See you there!

701-845-7320

Music Recruiting Needs Your Help!

The Department of Music welcomed over a dozen new music majors and minors to the VCSU campus this fall. This successful recruiting effort followed a busy year of ensemble and solo performances, high school music festivals, public school visitations, and state, regional, and national workshops and presentations by the faculty. In November, 2007, the Department welcomed evaluators from the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) to campus. Following NASM's June Commission meeting, the Department was elated to learn that it had received the best possible review—with NASM's next evaluation scheduled ten years in the future, in 2017-2018.

VCSU's new director of bands, Dr. James Adams, along with Leesa Levy, director of choral activities, have developed a master recruitment plan for the current year. The plan incorporates small and large ensemble tours; guest conductorships, adjudications, and clinics; and multiple school visits by the faculty. In addition to North Dakota and the surrounding states, the faculty will be expanding the recruitment effort to Alaska. If you know of talented high school musicians, please recommend the programs at VCSU! You may also send prospect contact information to: Paula Larson 1-800-532-8641, ext. 3-7272 or paula.larson@vcsu.edu

Approximately \$26,000 in music scholarships for 2008-2009 was awarded to 24 new and returning students. In order to remain competitive with area universities, and to continue to attract talented musicians, the Department must raise \$30,000 in scholarship funds this year. Your help is needed! Watch for the Friends of Music mailing and *please* respond with your check. If you have never donated before, make this your year to begin. If you have donated in the past, consider increasing the amount of your contribution. Checks may be mailed to Paula Larson, Department of Music, 101 College Street SW, Valley City State University, Valley City, ND 58072. You may also donate online, at: vcsu.edu/academics/finearts/music-dept/ ♦



ATTENTION

Alumni of Theatre Productions!

Have you ever participated in a VCSU theatre production?

If so, you'll want to be on campus and in Theatre 320

on February 20, 2009 for a reunion and social to say

"Farewell" to Dr. Martin "Doc" Kelly

who is retiring after 13 years of service to VCSU.

More information will be mailed shortly...

keep an eye out for it, or call VCSU Theatre

at 701-845-7320



Mark your calendar for ARIZONA 2009!

These informal gatherings are a great way to connect with other VCSU alumni and friends. More details will be sent out closer to the date of these events. If you would like to be on our mailing list for Arizona, please call the VCSU Foundation office at (701) 845-7203 or (800) 532-8641, ext. 37203.

See you there!

February 6, 2009
Surprise, AZ - 11:30 am
My Favorite Martins
17300 North Sun Village Parkway
Surprise, AZ

February 7, 2009
Mesa, AZ - 4:00 – 7:00 pm
Terrace Green Event Center
At the Viewpoint Resort
650 North Hawes Road
Mesa, AZ

Good News!

Charitable IRA Legislation Passed!

For individuals aged 70½ or older with Individual Retirement Accounts, you can once again make outright gifts using IRA funds without tax complications!

Please visit our website for more details <http://alumni.vcsu.edu/givingopp/>
 click on the "Planned Giving" link on the left
 -or- contact Larry Robinson at 800-532-8641
 ext. 37203 or larry.robinson@vcsu.edu ♦

2008-2009 VCSU Concert Calendar

Fall 2008

- Dec. 4 VCSU Concert Choir
& Vocal Chamber Ensembles*** 7:30 pm
Christmas at St. Catherine's
- Dec. 6 VCSU Concert Band/Valley City
Civic Orchestra* 3:00 pm
Vangstad
- Dec. 14 Valley Voices, Valley Children's Choir*** 3:00 pm
Froemke
- Dec. 15 VCSU Garage Bands..... 4:00 pm
Vangstad

*Fee Concerts: \$5.00 Adult Admission Charge, VCSU Students, Faculty, and Staff Admitted Free.
 ***Free Will Offering Concerts
 +VCACA Concerts: Admission by SEASON MEMBERSHIP, which may be purchased at the door.
 Students @ \$12; Adults @ \$30; Families @ \$65



Spring 2009

- Jan. 29 Michael Whisler, Guitar* 7:30 pm
Froemke
- Feb. 1 VCSU Opera Ensemble* 3:00 pm
Froemke
- Feb. 8 VCSU Faculty Recital* 3:00 pm
Froemke
- Feb. 9 Trumpet Invasion+ 7:30 pm
Vangstad
- Feb. 27 James Adams, Trombone
& Chris Mahan, Percussion* 7:30 pm
Froemke
- March 1 Sarah Kahl, Piano & Jon Rudolph, Guitar* 3:00 pm
Froemke
- March 5 VCSU Concert Band Pops Concert* 7:30 pm
Vangstad
- March 8 Valley Children's Choir*** 3:00 pm
Froemke
- March 10 General Student Recital..... 11:00 am
Froemke
- April 2 General Student Recital..... 7:30 pm
Froemke
- April 5 VCSU University Singers
& Percussion Ensemble* 7:30 pm
Froemke
- April 19 Kelsey Wilhelm, Saxophone
& Casey Behm, Piano..... 3:00 pm
Froemke
- April 21 Jamestown College
& Valley City Civic Orchestras*** 7:30 pm
Vangstad
- April 23 VCSU Jazz Ensemble* 7:30 pm
Cafeteria
- April 26 VCSU Concert Choir*** 7:30 pm
Epworth Methodist Church
- April 29 VCSU Garage Bands..... 7:00 pm
City Park OR Vangstad (TBA)
- May 6 Brett Family+ 7:30 pm
Vangstad
- May 7 Composers' Concert 7:30 pm
Froemke
- May 9 Friends of Music Board..... 10:00-12:00 noon
Foss Conference Room
VCSU Concert Band* 3:00 pm
Vangstad
VCSU Music Hall of Fame Banquet..... 6:00 pm
Town & Country Club
- May 10 VCSU Community School
of the Arts Recitals 2:00 & 4:00 pm
Froemke
- May 10 Valley Voices*** 6:00 pm
Froemke

2008-2009 VCSU Gallery Schedule

- Nov. 17 – Dec. 12 Shawn Holz
Visiting Artist (Thursday and Friday Nov. 20-21)
Reception: Thursday, November 20, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- January 5 – 30 Art Faculty Exhibition
Reception: Thursday, January 22, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- February 2 – 27 Annual Art Student Exhibition
Reception: Thursday, February 26, 5:00 – 6:30 pm
- March 2- 27 VCSU Quilters Exhibition
- March 30 – April 17 Through the Lens
Alice Beauchman and Bob Christy
Reception: Friday, April 3, 4:00 – 5:30 pm
- April 20 – May 8 Senior Exhibition – Micki McLain
Reception: Sunday, May 3, 3:00 – 4:30 pm

In Remembrance

Ione (Taplin) Gimbel '56, Dawson
 Luella (Boettcher) Reisenburg '36, Colgate
 Kathleen (Brusseau) Welder '67, West Fargo
 Julia (Erickson) Schlaht, Jamestown
 Allen R. Hanson, Enderlin
 Warren Christianson, Valley City
 Juliann (Ostlie) Keidel '57, Mandan
 Cynthia Schulz-Cromwell, Kensal
 Leonard E. Sannes, Fargo
 Carlton R. Lee '52, Mesa, AZ
 Shirley (Mellum) Zaun '56, Fargo
 Marvin L. Martel, Fargo
 Beatrice (Graff) Mortenson '59, Fargo
 D. Dean "Rocky" Rockswold, Forman
 Edith R. (Rembolt) Backes '67, Buffalo
 Selma (Skjoiten) Gronaas, McVillie
 Ellen (Buhr) Moug '54, Buffalo
 Marguerite (Petrich) Stangler, Lisbon
 Louise Holden Jackson, Clearwater, FL
 Judy "Julia" (Kaiser) Greene '57, Jamestown
 Albert H. Wittenberg '37, Valley City
 Robert G. Boughton '78, Lisbon
 Evelyn (Holden) Baumgarten, Fargo
 Willis K. Johnson '58, Valley City
 Freda (Rader) Fugle '40, Salem, OR
 Anna Parsley '56, Kindred
 Sharon (Hardy) Stites '71, Detroit Lakes, MN
 Emil C. "Stub" Stern, Underwood
 Dean Hildebrand '59, Bismarck
 Lorraine E. (Strand) Barr '67, Cooperstown
 LaDonna M. Whitmore '55, Fargo
 Joanne M. (Fletcher) Buhr, Hunter
 Dale G. Duggan '58, Grand Forks
 Joe Humphrey '48, Livermore, CA
 Mary Ann (Miller) Smith '49, Gladstone, OR
 Gene I. Torrey '56, Bismarck
 Edward W. Lentz, Green Valley, AZ
 Lawrence "Larry" H. Struble '56, Jamestown
 Monica Lee (Hatten) Schill '71, Breckenridge, MN
 Inex L. (Hogden) Boelter '32, Oelwein, IA
 Mary J. (Stevens) Bopp '65, Gwinner
 Devere D. (Baasch) Wical, Valley City
 Russell Cary, Mesa, AZ
 John D. Eliason, North Oaks, MN
 Ashton D. Lewandowski-Schlenker, Cody, WY
 Myrtle V. (Gunness) Gauslow '38, Fargo
 Myrtle A. (Bakken) Freer '34, Cooperstown
 Midge (Myers) Whitlock, Washburn

Former Faculty & Staff

Naomi Larson, Plano, TX
 Eloise Dahl, Valley City
 Gladys (Belling) Olstad, Valley City
 Harry Salisbury, Fargo
 Dr. Donald H. Welsh, Wibaux, MT

Vikings on the Move

1950's

Dr. John Sisco '54 and his wife, Glenaris, spent the month of April in Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. The Siscos live in Springfield, MO and have spent much time travelling since retirement from Missouri State University.

Barbara (Langdahl) Gilbertson '54 of Finley was the recipient of the Silver Apple Award for the Central Red River Valley Teachers Association at the Retired Teachers Convention held recently in Grand Forks. This award is presented annually for service & dedication to retired teachers, youth & community involvement.

Pius Lacher '58 retired after 38 years as a school administrator. He is currently president of a 4,300 member senior community in Gilbert, AZ. He spends his winters in Arizona and summers at his lake home in South Dakota.

Chuck Solberg '59 was married on August 16, 2008. He and his new bride, Lynn, live in Welches, OR. Chuck is originally from Hettinger, ND. While coaching in Oregon, he was selected High School Coach of the Year at Corvallis High School. They played for the state championship 3 times. He then coached at Oregon State University in the PAC-10 Conference. Chuck was the head coach at Lewis and Clark University for several years before he retired.

1960's

Jim '65 and Judy (Bass) Belquist '66 moved back to their roots and their hometown of New Rockford, ND, 4 years ago after 30+ years of city living in several states, including 20 years in Denver, CO. Jim is involved in economic development for ND and was recently elected mayor of New Rockford. Judy was very busy as VP of Celebrations Inc. as they made preparations for New Rockford's 125th anniversary celebration and all-school reunion on July 3-6 of this summer. Both are involved in many organizations and projects in the community, and love small-town living!

Jerry Busche '65 is a Search Engine Marketing Specialist who helps companies achieve higher visibility, rankings and traffic for their websites. He owns an e-commerce business, www.BizMotivation.com, through which he has marketed a downloadable Theme Ideas Handbook to more than 3,000 companies throughout the English-speaking world. He has owned a marketing, advertising and public relations agency (since 1978) in Jacksonville, Florida. Jerry has been married to Robin (a native of Jacksonville) for 38 years and have two married daughters and four grandkids.

Robert Kohler '69 is beginning his 39th year of coaching and teaching (12 years in the public school and 27 years at the college level). He is starting his 21st year at Concordia College as a professor in Health and Physical Education. He is an assistant football coach and also works in the marketing office. He has been involved in both mens and womens basketball programs. Bob has two sons: Scott of Moorhead and Tyler of Fargo. He is presently living in Moorhead, MN.

1970's



Dale Lutjens '71 is shown giving "Flat Stanley," his grandson Chance's first grade project, a ride on his cycle. Dale celebrated his 60th birthday and retirement in March of 2008. He worked in the fundraising business

with North Dakota schools with various companies over the years. Most recently he worked for QSP, a subsidiary for Reader's Digest. Golfing, fishing, playing cards, cycle riding and shopping at the VCSU bookstore are some of his pastimes. This fall **Lorraine (Timm) Lutjens '70** will be starting her 37th year of teaching at Horizon Middle School in Bismarck. She misses being on the Alumni Board but continues to keep up with the alumni news.

Chris Christianson '71 retired from teaching math and science at Center-Stanton High School in 2003 after 31 years. He is on his 2nd term on the Center-Stanton school board and in his first term on the Center city commission.

Ronald Geerdes '71 and his wife, Pat, live on Franklin Lake at Pelican Rapids, MN. They both very much enjoy retirement. They love to travel in the winter.

Antigon (Karapetsa) Topcheev '76 says hello from London, UK, where she lives with her husband, Vladimir, and works as an education lecturer on teacher training programs. She has just stepped down from a big management role to set up Plato Educational Consultancy which delivers in-house customized training for academic staff and provides services to various government agencies. Following the recent government initiatives in relation to teacher training in the lifelong learning sector, there is a great deal to be done and she is very pleased to be part of it.

Bill Barley '76 just retired from his job with the State of Colorado this past June where he was employed for 22 years, the last 19 as a juvenile corrections officer in Denver. Bill has used his recreation and art degrees to work with the violent offenders at the jail to keep them busy and out of further troubles while awaiting their court dates. He has also kept busy with his own art work. He has 3 works hanging at the Fox radio studio in Denver and other works published in a local magazine. Bill plans on going into private business soon in the art field. Bill and Deb have been married for 23 years and have 2 daughters, Kerry (19) in college and Caitlin (16) in high school.

1980's

Jonathan M. Pettit '84 retired after 24 years of teaching middle school math and science at Rushford-Peterson. In retirement years, he continues to farm, raising and showing Polled Hereford cattle and working as a substitute rural mail carrier. Currently, son Jonathan (J.J.) M. Pettit Jr. and Jane M. Pettit are students at VCSU.

Rich '85 and Karen (Albrecht) Dufault, '84 recently moved to Colorado. For the past 23 years they had been teaching and coaching in the Killdeer Public School system. Karen is now teaching 1st Grade at Pete Mirich Elementary in La Salle and Rich is teaching business education at Valley High School in Gilcrest. They moved to Colorado to be closer to their son, Austin, 2008 North Dakota Mr. Basketball and 2008 North Dakota Gatorade Player of the Year. Austin is playing basketball for the University of Colorado in the Big 12 Conference. Karen and Rich's youngest son, Zach, just qualified to play in the 4A Colorado State Golf Tournament. Zach was fortunate enough to play in two state golf tournaments in one year; one in North Dakota and now Colorado. He is a sophomore in high school and plays golf for Greeley West High School. Karen and Rich's oldest, Amber, is completing her massage therapy degree at Bismarck State College. Amber hopes to graduate this May with her degree. The Dufault's wish all fellow Vikings the best.

Eric Vangerud '86 is a respiratory technician in the pediatric pulmonology practice and recently received his National Asthma Educator Board Certification. In addition, Eric successfully passed the Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologist examination. This achievement signifies that Eric has attained the highest professional designation in polysomnographic technology. This is an internationally recognized credential that represents a superior level of core knowledge, skills, and abilities within the field.

Shelly (Buchholz) Deile '88 and her husband Darren live in Wishek with their children Jacob and Abigail. They own a grocery store where you can get the best homemade sausage! Shelly also teaches second grade at Wishek School. She would love to hear from old friends from VCSU. Go Vikings! Shelly's email address is shelly.deile@sendit.nodak.edu.



Greg Stemen '88 is the winningest coach in the history of men's basketball at Southwest Minnesota State University at Marshall, MN, where he has been coaching since 2001. He has led his team to two appearances in the NSIC tournament championship games. Prior to joining SMSU, Greg was the head coach at North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton, ND where he was twice named the Region 13 Coach of the Year. He is a native of LaMoure and has a 5 year old daughter, Taylor.



Jeff Ditch '89 is the IUP head baseball coach and traveled to Hato Mayor, Dominican Republic, in January of 2008. He was part of a group of 60 people that participated in missions of baseball, optometry, construction, medical, and youth ministry.

1990's



Joe Peterson graduated from the Stonier Graduate School of Banking at the University of Pennsylvania this past June. This was a three year course that started at Georgetown University in Washington, DC and concluded in Philadelphia, PA.



Bryan Poyzer '92 was recently named 2008 Teacher of the Year in the West Central Area School District. His duties at WCA include directing five choirs, teaching music technology/composition, and giving private lessons. His top audition choir was honored last year by the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota State High School League, and performed the national anthem for

the Minnesota Twins. Bryan has sat on several music and theater boards the past ten years and is invited regularly to judge high school choirs at competitions each spring. He holds a master's degree from the University of St. Thomas. Bryan is married to Jessica and lives in Elbow Lake, Minnesota. They have four children, Katie (12), Matthew (9), Libby (8), and Lexi (8).

Tony Degnan '92 is a senior project manager for Wolters Kluwer.

Becky (Ust) Elliott '93 and her husband, Steve, have been married for 3 years in November and live outside of Hillsboro, ND. Becky is employed with Noridian Administrative Services in Fargo as a team trainer. She would love to hear from fellow Vikings.



Michael '94 and Holly (Paulson) Olauson '94. Michael works at Agri-cover in Jamestown as a Production Buyer and Holly works at Epworth United Methodist Church as a Christian education director. They have 3 children, Jacob (13), Chelsey (10) and Braeden (3½). They enjoy living on their farm 10 miles from Valley City and they just celebrated 15 years together in August of this year. The

Olauson's enjoy doing things as a family such as 4-H events and 7th Cavalry re-enacting events. They have experienced something new together as a family as they had 2 bottle calves this year; they have been so much fun AND a learning experience for ALL. Holly's parents have both worked at VCSU for many years and still do. The VCSU campus is the most beautiful campus that they have been on; they hope to send all three of their children to VCSU.

Jessica (Herschman) Peterson '97 and her husband Matt recently had a new baby girl. Ella Rae was born Sept 12, 2008. She joins her big brother Dylan, age 5, who just started kindergarten. Jessica is teaching 6th grade math and social studies and also some sections of Title I Math at Hankinson Elementary School.



Corey Cruchet '98 and his wife Kelly currently live in Cas-selton, ND. They just celebrated their 5th wedding anniversary on September 13. They have two boys Tyler (3½) and Colton (8 months). Corey

works at Microsoft as a Global Readiness Program Manager for their Partner Pre-sales Team based in different locations around the world. He often travels to India as well as Seattle, WA, and occasionally travels to other countries overseas. He has been at Microsoft for 9½ years. Kelly also works at Microsoft as a Services Sales Manager and has been employed there 4½ years. They still come back to Valley City often as Corey plays softball with a Valley City team during the summer and his parents live there as well. They enjoy spending their summer time at the lake with family.

Galen Brantley '98 is married to Stacy (Ripplinger) Brantley formerly of Flasher, ND. They have three children, Galen III (7), Emma (5), and Elias (1). Galen is the Athletic Director and head football coach at Soldotna High School in Soldotna, AK. Soldotna High School has won the last two state football championships.



Matt Berglund '98 is in his 11th year of teaching English and journalism at Grand Forks Central High School. He is also the head wrestling coach, yearbook adviser, and school newspaper adviser.

This past summer, he completed his master's degree in journalism education. He and his wife, Lisa, have three sons; Alex (6), Jacob (3) and Owen (8 months). Matt is the son of **Wayne Berglund '74** and **Mary (Paulson) Berglund '73**.

2000's

Paige (Larson) Sullivan '00 is currently the director of HR for the Human Service Agency in Watertown, SD. She also serves on the Civil Service Board for the City of Watertown on an appointment by the mayor. Paige is also the president of the Northeast South Dakota SHRM Chapter for 2008. She is married to Adam who is a design engineer at Wurth Electronics-Midcom and the varsity hockey coach for the Watertown Lakers. They have a 1½ year old boy named Ty that is loads of fun and keeps them on their toes!



Kelli (Bitz) Just '01 and her husband, Christof, welcomed Cole Andrew into their family on June 8, 2008. He weighed 10 pounds 15½ ounces and was 22 inches long. He joins big sisters Karly and Katrina at home in Berlin, ND.

Weddings

- Jenny (Skramstad) Sether '01 & Stephen Sether May 17, 2008
- Tara Jensen '05 & James Altringer June 5, 2008
- Mallory Undlin '08 & Randy Hooley '08 July 11, 2008
- Kara Wendel '08 & Jeremy Wiebe '08 August 2, 2008
- Megan McCann '03 & Byron Engberg August 8, 2008
- LaKendrick Terry '00 & Melissa Brown September 6, 2008
- Erin Jay '05 & Chris Tombarge September 13, 2008
- Marlo Meikle '99 & Paul Platz October 4, 2008
- Elizabeth "Liz" Jensen & Michael Wagner '06 October 10, 2008
- Heather Edgerly '06 & Paul Haugland October 11, 2008
- Jenna Anderson & Tyler Miller '08 October 17, 2008
- Tiffany Hieb '03 & Brooks Anderson November 22, 2008

Jenny (Skramstad) Sether '01 married Stephen Sether on May 17, 2008. They recently moved to Alexandria, MN where Jenny is searching for a teaching position while substitute teaching.

Matt '00 and Brenda (Meyers) Johnson '02 are still living in Maryville, Missouri. Matt is the assistant baseball coach at Northwest Missouri State, and Brenda is also working at the college as the Assistant Director of Upward Bound (a program that helps low-income high school students get to college). They have 2 kids, Jase (3) and Brynlee (6 months).



Trisha (Fettes) Elliot '02 is working as a first grade teacher in Hankinson, ND and coaching junior high girls volleyball. Her husband of six years, Andrew, is a maintenance technician for VeraSun Energy. They have two kids, Samuel, 4, and Elise, 2.

Erik '02 and Brooke (Sellie) Anderson '02 live in Dundas, MN. Brooke currently works for Bjorklund Real Estate Services out of Edina, MN as an accounting manager and title examiner. Erik works for Jaguar Communications out of Owatonna, MN as a service technician and installer.

Amy Sinness '03 is a district literacy coach for elementary teachers in Minneapolis, MN. This is her second year out of the classroom. She enjoys going to different schools and providing professional development on new ways to teach reading/writing.

Andrea L. (Dienert) Nelson '04 lives in Valley City with her husband Darren. They have one son, Reid, who was born May 15, 2007. Andrea works for a non-profit independent living center as a disability rights advocate.

Mark Fabian '03 spent the last two years in Baudette, MN as a biology teacher and baseball and hockey coach. This is his first year at Moorhead High School. He is a biology, forensic science and zoology teacher. During the winter he is the JV hockey coach and in the fall he is a volunteer football coach. Since his graduation from VCSU, he has joined the ND Army National Guard. He is a specialist and a member of the Grafton unit.

2000's continued...

Risa Cavett '05 has recently accepted a new position at Wyndmere Public School teaching science in grades 8-12. Her husband, Mike, accepted a position with Canadian Pacific Railroad and is now a conductor. Their 5 kids are doing great; four of them are in school. They live on a farm Southwest of Enderlin and the kids attend school in Lisbon. It gets to be a long day, but Risa really enjoys the drive; it gives her time to think! As a family, they like to go horseback riding when the weather is nice.



Ryan Botner '05 lives in Fargo. He is a financial advisor with Northwestern Mutual Financial Network. He recently became engaged to Amanda Perkewicz and they are getting married June 19, 2009, in Fargo.

Brooke (Carlson) Devitt '05 teaches English at Maple Valley High School in Tower City.

Jared Hoff '05 and his wife Sandy, who attended VCSU for 3 years before being accepted into grad school at the University of North Dakota, are currently living in Springfield, Missouri. Jared is teaching and coaching girls basketball and softball at Galena High School. Sandy is a physical therapist at Missouri Rehab Center in Mount Vernon, Missouri. They are expecting their first child in December.

Matthew '05 and Sheri (Stein) Scherbenske '05 are living in Kulm, ND. Sheri teaches Title I and preschool, and Matt is excited to be starting his first year as high school principal. He is also teaching two virtual science classes through BlackBoard.

Jeremy Hulderman '07 started with the local ABC affiliate (WDAY) in December of 2007. He is currently working as a marketing consultant for the CW (television network) and WDAY 970 ABC (radio affiliate) in Fargo. His position includes creating advertising proposals, and producing and appearing in television and radio commercials. Soon he will be hosting a weekly radio show on WDAY, (preliminarily called "The Saturday Morning Sell Down"). The show should begin airing in the late fall. Jeremy has recently become engaged to **Krista Anderson '08** of Casselton, ND. They are planning a 2009 wedding.



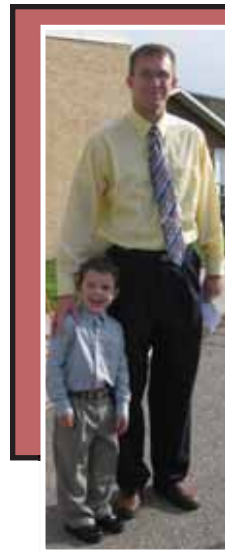
Jeremy Payne '07 is now living in Milford, IA. He teaches high school social studies, and is an assistant varsity football coach, and 9th grade baseball coach at Okoboji High School. They are enjoying life in Iowa, and appreciate everything the Okoboji area has to offer.



Brandon Bjugstad '07 is currently at NDSU working on his entry level masters degree in athletic training. He is in his second year which means he should hopefully graduate in May. Brandon is also engaged to a brilliant and beautiful woman, Jenna Steidl, who is in her last year of RN nursing school in Jamestown. They plan to marry in Fingal's catholic church on July 18th, 2009, with a reception to follow at A&J's Bar (formerly the Peanut Bar), in Valley City. Once Brandon is done with school at NDSU, he plans to get a job, whether it be in physical/health education or athletic training, in or near the surrounding area of Fargo/Moorhead. Jenna already has a job offer at MeritCare in

Fargo following her graduation. Brandon hopes everyone is having good luck with their jobs or whatever they are doing and he says "hello" and "thank you" to all the teachers at VCSU that helped him get to where he is thus far.

Kendall Campbell '07 is currently living and working in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He teaches at John Taylor Collegiate and coaches the varsity girls volleyball team there. Kendall is a full time physical education teacher and just signed a permanent contract with St. James Assinaboia School Division. He is doing great and misses all the great people at Valley City.



Matt Swanson '06 is a 5th grade teacher at Leeds Elementary School in Leeds, ND. During Homecoming week they celebrated dressing up differently every day. One day was "dress up" day and one of the Kindergarten students wanted to dress-up and be Mr. Swanson.

Where Are They Now?

The VCSU Alumni Office would like to feature an alumnus in each issue of *The Bulletin*. This column gives us the chance to let their fellow alumni know what they have been up to since leaving VCSU.



In this issue we are featuring **BILL LUETTGERODT '79**. Bill has been married 27 years to Carolyn, a native of Oregon. She is a Pharmacy Administrator for Kaiser Permanente in Portland. They have two daughters. Molly is 25, a grad of U of San Diego and working as an environmental planner for San Diego County. Kim is 22 and will soon complete her degree at Northern Arizona U before enrolling at Pacific University's School of Pharmacy.

We asked Bill the following questions:

What did you do after you left VCSU?

After VCSC I taught for one year in Bismarck before returning to Oregon. There was a teacher surplus on my return so I looked at other fields. I spent time in transportation, sales and merchandising before I found a good fit in the hardwood lumber industry.

What is your current position and how long have you been there?

I am currently a lumber broker with Continental Hardwood Co. and have been with the company 24 years. We service any aspect of hardwood usage but primarily the cabinet, fixture and furniture industries.

Describe a book, person, or experience that has had a major impact on you as a person or a professional?

My first basketball coach in high school, Dick Stiles '61 had the biggest impact on the course of my life (other than my parents). Had he not taken a tall, skinny "project" under his wing and given me direction, I don't know where I would be. He introduced me to basketball, to VCSC and to a new world of potential for myself. I'll be forever grateful to him.

Please share a special memory of your time at VCSU.

My first days in Valley occurred, fortunately, as Larry Robinson started his position as Student Center Director in the summer of 1974. I worked at the Student Center under Mr. Robinson in various capacities. My supervisor on his staff (Vern Kratz, a cranky old fella I came to admire) was instrumental in creating an early maintenance crisis for Larry due to an inability to properly pronounce my name. It's a long story I'll skip, but to this day, Larry and I joke about it.

What do you do for fun?

I still play competitive basketball in the AAU Golden Masters division. We do a fair bit of traveling to play within the states and internationally. I am an avid fly-fisherman and white-water rafter, great hobbies considering both can be done within an hour of home. My daughters both run their own rafts and this summer we ran the Grand Canyon together (my 2nd trip) for all 225 river miles in 16 days. This is one incredible place everyone should see (up close!).

What advice for successes would you give our new alumni?

Time flies. Make a TO DO list for your life and start checking them off. Good luck! ♦



Bill Luetzgerodt and his daughter Kim take a minute for a photo during white-water rafting in the Grand Canyon.



Bill Luetzgerodt takes in the scenery during a white-water rafting trip to the Grand Canyon.



MILESTONES



Willis '59 and Syneva (Nordquist) Heupel '59 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this summer. They were married while finishing their senior year of college. They live in Great Falls, MT and have two children, a daughter in Billings, MT (who has two children) and a son in Boise, ID (who has one daughter). They retired after serving the Great Falls School District since 1959. They have many fond memories of their college days in Valley City. Syneva hails from Litchville, ND and Willis is from Medina, ND.



Josh Argall '99 and his wife Mindy are the proud parents of Jaden Joshua Argall, who was born July 2, 2008, at MeritCare Hospital in Fargo, ND. Jaden weighed 9lbs 1oz and was 21 inches long.



Benjamin Ford '04 and his wife Tina are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Kamryn Emma, on August 16. She weighed 7 lbs 14 oz and was 19 inches long.



Dana (Alinder) Danreuther '07 and her husband, Michael, are proud to announce the birth of Elijah Bruce Danreuther, born July 29, 2008, at MeritCare, Fargo. He weighed 6 lbs. 7 oz and was 18.5 inches long.



Amy Pomranke '03 and Jarad Ripperger were married December 1, 2007. They reside in Knoxville, IA. Amy is in her 6th year teaching at Knoxville Middle School.



Laura (Heckaman) Dokken '02 and her husband Brian are the proud parents of Leah Marie Dokken, born at 6:11 am on August 9, 2008 in Fargo, ND. Leah weighed 8 lbs 9 oz. and was 21 inches long. Laura has been the business manager for the Wahpeton Public School District since 2005. Brian is in his 5th year teaching 4th grade at Central Elementary in Wahpeton. He also coaches football and track. Brian is currently enrolled in the Master of Education Teaching & Technology program at VCSU and will graduate in May, 2009.



Kimberly Meckle '05 and her husband, Scott, recently had their second child, Jordan Scott Meckle. He joins brother Tyler who is 2yrs old. They are still living in Anamoose, ND, where Kim teaches 7-12 English. Scott is an electrician in Harvey.



Gurmen Schimke '57 and '72 made his first retirement following the 1990 school year in Hebron. It was short lived when he signed a contract to teach band at Lemmon, SD beginning the fall of 1990. He remained at Lemmon for five years and began his second retirement following the 1995 school term. Gurmen's wife, Ila Faye, died as a result of cancer in July of 2003. During the fall term of 2004, Gurmen came out of retirement and spent three years teaching band at Shiloh Christian School in Bismarck. In December of 2006, he remarried to Caroline DeMars, of Centerville, IA. They are currently spending their summers in Hebron, ND and their winters in Centerville. In doing so, they are able to stay in close contact with their families, experience a little gardening, and enjoy a slightly milder winter. Caroline is a retired computer systems/ production control manager with Wells Auto Parts Warehouse.



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BISMARCK, ND
PERMIT NO. 433