



# THE BULLETIN

A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University  
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### VCSU Home Page

<http://www.vcsu.nodak.edu>

## Laptop U

By Kathleen Melymuka

(January 01, 2001) Valley City, N.D. - A student teacher studying at Valley City State University (VCSU) took her class of elementary students to a computer lab at their school. When she found that the computers weren't working, she spent the next two hours fixing them.

A recent VCSU graduate found herself giving a technology tutorial to a grateful job interviewer. An English major was snapped up as a Web designer. A physical education major who interviewed for a teaching position was also offered a job as the school district's technology coordinator.

The students' IT skills are the result of a radical transformation at VCSU, a small liberal arts college. "They have actually re-engineered their enterprise around IT," says Mark Luker, vice president of Educause, a nonprofit association in Washington that works to increase technology use in higher education. "They have elevated IT and Internet-based education to the top of their campus strategic plan."

The result is a model for education - and business - of how the strategic use of technology can improve processes (teaching), boost the quality of products (graduates), reinvigorate employees (teachers and staff), tighten relationships with customers (prospective employers of graduates), forge links with the community and ultimately transform the organization.

It all began in the early 1990s, when the small college was facing a 25% drop in the number of seniors coming out of state high schools.

"We needed to differentiate ourselves big time," says VCSU President Ellen Chaffee. "We needed a strategic advantage." The university decided to become a pioneer in the instructional use of technology. Today, it's one of the most wired colleges in the U.S., and that has changed everything.

Surrounded by miles of some of the richest farmland in the world, the red brick spires of VCSU's campus contrast with the flat landscape of southeastern North Dakota. Even greater is the contrast between the Victorian buildings - replete with antique ornamentation - and what they house: a "laptop university" with ubiquitous computing, at which the strategic use of IT has become second nature to everyone on campus, from faculty and students to coaches and groundskeepers. "It's like brushing your teeth," says Les Wong, vice president for academic affairs.

It wasn't easy. VCSU CIO Joe Tykwinski recalls that by 1995, the teachers had several years of technology training by virtue of a grant from the Bush Foundation in St. Paul, Minn., which provides faculty development awards to area colleges.

VCSU was bursting with ideas that had nowhere to go because the hodgepodge of technology on campus was unworkable. There were obsolete Macintoshes and PCs, different versions of various operating systems, and all kinds of academic and administrative software. There were three computer labs, several piecemeal networks, numerous e-mail systems and no Internet connections.

"The current model would not support the kinds of things the faculty wanted to do," Tykwinski says. The university knew that the answer was to overhaul the entire infrastructure.

But there were huge monetary obstacles. North Dakota ranks 49th among the 50 states in per-capita spending per pupil in higher education, and there was no new money. The only way to finance the ubiquitous computing initiative was to shuffle priorities, reallocate funds internally and win additional grants.

And because VCSU was only the second university to "go laptop" - the first was the University of Minnesota at Crookston - "we had to invent almost every decision as we went along," Chaffee says, "and we could only go on faith that it would be worth doing." More than 30 universities have since followed VCSU's lead. (*Laptop U* continued on page 8)

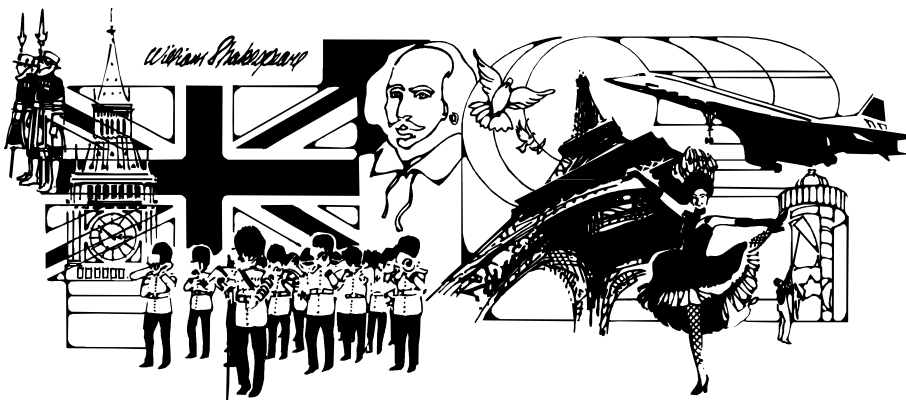


# VCSU Plans Tour of Britain and France

This May a group of faculty and students will spend two weeks in Britain and France. The group will leave from Fargo on May 14 and return on May 27. Students may earn college credit while they enjoy a trip of a lifetime. Dr. Kevin Fernlund, VCSU Assistant Professor of History, is the group coordinator. A professional tour company will handle all of the arrangements.

- Tour highlights include:
- Winchester
  - Bath
  - Glastonbury
  - Stonehenge
  - Ol Sarum
  - Salisbury
  - London
  - Loire Valley Chateaux
  - Vourvay Cave Cellars
  - Chartres
  - Versailles
  - Paris

VCSU alumni and friends are welcome to join the tour. For more information, contact Kevin Fernlund at 1-800-532-8641, ext. 37253 or by email at kevin\_fernlund@mail.vcsu.nodak.edu.



## Request for Public Comment

Valley City State University is seeking comments from the public about the University in preparation for its periodic comprehensive evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. Originally accredited by the Commission in 1915, VCSU received continued accreditation at its last comprehensive evaluation in 1992.

An evaluation team representing the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools will visit the VCSU campus November 5-7, 2001. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the NCA Criteria for Accreditation and General Institutional Requirements.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the University. Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed; comments are not confidential. Send your comments to

Public Comment on Valley City State University  
 Commission on Institutions of Higher Education  
 North Central Association of Colleges and Schools  
 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400  
 Chicago, IL 60602

All comments must be received by October 5, 2001.

## 60TH ANNUAL EBC HIT PARADE



**MARCH 29 - 31 AT 7:30PM  
VANGSTAD AUDITORIUM**

For 59 years, the Hit Parade has had a special place in the community and the campus. The 60th year will be no exception. Look for high energy music, talented vocalists and musicians, side splitting commercials, and an all out good time. Come out and see what the 60 year tradition and dedication is all about.

### VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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# VCSU Foundation Corner

Larry Robinson, Executive Director



Larry Robinson  
Executive Director

## Doing Your Will – Easy as ABC

Many people find it easy to delay making a will. They find it easy to procrastinate because they think estate planning is hard. But really, it's not all that difficult—at least in most cases. In fact, creating a will can be as simple as ABC!

**A**ssets – Begin by making an inventory of all your assets: insurance, bank and brokerage accounts, artwork, real estate, vehicles, everything you own. Once you have the list, estimate the value of your assets and then deduct any debts you may have. This will give you a rough idea of the total value of your estate.

**B**eneficiaries – Who do you want to receive your assets? First consider family needs and obligations. Then review your charitable involvements and how a bequest could benefit them, and create a lasting legacy for you.

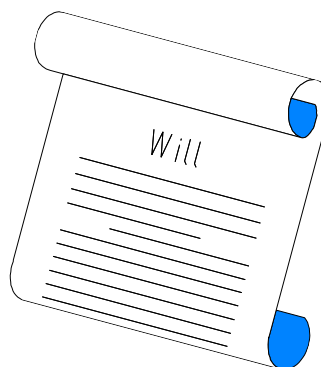
**C**onfidants – Choose trustworthy persons to provide legal and other professional assistance, as well as a personal representative to help settle your estate. You may also need to select one or more trustees and guardians for any minor children.

Once you have listed and valued your assets, selected the beneficiaries for your estate, and have chosen the key persons to assist you now and after your death, it is time to act. Don't delay. Contact an estate-planning attorney right away and move forward.

If you need help finding a good attorney, ask your friends for suggestions or contact the trust department of a local bank for a referral. Ask around until you find someone you feel good about. If you wish, we will assist you in the process.

While creating a will is easier than you might have thought, it will take some time. But the end result is worth it. You will be well rewarded with a deep sense of satisfaction . . . and piece of mind.

To make the process even easier for you, we have a free brochure on making a will. Simply complete the coupon provided and mail it to us, or call us toll-free at 1-800-532-8641 Ext. 7203. You can also request the brochure through our Web site ([www.vcsu.nodak.edu](http://www.vcsu.nodak.edu)).



### CLIP AND MAIL

Dear Director of Planned Giving:

Please send me your free brochure on making a will.

I have already included the VCSU Foundation in my estate plan in the following way: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please the completed form and mail to:  
VCSU Foundation  
101 College St SW  
Valley City, ND 58072  
701-845-7203  
800-532-8641 Ext. 7203

**Rae Ann (Rolshoven) Vandrovec '75**, a third grade teacher at St. John's Academy of Jamestown has been recognized for her teaching excellence and is honored in the sixth edition of *Who's Who Among American's Teachers 2000*. Rae Ann has been a teacher at St. John's Academy since 1981. Rae Ann was also one of nine recipients of the Teacher Incentive Funding in the state of North Dakota. The grant received from the North Dakota Council on the Arts will provide funds for Rae Ann's class to integrate art with math. The main focus will be to teach students to see the connections between geometry and shape through drawing and sculpting.

**Del Mari Runck '87**, vice president of operations at Security State Bank of North Dakota, has been named Outstanding Woman in Banking in the state of North Dakota by Northwestern Financial Review magazine. The magazine annually honors individuals in six Midwestern states. As vice president for operations, Del Mari supervises branch employees involved in all daily bank operations, including tellers and clerical positions. She also takes the lead with fellow bank officers in the design and introduction of new products and services, such as telephone banking and Internet banking. Del Mari and her husband, Kim, have two children, Spencer and Jessica.

**Amy Mitzel DuBois** was awarded the "Young O.D. of the Year" award from the North Dakota Optometric Association at their annual congress. Amy attended VCSU before completing her bachelor of science and doctorate of optometry from Pacific University in Oregon.



## President's Message

by Dr. Ellen Chaffee

Every odd-numbered year, the North Dakota legislature convenes for up to 80 days. We are most fortunate that our own Larry Robinson continues to serve with distinction as a state senator on the Appropriations Committee. He often calls me, "Boss," and I usually call him, "Boss," too! Larry has been a strong voice at the state level not only for VCSU but also for higher education.

The legislature is working on a budget for 2001-2003. The current version does not fund what we call "cost to continue." Cost to continue is inflation plus the cost of maintaining some other built-in obligations. Senator Robinson is working hard to get funding for these costs, but it is an uphill battle due to the state's economic conditions. If this version passes, we will have to cut costs in order to balance the budget. We can soften the impact with a proposed \$85 annual tuition increase. If enrollment goes up, that will help, too. But it would have to go up by 33 students (about 3 percent) in order for us to break even, at the very time when the number of North Dakota high school graduates is taking a nosedive.

We have dealt with budgets like this throughout the 1990s. The good news is that we foresaw this trend and set some things in motion early to deal with it.

One was the notebook initiative. Our leadership in technology for learning has earned national recognition and visibility. We are attracting out of state and international students who



Ellen Chaffee

otherwise would not be here.

Another is our partnership with local economic development leaders. VCSU has become a powerful force for economic recovery, which will eventually yield stronger state revenues and college budgets. Our partnerships also serve as magnets for students in information technology fields. We are even assessing how the university itself might develop some profitable ventures on the side.

Yet another was the establishment of the VCSU Foundation as a well-organized set of complementary groups with excellent staffing and the creation of the Board of Regents. People are beginning to understand that VCSU is the "private college at public college prices" and it deserves the same kind of private support. We know it can be done. Nearly 700 private colleges of our size and type have proven it.

Because of the state's condition, all other growth factors must be positive — enrollment, entrepreneurial ventures, and private giving. VCSU has never had a brighter future, and we invite you to invest in it.

## A little laughing dust makes learning fun

by Claudia P. Solis *Miami Herald*

Ever tried making a second-grader smile? How about 35 of them? That's what Phil Chickillo faces every morning. They can be a tough crowd, but after six years of teaching physical education to elementary school students, he has a winning routine.

"I'll tell them knock-knock jokes, I'll add funny nicknames to their names—anything to get a laugh," said Chickillo, 29. "Once I get that smile I know I have their attention—then the teaching and learning come like a breeze."

He'll even resort to the magic dust he keeps in his shirt pocket. "My kids know I have laughing dust, feel-better dust; whatever they need, I have it." He added, showing how he cups his hand and sprinkles the make-believe dust over their heads. "And every once in a while these kids need that silly kind of attention from their teachers."

Phil teaches 375 students a day in grades two through five at William Lehman Elementary in Miami. He began teaching there when the school opened in 1995.

His dream always had been to teach sports and show kids how to have fun at learning, just like he remembered from his days in school.

"I remember running relays and competing during field days and always having fun," Phil said. "I also remember thinking this must be a fun job."

Years later, the running shoe is on the other foot.

Born in Miami, Phil grew up in Southwest Miami-Dade and graduated from Southwest High School. He moved to North Dakota and earned his bachelor degree in education from Valley City State University in 1995.

"Moving to North Dakota was the best move of my life," Phil said. "Not only did I complete my degree in the field I loved, but that's also where I met my wife." His wife of four years, Randene (Prawdzik) '95, also a physical education instructor, teaches at Jane S. Roberts Elementary. Both received their master's degree in 1998 from Florida International University.

When the two aren't showing kids how to punt, kick and throw, they travel to Canada or Alaska, bike or....surprise....play sports.

Lehman Principal Maria Escobar said it's easy to see why kids love Chickillo so much: He's a kid himself.

"He's always having a good time and it shows," Escobar said. "He's also very firm with them and kids appreciate that, too. But mostly, he's very kindhearted for being such a big guy."

Standing at six feet, two inches tall, Phil gets his point across to his students: "Life is full of moments when humor and good sportsmanship are vital."

The proof is in the smiles.

"In his class we're not allowed to say we won," said Polleth Donaire, 8, who claims P.E. is her favorite class, with art taking a close second. "We can only say 'good game' 'cause there's no such thing as losers—that's not important; it's all about having a good time!"

## \$40,000 Bequest for Harriett L. Stull Memorial Art & Music Scholarships

The Valley City State University Division of Fine Arts has recently received a \$40,000 donation in memory of Harriett L. Stull, musician and art educator, to be used for scholarships for art and music students. "We were thrilled to receive word of this generous contribution," reported Linda Whitney, Chair of the Department of Art, and Diana Skroch, Chair of the Department of Music.

Harriett Lusyd Stull was raised in Valley City, where her father was

an employee of First National Bank. She served as an adjunct faculty member at State Teachers College (VCSU) during the summers of 1928, 1930, 1931, and 1934, and also taught in Groton, SD, Jamestown, ND, and Mankato, MN. In 1941 Harriett Stull earned the degree Bachelor of Arts in Art Education with minors in Music and Elementary Education. In addition to her devotion to the visual arts, she was an accomplished musician,

performing for numerous community events. She passed away in Santa Cruz, California, October 1, 1980. Notice of the memorial tribute was received through her sister, Charlotte Stull McGillivray, of San Jose, California.

The Stull Trust will be devoted to providing continuing financial assistance for students majoring in art and music. "An award of this size provides support for the developing careers of talented young artists and musicians, but

perhaps even more important, it legitimizes the arts," said Whitney.

### Description of Award:

Harriett Lusyd Stull Memorial Art and Music Scholarships. A minimum of four annual \$500 awards, divided between the art and music programs, to: (1) art and music major; (2) promise in the profession; (3) scholastic standing; (4) work ethic.

V-500  
Jeff Nathan, President



*"We make a living by what we get,  
but we make a life by what we give."*  
-Sir Winston Churchill

When looking for a gift for that "hard to buy for" person, why not consider a V-500 membership. You don't have to worry about size, color, or availability! And, in addition, this gift is an investment in Valley City State University!

*Why should we support V-500?*

- When we give, we give because we believe in the cause. Since 1972, V-500 has been providing scholarships to students at Valley City State University. As the number of North Dakota high school seniors decreases, the competition for them increases. Scholarships are important to students' decisions and V-500 scholarships are critical for a healthy enrollment.
- Valley City State University is truly one-of-a-kind. In 1996, VCSU became the first university in North Dakota and the third in the nation to provide every student with a laptop computer. Students have access to technology 24 hours a day which enhances their education and provides them with greater experience in how to use technology than over 99% of other college graduates. Your support is critical to preserve this unique experience for future students.
- Gifts to V-500 are tax deductible.
- Careful planning can enhance your estate through charitable giving. Please don't consider your commitment final if you have completed a V-500. Advance to another membership, increase your level of commitment, and invest in a winner!

It is our hope that your new year is blessed with good friends, good health and good cheer. Thank you for what you have already invested in V-500. Continue your support with another membership.

Jeff Nathan, President V-500

7th Annual  
VCSU Spring Auction



Friday, April 20, 2001  
Valley City Eagles  
\$25 per person

Proceeds from the auction fund V-500 and Century Club Scholarships.

Contact Val Moritz, VCSU Foundation Office,  
if you have items to donate or wish to make a contribution.  
1-800-532-8641 ext. 37403

Yes, I will invest \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in V-500. (Memberships begin at \$500)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: VCSU Foundation/V-500

Please bill me:

In Full  Annually  Semi-Annually

Charge to my:  Mastercard  Visa

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to: V-500; Valley City State University; 101 College Street SW; Valley City, ND 58072. Thank you for your support!

## Be Proud and Spread the Word

There are a lot of exciting and impressive things happening at Valley City State University that should create a great sense of pride in you, as an alumnus or friend of the university. Some of them are nationally-based awards, while others are local and regional accomplishments.

In the past year alone, your university has been ranked the seventh most wired campus in the United States by *Yahoo Internet Life* magazine, ranked the third best public liberal arts college in the Midwest by *U.S. News & World Report* for the last three years in a row, and most recently was featured in *COMPUTERWORLD* magazine in the January 2001 issue. We've had a number of our faculty who have spoken at regional and national conferences, a football team that won the inaugural conference championship of the DAC10, a music department that sponsored over 50 performances in the last academic year, the third generation of notebook computers issued in the four plus years of the program, and many more.

Students at VCSU are provided an outstanding educational experience; one that many more students should have the privilege of experiencing. An alumnus who encourages a student to attend a school speaks volumes to that student and shows him/her that the university is valuable to life successes.

If you know of students who you think should receive an outstanding education at a very reasonable investment cost, let me know. You may email me at [daniel\\_klein@mail.vcsu.nodak.edu](mailto:daniel_klein@mail.vcsu.nodak.edu); phone me at 1-800-532-8641, extension 7204; or write me at Office of Enrollment Services, 101 College Street SW, Valley City, ND 58072.

You have a lot to be proud of...let's include even more students in that pride!



**Dan Klein**  
Enrollment Services

# connect

VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

## 2000-2001 INVESTMENT

The following are the costs associated with investing in a Valley City State University education. These costs are outlined by the student's state of residency.

### FIXED EXPENSES:

#### North Dakota Resident

Tuition & Fees:	\$2,223
Technology & Computer Fee:	\$950
Room & Board:	\$2,892
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$6,065</b>

#### Minnesota Resident

Tuition & Fees	\$2,361
Technology & Computer Fee:	\$950
Room & Board:	\$2,892
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$6,203</b>

#### Montana, South Dakota, Manitoba, & Saskatchewan Resident

Tuition & Fees	\$2,719
Technology & Computer Fee:	\$950
Room & Board:	\$2,892
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$6,561</b>

#### WUE - AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA & WY Resident

Tuition & Fees	\$3,214
Technology & Computer Fee:	\$950
Room & Board:	\$2,892
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$7,056</b>

#### Out-of-State/International Resident

Tuition & Fees	\$5,533
Technology & Computer Fee:	\$950
Room & Board:	\$2,892
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$9,375</b>

### ESTIMATED EXPENSES:

Books & Supplies	\$600
Personal Expenses:	\$2600

## National Leadership in Technology Education

VCSU is the only school in the United States offering Technology Education courses online. The International Technology Education Association has asked the VCSU faculty to make a presentation on the program at its spring conference in Atlanta. Program chair is Don Muga.



# Alumni efforts result in new students!

Valley City State University alumni play a significant role in bringing students to campus. How can you help? It's simple!

## connect...

With your own children and grandchildren and let them know that Valley City State University is a great place to obtain their college education. Talk to the children of family, friends and acquaintances. Let people know that for three years in a row *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked Valley City State University one of the top public regional liberal arts colleges in the Midwest.

## connect...

With the Enrollment Services office at Valley City State. Contact the office with the names of potential students. Our admissions counselors will follow up by mail, e-mail and telephone.

## connect...

Let us know about someone who may be interested in Valley City State University. Complete the form below and return to:

Enrollment Services  
 Valley City State University  
 101 College Street SW  
 Valley City, ND 58072  
 1-800-532-8641  
 E-mail: [enrollment\\_services@mail.vcsu.nodak.edu](mailto:enrollment_services@mail.vcsu.nodak.edu)  
[www.vcsu.edu](http://www.vcsu.edu)

Name of Prospective Student \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Student's E-mail (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Student's High School Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Academic Interest \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Extracurricular Interest \_\_\_\_\_

We appreciate your help. We'll stay in touch with you as we correspond with your referred student.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Student \_\_\_\_\_

## Laptop U continued from Page 1

The university also had to believe that students would come. There was no way around charging a \$950-per-student laptop fee, which would raise the cost of attending the school by nearly 50% for a community without a cent to spare. Chaffee knew that the fee could decimate enrollment, but there was no alternative. She held her breath and, remarkably, enrollment didn't fall.

### Re-engineering the Classroom

By 1996, virtually every classroom, public area and dorm room had been wired, providing universal access to a standard platform that includes the campus network, the Internet and a host of peripherals, from big-screen TVs to microscopes. Every student and teacher received an IBM ThinkPad.

Like business people who re-engineer processes to take advantage of new technology, VCSU faculty members had to rethink how they taught. Like many innovations, the technology initiative slowed down processes in the beginning, as teachers saw class time eaten up by technology instruction and minor snafus. But things began to gel, and the results have been revolutionary, if sometimes unexpected.

Linda Whitney, an associate professor of art, recalls how early technical problems changed classroom dynamics as teachers and students worked together to get it right. "It became more of a partnership, as opposed to 'I'm the expert; you're the learner,'" she says.

Dianne Wood, an associate professor of business, says her textbooks have been replaced by the Sloan Management Review and The Wall Street Journal Interactive Edition. "They don't have to read case studies secondhand," she explains. "They're using the actual references to write their own."

Instructor Jane Hammer, who learned programming by copying code off a blackboard and going to a computer lab once a week to see it run, now has her computer information systems (CIS) students type code into their laptops as she talks, "to see whether what I said really works."

"My Islamic art students can travel through the Dome of the Rock and hear the music and language all at once" on a Web site, says Whitney. "I teach people to make Web pages, and in every section, I'll have someone who says, 'Now I have power!'"

Nearly half the courses are taught, at least in part, over the Web. Wood's class in entrepreneurship, for example, meets online half the time. Students are divided into groups of four and interact on discussion boards between weekly classes.

"It's not a traditional lecture/research/write format," says senior Maggie Clemens, who is majoring in English and business. "It's more of a discussion: How can we all learn together?"

While many universities are using IT in class instruction, says Luker, the technology is usually scattered in islands that may not communicate with one another, much like the IT "silos" still found at many companies. VCSU is different, he says, because IT is "a structured, strategic emphasis that runs throughout the organization," just as it should be in the best companies.

Students at VCSU say that technology enables better education for all types of pupils. "Classes that would traditionally be lecture are turning into audiovisual and hands-on, which takes in all types of learners - visual, auditory and kinetic," says Sara Banya, a history major. Her class recently listened to a lesser-known speech by Martin Luther King Jr. via the Web. "Primary sources are within our grasp," she says. "It makes history tangible."

VCSU is also using technology to improve student skills assessment by means of mandatory "digital portfolios" - CDs that leverage students' technical proficiency to illustrate their mastery

of academic subject matter.

A digital portfolio for an education major, for example, might include a Web page with a video of the student teacher giving a lesson, a video of his students working on a project with a voice-over explanation of the principles involved, a Word document of the lesson plan with hot links to sources, a testimonial by the supervising teacher, and the student's transcript. "It says I know more than what's on my transcript," says senior Ben Bernard.

### Seeing Results

Thanks to its two-year computer replacement cycle, VCSU students graduate with computer experience that's equal to or greater than that of their employers, says Chaffee. "Our graduate job placement rate is consistently at or near 100%," she says.

The university works hard to ensure that rate. It has established internships with Great Plains Software Inc. and uses the company's products in its business and CIS classes.

"When we interview a VCSU student, we don't focus on technology, because we know they know it," says Gary Schafer, vice president for existing customers at the Fargo, N.D.-based software maker. "It would be interesting to measure the training costs we've saved hiring Valley City students."

Teachers add that their use of technology tools helps set the stage for lifelong learning, and the university provides many examples. Everyone from administrators to security guards has received technology training, and everyone has access to a PC.

Ron Pommerer, director of facilities services, has just begun computer-aided design training for his staffers, which will help them maintain the physical plant. Don Schaack, the university carpenter, shares a PC with facilities services, but he says he hopes that won't be for long. "The more I learn, the more I want to learn," he says. "I'd like to have my own laptop."

Chaffee says her ultimate goal is to bring technology-oriented business into the region and stop the outflow of talent that's threatening a way of life she feels is worth saving.

"Around here, we say, 'Better leave the keys in the pickup. Somebody might need it,'" she laughs. Gesturing toward the small town beyond the campus and the farms in the distance, she adds, "This is the way America is supposed to be."

(Reprinted with permission from *ComputerWorld Magazine*)

## Nominate Outstanding Alumni

Valley City State University is proud of its alumni and the tremendous impact they have, and are continuing to make across the nation. If you know of a VCSU alumni who should be recognized for their achievements, please take the time to nominate that person for one of the Alumni Association's awards. All nominations will be forwarded to the appropriate screening committees and will receive full consideration.

**Certificate of Merit:** This award provides the Alumni Association with a way to recognize alumni for accomplishments, service, or other noteworthy honors.

**Alumni Service Award:** This award is presented to alumni and university friends who have attained exceptional achievement in their careers and have made a significant contribution to the university through dedicated service, promotion, financial support or other efforts.

**Distinguished Alumni:** The Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honor presented by the Alumni Association. The recipient's professional contributions, honors and awards, and leadership are considered.

Nominations to: Val Moritz, VCSU Foundation, 1-800-532-8641 Ext. 37403  
E-Mail: val\_moritz@mail.vcsu.nodak.edu



# DAKOTA ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

## DAC-10

## Five VCSU Vikings Named All-American

Five Valley City State University football players were named to All-American teams. They are Steve Battle, Jeremy Peschel, Darin Walters, Mark Rerick, and Chris Howson.

Battle, a sophomore wide receiver from Coca, FL, was named to the NAIA second team. He was also named first team All-American wide receiver and honorable mention kick returner by Don Hansen's National Football Gazette.

Peschel, a junior quarterback from Wahpeton, was named to the NAIA honorable mention team. He was also named honorable mention quarterback by Hansen's Gazette, was DAC-10 Players of the Year and a nominee for national player of the year.

Darin Walters, a senior offensive lineman from Wahpeton, was named to the NAIA honorable mention team and the Academic All-American Team.

Mark Rerick, a senior tight end from Ashley, was named to the NAIA All-American team for the second year.

Chris Howson, senior fullback from Hatton, was also named to the NAIA All-American team for the second year.

The 2000 VCSU Vikings closed out a successful season as DAC-10 football champs and hosted a first-round playoff game.

## Kottsick and Dyck earn All DAC-10 honors

Valley City State had two players named to the second team All-DAC-10 volleyball team. They are Sheryl Kottsick, outside hitter from Mandan and Michelle Dyck, outside hitter from Winkler, Manitoba. Kottsick is a sophomore; Dyck a senior

## Homecoming 2001

Saturday, October 6th

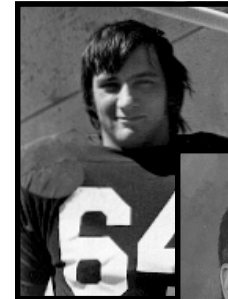
Honored Guests: Class of 1951



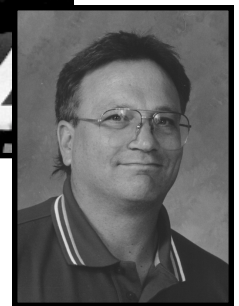
## Volunteer Spotlight

## Dave Rausch

Dave, an All-American linebacker for the Vikings in 1976 and 1977, led the 1976 team to the NAIA playoffs and the 1977 team to an undefeated season. After receiving his degree from VCSU in 1978, Dave was employed by Grotberg Electric as an accountant. He has now opened his own branch of American Investment Services in Valley City.



Then



Now

For the past 14 years, Dave has donated his time to serve as a senior member of the Viking football coaching staff.

"Dave is a very respected member of our football coaching staff," says Don Bauer, VCSU Athletic Director. "His dedication to Valley City State University is an inspiration. We appreciate the talent and enthusiasm he brings to his alma mater."

Dave is a member of the Valley City Optimists and Kiwanis Club. In 1988, Dave was inducted into the Viking Hall of Fame. He now serves as a Booster Board member for the VCSU Century Club.



## McCulloch Named DAC-10 Coach of the Year

VCSU football coach Dennis McCulloch has been named DAC-10 Coach of the Year. Dennis guided his team to an 11-1 record, won the DAC-10 conference crown, before being edged 24-21 in the first round of the NAIA playoffs.

Prior to becoming the head coach at VCSU, Dennis compiled a 9-1 regular season record and a ND championship in his third season as the defensive coordinator with the Vikings.

A native of Milbank, SD, Dennis received his bachelors and masters degrees from Northern State University. In 1991, he became the head football coach at Frazee (MN) High School before coming to VCSU as the defensive coordinator in 1993.

Dennis and his wife, Lisa, have three children, Ryan (12), Meghan (9), and Alexa (4).



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## In Remembrance

- Ethel (Mahan) Webster, Fargo
- Lillian (Lenz) Schmitz, Detroit Lakes, MN
- Darrel Lambrecht '59, Tioga
- Mary (Novak) Haas, Lidgerwood
- Jennie (Moe) Oien '30, Carrington
- Alice (Johnson) Henricks, Tower City
- Vera (Schoessow) Riese '39, Billings, MT
- Lucille (Lulay) Klose, Staples, MN
- Charles Schroeder '61, Lancaster, TX
- Alice (McQueen) Hodgson, Coeur d'Alene, ID
- Clara (Brandvold) Tron '30, Beulah
- Larry Boyle '28, Racine, WI
- Elsie (Stephan) Humphrey '27, Sanborn
- Mary (Leinen) Roth '25, Hastings, MN
- Annie (Schlichenmayer) Kubler '30, Bismarck
- Alfred Lutgen, LaMoure
- Betty (Tweed) Sola '44, Fargo
- Evelyn (Noeske) Burchill, Fargo
- Gladys (Strand) Thomte '41, St. Joseph, MO
- Ramon Pomplun, Ellendale
- Florence (Jendro) Smith, Casselton
- Rose (Gaukler) Schaner '25, Mandan
- Olive (Nicholson) Abbott '57, Steele
- Louie W. Seibel '23, Missoula, MT
- Rosella (Roe) Maddocks '43, Lisbon
- Mary Ellen (Ercink) Collier '42, Lidgerwood
- Helen (DeKrey) Hinger '31, Wishek
- Hildred (Ordahl) Hendrickson '33, Fargo
- Geoline (Oppegaard) Lang '29, Haymarket, VA
- Mylo Olstad, Valley City
- Verne Highness '39, Fargo
- Elizabeth (Haagenson) Gates '35, Lisbon
- Olive (Newton) Spiekermeier '33, Enderlin
- Ruth (Torgerson) Rorvig '38, Cooperstown
- Ludwig "Jack" Erck, Fargo
- Richard Chizek, Moorhead, MN
- Ardis (Soderholm) Mork, Shorewood, MN
- Ruth M. Kittel '28, Los Gatos, CA
- Myrtle (Fjeld) Johnson '65, Nome
- Lillian (Matthias) Thiel, Wahpeton
- Bernard Diemert '39, Napa, CA
- Gertrude (Hewitt) Honnold, Jamestown
- Irmina Schultz '37, Valley City

Former VCSU Staff  
Wayne Greb, Valley City

# Vikings on the Move

## 1950's

**Nancy (Fiedler) Loberg Coppola '56** resides in Milbank, SD. She retired from the Grand Forks Public School Special Education Department in 1994 and is enjoying early retirement. Nancy spends her summers at her lake cottage on Big Stone Lake near Milbank. She has two grown children, Kay and John.

## 1960's

**Diane (Sondag) Hafner '68** is teaching half time at Sykeston Public School. She has served as Sykeston's City Auditor for 16 years and is now the manager of their housing unit. Diane and her husband sold their oil business and he now works for Cenex. Their daughter is a nurse and their son is in college at UND. The Hafners have one five-year old grandson and another one on the way!

## 1970's

**Bruce Babcock '78** says "Hello" from the great state of Texas. He is starting his 10<sup>th</sup> year flying for Delta Airlines and is based in Dallas/Fort Worth. He still enjoys his part time participation as a staff officer in the Air Force Reserves at Wright Patterson AFB OH. He is a Lieutenant Colonel in his 21<sup>st</sup> year. Bruce's family is doing fine in Texas. His daughter, Sarah, is a junior in high school. He admits he's getting paid back for all the fun he had in college being a father of a 16 year old! Bruce's wife, Tami, Delta Flight Attendant, keeps busy barrel racing and taking care of three horses. Bruce and Tami invite friends to call if ever in the Fort Worth area.

## 1980's

**Jon Gilbertson '80** reports that 1999 was quite the year as the Gillybertson family finally completed their move to Australia. If Griff

can get married, and Dahl can fly Presidents around, Gilly can move to Australia. Aaron, 13 [a teenager!!], and Nicole, 11, seem to have made the adjustment rather easily...and I could not be more proud of them. As you can imagine, the change in culture has been fairly dramatic and every day brings another challenge. The people here are very friendly, but they will never take the place of some incredible mates back home. (eg. the Wilkins) We miss our friends and family more than could be described. Melbourne is not the end of the Earth, but on a clear night you can see it from here! 9500+ miles from a Hit Parade. Uff-da! Luckily, I have a recording of Little Brown Jug. Drop me a line at [jongilly@yahoo.com](mailto:jongilly@yahoo.com) and keep up with the latest at [www.geocities.com/jongilly](http://www.geocities.com/jongilly) Hey Spock! What me worry? No worries, mate! EBC FOREVER and a day.

**Maureen (Coghlan) Woodbury '80** has joined Park Company/GMAC Real Estate as a Sales Associate. After selling advertising for *The Forum* for 15 years, Mo decided she needed a new challenge.

**Kyle Davison '82** is employed as the tech prep coordinator for North Dakota State College of Science's Skills & Technology Training Center at Fargo, ND. Kyle works with secondary and post-secondary schools to identify and develop programs to help meet the present and future workforce needs.

**Darwin Subart '82** has been promoted to executive vice president and general manager of WBI Southern Inc., a subsidiary of WBI Holdings, Inc. WBI Southern consists of the natural gas gathering system and certain storage assets of WCI Holdings. Darwin and his wife, Jackie, live in Bismarck and have three children.

**Kevin Blaskowski '86** is teaching and coaching at Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia, AR. He and his wife, April, have a daughter, Kaelyn Rose, 7 months old.

**Kimberly (Pollert) Coffel '87** works in Golden Valley, MN, at the corporate headquarters for Novartis Seeds as Executive Administrative Assistant for the VP of Sales. Her husband, Jason, works in downtown Minneapolis as Legal Expense Manager for US Bank. Their daughter, Megan, is a very independent 4 year old. The Coffels make their home in Maple Grove.

## 2000 Phone-A-Thon

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## We'll Be Seeing You. . . .

The VCSU Alumni Association will be hosting reunions again this year. More information will be mailed to alumni living in the areas of the reunions. However, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Val Moritz at 1-800-532-8641 Ext. 37403 or by e-mail: val\_moritz@mail.vcsu.nodak.edu. If you plan to be in one of these areas at this time, plan to attend! We're looking forward to seeing you!

### **Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN**

Saturday, March 31, 2001  
3:00 PM – 7:00 PM  
American Legion  
525 Railroad Dr. NW  
Elk River, MN

### **Portland, OR**


Saturday, April 6, 2001  
3:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
DoubleTree Hotel – Portland Lloyd Center  
1000 NE Multnomah  
Portland, OR 97232

### **Seattle, WA**

Saturday, May 5, 2001  
\*Location to be announced

### **Denver, CO**

Saturday, September 22, 2001  
\*Location to be announced



***Expect a call during the 2001 Phone-A-Thon.  
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