

THE BULLETIN

A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University



VCSU 2015 *Driving Enrollment Growth*

VALLEY CITY
STATE UNIVERSITY

VCSU

VCSU Reports All-Time Record Enrollment ♦ Homecoming 2011



*U.S. News Names
VCSU the #1
Public Regional
College in the
Midwest*



DEPARTMENTS

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Welcome to The Bulletin!

Larry Robinson	701-845-7217
<i>Executive Director of University Advancement</i>	<i>larry.robinson@vcvu.edu</i>
Kim Hesch	701-845-7403
<i>Assistant Director of University Advancement</i>	<i>kim.hesch@vcvu.edu</i>
Alison Kasowski	701-845-7203
<i>Assistant Director of Annual Giving</i>	<i>alison.kasowski@vcvu.edu</i>
Loree Morehouse	701-845-7203
<i>Data Processing and Research Coordinator</i>	<i>loree.morehouse@vcvu.edu</i>
Doug Anderson	701-845-7227
<i>Director, Marketing and Communications</i>	<i>doug.anderson@vcvu.edu</i>
Jack Denholm	701-845-7160
<i>Athletic Director</i>	<i>jack.denholm@vcvu.edu</i>
Tara Praska	701-845-7362
<i>Graphic Designer</i>	<i>tara.praska@vcvu.edu</i>
Toll Free	800-532-8641 ext. 37203
VCSU Home Page	www.vcsu.edu

COVER STORY



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4 VCSU 2015

Last year, faculty and staff formulated a five-year strategic plan for VCSU named "VCSU 2015." Although the most visible component of the plan deals with enrollment, the plan actually encompasses several other key aspects of the University and its fulfillment of its mission. Read this article to get the whole story behind VCSU 2015.



7

7 Robert Gross '64 recognized with Distinguished Alumni Award

Among the festivities during Homecoming weekend was the annual Alumni Honors breakfast in which deserving alums receive special recognition for their accomplishments. This year featured Robert Gross '64, who became VCSU's 58th recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award. Check out this article to see who else was recognized for their good and hard work.



8

8 Record Enrollment, U.S. News "Best Colleges"

VCSU achieved two notable milestones this fall: All-time record enrollment and being named as the #1 public regional college in the Midwest by U.S. News. In this article, we take a look at these historic achievements.

15 President's House Preservation Society planning for the future

After nearly 20 years of hard work and dedication, the President's House Preservation Society can be very proud of the impressive improvements and updates completed in this beautiful campus landmark. Now, the group is preparing for the next step: improvements that will extend the life and utility of the home for many more years to come. Read this article to learn how you can help.

ON THE COVER:

The Viking football team and their fans certainly appreciate the new artificial turf surface on the VCSU football field, but in a larger sense, the improvement is just one part of a strategic plan that will shape VCSU's priorities over a five year period. "VCSU 2015" encompasses many aspects of VCSU's personality including academic quality, innovation, facilities, and of course, enrollment. You can get a copy of VCSU 2015 by downloading it from www.vcsu.edu/president, or, to get the short story, just read the article that starts on page 4.

PHOTO CREDITS:

George Dutton: Page 4, 12. Steve Voit: Page 5





Strategic Growth at VCSU

Dr. Steve Shirley, President

As you see with the photo and caption on the cover of this *Bulletin*, several strategic initiatives are propelling VCSU forward and helping the University achieve a number of new goals. The most tangible result of these efforts is the fact that Valley City State University is educating more students in Fall 2011 than at any time in the 120+ year history of the University. This is fantastic news in which all VCSU alumni, supporters, and friends should take terrific pride! These enrollment gains should not be viewed as the end goal, but rather as a result of successful strategic campus initiatives.

Last year, VCSU finalized and began implementing a new strategic plan, VCSU 2015, to serve as a roadmap for the next five years. VCSU 2015 has four main focal points: Academic Quality, Facilities, Funding, and Enrollment Growth. A vibrant, healthy, growing campus requires that VCSU provide quality education in fields that are demanded by students and needed within the state. Moreover, we must have the appropriate facilities to provide the best possible educational environment in which the teaching and learning can occur. It is imperative that we have the necessary funding to ensure resource allocations will be prioritized appropriately to achieve goals, and to ensure we have scholarship dollars available to attract the best and brightest students to VCSU.

New and re-aligned academic programs in such areas as Health Science, Fisheries & Wildlife, Professional Communications, Medical Laboratory Science, Business Process Integration Management, STEM Education, English Language Learners (ELL), and Library Science are all providing new opportunities and new career paths for current and prospective students at VCSU. External grants, funding, accreditation,

national rankings, and other sources of validation readily confirm the success and quality of these and other programs across campus.

When completed, the expanded and renovated Rhoades Science Center will be the preeminent facility in the state of North Dakota for undergraduate science-based education. It is a facility that will transform the educational environment at VCSU. The \$3.5 million in renovations that have been recently completed in Snoeyenbos Hall provide a beautiful new living space for our students. The new artificial turf at Shelly Ellig Field is

a state-of-the-art surface that is now providing new opportunities for so many VCSU student-athletes.

These are just a few of the transformative changes that

are helping VCSU achieve its long-term, strategic goals to best serve current and future students.

Of course, the results to all of these efforts thus far have been exciting. For the fourth consecutive year, VCSU enrollment increased to this fall's all-time record enrollment of 1,384 students. VCSU's graduate master's program posted a record enrollment this fall for the seventh straight year. The #1 ranking as the top Public Regional College in the Midwest by US News for 2012 was the proverbial "icing on the cake." It certainly is an exciting time at VCSU, and there is so much more progress that can be achieved for the campus as we fulfill our strategic goals!

Finally, thanks to all alumni, friends, and supporters who were on campus for Homecoming 2011 last month. It was great meeting and re-connecting with many of you throughout the weekend. All the best for a Happy Holiday Season and best wishes as we approach 2012.

Go Vikings! ♦

A vibrant, healthy, growing campus requires that VCSU provide quality education in fields that are demanded by students and needed within the state. Moreover, we must have the appropriate facilities to provide the best possible educational environment in which the teaching and learning can occur.



The VCSU Alumni Association invites you to join alumni and friends at Scheels Arena for a FARGO FORCE HOCKEY GAME.

We have reserved the North Club Lounge for

- Friday, January 6, 2012 •
- Cost = \$20 per person (includes reserved ticket for seating in the North Club Lounge area, food and fun!) •
- Social starts at 6:30 pm •
- Game time: 7:35 pm •

Come out and join your fellow VCSU supporters to cheer on the Fargo Force.

Please RSVP to reserve your tickets – there are only a limited number available on a first come first served basis!

Call 701-845-7203 to reserve yours today!

VCSU Alumni Association Get-Togethers Spring 2012

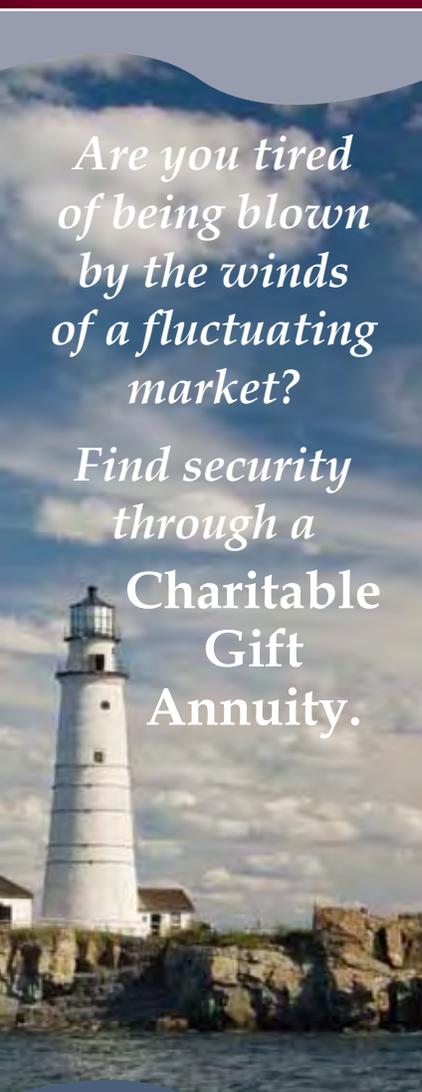
- Jan. 6 **Fargo Force Game and social** Fargo
*See ad on left for ticket information
- Jan. 12 **Pregame social before VCSU vs UND game** Grand Forks
@ the Betty – 7 pm / game time 8 pm
- Feb. 3 & 4 **Arizona Trip**
*See page 3 for information
- Feb. 16 **VCSU Thursday** Jamestown
Grizzlies – 5:30 – 7:30 pm
- Feb. 21 **VCSU Tuesday** Bismarck
The Lodge – 5:30 – 7:30 pm
- Mar. 22 **VCSU Thursday** Carrington
Crossroads Golf Course – 4 to 6 pm
- Mar. 27 **VCSU Tuesday** Oakes
Season's Bar & Lounge – 4 to 6 pm
- Apr. 20 **VCSU Scholarship Auction** Valley City
5 pm Social, 6 pm Buffet Dinner, 7 pm Live Auction
- Apr. 24 **VCSU Tuesday** Fargo
Green Mill Restaurant – 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Reconnect with fellow alumni & friends!

RSVP is requested. Please contact Kim Hesch at 800-532-8641 ext 37403 or kim.hesch@vcsu.edu

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Homecoming at VCSU

by D.C. Lucas '96, Alumni Board President

I would like to introduce myself - my name is D.C. Lucas and I am a 1996 graduate of VCSU. It is an honor to take over as the president of the Alumni Board of Directors. I want to say "thank you" to past president, John Monilaws '87, for his continued commitment to VCSU and always driving this Board in the right direction. The Alumni Board of Directors continues to strive to make VCSU better and continues to expand their reach. I want to thank the members of the Alumni Board for their dedication and continued commitment.

VCSU has a Homecoming tradition dating back to the early 20th Century; it has a storied history of athletics, parades, courts, and festivities. As we recognize those who return to our campus to participate in various activities, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge both our past accomplishments and the successes we have had as we enter into the second decade of the 21st century.

In a recent publication of the *Wall Street Journal* Classroom Edition, students from across the country were introduced to what we have known for quite some time: North Dakota has much to offer to students seeking a quality, affordable university experience. I learned this first hand as an out-of-state VCSU student. Attracted to the opportunities that VCSU had to offer, I realized, as many of our current and past students have, that this University provided me with the academic skills needed to succeed personally and professionally once I graduated. As a result, like many alumni, I've built upon what I gained at VCSU and stayed in North Dakota.

Homecoming has afforded me the opportunity to return and reconnect with many friends and faculty

here, but more importantly, as this University has become widely recognized regionally and nationally as an outstanding academic venue, I am pleased to share this story with new students on campus. We encourage alumni to return to campus and share their success stories with current and future students.

From the moment I stepped onto the VCSU campus, this University has stressed the importance of an engaged academic environment where both students and faculty would be actively involved in the learning process. Over the years, I have learned that even after graduation the faculty and staff at VCSU are still involved in guiding alumni with career decisions and advice. It is no mistake that with these qualities

From the moment I stepped onto the VCSU campus, this University has stressed the importance of an engaged academic environment where both students and faculty would be actively involved in the learning process.

at VCSU, the University has seen record enrollment, new programs and 14 straight years of being recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* on their annual list of "Best Colleges." Students across the state and country have taken notice of VCSU.

This Homecoming season was both festive and celebratory as we recognize athletic achievement in the tradition of the event. However, once the games have ended, let us also acknowledge the academic excellence that VCSU has to offer. It is that which makes Homecoming a journey worth remembering.

As always, VCSU has numerous events throughout the year that gives alumni the opportunity to give back and get reacquainted with VCSU. Like all of us, I am excited for where VCSU is going in the world of academics, athletics and student activities.

Thank you again for trusting me to lead the Alumni Board of Directors and I look forward to continued success at VCSU. GO VIKINGS!! ♦

2011-2012 VCSU Alumni Board of Directors

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Sustaining the Vision - Your help is working... Keep it up!

by Larry Robinson '71, Executive Director of University Advancement

Some 39 years ago, a group of loyal supporters of VCSU in this community had a vision. They understood then that with ongoing increases in tuition, books and supplies and other university related costs, VCSU needed to develop a strong scholarship program to assist students with college costs. That was long before the advent of fees, costs for technology, and other charges that have become commonplace for today's college students. That group of visionaries established the V-500 Scholarship

Program to provide scholarship support to students at the University. That was 1972. The group generated contributions from supporters of the University throughout the community. Folks were asked to make a \$500 commitment and pay that commitment off in ten years. So was the beginning of the V-500 Scholarship Program. In the first year of its existence, a total of \$15,000 in scholarship support was generated. Several scholarships for \$75 were awarded to worthy students at the University. Today, basic "membership" in the V-500 Program requires a \$200 investment per year for a five year time period. This amounts to just 54 cents per day - a

small price to pay to have such an impact on a deserving student. The program offers considerable flexibility. Some folks have supported the program at upper levels including the V-\$5,000, V\$10,000 and higher. Additionally, a growing number of folks have elected to include V-500 in their estate plans.

What began in 1972 as a vision to provide scholarship support for students at the Univer-

Interestingly enough, the University is enjoying our largest enrollment ever with 1,384 students this fall semester. We also have a record scholarship allocation of \$757,000!

sity has become a legacy at the University. For the current academic year, V-500 will provide in excess of \$250,000 in scholarship support. Scholarships vary in size, depending on a number of criteria. Many scholarships are awarded at the \$2,500 level. With tuition and fees exceeding \$11,116 for one academic year, not including personal expenses, such as gasoline, clothing, food, etc., feel assured that the scholarship support is welcomed by our students. Even with the scholarship support, a significant number of our students work one or two part-time jobs and their average debt load after four years is just over \$26,000!

V-500 is clearly a success story. The

University would be hard pressed to sustain a strong enrollment without the V-500 program. The V-500 program is complemented by a host of other endowed and memorial scholarships and the Century Club Athletic Scholarship program. Interestingly enough, the University is enjoying our largest enrollment ever with 1,384 students this fall semester. We also have a record total scholarship allocation of \$757,000!

Our challenge is sustaining the vision. We need your help and we need it now. Please consider

supporting the V-500 Scholarship Program. If you are a current member and are making payments on a pledge, thank you for your support. If you have been a member in the past, consider renewing that membership today. If you have never been a member, there is no better time than now to become a member of this important program. V-500 memberships are available by contacting the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7203 or by contacting me directly at larry.robinson@vcsu.edu. V-500 is an investment in our students and our University. Don't wait for others, act today. **Remember, It Takes Two, V-500 and YOU!!! ♦**

Join VCSU Alumni and Friends in Warm Arizona
February 3 - 4, 2012

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2012 - SURPRISE, AZ

- ▶ **No-host luncheon @ 11:30 am**
Location to be determined

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2011 - MESA, AZ

- ▶ **Golf and luncheon**
Arizona Golf Resort Hotel and Conference Center
425 S Power Road
- ▶ **Alumni & friends golf scramble**
8:30 am Registration
- ▶ **Alumni social and luncheon**
11:00 am - Reunion Social
12:00 noon - Luncheon

Bring a friend! These events are not restricted to VCSU Alumni.
For more information or to be added to the Arizona mailing list, please call the VCSU Foundation office at 701-845-7203!

North Dakota Suncoast Association Luncheon

Jay Morgan '69 and his wife, Louise Anna, would like to extend an invitation to all Valley City State University alumni and friends who live, winter or plan to vacation in the Sarasota, FL area in February to the 48th annual North Dakota Suncoast Association Luncheon.

The luncheon will be held on February 25, 2012 at the River Wilderness Golf and Country Club, I-75 at exit 224 (Hwy 301) Parrish, FL.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Jay Morgan at 941-378-4444 or louiseanna@msn.com for more information.



VCSU 2015

Driving enrollment growth, plus a lot more

VCSU is in its fourth consecutive year of enrollment growth, and in public comment on the subject, VCSU president Dr. Steve Shirley has attributed this growth to strategic initiatives, many of which stem directly from VCSU's "Strategic Plan, 2010 – 2015" (which is known as "VCSU 2015"). This may give the impression that the plan's only objective is enrollment, but in fact, only one of the four goals directly deal with enrollment. In a much broader sense, VCSU 2015 is having many other effects that receive less attention than enrollment, but are no less important. In this article, we take a look at the strategic plan and describe some of the changes it is driving.

VCSU's Strategic Plan 2010-2015 is available from the president's page on the VCSU web site: www.vcsu.edu/president.

QUALITY AND INNOVATION:

Goal 1. Provide accessible, innovative, high quality educational experiences and programs for all students.

This first goal gets to the heart of VCSU's mission and vision, so it is a natural way to start the Strategic Plan, and is arguably the goal that has received the most attention internally.

In keeping with VCSU's leadership in using technology to enhance the learning experience, the first item in this list is to leverage cutting edge technologies to advance teaching and learning.

Joe Tykwinski, Chief Information Officer, said, "We've made a considerable amount of progress in this area. For example, we are moving the IT environment to a virtual computing environment, or 'Cloud Computing' as it is often known. In addition to substantial operational benefits for VCSU, Cloud Computing allows personal handheld devices to become educational tools and it will provide convenient access to course-specific software. In the classroom, other improvements underway include

the installation of interactive whiteboards and technology to record lectures in the Blackboard Learning Management System." In another change, VCSU is issuing MacBooks (laptops from Apple Computer) to students in certain majors, and implementation of an Information Technology Mini-Grant program that makes funding available for student and faculty ideas directly tied to instructional technology that improve student learning.

International partnerships and expansion of Study Abroad opportunities for students are also areas of focus for enhancing the quality of education at VCSU. Within the last year, VCSU has received visits from both Zhejiang Economic & Trade Polytechnic in Hangzhou, China and the Universidad Autonoma de Baja California Sur (UABCS) in La Paz, Mexico. Last year, students studied abroad in Ireland, Peru, and Spain.

The plan also calls for expanded initiatives in STEM Education and Technology Education. Some of the recent accomplishments in this area include establishing the Great Plains STEM Education Center and the Prairie Waters Education and Research Center, and these centers have already served K-12 educators statewide. Fall semester 2010, VCSU began offering classes with a STEMED prefix which can lead to an endorsement in STEM Education.

ENROLLMENT AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS:

Goal 2. Identify, promote, and support high enrollment programs and opportunities, to increase enrollment in both online and residential programs.

VCSU is in its fourth consecutive year of growth, and as of Fall 2011, total headcount reached 1,384, the highest in the University's history. Within VCSU 2015, three sets of initiatives are currently underway.

The first focuses on programs designed to meet the needs of specific groups of students. For example, to enhance the success of our students, VCSU has established a Learning Center specifically to provide one-on-one tutoring services. Jodi Shorma, Director of the Learning Center, said, "Within the first several weeks of classes of Fall semester 2011, nearly 80 students received help from the Learning Center. Most are looking for help in writing, but other areas include math, ESL, test preparation, speech preparation, and accounting." In another example of a program to meet the needs of specific students, VCSU entered into a partnership with Dakota College Bottineau and local healthcare providers to offer the DCB nursing certificate from the VCSU campus. This program is designed for local healthcare professionals with associate degrees

One of the strategic initiatives under Goal 1 of VCSU 2015 is the implementation of a "virtual computing" environment that will take VCSU's use of technology to a new level. Virtual computing provides many benefits including giving students easier access to course-specific software. It also involves a significant development effort by the staff of VCSU's data center. From left: Brian Dahlberg (senior), Senior Systems Analyst Robert Brown '91, Director of Data Centers and Virtualization Erik Kringlie '92, and Chief Information Officer Joe Tykewski. VCSU is one of the few campuses across the country that offers private cloud computing services to all students

that would like to further their education but are unable to attend classes at one of the campuses offering bachelor's programs.

Also under Goal 2, VCSU is developing an institutional enrollment plan for on-campus growth that encompasses all departments and programs. Dr. Margaret Dahlberg, Vice President of Academic Affairs, said, "By 2013, each academic area is to have implemented their own strategic plan. These plans will be broad in scope and encompass everything from new and existing course offerings to marketing strategies to facilities. The success of these plans will be measured against specific enrollment targets." Other departments are developing enrollment plans as well. Athletics, for example, is developing a plan that will evaluate the addition of new athletic programs and enhanced facilities.

A third way that VCSU is looking to increase enrollment is to partner with other institutions to improve flexibility and responsiveness. Articulation agreements are key here in that these agreements provide a means for students to easily and cost-effectively transfer credits from one institution to another as their needs change. In one recent example, VCSU and the North Dakota State College of Science entered into an agreement that allows students to apply technical credits earned under an NDSCS Associate in Applied Science degree in Technical Studies – Journeyworker Track towards VCSU's B.S. degree in Career and Technical Education. Dr. Dahlberg said, "Because agreements like this make it substantially easier for adult learners to further their education in technical fields, they do more than increase enrollment: they are effective ways to meet a pressing need of the state."

FISCAL STRATEGIES:

Goal 3: Find new financial resources and reallocations that will support the initiatives and opportunities identified in this document.

Recognizing that many items described in VCSU 2015 will require resources to be dedicated, and that resources are limited, this goal provides the mechanism for finding the necessary funding.

On the income side, this goal calls for developing new financial resources, and VCSU has in fact made considerable progress in this area. Between 2007 and 2010, total budgeted revenue increased by 43.3% – closely matching VCSU's enrollment growth of 40.9% over the same period. One area that stands out is scholarships: between 2007 and 2010, scholarship commitments grew by nearly 65% from \$460,619 to \$757,975, driven exclusively by donors. In addition to scholarship programs, student fees are also being looked at to fund initiatives that are not eligible for state funds, such as improvements to residence halls and the Student Center.

On the spending side, annual budgets are being developed within the context of strategic priorities. In particular, the plan calls for annual budgets to be developed within the context of VCSU 2015, divisional strategic plans, and the Facilities Master Plan. As part of the annual budgeting process, every request must describe how it aligns with VCSU 2015 or a divisional strategic plan, and these descriptions are used to prioritize requests.

FACILITIES:

Goal 4: Implement opportunities identified in the 2010 Master Plan to support VCSU's enrollment initiatives, program development, and student needs.

Like all campuses in the University System, VCSU maintains a "Master Plan" describing maintenance and capital construction projects that are either awaiting funding or underway. This goal calls for prioritizing these projects in terms of their direct impact on enrollment, program development, and student needs.

In one significant development, the renovation and expansion of the Rhoades Science Center received a \$10.3 million appropriation during the 2011 Legislative session. This project has been included in the Master Plan for several years and has been on VCSU's list of priority capital projects considered during the last two sessions. It was viewed as a priority because it would have a direct effect on enrollment and more specifically, the growth of programs in the Sciences. Other items from the Master Plan that were recently completed include the renovation and conversion of Snoeyenbos Residence Hall into suites and the installation of artificial turf on Shelly Ellig Field.

What's next?

2015 is still a few years away, and VCSU 2015 will remain a focus.

In the coming years, we can expect that the strategic plans being developed by each academic area will begin to produce new enrollment initiatives and new offerings devised to meet the needs of niche markets. The online Master of Education program is expected to continue its growth and offer new concentrations and certificates. Alternate delivery models, online in particular, are being explored and are expected to result in development of new programs and courses. The plan calls for an Online Learning Task Force to be formed to develop VCSU's vision for online programs and courses in 2012.

As work on the Rhoades Science Center progresses, VCSU will continue to work to obtain funding for other items in the Facilities Master Plan such as a renovation of classrooms and offices used by the Division of Business and Information Technology (first floor of Vangstad Hall) and updates to the Student Center.

Of course, continued enrollment growth, particularly on the order that VCSU has been experiencing over the last few years, is never guaranteed. "After all," said Dr. Shirley, "enrollment is something we can influence, but we can't directly control it. But implementation of VCSU 2015 is off to a tremendous start, and we think the best is yet to come." ♦



VCSU Scholarship Dinner

This year's annual scholarship dinner was held on Tuesday, October 5 with over 55 attending. The annual Scholarship Dinner 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 in person.

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



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1) Katie Paulson and Dave Melgaard (Dave Melgaard Scholarship)

2) Grover Hansen, Shelby Hewson and Rhonda (Hansen) Fairfield '09 (Audber James Hansen Memorial Scholarship)

3) Dustin Renner with Myrna (Lindstrom) McGregor '42 and Eric Burgad (Lindstrom-McGregor Scholarship)

4) Eryn Lutjens with Charlene Windish. (John Windish Memorial Scholarship)

5) Taryn Wallace with Connie Reed (John Reed Memorial Scholarship)

Etzel named STEM Coordinator for Minneapolis High Schools



School systems across the nation are beginning to work towards implementation of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) Education as a means of improving the technological literacy of the nation's workforce.

In the Minneapolis Public Schools' secondary system, that initiative is being led by Sara Etzel M.Ed. '07.

In August, Sara was promoted within Minneapolis Public Schools to the role of STEM Coordinator for the secondary schools (grades 6 - 12) in the district - a role that was funded by a grant through the Cargill Foundation. She is responsible for coordinating the implementation of STEM methodologies throughout the secondary schools in the district and creating STEM pipelines and pathways to enhance student learning.

Sara is no novice when it comes to STEM Education. Since graduating, Sara has been a Career and Tech Ed teacher at Washburn

High School in Minneapolis. While there, she coached a team from Washburn in the FIRST Robotics Competition (the "Millerbots"), and led them through regional competition and trips to the national championship three of the last four years.

While at Washburn, it was Etzel's role to revive the engineering and technology program, which had suffered dwindling enrollment and lost staffing. The addition of FIRST Robotics played a key role in recruiting students to the engineering and technology program. "We retooled the program to have more of a robotics theme, and it has been growing ever since."

Now, her focus is on emphasizing the relevance of STEM Education and increasing awareness of STEM-based career paths that abound for students. "STEM is elusive because it doesn't have a visual, so STEM programs need a lot of marketing to get the parents, students and the community to really understand

what it is and how STEM applies to them. That is why STEM projects, such as the project-based learning with real world applications, like FIRST robotics and Project Lead the Way, are so important - they bring technology alive."

Sara believes that Minneapolis has a good foundation in place and is looking forward to taking this further. "Five of our seven high schools

"I just loved the graduate program at VCSU... it was way ahead of the curve. Before most of the country knew what it meant, VCSU was already focusing on technological literacy and STEM Education. The program did a great job preparing me for this position. I truly believe I am creating technologically literate citizens."

Sara Etzel M.Ed. '07

STEM Coordinator, Minneapolis Secondary School System

already participate in 'Project Lead the Way,' so they have coursework in engineering and technology in place. We also have an excellent relationship with the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MNSCU) system - which again shows students how STEM is relevant to them. I believe that Minneapolis can become a state, and maybe a national leader, in STEM Education." ♦

VCSU Alumni Association honor alumni



L to R: Erin Halland '04, James Boe '91, Mary Lee (Haugland) Robinson '71

The Valley City State University Alumni Association celebrated accomplishments of our alumni at the Alumni Honors Breakfast held during Homecoming weekend. The Honors Breakfast provides the VCSU Alumni Association with an opportunity to present fellow alumni with the Certificate of Merit, Distinguished Alumni, and Alumni Service awards.

Six alumni were honored with the Certificate of Merit award. The Certificate of Merit award was adopted by the VCSU Alumni Association to recognize alumni for accomplishments, service or other noteworthy honors. This year's recipients include James Boe '91, Valley City; David Cresap '84, Perham, MN; Justin Hager '01, Yuma, AZ; Erin Halland '04, Valley City; Mary Lee (Haugland) Robinson '71, Valley City; and Richard Starke '52, Burlington.

Ron Moser '81 received the Alumni Service Award. The Alumni Service Award was adopted 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. Ron's professional career includes over 14 years with Farmers Union Insurance. His passion, dedication, and positive attitude towards Viking athletics are second to none.

The Distinguished Alumni Award was adopted to recognize alumni who have achieved prominence in their chosen field of endeavor. The nominee must have received national or international recognition and must have



L to R: Ron Moser '81, recipient of the Alumni Service Award, and Robert Gross '64, recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award

been identified as an expert in their chosen field. Robert Gross, a 1964 graduate, was selected to become the 58th recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award.

After graduating, Bob worked in Waubun, MN, for four years as a teacher and principal. Bob worked in Brainerd, MN, for 31 years as a teacher, principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent of schools. He served as superintendent of schools of the Brainerd Public Schools, a district of 7,300 students, for 18 years. In 1999, he accepted the position as superintendent of a private American school in Singapore, a position he held for eight years. Bob currently services as a regional educational officer with the Office of Overseas Schools, a division of the U.S. Department of State. The Office of Overseas Schools was established to support American families living overseas.

In 2006, Bob was named the International School Superintendent of the Year by the Association for the Advancement of International Education and in 2010 received the Napoleon High School Outstanding Alumni Award. While working in Brainerd, Bob was named the Regional Superintendent of the Year by the Minnesota Association of School Administrators. The American Library Association also selected Bob as the American Library Association Superintendent of the Year and in 1987 he was named the Brainerd Area Citizen of the Year. ♦



Gary Tharaldson '67 (second from left) joined VCSU president Dr. Steve Shirley (left), Foundation board member Dick Gulmon (second from right), and Athletic Director Jack Denholm (right) for a round of golf in July at the Fargo Country Club. Gary and his wife Connie created the Tharaldson Scholarships in 2006 with gifts to the VCSU Foundation totaling \$1,000,000. For the 2011-12 academic year, 29 VCSU students received a total of \$56,167 in Gary and Connie Tharaldson scholarships. ♦

Leave a Legacy for V-500 at VCSU

The VCSU Foundation "Leave a Legacy" program is designed to encourage alumni and friends of the University who have supported the University while they were living to continue to have an impact on the University after the time of their death. They can do so with a charitable bequest which can be in the form of cash, stocks, bonds, life insurance, or a percentage of their estate. More often than not, there are attractive tax benefits associated with such a bequest. For further information on the Leave a Legacy program, contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7217 or email Larry Robinson, Executive Director of University Advancement, at larry.robinson@vcsu.edu.

*We advise our alumni and friends to consult with their tax accountant or attorney to determine the benefits of making a gift in your estate to the VCSU Foundation.

Consider a bequest in your will and/or estate plan to V-500. Your gift will impact future generations of students. It will become a "Gift that Keeps on Giving!"

VCSU reports all-time record enrollment

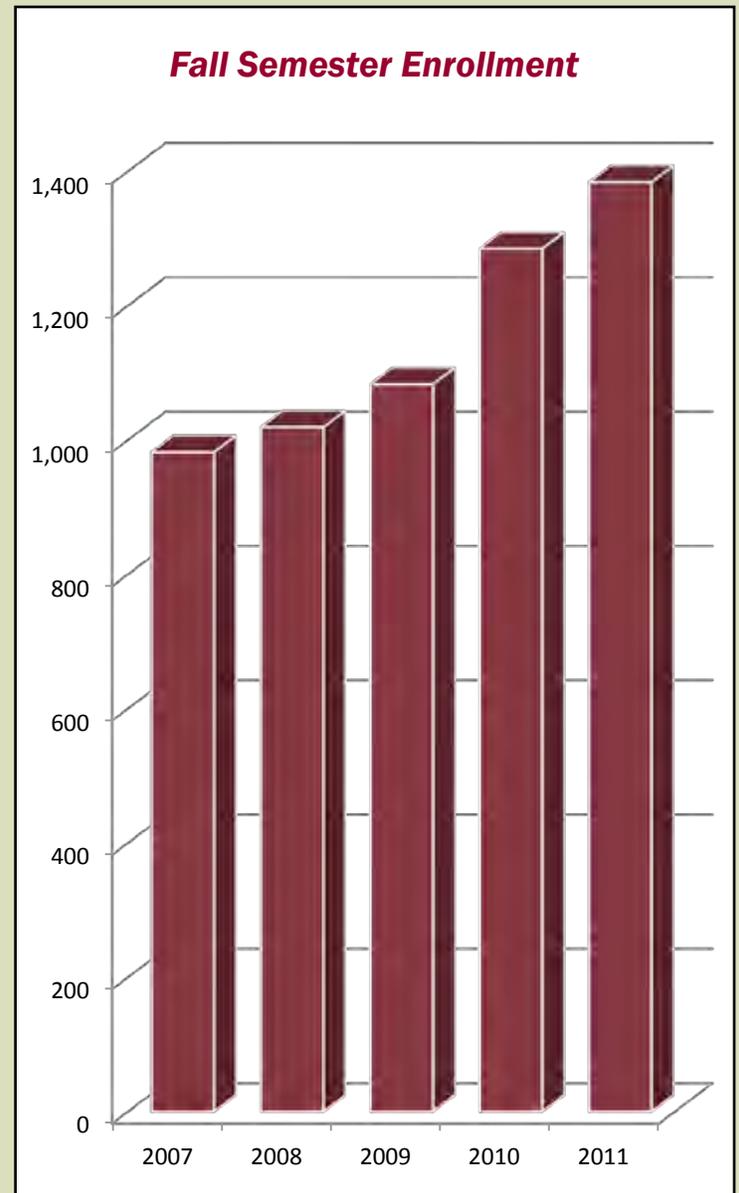
VCSU set an all-time record for final Fall semester enrollment by achieving a headcount of 1,384 students, surpassing last year's final headcount of 1,285 by 7.7% and the previous record of 1,369 set over 40 years ago. With this accomplishment, enrollment at VCSU has grown by 40.1% over the past four years.

"VCSU faculty, staff, students, alumni and supporters should all take great pride in this tremendous accomplishment," said VCSU president Dr. Steve Shirley. "This kind of growth can only be achieved with a concerted effort from all corners of the University."

According to Dr. Shirley, VCSU has implemented several key, strategic initiatives that have contributed to this growth. "New and innovative initiatives in the VCSU 2015 Strategic Plan are making significant contributions to the enrollment growth. For example, our online Master of Education, which is only in its seventh year, now serves 157 students, an increase of 6.8% over last year. Emerging undergraduate programs in the Sciences, as well as growing programs in Teacher Education and Fine Arts along with new intercollegiate athletics offerings are all contributing to campus growth. This year, we are continuing to introduce new programs such as a major in Medical Laboratory Science and a concentration in Criminal Justice."

Scholarships also played a pivotal role in achieving this record enrollment. Last year, the level of scholarship commitments reached a new all-time high of over \$757,000, largely made possible by outstanding support of alumni and the VCSU community.

The enrollment increase has produced a corresponding increase in population on campus. For example, 347 students are living in residence halls this year, up from the final figure of 326 last year and the most on-campus students at VCSU in over 10 years. ♦



U.S. News names VCSU the #1 Public Regional College in the Midwest



After 14 consecutive years of appearing on the U.S. News "Best Colleges" list, VCSU moved into the #1 position among the Top Public Regional Colleges in the Midwest.

Dr. Steven Shirley, VCSU president, said, "A track record of 14 straight years on the U.S. News 'Best Colleges' list is a remarkable accomplishment in its own right, and now, to be recognized as the best public regional college in the Midwest is a milestone in VCSU's history. Our students, faculty, staff, alumni and supporters should all take great pride in earning this historic achievement at VCSU."

The U.S. News college rankings group approximately 1,400 accredited institutions in the United States based on their mission and, for some categories, by location. The institutions are then compared based on a set of 16 areas related to academic excellence. The category "Regional Colleges in the Midwest" includes 97 colleges and universities (14 of which are public) across 12 states. Rounding out this category were Northern State (SD) in the #2 position, University of Minnesota – Crookston in #3, and Dickinson State and Mayville State tied for the #4 position.

Criteria in which VCSU fared well included peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, the student-faculty ratio, and alumni giving. Areas in which VCSU improved over last year's rankings include percent of faculty who are full-time, Freshmen in the top 25% of their high school class, and overall score. Dr. Shirley further commented, "This #1 ranking validates the high-quality education and outstanding collegiate experience that VCSU offers, and it further demonstrates the successful impact of recent campus-wide initiatives." ♦

VCSU receives grant to enhance information literacy

VCSU has received a three year, \$232,029 grant from the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, to develop, implement, and disseminate projects that will develop school library media programs, integrate them across the curriculum, and enhance collaboration among library media specialists, classroom teachers, and school administrators.

Under the grant, VCSU will select up to 25 three-person collaborative teams from schools across North Dakota and neighboring states. Each team will consist of the school administrator, the library media specialist, and a classroom teacher, and will receive 15 months of intensive training and mentoring that will include both face-to-face and online support. As a result of this program, these teams will be equipped to improve the information literacy of K-12 students so they can better recognize when information is needed and locate, evaluate, and effectively use information. Educators who complete the program will earn Continuing Education Unit (CEU) credit. The first workshops will be held in June 2012. For more information, contact Project Director Donna James at 701.845.7275 or donna.james@vcsu.edu. ♦

VCSU recognizes AgCountry donation to Medicine Wheel Park



AgCountry Farm Credit Services and Valley City State University recently held a dedication ceremony to recognize a donation of land AgCountry made to the Medicine Wheel Park. The 1/3 acre is located on the western slope adjacent to the park's "Garden of the Sun" and is being landscaped in a manner that will provide a highly visible entrance to the park for traffic approaching from the west on Winter Show Road.

The Medicine Wheel Park was created in 1992 by VCSU professor Dr. Joe Stickler, who, along with hundreds of students over the years as well as community volunteers, built and maintain the park. Features of this unique 30-acre park include two solar calendars: A horizon calendar (the medicine wheel) and a meridian or noontime calendar, Native American burial mounds, a model of the solar system, the North Country National Scenic Trail and other woodland nature trails, several scenic overlooks of the Sheyenne River valley and Valley City, and a 3,000 square foot perennial flower garden.

In this photo: (from left): AgCountry representatives Marv Langerud (Senior Vice President, Producer Marketing), Curt Van Dyke (Regional Vice President, Western Region), VCSU professor (and founder of the park) Dr. Joe Stickler, VCSU president Dr. Steve Shirley, and VCSU student volunteers Nick Faure and Garth Weber. ♦

HLC completes reaccreditation visit *"These are the glory days at VCSU!"*

A team of representatives from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) visited the VCSU campus in October as a key step in the reaccreditation process that is conducted once every 10 years. During the visit, the HLC team performed a thorough review of the University's academic and student programs, finances, faculty, student learner assessment, strategic planning, and VCSU's relationships with the community and external entities.

At the conclusion of the visit, Dr. Gar Kellom, leader of the HLC team, conducted an exit meeting in which he announced the team's intention to recommend reaccreditation, their recommendations for continuous improvement, and their intention to recommend approval of a change request that would allow VCSU to offer certificates in elementary and secondary STEM Education. In commenting on the University's pattern of success and growth in recent years, HLC team member Dr. Roland Barden observed that VCSU appears to be experiencing a period of glory days.

The team is currently preparing a written report which, after completing a review process, is expected to become final in early 2012. ♦

"Viking Pride" stone installed at Shelly Ellig Field

A new reminder of the proud heritage of Viking athletics has been installed at Shelly Ellig Field: the Viking Pride Stone is a display bearing the names of Viking football alumni who represent the foundation of this program and Viking Pride.

Coach Dennis McCulloch said, "Everyone entering and leaving the field can touch the stone to remind them that they represent more than themselves by wearing the Cardinal. We have over 100 years of Viking Pride and tradition we all share. This pride connects all of us." A donation of \$500 over five years puts the donor's name on the Pride Stone. Funds raised will go towards a new scoreboard (with video board) to be completed by next fall.

For information about donating, visit <http://vikings.vcsu.edu/football/> and click VIKING PRIDE. ♦



2011-12 Men's basketball preview ▶▶▶

The Vikings will have a new look in 2011-12 as they lose four seniors including two-time all-conference guard Calvin Kraft. Last season's four seniors (Tyler Macomber, Mark Klingberg, Mike York, and Calvin Kraft) played a major role in the resurgence of the VCSU program that included a 22 win season and the highest ever national ranking (12th) in 2008, and a victory in the Dakota Athletic Conference Championship in 2010.

The success of the Vikings during the 2011-12 season will rely on a combination of a core group of experienced players with some exciting new talent in the program. VCSU has built a reputation under the direction of head coach Jeff Kaminsky of being one of the best defensive programs in the country. That should continue again this season as the Vikings should have one of the more athletic teams in recent years. The Vikings will play a challenging and interesting schedule. VCSU has 16 games this season against new opponents including trips to Florida, Colorado, New Mexico, and Winnipeg, plus a game at UND.

The Vikings have eight returning players in the program:

Aaron Duske: 6'4" sophomore guard from Buffalo, MN. Aaron had an outstanding season as a freshman and is the leading returning scorer (11.3 ppg) and rebounder (5.2 rpg) for the Vikings. Aaron shot an efficient 52% from the field and 84% from the free throw line. Aaron is an outstanding defender who has the ability to match-up with a variety of opponents.

Joe Bateman 5'7" senior guard from Fort Lauderdale, FL. After persevering through an injury plagued year, Joe had successful off-season surgery and is now healthy and ready to go this season. The Vikings are looking forward to his experience, leadership and ability to put pressure on the ball.

Pat Rogers 6'0" junior guard from Eagan, MN. Pat returns as the Vikings best perimeter shooter. Pat missed the early part of 2010-11 with an injury, but is healthy heading into this season. Pat will have an opportunity to play a more significant role in 2011-12.

Harrison Weber 6'7" sophomore center from Casselton, ND. After picking-up some valuable experience last season coming off the bench and receiving an occasional start, Harrison should benefit from last year's playing time in the 2011-12 season.

Harrison averaged 3.7 ppg and 2.0 rpg. Expect Harrison to make a significant jump this season.

Jordan Schneidermann 6'6" sophomore forward from Brooklyn Park, MN. Jordan is a versatile forward who gained some valuable experience during his freshman season. The Vikings are looking forward to Jordan improving his rebounding and scoring this season.

Sekani Milligen 6'4" junior guard from Fort Lauderdale, FL. Sekani enrolled in VCSU last spring semester and redshirted for the Vikings. He played one season at Daytona Beach Community College and one season at NCAA Division 1 Alabama State before transferring to VCSU. He is an athletic guard with a high skill level. Sekani has the potential to be an outstanding defender and one of the best players in the conference. Sekani was a high school teammate of Joe Bateman at Nova High School in Florida.

John Raquel: 5'11" junior guard from Hawthorne, CA. John redshirted for the Vikings last season after transferring from Los Angeles Harbor Community College where he had an outstanding career. As a point guard, John really benefitted with a year in the VCSU program and appears ready to have an outstanding season in 2011-12.



Dillan Ostrom; 6'3" junior forward from Finley, ND. Dillan joined the program last spring and looks forward to his first season with the Viking basketball program after playing football at VCSU. He has a tremendous work ethic, the ability to be an outstanding rebounder, and can match-up with a variety of opponents.

The Vikings welcome seven new prospects to the program: One transfer (Sylvester Walker) and six new freshmen.

Sylvester Walker: 6'3" senior forward from St. Paul, MN transferred from NCAA Division II Concordia University in St. Paul and from the North Dakota State College of Science where he enjoyed an outstanding career and made a significant impact as one of the top rebounders. With only one season of eligibility remaining, it is expected that Sylvester will make an immediate impact. His athleticism and intensity will be a great fit for the Vikings.

Chris Embden: 6'2" guard from Plantation, FL had an outstanding career at Nova High school where he was named Honorable Mention All-County and Defensive Player of the Year for his team the past two seasons. He averaged 10 points, 5 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 2 steals per game last year.

Grant Lindahl: 6'7" forward from Cando, ND completed an outstanding career at North Star High School by leading his team to a perfect 27-0 record and the North Dakota Class B state championship, where he was voted as the tournament MVP. Grant averaged 20.8 points and 8 rebounds per game as he was named the District 8 and Region IV Senior Athlete of the Year. Grant finished third in the voting for the prestigious Mr. Basketball Award. Grant's shooting ability will add another weapon to the Viking attack.

AJ McDonald: 5'9" guard from Killeen, TX was the team MVP last season at Shoemaker High School where he averaged 14.1 points, 5.1 assists, and 2.3 steals per game. He has the ability to put pressure on the opponent on both ends of the floor. AJ's athleticism and toughness will provide the Vikings with outstanding depth at the point guard position.

Malcolm McDonald: 6'7" forward from Killeen, TX completed an outstanding career at Shoemaker High School. In his senior season, Malcolm averaged 17.1 points, 12.4 rebounds, and 3.4 blocked shots per game. He was named 2nd Team All-District in a highly competitive area of Texas high school basketball. He had a season high 33 points and 26 rebounds. Malcolm can provide an immediate impact with his ability to rebound and block shots, and will provide a versatile scorer.

Jason Perkins: 6'4" forward from Shakopee, MN was having a tremendous season last year leading his team in scoring (16.6 ppg) and averaging over 4 rebounds per game, before a season ending injury. Jason will be one of the more versatile players in the Viking program. His versatility to score inside and outside makes him a difficult match-up. Jason has the potential to make an immediate impact.

Ty Pratt: 6'7" forward from Sunrise, FL is coming in as a transfer with four years of eligibility remaining. Ty attended Broward County Community College in Florida, but did not use any athletic eligibility. Ty will bring some added depth to our inside game. He can have an immediate impact as a defender and rebounder. Ty was also a teammate of Joe Bateman at Nova High School in Florida. ♦

2011-12 Women's basketball preview ▶▶

New look Vikings 2011-12

Jill DeVries, 2011 Dakota Athletic Conference "Coach of the Year," returns for her 13th season as head coach of the new look VCSU Vikings women's basketball team.

Though the coach leading the way will be very familiar, the loss of six seniors including Honorable-Mention All-American Amanda Brown and All-DAC point guard Caitlyn Wojahn, will quickly become opportunities for other budding stars.

"The past three years, we've relied a lot on last year's senior class," said DeVries. "Certainly we're going to have holes to fill, but I think we're going to be a team that any night any of our players could step-up."

It will be hard to predict what's in store for the Vikings this season. Due to injuries and attrition, they return just three players from last year's roster and have only one senior to lead the new look squad. Eight newcomers, one of the largest recruiting classes in recent history, are loaded with talent and will be looked to early and often in 2012.

Senior guard **Kristin Bearstail** made an immediate impact in her first year at VCSU and returns as one of the top 3-point shooters in the country. Bearstail led the team in scoring at 12.5 ppg and ranked #18 in the NAIA in 3-pt FGs made/game (2.3) and #23 in total 3-pt FGs made (72). She will be relied on once again to be a threat from downtown and help lead this young team.

Junior **Courtney Titus** (3.9 ppg, 3.3 rpg) is the only other starter to return for the Vikings. Titus is a versatile guard who is a tenacious defender that frustrates opponent's perimeter players. Sophomore forward **Brittany Lehner** (6.9 ppg, 3.1 rpg) saw action in all 32 games last year. Lehner's ability to score both inside and outside of the paint will continue to be a key to her success.

The loss of senior forward **Mandi Bindas** and guard **Lexi Daniels** due to injuries leaves the VCSU women's basketball program looking to new faces in 2012.

A trio of transfers adds some needed experience. **Alyssa Hummel**, a 6-foot post player joins the program after a successful career at Bismarck State College. Hummel, who averaged 11 points and seven rebounds at BSC, is a solid post player and has the ability to score inside as well as facing the hoop. **Allison Scherr**, a 5'11" guard comes to VCSU after leading her Dakota College-Bottineau club to a record season. Scherr averaged 13 points and eight rebounds at DCB. She is a versatile guard with a very high basketball I.Q., solid range, the ability to score off the dribble, and handle the point guard position. **Katelyn Ralston**, a 5'5" guard joins after two seasons at Lake Region State College. Ralston scored over 1,600 points in her high school career and has an uncanny ability to score inside. She too brings experience and versatility to the court for the Vikings and fans will see she is a highly competitive player who gets a lot done during a game.

"Any time you have kids who have played before, that helps the team," said DeVries. "Those three should certainly make a difference for us."

The new look Vikings will rely on five incoming freshmen including point guard **Sadiqah Jihad**, guards **Stephanie Pedersen** and **Sierra Even**, and forwards **Kelsey Hunter** and **Megan Trautman**.

Jihad (5'5" guard, Minneapolis South High School) comes from one of the most successful Class AAAA programs in Minnesota. She ran the show as the point guard and played with and against a number of Division I athletes during her career. Pedersen (5'8" guard, Mandan High School) averaged 14 points per game and was a North Dakota Class A All-State selection leading the Braves in scoring her junior and senior season. Even (5'10" guard, Windom High School) dropped 18 points per game and snatched 10 rebounds per game in her senior campaign. At 5'10", she is a big, physical guard who can rebound and defend as well as find ways to contribute on offense. Hunter (5'10" forward, Miller, SD) will help fill the hole in the middle. Although undersized, she averaged 18 points and nine rebounds last season and has increased her range to be



a 3-point threat. Trautman (5'8" forward, Enderlin High School) gives the Vikings another consistent shooter on the perimeter as well as a "never-give-up" attitude.

The Vikings have a clearcut path to the NAIA National Tournament in 2012. They will compete each and every night so that they have an opportunity to play in the Association of Independent Institutions conference tournament for two bids to Sioux City, IA.

"We have a very tough schedule this year," said Coach DeVries. "We will continue to play DAC rivals, Jamestown College, Dakota State, Dickinson State and Mayville; but we've expanded out of region to include games in Montana, Colorado, New Mexico and Iowa."

The Vikings will play regional foes NDSU, MSUM, UM-Crookston and Concordia College during November in its first season as a member of the Association of Independent Institutions. VCSU will also host the DAC pre-season tournament in January that will include both men's and women's teams from the four remaining DAC programs.

"We have always been proud of our program's tradition of playing good teams and one of the most competitive schedules. It's important to see where you are, and get yourself ready for league play," said DeVries when asked about the rigorous early season schedule.

Coach DeVries believes the team will be ready to make another run at the NAIA national title.

"We have good depth and it is going to be very competitive as far as playing time this year," she said. "We need to stay healthy, work hard, and learn a lot in a short amount of time in order to reach our early season goals. But, from what I've seen during the recruiting process and this fall, this could be one of the most talented teams to play at VCSU." ♦



Football field named "Shelly Ellig Field" Major contribution funds artificial turf



The football field at Valley City State University, which recently received a new artificial turf surface, has been named Shelly Ellig Field in recognition of a major contribution from the Fargo-area businessman and philanthropist.

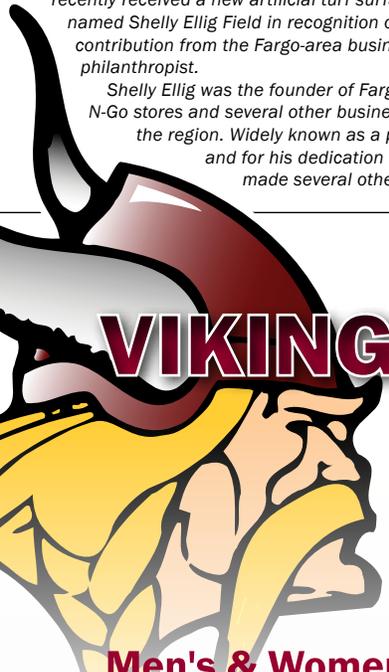
Shelly Ellig was the founder of Fargo-based Stop-N-Go stores and several other business interests in the region. Widely known as a philanthropist and for his dedication to youth, he has made several other substantial

contributions to many community organizations. Shelly passed away in October 2010 at the age of 81.

According to athletic director Jack Denholm, the new artificial turf surface will enhance several aspects of the athletic program at VCSU. "Artificial turf is very attractive to prospective athletes, so this field will enhance our ability to recruit top athletes. It will also be more durable than our natural turf field, so it can be used for other purposes in addition to Viking football, such as hosting games for area high schools."

Other major contributors to the project include Valley City/Barnes County Economic Development, the City of Valley City Visitors Committee, DuWayne Bott '58, Dacotah Bank, Ingstad Family Media, AmericInn, Grotberg Electric, Leevers Super Valu, and Nodak Mutual Insurance.

The stadium retains the name "Lokken Stadium" in honor of the University's seventh president, Roscoe Lokken, who served from 1946 - 1970. The full name of the field is "Shelly Ellig Field at Lokken Stadium."



VIKING SPORTS WINTER 2011-12

Men's & Women's Track and Field

DATE	EVENT - LOCATION	TIME
Jan. 14	Bison Classic - Fargo, ND	TBA
Jan. 28	Concordia Cobber Open - Moorhead, MN	TBA
Feb. 4	NDSU - Bison Open - Fargo, ND	TBA
Feb. 11	Northern State University - Aberdeen, SD	TBA
Mar. 1-3	NAIA Indoor Championships - Geneva, OH	TBA
Mar. 24	Dakota State University - Madison, SD	TBA
Apr. 5	Blue Hawk Games - Dickinson, ND	TBA
Apr. 13-14	Sioux City Relays - Sioux City, IA	TBA
Apr. 15	Marauder Invite - Bismarck, ND	TBA
Apr. 21	Cobber Twilight - Moorhead, MN	TBA
Apr. 28	Al Cassell Relays - Jamestown, ND	TBA
May 5	Ron Masanz Invitational - Moorhead, MN	TBA
May 24-26	NAIA Outdoor Championships - Marion, IN	TBA

Men's & Women's Basketball

DATE	W/M	OPPONENT	TIME
Nov. 22	W	UM-Crookston	7:00 pm
Nov. 25	M	@ Ave Maria, Ave Maria FL	6:00 pm (ET)
Nov. 26	W	@ North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND	2:00 pm
Nov. 26	M	@ Johnson & Wales Univ., North Miami FL	4:00 pm (ET)
Nov. 28	W	Concordia College	7:00 pm
Nov. 28	M	@ St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN	8:00 pm
Nov. 30	W	@ Presentation College, Aberdeen, SD	7:00 pm
Dec. 3	W/M	University of Sioux Falls	2:00/4:00 pm
Dec. 7	W/M	UM-Morris	5:30/7:30 pm
Dec. 9	W/M	Trinity Bible College	5:30/7:30 pm
Dec. 11	W	@ Minot State (exhibition)	6:00 pm
Dec. 15	W	Presentation College	7:00 pm
Dec. 17	W/M	@ Johnson & Wales (CO), Denver, CO	1:00/3:00 (MST)
Dec. 19	W/M	@ Northern New Mexico College, Espanola, NM	5:00/7:00 pm(MST)
Dec. 28	M	@ University of Winnipeg Tournament, Winnipeg, CA	TBD
Dec. 29	M	@ University of Winnipeg Tournament, Winnipeg, CA	TBD
Dec. 30	M	@ University of Winnipeg Tournament, Winnipeg, CA	TBD
Jan. 4	W/M	@ UM-Morris, Morris, MN	5:30/7:30 pm
Jan. 7	W/M	@ University of Sioux Falls, Sioux Falls, SD	2:00/4:00 pm
Jan. 8	W	@ Dakota State University, Madison, SD	5:30 pm
Jan. 12	M	@ University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND	8:00 pm
Jan. 14	M	Northern New Mexico College	7:00 pm
Jan. 15	W/M	Johnson & Wales (CO)	2:00/4:00 pm
Jan. 21	W/M	DAC Tournament (vs. Mayville State)	2:00/4:00 pm
Jan. 22	W/M	DAC Tournament	TBD
Jan. 25	W	Dakota State University	7:00 pm
Jan. 28	W/M	@ Dickinson State University, Dickinson, ND	4:00/6:00 pm(MST)
Feb. 1	W/M	@ Jamestown College, Jamestown, ND	5:30/7:30 pm
Feb. 4	W/M	Mayville State University	2:00/4:00 pm
Feb. 8	W/M	Jamestown College	5:30/7:30 pm
Feb. 15	W/M	Dickinson State University	5:30/7:30 pm
Feb. 18	W/M	@ Mayville State University, Mayville, ND	4:00/6:00 pm
Feb. 23-25	W/M	All Tournament, Madison, SD	TBD
Mar. 7-13	W	NAIA National Tournament, Sioux City, IA	TBD
Mar. 7-13	M	NAIA National Tournament, Point Lookout, MO	TBD

Events are subject to change without notice.

For updated dates, locations and times, please visit

<http://vikings.vcsu.edu>

2011 Hall of Fame Banquet



1981 Volleyball Team:

Coach Diane Burr, Lorraine (Schneibel) Heinitz '83, Barb (Hendrickson) Skjefte '85, Charlene Griffin '83, Teresa (Korf) Dayton '84, Penny (Levandoski) Nash '83, Susan (Buckner) Looyesen '84.



1996 Volleyball Team:

Front row: Vanessa (Pilipchuk) Kocka '01, Vanessa (Cross) Sinness '00, Kelli (Geurtz) Heiser '97, Kasey (Kottsick) Piccalo '00, Student Coach Jeff Lane '97.

Back row: Kelly (Winkels) Holaday '97, Jackie (Bisson) Lusk '98, Coach Diane Burr, Charity (Hanson) Nix '00, Marnie Anderson '99.



Individuals Inducted into the Viking Hall of Fame:

Jackie (Bisson) Lusk '98, Diane Burr and Richard "Dick" Koppenhaver.



1953 and 1954 Football Teams:

Front Row: Jerry Olson '55, John Holden '58, Aloys Dosch '55, Floyd Boschee '56, and Dennis Linstaedt '57.

Back Row: Bob Bruhschwein '57, Pius Lacher '58, Charles Solberg '59, Robert King '55, Arlen Thorstenson '57, Charles Solum '54, Richard Groz '56, and Clark Lofthouse. ♦

HOMECOMING 2011

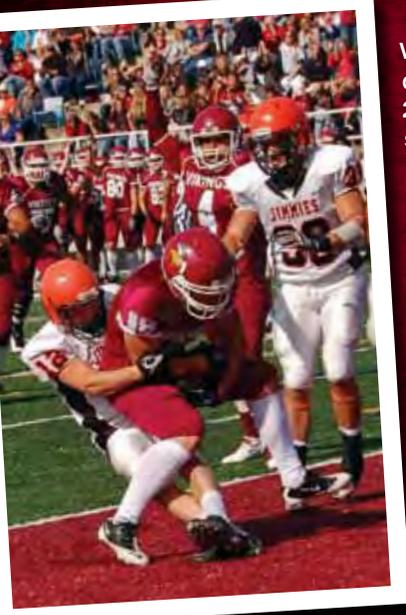
The VCSU Alumni Association and students celebrated Homecoming the week of September 26. This year, the Alumni Association hosted reunions for the classes of the 70's and anyone who was a member of the VCSU Student Senate.

The official student activities kicked off Homecoming with the 29th annual Bill Osmon Fun Run. This year, the Fun Run was started by Bill's daughters, Mary (Osmon) Flam '64 of Plymouth, MN, and Carol (Osmon) Wolf of Maple Grove, MN. The Fun Run winners were Richard Wright and Anna Fuka.

The Viking athletic teams had a successful weekend. After three straight wins that saw the Viking football team's offense shine, the defense had their day, sending the Jamestown College quarterback to the ground six times, including multiple sacks on two different possessions, in a 21-10 win over the Jimmies at Shelly Ellig Field at Lokken Stadium. The win broke a five-game streak of losses to the Jimmies dating back to 2007, as the Vikings reclaimed possession of the "Paint Bucket" traveling trophy.

The Viking volleyball team swept Dakota State and Dakota Wesleyan Homecoming weekend.

Other events for alumni included the Hall of Fame Banquet, Alumni Honors Breakfast and Postgame Social. All events were well attended and the VCSU Alumni Board of Directors is already making plans for Homecoming 2012. Watch the website and *The Bulletin* for more details. ♦





President's House Preservation Society planning for the future

After serving as the official residence of the VCSU president for many years, the President's House ceased to serve this purpose in 1993 when the State Board of Higher Education directed incoming president Dr. Ellen Chaffee to find off-campus housing.

This decision left the University with a challenging situation: Although a beautiful landmark on the VCSU campus, the house was in need of repair and normal upkeep, and no funds were left in the budget to address these issues. With no purpose or means of upkeep, the house was in danger of simply deteriorating over years.

Rising to the occasion, a group of dedicated volunteers from the Valley City community led by Jan Stowman and Becky (Geinert) Heise '80 came to the rescue. They formed the President's House Preservation Society to preserve the home and to consider possible uses for the facility. The rest is history. They re-packaged the facility as a "Guest Inn" and made it available to folks from across the region and indeed the country for overnight stays or special events. Rental income has been an important source of funds for maintenance and renovation, but creative fundraisers have also been important, such as a \$500 "adopt-a-room" program. Volunteers have worked tirelessly on maintenance and renovation projects.

Now, the President's House Preservation Society is looking to the future. Although their efforts have served a valuable purpose and produced significant improvements to the interior of the home, the exterior is clearly in need of major repair. Additional needs include accessibility improvements and a bathroom on the first floor.

With these concerns in mind, the Society is in the process of formulating a plan to make the necessary improvements and to seek private support to cover those costs. They hope to have the plan ready in the next few months and will then embark on a campaign to finance those improvements. According to Jan Stowman, "The President's House is a treasure and an important part of the history of the University. We must find a way to make these improvements to preserve this facility for future generations."

Larry Robinson, Executive Director of University Advancement at VCSU commented, "We are indebted to the President's House Preservation Society for their tireless efforts. They have worked countless volunteer hours on this project. The President's House is an important part of the history of Valley City State University. It is our hope that private support will be found to make these necessary improvements."

If you would like to help ensure the future of the President's House, send your contribution to:

The President's House Preservation Society
 c/o The VCSU Foundation
 101 College St. SW
 Valley City, ND 58072 ♦

2011 James D. Ployhar Honor Band Festival



The 2011 James D. Ployhar Honor Band Festival, Dr. James Adams, music director, was held on the VCSU campus October 7 - 8, 2011. The Brass Quintet from the 188th Army Band served as ensemble-in-residence at this year's festival. The Army Quintet worked with the Honor Band students in sectionals, master classes, and performances. The quintet performed a feature concert for the students and the community on October 7 and also performed collaboratively with the Ployhar Honor Band on October 8 in Vangstad Auditorium. The

students benefited greatly from the Quintet's efforts, and we are grateful for the service these soldier musicians provided.

The Ployhar Festival, now in its ninth year, is committed to providing a quality collaborative honor band experience for high school musicians. James D. Ployhar '49, an honored VCSU alumnus, was a prolific composer, arranger, and promoter of music education, with over 800 published compositions and arrangements. He has been the recipient of numerous national awards, and was inducted into the

VCSU Music Hall of Fame in 2007. This year's festival featured students from 13 area high schools, the greatest number in the history of the festival. With the challenge of preparing a full concert in just 1½ days, the students worked intensely to learn the music quickly. The performance was a success, and the students had a fantastic experience. We were also honored with the attendance of Ruth (McLain) Ployhar '49, the widow of James Ployhar, and Carol Houghlum, his daughter. ♦

PERFORMING & FINE ARTS

November 2011 - March 2012

PERFORMING ARTS:

Nov. 21	Chamber Ensembles	7:30 pm
	<i>Froemke*</i>	
Nov. 28	General Student Recital.....	7:30 pm
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Dec. 1	East Region Instrumental Contest	
	<i>Foss Hall</i>	
Dec. 1	VCSU Concert Choir & University Singers..	7:30 pm
	<i>St. Catherine's***</i>	
Dec. 2	Amber Olson, soprano.....	7:30 pm
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Dec. 4	Valley Voices, Childrens' Choir, Orchestra & Troubadours.....	3:00 pm
	<i>City Auditorium***</i>	
Dec. 5	Jazz Ensemble Concert	7:30 pm
	<i>Cafeteria*</i>	
Dec. 10	EBC Christmas Hit Parade.....	7:30 pm
	<i>Vangstad</i>	
Dec. 11	CSA Recitals	2:00 and 4:00 pm
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Dec. 12	Garage Bands.....	4:00 pm
	<i>Vangstad</i>	
Dec. 13	Valley Voices & Childrens' Choir	evening
	<i>Courthouse Carol Sing</i>	
Spring 2012		
Jan. 23	VCACA: Bottom Line Duo	7:30 pm
	<i>Vangstad+</i>	
Jan. 27	Faculty Recital.....	7:30 pm
	<i>Froemke*</i>	
Jan. 28	Stephen Carlson Master Class.....	10:00-12:00
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Jan. 28	Stephen Carlson, Pianist.....	2:00 pm
	<i>Froemke</i>	

Feb. 16-18	Life in the Fat Lane.....	7:30 pm
	<i>Theatre 320</i>	
Feb. 18	Life in the Fat Lane	2:00 pm
	<i>Theatre 320</i>	
Mar. 2	Alan Molnar, Percussion	7:30 pm
	<i>Froemke*</i>	
Mar. 13	Region 2 Vocal Contest	
	<i>Foss Hall</i>	
Mar. 26	Craig Gilbert, Pianist.....	7:30 pm
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Mar. 29	Two Trombones: Adams & Dickey	7:30 pm
	<i>Froemke*</i>	

*Fee Concerts: \$5.00 Adult Admission Charge, VCSU Students, Faculty, and Staff Free.

***Free Will Offering Concerts.

+VCACA Concerts: Admission by SEASON MEMBERSHIP, (available for purchase at the door Students-\$15; Adults-\$35; Single Parent Families-\$40; Families-\$65)

FINE ARTS:

Nov. 21 - Dec. 2	Cora Mikkelson Exhibition
	<i>VCSU Gallery</i>
Dec. 3	Cora Mikkelson Reception..... 3:00 - 4:30 pm
	<i>VCSU Gallery</i>
Dec. 5-16	Fall Student Exhibition
	<i>VCSU Gallery</i>
Dec. 9	Fall Student Exhibition Reception..... 5:00 - 6:30 pm
	<i>VCSU Gallery</i>
Jan. 9 - Feb. 10	International Mezzotint Exchange 2011 Exhibition
	<i>VCSU Gallery</i>
Feb. 13-Mar. 16	Barnes County Student Exhibition
	<i>VCSU Gallery</i>
Mar. 19-Apr. 20	Peter Beaugard, Artist/Designer Exhibition
	<i>VCSU Gallery</i>

New to the VCSU Music Department:

Elite Brass Quintet



New to the VCSU Music Department this semester is an elite brass quintet. The VCSU Quantum Brass is an ensemble of the top brass players at the University. They are beginning a tradition of excellence in brass performance at VCSU. The quintet is comprised of both freshmen and upper classmen from North Dakota, Minnesota, and Alaska. Entrance to the quintet was granted through personal audition before the Music Department faculty. In addition to group rehearsals, each member of the quintet is enrolled in private applied brass study to further refine and develop their performance skills.

As part of their music curriculum, these players rehearse, perform, and tour frequently. They function as a featured chamber ensemble with frequent tours to area schools and neighboring states, as well as on-campus performances. They rehearse and perform upper-level literature from the solo, quintet, and orchestral repertoire, and serve as the top brass chamber ensemble for the University.

This year, the quintet is comprised (L to R) of Thomas Zinke, french horn; David Burgess, trombone; Lyle Hager, tuba and Kirci Phillips and Andrew Reichenberger, trumpets; The quintet had its first performance on September 26 at the VCSU Homecoming Coronation event. They are currently preparing for local tours, a December performance in downtown Valley City, and an extended tour to Vancouver, British Columbia, Washington State, and Northern Idaho next spring. ♦

VCSU Theatre Presents

LIFE IN THE FAT LANE

by Cherrie Bennett

Theatre 320

February 16 & 17, 7:30 pm

February 18, 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm

www.vcsu.edu/theatre

Box Office: 701-845-7320



VCSU Handbells Refurbished

The Department of Music received a recent visit from handbell specialist Karen Phylow '88. Karen, whose parents (John and Mary Heath) live in Valley City, donated 17 hours to assess and refurbish VCSU's collection of handbells.

An elementary education major/music (choral) minor, Karen's first exposure to bells was under the guidance of Gloria Peterson, when students prepared several handbell selections to accompany the VCSU choir on tour.

After student teaching in Payson, AZ, Karen was hired in Pine, AZ. During 10 years at Pine Elementary, Karen taught everything except kindergarten and fifth grade. She volunteered to serve as piano accompanist for the school's 7th and 8th grade choirs and soon was promoted to director.

When Karen's church acquired three octaves of brand-new Malmark bells, Karen joined the handbell choir and was introduced to solo and duet ringing. Karen exclaims, "I was quickly hooked. Having ALL of the bells to myself was SO gratifying!"

In the Payson district, Karen took over a music position, in which she directed several choirs and raised funds to purchase 4 octaves of handbells. She successfully completed the Arizona music proficiency exam and received a K-12 Music Endorsement.

Karen is a member of the Handbell Musicians of America, formerly known as the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, and attends ringing events and conferences regionally and nationally. She currently teaches 7th grade math and occasionally rings with her church bell choir as she battles Parkinsons' disease.

Karen and her husband, Bobby, have five children: Lauren, a surgical resident in Des Moines; Austin, 25, just married and an assistant manager with Quick Trip; Kaitlyn, 21, a CNA; Kori, 19, a hairstylist; and Taylor, 17, a computer programmer and devoted handbell ringer. ♦

In Remembrance

June L. Johnson '44, Glenfield
 Irene (Lux) Whitmore '64, LeGrand, CA
 Vesta (Quarve) Kerns, Bemidji, MN
 Delores A. (Larson) Sinclair '54, Grand Forks
 Albert Greffenius '47, Des Moines, IA
 James W. Nielson Jr. '48, Portland, OR
 George Meisel '58, Williston
 Frances (Waldie) Weber, Oakes
 Ed Beauclair, Fargo
 Delores A. (Demke) Axt, McClusky
 Bernice (Koering) Christianson, Hillsboro
 Barbara Lynn Ulmer '72, Willow Lake, SD
 Dorothy A. (Osterdahl) Berger '35, West Fargo
 Loree (Macdonald) Macintosh, Bismarck
 Virginia (Naves) Maasjo '40, Valley City
 Marlys (Holm) Vining '58, Jamestown
 Jack C. Burchill '51, Pierre, SD
 Avis M. (Eggert) Potter '41, Valley City
 Judith E. (Hand) Christofferson, Napoleon
 Lorraine (Nelson) Sommerfeld '73, Bismarck
 Marshall V. Noecker '34, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI
 Mary Jo McCann '01, Lisbon
 Barbara (Endrud) Ohnstad '79, Moorhead
 Raymond Gassman '70, Valley City
 Lois A. Siebert '67, Jamestown
 Dwayne A. Erickson '60, Kensal
 A. Dale Sorenson '47, Valley City
 Pauline (Johnson) Troseth, Mt. Angel, OR
 Betty Ann (Wellman) Tillapaugh '54, Wickenburg, AZ
 Gertrude (Friestad) Lunde '37, Leeds
 Larry Osborn '65, Wahpeton
 Phyllis (King) Schrader '38, Ada, MN

Weddings

Samantha Bartholomay '11
 & Levi Bischof '11 July 8, 2011
 Erin Ottinger '09
 & Nicholas Low..... July 16, 2011
 Amy Fuoss
 & Brandon Bartsch '06..... July 30, 2011
 Heather Moszer '10
 & Chris Harper..... August 6, 2011
 Kristina Koval
 & Bradley Sortland '97..... August 12, 2011
 Roberta Mundahl
 & Justin Klein '04..... August 13, 2011
 Heather Gessele '01
 & Toby Kramer..... September 10, 2011
 Ashley Smette '09
 & Shawn Krinke..... October 21, 2011
 Jen Miller '06
 & David Kramer..... November 11, 2011

Vikings on the Move

1930's



Irene (Risa) Anderson '33 celebrated her 100th birthday with an open house at the First Baptist Church and a picnic at the Town Site Square Condo. Irene was born in Valley City August 9, 1911. She attended the Valley City public schools and graduated from Valley City State Teachers College in 1933 with a teaching degree. She taught in several communities as well as working for the VCSTC Placement Bureau, the superintendent of the Valley City Training School, the registrar of Deeds Office at the Barnes County Courthouse, and Valley City Public Schools. In 1948, she married Melvin Anderson and they had one daughter. Irene retired in 1973. Now she enjoys puzzles, reading, church, TV, and visiting with her neighbors at Town Site Square.

1950's



Dr. John Sisco '54 and his wife, Glenaris, live in Springfield, MO. John is retired and an emeritus professor of communication from Missouri State University. John and Glenaris have done a significant amount of traveling in the US and abroad and engaged in a variety of volunteer activities. This photo shows John and one of his volunteer activities - building P.E.T.s (personal energy transportation). The vehicles are sent to many third world countries and given to persons who have lost their legs due to mines and other tragedies. P.E.T.s are built in about 21 different locations in the US and over 5,000 were built last year. The vehicle is propelled by the hand crank steering mechanism. Visit petinternational.org for more information.

1960's

Lois (Haugen) Johnson '66 retired in the spring of 2010 after 42 years of teaching, the last 23 of which were at Griggs County Central, most recently serving as the school's library media specialist. Lois still resides in Cooperstown, but plans to downsize and move on eventually. Her son, Chris, and grandson, Bryton, reside in Fargo. After a bout with cancer this spring, Lois is doing well and hopes to travel soon.

Gene '69 and Sue (Piper) Boyle '70 are the proud grandparents of a new granddaughter, MacKenzie Sue, who joins 2 year old brother Logan. One highlight of the summer was when Gene and Sue, along with their daughter **Nancy Boyle '99** and two grandsons, vacationed to Door County and Green Bay to visit Sue's sister **Linda (Piper) Boyle '67**. Another highlight was spending time at the lake with daughter **Becky (Boyle) Jones '96** and her husband, Robert.

They also spent a wonderful day this summer with friends, **Ray '69** and Joyce Holzworth, and **Ron Holzworth '69** in rural Menahga. Gene is still principal at Moorhead High School and Sue is still at Sheyenne 9th Grade Center in West Fargo. They appreciate VCSU and the strong education it continues to provide.

1970's

Barbara (Foxen) Gendreau '72 thinks often of VCSC (now VCSU) with fond memories of a fantastic education and lots of opportunities to get involved in campus life. She met her husband, **Roger '72**, there. Roger lost his battle with cancer in 2003. His life was in teaching, coaching and being a principal. His last job was principal of Shanley High School until a brain tumor didn't allow him to work any longer. He loved being around young people as much as Barbara does. After over 30 years in teaching, Barbara is now employed by Valley City Public Schools as an ILC Coordinator. Her daughter, **Nicole (Gendreau) Olson '00** followed in her parent's footsteps and also attended VCSU and is teaching in Marion. Nicole and her husband, Chris, live in Valley City with their children, Peyton and Sadie. Barbara's son, Landon, is graduating from UND in December.

Bob '74 and Beth (Olson) Schlotman '76 live in Rapid City, SD. Bob is in his 38th year of teaching math, 35 years in the Douglas School System right outside the gate of Ellsworth Air Force Base near Rapid City. Beth is retired from Central High School in Rapid City. Their son, Mike, has been married for three years to Jenny Westendorf. He will graduate this year with his master's degree in engineering management from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. He presented his paper, "The Impact of a Lean Thinking Intervention on a University's Proposal Submission Process: and Exploratory Study," at The International Symposium of Research Administrators in Montreal in late October. Bob and Beth have a Siberian Husky, Kodiak, and a 14 year old cat, Max.

Ed '75 and Rennae (Hanson) Gruchalla '72

live in Fargo where Rennae is a K-5 music teacher at Washington Elementary and Ed is retired from the state Highway Patrol. Ed keeps busy as a Representative in the state Legislature along with selling emergency lighting equipment and PI work. They say they are blessed to have their sons and their families in Fargo as well, and their daughter is close by, attending UND in Grand Forks. They have three beautiful grandchildren, Ben, Greta, and Clara.

We would LOVE to hear from YOU!
 Submit your "Vikings on the Move" or "Milestones" entry by contacting the
VCSU Alumni Office:
 701-845-7203
 800-532-8641 x37203
 or e-mail us at alumni@vcvu.edu

Joe Gatrell '78 recalls the time he spent as a student (at what was then Valley City State College) was among the best of his life. Joe says he owes much to his alma mater, its staff, and his classmates. Today, Joe is a teacher and freelance writer. Since he graduated from VCSC, he has been a newspaper publisher and has completed 22 marathons. He is in the process of writing a history book about his hometown, Blue Island, IL. Joe invites anyone who would like to get in touch with him to contact him at 708-388-9033 or via Facebook.

1980's



Denise Stoll-Vonderharr '80 works at the University of Florida as the office manager for the Bergstrom Center for Real Estate Studies in the Warrington College of Business. Denise's son, Ryan, and his wife Amanda, have two children, Leo and Lillian Rae. Ryan graduated from a technical college in Cocoa and now works at the Kennedy Space Center. Denise's daughter, Thalia, has two children, Malicki and Khila. Thalia graduated from UF and works at a medical facility, RTI Biologics. Denise states "Families are growing, memories still being made! Life is good, all healthy with family always close. Many memories of friends, family and life in VC! Hi to all! Go Vikings!"



Steve Becher '85 lives in Horace, ND with his wife, Lisa, and three boys, Alex (20), Ben (18) and Zach (16). Steve is the director of the North Dakota Professional Insurance Agents (NDPIA). He teaches continuing education to all the independent agents in the state. He keeps very busy with his boys and their sports, singing in the church band and camping in the summer. But no matter how busy he is, he always manages to make a few football games in the fall. GO VIKINGS!!

Pat Windish '88 has moved to Anamoose, ND, where he is currently serving as the elementary principal. He and his wife, Tammy, have been married for 22 years. They have three children. Allison is a Freshman in college, Amber is a Freshman in high school and Trey is a 7th grader. Pat and Tammy stay busy by attending all their school activities.



Lori (Gray) Shellito '89 ran in the 2011 Scheels Fargo Marathon.

1990's



Philip O'Brien is still in Washington and says he has thoughts of retirement, but not just yet. Phil writes

"Long, long ago, while on active duty, I'd briefly been a uniformed NATO observer in what was then Czechoslovakia. I'd seen Vaclav Havel, still a playwright and activist in Prague, but did not have the opportunity to speak with him. Now, much more recently, in this photo, I'm on the left and he's on the right! A little more time in China, a little more forensic work with human remains returned by the North Koreans, and a lot of time interviewing former POWs. Teaching at VCSU (extern from UND, 1993-1994; instructor, 1994-1995) was a wonderful preparation and a lot of fun. Other new chapters pending, even thoughts of happily ever after with the right person . . . more next year!"

Pete '95 and Amy (Stowman) Kvien '94 reside in Bismarck with their two girls, Emily (9) and Anika (6). Amy continues to teach in Mandan as a reading specialist. Pete is in his 17th year as fireman for the City of Bismarck. Pete and Amy rarely miss a Homecoming and they make it a point to get back to VCSU! They say "Hello to all VCSU alumni from the Kvien's! We would love to hear from you!"

Dale Miller '97 and '98 has been the assistant principal for six years in the Fargo Public Schools. Currently, he is at the new Davies High School. In December of 2010, Dale finished his doctorate from UND in educational leadership. Dale and his wife, **Heather (Strom) '98**, have two children, Isabel and Addison.



Julie (Bueling) Heuchert '98 is teaching Title One-RTI at Phoenix Elementary School in Grand Forks. Julie and her husband, Ryan, moved to Grand Forks in December 2010 with their daughter Charley (8) and son Gunnar (6).

Sarge Truesdell '98 was promoted to principal for the 2011-12 school year after serving as the assistant principal at Soldotna Middle School, Soldotna AK, for the past four years. Soldotna Middle School is a comprehensive middle school with grades 7-8 with 405 students, 28 teachers, and over 50 staff.

Jennifer (Cross) Saude '99 works at Multiband in Fargo and has two children, ages 3 and 10.

2000's

Heather Johnson '02 lives in Austin, TX, and is working as a global human resources manager. Heather bought a house last year and is finally enjoying her winters!

Cortney Griffith '03 is working in Los Angeles as a phy ed teacher, athletic director and defensive coordinator. In January 2011, his daughter, Landyn Christine Griffith, was born.



Amber (Dramstad) Monson '04 lives in Cooperstown with her two children, Jarin (5) and Briley (2). Amber is the manager of the RC Cooper Athletic Center and the program director of the Kidz Count AmeriCorps Program.

Thomas Dorsz '06 is currently working for Guidance In Giving (GIG), a professional fundraising and development firm based in New York. In the past five years, he has traveled all over the country with GIG and loves what he does. Thomas has lived in eight different states since leaving Valley City and thinks maybe one day he will decide where home will be. He says the best decision he ever made was taking that one-way Greyhound bus from Maryland to North Dakota, ten years ago. "Thank You VCSU!!"



Jen Miller '06, M. Ed. '10 received her master's in education with a concentration in library and information technologies

from VCSU in May of 2010. She is marrying David Kramer on November 11, 2011. Jen lives in Velva, ND, and works at Lewis and Clark School District in Berthold as the technology coordinator and the NEW - Berthold media specialist.

Derrick Bopp '08 took his first teaching job in Kulm, ND where he was a 7-12 math teacher and assistant football coach for the Edgeley/Kulm Rebels as well as head varsity wrestling coach for the Ellendale/Edgeley/Kulm Thunder wrestling program for the past three years. This year, he was hired to be Kulm High School's principal and athletic director, replacing **Matthew Scherbenske '05**, who took the superintendent position in Gackle/Streeter. Derrick still teaches 8th grade algebra I and 11-12th grade advanced math, and is the assistant varsity football coach. Due to his new position, he needed to step down as head varsity wrestling coach, but instead he will be the junior high wrestling coach.

Lara Loomis '10 is currently in her final semester of graduate school for her master's in addiction counseling from Hazelton Graduate School of Addiction Studies in Center City, MN.

milestones...



1



2



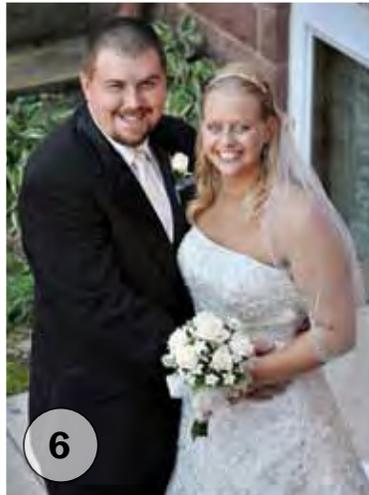
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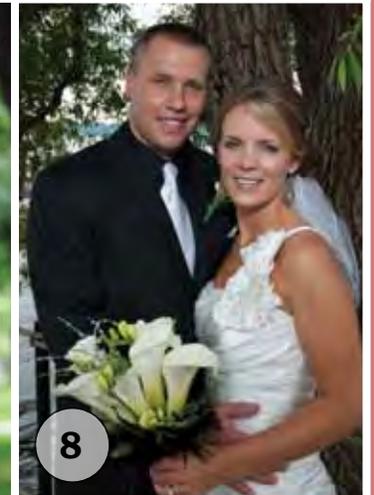
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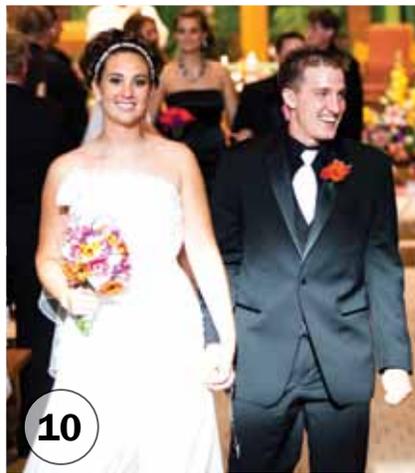
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9



10

1) Brent Hoey '94 and his wife Kami were recently blessed with their 4th child. Son, Zane Arthur, was born December 11 and weighed 10 lbs, 6¼ oz. He joins Lana (7), Zach (5), and Hannah (2). Brent recently finished his first year at Mitchell Equipment where he is in marketing & finance. Kami is in her 6th year as a District Court Reporter. In June, they also purchased a Bricks 4 Kidz franchise, (visit www.bricks4kidz.com), which is currently located in their hometown of Atkinson,

NE, where they have lived the past six years. Look for Brent's nephews, Alex and Josh, on the Viking football field this fall, and look for Brent's dad on the Viking Pride Stone!!! Go Vikings!!!

2) KeriAnn Eggert-Lahlum '03, M. Ed. '11 is a kindergarten teacher in Valley City, ND. KeriAnn and her husband, Chad Lahlum, were married on June 4, 2011. The couple resides in Valley City.

3) Ryan William "Will" Joey Botner was born to **Ryan Botner '05** and his wife Amanda. Will was born August 19, 2011 and was 8 lbs 5 oz.

4) Jennifer (Goebel) Hirschert '06 and her husband Jonathan live in Beulah, ND, where Jennifer is a Head Start teacher and Jonathan is a police officer. Their daughter, Zoey Star, was born on May 26, 2011. She weighed 8 lbs, 7oz and was 20.5 inches long.

5) Amber Radloff '08 and Darin Eller '08 were married June 3, 2011 in Fargo, ND. They both graduated from VCSU with degrees in Elementary Education. They are currently employed by Northern Cass School, Hunter ND. Amber teaches 2nd grade and coaches 8th grade volleyball. Darin teaches 3rd grade and is head track coach and junior high football coach.

6) Lacey Anderson '08 and Brandon Lettenmaier were married September 2, 2011 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Fargo, ND.

7) Jessica Tykwinski '10 and Mike Stowman '09 were married July 9, 2011 at First Lutheran Church in Fargo, ND.

8) Tiffany Christiansen '10 and Denny Ziegler were married in Wayzata, MN on July 16, 2011.

9) Eden Drevecky '11 and Anthony Cuypers '11 were married in Valley City on July 30, 2011.

10) Abby Rittenhouse '11 and Mike York '11 were married August 5, 2011.

Maximize Your Year-End Gift Benefits

Generosity knows no season, but this is historically the time most people give and receive—and begin income tax planning. Here are some ideas on how to map out a plan for making a difference at Valley City State University.

How Can I Help?

- **Give cash.** To document a cash gift of any amount, you must have a receipt from us prior to filing your return that states the date of the gift, the amount, and whether you received any goods or services in exchange for your donation. Make certain you receive one. A cancelled check provides sufficient documentation for gifts by check that are less than \$250.
- **Give stock or other property.** If the property has depreciated in value, sell it and deduct the loss to the extent allowed by law, then donate the cash received from its sale. That way, you have another deduction. If the property is worth more than the amount you originally paid for it, donate the property to us—we'll sell it, and you will avoid the capital gains tax you would have paid had you sold it. Your gift will be deductible at its full fair market value on its date of delivery if you have held it for more than one year.
- **Sell an appreciated asset for less than its current value to us (a bargain sale gift).** The difference between the fair market value of the property and what you receive in the sale is considered the gift—and the charitable deduction.

With a gift to a qualified charitable organization such as Valley City State University, you can receive the greatest tax advantages when donating this year. **Contact Larry Robinson at 701-845-7203 or 800-532-8641 x37203 or send an e-mail to: larry.robinson@vcsu.edu with any questions about your options for giving or your entitled benefits.**♦



VCSU president Dr. Steve Shirley and his wife Jennifer added one more to the Viking crew with the birth of their daughter Anna Marie Shirley on June 30, 2011.

HELP US LOCATE THESE LOST ALUMNI

If you know the address of any of these individuals, please contact the VCSU Foundation office at 1-800-532-8641 ext 37203 or e-mail alumni@vcsu.edu

Betty (Salzwedel) Anderson '54
 Ida Walter '56
 Beverly Anderson '57
 Dale Cameron '60
 Dale Christiansen '60
 Glyndon Ecker '60
 Carl Hasche '60
 Shirley (McClafflin) Hill '60
 Isabella Huson '60
 JoAnn Isensee '60
 James Jenkins '60
 Alvin Johnson '60
 Eugene Johnson '60
 Elma Koskiniemi '60
 Charlotte Schleif '60
 Linda (Bratland) Thompson '60
 Dennis Haugen '60
 Vivian (Trautman) Blomquist '61
 Kirker Clark '61
 Ann Connie '61
 Robert Crider '61
 Janet Delvo '61
 Lucille Fjeld '61
 Dale Gayer '61
 Marcella Gilk '61
 Linda (Anderson) Greer '61
 Arthur Hagen '61
 Randall Hedtke '61
 Delphine Lenzen '61
 Marlys Lund '61
 Dorothy Morford '61

Joseph Quinn '61
 Delores Schwengler '61
 Curtis Thompson '61
 Patricia (Bell) Tomlin '61
 Janice Williams '61
 Robert Woods '61
 Jacqueline Petterson '62
 Charlotte Tolton '62
 Edna (Dieterich) Boelter-Fischer '62
 Donna Desizlets '62
 Elaine Dianne '62
 Jacqueline Dunphy '62
 Barbara Engebretson '62
 Judith Ensrud '62
 Ronald Grieger '62
 Florence Gryth '62
 Emilie Halvorson '62
 Barbara (Engebretson) Hovde '62
 Sharon (Schweinefus) Kaul '62
 Wayne Kenner '62
 Douglas Kessler '62
 Kathleen (Heitkamp) King '62
 Sharon Lee '62
 Edythe Mittleider '62
 Devonne Naatus '62
 Maxine Naatus '62
 Richard Ouren '62
 Russel Sethre '62
 James Sosalla '62
 Caroline Sundstrom '62
 Lillian Wagner '62

Janet (Fitzgerald) Hunter '62
 Darlene Buelow '63
 Ellen Alm '63
 Jerome Anderson '63
 Margaret Lang/Peterson Anderson '63
 Margaret Anderson '63
 Roger Aune '63
 Emma (Johnson) Beck '63
 Virginia (Rutherford) Benedict '63
 Donald Brandt '63
 Bonnie Close '63
 Kenneth Fry '63
 Wesley Lines '63
 Mary (Rusk) Martz '63
 Eileen Mayer '64
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