



VALLEY CITY
STATE UNIVERSITY

THE BULLETIN

A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University

ISSUE 071661 | AUGUST 2023



MCCARTHY HALL

Shaping Generations of Teachers and Students

As McCarthy Hall stands on the precipice of change, we look back at the lives that were cultivated in the former College High. – PAGE 12

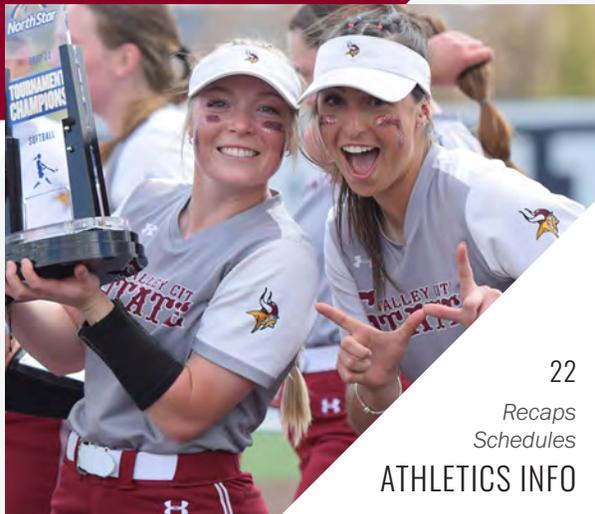


THE BULLETIN

ISSUE 071663 | APRIL 2023



12
McCarthy Hall:
The Past and Future
of Teacher Education
FEATURE STORY



22
Recaps
Schedules
ATHLETICS INFO

Features

- Page 1 *A Message from President LaFave*
- Page 2 *A Message from the Foundation Director*
- Page 4 *VCSU News*
- Page 12 *Feature Story*
- Page 16 *News from the Capital Campaign Director*
- Page 17 *Fine Arts*
- Page 18 *Alumni Corner*
- Page 22 *Viking Athletics Highlights*
- Page 28 *Vikings on the Move*
- Page 30 *Just Married*
- Page 31 *Lil' Vikings*
- Page 32 *In Remembrance*
- Page 33 *Continuing the Connection*



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

**Learn more at vcsualumni.org
1-800-532-8641 EXT 7203**

Summer in Full Swing after a Spectacular Spring Semester

President Alan LaFave, D.M.A.

Greetings from Valley City State University.

It has been a very exciting spring and summer for our campus.



LaFave

This spring, the North Dakota Legislature approved \$11.5 million from the State of North Dakota to transform historic McCarthy Hall into a new home for the VCSU School of Education. This project will create a dedicated space for our School of Education and breathe life back into one of our most historic buildings on campus. The project will be completed with a combination of state funds and support from Forward Together Capital Campaign.

I also got to shake hands with 155 spring graduates who received their diplomas at the 2023 Spring Commencement ceremony on May 13. This event reminds us of the purpose of our institution; preparing future citizens to positively impact the world. It was great to see family members, friends, faculty, staff and

members of the community at the Fieldhouse to mark this outstanding achievement and milestone in the lives of our graduates. Mark Hagerott, North Dakota University System Chancellor, gave remarks along with Angeline Gannon, a December graduate from Bismarck, N.D., and Taylor Mounts, assistant professor of business and Student-Senate-selected Teacher of the Year. The pomp and circumstance and ceremonial aspect of this event is a fitting setting for the celebration of these graduates!

This spring we recognized students who participated in various research projects during the revived Scholar Symposium. We also recognized 60 of our employees on campus for various accolades, including one retirement. The employees recognized at this event represented more than 250 cumulative years of service! Dr. Andre DeLorme is familiar to many of you and will be especially missed as he retires. Andre was the steady force behind various efforts like the Prairie Waters Education and Research Center. He helped decades of students

discover the hidden wonders of macroinvertebrates and biology, especially water biology.

As spring turned to summer, our campus came into full bloom and we began welcoming our annual parade of summer visitors. Athletes in volleyball, basketball and football have been here to hone their skills at various individual and team camps. We have hosted high school students with our INSTEM program led by Dr. Jamie Wirth and Jason Dockter. It's wonderful to see students of all ages finding a home here at VCSU. Teachers came back to campus to participate in the Dakota Digital Academy and learn about software engineering, programming and networking.

Finally, I wanted to mention the opportunities we have had this summer to meet with donors and the State Board of Higher Education. It's a joy to work in a place where donor support helps students achieve their dreams, and strong leadership from our State Board helps continue our path forward. Thank you all for your support and leadership for our university.

Go Vikings.

CALL TO ALUMNI ARTISTS

Alumni Art Show

Submit 1 to 2 pieces of your artwork to be on display in the CFA Art Gallery from May – June 2024

Art Reception: June 10, 2024 from 3-6 p.m.



- All items must be received between April 1 – April 30 to be included.
- Drop off the artwork at the CFA or mail it to:

CFA Art Gallery
Attn: Angela Mirscov
306 Viking Dr
Valley City, ND 58072

- Questions? Contact:
vcsuartgallery@vcsu.edu

VCSUalumni.org

Accepting the Challenge Again

Cory Anderson '89
Executive Director for University Advancement

The 2023 North Dakota Legislature has once again authorized the VCSU Foundation to match on a two to one basis dollars for endowed scholarships. To fully realize the match, we must privately raise a total of \$2,200,000 to access \$1,100,000 from the Challenge Grant Program. We have until the end of 2024 to realize our match.

Since 2013 we have received just over \$11.7 million dollars in both pledged and matched dollars. This year's allocation is the highest to VCSU since the program was initiated. VCSU and our donors have established or enhanced over 225 scholarship endowments through the challenge fund matching grants.

This is a great opportunity to consider establishing an endowed scholarship or contributing to an existing endowed scholarship program. Using this program, a growing number of VCSU Alumni and Friends have established endowed scholarships in their family name, or in honor of a special person in their life or leveraging a portion of an estate to receive matching dollars. Many alumni or friends are using their IRA Required Minimum Distribution to fund an endowed scholarship with the Challenge Grant program.

As an additional incentive, North Dakota residents also qualify for a 40% endowment tax credit for contributions of \$5,000 or more (lump sum or aggregate in one year). At Valley City State, our Alumni and Friends are embracing the opportunities that the North Dakota Challenge Fund Match Program creates by allowing their charitable gifts to be matched – therefore giving

more, costing less, and having a greater impact than ever before.

We appreciate how this program strengthens our commitment to affordable education for our students in a sustainable manner with long term impact. Philanthropy comes when there are great stories and great ideas, when a university produces ways of impacting for the better our community and state.

VCSU is a place that changes lives and changes the way we think and the way we conduct business.

Think of the leaders who have come from here. It's phenomenal, and it's a great investment. Every day we hear our alumni talk about how important VCSU is to them and they're so thankful for the opportunities that they've had and that VCSU helped open up for them.

Additionally, when we get to meet today's students and see the work they are doing and what they are going to do to impact the world, we are even more inspired. We are really at that transformational point in people's lives, seeing it coming together, all because a lot of individuals felt the attitude of gratitude.

Should you be interested in taking advantage of this program to either add to an existing scholarship fund or to establish a new fund, please contact us for your next steps.

Thank you for your continued support of making Valley City State University not only the best University to attend but the most affordable.



Anderson

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Multiply Your Impact



Tracy (Baily) '97 and Corey McGillis family
Mayville, N.D.

Submit gift by **December 1, 2024** to increase your impact.

NORTH DAKOTA CHALLENGE FUND MATCHING GRANT

The 2023 North Dakota legislature has again created a program to match funds donated to Valley City State University. VCSU has been allocated up to \$1,100,000 million of matching dollars if the University can raise \$2,200,000 in private donations. The funds enhance more than 225 scholarship endowment funds.

Matching dollar pledges are allowed over a seven year period. Leveraging a portion of an estate to receive matching dollars is also available.

With a minimum \$5,000 endowment gift to VCSU through the VCSU Foundation, you may benefit from a North Dakota income tax credit equal to 40% of the charitable gift AND also qualify for your donation to be matched \$1 for every \$2 you give.

YOUR GIFT AMOUNT	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
State Match	\$2,500	\$12,500	\$25,000
TOTAL GIFT TO VCSU	\$7,500	\$37,500	\$75,000

NORTH DAKOTA ENDOWMENT GIFT CREDIT

The endowment credit allows individuals, businesses and financial institutions to give more, and have a greater impact on the state's quality of life. An endowment is a fund with the principal invested and remains intact in perpetuity. Only the interest is used to fund the scholarship allocation.

An individual may receive a 40% tax credit for contributions of \$5,000 or more (lump sum or aggregate in one year) to a qualified North Dakota endowment.

YOUR GIFT AMOUNT	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
N.D. State Income Tax Credit (40%)	-\$2,000	-\$10,000	-\$20,000
NET COST TO YOU	\$3,000	\$15,000	\$30,000

Your charitable gift can cost less and do more than ever before thanks to the North Dakota tax credit and challenge fund matching grant program! Please consider making a gift today. As always, this information is provided for educational purposes only. Please consult your own attorney, accountant or financial adviser for advice on your individual situation.

Learn more by emailing
alumni@vcsu.edu or
 calling (701) 845-7203.
 Visit VCSUAlumni.org



VALLEY CITY
STATE UNIVERSITY

**CHALLENGE
GRANT**



VCSU Rated as One of the Best Colleges in America

Rating by Money.com determined through quality and affordability



Valley City State University (VCSU) has been rated as one of the Best Colleges in America for 2023 by Money.com.

VCSU was given four out of five stars and is one of four North Dakota schools included in the ratings. The overall ratings are determined by comparing acceptance rates, affordability, graduation rates, and employment after graduation. VCSU was one of 736 colleges in the United States listed.

“External ratings reinforce the approach we are taking to helping

students achieve their goals. We are proud to be recognized by another entity for our quality and affordability,” VCSU President Alan LaFave said. “VCSU continues to invest in our students, take steps to help keep a college education affordable, and ensure students have access to one of the best educational experiences possible.”

VCSU has seen enrollment grow by 21% in the past decade, in part due to continued scholarship support for students. Scholarships are provided through the generous support of

donors and the VCSU Foundation, providing almost \$2 million in scholarships last year. According to Money.com, 92% of VCSU students with financial need receive grants.

“Supporting students and ensuring everyone has the opportunity to pursue an education is one of our most important missions,” Executive Director of the VCSU Foundation Cory Anderson '89, said. “We are grateful to work with so many dedicated donors and alumni who are committed to helping the next generation of students succeed.”

VCSU Trap Club Earns 1st Place at ND Collegiate Clay Target Championship

Twelve students from Valley City State University (VCSU) Trap Club took home the championship in American Trap at the North Dakota State Collegiate Clay Target Championship on Saturday, April 29, 2023 in Jamestown, N.D.

VCSU students earned a total score of 422/500, beating out other competitive teams from around the state. Team members include: Bridger Pulver, Grant Larson, Elijah Brovold, Ashley McKittrick, Austin Juhnke, Kelby

Gjovik, Quentin Glueckert, Connor Beck, Braylen Bruns, Jacob Hanson, Logan Heen and Landen Sayler.

“Weather conditions were everything but ideal so the fact that they still performed at that level is certainly something to be very proud of,” VCSU Trap Club Advisor and Associate Professor of Science, Nick Galt, said. “These students have worked hard this season, have grown as a team, and have remained focused.”



VCSU's Trap Club was formed in 2021 and has almost 20 students participating this year. The group practices at the Valley City Trap Club with the help of Chuck and Sandi Mielke and compete in the USA College Clay Target League.

VCSU group travels to South America

Fourteen adventurous individuals, associated with Valley City State University, with a variety of experience, skill sets, and interests recently joined together on a service-learning trip to Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The group focused on learning about different cultures and understanding programming and resources that minimize violence in relationships.

Each day was filled with cultural activities and educational programming. The group learned about five different groups working

with a variety of organizations. Through meetings and tours, the group learned resources provided to Argentinian citizens by private, city, national, and international organizations

Highlights of the trip included attending a soccer match where the home team, San Lorenzo, won 2-0, followed by a spread of food while learning about national legislation aimed at protecting partners of players of professional sports from violence. After the game, the VCSU group had an opportunity to go on the field.



VCSU School of Education and Graduate Studies Reaccredited Through 2030

Valley City State University's (VCSU) School of Education and Graduate Studies has been reaccredited through 2030 by the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).

The accreditation process requires a comprehensive evaluation of the curriculum and field experiences. This includes reviewing the teaching and content knowledge, skills, and dispositions for teacher candidates to successfully enter the profession. VCSU demonstrated quality assurance and evidence that teacher candidates, completers, and the teacher education program are meeting the state and CAEP standards. The process included a self-study report from VCSU, followed by feedback from the CAEP team, and a virtual site visit by a CAEP team with representatives from five different states. VCSU

successfully met each standard. The next CAEP accreditation site visit will be during the 2029-2030 school year.

"Our School of Education has one of the best teacher preparation programs in the nation. The program is exceptional, and we are extremely proud of our faculty and staff who have dedicated their careers to preparing future teachers," VCSU President Dr. Alan LaFave said. "Reaccreditation from CAEP without any areas for improvement or stipulations reaffirms the quality of our education program."

"We are thrilled to receive this reaccreditation as it solidifies our standing as one of the highest-quality education programs in the nation," Dean for the School of Education Dr. Allen Burgad said. "The CAEP reaccreditation process highlights our priorities of helping students succeed in the

classroom every day. Thank you to Dr. Al Olson, Dr. Jim Boe, and the VCSU faculty, staff, and community stakeholders who participated in the accreditation process. Their efforts and commitment were significant in the success of our review."

"This reaccreditation, paired with the movement toward transforming McCarthy Hall are two critical pieces in our work to meet teacher workforce needs," President LaFave said. "This is an exciting time for our campus."

The programs included in this accreditation cycle include Art Education, Biology Education, Business Education, Chemistry Education, Elementary Education, English Education, Health Education, Mathematics Education, Music Education, Physical Education, Social Studies Education, Technology Education and VCSU's Master of Arts in Teaching.



VCSU Hosts Dakota Digital Academy Bootcamp

Program brings teachers back into the classroom during summer months to learn about all things tech

While most teachers are spending the summer enjoying the warm weather, a group of 16 found themselves back in the classroom this summer at Valley City State University (VCSU). VCSU hosted a two-day IT/Cyber bootcamp for K-12 teachers. The program was offered in partnership with the Dakota Digital Academy (DDA) and the Northern Information Technology Consortium (NITC) and brought the group together in the basement of Vangstad Auditorium.

Janet Bartels, a high school math teacher from Wahpeton, N.D., signed up for the class with her coworker Elizabeth Lasch. Lasch teaches computer classes at the high school level and the pair spent the first morning of class working with programming languages. The class spent time programming small robotic cars to get hands-on experience with various programming languages.

“It’s something I’ve never done before,” Bartels said. “We were working with circuits which was interesting.”

Bartels and Lasch said they saw parallels between the morning lesson and their classroom objectives. Concepts like the order of operations and logical processes are applicable to programming, math, and general computer skills. They also thought activities like programming to direct a small vehicle would be of interest to some of their students.

“I think some of my students would be really interested in this because it’s hands-on,” Bartels said. This type of activity is teaching more than just math concepts, she explained. “We are teaching students to think, and to use that higher level thinking around problem-solving.”

Instructor and Assistant Professor of Computer Systems and Software Engineering, Dr. Yang Du, said that

using a car kit in the programming session is a fun way to bring skills to life.

“Teaching programming to calculate things like overtime payments can be unappealing for students, but this is fun,” he said. Other topics covered during the bootcamp include cybersecurity, the internet of things and networking.

“Although each topic is usually covered in full semester classes,” Du explained, “the bootcamp is designed to be a fun and quick overview of these topics for teachers of all levels.”

“I think it’s good for everyone to get the basic concepts,” Du said.

The Dakota Digital Academy was established to help provide access to digital-cyber oriented education, training, certificates, and knowledge. It is a collaboration among NDUS campuses, in partnership with select business and corporate partners.

Carlsrud Receives Distinguished Service Award

Mayor Dave Carlsrud was presented the VCSU Distinguished Service Award this spring. The award recognizes partners and friends for their exceptional contributions toward the University's vision. President Alan LaFave presented the award. Carlsrud has been a vocal, tireless advocate for the University and has helped establish strong partnerships between campus and the Valley City community.



INSTEM Academy Held on the VCSU Campus Again



Fifty-four students were on campus this summer to learn about various Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) topics through the Great Plains STEM Education Center (GPSEC). The cohorts are for North Dakota (ND) Native American middle and high school students. The program, officially named INSTEM (Indians into STEM), aims to increase awareness and interest in STEM careers among ND Native American K-12 students. Students this summer learned about audio production, gene editing and river health.

Alumni Anecdotes



Tori (Eggert) Nieuwsma '16

A Valley City Hi-Liner, born and raised, Tori (Eggert) Nieuwsma '16 studied Human Services during her time at VCSU. She now lives in Bismarck, N.D. with her husband and two boys and works as a Child Protection Worker for Burleigh County Human Service Zone.

After transferring to VCSU, she declared her major as elementary education. Working with her advisor, the two discovered that her strengths were better suited elsewhere and they landed on Human Services. Through that experience, Nieuwsma discovered the true value and connections made with professors at VCSU. "They hold you accountable but also strive to watch you succeed," she said. "They assist in all different areas whether it's personal, professional or educational." To this day, she still maintains some of those connections at VCSU.

Her time at VCSU was spent learning the technical skills required for her line of work but she also learned the always valuable soft skills like timeliness, responsibility, independence and confidence.

As a child protection worker, Nieuwsma uses these skills everyday.

Employee Recognition

Teacher of the Year

Taylor Mounts was honored as the VCSU Teacher of the Year for 2023.



Student Advocate

Janna Kohler '15 was awarded the 2023 Student Advocate Award by Student Senate President, Madison Yoder.



Staff Emeritus Award

Ellen Kienitz, who turned 101 in December of 2022 was a VCSU employee from 1949-1987. She dedicated more than 38 years to VCSU and the Allen Memorial Library. Since her retirement Ellen continues to support VCSU by attending university functions along with our retiree luncheons.

On April 25, Dr. LaFave, Julee Russell, Larry Robinson and Kim Hesch surprised Ellen at her home with the honor.



Faculty Excellence Awards

This year, four faculty members were awarded the Faculty Excellence Awards. Special Appointment Faculty Award of Excellence was awarded to Joan Klein, Gratia Brown was presented the Junior Faculty Award, Teather Sundstrom was honored the Senior Faculty Award, and Kai Western was awarded the Adjunct Faculty award (not pictured).



Special Appointment Faculty Award: Joan Klein



Junior Faculty Award: Gratia Brown



Senior Faculty Award: Teather Sundstrom

Retiree

Dr. Andre DeLorme '79 retired from VCSU's Science Department after 34 years of service. Dr. DeLorme also received Faculty Emeritus.





- VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY - HOMECOMING 2023

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

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

41st Annual Bill Osmon Fun Run | 4 p.m. | Lokken Stadium

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Alumni Welcome Back Ice Cream Social | 2:30 p.m. | Student Center

VCSU Bookstore Open | 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. | Student Center

Campus Tours | 3 p.m. | Student Center

Hall of Fame Social | 5 p.m. | Valley City Eagles Club

Alumni and friends are invited to stop by and socialize with the Hall of Fame inductees.

Hall of Fame Banquet & Ceremony | 6 p.m. | Valley City Eagles Club

Banquet tickets are available by contacting the VCSU Foundation at 701-845-7403.

All Alumni Social | 8 p.m. | Valley City Eagles Club

Please join us for a no-host social! Visit with the Hall of Fame inductees and other alumni as we gather in one location.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Alumni Honors Breakfast | 8:30 a.m. | Student Center

The Alumni Honors breakfast provides the VCSU Alumni Association with an opportunity to present the Alumni Service, Distinguished Alumnus, Young Alumni Achievement and Certificate of Merit Awards. Tickets for the breakfast will be available at the door and are \$15 each.

VCSU Bookstore Open | 8 a.m. – noon | Student Center

Homecoming Parade | 10:30 a.m. | Central Avenue

VCSU Walking Tour

Enjoy a self-guided tour as you explore our beautiful campus. The tour will highlight some of our most notable places on campus and a chance to see our newest building, the Center for the Arts.

Viking Tailgating | 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. | Lokken Stadium

Vikings vs. Mayville State University | 2 p.m. | Shelly Ellig Field

Postgame and All-Alumni Social | 5 p.m. | Valley City Eagles Club

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

College Student and Alumni Dance | 9 p.m. | Valley City Eagles Club

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



For up-to-date schedules and more information, visit [VCSU.edu/homecoming](https://www.vcsu.edu/homecoming) or call 701-845-7203.

Alumni Anecdotes



Samantha (Nalley) Malinich '15

Malinich, an exercise science and leisure studies – sports management graduate, grew up in Pocatello, ID. She and her five siblings were very active and continuously involved in sports which ultimately led her to VCSU. After taking her passion for softball and playing for a junior college in California, Malinich continued her career and her bachelor's degree at VCSU. She says her experience and time at VCSU was “one of the most treasured times of my life.” Here is where she discovered her true love for working in the administrative side of athletics.

After graduation, Malinich began coaching at the college and high school levels, which led her to want to further her education and earn her Master's degree in Movement and Leisure Sciences – Recreation, Sports, Tourism Management. From there, she started at her current position as administrative coordinator for the athletic department at Lewis-Clark State College in Moscow, ID where she enjoys being back in the NAIA world.

Malinich credits VCSU with the skills she now uses in her career – leadership, communication and organization especially.

2023 Spring Commencement



Valley City State University (VCSU) hosted spring commencement on Saturday, May 13, 2023, at W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse. President Alan LaFave presided over the commencement exercises. 149 degrees were conferred. VCSU has now conferred 27,510 degrees total.

Chancellor Dr. Mark Hagerott represented the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education. Graduating senior, Angeline Gannon, delivered the undergraduate reflection, and the faculty reflection was presented by Taylor Mounts, assistant professor of business.





McCarthy Hall: The past and future of Teacher Education

Built as a place for college students to take their first steps as teachers, McCarthy Hall has shaped the future of thousands. It stands on the precipice of change with an imminent remodeling project that reinforces its true mission – to serve as a space for foundational education.

At first glance, McCarthy Hall stands at the edge of VCSU's campus with dignified and purposeful presence. Upon closer inspection, the smooth sculptures adorning the stairway and shining terrazzo floors tell the story of a well-loved space built for activity and inspiration.

This space, has remained in use, but mostly unaltered for almost 100 years. Now, McCarthy Hall is on the precipice of transformation.

In the early 1930s, the North Dakota Legislature used \$115,000 to construct the Training School, now known as McCarthy Hall. This year, that same body approved \$11.5 million to renovate the building. In total, the project will cost \$13.5 million, the remaining portion being raised through generous supporters.

The renovation will breathe life into this historic space, but the story of this building was never about the bricks. The real story is told by those who remember the inspiring leadership of the College High School Principal, Thilda Vangstad '29, or those who met the love of their life in one of the assembly rooms during study hall. This is a place that shaped people for life. Individuals that went on to shape the lives of others.

This is a space where teachers presented their first lesson, or conducted their first band rehearsal. This is



Thilda Vangstad '29

where students saw first-hand how the care and attention from a kind teacher could transform a lifetime. This is the story of McCarthy Hall and the future home of VCSU's School of Education.

A place to call home

Jay Cink's early life was literally surrounded by VCSU. As a child, his family ran the long-gone grocery store that used to sit where the Memorial Student Center is currently. When he was old enough for school, he loved the sandbox and rocking horse in the kindergarten room just down the hall from the university president's office. Cink's first job outside of the family store was washing uniforms for the college's athletic director Bill Osmon.

The relationship between VCSU and the training school also meant Osmon was Cink's junior high gym teacher. College faculty were a part of the fabric of College High. They guided student teachers attending VCSU as they took their first step as teachers with real students like Cink.

"We had a great education. Some of the student teachers were fabulous," Cink said. If the teacher in training was not



Jay Cink, '69





a good fit for the classroom, “you only had to put up with them for 11 or 12 weeks,” he added.

Although the student teachers were numerous and varied in skill, the long-term faculty and staff at the school crafted a place in McCarthy Hall that felt like home for many.

Teachers like Roger Ludwig and many more were inspired by Thilda Vangstad who “commanded respect, but didn’t demand it.” This inspiration pushed Cink to pursue a degree in education at VCSU. When he started as a college student, he found himself in familiar spaces like the first floor of McCarthy for technology class. He was also a step ahead of other students as he had the opportunity to take college courses as a junior and senior in high school, some of the first versions of popular dual credit offerings now offered.

Although he never became a teacher, Cink is one of the few who attended school on campus from Kindergarten through his undergraduate degree. He is thrilled the upcoming renovation will improve a space that was home for so many of his foundational experiences.

He keeps a photo of the vision for the remodeled space in his office at home, reminding him of the exciting future ahead for his old high school.

From function to the future

The renderings show the exterior of the building mostly unchanged, but the interior will completely transform. “The new spaces in McCarthy Hall will offer classrooms where students can prepare to be teachers of the future,” Dean of the School of Education Allen Burgad, '89, said.

“I had the opportunity to take courses like psychology and education in McCarthy 257 in 1987 and 1988,” Burgad said. “When I interviewed at VCSU in 2022, the classroom had not changed.”



Dr. Allen Burgad '89

The renovation project will take the classroom from a row-centered, teacher-centered model, to the style of classroom now found in most elementary, middle and high schools. A style that focuses on education and peer collaboration.

“The spaces will be comfortable and represent what elementary and secondary classrooms look like now,” Burgad said. “Having collaborative spaces and learning centers allows peers to interact and the educational experience is much richer when there is dialogue.”

“Our purpose is to design McCarthy very similar to what an elementary middle and high school classroom would look like,” he said.

Almost 100 years ago when McCarthy Hall was first built, it was also designed to mirror a typical classroom. It was three stories with 11 large classrooms and two large assembly rooms according to the school newspaper *The Budget*. There was a small theater on the first floor for “demonstration classes” and the space was more than enough to accommodate the 22 faculty supervisors working with teacher candidates.

The building first opened in 1931 and offered a unique experience for pupils. In the summer of 1963, College High School's Superintendent H. O. Pearce sent a newsletter stating the State Board of Higher Education asked to close the school in the spring of 1965.

The building remained, but the halls were quieter. Eventually the VCSU Technology Department and, for a time, the Art Department moved in. Plans for a new home for the School of Education began to take shape and VCSU launched the first capital campaign in the history of the school in 2021. Part of that campaign brought the McCarthy Hall renovation to life. This spring, 60 years after the newsletter from Superintendent Pierce was sent, the same board that closed College High approved money for its renovation for the future.

Breathing life into a historic place

Virginia Mohr Svenningsen is excited about the plans to renovate her old high school.

“This is such a beautiful building,” she said walking down the hallway with her husband and classmate John.



VIRGINIA MAHR

JOHN SVENNINGSEN



McCarthy Hall

John and Virginia Svenningsen in front of McCarthy Hall and McFarland Hall on campus.



Both John and Virginia graduated in the last class of College High.

"I was so afraid that like other places, this could get knocked down and there goes the history. I'm really excited about the renovation and what it's going to be when it's done."

For Virginia, removing the old army-green metal lockers makes sense. During her time attending College High they were necessary because books were numerous, and heavy.

"Now there is a computer in every back pack, not a bunch of books," she said smiling.

Despite their absence, Virginia knows exactly where her locker used to line the 3rd floor hallway in McCarthy Hall. Her locker was only a few away from a farm boy who had just started attending College High.

"I was his tour guide on his first day," she said. The two sat near each other during assemblies and study hall in the large classroom on the east side of the building. They eventually married, had a family and farmed near Valley City.

"It was a really unique experience," she said of attending College High, "because we were small and very close."

The pair were a part of the final graduating class from College High, which closed in 1965. Now, more than 50 years after graduation, both John and Virginia say the care and kindness from long-term faculty like Thilda Vangstad '29 and Lillian Langemo Jacobson '40 shaped their lives. They were witness to dozens of new teachers testing their abilities in the classroom for the first time.

The function of the school was always clear, to learn and help new teachers gain experience. That process created a close community. For example, Virginia remembers having a young college student named George Gaukler, '62, as a student teacher. The year after, John met Gaukler as a first-year math teacher at the rural school he attended before coming to College High. That young teacher went on to become a successful business man and is chair to VCSU's current capital campaign.

Transforming into a teacher

The number of student teachers who taught their first class in McCarthy Hall is difficult to count, but Carol Skogen Meyers '68 learned from many of them. Carol attended elementary, high school and college on campus as did her brother Luther Skogen '68. Although her family lived out of town, her mother insisted they attend the training school.

"We had excellent teachers," Meyers said. Having numerous student teachers from the college gave her class experience in teacher evaluation. "We always knew within a day, which student teachers were going to be a good teacher."

After Meyers moved from elementary in McFarland Hall "across the bridge" into McCarthy Hall, she felt the school pride and a sense of belonging that existed for the College High Baby Vikings.

One of the classes she took regularly was band. At times, the band instructor or student teacher would be late. Meyers would pick up the baton and "get the band going." This practice would be a part of much of her professional life.



Carol Meyers '68



Carol Skogen Meyers, middle row third from right, in the College High band as a sophomore.



John Svenningsen shows his class ring from College High. Svenningsen was one of the last graduates from the school before it closed in 1965.

After she graduated in 1964, Meyers returned to VCSU and finished her composite music degree, thus beginning a long career of shaping hundreds of music students in rural North Dakota. From Finley to Page, Hunter and Arthur, Meyers taught K-12 music for years, retiring from Northern Cass Public School in 2004. She remembers many of her students, including one of her trumpet players, Doug Burgum, who eventually went on to become governor of North Dakota.

Even though she didn't realize it at the time, Meyers said her time in high school and college experience must have influenced her classroom management style and approach to teaching.

"All my students were special and that connection made teaching so special," she said. "It was special and rewarding."

Meyers learned that from Dr. Loren Waa, her band director at VCSU. Throughout her career she saw other VCSU music graduates in the field of education.

Expanding the legacy of VCSU

One of Meyers classmates, Larry Wicks '66, also pursued a career in education after his time attending the training school, College High and VCSU.



Larry Wicks, right, presents to history class during his time at College High in 1962.

He started at College High in 7th grade and at one time, counted up the number of student teachers he learned from. Sixty-seven was the final total.

Instruction was, at times, delivered in smaller class sizes because there were multiple student teachers who needed experience. This was a benefit of attending College High.

After graduation, Wicks attended VCSU and became an educator in Minnesota before becoming active in the Minnesota Education Association.



Larry Wicks '66

Throughout his profession he saw how College High was similar physically to other schools built in the 1930s, but had the benefit of a close connection with college faculty and student teachers doing the instruction.

"It was similar, but unique," he said.

Wicks went on to work in education-related roles with various organizations, and eventually retired as the Executive Director of the Ohio Education Association in 2013.

Wicks is excited to see how the renovation of McCarthy hall expands the legacy of VCSU as an institution. He recalled walking through McCarthy Hall after College High closed and feeling a sense that the space could be used for much more.

"I think this renovation is terrific," he said. "It makes a lot of sense."

Providing limitless opportunity

2022 graduate Keaton Kvilvang agrees. Kvilvang's family includes many VCSU graduates and his grandfather Curt Kvilvang attended College High.

As a freshman, Kvilvang took a psychology class in McCarthy Hall and described the classroom as having a "rustic, traditional" feel.

"It was interesting to see the differences between some of the more modern classrooms and these traditional classrooms on campus," he said.

While the classrooms have not changed a great deal since his grandfather attended College High, Keaton Kvilvang said having a modern environment for learning will enhance the overall experience for students.

"Surely the old look and feel will be missed, but having a modern environment for students to not only receive lecture, but to find a quiet place on campus for studying and reading will provide limitless opportunities," he said.

Curt Kvilvang, left, in a science class at College High.



Keaton Kvilvang '22, left, grandson of Curt Kvilvang, also attended classes in McCarthy Hall during his time at VCSU.



Keaton Kvilvang '22, Josh & Macey (Kvilvang) '21 Babicz, Trina (Elsperger) '96 & Chris '93 Kvilvang, Mallory & Christian '19 Kvilvang and Adelyn Kvilvang.



Support the new home for VCSU's School of Education

If you have not had the opportunity to make a pledge yet, please consider doing so today.

Excitement on the Campus of Valley City State University

Larry Robinson '71, Capital Campaign Director

What an exciting time at VCSU! The recently-adjourned North Dakota Legislature approved our request for a \$11.5 million to convert the former College High School (McCarthy Hall) into VCSU's School of Education and Graduate Studies. The package requires VCSU to match the funding with \$2 million to for the \$13.5 million project. Once completed, McCarthy will be a state-of -the art learning center for our nationally-recognized School of Education.



Robinson

We are also making great progress with our Capital Campaign, **Forward Together!** Our campaign is approaching \$20 million in total cash and pledges. We are now focused on raising the \$2 million to make our match for the McCarthy project. A total of \$1,050,000 is already in place. We are also working to achieve the dollars necessary to complete a major indoor turf practice facility attached to the W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse.

As we move forward with our Capital Campaign, we have to thank everyone who has supported the effort. Your support speaks volumes of your passion for VCSU! You are making a big difference in the lives of our students for years to come. If you have not had the opportunity to make a pledge yet, please consider

doing so today. You can help us cross the finish line! Pledges can be made payable over a five-year time period. All donations, regardless of size, are important. Your support is a statement of your faith in the future and will play a significant role in continuing to make VCSU an outstanding choice for college bound students for many years to come! A special **Donor Recognition Wall** will be included in the new facility with the names of all supporters of the project.

If you are interested in contributing to this important project contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7203. Please consider joining our team to help complete this important campaign. **This is our day and this is our time! Let's Move Forward Together!**

VCSU Hosts NDUS Traveling Exhibition

Valley City State University hosted an art exhibition representing the cultural heritage of North Dakota. The show incorporates work from 24 different artists from multiple entities within the North Dakota University System (NDUS). The show has been traveling around the state this Spring and Fall.

The NDUS traveling show was in the VCSU Center for the Arts Gallery May 10 through June 27. The exhibition was organized by Angela Mircsov, assistant professor for art and department chair. This show began as an idea after COVID-19 to bring back collaboration among visual art departments. In total five of the institutions are participating: Bismarck State College, Candeska Cinka Community College, North Dakota State University, Minot State University, and Valley City State University.

Each participating institution has students and faculty exhibiting what cultural heritage means to them. The exhibition will make its final travel to North Dakota State University in the Fall of 2023.



VCSU FINE ARTS 2023-2024 CALENDAR



SEE THE FULL 2023-2024
FINE ARTS CALENDAR

www.vcsu.edu/center-for-the-arts/fine-arts-calendar/

ART SHOWS & EVENTS

FALL 2023

August 14 – October 6

Visiting Guest Artist Wendy

September 21: Wendy

Workshop, Artist Talk and Reception

October 9 – October 19

Art Faculty Show

October 23 – November 9

Karissa Yturralde Senior Exhibition

November 2: Karissa Yturralde

Artist Talk and Reception

November 13 – December 1

Alayna Proctor Senior Exhibition

November 16: Alayna Proctor

Artist Talk and Reception

MUSICAL PERFORMANCES & EVENTS

OCTOBER 2023

Saturday, Oct. 14, 3 p.m.

Senior Recital - Tedi Dimmer
Performance Hall, CFA

Thursday, Oct. 26, 6 p.m.

Ployhar Honor Band

Friday, Oct. 27, 6 p.m.

Performance Hall, CFA

NOVEMBER 2023

Friday, November 3, 7:30 p.m.

Piano Guest Artist
Performance Hall, CFA

Sunday, November 12

FM Area Youth Symphonies
Performance Hall, CFA

Friday, November 17, 7:30 p.m.

Instrumental Concert
Performance Hall, CFA

ALUMNI CORNER

Kim Svenningsen-Hesch, '91
Asst. Director for University Advancement and Alumni Relations



Svenningsen-Hesch

Greetings Alumni!

We are having a great summer on campus. Alumni have been back on campus as

coaches of teams or as parents bringing their own kids to camp.

Thank you to those that have stopped by the office to reconnect. We love when alumni stop to catch up. If you are in the area please stop by and say hello!

We have a brand-new way for alumni to stay connected with VCSU and upcoming activities. The myVCSU app now includes an alumni section specifically designed with you in mind. The student and employee version of the app launched last fall. Their personas include customized resources for classes and other

campus activities.

The alumni app is available for download on both Apple and Android devices by searching in Google Play and the Apple Appstore for myVCSU.

The alumni persona is designed to connect you with our staff and other alumni. It includes quick access to:

- **Viking Athletics**
- **The Bulletin**
- **Need to update your address?** Easily update your information
- **Have you recently been married?** Click on Weddings, upload your wedding information and photo for *The Bulletin*
- **Nominate someone for an Alumni Award**
- **Have you welcomed a new Lil' Viking to our VCSU family?** Click on Lil' Vikings to request a Lil' Vikings t-shirt.

The alumni landing page in the myVCSU app will change periodically. For instance we are currently working on Homecoming and will be adding it to our alumni app soon. This will put the schedule of homecoming events right at your fingertips.

Once you have the app installed, we can also send notifications to you about alumni events or activities in your area. The myVCSU app is a great way for you to stay connected with your alma mater!

If you just graduated in December 2022 or this past May, please login to the myVCSU app and just change your persona from Student to Alumni!

Our staff encourages you to download the app and for you to start using it today – we are looking forward to using it to reconnect, engage and communicate with our alumni better.

Go Vikings!

iOS: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/myvcsu/id1623244113>

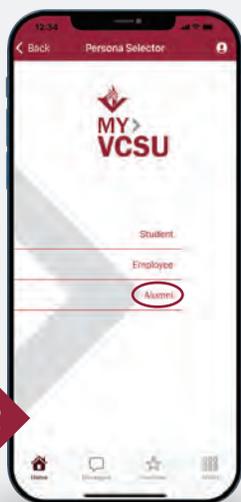
Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=edu.my.vcsu&hl=en_US&gl=US

Get connected with your Alma Mater today!

DOWNLOAD THE myVCSU APP



1



2



3

1

DOWNLOAD APP: The app is available to download on both Apple and Android Devices.



2

CHOOSE ALUMNI PERSONA

3

START USING: Check out the various icons, download the latest issue of the Bulletin, submit your latest news for Vikings on the Move or make a donation online!

Keeping the Crew Together

Connections forged through school, coaching and a mutual love of athletics remain strong for a group of VCSU alumni and friends that gather weekly

It all started in 2007, when Myron Loberg and Gene Manson, friends who both coached and taught in Devils Lake, got together after Myron moved to Fargo. They met regularly and the group began to increase as they each invited other coaches and friends to join them.

In 2018, a few weeks after VCSU coach, mentor and friend Dr. Larry "Buck" Grooters '57 lost his beloved wife, Hazel, Gene Boyle '69 suggested to Loberg '68 that it was time for old friends to go to lunch. Loberg, a former student of Grooters who also coached track and taught, Boyle, Tom Kirchoffner '68 and Bill Coghlan '67 took Coach Grooters out for lunch and talked about sports, coaching and life in general.

The group started to grow, and this tradition continues to this day. Although Dr. Grooters seat is sadly empty, the spirit of joy and love of sports he brought to the table is still

present. Coach Grooters would drive in every Wednesday, even if he was at his lake place.

The men at the table have many shared experiences, including a few escapades from their days at VCSU. Still, everyone at the table has their own unique and inspiring story.

They started to pull in individuals who shared similar interests. Gene Boyle is a member of the North Dakota High School Officials Association Hall of Fame and worked in education and government for 42 years. Loberg knew Marty Thielges who also coached.

Across the table, Coghlan shares stories about coaching in South Dakota and negotiating with his players about the length of their hair and curfews.

Les Stensgaard '69 laughs when he says he taught Kirchoffner how to play basketball.

Kirchoffner laughs and explains that he was named one of the top five basketball players from the

1960s in North Dakota, right along with Phil Jackson. He taught for decades and when his son was born, Leo Ringey's '73 wife covered as a substitute teacher for him. Ringey lived across the street from Mick Conlon '69.

Conlon saw a picture of the group in a previous Bulletin and showed up the next week with his VCSU letterman's jacket on at their previous location, the Cajun Cafe.

When that restaurant closed, the group moved to Deaner's Diner in

West Fargo, and the connections continued.

The tone is light, the knowledge of sports is deep and it all continues to come together with the quiet encouragement of Myron Loberg. Loberg, a legendary coach and trainer of athletes, is still connecting people through activity. The former teacher enjoys the weekly, informal gatherings.

Other individuals who come quite frequently when they are in Fargo:

Gary Tharaldson '67, Don Knauss '70, Terry Dunphy '68, DelRay Kessler '71 and Joe Kalina '69.

If you are in Fargo on a Wednesday at 11:30 a.m., stop on out to Deaner's Diner.

"We talk about a lot of sports, and it's just a chance to get together," he said.

...the spirit of joy and love of sports he brought to the table is still present.



Front row: Bill Coghlan '67, Tom Kirchoffner '68 and Gene Boyle '69. Back row: Leo Ringey '73, Les Stensgaard '69, Marty Thielges, Myron Loberg '68, and Michael (Mick) Conlon '69.

VCSU Foundation Recognizes Donors at Annual Recognition Luncheon

On Monday, June 13 the Valley City State University Foundation honored its donors who have reached a new level of giving.

This year's Recognition Luncheon drew over 90 attendees, held at Sabir's Fine Dining & Lounge. Individuals and businesses were recognized for their continued support of the University through donations, volunteerism, and other efforts.

During the luncheon attendees heard campus updates from the Foundation Board chair, Mary Simonson, VCSU President Alan LaFave, and Cory Anderson, executive director of the VCSU Foundation.

Donors recognized for reaching a new level of giving in the past year

(July 2022 to June 2023)

Diamond Level

(\$100,000–\$249,999)

Matt & Jen Pedersen
Petro Serve USA
Stoudt-Miller Inc.

Regents Level

(\$25,000–\$49,999)

Farmers Union Insurance
Don* & Darlene Fiebiger
Steven & Mary Fike
Susan & Charles German
Donald & Sharon Hoff
J.T. & Maryellen Homan
Merton & Joan (Bjornson) Johnson
Alan & Kari LaFave
Missouri River Energy Services
Puklich Chevrolet Buick GMC
BIFROST CJMJJ Charitable Trust
Gerald & Cindy Urlaub
Shelley & Jim Williamson

* Deceased

Gold Level

(\$50,000–\$99,999)

Dave & Sue Carlsrud
Farmers Union Insurance –
Kirk Olson & Tyler VanBruggen
Kathryn Holleque
Robert & Deanne Horne
John & KaSaundra Olstad



Back row l to r:

Charles German, Casey Stoudt (Stoudt-Miller, Inc.), Matt Pedersen, Steve Robertsdahl (Puklich Chevrolet Buick GMC), and Robert Horne.

Front row l to r:

Susan German, Kari & Alan LaFave.

A NIGHT AT THE **TRACK**

Successful Scholarship Auction

The 28th annual Valley City State University Scholarship Auction was held April 28, at the Valley City Eagles Club. The theme “A Night at the Track” had attendees dressing in racing attire of any kind. “After the long winter our supporters were ready to get out and attend the auction,” said Kim Hesch, assistant director for advancement, “the 435 people in attendance did not disappoint – we had horses, race car drivers, jockeys, runners, Kentucky Derby attendees, etc. – it made for a fun filled atmosphere!”

As in past auctions, the evening featured the popular Mystery Wine Table along with a variety of raffle giveaways. This was also the third year that the silent auction was held exclusively online allowing our alumni from a distance to participate.

The scholarship auction is the single biggest event (in terms of generating scholarship dollars) the VCSU Foundation office works on each year. Scholarships are a vital part of recruiting students to VCSU. All proceeds from the auction go directly to V-500 and Century Club scholarships. “Our goal this year was \$100,000 and we are happy to announce that we exceeded our goal raising over \$127,000 for scholarships,” said Hesch.

The scholarship auction committee thanks all the businesses and individuals for donating items to the auction; they play a key role in the success of the auction. The committee would also thank all those who bought tickets and attended the event.



Kari & Alan LaFave



Tyler and Kayleen (Anselment) '15 Marthaler



Matt '05 and Cynthia (Penner) '06 Klabo



Ashley (Gierke) '12 and Nick Horner



I N S I D E ATHLETICS

vcsuvikings.com



2023-24: Season of Change

I'm very excited to start my 30th year at VCSU and officially become the Athletic Director/Head Football Coach for Viking Athletics. I know it's hard to understand how I'm taking on two full-time jobs and doing that at a high level, and I think that is a great question.



The short answer is that I'm NOT taking on two full-time jobs. What we've done is reimagined how leadership can look in our athletic department and then taken the athletic director job and started dividing up the workloads between other highly qualified people.

Anna Bratsch is an Associate AD/Director of Sports Medicine and Mark Potts is an Assistant AD/SID, and both have taken on roles that will help cover every requirement that our past AD's have done. We've also hired Steve Olson '88 as our Director for Athletic Development and Game Management, and I know he'll do an excellent job helping to lead our fundraising and gameday efforts.

We've taken the previous athletic director salary and spread it out where needed, helping to take better care of our people while also keeping that salary in athletics in case we go back to a full-time athletic director in the future. I know it's human to pre-judge how this will work but let's re-evaluate in a few years and see how things are functioning. I appreciate Dr. LaFave giving me the opportunity to remain head football coach – which is

my passion – and the opportunity to help lead our department. I'm extremely motivated to make this work and look forward to all the challenges ahead.

Along with adding Steve Olson to our team, we are also moving into the 2023-24 school year with the addition of two new head coaches who I'm excited for everyone to get to know. Michelle Meiklejohn was named our head volleyball coach, replacing Brigitte Greywater, and Alec DeMaria was named our head baseball coach, replacing Casey Olney.

It's never easy replacing coaches who have helped impact our programs in a positive way, but adding new staff can also bring a new energy to Viking Athletics. I know it seems funny coming from the old guy who's been here forever, but I truly do believe that we need to find ways to inject new ideas and new ways to look at things differently than we've done. It doesn't mean that you change everything we are doing, but it sometimes verifies what we are doing is right or gives us some ideas for change.

Both Michelle and Alec come from successful programs that have won in our conference, and they have done it a different way, which is something all of us can gain insight in. Michelle was previously the lead assistant coach at Mayville State University, earning three Assistant Coach of the Year awards in our conference. Alec has been the pitching coach at Dakota State University, helping to transform that program and it's pitching staff into one of the best in the region.

We're excited to welcome Michelle and Alec to our campus, and I'm looking forward to working with ALL our coaches to raise our levels of Viking Athletics.

Viking Pride!
Mac



Anna Bratsch



Mark Potts



Steve Olson '88



Michelle Meiklejohn



Alec DeMaria

Viking Softball wins second straight NSAA postseason title

The Valley City State softball team finished the 2023 season with a North Star Athletic Association Tournament Championship title and a bid to the NAIA National Tournament Opening Round held in Baldwin City, Kan.

VCSU went 24-21 on the season and had an 18-7 record in conference play. The Vikings went into the NSAA Tournament as a No. 2 seed and went undefeated in the tournament, upending top-ranked Bellevue to win the NSAA Tournament and earn an automatic bid to the NAIA Opening Round for the second straight season. The Vikings dropped both their games at the Opening Round, losing close games against No. 6 College of Idaho and Indiana University Southeast.

VCSU pitcher Maddy Zander earned NSAA Newcomer of the Year and nine Vikings earned All-Conference awards. Zander, Riley Perryman, Ashlynn Coppinga and Sierra Crocker were named First Team All-Conference while Ashlyn Diemert, Joelle Lamontagne,

Alyssa DePoorter, Marissa Hawkins and Andrea Rodriguez were Second Team All-Conference.

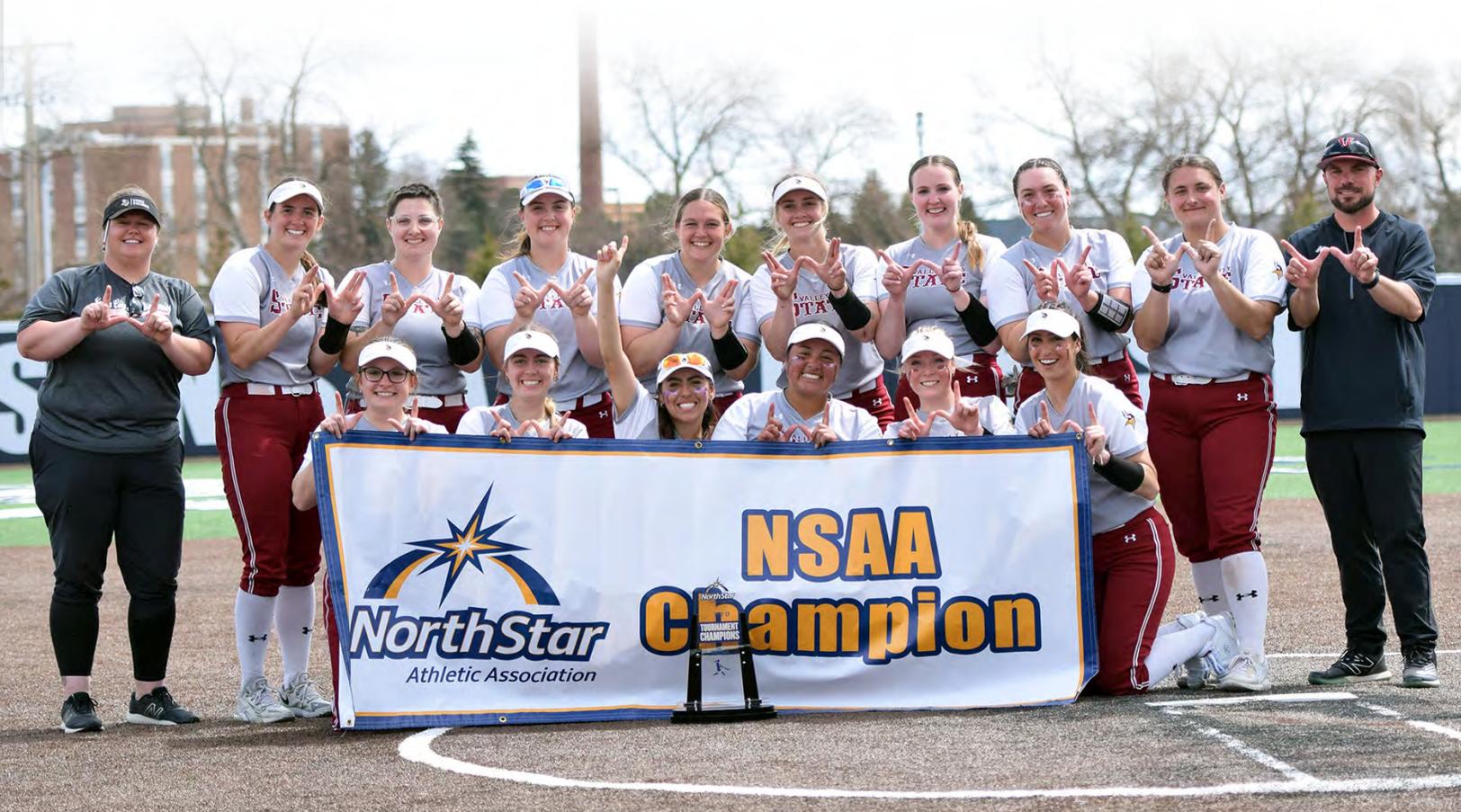
Andrea Rodriguez earned her second career NSAA Gold Glove award for outstanding defense.

Seniors Riley Perryman and Ashlynn Coppinga were each named NAIA Honorable Mention All-Americans after leading the Vikings and setting individual school records in the 2023 season.

Perryman finished her Viking career with records in games played (220), walks (83) and home runs (33). She also set a single-season record with 20 doubles in 2023. Ashlynn Coppinga now holds the school record with 71 runs scored in a season and is second in school history with 46 stolen bases.



As a team, the 2023 Vikings set new school records with 365 RBI, 113 doubles and 165 walks. VCSU also held national Top-10 rankings including 2nd in doubles (113), 4th in RBI (365), 4th in extra-base hits (168), 6th in runs scored (389), 8th in home runs (43), 9th in slugging percentage (.511) and 10th in total bases (769).



Baseball battles weather during challenging spring

The Valley City State baseball team finished the 2022-23 season with a 13-34 overall record and an 8-20 mark in conference play.

The Vikings entered the postseason as the No. 7 seed for the NSAA Tournament, where VCSU posted a 1-2 record that included a win over No. 6 seed Viterbo University.

A highlight of the season included a four-game series sweep over Presentation College which included a walk-off home run by Shane Nixon. The Vikings hit 20 home runs during the four-game series, including four home runs in a row during one of the games.

Due to heavy snow during the winter and a cold start to the spring, the Vikings did not play any official home games during the spring season.

Sophomore catcher Jaden Babiuk and sophomore pitcher Hunter Magnuson were both named 2nd Team All-Conference, while senior outfielder Drew Nixon and senior infielder Adam Thompson earned Honorable Mention All-Conference.

Babiuk led the Vikings and was fifth in the conference with a .396 batting average in the regular season. He also caught more than half of VCSU's games and led the conference with 15 runners thrown out. Magnuson came into his own as a starting pitcher and dominated in conference play with a 2.41 ERA. He finished with a 4-4 record.

After the season, longtime head coach Casey Olney announced he was resigning to pursue other opportunities. During Olney's 16 years as head coach the Vikings set 21 team or individual school records – which includes a school record 32 wins during the 2014-15 season.

Magnuson



Inniger



Carlson



2023

FOOTBALL SCHEDULE



Adam Thompson



Drew Nixon



Jaden Babiuk



AUG. 24 – 7 P.M.
VS. JAMESTOWN
AG BOWL

SEPT. 1 – 6 P.M. MST
@ SD MST

SEPT. 16 – 4 P.M.
@ DAKOTA ST.

SEPT. 23 – 2 P.M.
VS MAYVILLE STATE
HOMECOMING

SEPT. 30 – 3 P.M.
VS DICKINSON STATE

OCT. 7 – 1 P.M.
@ WALDORF UNIVERSITY*

OCT. 21 – 4 P.M.
VS. DAKOTA STATE*

OCT. 28 – 3 P.M.
@ MAYVILLE STATE*

NOV. 4 – 3 P.M.
@ DICKINSON STATE*

NOV. 11 – 1 P.M.
VS. WALDORF UNIVERSITY*

3 Viking Golfers earn 2nd Team All-Conference

The VCSU Golf teams competed in three tournaments this spring after numerous schedule changes due to weather and course availability.

Three golfers finished in the top 14 at the North Star Athletic Association Tournament to earn Second Team All-Conference honors. The conference tournament was played at the par-72 Platteview Golf Club in Bellevue, Neb.

Senior Hayley Shanks earned her second career All-Conference honor after placing 10th in the tournament, carding a 189 (96-93). Freshman Sydney Carlson finished in

13th place to earn her first Second Team All-Conference accolade. She fired a two-day 194 at the tournament (94-100).

On the men's side, junior transfer Grant Inniger earned Second Team All-Conference in his first appearance at the NSAA Championships. He fired a 168 (86-82) to finish in 14th place.

Inniger led the Viking men with a 79.2 scoring average in six rounds this spring. He carded a career-best one-under par in the opening round of the VCSU Spring Invite.



Bear

Viking Scramble Recap



A total of 18 teams and 72 golfers competed in the annual Viking Golf Scramble held June 9 at the Valley City Town & Country Club.

The annual Viking Golf Scramble is organized by the VCSU Booster Board and raises money for athletic scholarships at VCSU.

The team of Derrick Rogers, Travis Ingstad, Trevor

Justesen and Jared Lentz shot a 14-under score of 58 to win the Championship Flight at this year's tournament.

Wes McElroy, Easton Hesch, Wade Hesch and Chris Tofsrud won the Viking Flight with a score of 66.

VCSU Athletics thanks all the golfers who participated and the sponsoring businesses that continue to make this event possible.



1ST CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Derrick Rogers, Travis Ingstad, Trevor Justesen and Jared Lentz



1ST VIKING FLIGHT

Wes McElroy, Easton Hesch, Wade Hesch and Chris Tofsrud

2023

VOLLEYBALL

SCHEDULE

Aug. 18
Briar Cliff
Orange City, IA

Aug. 18
Northwestern
Orange City, IA

Aug. 25-26
@ Charger Invite
Sioux City, IA

Sept. 1-2
@ Bellevue Invitational
Bellevue, NE

Sept. 5
vs. Concordia-Moorhead
7 p.m.

Sept. 8-9
NSAA-Frontier Crossover

Sept. 13
@ Dickinson State*
7 p.m. CST

Sept. 15
Briar Cliff
6 p.m.

Sept. 21
Mayville State*
6 p.m.

Sept. 22
Alumni Scrimmage
6 p.m.

Sept. 29
Viterbo Univ.*
6 p.m.

Sept. 30
Waldorf Univ.*
11 a.m.

Oct. 6
@ Bellevue Univ.*
6 p.m.

Oct. 7
@ Dakota State*
1 p.m.

Oct. 10
Dickinson State*
6 p.m. CST

Oct. 12
Univ. of Jamestown
6 p.m.

Oct. 18
@ Mayville State*
6 p.m.

Oct. 21
@ Buena Vista
1 p.m.

Oct. 21
@ Morningside*
3 p.m.

Oct. 27
Dakota State*
6 p.m.

Oct. 28
Bellevue Univ. *
1 p.m.

Nov. 3
@ Waldorf Univ.*
7 p.m.

Nov. 4
@ Viterbo Univ.*
1 p.m.

*NSAA conference game

Home games in bold



Odegard places 4th at nationals to highlight Track & Field season

Kendra Odegard placed fourth in the nation and earned All-American honors to highlight the 2023 outdoor track and field season at VCSU.

A sophomore from Lisbon, N.D., Odegard placed 4th in women's javelin at the NAIA National Championships with her top throw of 45.08 meters. She won the javelin throw at five difference meets during the season and had the third best throw in the nation during the regular season.

Odegard was one of three Vikings who qualified for outdoor nationals, joining senior Taylor Sargent (women's 100 hurdles) and freshman Jaiden Peraza (men's high jump) as VCSU's national meet qualifiers.

At the North Star Athletic Association conference championships, the Vikings finished with five All-Conference performances (Top 3). Odegard won the conference title in javelin and other All-Conference finishes included Sargent (3rd, 100 hurdles), Garrett Ward (2nd, men's javelin) and Peraza (2nd in high jump & 3rd in long jump).



Odegard



Peraza



Sargent

Mary Halvorson '89 is in her 34th year of teaching. Yes, she can retire, but she loves her job. Six years ago she moved to Devils Lake, after teaching in Carrington and Valley City, to be closer to home and family. Mary is presently the Title I K-6 teacher at Lakota Elementary.

CLASS OF 1990s

Teresa (Luthi) McDonough '94 is currently working at "space command" in Colorado Springs, Colo. as a "battle watch commander".

CLASS OF 2000s

Nathan Brown '02 started working for MDU in July of 2019. He is one of 3 journeyman distribution welders in the Dickinson district. He takes care of natural gas pipelines in all of southwest North Dakota. He is required to recertify in welding every 6 months.

David Klein '02 works as Executive Director of Great Plains Housing Authority. His position oversees programs over a seven-county area. In addition, he provides consulting services to numerous government agencies, non-profit organizations, and companies across the country. Dave and his wife Erin, and their son Gabriel (pictured with a 1965 Mustang at VCSU, below) reside in Jamestown, ND.



CLASS OF 2010s

Chad Hjelmstad '13 is the director of refined fuels and lubricants at United Quality Cooperative. His wife, **Erica (Frey) '12**, is the co-owner of 360 Physical Therapy in Minot, N.D. Erica and 360 PT were selected as the Best of the Best Physical Therapist and Physical Therapy Practice for the city of Minot.

Matthew Brown '14 retired from the ND Highway Patrol in 2018. He now runs a successful business investigating traffic crashes for insurance companies and law firms. His daughter, **Mimi (Brown) Udem**, received a generous scholarship and graduated from VCSU in 2017.

Katie Oakes '13 was awarded the Heart of Hospitality award during the Visit Cook County and the Cook County Chamber of Commerce Fall Gala on November 1st (pictured below).



Oakes has worked in tourism since graduating from VCSU with an Art degree. After two international experiences as a VCSU student (Lima, Peru and Grenoble, France) inspired an interest in travel, she has worked in positions with the North Dakota Winter Show, and at Denali and Big Bend National Parks. Oakes is currently the Restaurant Manager for the historic Cascade Lodge on Minnesota's North Shore.

Rachel Hummel '16, M.Ed. '21 is teaching high school math at North High School in Fargo, N.D. She also coaches varsity volleyball for North High.

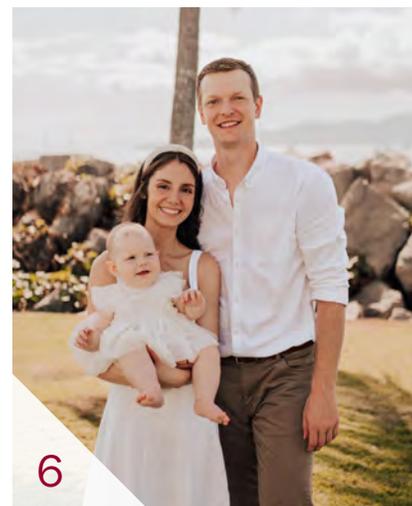
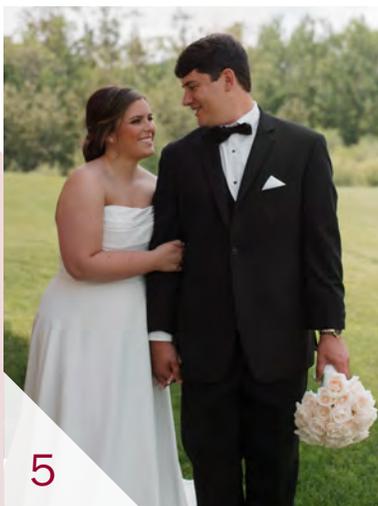
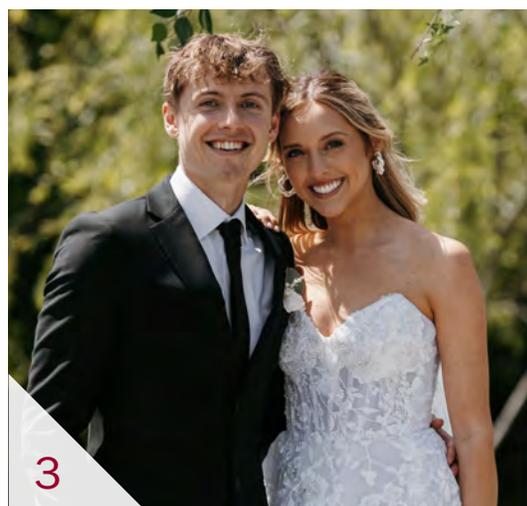
28 VCSU alumni from multiple decades gathered on campus in June for the Wieland family reunion.



Bill Wieland, left, and President Alan LaFave on reunion weekend.

Just Married

Send us your wedding photo so we can include it in the next issue of **The Bulletin**. Email the photo and a short description to kim.hesch@vcsu.edu.



1 - Charlotte Huschka '20 and Travis Ingstad were married February 25, 2023, in Valley City, N.D.

2 - Kari Stricklin '92 and Paul Kamrowski were married March 10, 2023.

3 - Courtney McCalmont and **Alex Quist '18** were married April 24, 2023.

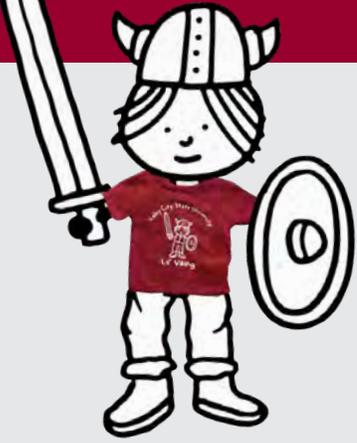
4 - Calista Miller '22 and **Austen Meyer '20** were married June 3, 2023.

5 - Maren Horner '22 and Max Race were married June 10, 2023 near Perham, Minn. They recently moved to Pella, Iowa, where Max is the defensive coach at Central College and Maren is a teacher associate at the elementary school in Pella.

6 - Emma Walsh and **Jayden Ferguson '18** were married June 23, 2023, in Townsville, Queensland, Australia. They are pictured with their daughter, Harper.

Not Pictured

Hannah Felchle '23 & Shayden Luna, April 29, 2023



Lil' Vikings

Have you had an addition to your family?

Share your good news with the Viking family!

Contact Kim Hesch at kim.hesch@vcsu.edu to receive a free t-shirt for your new Lil' Viking. Include your baby's name and birth date. After you have your Lil' Viking shirt, send a photo to kim.hesch@vcsu.edu so we can include it in the next issue of **The Bulletin**.



Charli Rose Ripplinger

October 13, 2022
6 lbs. 14 oz., 20.5 in.

Stephanie '15 and
Dylan Ripplinger



Franklin Joseph Aus

August 12, 2022
7 lbs., 20 in.

Jordan Aus '14 and
Whitney Aus



Katherine Mary Schweitzer

August 30, 2021
7 lbs. 11oz., 20 in.

Sibling: Benedict (3)
Greta (Trader) '06 M.Ed. '11
and Luke Schweitzer



Carter Paul Clauson

April 6, 2023
8 lbs. 14 oz., 22 in.

Sibling: Jack (3)
Jacob and Brittney Clauson



Andrew James Altringer

Dec. 23, 2022
7 lbs. 15 oz., 19.5 in.

Siblings: Ellie (13), Jack (9),
Carson (5)

Parents: Tara (Jensen) '04
and Jimmy Altringer



Archer Joel Kollar

July 4, 2022
6 lbs. 15 oz., 19.75 in.

Maxwell '18 and
Emily Kollar



Cameron Jon Sand

September 3, 2022
7 lbs. 8 oz., 20.5 in.

Bradyn '20 and Taylor '19
Sand

Grandparents: Tracy
(Kadmas) '94 and Scott
'95 Sand



Nolan Oliver Langehaug

March 13, 2022
7 lbs. 10 oz.

Patrick '09 and Char
Langehaug '09



In Remembrance

Evelyn (Johnson) McCracken '45, College Place, Wash.
Betty (Fennell) Hovde '48, Carbondale, Colo.
Verona (Gulsvig) Martin '51, Royse City, Texas
Ellenora (Adam) Todahl '51, Windsor, Colo.
Shirley (Schultz) Elgie '52, Alexandria, Minn.
Kathryn (Nesheim) Aarseth '53, Rochester, Minn.
Lou Ann (Kube) Scherer '53, Minnetonka, Minn.
Inez (Lovaas) Aus '54, Weaverville, Calif.
Marilynn (Gentzkow) Norenberg '54, Minn.
Jerroll Olson '55, Hoople, N.D.
Beverly (Meyer) O'Shea '55, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Helen (Vondergeest) Schoeler '55, Worland, Wyo.
Joann (Delzer) Place '60, Lampe, MO
Gary Triebold, Valley City
Vernon Anderson '61, Jamestown, N.D.
Stanley Halling '61, Bismarck, N.D.
Lowell Klukken '63, Osakis, Minn.
Robert Bender '64, Bend, Oregon
Gary Arlien '65, Ashley, N.D.
Edward Retzer '65, Crosby, N.D.
Kathleey (Jangula) Sayle '65, Nantucket, MA
Ronald Deflavis '66, Naples, Flor.
Robert Duerr '66, Brainerd, Minn.
Phyllis (Fike) Rudi '66, Vancouver, Wash.
Paulette (Peterson) Bolden '67, Woodbury, Minn.
Elna (Weisenberger) Mackenzie '68, Jamestown, N.D.
Judy (Bakken) Vasey '68, Yuma, Ariz.
Joan Altringer, Valley City
Michael McCarthy '69, Tempe, Ariz.
Connie (Lucht) Pederson '71, Bismarck, N.D.
Robert "Swampy" Maresh '73, Valley City
Karen (Schock) Aman '74, Jamestown, N.D.
Judy (Person) Uecker '80, Valley City
Diane (Obenchain) Trevino '83, Corpus Christi, Texas
Kevin Dockter '84, Riverdale, N.D.
Scott Yates '91, Marshfield, MO
Heidi Stroh '92, Bismarck, N.D.
Jerome Wieland, Dazey, N.D.
David Zeller, Valley City

Former Faculty & Staff

Richard Betting, Valley City
Jeremiah "Jay" Komrosky, Valley City

Former Faculty & Staff

Jeremiah "Jay" Komrosky, Facilities Services



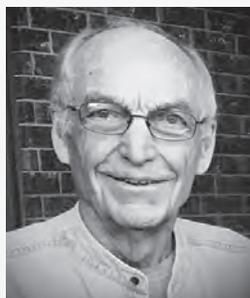
Jeremiah "Jay" Komrosky, 48, passed away May 19, 2023, surrounded by his family at SMP Health St. Raphael Care Center in Valley City, ND.

Jeremiah Komrosky was born August 23, 1974, in Ft. Stewart, GA to Joel and Angie Komrosky. He grew up traveling the world with his family as the child of a military parent. Jeremiah spent

many of his summers in the Valley City area. He finished his high school years in Valley City as well and graduated from Valley City High School. He enjoyed nature, the outdoors, and lake time in North Dakota. Jeremiah loved his dog, Gizmo, and so enjoyed his birds. Jay was on a softball team in Valley City and made good friends doing so.

Jeremiah had a variety of jobs throughout his life. He was a construction worker putting heavy equipment together around the country, made toppers (when living in Grand Forks), put circuit boards together (while living in Pomona, CA), and most recently worked as a security guard at Valley City State University.

Richard A. Betting, English Professor



Richard A. Betting of Valley City, ND died March 24, 2023. Richard, or Dick as he was known to friends, was born September 6, 1934, in Forman, ND and married Edith Geraldine Smith in 1957. Dick became a professor of English at Valley City State College in 1966. He completed his doctorate in English Literature at the University of Northern

Colorado in 1972.

While teaching at VCSC, Dick branched out into real estate in the mid-70's, and started an appraisal company in the late 70's. They moved to a farm south of Valley City in 1991, where Dick could indulge his love of the outdoors, tractors, and power tools.

Dick taught at VCSU until he and Edie travelled to China in 2000, where he taught English in the city of Ningbo. Dick and Edie enjoyed many trips to Europe, Australia, and Arizona. In 2003, he published "China Diary 2000," as well as the novel "Hayfield." In 2008 he published "Grammar Today."

Continuing the Connection

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



1987

Steven Barreth
Steven Entzi
Linda McKibben
Pamela Pfarr
LeRoy Robinson
Rochelle (Richman) Sanchez
Elizabeth Schmitt
Renee (Huschka) Wilson

1988

Victoria Collins
Lee Finnson
Susan Larson
Lisa (White) Nelson
Walter Winkler

1989

Joleen Rinas
David Schlecht
Dean Tosseth

1990

Thomas Brogden
Rhonda Denbow
James Heapy
Kevin Peterson
Timothy Reichenberg

1991

Paulo Costa
Rick Ebel
Melissa Kramer
Sheila (Johnson) Nelson
Marvin Olson
Frank Peterson
Susan (Kruger) Strang

1992

Carla Burchill
Donna Casey
Kevin Gietz
Randall Hanson
Tamera Henderson
Cressy (Kelder) Liljenquist
Natalie (Heyd) Loomis
Michael Morris
Leslie (Iverson) Opp
Cathy (Plum) Rienstra
Melonie (Ramsey) Tessier
Robyn (Hinrichs) Wallis

1993

Theodore Brown
Monserrat (Cordova) Cabrera
Angela Clark
Andrew Fry
Robert Greenwood

Lynn Johnson
Timothy Kramer
D'Lisa Mitchell
Correna (Jensen) Perry
Sarah Sander
Lisa (Hoggarth) Smith
Andrew Smith
Nancy (Hoover) Steele
Theresa Thompson

1994

Kimberly Gruman
Becky Habeck
Kraig Hickel
Wendy Hornberger
Karen Mauch
Kelly Ranisate
Scott Shier
Blair Sigfusson
Brian Trouba
Troy Wittenburg

1995

James Anderson
Robin (Wood) Collins
Shannon Corbett
Michael Hoffmann
Karmelle Medwid
Tracey Miller
Michael Mostad

Cara Peters
Geoffrey Santiago

1996

Ernest Clark
Cameron Croy
Mark Helmowski
Colin Hogue
Marlyn Keller
C. Kyle
Carol Ley
Lisa Mikkelson
Riley Skardal
Robert Suko
Andrew Werkman

1997

Bryan Carlson
Scott Cockx
Kevin Dauphinais
Daren Fech
Christopher Grainger
Jennifer (Malsam) Hilborn
Jacqueline Petersen
Linda Thorn
Barbara Vondell-Kreil
Jill Zander

In 2024

See WWII History In Person

Travel with VCSU through Europe
Explore WWII and the Liberation of France



VCSU would like to invite alumni and friends to join us on a nine-day trip to Europe. The trip includes a visit to the War Room in London, the Imperial War Museum, a ferry trip across the English Channel to the Beaches of Normandy, the town of Caen, Paris, along with many other sites. For more information contact Dr. King at steven.king@vcsu.edu.





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

VCSU Foundation & Alumni Calendar of Events

September 12, 2023

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Jamestown

Sabir's Buffalo Grill

September 22 and 23

VCSU Homecoming

October 17, 2023

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Bismarck

Lucky's 13 Pub

November 14

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Fargo

Crooked Pint