



THE BULLETIN

A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University
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You are invited to a fiesta!

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VCSU Home Page

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Valley City State University, the Valley City Chamber / Valley City Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and the City of Valley City are pleased to announce that plans for Fiesta Mexicana 2003 are underway. During September 25, 26 and 27, 2003, the City Auditorium will play host to the biggest Fiesta Mexicana so far.

Approximately 100 Mexican dancers, artisans, government officials, and university representatives representing the communities of Oaxaca and LaPaz are expected to participate. Of particular interest is the Ballet Folklorico de La Paz, the

dance company that has performed at the two previous Fiestas. Professor Marco Antonio Ojeda will once again bring his group to Valley City. Both he and his dancers said they are pleased and excited to be invited to Valley City for another Fiesta. The 2003 performances will include approximately 25 dancers as well as a variety of dances and costumes. The dance company, created by Ojeda 29 years ago, is made up of young adults, primarily university students from the Instituto Tecnológico in LaPaz. They will once again be accompanied by the band, "La Cochi con Levais". This group of young men specializes in regional music but also includes a great variety of Mexican folk music in its repertoire. When the Ballet Folklorico performs in Valley City, they will be celebrating their 30th anniversary. Their high-energy performances have thrilled audiences in Valley City twice before, and Fiesta organizers couldn't be more pleased to host this troupe again. During her latest trip to Mexico, Professor Kringlie also visited with several artisans, including Mariana Morga Ortega, who specializes in black pottery;

Guillermo and Sandra Aragon, who use an age old process to create exquisitely decorated knives; and Elpidio Fabian Ojeda, whose artistic talents are reflected in his elegantly painted, hand carved "alebrijes." Each of these artisans has attended earlier Fiestas, and each is looking forward to returning to Valley City. The artisans

represent unique contributions to the Fiesta as well as unique parts of Oaxacan culture. Fiesta organizers are particularly excited about the performances from a Guelagetza dance group from Oaxaca. The Guelagetza, traditionally held in

Oaxaca in June, is a collection of dances representing the seven distinct regions of Oaxaca. Each dance and set of costumes reflects the unique cultures of these peoples. Oaxaca, located in the convergence of three mountain ranges south of Mexico City, is home to many indigenous peoples. Fiesta organizers say that the addition of the Guelagetza to Fiesta Mexicana 2003 is a unique and valuable opportunity for the people of the region to experience yet another aspect of Oaxacan culture. Since Fiesta Mexicana 1999, the event has continued to grow and develop. As a result, more Mexican visitors than ever before are expected for this year's event. While organizers admit that planning and hosting such an event is challenging, the rewards are invaluable. The friendships and cultural exchanges developed as a result of the Fiestas continue to promote acceptance, appreciation, and friendship among the citizens of North Dakota and the citizens of Mexico. Mark your calendars! Fiesta Mexicana 2003 will be held in the City Auditorium September 25, 26 and 27, 2003.





Alumni Board

Members of the VCSU Alumni Association Board of Directors met for their annual meeting on June 27. Pictured are: (Back row, left to right) Bob King, Mike Zick, Kathy Ringdahl, Dave Hanson, John Monilaws, Jim Ukestad, Joan Noeske, and Linda Olson. (Front row) Leo Schmidt, Lorraine (Timm) Lutjens, Gayle (Klinkhammer) Nelson, Brian Griffin and Dave Bass.



Outgoing Board Members

Outgoing board president Gayle Nelson (right) is pictured with outgoing board members (left to right) Kathy Ringdahl, Lorraine Lutjens and Dave Bass. Not pictured but also recognized for their service as they leave the board were Janet Schultz, Gary Schafer, and Beth Loibl-Karnik.



Retired Faculty & Staff

Retired faculty and staff returning for the annual luncheon hosted by the VCSU Alumni Association were: (Back row, left to right) Archie Moore, Dick Betting, Roger Ludwig, Jerry Norberg, Bill Osmon, John Keller, Willis Wagar, Bob Bruhschwein and Roger Rand. (Front row, left to right) Carl Peter, Lillian Jacobson, Maxine Johnson, Annie Gunderson, Ellen Kienitz, Barbara Berg, Anne Haugaard and Meryl O'Connell.



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President's Message

by Dr. Ellen-Earle Chaffee

Sidebar...

From Manuel Oseguera:

These four years have been, by far, some of the best years of my life, and it is all thanks to you, thanks to all those people that opened their arms and hearts to this crazy Mexican. Thank you very much for all the experiences, all the memories, there are no words to express my gratitude to all of you but a big THANK YOU. I really wish you could have an experience like I did, a life-changing experience that will mark my life forever. Thank you very much for everything, I feel truly blessed that I met amazing and incredible people; you are very special to me.

From Anita Fossum:

Every experience I have had has been wonderful. I love the faculty, the staff, the students, the atmosphere, and the education I have received here at VCSU. I am leaving the friends that have become my brothers and sisters. I am leaving the many adults (faculty and staff) that have become my parents away from home. Someone to look after me, to listen to me, and the people to make me laugh. The people who have watched me grow the last 5 years and those who have taught me so much about living and growing and learning along the way.

From Angela Worrell:

I would like to send a thank you out to you and the whole VCSU community. I am a senior here at VCSU, but I will not graduate until next semester. My husband Chad Worrel would have graduated this semester, but then was deployed in January to Ft. Carson and now Iraq. The faculty, staff, and students of Valley City State University have been very supportive during this very difficult and trying time. Besides dealing with the trial of my husband being gone, I am also pregnant with our first child. The support, understanding, care, thoughts, and kind words helped me get through this semester. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. God bless you, Angela

Commencement is my favorite day of the year. We all love to remember the students as freshmen and see how wonderfully they have grown, what exciting journeys they are beginning. We get to greet family members and enjoy their pride in the graduate. And I just love when the graduates applaud the faculty in the hallway on the way in to the auditorium and then we all applaud the graduates on the lawn at the end.

In recent years, I have said something like this to each class, early in the ceremony:

"As we look to the promising future that awaits these graduates, I want to remind us briefly of our heritage. We are in Vangstad Auditorium, named for two outstanding people who retired from here 30 years ago. Lena and Thilda Vangstad are twins who gave a combined 60 years of their remarkable lives to this university. Many of our outstanding alumni

credit The Twins for instilling self-confidence and direction in them when they were young and vulnerable. I visit these remarkable women as often as I can, and they write me regularly. They live in Minnesota and they know everything that goes on even today at VCSU. They will celebrate their 102nd birthday this summer. In many ways, they are VCSU's guardian angels, and they will watch over this year's class, too.

"The Vangstads' spirit continues at VCSU. I know that each of these graduates can think of faculty and staff members here who inspire the same affection and appreciation the Vangstads did. This year, the students gave VCSU the highest satisfaction ratings among four-year colleges in the state."

I continued by quoting excerpts from three student email messages we received this spring (see sidebar).

Commencement is an ending and a beginning. I like knowing



President Ellen-Earle Chaffee

that some things, like deeply caring faculty and staff, never end at Valley City State University. They take on new forms, but they do not end.

So, how about it? Come see for yourself what is new and what endures. Enjoy the warmth of your extended family here. Homecoming 2003 would be a great opportunity! I hope to see you then, if not before.

VCSU continues partnership with IBM

VCSU students and faculty will be issued new IBM ThinkPad R40 computers beginning in July.

VCSU will continue a seven year partnership with IBM to deliver notebook computer technology to all students and faculty. The latest deal will continue the partnership for an additional 2 years and it makes VCSU the longest, continuous running IBM ThinkPad University in the world!

The IBM ThinkPad R40 represents a leap forward in functionality that translates to new and exciting educational applications for VCSU students and faculty. The computers will feature built-in microphones, Firewire (IEEE 1394) ports, and CD-RW/DVD ROM drives to allow digital audio and video production, digital image editing, and CD "burning." The R40 computer represents one of the "most mobile" solutions of the seventeen computers submitted by vendors based on the following factors: 1) Battery life was over five hours in VCSU tests, primarily due to IBM's implementation of the latest Pentium M processor from Intel, 2) The deal includes the cost of adding high bandwidth (802.11g) wireless cards, due for release this fall, and 3) At just over six pounds, the ThinkPad R40 was one of the lightest computers tested.

The IBM ThinkPad R40 computer was selected from a field of seventeen computer solutions offered by seven different computer companies. All campus users were given multiple opportunities to contribute to the specification preparation and evaluation process. Extensive research and testing was conducted by a team of VCSU staff, faculty and students. Value, performance, functionality, durability, warranty, lease terms, and other benefits offered by the vendor comprised a weighted scoring system. The scoring system was designed to provide the best value at the lowest total cost of ownership during the life of the lease. The final deal achieved these goals and it frees up funding for additional technology such as improvements in classrooms, wireless technology, VCSU portal, multimedia software, and digital cameras.

In associated deals, VCSU will partner with Sonic Foundry, Pinnacle Systems, and Adobe Systems to deliver advanced audio, video and image editing software solutions to every notebook computer user. VCSU will continue to partner with Microsoft to deliver Microsoft Windows XP Professional and Office XP.

VCSU grad, Aaland, delivers a “non-conventional keynote”



Karla Aaland '99

My goal this morning is to share with you a rather non-conventional keynote. You are well aware of the wide world that is before you and that you are facing the toughest labor market in 20 years.

My first order of business – I want to congratulate you on this monumental accomplishment in your life. Your graduation is the culmination of years of hard work. This accomplishment is so important that you should spend the moment you get back buy that fast red sports car that you have had your eye on!

And then take a year off to recoup from all your hard work and really enjoy that car. Parents – two words – just kidding! At least give them the day off from taking out the trash or doing the dishes.

I too am an alumnus of VCSU. In my time I was referred to as an older than average student – which today is referred to as nontraditional (stings just a little bit less). I was one of those crazy people that finished my undergraduate degree while working full time and having a family – I see a few kindred spirits in the group today. My experience at VCSU was more than academics – it became a way of life for me because it broke the mold of standard college education with life on campus. It ignited the desire for more. Next week I too will be walking across the stage to receive a Masters degree from the University of St. Thomas.

This morning I hope to leave you with a few nuggets or deep thoughts that you will carry with you through the upcoming years. My words are simple, not academically posed (you have had four plus years of that) and, best of all, will require no quiz, test or term paper. Themes like **juggling, the dash** and my very own **generational cookie theory**, will hopefully add new meaning and balance to your lives.

Yes, you heard that right – I did say the **generational cookie theory**. It is truly my own juxtapositional theory that attempts to create corresponding milestones between generations of people and their cookie expectations (trust me – this is not material that doctoral dissertations are built on).

Now that your textbooks are closed you have more time for a new medium – the lessons of life. The most amazing thing about the lessons of life is that you never know where or when you will encounter an experience. Even scarier yet is how many we miss because we are too busy to notice.

JUGGLING

As I was heading to my class one weekend, I was intellectually digesting a James Patterson book on tape. Actually, it was a guilty escape – I had turned off my cell phone and was listening to a juicy novel that had no connection whatsoever to business, work or self-development – when I heard a profound story that really brought life into focus for me.

The story was about a mother who was journaling for her newborn son – and she was **sharing some insight into the delicate balance of life**. It goes like this...

In life we are given **five balls to juggle**. One for: **Family, Health, Work, Friends, and Integrity**.

It rests upon our shoulders to keep them all in motion on a daily basis without neglecting any – as they all require an enormous amount of attention.

Four of the balls – family, friends, health and integrity are made of **glass**. Being made of glass we need to take extra care because if we drop them they may become scuffed, chipped or worse yet shattered – never to be replaced.

The fifth ball – **work** – is made of rubber because it is important for us to remember that if we drop it – it will bounce back. Please remember that the rubber ball of work **will bounce back!**

As you move on to the next phase of your life it is so easy to get caught up in the “**seduction of success**” rather than the quest for significance. Success is easy to see and is readily measured by new cars, fast toys and houses full of rooms that are rarely used. Sadly, the road is also commonly littered with broken marriages, severed families, poor health and loneliness (shattered glass balls).

Significance on the other hand is the **intangible measurement of the lives that you have impacted**. It is the hurts you have comforted, the wounds that you have healed, and the fullness of self that you are willing to share. The *ultimate goal in life should be achieving fullness of the human spirit* – being so comfortable with who and what you are that you can truly be one person no matter where you are.

Significance is the true understanding of how to juggle all five balls without any fear of breakage. Juggling would be much easier to learn in a room full of thick soft carpet. But our lives will take us on roads and fill our days with people from all walks of life. People who also have their hands full juggling their five balls – people who also have their own cookie expectations...

Did someone say cookie???????

GENERATIONAL COOKIE THEORY

How many times have you felt that someone just doesn't understand where you are coming from or what is really important to you? There could be several reasons at play, but one of the largest is that for the first time in the history of the US we have **four distinct generations represented in our workforce**. So what does this have to do with cookies and your personal success? Well everything...

The cookie theme is just a simple illustration of the changes the generations have faced.

TRADITIONALISTS – grandma or grandpa before 1946

- *Home Made / Served by Mom*
- Time of deep **family values, hard work and loyalty**
- **Retired** and retreated back to workplace
- This generation was frugal and known for **saving money**
- Little known cookie secret

BABY BOOMERS – parents 1946 to 1964

- *Store Bought / Served by Mom*
- They are the **largest population** segment today
- College days were met by a **full job market**
- **3 careers** in a lifetime
- Baby Boomers are known for **spending beyond their limits** to give their children everything they didn't have growing up
- Invented **credit**

GENERATION X – self 1965 to 1985

- *Store Bought / 2nd Shelf*
- **Independent** lot that is **self-driven**
- Parents caught in layoffs
- This group is not to be lead
- **Tell** them the job, **give** them tools, and **get out** of the way
- Technical symbol is the **remote**

GENERATION Y or why should I? 1985 to 2000

- *Store Bought / SELF served*
- Commonly referred to as a **round peg in a square hole**

VCSU Foundation Corner

Larry Robinson, Director of Advancement

A gift that keeps on giving

One of the most rewarding aspects of serving as the Director of Advancement here at Valley City State University is the unique opportunity we have to maintain contact with so many of our friends and alumni from across the country. We have nearly 10,000 active names and addresses on our mailing list. This number is comprised of all active alumni and friends of the university. Each and every one of these folks have in one way or another “experienced” Valley City State University. Most of them are graduates. Some are retired faculty and staff. Others, are friends of the university. Folks that care deeply about VCSU and support our cause. Many of these folks visit the campus on a regular basis. Some stop by periodically. Others, attend our reunions and special events throughout the year. All of us have a common interest in Valley City State University.

Each and every year, we are approached by folks who want to pay tribute to someone special in their life. Often that special person is a parent, brother, sister, or other family member. Sometimes, that special person happens to be a

former professor, coach, or a mentor who has made significant contributions to their profession and/or community. Most of these folks have had an affiliation with VCSU in one way or another.

Many of these folks have elected to establish an endowed memorial scholarship here at the university. The endowed memorial scholarship is a wonderful gift. It clearly becomes a “*gift that keeps on giving.*”

A memorial scholarship is designed to memorialize that special loved one in your life. It is a wonderful means of remembering and honoring that special person. Each and every time the scholarship is awarded, that special loved one is remembered. In addition, the scholarship award provides important scholastic assistance to a worthy student to pursue a quality education here at Valley City State University. It becomes a “win-win” situation, and a “*gift that keeps on giving.*”

We have had numerous memorial scholarships established over the years. We recommend that the minimal initial investment be \$10,000. With prudent

investment and management practices, the endowed scholarship will live on forever. Each and every year a determination is made on the size of the scholarship allocation. Care is given to use only the majority of interest earnings, leaving the principal untouched. This practice allows for modest growth on the principal each year so that the scholarship fund can become inflation proof. By doing so, the scholarship award can be increased in future years to allow for the increased cost of tuition, etc.

Many folks elect to establish criteria designed to reflect the loved one’s special area of interest. For example, the scholarship can be earmarked to a student pursuing a degree in elementary education. Still others elect to direct the scholarship to students in music, science, technology, etc. The end product remains the same in all cases. The endowed memorial scholarship serves to remember forever a loved one or a special person in your life. At the same time it provides important scholarship assistance to a worthy



Larry Robinson
Director of Advancement

student pursuing a degree at Valley City State University. It is a gift that will live on forever. A “*gift that keeps on giving*” in memory of that special someone who had a lasting impact on your life.

Should you be interested in receiving more information on our endowed memorial scholarship program, please contact our office. We would be happy to send you a copy of our *Endowed Memorial Scholarship Booklet*, listing all of the scholarships that have been established to date. You will undoubtedly remember many of the names of the special folks who are memorialized in this publication.

They were all special people who have made a difference in the lives of others. Their memory will live on forever.



The family connection continues

Tammy Rocheleau will enter Valley City State University this fall, but the campus is hardly an unfamiliar area to her. She is the latest in the Rocheleau family to head to VCSU. Her parents, Jerry and Kathy (Morlock) Rocheleau graduated from VCSU in 1976, and her sisters Mistie '02 and Heidi '96 are also VCSU grads.

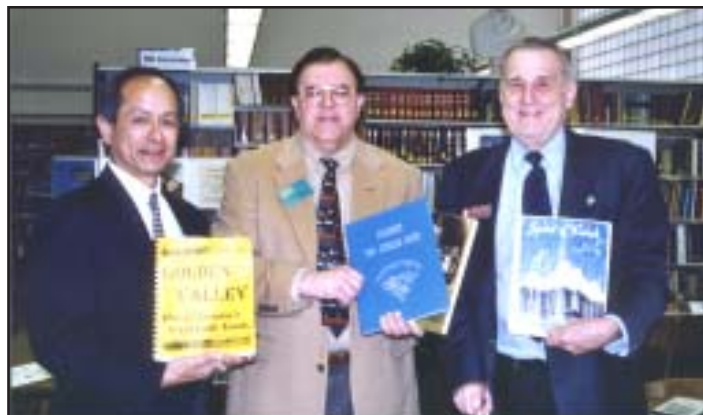
Pictured together at summer orientation were: (Left to right) Tammy, Mistie (Rocheleau) Holland '02, Heidi (Rocheleau) Eckart '96 and Kathy (Morlock) Rocheleau '76. Mistie’s husband, Jason, and Heidi’s husband, Chris, are also VCSU grads.

German-Russian learning resources donated to VCSU Library

Michael M. Miller, bibliographer and creator of the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, established in 1978 at the North Dakota State Universities Libraries, Fargo, is donating to Valley City State University's Allen Memorial Library a special collection of learning resources about the Germans from Russia who settled in North Dakota, the Central and Northern Plains, and the western Canadian prairie provinces. The learning resources contain information about their life, history, culture, folkways, and foodways in North Dakota, the Northern Plains, and South Russia (today near the Black Sea, Odessa, Ukraine).

Miller, a native of Strasburg, ND, is a 1964 graduate of VCSU and recipient of the 2002 Certificate of Merit from Valley City State University, Valley City, ND. Miller writes: "VCSU has many alumni and current students with German-Russian roots. I am pleased to present these books, videotapes, and maps to enrich the North Dakota collection and provide scholarly resources for the campus and Valley City communities."

Darryl Podoll, Director of Library Services at VCSU, states: "This major donation of Germans from Russia learning resources will enable our students, faculty, and all North Dakota citizens to access these important learning materials."



Above: Les Wong, VCSU Vice President for Academic Affairs, (left), and Darryl Podoll, Director of Library Services (right), display pieces of the special collection along with its creator, Michael M. Miller (center).



Left: Michael M. Miller (left) presents Les Wong, VCSU Vice President for Academic Affairs, with the special collection.

VCSU Employees Recognized

The annual Valley City State University Recognition Dinner was held May 16. Individuals honored at the dinner included:

Honored for five years of service to VCSU were: Colleen Clancy, Kerry Gregoryk, Deb Borg, Chris Bastian and Sharon Jacobs.

Honored for ten years of service were: Pat Egeberg, Dan McRoberts and John DeFiore.

Honored for fifteen years of service were: Patty Johnson, June Eberle, Lori Reimer, Connie Stavens and Gary Thompson.

Honored for twenty years of service were: Connie Pederson, Irene Groth, Tilmer Gienger, Dianne Wood and Ralph Hooper.

Honored for twenty-five years of service: Betty Johnson, Tammy Enstad, Diana Skroch and Bill Ament.

Honored for thirty years of service: Don Mугan and Dean Karges.

The VCSU "Teacher of the Year" award went to Dr. Hilde van Gijssel.

Irene Groth, Assistant in the Education, Psychology & Technology Division, was honored as this year's recipient of the VCSU Employee Award of Excellence.

Professor Dianne Wood was honored at the VCSU Recognition Dinner upon her retirement.



Dr. Dianne Wood retires

A non-conventional keynote, continued from page 4

- Independence rules
- Very **intelligent** and **worldly** through their technological travels
- **Technology** is second nature

Suddenly neither the cookie world nor the work force is simple – and everyone's expectations are different for very good reasons. It is not uncommon to find a 50-year span in the workforce today, and your **challenge will be to continue to provide the bridge that keeps it all together.**

LIVING THE DASH

This morning I opened with my measure of success for this speech – to give you *something that adds meaning to your dash*. Life is measured in increments – hours, minutes, days, weeks. Nothing is as simple and sweet as the dash that attempts to capture all of life's accomplishments.

This simple little horizontal line that resides between the year that we are born and the year that we die is our dash. We can only control what we are in charge of – and your dash is one of the few things in life that you are in complete control of.

I hope that my thoughts this morning on:

- the **juggle of life**,
- the need to truly understand the **generational differences** that exist in our workplaces, and
- finding the **balance between success and significance**, give you something to think about as you fill out your dash.

Today you have become part of my dash – just as Ellen Chaffee and Valley City State University allowed me to become a part of their dash. Ten, twenty or even thirty years in the future the best compliment that I could receive is for you to remember me as the "lady who talked about cookies" at your graduation because then I know that I have become a part of your dash.

Congratulations once again on your accomplishment. I wish you **great "significance" as well as great "success."**

Keep juggling and never forget that **rubber balls were made to bounce.**

Fui A Nicaragua

Upon starting college I would have never dreamt that I would one day be in another country doing my student teaching. But here I am today, 4 years later, having lived out a dream.

I left for Managua, Nicaragua on February 23, 2003, and attended Nicaragua Christian Academy on Monday, February 24. I was ready for action and ready to conquer my new second graders. It was a most successful and rewarding experience. I had the opportunity to experience many different students in a very different culture.

Students here at Nicaragua Christian Academy receive a very fine Christian education and experience. The school is an English speaking pre-kindergarten through 12th grade school. It has four different buildings with three to four classrooms each. All the buildings are open air. In other words there is no glass on the windows and you must go outside to get to the next classroom; there are no hallways. This is great, except that it can get up to 98 degrees in your classroom making it a little more challenging to teach. They have a nice sized chapel where Monday chapel services are held for the elementary and a separate chapel for the high school students. The school campus has a regulation size soccer field where many tournaments take place. The school also has high speed Internet in the computer lab. It is a wonderful school with great goals and resources.

My student teaching experience in Nicaragua was outstanding. Kids are kids in every part of the world. Their energy and joy doesn't change no matter where you are. I had 14 students that were a mix of missionary children and Nicaragua residents, most of which were primarily Spanish speaking. This gave me great experience with ESL (English as a Second Language). They kept me on my toes every minute but we had tons of fun. It is amazing how well you can get to know students by being with them merely ten weeks.

I enjoyed my challenges outside of the classroom as well! There are a number of insects that you find here that you don't find in North Dakota, many of them found in my bed or house. I enjoyed speaking Spanish to the neighbors and friends that I have met and grown to love. Nicaragua doesn't have all of the amenities that the United States does and I've enjoyed the difference and sometimes the challenge.

I wanted to thank Valley City State University for allowing me to do my student teaching in Nicaragua. This has given me not only a great student teaching experience, but also a chance to adventure and learn about different cultures. I have grown and matured as a person while being here and have enjoyed every bit of it. Take Care and God Bless.

Tara graduated this spring with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. She is originally from Reynolds, ND.

At some point, you cannot do more with less

The bottom line on funding for Valley City State University in 2003-2005 will have to be black ink, but it will be very difficult to get to that point.

On the plus side, we have two major construction projects. The legislature funded an addition for the south side of Graichen Gym that will make the building much safer and more attractive. The legislature authorized us to seek bond funds to renovate Kolstoe Hall, the dorm just east of the presidents' house. If we are able to sell revenue bonds for the project, we will convert the entire building to suites. We have not had a residence hall upgrade for several decades. The project will make living on campus a much more attractive option for students.

On the budget side, we will get less in 2003-2005 than we had in 2001-2003, but not as much less as was the plan during much of the legislative session. If that statement resembles "how good it feels when you stop hitting yourself with a hammer," then you get the idea. State funding for the campuses is bad, but it was worse for awhile. It appears that the campuses were treated reasonably fairly in apportioning the pain. Health insurance and information technology did not take hits that were seriously considered during the session.

After taking inflation into account, state funding is down about 7 percent. In addition, the state provided no funds for salary increases in the next two years. To provide a 2 percent average salary increase to all personnel next year would require \$170,000. The increased cost of health insurance is \$124,510 next year. Providing 2.5 percent inflation on operating costs requires \$78,000. Unlike school districts, public universities have no reserve funds that can be used for operating costs.

To cover those costs, we are raising tuition by 20 percent (\$450) next year. The proposed increase is the largest one in the North Dakota University System by percent, but not by dollar amount.

In addition, the university has a number of "must do" costs to cover. Some permanent personnel who were covered by grant funds for a few years are coming back on budget. The company that subsidized our athletic trainer has pulled out. Many of our faculty and staff members now earn salaries that are too far below the market rate.

We have seen this coming and tried to prevent it. However, costs have gone up and revenues have gone down faster than we anticipated. Some of our most exciting initiatives to position the university for a distinctive and successful future also represent ongoing costs that other universities do not have to cover.

Our strategies include continued and deeper cost-cutting, seeking additional sources of revenue, increasing enrollment as much as possible (we are handicapped by severe limits on funding available for new programs and marketing), seeking additional private support, and, of course, doing without. All of these are necessary now and for the foreseeable future. We would appreciate your understanding and your support.

And if you have ever thought about making a special effort to fund scholarships at Valley City State University, now would be an excellent time to act on that thought. Scholarship funding needs to keep pace with the competition and the costs so that new generations of students can enjoy the same great experiences you have had here.



Professor Emeritus Richard Betting publishes novel

Richard Betting, retired professor of English at Valley City State University, recently announced the publication of his novel, *Hayfield*. The novel has been in the works for some time and has survived

several revisions, but now Rod Swan and his fellow Hayfield citizens are available for the reading public.

After a night playing witness to a tropical storm in Belize, Betting's character Rod heads back to North Dakota, "where a season could change in half a day." The novel itself provides an insider's view of a small town, while the narrative voice takes the reader into Rod's life and his decision to experience life rather than simply allow it to happen to him.

The novel is available at Barnes and Nobel as well as Amazon.com.

Eggert's students use pedometers to "walk" across the country

Bustoz Elementary School students of Tom Eggert are "walking" across America. Their next stop is Indianapolis, IN. These Tempe, AZ, students have their goal set on a destination in Maine.

Physical education teacher Tom Eggert, a 2000 VCSU graduate, is having the students use pedometers during class. At the end of each class, the number of steps they took are entered into the computer database.

The student body's steps are combined, calculated into miles and figured into how far from their school they've traveled.

"This piggybacks other thing we do," Tom said. "They're also learning about geography and math."

He said when the students are nearing a city, he'll bring in information and they'll discuss the city.

The students logged a million steps in the first 2½ weeks, the equivalent of walking 641 miles. Their goal is to travel to the most northeastern part of Maine.

Tom said he has seen a big difference in the students since they started using the 30 pedometers, which were

purchased with Parent Teacher Student Organization funds.

"I've got kids now who are overweight that are working really hard," Tom said. "They'll come back to me and say, 'Look, I have 900 steps.' These are kids that wouldn't normally be engaged in activity."

Although there isn't a prize for the most steps a student takes, there is the sense of competition among the kids.

Fifth-grader Adam Cavers, 10, has the competitive bug.

"I like getting the most steps and beating the class," said Cavers, who was stepping in place while he talked to add to the count on the pedometer.

Fourth-grader Dairn Kane, 10, who has accumulated 5,190 steps, said she enjoys using the pedometers.

"You'd be amazed by how many steps you can get," Kane said. "They make me want to move more to get more steps."

Tom received an award from the Tempe Elementary District for being an "Impact" to the students and staff. He was one of eight in the district to receive this award.



Hannah, Leah, Peggie and Terry enjoy the beautiful sights in Buenos Aires.

A letter from Chile

Hi,

We're here in Calama, Chile. My computer finally arrived. It took 7 weeks. Now I finally feel connected to the world again. Our sea shipment has not arrived yet, so we're living without some things, like silverware and dishes. Nothing important.

Calama is the outback of Chile. It's right in the middle of the desert, the Atacama. We are fortunate that we have a lovely place with grass and trees. Most of Calama is dry, old, and dusty. It is very windy here and the altitude is 8000 ft. 10,000 at the mine. We do have a brand new mall that has nice stores. It is much nicer than anything we had in Silver City. But I like to shop downtown in the tiny mercados and at the feria where I can buy 2 pounds of avacaos for less than a dollar.

The girls are adjusting to school. It is quite different than US schools. They wear uniforms, are taught in Spanish for some classes, and go to school from 8-6, with an hour and a half off for lunch and siesta, which of course they don't rest. Some days they really like school and others they don't. There are no fun activities for them like gymnastics or 4-H. Leah is playing basketball at school for one of her electives, and Hannah is taking piano for one of hers. They do have a class called gymnastics, but Leah dropped it after going twice because, according to her, they don't do gymnastics, all they do is leap. The teacher explained to her that this was rhythmic gymnastics, not artistic. Leah told her that rhythmic also included some tumbling. I guess that didn't go over well. Hannah is still in the class, but she's starting to whine about it too. Calama has little to offer its youth.

I am enjoying staying home and not grading papers. I'm learning Spanish. I have class for 1-2 hours every week day. My teacher is great. She helps me with my Spanish and with adjusting to the Calama culture.

Terry works hard. The altitude is hard on him. It makes it difficult to work. But he's surviving. The language barrier is the toughest thing for him.

We just returned from Buenos Aires, Argentina. It was lovely. A very European city with much diverse culture. Everyone, at least in the touristy part where we were, spoke English. The beef was great! (Not like Chile, where it all tastes like fish.) We bought leather coats and had a wonderful time seeing the sights. It was really cheap too, since their economy is so depressed. They loved our American dollars.

Well, I hope this note finds you all well and happy. I'll keep you informed about our adventures in Chile.

Hasta luego,
Peggie Mackenzie Rigoni '83

Music Reunion Planned for August 2003

The Music alumni are organizing a reunion with Dr. Loren Waa and College Singers' director, Ray Miller for Saturday, August 9th, 2003. Anyone who participated in musical organizations during Dr. Waa's chairmanship (1965-1970) is invited. The itinerary includes a 2:00 registration and social, band and choir rehearsals and a banquet followed by dancing. Please respond to Harold Foley if you plan to attend.



Contact:
Harold Foley
210 25th Ave. N.
Fargo, ND 58102
e-mail halfol@aol.com

Volunteer Spotlight

Many dedicated individuals donate hundreds of hours to Valley City State University and volunteer their time and talents in many ways. Their contributions are immeasurable and, too often, not adequately recognized. We would like to introduce you to another one of our valuable volunteers.

RON MUSGI

Ron, a 1981 VCSU graduate, is beginning his second term as president of the VCSU Booster Board. "Ron works very hard for the VCSU Century Club," says Don Bauer, VCSU Athletic Director. "Under his leadership, the VCSU Booster Board has undertaken new initiatives to raise money for VCSU athletes." Thanks, Ron!

Valley City State University Homecoming 2003



Friday, October 3, 2003

Class of 1943 & Class of 1953 Reunions
Hall of Fame Banquet & Induction Ceremonies



Saturday, October 4, 2003

Alumni Honors Breakfast • Homecoming Parade • Library Luncheon
Football Game • Alumni Social • Homecoming Dance

Special Guests

Class of 1943

Class of 1953

All VCSU Homecoming Kings & Queens
All VCSU Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients



Viking Highlights



VCSU's Battle signs with St. Louis

Steve Battle, a Valley City State University senior, who came to school to play basketball and walked on to the football team, has signed a free-agent contract with the St. Louis Rams.

Steve is from Cocoa, FL. He is VCSU's all-time leader in receptions (182), receiving yards (3,337), receiving touchdowns (48), all-purpose yards (4,808), touchdowns (55) and kick-return touchdowns (5). He finished with 897 yards and 15 touchdowns on 57 receptions last year.

Named the Dakota Athletic Conference most valuable senior last season, Steve will be competing for one of the open receiver spots on the Ram's roster.

Dear Alumni:

I regret to inform you that athletic director Don Bauer and I have decided that it is necessary to terminate the track and cross country program at Valley City State University. The university treasures its alumni and their loyalty, and we recognize that many alumni relate most strongly to one particular aspect of their experience here. That is one of many reasons why we work hard to retain and enhance our programs.

The athletic program operates on state funds, revenues, and private funds. You are probably aware of the difficult budget situation our state is facing. If the legislature stays where it is today, VCSU will have to raise tuition by over 20 percent in order to cover the deficit in state funds. In the budget that is supported by revenues and private funds, the athletic program has not been able to break even for more than 10 years. The deficit in that area was chronic but stable until last year. With overall increased costs of operations plus the added costs of competing in the DAC-10, the deficit is now growing well beyond what fiscal responsibility can allow.

We are making many changes in an effort to get the situation under control. Over the last 10 years, our efforts to get in balance involved doing all the "easy" and relatively invisible things. I deeply regret the need to take this action, but its necessity is dictated by the circumstances.

I can assure you that we will continue to maintain the track and cooperate with the high schools to ensure its use. I regret that we cannot do more.

Sincerely yours,
Ellen-Earle Chaffee
President



Coach Anderson picks up 200th win

Cory Anderson '89, in his twelfth campaign as head baseball coach at VCSU, picked up his 200th career win with a doubleheader sweep of Dickinson State

University this April.

A native of McVile, ND, Cory played on two conference championship teams at VCSU while also setting a school record for pitching wins in a season in 1986, just recently broken by one of his players, Eric Olson in 1999. In 1987, Cory helped the Vikings advance to their first-ever NAIA Regional Tournament. Anderson was named all-conference in 1986.

Still an active member in North Dakota Amateur Baseball, Cory has three times been named North Dakota Amateur Baseball Most Valuable Player ('89, '92, '96) while helping his team to 10 ND State Baseball Championships. He was also named MVP of the South Dakota-North Dakota Championships in 1992. In 1999, Cory served as President of North Dakota Amateur Baseball Inc., and is currently the Baseball Chairman of the DAC-10 conference and NAIA Region III.

While attending VCSU Cory was also a member of two conference football championship teams as a punter and quarterback. The 1988 football team advanced to the NAIA playoffs. Cory began coaching football at VCSU in 1991 as a secondary coach before becoming the offensive coordinator for the Vikings in 1994 and helping them to conference championships in 1996 and 2000, and national playoff appearances in 1996, 2000 and 2001.

Numerous athletes in Cory's program have excelled on the football field along with the baseball field. He has lead the Vikings to 179 wins which ranks him second on the all time list behind hall-of-fame coach Jim Dew. Under his guidance, 6 players have signed professional contracts while numerous others have been named all-conference, all-American, scholar all-American and twice have been named most valuable graduating senior in the conference.

Cory and his wife Kristi, reside in Valley City and have two children; Brady, the Vikings batboy, and Kadie.



Viking Hall of Fame



Valley City State names 2003 Hall of Fame inductees

Four athletes and a women's basketball team constitute the 2003 class entering the Viking Hall of Fame at Valley City State University. Scheduled for induction at the Valley City State University Hall of Fame dinner and ceremony during Homecoming week on Friday, October 3rd are Pete Hughes '81, Wanda Schwab '94, Casey Schweitzer '93, Jim Thies '84 and the 1990-91 women's basketball team.

Pete Hughes '81 of Elkridge, MD

Pete was a four-year letterwinner in football. Named the top freshman in 1977, he was also named Honorable Mention All Conference. Pete was named All Conference in 1978, 1979 and 1980; All District in 1978 and 1980 and received Honorable Mention All American honors in 1980. He also served as captain of the 1980 football team. Pete played on conference championship teams in 1977, 1978 and 1980. Pete also lettered in indoor track in 1979.

Wanda Schwab '94 of Valley City, ND

Wanda was a four-year letterwinner in basketball, softball and track. In basketball, she was named All WACND in 1989 and 1990; All NDCAC in 1991 and 1992; All District in 1990, 1991 and 1992; NAIA 2nd Team All American in 1992; and ND College Female Athlete of the Year in 1992. Wanda holds school records in career rebounding (853); most career points (1860); career scoring average (19.3); most steals in a single game (9); most steals in a season (92); and most assists in a single game (12). She was a member of the 1990-91 and 1991-92 conference championship teams.

In softball, Wanda was named All WACND in 1989 and 1990; All NDCAC in 1991 and 1992; and All District in 1989, 1990 and 1992. She was a member of the 1989 and 1990 conference championship teams and the District 12 champions in 1989.

In track, Wanda was named All WACND in 1989; District 12 javelin champion in 1989; VCSU's Most Valuable Track Athlete in 1991; NAIA All American in 1990, 1991 and 1992. She earned 4th place NAIA honors in javelin in 1990; 3rd place NAIA javelin in 1991; conference champion in javelin in 1992 and 5th place NAIA javelin in 1992.



Women's Basketball 1990-1991

Front Row: Michelle (Leier) Gailey, Kasaundra (Larson) Olstad, Tricia (Jacobson) Breckheimer, Jody (Baarstad) Muscha, Holly Pow-Williams, Sue Fjellanger, Mary (Enstad) Fike. Back Row: Head Coach Alan Olson, Assistant Coach Ramona (Huschka) Meiklejohn, Donita (Stenson) Lennon, Becky Ust, Lena Throlson, Wanda Schwab, Jill (Henningsgard) Taylor, Kathy (Mans) Nielsen, Student Trainer Melonie Ramsey, Assistant Coach Dan Taylor.

Casey Schweitzer '93 of Kalispell, MT

Casey was a four-year letterwinner in wrestling from 1987-1991. He was the 158 lb. Conference champion in 1988, 1989, 1990 and 1991 and took 4th place at 158 lb. At the NAIA tournament in 1989. In 1990, Casey was the District 12 champion at 158 lbs as well as the NAIA champion at 158 lbs. Casey was voted VCSU's Most Valuable in 1990 and 1991. He was co-captain of the 1991 wrestling team.

Jim Thies '84 of Fort Lauderdale, FL

Jim was a four-year letterwinner in football from 1980-1983. He was named Top Rock in 1981 and 1982; All Conference in 1982 and 1983; All District in 1982 and 1983; Honorable Mention All American (1982); First Team All American in 1983 and Most Valuable Player in 1983. Jim was a member of conference championship teams in 1980, 1982 and 1983.

1990-91 Women's Basketball Team

The 1990-91 women's basketball team was the conference champion with a record of 7-3. The team was defeated in the championship game of the sub-district playoffs. Members of the team were: Jody (Baarstad) Muscha '93; Mary (Enstad) Fike '92; Sue Fjellanger '94; Jill (Henningsgard) Taylor '92; Tricia (Jacobson) Breckheimer '93; Kasaundra (Larson) Olstad '94; Michelle (Leier) Gailey '96; Kathy (Mans) Nielsen '93; Holly Pow-Williams '92; Wanda Schwab '94; Donita (Stenson) Lennon '91; Lena Throlson '91; and Becky Ust '93. The team was coached by Al Olson '84. Assistant coaches were Ramona (Huschka) Meiklejohn '92 and Dan Taylor '91.

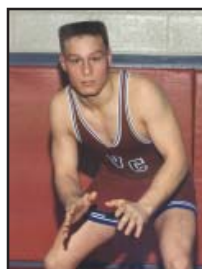
The induction dinner and ceremony will be held on Friday, October 3rd, at the Valley City Eagles with a social at 6:00 PM and the dinner at 7:00 PM. Tickets must be purchased or reserved in advance by contacting the Osmon Fieldhouse at 845-7160 or toll-free 1-800-532-8641, ext. 37160.



Pete Hughes '81



Wanda Schwab '94



Casey Schweitzer '93



Jim Thies '84

King working to connect American and Japanese classrooms

Darin King '86, Director of Technology for the Grand Forks Public Schools, was part of a 15-person group that traveled to Awano, Japan from April 24 - May 7, 2003. The group included 11 students and 4 adults. Darin is part of a grant writing team that successfully wrote and is implementing a four-year grant to the United States-Japan Foundation. The grant has allowed Grand Forks to teach Japanese Studies in their high schools. There is a technology component to the grant and Darin went to Japan to meet with city and school officials regarding implementing technology in Japan that would allow their classrooms to better communicate throughout the year. Darin will be traveling back to Japan in the summer of 2004 to install the technology and train the Japanese teachers how to use the technology in their classrooms.

This was the tenth annual exchange between Grand Forks and Awano. Awano sends a delegation of students, teachers and administrators to Grand Forks each October and Grand Forks students, teachers and administrators return to Awano in April. The students and school chaperones stay with home stay families in both Japan and Grand Forks.



Touring the ancient shrines at Nikko, Japan, are (left to right) Darin's host, Mr. Omaki, Darin, a monk who lead their tour, and Gene Aanenson, Grand Forks Japanese studies teacher. Nikko was the spiritual center during the Edo period (1600-1868) of Japan, the period of the Tokugawa Shogunate. The mausoleum of Tokugawa Ieyasu, the founder of the Tokugawa Shogunate, is one of the shrines at Nikko.

VCSU to begin renovation projects

ND Legislators included a major state-funded building project for Valley City State University in the 2003 higher education budget bill.

The bill authorizes and funds VCSU to building an addition to Graichen Gym. The bill also authorizes the university to seek revenue bonds to renovate a residence hall during the coming biennium.

Graichen Gymnasium to Receive Upgrading and Addition

Graichen Gymnasium is located in the heart of the campus, and is a primary academic/ administration building. The building, constructed in 1923, consists of a lower level that provides office space for faculty and staff along with classroom and locker space. The upper level consists of an arena for a variety of activities including team sports practices, academic instruction, and varsity and intramural contests. Neither level of the building is at ground level.

The egress system for Graichen Gymnasium is in need of upgrading. There is only one set of stairs leading to/from the lower level. In an emergency where the stair well is impassable, the only means of exiting the building is through a window. The upper level does have a second exit at the south end of the building. Currently, the building is not handicap-accessible at either level. Health and life safety upgrades are also needed in the lower level to improve safety, and the work and learning environment for building occupants.

The project will add a lobby area, elevator, rest rooms, and second stair well to the north end of the building providing an emergency egress and making both levels accessible to the handicapped. The project will also improve air quality by upgrading the lower level ventilation system. Fire safety will be improved by upgrading the lower level corridor, and classroom and office doors.

"This project is really important to the university and community," said Ron Pommerer, Director of Facilities Services. "Graichen is a wonderful old building we use a lot, and the improvements will make it much safer and much more attractive. In addition, this is our first new construction in many years."

Kolstoe Hall Renovation Project

The project will consist of converting Kolstoe Hall, a traditional style residence hall, into suites. Kolstoe Hall, built in 1967 is a four-story, 138 bed, double room residence hall. The plan calls for a complete renovation into two and four person suites with private bathrooms and living room areas. Included in the project is a new elevator plus air-conditioning and a sprinkler system.

This renovation project, which is part of the Valley City State University Master Plan, will meet the needs of today's students who consider comfortable and private student housing an important factor in selecting a college.



Kolstoe Hall Renovation Project

Kolstoe Hall Renovation
18 August 2003 - 11/20/03



Graichen Gymnasium Upgrade and Addition

"Superstore" of technology

Valley City State University will become a one-stop "superstore" of network services starting this August. Thanks to an Academic Equipment Grant from Sun Microsystems for \$153,510, this advanced network services environment will provide students, faculty and staff with one-stop web access to e-mail, a personal calendar, VCSU news and information, web-based class information, software downloads, personal file storage, a personal web site, and many other services.

VCSU will partner with Sonic Foundry, Pinnacle Systems, and Adobe Systems to deliver advanced audio, video and image editing software solutions to every notebook computer user. VCSU will continue to utilize Microsoft Windows XP Professional and Office XP.

This technology "superstore," the multimedia capabilities of the new IBM ThinkPad R40, and new partnerships to deliver industry leading software combine to deliver the biggest technology thrust at VCSU since the introduction of notebook computers in 1996.

V-12 Dedication



Participants of the Naval V-12 program during World War II at Valley City State University returned to campus for the dedication of the naval anchor on the front lawn of the campus. Those attending were: (Back row, left to right) Ken Krause, Charles B. House, Jr., Larry Bushey, John Corbett, and Miles Smart. (Front row, left to right) Harry Moore, Glendon Kriese, Gordon Flint and Ken Brown.

2003 Viking Golf Scramble Winners

Flight winners of the 9th Annual Viking Golf Scramble include:



Championship Flight: Jack Holm, Greg Sorensen, Bill Fellows, Nate Sjostrom and Chuck Sjostrom



Open #1: Doug Courtney, Floyd Boschee, Wally Bjerke, Tom Kjelland and Dave Malsam



Open #2: Leo Morgan, Lowell Peterson, Woody Wendt, Den Engebretson and Jack Moore

**Co-Ed/
Women's Flight:**
Curry Delparte,
Connie Stavens,
Diane Hill
and John Hill
(Not pictured:
Jon Bolstad)



Grid Iron:
Thad Engberg,
John Olstad,
Joe Peterson and
Ross Hoaglund

VCSU Success Stories

Ken Welken '69 was selected to coach the Minnesota State Mathcounts Team at the National Mathcounts Competition held in Chicago in May. He has been teaching mathematics at Moorhead Junior High School for the past 34 years. His junior high team placed first at the 2003 state competition. Ken has coached 14 teams at the State Mathcounts Competition. This is a Minnesota state record for the number of times an individual coach has competed at the state level.

Jerry Topp '74 has been elected by the partnership of Eide Bailly as managing partner and chief executive officer of the regional consulting and certified public accounting firm.

Brenda (Hardy) Mitzel '92 has been named to *Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2002*. Brenda currently teaches in the Wolford Public School.

Janna (Winter) Bushaw '00 received the Helen Ball Elementary Teacher of the Year for 2003. She was selected by the staff at the elementary school. Janna teaches 2nd grade at Helen Ball Elementary (approximately 900 students in pre-kindergarten through 5th grade) in El Paso, Texas.

Bryan Wolfgram '01 has been named "Teacher of the Year" at North Dakota State College of Science. Bryan teaches in the construction trades area.

Leitner appointed to State Board

ND Governor John Hoeven has appointed VCSU student Phil Leitner to be the student member of the State Board of Higher Education for 2003-2004.

Phil has served as president and treasurer of the North Dakota Student Association, among other leadership roles at the campus and state level. He is the son of Joe and Deb Leitner of Valley City.

VCSU grads named to ND Softball Hall of Fame

Six amateur athletes were inducted into this year's North Dakota Amateur Softball Association's Hall of Fame. The inductees included two VCSU grads: Scott Radloff '83 of Casselton and Terry Stargardt '84 of West Fargo.

Scott Radloff is the only North Dakotan to be named to a first-team All-American team in five different divisions of play. He has played in 39 state tournaments with 20 state titles. He was a member of the 1992 Tharaldson's team that won a co-ed national championship.

Terry Stargardt competed in 21 state tournaments, winning 18 of them. During his years with Tharaldson's, he sported a .700 lifetime batting average.

"Viking I" gets facelift

The snack bar on campus, better known as the "Viking I" will receive a facelift this fall. Sodexho Campus Services, who manages the food service, will be remodeling the face of the serving area to provide a more convenient grab-and-go style of service for students. Sodexho's popular Wild Pizza will also be made and served out of the Viking I. Extended hours will allow students to satisfy their hunger until 11:00 PM.

Weddings...

- Sarah Weisser '00 married Keith Vogel - 3-20-03*
- Sara Buckmeier '99 married Adam Houser '99 - 4-19-03*
- Kari Rae Krumwiede '03 married Cody Cadwell - 4-26-03*
- Sandra Harstad '97 married Paul Clinton - 4-26-03*
- Jill Legge '02 married Brady Swenson '02 - 5-10-03*
- Joel Martin '97 married Tammi Trainor - 5-31-03*
- Arlynn Carter '96 married Jennifer Grabar - 5-31-03*
- Jill Quarstad '98 married Kevin Bell - 6-6-03*
- Dana Maasjo '03 married Bill Stansbery - 6-14-03*
- Dana Kraft '01 married Luke Kasowski '02 - 6-21-03*
- David Klein '03 married Erin Anderson - 6-21-03*
- Melissa Cardwell '02 married Kyle Christianson '03 - 6-21-03*
- Rebecca Dodds '99 married Ryan McGaughey - 6-28-03*
- Tammy Remboldt '00 married David Kline - 6-28-03*

In Remembrance

- Paul Bitz '75, Naples, FL
- Connie (Fisher) Kraft '60, Hope
- Roger Gendreau '72, Fargo
- Earl Shearer '37, Oakes
- Henry A. Hoffman, Redlands, CA
- James C. Nielson '50, Cedar Rapids, IA
- Julianne (Daschle) Belzer, Cando
- Mabel (Olson) Leegard '24, Valley City
- Alma (Janz) Gross, Enderlin
- Lucile (Nelson) Boyce, Arthur
- Dwight Hoornaert '91, Abercrombie
- Craig Swanson, West Fargo
- Dolly Pithey, Valley City
- Marjorie (Nelson) Engstrom, Fargo
- Roger Piehl '48, Brainerd, MN
- Alberta (Umsted) Reger '34, Fargo
- Beatrice (Schelske) Bader, Medina
- Joseph Glatt, Napoleon
- Ross Loibl '93, Bismarck
- Mary (Busch) Brehmer, Fargo
- Louise (Koushkouski) Hamkens, Fargo
- Florence Dawson, Hankinson
- James Gillan, Tracy, CA
- Leone (Bond) Paasch, Jamestown
- Arthur Pepple, Fessenden
- Wayne Hustoft '63, Valley City
- Dave Thorson '73, Fargo
- Iva (Mimnaugh) Holcomb, Valley City
- Maynard Burchill '65, Page
- William Puhlmann '64, Forbes
- Kenneth E. Welken, Valley City
- Maybelle Eppinger '30, Fredricksburg, VA
- Keith Horning '71, International Falls, MN
- Laura (Sund) Green, Enderlin

Friends

- Ray Miller, Valley City
- Jack Clemens, Wimbledon
- Russell P. Hanson, Valley City

Vikings on the Move

1950's

Charles and Phyllis (Larson) Petersen '50 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 8, in Lake Park, MN, with an event hosted by their children and grandchildren.

Raymond Brooks '51 retired in 1992 after serving for 27 years on the faculty at Winona (MN) State University. His wife of more than 52 years, Audrey, died in April 2003. Survivors include three children and four grandchildren.

1960's

Dan O'Connor '61 is still working and hopes to continue for at least five or six more years. Business is good! Dan and his wife, Pat (Harvey), will celebrate their 41st wedding anniversary in August. VCSU alumni from 1958 to 1963 are invited to visit the O'Connors in Algonquin, IL, near Chicago.

Linda (Shirley) Krapu '64 has just completed her 39th year of teaching. She plans to teach two to four years more.

Gary O'Connell '66 has been promoted to manage the Special Olympics for the state of Nevada. His office is located in Las Vegas. After graduating from VCSU, Gary taught and coached in Enderlin. He and his wife, Jan, moved to Las Vegas in 1972 and to California in 1983. Gary and Jan have three children and three grandkids.

Diane (Miller) Kouba '68 and her husband, Larry, have lived in Apple Valley, MN, for 26 years. Diane completed her masters degree in 1998. Their oldest daughter, Sara, is married and works for the National "W" Club in Madison, WI. Younger daughter, Sue, works for Twin City Insurance Group in Minneapolis.

Iris (Dwyer) Fogderud '69 has been the alteration supervisor for Marshall Field's for three years. She is also the wardrobe coordinator for the FM Opera Company. Iris enjoys having her four adult daughters in Fargo.

Her husband, Gerald, died in 1996. They were both proud to be VCSU grads!

Terry Peterson '69 enjoys family, hunting and officiating the sports of football, basketball, baseball and softball. He volunteers as a church usher, the Miss Coon Rapids Scholarship Pageant stage crew and board of directors, the Coon Rapids Snow Flake Days Association Medallion Hunt, and the Coon Rapids Lions Club.

1970's

Jolean (Bodensteiner) Pederson '72 has earned the designation of master level certified health-care safety professional. She is a safety specialist with North Dakota Workers Compensation and provides safety consultation and education services for health-care facilities across the state.

1980's

Kenneth '80 and Donna (Hell) Stubbe '82 have two sons: John (15) and Michael (11). They recently moved to Fond du Lac, WI, from Superior, WI, where they had resided since 1996. Ken runs an economic development corporation in Fond du Lac and Donna is a business teacher in Chilton, WI.

Steve Becher '85 and his wife Lisa continue to live in West Fargo, ND. Steve is an Independent Insurance agent at Western Insurance in West Fargo, ND. He and Lisa are very busy with their three boys (Alex 12, Ben 10, Zach 8). Steve is busy coaching them in their many activities...football & baseball. Steve is also a member of the acapella group "Cool Reign." They perform Christian music. He is having a great time with his many activities. He also hunts in the fall with the boys.

1990's

Paul Reinhart '90 has been named as the PK-12 representative on the International Society for Technology in Education Board of Directors.

Dean '92 and Barb (Preston) Schmitt '90 send greetings from Big Lake, MN. Dean has completed his 9th year of teaching physical education at Meadowvale Elementary School in Elk River. Barb has just finished her 4th year as a special education assistant in the autism program. They both enjoy watching their children in their activities. Dean and Barb have three children: Bryant (14), Breanna (13) and DeAnn (7). They send a special "Hello" to all Dean's EBC brothers and encourage friends to stop by or e-mail.

Anessa Pfeifer Johnson '91 is teaching English at Mandan (ND) High School. She and her husband, Shawn, have been married for 11 years and are expecting their fourth child in November. Anessa enjoyed spending time with sorority sisters at the Philo mini-reunion over Mother's Day weekend and hopes to see more next spring.

Tim Goetz '92 has achieved the number one representative status in the company for the National Admissions Division for Career Education Corporation. Career Education Corporation is a for profit chain of schools with 48 schools internationally. Tim works for Brown College located in Mendota Heights, MN.

Tina (DeHoff) Rice '93 and her husband, John, have lived in Aberdeen, SD, for the past three years. John is the Operations Manager for five Radio Stations, and Tina is a Title Examiner for Clark Title. They have two children, Sean (4) and Olivia (2).

Amy (Griffin) Richter '95 was married in June 2002 to Andy Richter. She is now teaching third grade in Carson, ND. Previously, Amy taught kindergarten in Carson and Elgin/New Leipzig.

Dr. Jason Drake '96 has joined the staff at Great Plains Chiropractic Clinic of Fargo. He graduated from Northwestern Health Sciences University after graduating from VCSU.

2000's

Andrew Haignere '01 has been living in Raleigh, NC, for two years. He owns a game rental business, renting out inflatable slides, moon bounces, rock climbing walls, sumo suits and other attractions. Andrew says Raleigh is a great place to live and work.

Merri Mooridian '02 has been hired as assistant communications director at Garrison Diversion Conservancy District based in Carrington, ND. At Garrison Diversion, she will develop and promote opportunities in North Dakota, including Birding Drives Dakota, a nonprofit corporation which focuses on creating ecotourism in the region. Merri and her husband, Jeff, reside in Jamestown with their two children.

Melanie Hericks '02 has been accepted into medical school at Des Moines University – College of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery. She begins her seven year adventure on August 4.

Jeffrey Evenson '03 has accepted an inside sales representative position with SEI Information Technology of Fargo. Jeffrey is the son of Kevin '78 and Deb (Asche) Evenson '78 of Lisbon.

Andrew Sather '03 has accepted an inside sales account executive position with SEI Information Technology of Fargo. Andrew majored in computer information systems with a minor in business.

Karsten Melgaard '03 has accepted a financial services representative position with Alerus Financial in Fargo, ND. He graduated in December 2002 with a business administration/CIS major. Karsten is the son of David and Beve Melgaard.

Jacob Haag '03 has accepted the science teaching position at Montpelier, ND.

Alaska-Valley City football pipeline in full flow

By J.R. Rardon / Sports (*Published: April 24, 2003*)

Each summer, visitors arrive in Alaska seeking huge trophies. But Dennis McCulloch of North Dakota exceeded his wildest expectations when he landed 13 lunkers to show off to the folks back home in Valley City.

And the fishing wasn't too bad, either.

McCulloch, the head football coach at Valley City State University, announced this week the signing of an unprecedented 13 Alaska players who will join the Vikings this fall.

Valley City State has had at least one Alaska football player every year since former Soldotna standout Mikah Boudreaux signed on in 1993. But if flow through the trans-Alaska oil pipeline has dwindled from its peak production years, the Alaska-Valley City football pipeline has reached a new high-water mark this year.

"The thing about Valley City is, they're gonna put a major commitment into Alaska kids," said Sarge Truesdell, the head football and wrestling coach at Soldotna High who earned all-America honors in both sports at Valley City State from 1994-1998. "They're gonna put in the time and effort, because it's paid dividends so far."

Clearly, the Valley City-Alaska connection has been beneficial to all parties. Alaska high school graduates have flown to the Midwest to help a football program that has won or shared three Dakota Athletic Conference titles, made two NAIA playoff appearances and notched a 32-7 record in McCulloch's last four seasons.

Four or five years later, young men depart with college degrees, many of them returning to Alaska to put their education to work in their local communities. To date, 17 Alaska athletes have either received their degrees from or are currently attending Valley City State.

The Soldotna football coaching staff, for example, includes Truesdell as well as Soldotna natives and former Valley City State offensive line standouts Galen Brantley (offensive coordinator) and Jeff Baker (defensive coordinator).

Other small schools have signed numerous Alaskans in recent years, including NAIA Benedictine College in Kansas and NCAA Division III Minnesota-Crookston. But none has matched the effort of Valley City.

McCulloch has gained a foothold in Alaska by working the All-Northwest Football Camp in Palmer each summer for the last nine years. Earlier this year, he made his first winter trip to the state, visiting players in their homes while staying with Truesdell, longtime Fairbanks coach Buck Nystrom and former Chugiak coach Tom Huffer Sr. to help defray costs.

The result is a recruiting class that includes a cross-section of players from throughout the state: quarterback Pierce Blewett and lineman Pat McDonald from large-school state champion Bartlett; lineman Jordan Shannon and receiver John Grohol from runner-up Chugiak; linebacker Ali Larijani of Palmer; defensive end Steve Echitnaw and defensive back Jon Rogers from Eielson High in Fairbanks; lineman Mike Loucks from Sitka, linebacker Trevor Tompkins and running back Michael Waer from Skyview and lineman Caleb Sizemore from Soldotna.

The Vikings also snared a pair of 2002 graduates: Bartlett fullback Tyler Blewett and Eielson wideout Chris Rogers, brothers of two of the 2003 signees.

"It's a big number for us to sign from out of state," said McCulloch. "If these kids were sitting in the state of North Dakota it would be hard to recruit them, because we have nine (colleges) competing."

Valley City State won't ever appear on ESPN — unless, perhaps, it reaches the NAIA national championship game. Its athletic scholarship budget is a fraction of those of the glittering NCAA Division I programs.

But Division I players don't slip through the cracks, even in Alaska. For others who wish to gain an education and continue playing football, Valley City State the kind of school Alaska students and families need to explore.

"It's one of those perfect situations," Truesdell said. "We're looking to get our kids seen by coaches we can trust from programs they can be successful at. And if they can sign 13 kids from coaches who know what it takes to be good at that level, that's a win-win for everybody."

This column is the opinion of reporter J.R. Rardon. He can be reached at jrardon@adn.com.

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