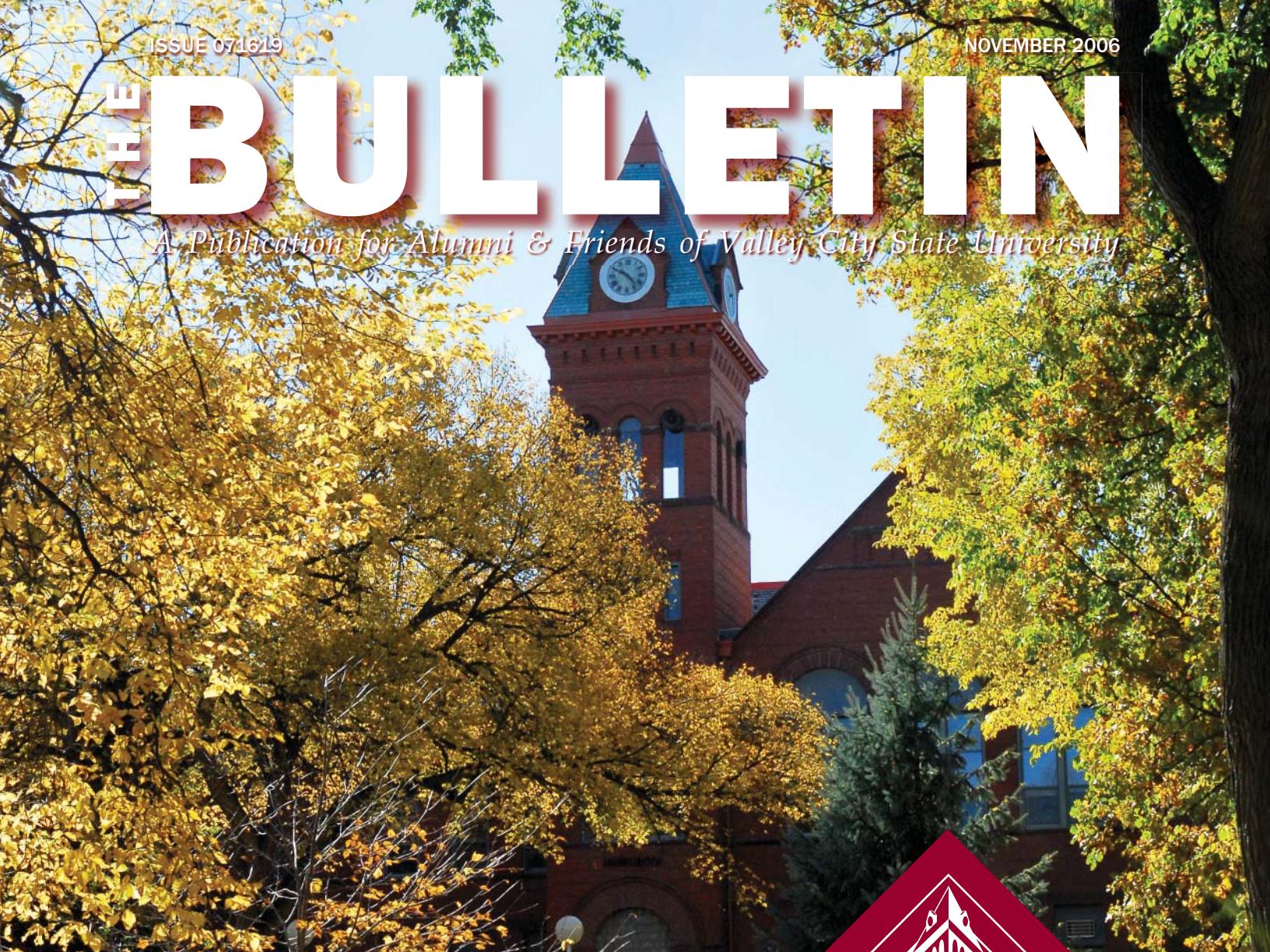


ISSUE 071619

NOVEMBER 2006

# BULLETIN

A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University



## State of the University: Dramatic Change Continues



**VALLEY CITY**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

VCSU

Homecoming Special ♦ 9<sup>th</sup> Year as a U.S. News “Best College” ♦ Holcomb Retires



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*The clock tower in McFarland Hall has been an enduring symbol of VCSU – one that has been unchanged for over 100 years. But in contrast to the comfortable stability promised by the clock tower, VCSU President Dr. Ellen Chaffee sees some dramatic changes for the university ahead. She described these changes and the opportunities for growth they offer in her annual "State of the University" message.*

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ON THE COVER Fall is a spectacular time of year on the VCSU campus, as the Ash, Oak, Maple, and Linden trees change their summertime canopy of deep forest green to brilliant hues of red, orange and yellow. Photo credit: Jennifer Peters.

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**Welcome to The Bulletin!**

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**A Season of Many Changes**

Ellen-Earle Chaffee, President

"The most beautiful autumn in North Dakota history." This season may well deserve that honor. We have enjoyed many clear, mild, sunny days. The progression of leaves throughout our rolling valley from green to ochre, fluttering to the ground like snowflakes, has brought fresh vistas every day for weeks.

The season began with the arrival of nearly 180 bright-eyed new freshmen, widely remarked as one of the most enthusiastic, positive classes we have ever welcomed. Overall, enrollment remains at a little over 1,000, our steady state for over a decade. In light of the continuing steep decline in the number of North Dakota young people, this year's entering class is a special beacon of success.

The university has taken many measures to maintain enrollment over the years. One that clearly made a major contribution this year was our ability to increase funding for scholarships, thanks to the generous alumni and friends like you. In the last nine years, our scholarship offers have risen 61 percent, often making the difference for students who are trying to make a final decision between VCSU and somewhere else.

Remarkable as it is, the increase in scholarship funding has not kept pace with tuition, which has gone up 95 percent in the last nine years. Tuition and required fees now stand at \$177 per credit, or \$2,466 for a typical full-time semester. These increases are typical of all public universities in North Dakota, fueled largely by inflation-adjusted declining state support over the years, recent utility costs, and essential but costly major improvements in administrative software statewide.

Consequently, North Dakota students graduate with the second-highest debt level of all the states. VCSU graduates in 2005 had an average debt of

\$18,400. They worked, they had family support, and they had scholarships, but they could not finish school without significant debt. I have a little magnet that says, "yagottawannalearn." We can all take great pride in our young alumni; they have amply demonstrated their persistence and their personal commitment to a good education.

*I have a little magnet that says, "yagottawannalearn."*

*We can all take great pride in our young alumni; they have amply demonstrated their persistence and their personal commitment to a good education.*

I am also thrilled to report that we have 80 graduate students this fall – 62 in the master's of education program and another 18 in a special one-year mentoring program. It is a new era for Valley City State.

Finally, we also have an "entering class" of new top administrators this fall! They are Dr. Joseph Bessie, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Trudy Collins, Vice President for Business Affairs; Dr. Patricia Rogers, Dean of the School of Education and Graduate Studies; and Ken Brooks, Director of the Institute for Customized Business Solutions. All of them were our top candidates in the search process, and all of them feel like they hit the jackpot when we offered them a position here.

May your holiday season be warm and wonderful, and do come see us or write when you can! ♦

**Strategic Initiatives Keep Enrollment Stable at VCSU**

VCSU's 3<sup>rd</sup> week enrollment figures for fall semester showed Headcount and Full-time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment nearly unchanged from 2005 despite substantial changes in composition.

VCSU President Dr. Ellen Chaffee said that downward pressure on enrollment was offset by the impact of various strategic initiatives the university has implemented in recent years. "We continue to see the demographic trends in the state of North Dakota substantially reduce the number of traditional students enrolling in four-year degree programs," she said. "This has been offset by significant increases in part-time enrollment, distance enrollment, and our new online Master of Education degree program."

The size of the freshman class increased for the fifth year in a row, but this was more than offset by an unusually large graduating class in 2005. Chaffee said, "Competition for traditional freshmen continues to be very intense as the population of potential students in our service

area declines. Our reputation for high quality academics, our environment of technology-enhanced learning, and the availability of scholarships are some of our greatest assets that allow our continued success in this area."

After its first year of operation, VCSU's new online Master of Education program grew from 22 students in 2005 to 78 students in 2006. The two concentrations within the program, "Technology Education" and "Teaching and Technology," both showed

substantial growth. Eighteen of these students are recent graduates who are participating in an innovative "Mentoring First Year Teachers" program and are not presently considered degree-seeking students.

VCSU's student body remains largely centered in North Dakota, with 72% of undergraduate and over 80% of graduate students reporting residency in North Dakota.

The remainder reported residency spanning 24 states, five Canadian provinces and ten foreign countries. Chaffee said, "Although our focus remains on serving the educational needs of North Dakota, our reputation for excellence is growing both nationally and internationally." ♦



### VCSU Holds 3rd Annual Scholarship Lunch

The annual Scholarship Donor Luncheon is an opportunity for individuals and organizations that have established named scholarships to meet the students who were awarded the scholarship so they can see first-hand the good that is being done with their donations. Anyone interested in establishing a named scholarship, should contact the VCSU Advancement Office at 800-532-8641 x37203 for more information.

Among this year's attendees (pictured below):

TOP Ed and John Stern with Cathy Bernhagen, recipient of the Herman Stern Music Scholarship.

MIDDLE Meryl O'Connell and Brandon Bata, recipient of the Jim O'Connell Memorial Scholarship.

BOTTOM Leighton Smith of Alliance Pipeline with Sarah Hiebert, recipient of the Alliance Pipeline Scholarship and beneficiary of the Sooros Scholarship.



## Come Back...Give Back

by Janis Wallender, Alumni Board President

After an alumni board meeting where we were apprised of some major donations to VCSU, I went home and said to my mother, "wouldn't it be nice to have enough money to give a huge donation to the people who helped give you a start in life?" Money, time, and talent... some people have all three. Take away the money, and the majority of us have the other two. With two children in college, I certainly don't have any extra money, but I do have time and talent. Some may argue about their talents, but we all have one kind of talent. I'm not suggesting that you have to be a master at this talent, only that we are all good at something.

That brings me to my point... **"We're Back...Giving Back, VCSU Alumni."** I would personally like to invite you to the first VCSU Alumni Work Retreat to be held on the VCSU Campus from 1:00 pm June 14 through 12:00 noon on June 16. Although our plans are still in the infancy stages, we will grow them to fruition when you show up to help by giving of your time and talents.

The VCSU Alumni Board voted unanimously to move forward with a work retreat at our meeting the beginning of September. Larry Robinson, Director for University Advancement and Kim Hesch, Advancement Assistant are in charge of the groundwork at the University and the rest of us just need to indicate our willingness to show up ready to complete the tasks they assign. I know that there are lost alumni needing to be found, alumni records needing to be dusted and

sorted, and alumni and university artifacts needing to be cataloged and arranged. These are just a few of the jobs that will be available for our alumni volunteers.

In addition to our work time, we are also planning some down time. Many of us stay in contact with some of our fellow alums, but there are others we haven't seen or heard from in years. I look at this as an opportunity to show VCSU our gratitude and also to reconnect with alumni classmates and connect with alumni who we've yet to meet. So, take out your calendar, mark June 14-16 with an X, and plan to meet me in Valley City so we can show VCSU **"We're Back...Giving Back!"**

**A note from Larry and Kim:** At this time details are still being worked out, but we would like to get an idea of how many are interested in participating in this retreat. We have several projects lined up including: campus beautification projects (painting, floral gardens, trees & shrubbery), tracking lost alumni/updating alumni records, and cataloging alumni and university artifacts. The cost to attend the event will be \$85 – this includes campus housing and meals.

We would really like to know how many people are interested in attending this event, so please RSVP by going to our website [alumni.vcsu.edu](http://alumni.vcsu.edu) click on the "Alumni Events" button and then RSVP Form. Or you can call 800-532-8641 ext. 37203 to RSVP. ♦



## Year-end Planning... Benefitting You & VCSU

by Larry Robinson '71, Director of University Advancement

Happy Holidays from all of us here at Valley City State University! It is certainly a busy time of the year. We find ourselves busy with holiday planning, Christmas shopping, addressing cards, planning for that special holiday dinner, and so much more. It is also the time of the year that we should be doing our year end tax planning. An attractive part of the year end tax planning process is the income tax charitable deduction. By acting before December 31, 2006, you can have a very positive impact on your tax bill.

If you are one of the many tax payers that itemize your taxes, no matter what your income, you can almost always lower your income taxes through charitable giving. The exact amount of your tax savings will depend upon your particular tax bracket.

As an example, if you are in the 33% income tax bracket for tax year 2006 and you itemize your deductions, a \$1,000 gift to VCSU by December 31, will save you \$333 in your 2006 taxes.

Your charitable gifts do much more than save you hard earned tax dollars. Your gift to VCSU helps support the many programs here at the university. Your gift provides the important resources so the students of today can experience Valley City State University.

There are a variety of ways in which you can make a gift to us at this time of the year. The most common way is a gift of cash. If you write us a check and have it postmarked by December 31, your gift will qualify for an income tax deduction even if we receive it in the first week of 2007. Gifts of cash are fully deductible to a maximum of 50% of your adjusted gross income.

Other common gifts are gifts of stock. It is almost always more tax wise to contribute gifts of stock than cash. Gifts of stock, in most cases, offer two-fold tax savings. In the first place, you avoid paying capital gains tax on the increase in the value of your stock. Second, you receive an income tax charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the stock at the time you make your gift.

Happy Holidays! ♦

## Free Planned Giving Information

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM

Please send me the following materials that I have checked:

- Assets, Individuals and Intentions
- Basic Estate Planning
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Charitable Remainder Unitrusts
- Distributing Your Estate
- Estate Planning for Women
- Gifts of Life Insurance
- Gifts of Real Estate
- Gifts of Securities
- Life Income Plans: Charitable Gifts that Benefit You
- Memorials and Endowments
- Outright Charitable Gifts
- Trusts and Their Benefits
- Your Personal Guide: To Planned Giving
- Tax and Financial Planning Techniques
- Will Preparation Kit

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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MAIL THIS FORM TO:

VCSU Foundation  
Attention: Larry Robinson  
Director of University Advancement  
101 College Street SW  
Valley City, ND 58072

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## VCSU Welcomes New Employees



New faculty members at VCSU this year include (left to right) Jamie Paurus, Instructor in the Division of Business and Information Technology, Kristin Slyter, Instructor in the Division of Business and Information Technology, Jennifer Carlson, Education Generalist, Dr. David Silverman, Assistant Professor of Communication, Dr. Patricia Rogers, Dean, School of Education and Graduate Studies, and Dr. Joe Bessie, Vice President for Academic Affairs.



New staff members for VCSU include (left to right): Bridget Blunck, Toxicology Lab Manager, Claire Jorgenson, Business Office Technician, Ken Brooks, Director, Institute for Customized Business Solutions, Kanéia Kinney, Accounts Payable, Patti Gruman, Payroll Accountant, and Maria Swenson, Circulation Supervisor at the Allen Memorial Library.

## VCSU Celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> Year of Technology Initiative; Deploys Enterprise Applications

During its Opening Week activities, VCSU celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> year of its initiative to integrate technology to enhance learning. In conjunction with this milestone, the university is deploying a new set of Enterprise applications campus-wide that take the technology initiative to a new level.

Dr. Ellen Chaffee, said, "Ten years ago, VCSU became a leader in the practice of enhancing learning through technology, and every year since then, it has paid important benefits for our students and their employers. On occasions like this, it is easy to focus on the technology, but in a very real sense, our true focus has been on enhancing the student experience and improving education. We look forward to extending our leadership into the future as we take advantage of new technologies and new opportunities to enhance learning."

The initiative began in the fall of 1996 when VCSU became the first university in North Dakota and the second in the nation to issue laptop computers to all full-time students. The move was accomplished without additional state funds, and received national attention including being featured in COMPUTERWORLD magazine three times, winning awards from three national higher education associations, and receiving the ND Chamber of Commerce education award.

Among the first applications of the technology was the requirement that graduating seniors produce a digital portfolio demonstrating the best evidence of meeting the abilities and skill requirements for their degree. VCSU has defined abilities in eight areas: Communication, Global Awareness, Problem Solving, Wellness, Collaboration, Aesthetic Engagement, Technology, and Effective Citizenship. Early results included high student satisfaction and rave reviews from employers who appreciated the quality of VCSU graduates and their ability to apply technology for enhancing their performance in these areas.

The university has continually expanded the use of technology, moving from a "laptop" environment to one that includes a variety of advanced technologies that enhance learning. Technologies that have been added over the years include high-performance wireless network access throughout campus, high-speed Internet access, "smart" classrooms, and the latest educational software.

This fall, VCSU is taking the technology initiative to the next level by deploying a set of Enterprise software applications that give students complete access to educational resources anytime and anywhere. These applications include the BlackBoard Academic Suite, Microsoft Exchange Server, and Microsoft Outlook for e-mail, calendar and other collaborative applications. Joe Tykwienski, VCSU Chief Information Officer, said, "This is the latest step in a progression of transforming the traditional classroom into the learning environment of the future in which access to learning resources are available anytime and from anywhere."

Scott Kost, CEO of Eide Bailly Technology Consulting, participated in the celebration by delivering a presentation to faculty and staff. The presentation described the role of technology in the business world and the importance of college graduates being ready to incorporate technology into their thought process and work habits. Mr. Kost commented, "More than ever, today's business environment requires the ability to change, and technology is often both the driver and the vehicle of change. Graduates of VCSU, with their ability to use technology in such crucial skills as communication and collaboration, are in an excellent position to make the organizations they work for more responsive and effective." ♦



## Linda Holcomb Retires

After 34 years teaching at VCSU, Linda (Sundstrom) Holcomb '66 retired earlier this year to Professor Emeritus status. She spent the majority of her career with VCSU teaching courses in Elementary Education Methods, Early Childhood, and Children's Literature, and supervising student teachers. Since she first joined the VCSU faculty in March of 1972, virtually every VCSU student studying Elementary Education has been in at least one of Linda's classes. "I love the students," she said. "The best students in the world come to VCSU. The best part of my career has been getting into the schools and working with our students and cooperating teachers. It is fantastic seeing all the new ideas our students are working with and all the fun they are having." Though officially retired, Linda will keep on teaching part-time as an adjunct professor. "I'm looking forward to staying in touch with the VCSU students," she said. ♦

LEFT Gary Thompson, Professor in the VCSU School of Education and Graduate Studies, presents Linda Holcomb with a token of appreciation for her 34 years of teaching at VCSU. "She is one of the most dedicated and loved faculty members that VCSU has ever had," said Thompson. Linda was honored with the status of "Professor Emeritus" recently, but will continue teaching a few classes as an adjunct professor.

## Taking "Flax" for a Healthy Product



As if being full-time farmers weren't enough work, the Berntson family of Valley City showed their entrepreneurial spirit and started a new business right here in Valley City. The family includes VCSU alums Ray '64, his son Mike '93, and Mike's wife Stacey '95, plus Ray's wife Mary Ann. The company they started, Skandia Mills, produces and distributes whole and milled flaxseed, and has also begun selling

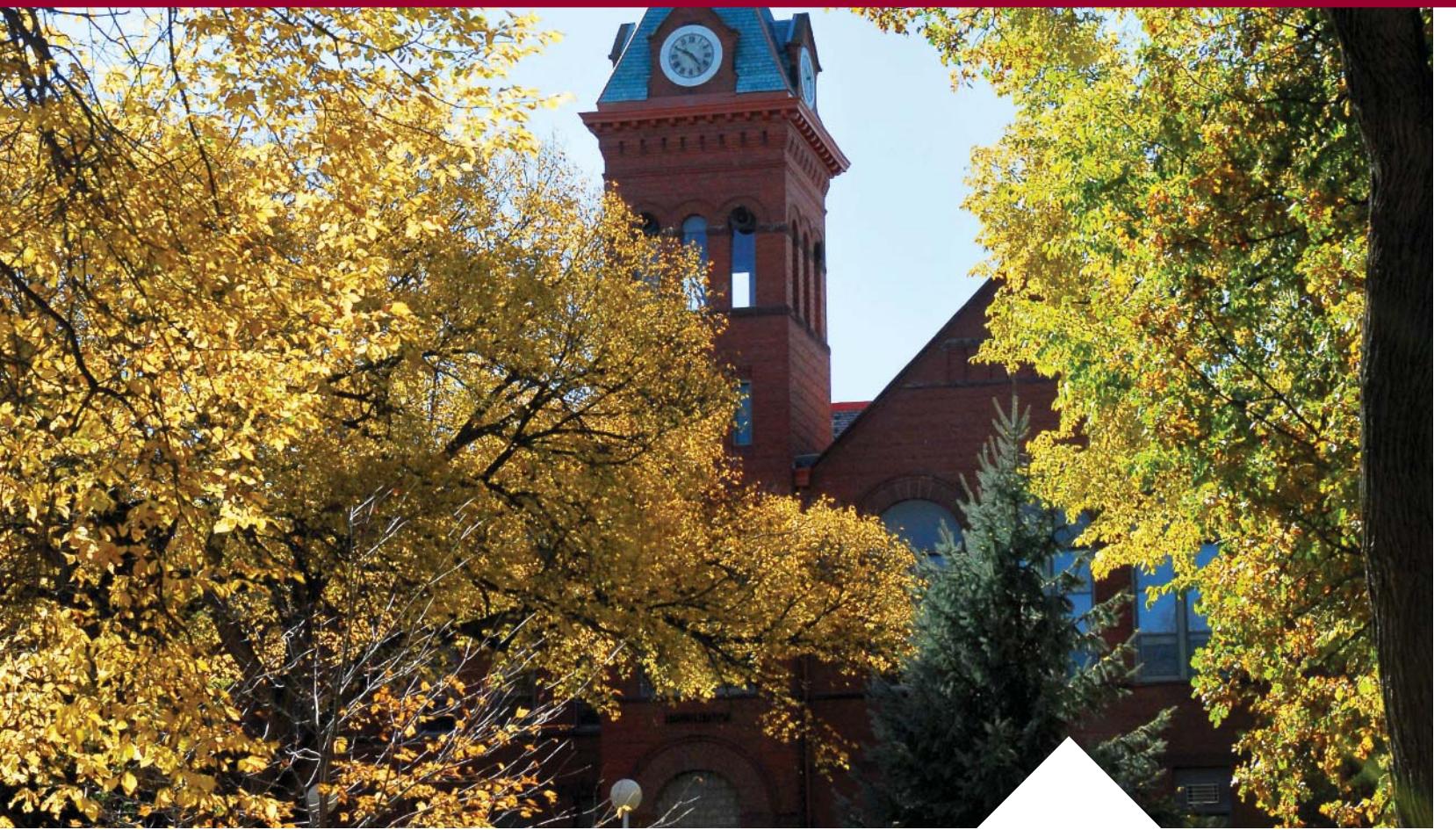
related products such as flax bread mixes and starter kits. Why Flax? The seed is great in bread, but can also be used to provide health benefits in cereals, juice, yogurt and baked recipes. Flax seed is the highest vegetable source of Omega-3 fatty acids, which are good antioxidants, and the seed is high in dietary fiber. Business has been booming, growing at over 300% per year since the company was founded in 2001. Recently, the Berntsons built an Internet storefront that is now bringing them orders from all over the world. Their business has grown to over 350,000 lbs this year sold in everything from 2 lb bags for individual consumers to 1,600 lb totes sold to wholesale customers. According to Ray, the next step in the business is to work on commercial bakeries across the United States. To learn more about the health benefits of flax and the variety of flax products that Skandia Mills offers (including a cookbook!), visit <http://www.skandiamills.com> or send an e-mail message to info@skandiamills.com. ♦



## Wagers Share Time, Talent, Treasure to Beautify Campus

Willis '71 and Mary Wagar, Valley City, are shown in the Bowen Garden on the campus of Valley City State University.

The Wagers volunteered their time, talent and treasure to give the garden a much needed "face lift." According to Larry Robinson, Director of University Advancement, "Willis and Mary have given so much to the university over the years, and they continue to give. The Bowen Garden has been in need of new plants and a general reworking of the landscaping for sometime. We are very thankful and appreciative of the Wagers for their willingness to provide their time and talent and the plants to redo the garden. This beautiful garden now more appropriately memorializes the late Gracie Bowen, the VCSU benefactor for whom the garden is named." ♦



## VCSU in a State of Change

In September, VCSU President Dr. Ellen Chaffee delivered the annual State of the University address that outlined her thoughts on VCSU's current status and the vision for the future. The bottom line: the University is in the midst of a tremendous amount of change, and her message to the campus centered on a request to actively support and drive that change.

Borrowing from some thoughts delivered by Scott Kost, CEO of Eide Bailly Technology Consulting during his presentation to campus during Welcome Week, Dr. Chaffee began by describing the pace of change that can be expected. "Over the next 20 years, we will see an equivalent amount of change as we have had over the last 100 years," she quoted Kost as saying.

Not all of those changes are opportunities, continued Chaffee. "The number of high school seniors in both North Dakota and Barnes County has been declining in recent years, and is expected to continue to decline for the next several years. This is making competition for our traditional base of students particularly intense."

Despite these challenging conditions, enrollment at VCSU remains steady, and Chaffee noted a number of factors that have made this accomplishment possible. Scholarships, which she described as a key tool for attracting and retaining the most talented

*"We must change, and change holds great opportunities...."*

students to VCSU, have increased 61% in the last 9 years, though VCSU's resources in this area still lag behind many competitors. Major gifts plus the V-500 and Century Club have played a key role in this success, and will continue to play critical roles in the future.

And despite the overall stability of enrollment figures, Chaffee noted dramatic changes in the composition and nature of enrollment even in a relatively short period of time. To highlight these changes and draw them out into the future, Chaffee cited findings in the recently released report from

the U.S. Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education. The report called for a culture of continuous innovation and quality improvement, development new pedagogies, curricula and technologies to improve learning, and a national strategy for lifelong

that will create VCSU's future. "We will maximize lifetime learning by marketing selected majors and raising scholarship funding," Chaffee said. "We will focus on sharing and developing resources by growing the Master's degree and the Institute for Customized Business Solutions. We will improve organizational efficiencies by streamlining academic and administrative processes and procedures, and we will document results by focusing on frequent campus-wide communication."

She ended the address by bringing the subject back to change. "We must change, and change holds great opportunities," Chaffee said. "Though we continue to face a shortage of past resources, we also have an abundance of new resource avenues, including new ages, ethnicities, and locations, new goals and expectations, new learning styles, and new partners. I hope you can embrace these changes and be positive about them, and feel and fuel the pride and the opportunity." ♦

learning. Another report she cited, "2020: Envisioning the Future Academic Ecosystem" issued by John Witherspoon of the Western Cooperative for Educational Telecommunications (WCET), predicts that distance education will have become the core of teaching and learning, and that the campus will be the headquarters for a borderless education service enterprise. "Dramatic changes, indeed," noted Chaffee.

Shifting from predictions about the future of education to outlining a plan for VCSU's role in that future, Chaffee described the initiatives

## VCSU Named to "Best Colleges" List for 9<sup>th</sup> Consecutive Year

VCSU was recognized in the "America's Best Colleges 2007" edition of U.S. News & World Report as one of the top 4 Public Comprehensive Colleges in the Midwest. This marks the ninth year in a row that VCSU has received this recognition from U.S. News.

Dr. Ellen Chaffee, President of VCSU, said, "The faculty and staff at VCSU work very hard to provide the finest educational experience available, and we are very pleased to receive this recognition for the ninth year in a row."

In the U.S. News rankings, institutions categorized as "Comprehensive Colleges" focus primarily on undergraduate education and offer a range of degree programs in the liberal arts but grant fewer than 50 percent of their degrees in liberal arts disciplines. VCSU offers over 80 degree programs in Business, Information Technology, Communication Arts, Social Sciences, Education, Fine Arts, Mathematics, Science, Health, and Physical Education. U.S. News

ranks 320 comprehensive colleges nationwide, and VCSU was the only public university in North Dakota to rank in this category. Other public institutions in the Top 4 of this category include Southwest Minnesota State (MN), Dakota State University (SD), and University of Minnesota - Crookston (MN).

The U.S. News ranking system relies on quantitative measures that education experts have proposed as reliable indicators of academic quality, and it is based on their nonpartisan view of what matters

in education. These measures fall into seven broad categories: peer assessment, freshman retention, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni giving, and graduation rate performance. ♦



## VCSU's Sculptor and the Lincoln Bust

by Carla Kelly, Times-Record Staff Writer



There's a bronze bust of Abraham Lincoln in Frogner Park, Oslo, Norway, with close ties to Valley City State University.

The plaster cast from which the bust was forged sits on the mezzanine level of VCSU's Allen Library, rescued from storage by Lillian Jacobson, the library's former director.

Before then, Lincoln was located on the landing right below the stairs leading to Theatre 320 in McFarland Hall. Jacobson came along one day in the 1970s and noticed Lincoln was getting shabby. Students had written on him, and even carved their names

in the soft plaster of the dignified work. She had the bust taken to the art department, where Lincoln was painted a color approximating the bronze look of the sculpture in Frogner Park, where it has been located since 1914.

The plaster bust was moved to a pedestal in Allen Library, where it resides today, peaceful against a backdrop of windows and sky. After Lincoln's facelift, Jacobson's interest switched to Paul Fjelde, the bust's creator.

"He was quite a famous sculptor," she said.

Indeed; so distinguished, in fact, that he became the recipient of VCSU's first distinguished alumnus award in 1973.

Sculpting was in the Fjelde DNA, apparently. Paul Fjelde's father, Jacob, was a sculptor in Norway who immigrated to America in 1887 and continued sculpting in his new country. Paul was born in Minneapolis in 1892.

Jacob's work appeared all over America, even at Gettysburg, Pa., scene of a major Union victory in 1863 during the U.S. Civil War.

After Jacob's untimely death at age 36, the Fjeldes moved to North Dakota. Margaret Fjelde nurtured her son's artistic talents at the Minneapolis School of Fine Arts for a short while, then moved the family to Valley City, where Paul Fjelde and his sisters could attend Valley City State Normal School, the forerunner of VCSU.

Fjelde's talent was quickly noticed by Mary Goodrich Deem, art instructor, who saw to it that he came to the attention of Lorado Taft of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Fjelde continued his studies in Chicago. During this time, North Dakota's Gov. Louis B. Hanna visited Gettysburg. He noticed that one of the statues

there had been sculpted by Jacob Fjelde, Paul's father.

Lincoln's tie with Gettysburg was an intimate one, bonded by his famed "Gettysburg Address." Hanna had been trying to think of an appropriate gift to give to the people of Norway, who had recently presented North Dakota with a statue of Duke Rollo, a 10th century Viking. He decided to hold a contest, with a prize of \$10,000 for the best sculpture of Abraham Lincoln.

Paul Fjelde entered the contest. By an interesting twist of fate, the son of the father who had sculpted other Civil War icons won the contest. His bronze bust of Lincoln would go to Norway.

On July 4, 1914, Hanna and his daughter, Dorothy, presented the bronze bust of Lincoln to the king and people of Norway.

In turn, Fjelde presented the original plastic cast to VCSU on Feb. 12, 1919, "as an expression of his gratitude to Valley City State Normal because it afforded him the opportunity to begin the development of his genius (Cornerstones: A Centennial History of Valley City State University, 1990)."

In Norway during World War II, the bust in Frogner Park became ground zero for silent protest against Nazi occupation. Every July 4 during the occupation, Norwegians gathered by the Lincoln bust in Frogner Park in silent protest at the affront to freedom the Nazis represented to the people of Norway.

Fjelde's bust is still prominent in the July 4 celebration that continues each year in Frogner Park. A replica of the Frogner bronze is located in front of the courthouse in Hillsboro.

Fjelde never returned to live in North Dakota after his studies in Chicago. He studied in New York, Paris and Copenhagen. His sculptures and architectural sculptures are found in public places across America and around the world.

Fjelde taught at the prestigious Pratt Institute of Art in New York City, and later at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, and then at the National Academy School of Fine Arts in New York City.

According to Jacobson, Fjelde, 81, was in New York when James Martin, vice president of Valley City State College, visited him in 1972. Martin asked him if he would accept a distinguished alumnus award from VCSU.

"He said he would," Jacobson said, "but he sent his son to receive the award." Newspaper clippings indicate Fjelde's wife was ill.

Fjelde's son, Rolf, accepted the award during commencement in 1973. Rolf Fjelde was almost as well-known as his father.

"He was an authority on Henrik Ibsen," Jacobson said.

Ibsen, Norway's greatest playwright, is often referred to as a father of modern drama. This spring, VCSU Theatre will present "A Doll's House," one of Ibsen's most famous plays.

Those are the connections: Abe Lincoln on the landing in Allen Library, with ties to Norway and silent resistance to Nazi occupation, and one of America's most distinguished sculptors - a North Dakota son - with a little Ibsen thrown in from the next generation. ♦

## Alumni Honors Breakfast...Alumni Honors Breakfast...Alumni Honors Breakfast...

### Certificate of Merit Recipients

**FRONT ROW** Anna Langness '66, Connie Ova '92, Cindy Bjornstad '79, Wendy Peterson '77, LaWanna Hieb '65, Natalie Boe '92.  
**BACK ROW** Barry Lentz '76, Dean Entzminger '74, Myron Loberg '68, Wes Anderson '97, Dennis Horsager '74, Daniel Olson '85, Dennis Friestad '66, Jan Beauchman '73. NOT SHOWN  
 Becky Bair '86, Darrell Berglund '79, Kathy Berglund '79, Art Goffe '67, Val Moritz '75, Al Schuld '79.

### Distinguished Alumni Award

Ken Astrup '72 was recognized with the Distinguished Alumni Award, the most prestigious award offered by the Alumni Association. Ken is the General Manager for the Dakota Plains Cooperative of Valley City, Litchville and LaMoure, and has been active in community affairs all his life.

### Alumni Service Award

Larry Robinson '71 was selected by the Alumni Board of Directors to be the fourth recipient of the Alumni Service Award. He is currently employed at VCSU as the Director of Advancement, and has served as District 24 Senator for the past 9 years.



## VCSU Homecoming Highlights...VCSU Homecoming Highlights...VCSU Homecoming Highlights...

PHOTOS BELOW FROM LEFT Homecoming Social 1. Cyndi (Levi) Stein '77, Wendy (Phiel) Peterson '78, Wendy's daughter Mary Joe ("MJ"). 2. Chuck Solberg '59 came all the way from Welches (near Portland), Oregon. Shown here with Lee and Rita Reynolds. 3. Mike Wagner '06 with his parents Mark and Rachel. 4. EBC Fraternity members made a special effort to make it back to campus for Homecoming. SHOWN HERE, BACK ROW Bruce Stein '76, Tom Homsey, Josh Argall '99. FRONT ROW John Monilaws '87, Bill Lydell '55, Marty Lanter '98.



# VCSU Homecoming 2006



**Homecoming Huge Success and Fun for All!**  
 We could not have asked for a more beautiful fall day in Valley City as clear, calm skies and temperatures in the high 70's dominated a weekend full of fun for students, faculty, staff and alumni alike. A highlight of the weekend was the Homecoming football game in which the Vikings rolled past the Mayville State Comets 49-7. Three Vikings scored two touchdowns each while the defense allowed the opposition only 35 total yards.

PHOTOS BELOW FROM LEFT 1. Viking Hall of Fame inductees were honored at halftime of the Homecoming game. BACK ROW Darrell Anderson, Holly Pow-Williams '92, Mary Edlund, Kelley Utt '92, Laurie Zacher '95, Darcie Hanson '89, Charles Cook, Wanda Schwab '94, Lena Throlson '91. FRONT ROW Lori Myers-Glaser '94, Jody (Freed) Larson '92, Rhonda Denbow '90, Lisa Undem '85, Mary (Enstad) Fike '92. 2. Music alumni were invited to participate in the Pep Band; Brad Lambrecht '05 took over as the conductor. Brad teaches in the Central Cass school district. 3. VCSU students and alumni involved in the Music Educators National Conference (MENC) had a busy weekend of special activities over Homecoming weekend, including riding in their own float in the parade, playing in a combined alumni/student pep band during the game, and recognition of James Ployhar as the first inductee into the VCSU Music Hall of Fame. 4. Ron Moser '81, Chair of the Viking Century Club Board of Directors, shows his special school spirit while riding the Century Club's golf cart in the Homecoming parade.





*It doesn't take much to see the athletic department*

*and facility services at VCSU had a busy summer and fall.*

*Anyone who walks in the door of the W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse can see a lot of time,  
effort and energy went into the renovation of the building.*



*"Viking Pride" is  
alive and well in  
the W.E. Osmon  
Fieldhouse.*

A newly remodeled lobby area with the Viking logo etched into the floor reminds each visitor that "Viking Pride" is alive and well on the VCSU campus. As visitors scan the open lobby area, it becomes obvious that the new design of the lobby isn't the only change to take place in the building.

New porcelain tile flooring runs throughout the freshly painted hallways and classrooms in the building. A quick glance into the gymnasium also draws visitors in for a closer look. The rows of new cardinal bleachers surrounding the gym floor are an addition to the awesome atmosphere of "the bubble." The new bleachers combined with the recently replaced wood floor and the beauty of the domed roof creates a sports arena that is truly one of a kind.

The bleachers are a result of capital project funding from the state while the rest of the changes result from the generosity of Gary & Connie Tharaldson, reported Doug Peters, VCSU's Athletic Director. "The changes you see today are very obvious and I am happy to report there are more to follow thanks to the support of Gary and Connie," added Peters.

Further improvements include a new "Viking Hall of Fame" room that will complete the indoor part of the renovation. Construction of permanent dugouts and a 35 foot high scoreboard in the shape of a softball diamond in the College Complex will finish out the current projects. ♦

# Viking Hall of Fame '06



1 Kelley Utt and Darrell Anderson, two of the recent Viking Hall of Fame Inductees. 2 Laurie Zacher addresses the crowd on behalf of her softball teammates as the 1988 and 1989 Viking softball teams are inducted into the Viking Hall of Fame. 3 Charles Cook proudly displays his Viking Hall of Fame plaque. 4 Duey Yliniemi, his wife Lisa and his daughters Abby and Katelyn pose for a picture celebrating his induction. 5 The 1988 and 1989 Viking softball teams.



## Viking Women's Basketball

*Home games in BOLD*

|         |   |                |
|---------|---|----------------|
| Nov. 3  | Northwestern College (at Northwestern, IA).....           | 6:00 PM        |
| Nov. 4  | Dordt College (IA) (at Dordt, IA).....                    | 2:00 PM        |
| Nov. 10 | <b>Dakota Wesleyan University</b> .....                   | <b>5:30 PM</b> |
| Nov. 10 | Mount Marty College .....                                 | <b>3:00 PM</b> |
| Nov. 17 | Martin Luther College.....                                | <b>7:00 PM</b> |
| Nov. 18 | University of Minnesota - Morris.....                     | <b>5:00 PM</b> |
| Nov. 27 | University of Minnesota - Crookston .....                 | <b>7:00 PM</b> |
| Dec. 1  | Presentation College (at Aberdeen, SD) .....              | 5:30 PM        |
| Dec. 2  | <b>Concordia College</b> .....                            | <b>6:00 PM</b> |
| Dec. 6  | Jamestown College (at Jamestown, ND).....                 | 5:30 PM        |
| Dec. 14 | North Dakota State University (at Fargo).....             | 7:00 PM        |
| Dec. 16 | University of Sioux Falls (at Sioux Falls, SD).....       | 2:00 PM        |
| Dec. 28 | Campbellsville University (at Las Vegas Turney) .....     | 5:00 PM        |
| Dec. 30 | College of Saint Mary (at Las Vegas Turney) .....         | 1:00 PM        |
| Jan. 5  | <b>Mayville State University</b> .....                    | <b>5:30 PM</b> |
| Jan. 6  | <b>Dakota State University</b> .....                      | <b>4:00 PM</b> |
| Jan. 9  | University of Minnesota - Morris (at Morris, MN) .....    | 6:00 PM        |
| Jan. 12 | Dickinson State University (at Dickinson).....            | 5:30 PM        |
| Jan. 13 | Minot State University (at Minot) .....                   | 4:00 PM        |
| Jan. 19 | <b>Black Hills State University</b> .....                 | <b>5:30 PM</b> |
| Jan. 20 | <b>South Dakota Tech</b> .....                            | <b>4:00 PM</b> |
| Jan. 26 | South Dakota Tech (at South Dakota Tech) .....            | 5:30 PM        |
| Jan. 27 | Black Hills State University (at Black Hills State) ..... | 4:00 PM        |
| Feb. 2  | <b>Minot State University</b> .....                       | <b>5:30 PM</b> |
| Feb. 3  | <b>Dickinson State University</b> .....                   | <b>4:00 PM</b> |
| Feb. 9  | Dakota State University (at Dakota State).....            | 5:30 PM        |
| Feb. 10 | Mayville State University (at Mayville) .....             | 4:00 PM        |
| Feb. 15 | Jamestown College .....                                   | <b>5:30 PM</b> |

## Viking Men's Basketball

*Home games in BOLD*

|         |   |                |
|---------|---|----------------|
| Oct. 14 | <b>Alumni Game (Exhibition)</b> .....                 | <b>7:00 PM</b> |
| Oct. 28 | Northwestern Club (at Glen Ellyn, IL).....            | 3:00 PM        |
| Nov. 3  | Northwestern College (at Orange City, IA) .....       | 8:00 PM        |
| Nov. 4  | Dordt College (IA) (at Sioux Center, IA) .....        | 4:00 PM        |
| Nov. 10 | <b>Dakota Wesleyan University</b> .....               | <b>7:30 PM</b> |
| Nov. 11 | <b>Mount Marty College</b> .....                      | <b>5:00 PM</b> |
| Nov. 18 | <b>University of Minnesota - Crookston</b> .....      | <b>7:30 PM</b> |
| Nov. 24 | Rocky Mountain College (at Dickinson).....            | 5:00 PM        |
| Nov. 25 | University of Montana-Western (at Dickinson).....     | 5:00 PM        |
| Nov. 29 | <b>Minnesota State University - Moorhead</b> .....    | <b>7:30 PM</b> |
| Dec. 2  | Morris College (at Morris, MN) .....                  | 3:00 PM        |
| Dec. 6  | Jamestown College (at Jamestown).....                 | 7:30 PM        |
| Dec. 9  | University of South Dakota (at Vermillion, SD).....   | 1:00 PM        |
| Dec. 16 | University of Sioux Falls (at Sioux Falls, SD).....   | 4:00 PM        |
| Dec. 30 | <b>WSBL All-Stars (Exhibition)</b> .....              | <b>7:00 PM</b> |
| Jan. 5  | <b>Mayville State University</b> .....                | <b>7:30 PM</b> |
| Jan. 6  | <b>Dakota State University</b> .....                  | <b>6:00 PM</b> |
| Jan. 8  | Presentation College (at Aberdeen, SD) .....          | 7:00 PM        |
| Jan. 9  | North Dakota State University (at Fargo) .....        | 7:00 PM        |
| Jan. 12 | Dickinson State University (at Dickinson, ND) .....   | 7:30 PM        |
| Jan. 13 | Minot State University (at Minot, ND) .....           | 6:00 PM        |
| Jan. 19 | <b>Black Hills State University</b> .....             | <b>7:30 PM</b> |
| Jan. 20 | <b>South Dakota Tech</b> .....                        | <b>6:00 PM</b> |
| Jan. 26 | South Dakota Tech (at Rapid City, SD) .....           | 7:30 PM        |
| Jan. 27 | Black Hills State University (at Spearfish, SD) ..... | 6:00 PM        |
| Feb. 2  | <b>Minot State University</b> .....                   | <b>7:30 PM</b> |
| Feb. 3  | <b>Dickinson State University</b> .....               | <b>6:00 PM</b> |
| Feb. 9  | Dakota State University (at Madison, SD) .....        | 7:30 PM        |
| Feb. 10 | Mayville State University (at Mayville, ND) .....     | 6:00 PM        |
| Feb. 15 | Jamestown College .....                               | <b>7:30 PM</b> |

## Congress Approves IRA Rollover Attractive Tax Incentives Included

The United States House and Senate along with President Bush have enacted a new law making it easier for donors 70½ years of age to give to the Valley City State University Foundation through their IRA or Roth IRA. The charitable incentives open up powerful new options in new charitable giving from IRAs. During the calendar years of 2006 and 2007, a person meeting the above criteria can gift up to \$100,000 each year.

There are four requirements for a qualified IRA charitable gift. First, the IRA gift must otherwise have been includable ordinary income to the IRA owner. Second the IRA owner must be 70 years old or older. Third, the gift must be to a qualified exempt public charity, such as the Valley City State University Foundation. Fourth, the recipient may not be a private foundation, supporting organization or donor advised fund.

Fortunately, the IRA charitable rollover will qualify for the donor's required minimum distribution (RMD). The Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation Technical Explanation of PPA 2006 (JCX-38-06) states on page 266, "Qualified charitable distributions are taken into account for purposes of the minimum distribution rules applicable to traditional IRAs to the same extent the distribution would have been taken into account under such rules had the distribution not been directly distributed under the provision." There is no charitable income tax deduction, but also no inclusion. It is simply a very convenient way to help the Valley City State University Foundation. Donors can give to 50% of adjusted gross income from their regular assets and then make "over and above" gifts from their IRA. Some generous donors may in effect give 100% or more of income per year through this method. Since the IRA is not included in taxable income, it will have no impact on their regular income and other charitable gifts.

Many senior donors may not have a sufficient level of deductions to itemize and choose instead to use the standard deduction. If senior donors withdraw \$1,000 from his or her IRA and then gives it to the Valley City State University Foundation, there is \$1,000 of increased income with no offsetting charitable deduction, since the standard deduction is taken. Therefore, it will be preferable for all donors taking a standard deduction to make IRA gifts directly to the Valley City State University Foundation and avoid the additional income tax otherwise payable.

Social Security is subject to two levels of taxation. For donors who have income in excess of the first level, 50% of Social Security is taxed. For donors with income in excess of the second level, up to 85% of Social Security income may be subject to tax. Withdrawing an amount from an IRA will potentially cause the recipient's income to increase from the 50% taxable bracket to the 85% Social Security taxable bracket. Even though the withdrawn amount is given to the Valley City State University Foundation and deducted, there still is taxation with the added 35% bracket. Thus, by making the transfer directly to the Foundation, many Social Security recipients will save substantial taxes.

The \$100,000 IRA charitable gifts provision opens up many new gift opportunities to the Valley City State University Foundation. Please contact Larry Robinson at the Foundation at 701-845-7217 or visit with your allied professional to explore all of these gift benefits for this new legislation. You can find further information on the IRA Rollover legislation on the Planned Giving Page or our web site, alumni.vcsu.edu. ♦

## A Little Quiz About Wills

The following True or False quiz will help you measure how much you know or don't know about having a will. To see how you did, check out the answers below.

### True or False

1. Most states will honor a hand-written will as long as it is signed by an attorney.
2. A married couple only needs to have one will.
3. If a person dies without a will, the state automatically takes one-half of the estate for probate fees.
4. It is illegal to open and read a deceased person's will until after the funeral.
5. A "codicil" is the stamped impression that makes a will valid.

To learn more about wills and other estate planning matters, request your free Will Information Kit from the VCSU Foundation Office. You can use the handy response form below, or call us at 1-800-532-8641. You can also request your Will Kit at our Web site: [alumni.vcsu.edu](http://alumni.vcsu.edu).

### PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM

Dear Friends at Valley City State University:

- Please send me the complimentary Will Information Kit.
- Please send me complimentary information about planned giving.
- Please contact me about a personal visit.
- The best time to call is: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

### MAIL THIS FORM TO:

Larry Robinson  
VCSU Foundation  
101 College St. SW  
Valley City, ND 58072  
[larry.robinson@vcsu.edu](mailto:larry.robinson@vcsu.edu)

5. A "codicil" is an addendum added later to a previously prepared will.
4. If you die with no will, there may be a large increase in probate costs.
3. While it is true that the state, in the absence of a valid will, dictates the disposition of the estate, it really does not automatically receive half the amount. However, if you die with no will, there may be a large increase in probate costs.
2. Each partner in the marriage should have his or her own will.
1. While some states may recognize a handwritten will, no state requires that a will must be signed by an attorney.

## Scholarships Key to Department of Music's Students

### Did you know:

- ◆ Only 41% VCSU's budget now comes from the state.
- ◆ Tuition has increased 95.5% in the last 9 years.
- ◆ Students have absorbed an average tuition increase of 11.5% every year since 2001.
- ◆ This is the second year in which VCSU has charged for tuition by-the-credit.
- ◆ The average music student now spends 5 years completing their college program.

### These budget constraints have directly impacted music students:

- ◆ The current cost of one credit of tuition at VCSU is \$189.94 (\$64.74 in special fees).
- ◆ In 2000, 4 ensembles cost a full-time student nothing; today they cost \$800 per year in extra tuition.
- ◆ The average student spends \$350 per semester on books.
- ◆ A music student pays \$200-\$450 annually in accompanist and applied lesson fees.
- ◆ Last year, Friends of Music donations covered only one-third of the cost of the scholarships awarded for 2006-2007.

## Department of Music Launches Vital Scholarship Drive

The VCSU Department of Music, with support from the Music Alumni Council, is undertaking the single most important fundraising initiative of the decade: raising \$20,000 for scholarships this year.

Last year's recruitment effort was extremely successful, as the 2006 freshman music class includes a larger number of students who are well-prepared academically and musically for their college program. The Department was able to attract these students and help VCSU remain competitive by offering significantly larger scholarships.

Brad Lambrecht '05, Chair of the Music Alumni Council, said, "The Music Alumni Council recognizes two of the Department's critical efforts: fundraising and recruitment. We've enjoyed our visits to Foss Music Hall and have been impressed with the exciting things happening there. In order to continue to afford the scholarships necessary to attract quality students

and to repeat the successful recruiting effort of last year, we need your help."

To make a donation, use the enclosed envelope to send a check to the VCSU Foundation, and be sure to check the box on the envelope that indicates the donation is for the "Friends of Music" scholarship fund.

Thank you for helping the VCSU Department of Music thrive! ◆

### Music Alumni Council

Brad Lambrecht '05, Chair, Music Alumni Council  
Harold Foley '66  
Duane Ost '70  
Diane Townsend '71  
Verna (Paulson) Lindvall '76  
Deb (Hill) Bopp '77  
Dale Conrad '84  
John Monilaws '87  
Tricia (Brandt) Lebahn '98

## Music Hall of Fame Names Ployhar as First Inductee



LEFT Dr. Diana Skroch (chair of music department), James Ployhar, VCSU President Dr. Ellen Chaffee, and student Martin Olsen of Sandefjord, Norway, recipient of this year's Ployhar Music Scholarship.



RIGHT James Ployhar, 1st inductee into the Music Hall of Fame, and the guest speakers: Howard Langemo (Valley City), James Ployhar, Myron Sommerfeld '62 (Valley City), and Dr. Gregory Post (Fargo).

*VCSU Season of Great Theatre!*

November 29 – December 2  
**My Three Angels**  
by Sam and Bella Spewak

April 25 – 28  
**A Festival of One-Act Plays**  
written and directed by our own students!

For tickets...  
Call 701-845-7320

## VCSU Department of Music Concerts & Recitals 2006-2007

|            |   |          |         |  |          |
|------------|---|----------|---------|--|----------|
| Nov. 2     | General Student Recital .....                     | 7:30 pm  | Mar. 25 | Megan Fiebiger, Mezzo Soprano .....                        | 3:00 pm  |
| Nov. 4     | Chamber Concert.....                              | 7:30 pm  | Apr. 15 | Stephanie Bina, Saxophone & Martin Olsen, Percussion ..... | 3:00 pm  |
| Nov. 6     | InPulse.....                                      | 8:00 pm  | Apr. 16 | General Student Recital .....                              | 7:30 pm  |
| Nov. 8     | VCSU Jazz Ensemble .....                          | 7:30 pm* | Apr. 19 | VCSU Jazz Ensemble .....                                   | 7:30 pm* |
| Nov. 13    | General Student Recital .....                     | 7:30 pm  | Apr. 22 | VCSU Choir & Valley Voices .....                           | 7:30 pm  |
| Nov. 17-18 | Madrigal Dinner (special charge) .....            | 6:00 pm  | Apr. 23 | University Singers & Percussion Ensemble .....             | 7:30 pm* |
| Nov. 18    | New York Theatre Ballet.....                      | 7:30 pm+ | Apr. 28 | VCSU Band & Valley City Civic Orchestra .....              | 3:00 pm* |
| Dec. 2     | VCSU Concert Band .....                           | 3:00 pm* | Apr. 30 | The Weavers.....   | 7:30 pm+ |
| Dec. 7     | Valley Voices & Valley City Civic Orchestra ..... | 7:30 pm  | May 3   | Composers' Concert.....                                    | 7:30 pm  |
| Dec. 11    | Garage Bands .....                                | 4:00 pm  | May 7   | Garage Bands .....   | 4:00 pm  |
| Jan. 14    | VCSU Faculty Recital.....                         | 7:30 pm* |         |  |          |
| Feb. 2     | Reuben Ristrom .....                              | 7:30 pm+ |         |  |          |
| Feb. 25    | Sigurd Johnson, Percussion .....                  | 3:00 pm* |         |  |          |
| Mar. 8     | VCSU Concert Band & Chamber Ensembles .....       | 7:30 pm* |         |  |          |
| Mar. 22    | General Student Recital .....                     | 7:30 pm  |         |  |          |

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

+Admission by SEASON MEMBERSHIP only

\*\*\*Benefit concert, free will offering only. All proceeds go to music scholarships.

All events are subject to schedule change. Please feel free to confirm dates before attending any event by calling 800-532-8641, ext. 37272 or 1-701-845-7272

**Weddings**

Sarah Fehr '06 & Matthew Stewart '05 ..... May 20, 2006  
 Warren Michael '05 & Ashley Carow ..... May 20, 2006  
 Shawntil Pfaff '92 & Casey Knecht ..... June 10, 2006  
 Matt Nielson '06 & Annette Finke ..... June 10, 2006  
 Tom Milbrandt '05 & Amy Sommerfeld ..... June 10, 2006  
 Cindy Mund '00 & Jonathan Brown ..... June 17, 2006  
 Stephanie Topp '06 & Joshua Manz ..... June 23, 2006  
 Carissa Neumiller '06 & Patrick Metzger '06 ..... June 24, 2006  
 Trish Maus '04 & Chad Lueck '05 ..... July 8, 2006  
 Sarah Jo Didier '03 & Jimmy Ray Newton, Jr. '05 ..... August 4, 2006  
 Scarlet Gray '03 & Ben Bernard '01 ..... August 5, 2006  
 Tony Bruse '06 & Kristen Enger ..... August 12, 2006  
 Heidi Peterson '00 & Tyler Zimmerman ..... September 23, 2006  
 Bridgette Thomsen '04 & Derrick Rader ..... September 23, 2006  
 Joan Conway '03 & Chance Hooper '03 ..... September 30, 2006  
 Heather Olstad '04 & Kevin Schudar ..... October 6, 2006  
 Tom Eggert '00 & Sarah Elliott ..... October 7, 2006  
 Brandon Albrecht '06 & Jessica Bartz ..... October 14, 2006  
 Andrea Brand '04 & Wade Haugen ..... October 21, 2006  
 Randee Silbernagel '05 & Philip Halvorson '05 ..... November 11, 2006

**Vikings On the Move****1950s**

**John Sisco '54** and his wife try to take a major trip or two each year. They continue to live in Springfield, MO. John retired from Missouri State University in 2001.

**Edmund G. Motl**

'59 and his wife Marilyn enjoy the summers in ND, spend the winters in New Braunfels, TX, and plan to do this as long as their health permits. They have been blessed with eight grandchildren,

6 boys and 2 girls. The youngest is going to be a year old on Nov. 7th this year. Caleb is now 10 months and is walking and mimics words... truly exceptional. The grandchildren range from 18 yrs. down to 1 year. Edmund is enjoying retirement after his 40 yrs. plus in teaching. He has resumed golfing and gets out as much as possible. Both Edmund and Marilyn enjoy music, so they attend the Symphony both in Texas and in Fargo whenever possible. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 25, 2005 and as a celebration took a cruise to Alaska in June of 2006.

**1960s**

**Joan (Heidenreich) '60** & Hubert Blegan are retired. They have 3 children, 2 of whom are married. They also have 8 grandchildren to keep them very busy!

**Joann (Delzer) Place '60** is a retired music teacher. She has taught music in North Dakota, Arkansas, and Colorado.

**Al Bortke '60** was honored by the North Dakota Dollars for Scholars organization at the Celebrate North Dakotans event in Bismarck. He was recognized in the parent and relative category and was nominated by his granddaughter, Kirsten Bortke. Dollars for Scholars is establishing a \$1,000 scholarship in his hometown for a 2007 graduate. Al has been the athletic director at the University of Mary since 1973. He was also the men's basketball coach for 16 years.

**Ellen J. Alm '63** (known now by Elena) is married to Pedro Littleton, but did not change her name. She and her husband lost 90% of their belongings, their home received 22 1/2 feet of water, and her business of Real Estate was 100% destroyed to Katrina. They are rebuilding their waterfront home and she started from scratch in her business. They feel very lucky to be alive and well. Elena's sister Cecelia, her son Chris, and her husband Randy Mundt (all from North Dakota) were their guardian angels the week after the storm. They came down and helped Elena and Pedro survive mentally, physically, and spiritually with their love and hard labor.

**Bob Gross '64** accepted a job as Superintendent of Schools at Singapore American School

in Singapore after 35 years in education in Minnesota. Singapore American School is the largest International school in the world with 3,700 students and 330 faculty. This is his 8th and final year at the school. He has accepted a job with the Department of State Office of Overseas Schools beginning in August, 2007. He will be living in Washington D.C. and will have the responsibility for working with the International schools in his choice of either Western Europe or Africa. He will need to decide that within the next couple of months. Bob's job will require traveling at least 12 weeks out of the year to one of those two continents. He says working in the International schools is one of the world's best kept secrets. If you're interested in more information, please feel free to get in touch with him.

**Carol Anderson '68** retired in May after teaching 4th grade for 38 years in the Warren/Alvarado/Oslo School District at Warren, MN.

**Kay (Kuipers) Stephens '68** has taught in public schools for 26 years in Stanton, Bismarck, Fort Yates, Mandan, and Corvallis, OR. She has spent the past 13 years at Oregon State University as the program lead for middle and high school teacher preparation in Language Arts. This fall term begins her 40th year as an educator, and she says it's the students who continue to draw her back to the classroom. In June, the College of Education gave Kay the college Creativity Award not only because of her innovative work in teaching but also for teaching seven of the graduate students how to quilt. She celebrated her 60th birthday in North Dakota during June with two of her VSCS roommates, **Mona Kay Haadem '67** and **Neva Acheson Carlisle**, along with her parents and family. Kay's three children are grown and living nearby. She is blessed with one grandson, Ewan, and expecting her second grandson in December.

**Elwood Adams '64** retired in September from Job Service of North Dakota after 22 years.

**1970s**

**Ken Hoerth '71** is back teaching music at Lakota High School. Ken retired in 2004 after teaching in Lakota for 28 years, but returned in 2005. His wife, Debora, is the Kindergarten teacher in Lakota and his son, Chris, is a LHS junior. Ken's daughter, Tori, is a forensic scientist for The Oregon State Police Department and his daughter, Kayla, is a senior in college majoring in Elementary Education.



**Boyd '75 and Kathy (Shape) '74 Sussex** are starting their 20th year teaching in Milbank, SD. **Son Jackson** is a senior at VCSU majoring in business administration. He is member of the men's basketball team. They have enjoyed traveling to all the games and being part of VCSU again.

**Antigone Karapetsa '76** is living in London (U.K.) with her husband and enjoying a new professional challenge in her life: managing under- and post-graduate educational programs (BA and MA degrees in Professional Studies in Education, Certificate in Education, Subject Specialist qualifications).

**Bruce '76 and Cyndi Stein '77** are still living on Lake Elsie and teaching in Hankinson. Bruce has retired from coaching Varsity Basketball but still enjoys taking teams to compete in tournaments overseas to Ireland, Belgium, Holland, England, and Hawaii. Cyndi says their greatest adventure so far has been becoming a Grandma and Grandpa! It is so fun!

**Mark Arneson** is currently on the roster for guitarists with the Minnesota Orchestra and he also does seminars for them. Some of the people he's worked with include keyboardist Ricky Peterson (who people can see on Leno and Letterman playing with John Mayer and he is also saxophonist David Sanborn's piano player), Larry McCabe and Larry Foyen (both with the Maynard Ferguson band), many members of Prince's, Frank Zappa's, and Janet Jackson's bands, and also Cynthia Johnson (the singer of Funkytown). Mark produced over 20 CDs last year with Prince and Revolution drummer Bobby Z. Check out his website at [www.cdbaby.com/mava](http://www.cdbaby.com/mava). He lives in Minnetonka with his Labrador, Zeke. Alumni can feel free to contact him at markarneson@usfamily.net.

**Bill Beranek '79** has worked with American Family Insurance Company in Eden Prairie, MN for 28 years in its underwriting department. He and his wife, Marjean, live in New Prague, MN and have two sons: Evan, 15 and Tony, 12. Marjean is a nurse at St. Francis Hospital in Shakopee, MN. Bill is still doing lot of sports and gets to the Boundary Waters a couple times a year. Their boys are big into Boy Scouts, football, baseball, ice fishing and hunting.

**Donn '79 and Kristi (Froeber) '80 Frahm** are still living in New Rockford, ND since moving there in 1982! They really enjoy the benefits of living in a small town. Kristi is currently in her 23rd year of teaching high school English, however, this is her first year teaching at the newly reorganized New Rockford-Sheyenne School. Donn has been selling Farmers Union insurance since 1980 and has been involved in many volunteer positions throughout the years. Their daughter Whitney, who is studying English and political science, is in her third year at Concordia College. Kendall, their 12-year-old son, is a sixth grader who is just starting to learn to play the trumpet. Donn and Kristi still take a sentimental drive through campus every time they come to Valley City to visit with Donn's 94-year-old grandmother.

**1980s**

**Jerald Hagen '80** is in his third year with New Salem Public School as a "Holstein," teaching 6th grade and Physical Education. His daughter, **Christina '04**, is teaching 6th grade in Hankinson. Stephanie is working in Bismarck. Alexandra graduated in 2006 from New Salem. Cassandra is a junior and Mackenzie is a 5th grader, both in New Salem. Jerald is coaching some basketball, volleyball, golf, and softball in the summer.

**Deb (Coughlin) Kottick '80** and family recently moved to Grand Forks, ND. She previously taught in elementary education for 24 years at Mandan.

**Tami Flink '81** is teaching in Langdon, ND. She is in her 26th year of teaching sixth graders! Her husband, Jeff, is a farmer. They have three children who are now all young adults. Nicole is living and working in Fargo. Jessica is attending UND, and Justin (the baby) is attending NDSU. Tami played volleyball and basketball while attending VCSU and her 1979 volleyball team is in the VCSU Hall of Fame. She is currently coaching volleyball in Langdon as the assistant coach. She really enjoys teaching and coaching! Tami says, "Thanks VCSU for the great education I received so I could teach the future leaders of tomorrow. It is a learning experience everyday teaching young children."

**Dave Bergum '81** is beginning his 13th year at North Crawford High School in southwest Wisconsin. He teaches and works with EBD students. He also serves as the school's Athletic Director and is the Varsity Girls Basketball Coach (171-93) as well. He has two sons: AJ is a freshman in college and Ben is a junior in high school. During the summer months, Dave is the Viroqua Park and Recreation Baseball/Softball Director and coach of the 16-U Jr. Legion Baseball team. They finished 2nd in the State Tournament this past year. He also assists the Varsity Legion, who finished 2nd in State and 3rd in the National Tournament. They reside in the rolling hills of Vernon County, south of Viroqua, WI.

**In Remembrance**

Sylvia (Syvertson) Fogderud '36 & '72, Howard Lake, MN  
 Ethel R. Hanson '56, Fargo  
 Arlene (Olson) Holden, Longmont, CO  
 Alvina (Kutter) Klawitter, Wahpeton  
 Terence L. Stout '54, Fosston, MN  
 Maxine (Asmus) Berger '40, Valley City  
 Deborah A. Walz '81, Williamsburg, VA  
 Inez (Haugen) Stockeland '42, Hannaford  
 Berta (Ferguson) Marlowe '27 & '61, Drayton  
 John Dennis Dafoe '63, Mesa, AZ  
 Gudrun "Goodie" (Henrikson) Zimmerman '42, Fargo  
 Ann (Arne) Sorlie-Togstad, Maddock  
 Phyllis (Paulson) Hallberg '55 & '65, Miami, FL  
 Jean (Christenson) Isakson, Forman  
 Gene A. Schutt '59, Ada, MN  
 Lydia E. Hoffman, Fargo  
 Brian J. Williams, Rock Springs, WY  
 Paul Sundstrom '52, Los Banos, CA  
 Clara Bueligen, New Salem  
 Maxine Gutting '88, Minnewaukan  
 Keith A. Lutjens '80, Valley City  
 Marlin D. Aagene '67, Fargo  
 Donna (Culliton) Thomas '41, Council Bluffs, IA  
 Charlotte (Skonnord) Thompson '44, Columbia, MD  
 Annette (Keene) Schmidt '28, Grand Forks  
 Eugene M. Bong '33, Valley City  
 Helen (Branson) Reeser '37, Fargo  
 Curtis E. Brekke, Devils Lake  
 Kim McGregor '72, Riverdale  
 Lynn Lende '42, Irvine, CA  
 William W. Pierce '43, Brookfield, WI  
 Mindy Morgenstern, Valley City  
 Alice (Matthey) Rindt '31, New Rockford  
 Joyce (Fossen) Larson, Fargo  
 Helen (Alm) Knapp, Jamestown  
 Doris (Brun) Shepley '45, Las Vegas, NV  
 Maurice S. Iverson, Tualatin, OR  
 Roy A. Peterson '47, Dearborn, MI  
 Cathy (Walton) Jahn '98, Valley City  
 Martha (Hayes) Tufto, New Rockford  
 Richard W. Myatt '60, Bismarck  
 Former VCSU Staff  
 Gayle D. Overbeck, Valley City

**Rich Hovland '81** teaches Business and Physical Education at Bismarck Century High School, where he also coaches basketball & track. His wife, Jayne, is a dietician at Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center. Their daughter, Taylor, is a 7th grader at Horizon Middle School. She plays the trombone, runs cross country and track, plays volleyball and basketball, and even studies once in awhile. This is Rich and Jayne's 18th year in Bismarck.



**Lisa Webster-Ott '82** and more recently 2004, lives in Cooperstown with two of her children. Her oldest, Lucas, is a student at Minnesota State Moorhead, living between the FM area and home. Lisa's other two children are Cameron, 16 and Keri, almost 13. Both are graduates of Camp Cyber Prairie at VCSU. Cameron is a Sophomore at GCC and Keri is a 7th grader at the Hope-Page High School. The kids lost their father in December of 2005 and most recently their brother Keegan. Keegan, a senior at Griggs County Central, was suffering from a very rare cancer - Desmoplastic Small Round Blue Cell Tumor of the Peritoneum - unfortunately Keegan lost his battle on the 9th of October. He would have loved to attend VCSU and play basketball for the Vikings, he appreciated his communications with President Chaffee.

Lisa loves her job teaching all the business and computer classes (grades 7-12) at the Hope-Page High School where she has been for the last three years. Life has revolved around Keegan and his medical schedule for the last three years so we have recently begun a new regimen. Thanks to all my VCSU friends who have kept tabs on us through Keegan's website! Lisa loves reading all of your notes and encouragements. [I'll keep the website up for a little bit yet because so many are checking out Keegan's journey so you can check up on us at Keegan's website <http://www.caringbridge.org/nd/keegan>] This past summer our "communities" sent us on our first and only family vacation in seven years. We were able to spend five days in The Cities and go to Valley Fair, Mall of America and a Twins batting practice and game. The kids and I had a marvelous time getting to know each other better and differently. We will all miss Keegan. Feel free to stop by if you are ever in the Cooperstown area or drop us a line.

**Kevin Bratland '90** started his 17th year in education. This will be his 10th year in Enderlin teaching Physical Education and middle school Science.

**Bill Wieland '86** was named Outstanding Faculty Member at Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD last May. He has taught at the university since 1994. Last June, Dr. Wieland was among 95 university and high school music theory instructors who graded 12,500 Advanced Placement (AP) music theory exams in one week at The University of New Jersey. Like the more familiar AP math and English courses, AP

music theory is a high school class equivalent to a first year university course. A national exam is offered every May and high school students who score well may test out of college courses at participating universities. Bill and Mary Ann (Nelson) have three children ages 9, 7, and almost 5. They are growing fast.

**Karen (Rufsvold) '86** married James Falk on June 11, 2005. She has worked for WW Wallworks for 20 years. Recently, she changed positions to Wallwork Financial Corp. She is living by Christine, ND. Karen says "Hi" to all Tri Sigmas, Sigma Nu's and sisters.

**Cindy (Morth) Kapaun '87** was honored by the North Dakota Dollars for Scholars organization at the "Celebrate North Dakotans" event in Bismarck. She was recognized in the education category. Dollars for Scholars is establishing a \$1,000 scholarship for a 2007 graduate in her hometown. She is an elementary teacher in the Maple Valley School District and also the Chapter Advisor for Students Against Destructive Decisions.

**Jeff Manley '87** is beginning his 19th year of teaching and coaching and still loves it. The past 7 years were at Leeds High School (ND), with 7 years in Bismarck, 3 in Walhalla, 1 at Four Winds, and 1 year of Graduate School at UND. He and his wife Michelle have been married for 15 years and they have 3 beautiful daughters: Ashley is 14, Allison is 13, and Alea is 4. Jeff says it's great to see so many former Vikings at sports events all over, and it would be great to hear from many more. He says, "Stop by if you're ever in Leeds."

#### 1990s

**Melinda Berg '90** returned home to North Dakota in 1999 after teaching in Spain, Montana, and Alaska. She presently teaches Spanish in the Bismarck Public School system. From 2001-2004, she was an Admissions Counselor at Mayville State University. This fact makes the rivalry shared by both universities uniquely interesting to debate at athletic events! Melinda says Valley City will always be her home away from home, and with the addition of graduate credits, VCSU continues to be a great place to get and to further an education.

**Kevin Bratland '90** started his 17th year in education. This will be his 10th year in Enderlin teaching Physical Education and middle school Science.

**Becky (Blasey) '92** married Brent Keith '92, a former VCSU football player, in July of 1994 and they have 2 children. Derrick is 9 years old and in the 4th grade, and Kaleb is 7 years old and in the 2nd grade. They live in Lyons, CO, which is 20 miles directly west of Longmont or 15 miles north of Boulder. She is currently the lead Medical Assistant at the Boulder Center for Sports Medicine (BCSM) in Boulder, CO. BCSM is ranked one of the top 5 Sports Medicine centers in the country. Brent was finally accepted into Nursing school this fall, after being on a wait list for 3

years! He is in school full time and is working part time at Boulder Community Hospital on the telemetry floor. They'd love to hear from everyone, "Feel free to come out and ski the Rockies!"



**Darin Loe '91** and his wife Lisa have 3 children: Abby 6, Macy 4, and Cooper 2. He is currently in his 8th year as Head Baseball Coach at Northwest Missouri State University located in Maryville, MO, and has had the opportunity to have the VCSU Viking Baseball team down to play over a weekend. He also has had former Viking Steve Olson (U of MN Crookston) down to play several times. Darin is not coaching football anymore, but follows the Bearcat Football Team every step of the way (2005 National Runner up, currently ranked #2 in the nation).



**Steve Gulseth '92** is living in Omaha, NE, working for Lenovo (formerly IBM PCD) as a sales rep covering NE and IA. He and his wife Lisa have been married 10 years and have three kids: Claire 9, Cody 7, and Christina 4.

**Bryan Poyer '92** is currently in his 15th year of teaching and 6th year as choral director at West Central Area Schools (Grant Co., MN). He conducts four school choirs, show choirs, and produces the school musical two out of every three years, with his choir touring on the off-year. Bryan remains active on guitar and sax as well by freelancing with local musicians. He is married to Jessica and they have four children: Katie is 10, Matthew is 7, Libby is 6, and Lexi is 6. All the Poyzers are active in church, community theater, and music. They reside in Elbow Lake.

**Shane Lee '92** and his wife, Carla (Brantner), have 4 children. Justin is 13, Abby is 11, Tracer is 9, and Payton is 8. They have lived in Wheaton, MN for the past 9 years. Carla has been a dental assistant in Wheaton for 8 years and recently

became an EMT for the local hospital ambulance corps. Shane has worn many hats for the Wheaton school district. He is currently teaching 7th grade English, 7/8th grade Spanish, as well as Spanish I and II. He is the offensive/defensive line football coach as well as defensive coordinator. Shane and Carla have taken many trips to Mexico with his students. They work together as tour leaders coordinating fundraising and building language and culture intensive programs for his students. Most of the credit for the program's success is due to Carla's full support and organization. They also work together as youth leaders for their church. Their children keep very busy in various sports and activities.

**Rita (Kramer) Jarrett '94** and husband Mike had a baby boy, Jackson Paul, on July 16, 2006.

**Jeanine (Stroh) Altringer '94** is an Administrative Assistant for the Vocational Rehabilitation Office in Jamestown, ND. Jeanine's husband is self-employed and is the owner/operator of Bill's Dozer, Payload & Trackhoe Service in Sanborn, ND. They have four children, two girls and two boys. The girls are married and one son is getting married on April 28, 2007. The other son is not married, but has a wonderful little boy, Ethan, who will be three this October, 2006. Jeanine and Bill have been married 37 years as of June, 2006.

**Andrew Warcken '96** has been a stay at home Dad for 5 years. He has been married to Ranelle (Leier) for 9 years. They have 2 girls. McKenna is 6 and Sydney is 4. Andrew and Ranelle currently live in the Twin Cities and have been there for about 12 years.

**Chris and Heidi (Rocheleau) Eckart '96** are entering their eighth year of living in Hillsboro, ND. Chris is teaching fifth grade and coaching golf and basketball in Hillsboro. Heidi recently accepted a job in Hillsboro as the Tech Coordinator and also teaching Art and Physical Education after working in Central Valley for seven years. Chris and Heidi have two children: Addi is 8, and Adyn is 2. They'd love to hear from their VCSU friends. Email them at: [Chris.Eckart@sedit.nodak.edu](mailto:Chris.Eckart@sedit.nodak.edu).

**Nancy (Maresh) '97 & Al '97 Melo** are still teaching in Bullhead City, Arizona. Al is the Athletic Director and head football coach at Mohave High School. Nancy is teaching special education. They both finished their Master of Education degrees from Northern Arizona University. Their daughters keep them busy as well. Brinkley is 5 and started kindergarten this year. Bailee is 3 and she goes to preschool. To our friends, let us know if you ever make it to the Las Vegas or Phoenix area. We aren't too far from either place.

**Elizabeth Bue Maher '03** is in her fourth year of teaching in Glyndon, MN. She is married to Jared Maher and they just welcomed their first child, Annabelle Bue Maher. They are living in the Fargo area.



**Beth (Althoff) Mauch '03** and her husband Benjamin Mauch with daughters Brooklyn (2) and Braya (1). The family lives in Iowa Falls, IA. Beth is a preschool teacher.

**Mandi (Groth) Radcliffe '03** became the owner/director of Creative Learning Preschool located in West Fargo last May. Before becoming the owner, Mandi taught there for the 3 years since graduating from college.

**Mandy German '04** graduated from VCSU with an elementary education degree. After graduation, she spent her summer in Sitka, AK. In the fall, Mandy returned to Fargo, ND where she substitute taught for a year. Since then, she's been living and teaching 4th grade in Denver, CO for a little over a year.

**Mark Fabian '04** is now in his second year of teaching. He has spent both years at Lake of the Woods High School. He is the head hockey coach, JV baseball coach, and he lends some time to the football team. He says, "This is God's country up here. All the fishing and hunting I can handle!"



**Coach Cory Schall** and 2006 North Dakota State Wrestling Champion Casey Buchholz.

**2000s**

**Paige (Larson) Sullivan '00** is the Director of Human Resources at the Human Service Agency in Watertown, SD. She also serves on the Civil Service Board for the City of Watertown and is going to be President-Elect of the local SHRM Group in 2007. Paige's husband, Adam, is a Design/Manufacturing Engineer. Adam is originally from Crookston, MN and also coaches the Watertown Junior Gold Varsity Hockey Team. They love Watertown. They spend time on the lake that they live on in the summer, and travel to hockey games in the winter.



**Elizabeth Bue Maher '03** is in her fourth year of teaching in Glyndon, MN. She is married to Jared Maher and they just welcomed their first child, Annabelle Bue Maher. They are living in the Fargo area.

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**ext. 37203**

# MILESTONES



Brent '97 and Chantel (Hager) '98 Hoffert welcomed their first child, Treyton Blake, on April 27, 2006.



Brent '94 and Kami Hooey are the proud parents of a boy, Zachary Donald, born September 17th, weighing 9 lbs, 9 ounces. He joins Lana who turns two this Thanksgiving.



Tony '02 & Kasey (Kottwick) Piccalo '00 had a baby boy, Anthony Nicholas Piccalo, Jr., on June 16, 2006. Tony is in his 5th year as a Physical Education teacher and 2nd year as the Head Football Coach at Cocoa Beach High School. Kasey is in her 2nd year as the business office manager at Omni Home Care in Melbourne, FL.



Jamie '02 & Amanda (Zumbaun) '03 Hoggard welcomed Caden John Hoggard July 19, 2006. Jamie is employed by Gooseneck Implement in Minot, ND in Public Relations, and Amanda is employed by Holiday Inn in Minot, ND as the Director of Catering. Their other daughter, Cassidy, is now 4 years old.



Tom Milbrandt '05 married Amy (Sommerfeld) on June 10th, 2006 in Valley City. Tom teaches chemistry and math at Maple Valley High School, and is the assistant football coach and assistant boys basketball coach. Amy currently has two years of school left at VCSU pursuing a degree in History and Elementary Education. They currently reside in Tower City, ND.



Matthew Stewart '05 and Sarah Fehr '06 were married May 20, 2006, in Valley City. Matthew is currently working at Northstar Technology Group in Fargo as a Support Analyst, and Sarah is working at PRACS Institute as a Lab Assistant. They live in Fargo.



Joan Conway '03 and Chance Hooper '03 were married in September, 2006 in Wilmar, MN. Chance graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration and has been working as a Financial Advisor in Benson, MN for the last 3 years. Joan graduated from VCSU with a B.S. in Physical and Health Education, and went on to graduate from Creighton University's Accelerated Nursing program with a B.S. in Nursing.

## Adopt-a-Room at the President's House a Great Success!



The President's House Preservation Society is pleased to announce that their Adopt-a-Room program has met with a huge success! In response to our last article in *The Bulletin*, Ron and Judy Lokken and their daughter, Christy Kelley, have adopted the dining room and reception hall respectively. The Barnes County Pioneer Daughters donated funds to restore the Gentleman's Room, the Sandy Goffe family the parlor and the Rhoades family the music room.

Three of the adopted rooms on the main floor—the dining room, the parlor and the gentleman's room have already had the old wallpaper stripped, the walls repaired and the new, more

appropriate, period wallpaper applied. They look beautiful! Thank you so much to the special people who have donated to adopt a room. Also, a special thanks to the Valley City Beta Sigma Phi Chapters for their help with this labor intensive work.

The only remaining room on the main floor is the entry. The second floor main bathroom and one of the bedrooms has also been adopted. There is the possibility that the half-bath upstairs will be adopted soon. The attic is being set up as a

playroom for the kids and the one finished room up there has been renovated as well. Sponsors may still "Adopt-a-Room" by making a \$500.00 tax deductible gift, and will be recognized by an engraved bronze plate displayed in the room.

There are still more projects planned so the President's House Preservation Society is still conducting research on the interiors of the historic home. Research has already uncovered original wallpaper designs and decorative moldings but, with no interior photos of the house, the group can only make educated guesses as to what some of the other decorative



elements looked like originally. "We are really hoping someone with photos or memories of the home's interior will assist us," says Becky Heise, co-chair of the Society. "We know many events through the years were held at the house including Freshman and Graduation Teas, as well as parties for visiting dignitaries and informal gatherings. I am sure many of these events were photographed. We would like to ask the former residents of the house, the President's families, or even past visitors to the house to check their albums for any historic photos of the house, interior or exterior, that they might be willing to share with this hard-working group. Specifically, although any are welcome, we are looking for photos of the parlor area to find out what the original mantle may have looked like, the bench at the base of the stairs also in the parlor, the original dining room chandelier, porch railings, and landscaping features, even if they are only visible in the background of the photo."

If you have any photos to share or know of anyone who does, or anyone interested in adopting a room, or making any form of contribution, contact Becky Heise at heise@nodaknet.net. Thank you so much for your help!

A reminder that the historic VCSU President's House, built in 1901, is now being used as a Guest Inn for visitors to the Valley City area. The home is available for use by the day, night or week and will accommodate small meetings, family gatherings, and parties. The Guest Inn is available by single room or the entire house, which sleeps a maximum of nine, in a family atmosphere. Consider staying at the home on your next visit to Valley City! ♦

## e-Delivery of *The Bulletin*!

Did you know that you can save VCSU money by electing to have your copy of *The Bulletin* electronically delivered to you via e-mail? "*The Bulletin*" is a valued and important way for us to stay in touch with our alumni, said Larry Robinson, Director of Advancement, but each copy we need to print and mail costs the VCSU Advancement office between \$.70 and \$.80. We can reduce this expense if we can persuade alumni to receive the publication electronically instead."

To get your copy of *The Bulletin* delivered electronically, just subscribe to a special online newsletter we have set-up just for alumni. Then, whenever a new issue of *The Bulletin* is available, you will receive an e-mail notification containing a link to a page you can visit to download it. Once you have subscribed to the online version of *The Bulletin*, you will be removed from *The Bulletin*'s regular mailing list, and help us save money with every issue!

To subscribe to this special newsletter, visit: <http://www.vcsu.edu/newsletter/>.

Provide your email address, first and last name. Then, you can subscribe to any of several VCSU electronic newsletters, including one for *The Bulletin* (others include "VCSU Alumni News," "Viking Sports News," and several others). Select the newsletters you wish to receive. You can unsubscribe to any of these newsletters at any time, and VCSU will keep your information confidential.

If you have any questions please call Kim Hesch at 800-532-8641 ext. 3-7203. ♦





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