

# THE BULLETIN

*A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University*



## I ♥ VCSU: 125 Reasons

Commencement 2015 ♦ Wellness Center ground-breaking ♦ Employee recognition



DEPARTMENTS

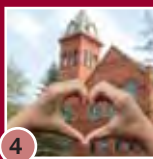
- 1 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
- 2 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CORNER
- 3 FOUNDATION CORNER
- 42 VIKING HIGHLIGHTS
- 48 VCSU CONNECTIONS

**Welcome to the *Bulletin!***

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

Larry Robinson '71.....	701-845-7217
<i>Executive Director of University Advancement</i>	<i>larry.robinson@vcsu.edu</i>
Kim Svenningsen-Hesch '91.....	701-845-7403
<i>Assistant Director of University Advancement</i>	<i>kim.hesch@vcsu.edu</i>
Jeremy Wiebe '08.....	701-845-7216
<i>Assistant Director of Annual Giving</i>	<i>jeremy.wiebe@vcsu.edu</i>
Loree Morehouse '89.....	701-845-7203
<i>Data Processing and Research Coordinator</i>	<i>loree.morehouse@vcsu.edu</i>
Greg Vanney.....	701-845-7227
<i>Director of Marketing and Communications</i>	<i>greg.vanney@vcsu.edu</i>
Jack Denholm.....	701-845-7160
<i>Athletic Director</i>	<i>jack.denholm@vcsu.edu</i>
Mark Potts.....	701-845-7228
<i>Sports Information Director</i>	<i>mark.m.potts@vcsu.edu</i>
Tara Praska '05.....	701-845-7362
<i>Graphic Designer</i>	<i>tara.praska@vcsu.edu</i>
Toll Free.....	800-532-8641 ext. 7203
VCSU Website.....	www.vcsu.edu

Cover Story



4

**4 I ♥ VCSU: 125 Reasons**

*Here are 125 reasons to celebrate VCSU on its 125th anniversary. With suggestions from alumni, faculty, staff and students, we've compiled and illustrated a list to stir memories and compel us to think a little more about what makes this university a special place. We knew going in that we wouldn't get them all—that others would have more items to add to the list (and please do share)—but we wanted to give it a try anyway.*



26

**26 Commencement 2015 and Class of 2015 Senior Profiles**

*The collective undergraduate and graduate classes of 2015 were the largest in VCSU history; more than 300 individuals earned degrees and were eligible to participate in commencement. Learn more about five of those graduates by reading the profiles of Sierra Even, Karlie and Josue Hernandez, Jacob Olson and Scott Westby.*



38

**37 Community breaks ground for Wellness Center**

*The greater Valley City community, including Valley City State University, came together to envision and support the Valley City Health, Wellness and Physical Education Center, and on June 3, project leaders and supporters gathered for a ground-breaking ceremony for the new facility. Check out construction on the center by visiting the webcam at [technologyservices.vcsu.edu/vp.htm?p=3420](http://technologyservices.vcsu.edu/vp.htm?p=3420).*

**38 VCSU recognizes four retirees and their contributions to the university**

*Jan Drake, Marcia Foss '72, Dale Hoskisson and Kathryn Holleque collectively provided more than 13 decades of service to VCSU and so are more than deserving of a little recognition as they depart the university. Read about their contributions and careers, and remember what they have done for so many students.*



## Carry the VCSU Torch!

President Tisa Mason, Ed.D.

How exciting it was to be part of one of the largest commencement exercises in the history of VCSU— over 300 new alumni! These newly conferred academic degrees offer our most recent graduates opportunities for new beginnings full of promise and hope. And best yet, our new alumni can be confident that they join a distinguished group of alumni who serve their professions and communities with distinction.

During the commencement ceremony I shared with our graduates the following message: “Please be assured— this commencement exercise does not mean a severance of your tie to us or the university’s tie to you. Like a good parent, its love and concern will always be with you, ready to help you in any way possible. Commencement signifies the beginning of a lifetime association with your university. Not only will the university stand with you, but it also looks to you to be a torchbearer and the promoter of its spirit.”

There are so many ways to be a torchbearer and promoter of the VCSU spirit. Living our motto of being a difference maker in everyday actions— small and great—is our charge. There are also lots of easy ways to stay engaged and connected to your alma mater. Here are a few:

- Access career services throughout your life; we are always here to support your professional sojourns. ([www.vcsu.edu/careerservices](http://www.vcsu.edu/careerservices))
- Attend events for alumni and friends.
- Celebrate VCSU’s 125th anniversary on campus or virtually. ([www.vcsu.edu/125](http://www.vcsu.edu/125))
- Check if your employer offers a matching-gift program.
- Come back for professional enhancements and graduate degrees—we miss you!
- Contribute content to support the VCSU social media presence—and don’t forget to like and/or follow us. ([www.facebook.com/valleycitystate](http://www.facebook.com/valleycitystate), [twitter.com/vcsu](https://twitter.com/vcsu))
- Create internship opportunities for students. ([www.vcsu.edu/careerservices/vp.htm?p=928](http://www.vcsu.edu/careerservices/vp.htm?p=928))
- Display your diploma at your place of employment.
- Encourage others—first-time students or students who are looking for a new opportunity—to consider VCSU. ([alumni.vcsu.edu/info/vp.htm?p=2544](http://alumni.vcsu.edu/info/vp.htm?p=2544))
- Hire a grad.
- Host an event on campus such as a meeting, conference, service project, or family celebration. ([www.vcsu.edu/eventservices](http://www.vcsu.edu/eventservices))
- Keep a VCSU coffee mug and/or water bottle at the office.
- Mentor a VCSU student.
- Name VCSU in your estate plans. ([alumni.vcsu.edu/givingopp](http://alumni.vcsu.edu/givingopp))
- Nominate alumni for awards and VCSU volunteer boards and committees. ([alumni.vcsu.edu/boards](http://alumni.vcsu.edu/boards))
- Pay it forward by becoming a V-500 member.
- Share your news with the Alumni/Foundation Office for *The Bulletin*.
- Travel back to campus for events such as reunions, special lectures and classes, music concerts and recitals, theatre productions, and athletic contests.
- Update your contact information. ([alumni.vcsu.edu/keepintouch/vp.htm?p=105](http://alumni.vcsu.edu/keepintouch/vp.htm?p=105))
- Volunteer with an alumni chapter or reunion event.
- Wear VCSU apparel.

Regardless of how you chose to stay connected, please know we remain interested in you and are always proud to call you a Viking!



### You are invited to stop by, enjoy some complimentary appetizers, spend time reminiscing and catching up with other alumni and find out what is new at VCSU!

Please put these dates on your calendars, and if you are in the area, please join us (and bring other alumni with you). All socials are from 5:30–7:30 p.m.

A RSVP is requested. Please contact Kim Hesch at 800-532-8641 ext. 7403 or [kim.hesch@vcsu.edu](mailto:kim.hesch@vcsu.edu).

- September 22** .....VCSU Tuesday Social in Bismarck (TBD)
- October 27** .....VCSU Tuesday Social in Fargo (Green Mill)
- November 17** .....VCSU Tuesday Social in Jamestown (Grizzly’s)
- January 26** .....VCSU Tuesday Social in Bismarck (TBD)
- February 23** .....VCSU Tuesday Social in Grand Forks (Green Mill)
- March 22** .....VCSU Tuesday Social in Fargo (Green Mill)
- April 26** .....VCSU Tuesday Social in Jamestown (TBD)

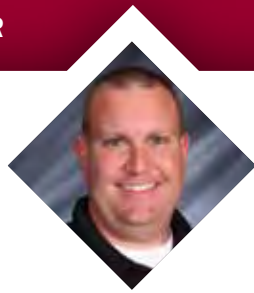
Watch for more VCSU events on our Facebook page or at [alumni.vcsu.edu](http://alumni.vcsu.edu).

# leave a Legacy for V-500 at VCSU



The VCSU Foundation Leave a Legacy program is designed to encourage alumni and friends who have supported the university while they were living to continue to have an impact on VCSU after the time of their death. They can do so with a charitable bequest, which can be in the form of cash, stocks, bonds, life insurance, or a percentage of their estate. More often than not, attractive tax benefits are associated with such a bequest.

**For further information on the Leave a Legacy program, contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7217 or email Larry Robinson, executive director of university advancement, at [larry.robinson@vcsu.edu](mailto:larry.robinson@vcsu.edu).**



## VCSU and Viking Pride on the Upswing!

by Josh Argall '99, Alumni Board President

Serving these past two years as president of the Alumni Board of Directors has been an absolute honor and privilege, and as I type my final article for *The Bulletin*, I cannot help but think about how far our university has progressed since I was on campus 16 years ago.

I ran my last Alumni Board meeting on June 17, and there we heard from President Tisa Mason and Larry Robinson that the vision and momentum VCSU currently enjoys is second to none in the state of North Dakota.

It is clear to me that many others in the state think so as well.

VCSU is the only public university with the possibility of over \$45

million in new buildings and updates to the campus almost entirely funded by the state. Next time you are in Valley City, swing through campus and take a look at some of the exciting things that are happening, including: a makeover of Vangstad Auditorium and classrooms on the lower two levels, construction of the Wellness Center east of the Bubble, remodeling of the Student Center upper lounge, new up-to-date and efficient Heating Plant (I know this excites every-

*All of these projects are directly related to student enrollment (which is about as high as it has ever been, and now we have 304 new alumni!), and a big thank you goes out to all those alumni who have recruited and supported our university in any capacity.*

one!), removal of the old science building, and a flood wall being built along College Street. In addition, it is highly likely Foss Hall (the music building) will be razed (along with McCarthy Hall) and replaced with a new Communication and Fine Arts Building.

All of these projects are directly related to student enrollment (which is about as high as it has ever been, and now we have 302 new alumni!), and a big thank you goes out to all those alumni who have recruited and supported our university in any capacity.

The big dates to look forward to this fall are October 1-3, the inauguration of President Mason and Homecoming Weekend (see p. 30 for complete details).

Before I sign off I want to let you know I will be handing the reins of the Alumni Board presidency over to Greta (Trader) Delparte '06. The board is most definitely in good hands with her at the helm. I would like to again thank all the past and present Alumni Board directors for their time and dedication that you have given back to our university. It is very evident that our alumni have an enormous amount of pride, and that pride is being passed on to many generations of new Vikings.

### 2014-15 VCSU Alumni Board of Directors

**PRESIDENT**

**Greta (Trader) Delparte '06**

**FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE**

**Dave Bass '77**

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**vacant**

**PAST PRESIDENT**

**Josh Argall '99**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**Deb (Gruman) Burchill '98**

**Mary Halvorson '89**

**Maryellen (Vandrovec) Homan '74**

**Paul Keidel '86**

**Stacy Wendel-Monilaws '02**

**Ashley (Smette) Krinke '09**

**Stephanie (Trautman) Roelfsema '07**

**Tristan Ross '08**

**Jim Vandrovec '74**

**Sheri (Sweree) Wetch '98**

**CHAIR**

**Mary Simonson**

**VICE CHAIR**

**Matt Pedersen**

**TREASURER**

**Jeff Nathan**

**SECRETARY**

**Dave Bass '77**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**Ken Astrup '73**

**Bob Bergan '82**

**Ryan Botner '05**

**DuWayne Bott '58**

**Ray Braun**

**Mark Finstad**

**George Gaukler '62**

### 2014-15 Foundation Board of Directors

**Dick Gulmon**

**Gigi Goven**

**Robert Horne '59**

**Dee Jensen '66**

**Tisa Mason**

**Phillip Mueller '68**

**Mark Richman '74**

**Harvey Schilling '61**

**Gene Smestad**

**Delton Steele '80**

**Jan Stowman**

**Jerry A. Topp '74**

**Erin Welken**

**Larry Robinson '71,**

**ex officio**



## Exciting Times at VCSU

by Larry Robinson '71, Executive Director of University Advancement

These are exciting times at VCSU! We have a new president in Tisa Mason, who joined us in mid-December. She has clearly hit the road running and in a very short period of time has established herself as a strong, visionary leader for our university. Enrollment is strong and retention is rising. Last fall we were just six students shy of an all-time record. VCSU was also recognized once again by *U.S. News and World Report* as one of the leading public regional institutions in the upper Midwest. This is the 17th consecutive year that we have received this special recognition.

In addition the legislature approved funding for a new Heating Plant for the campus and contingent funding for a new Communication and Fine Arts Building, which will replace the current Foss Hall. This new facility will be located west of the Student Center. The contingent funding is dependent on the state's general fund revenue surpassing the estimated fund balance by \$126 million. Foss Hall will be removed because it is on the wrong side of a wall that is being constructed to provide for permanent flood protection for the campus. VCSU also received \$3 million from the legislature earmarked for the university's share of this permanent flood protection.

Yes, there is much excitement here on the campus. We also have the opportunity to participate in the **North Dakota Challenge Grant**

**program.** This exciting new program, funded by the legislature, will give us one dollar for every two dollars we match privately toward new or existing endowments. Our goal is to raise \$2 million privately to match the \$1 million set aside by the State of North Dakota for VCSU in the Challenge Grant Program. For this, and many other reasons, we are asking you to make the VCSU Foundation a priority in your charitable giving to help us reach this goal.

Those of you with North Dakota income tax liabilities have an additional incentive to support the VCSU Foundation. The **North Dakota Endowment Tax Credit of 40 percent is still in place and can be used with the Challenge Grant Program.** Separately in this publication (p. 36), please find an ad which describes how the Endowment Tax Credit works and how it can save you significant tax dollars and assist VCSU in meeting our donation goals at the same time. As always, we advise you to consult your personal tax accountant or attorney for the specifics on how it will impact your personal situation.

Thank you for your support of Valley City State University. Together, we are building an even stronger Valley City State University. Our investments in VCSU are indeed *Securing the Future* today!



## Take Advantage of the North Dakota Tax Credit AND the N.D. Challenge Grant Match Program

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

### NORTH DAKOTA ENDOWMENT GIFT CREDIT

The endowment credit makes it possible for individuals, businesses and financial institutions to give more, and through their contributions, have a greater impact on the state's quality of life. An endowment is a fund held by a tax-exempt organization where the principal of the fund is not wholly expendable. Only the interest and appreciation earned in an endowment fund can be used for current operations.

An individual may receive a 40 percent tax credit for contributions of \$5,000 or more (lump sum or aggregate in one year) to a qualified North Dakota endowment. If a donor is in the 28 percent federal tax bracket, the tax benefit may look like this:

YOUR GIFT AMOUNT	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
Federal Tax Deduction (28%)	-\$1,400	-\$7,000	-\$14,000
N.D. State Income Tax Credit (40%)	-\$2,000	-\$10,000	-\$20,000
<b>NET COST TO YOU</b>	<b>\$1,600</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>

### NORTH DAKOTA CHALLENGE FUND MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

The 2015 North Dakota legislators have once again created the North Dakota Challenge Fund Matching Grant Program. VCSU has been allocated up to \$1 million of matching dollars if we can raise \$2 million in private dollars. The VCSU Foundation is using this program to enhance more than 170 scholarship endowment funds.

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

*As you can see, your charitable gift can cost LESS and do MORE than ever before thanks to the North Dakota Tax Credit and Challenge Grant Match Program! Please consider making a gift today, and as always, this information is provided for educational purposes only. Please consult your own attorney, accountant or financial advisor for advice on your individual situation.*

**Learn more by contacting the VCSU Foundation at [alumni@vcsu.edu](mailto:alumni@vcsu.edu) or (701) 845-7203.**



# I VCSU

## 125 Reasons Why

What follows is a list of 125 entries—people, places, things, notions—that are dear to the hearts of folks who know Valley City State University.

The list was compiled from suggestions from alumni, faculty and staff. By no means is the list exhaustive, nor is it meant to be all-inclusive. Current faculty and staff were deliberately not included to let the examples of those who have come before remind us of who and what is important.

Undoubtedly much that could be on the list does not appear here; do share your ideas and memories with us as we celebrate the university's 125th anniversary.



## 4. clock tower

Truly a landmark, the clock tower—represented in the university logo—is the signature architectural feature of campus.

## 3. dedicated staff

More than 140 staff members (131 full-time and 13 part-time) support the institution and play a pivotal role in a VCSU education.



## 1. wonderful students

Valley City State Normal School opened Oct. 13, 1890, with less than 25 students; it has grown to nearly 1,400 students today. The university remains a student-centered institution; students are No. 1 at VCSU!



## 2. outstanding faculty

VCSU's 73 full-time and 44 part-time/adjunct faculty members are dedicated to teaching; students build strong bonds with their professors, and alumni remember them (for the most part!) fondly.



## 5. walk bridge

In the City of Bridges, this campus/town connection retains both its charm as a gateway to campus and its utility as a quick way to get downtown and back.



## 6. Shelly Ellig Field

Featuring artificial turf installed in 2011, the field is named for the late Fargo businessman Sheldon "Shelly" Ellig, longtime president of Stop-N-Go stores.



## 7. Vangstad Auditorium

Home of convocations, concerts and commencement; the auditorium building opened in 1908. In 1971, it was named for the Vangstad twins, Lena and Thilda, longtime employees of the university. The building is currently undergoing a \$3.45 million renovation.

## 11. bookstore

Opened in Old Main (now McFarland Hall) in 1908, moved to Student Center in 1962, then to the basement there in 1968. The book part of the store is still downstairs but now the apparel is upstairs.

## 9. Lincoln bust in library

Presented to Valley City State Normal School on Feb. 12, 1919, by sculptor Paul Fjelde, who attended the university in the 1900s. The bust in the library was the original plaster cast for the bronze bust presented as a gift from the people of North Dakota to Norway in 1914 on the centennial of Norway's independence. The bronze Lincoln sculpture sits in Oslo's Frogner Park.

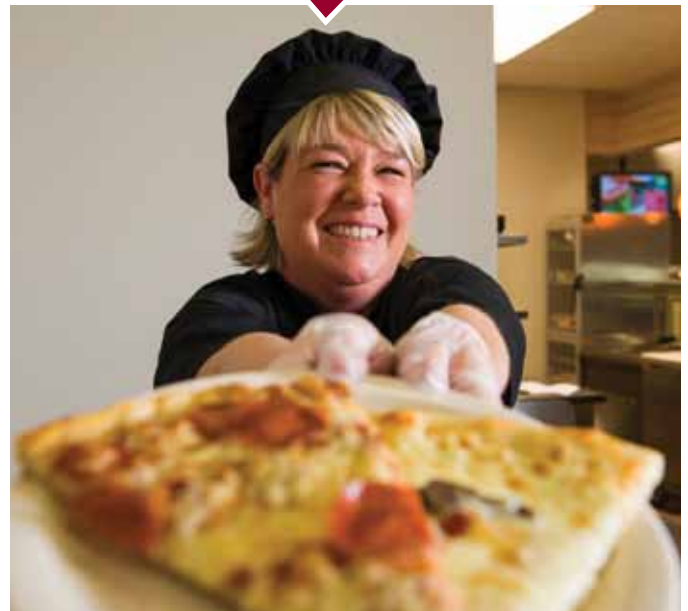
## 8. squirrels on campus

The unofficial campus mascot, squirrels live a charmed life on campus and seem to be healthier (fatter?) than their non-university counterparts.



## 10. cafeteria

Renovated in 2012, this Student Center fixture, run by Sodexo, has a food station for every taste.





## 12. The Bubble

Construction began in 1960 on the building with the dome (40 ft. high in the center); it was dedicated in January 1962. In 1983 the fieldhouse (officially the W.E. Osmon Building for Physical Education) was named for Bill Osmon, longtime instructor, coach and athletic director. It was repaired in summer and fall of 2009 and reopened Dec. 31 of that year.



## 13. Lake Ashtabula

The reservoir has been a destination for field trips, fishing, ice fishing, boating and a gathering spot for socializing. The lake was also home to the college's Camp Ritchie, a summer conservation camp in the 1950s and '60s.

## 14. Medicine Wheel Park

The Medicine Wheel, a 30-acre park on the hilltop south of campus, was built by chemistry professor Joe Stickler and VCSU students, with help from community volunteers, beginning in 1992. The park features two solar calendars (including its namesake medicine wheel modeled after Native American structures), a model solar system, a portion of North Country National Scenic Trail and a perennial garden. It was also the site of Native American burial mounds. Stickler and student volunteers continue to enhance and do upkeep on the park.



## 15. Popcorn Wednesdays

Nothing beats freshly popped popcorn every Wednesday in the Student Center.



## 16. President's House

Constructed in 1901, the President's House was built as a private residence by Ludvig S. Platou, a medical doctor and banker who also served as mayor of Valley City. (Platou built his own hospital, which later became an apartment complex known as "Lions Court.") In 1918, Carlos Eben Allen, president of Valley City State Normal School, began living in the house when the Platou family moved to Fargo. The house was purchased by the Normal School in 1921 and served as a residence for Valley City State presidents until 1994. In 1994, Ellen Chaffee, then president of VCSU, helped organize the President's House Preservation Society to maintain the heritage and cultural traditions that the house represented to the university and the alumni. The Preservation Society is credited with saving the historic house, which was at one point marked for demolition to make room for a parking lot. The house, with a recent addition, serves as a guest inn.

## 17. Planetarium

Rhoades Science Center is home to a Spitz 512 planetarium with a 24-foot domed ceiling and 50 seats. The planetarium is used for teaching purposes and to provide an educational service to area schools and community groups. Wes Anderson '97 is the current planetarium director.



## 19. squash harvest ▶

A Learning to Live, Living to Learn (L2L) service project for all freshmen, the harvest event takes place on the Dan Faust farm northeast of Valley City. A retired Lutheran pastor, Faust—aka “Pastor Dan”—grows the squash for the Great Plains Food Bank, part of Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota. About 200 VCSU freshmen and their L2L mentors are bused to the farm where they work under the direction of volunteer crew leaders to pick squash and other vegetables for the food bank, which distributes the produce to North Dakota charitable food programs such as soup kitchens and community pantries. This year’s harvest will be the fifth consecutive year for the event.



## 20. Sheyenne River

Soon to be behind permanent flood protection (with no further cause for sandbagging) as it runs through campus, the river provides scenery and recreational opportunities such as canoeing and fishing.



## 21. scholarship auction

This annual fun event at the Eagles involves themed decorations and costumes; it’s the largest fundraiser for the university, with the dollars raised split equally between academic and athletic scholarships.



## 18. Rhoades Science Center

The L.D. Rhoades Science Center, originally built in 1973, underwent a \$10.3 million renovation and expansion, with construction beginning in November 2011 and completed in August 2013. Housed in Rhoades Science Center are classrooms, laboratories and offices for the VCSU science and math departments, and offices and facilities for the university’s information technology services. The Great Plains STEM Education Center is also housed in the building, as is VCSU’s collaborative nursing program with Dakota College at Bortoneau. The first major capital construction project for an academic facility at VCSU in 40 years, the construction and renovation of Rhoades Science Center was delivered on time and at budget. The building is LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified. Rhoades Science Center is named for L.D. “Dusty” Rhoades, who taught chemistry and physics at VCSU from 1919–61.

## 22. Homecoming parade

This march down Central Avenue takes place annually on the Saturday morning before the football game. Student organizations used to decorate their floats in the old Winter Show barns east of downtown.



## 24. Larry "Buck" Grooters '57

An outstanding track athlete at the university as a student, Grooters joined the faculty in 1963. He initially taught health and physical education but later became professor of education and psychology and served as chair of the division of education. He served as track and field and cross country coach from 1963-81; he also was an assistant basketball coach. Grooters was honored with induction into the Viking Hall of Fame in 1995, and he received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2002. He retired in 2005.



## 23. Don Mugan

Mugan taught technology at VCSU from 1973 to 2012. A strong advocate of the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) disciplines, Mugan led efforts at VCSU to establish the Great Plains STEM Education Center in 2010; he was named its first director. To be dedicated at Homecoming 2015, the Don Mugan Career and Technical Education Leadership Center will bear his name.

## 26. Lamonte "Monte" Johnson '74

Johnson started work at VCSU in 1979 as an admissions counselor; he also coached basketball and taught physical education. He was named director of admissions and records in 1999, serving as registrar from 1999 until his retirement in 2008. He received the Employee Award of Excellence for 2003-04 and Certificate of Merit in 2008.

## 25. Glen Schmalz '76

As a student, Schmalz earned all-conference honors in football and baseball. His work at VCSU (1985-2012) included stints as assistant coach for baseball and football, admissions counselor, director of student academic services, dean of students and ultimately vice president for student affairs



## 29. Viking Pilot Award

This award is given to students in recognition of contributions to the VCSU student body. If you think about alumni who've received the honor such as George Gaukler '62; Lillian (Lange-mo) Jacobson '40; Stephanie (Trautman) Roelfsema '07, M.Ed. '14; Jessica (Trautman) O'Day '09; Greta (Trader) Delparte '06, M.Ed. '11; and Sabrina Heywood '11, you get the idea that student leadership leads to success and leadership later in life.

31. | 30.

### Charlotte Graichen

Graichen came to VCSU in 1938 as a physical education instructor; she served as women's physical education coordinator from 1947 until her 1976 retirement. The gymnasium was named Graichen Gymnasium in recognition of her contributions to physical education and women's athletics on Jan. 15, 1977.

### Jim Dew ▶▶▶▶▶

Coach Dew came to VCSU in 1974 to teach and to serve as football and baseball coach. As football coach from 1974–93, he won eight conference championships; as baseball coach from 1974–91, he won five conference championships and a district championship. He was inducted into the Viking Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998.



### 27. Joe Stickler

Longtime chemistry professor (1981–2013) and head of the science department, this wizard developed Medicine Wheel Park. The four-time teacher of year (1991, 2004, 2008, 2013) also served as planetarium director from 1983–92 and wrote "Skywatcher's Corner" for the Valley City Times-Record for more than two decades.

### 28. Vangstad twins

Twins Lena and Thilda Vangstad served VCSU for decades. Lena taught education from 1937–71. Thilda came to VCSU in 1945 and served as principal of College High School; she taught social science after College High closed. Vangstad Auditorium was named for them upon their retirement in 1971 (the entire building has since come to be called Vangstad). The twins were among the longest-living twins in the world—

Lena lived to be 105 (nearly 106), and Thilda was 104 when she died. (Alumni may remember other identical twins at the college in the late '50s, including the Butler girls from Bocket, N.D.; the Wielands, Herman and Roman, from Dazey, N.D.; and Lowell and Lyle Peterson.)

## 33. Osmon Fun Run

The kick-off event of Homecoming week, this 5K run near the Bubble emphasizes participation.



32.

## Willis E. "Bill" Osmon '42

Bill Osmon earned his bachelor's at VCSTC and then returned to VCS in 1947 as head basketball coach. He served as athletic director from 1948 until he retired in 1982. Chair of NAIA District 12 for 20 years, Osmon was named to the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1979 and the Viking Hall of Fame in 1986.

## 34. Olga "Ma" Reynolds

Longtime resident assistant ("house mother") in East, McCoy and Snoeyenbos halls, she also worked at the Student Center checking meal tickets for many years. She served the university from 1967-88.

## 35. Mabel Snoeyenbos

Namesake of Snoeyenbos Hall, she served from 1936-70 as business instructor and department head.



## 38. Homecoming

The first homecoming celebration was held Oct. 21-23, 1927; later a tug of war in front of the women's dorm became an annual highlight for many years. These days many alumni come back to campus to meet old friends near and far.

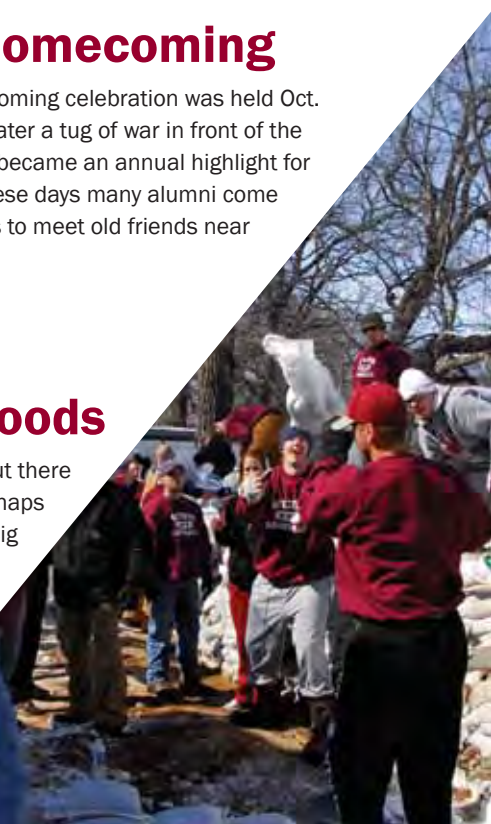
## 37. floods

Not sure if they bring back fond memories or not, but there have been many floods of the Sheyenne River. Perhaps the spirit of working together in 2009 during "the Big One" and the way the university came through it all is one to remember. The negative effects of the floods on VCSU and Valley City may well become a thing of the past with the installation of permanent flood protection.



## 36. McFarland Hall

The physical heart of campus (and its first building), Main Building was the entire Normal School when it opened Dec. 6, 1892. Later called Old Main, it was renamed after the school's second president, George McFarland, who served from 1892-1918, on May 29, 1953.





### 39. Viking ship float

The “real” Vikings were expert sailors, and the VCSU Vikings need a ship, too. The current version, recently upgraded, has been around for about 20 years and is put into service for parades and other festivities.

### 40. clock tower carillon

You know the time when you hear the chime. The carillon in McFarland chimes every day, all day at the top of the hour and 15 minutes, 30 minutes, and 45 after.

### 42. school colors

For many years it was the red and blue (“**V-C-S — we love the red and blue...**”), but now it’s pretty much just red, a maroon red or cardinal red depending on your version of those colors. (It’s PMS 202 for those familiar with Pantone printing colors.)

### 43. Greek organizations

Greeks were once a very big deal on campus, and they’re still very important to alumni and members of the surviving Philomathian and EBC organizations. (And what does EBC stand for anyway? Every Body’s Crazy? Eternal Brethren Community? Escape Before Class? Encourage Brothers to Communicate?) Other organizations on campus included Tau Lambda Sigma (Tau Sig), Sigma Nu, Delphis, Atheneum, Tri Sigma, Tri Deltas, Clionians, Hesperia Sigma (Hespies), AKA Daughters, TKE (Tau Kappa Epsilon), and the Vets Club, among others.

### 41. Viking mascot

The Viking was chosen as mascot in 1925 after a contest among students in which 150 suggestions were submitted. A Feb. 7, 1925, report following the selection read, “The word Viking, brings to mind, men of courage and quality, men who were brave, competent, able to remove obstacles and willing to try new things. They were men who fought to the last and if all failed they went down before the enemy with their flags flying. Such men as these, have represented S.T.C. before, such are our teams composed of today, and such all the teams we want to carry-on for S.T.C. Not only are the teams symbolized by the word ‘Viking’ but rather the entire Student Body, for the teams are our acknowledged representatives.” J.B. Meyer, professor and head of the math department, was the official Viking for 30 years, but his costume—with horned helmet, shield and spear—was a little different than the new Viking mascot unveiled at Homecoming 2014.



## 44. VCSU fight song

V-C-S – we love the red and blue,  
V-C-S – we're always true to you.  
To you, we show our great adoration.  
We're the best school in the land.  
Rah – Rah – Rah!  
Always loyal, let them know we're here.  
V-C-S – let's give a lusty cheer!  
Wah-oo-hwah! Wah-oo-hwah!  
V-C-S – Rah! Rah! Rah!  
Dear old V-C-S!



## 48. ceramics studio

Home to wheel-thrown pots and hand-built pieces, the studio is a great place to make art from clay.

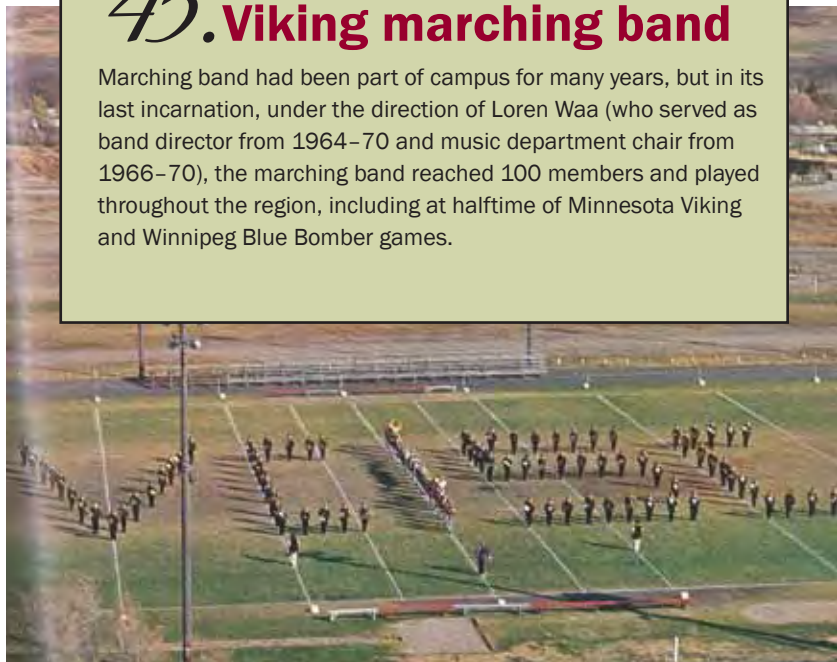


## 46. pep band

The current pep band performs at football and basketball games. In earlier days, a member remarked, "Playing in the pep band was fun, as we marched through the halls signaling the end of classes and the start of homecoming activities. There was also the snake dances through the college and downtown with the pep band playing."

## 45. Viking marching band

Marching band had been part of campus for many years, but in its last incarnation, under the direction of Loren Waa (who served as band director from 1964–70 and music department chair from 1966–70), the marching band reached 100 members and played throughout the region, including at halftime of Minnesota Viking and Winnipeg Blue Bomber games.



## 47. University Singers and Concert Choir

VCSU's choral ensembles provide students with opportunities to perform. Concert Choir did a 10-day tour of Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic in May 2014, performing in Salzburg, Vienna and Prague.



## 50. EBC "We're in the Christmas Mood"

Another EBC music tradition, this annual Christmas concert will celebrate its 20th annual performance in 2015.



## 49. EBC Hit Parade

This tradition, which "for years provided an opportunity for students to present public performances of popular and jazz music," began in 1939. The annual concert was produced every year except for two years during World War II. The final Hit Parade, the 61st, was held April 13, 2002.

## 51. campus

The 55-acre VCSU campus is one of the most picturesque in the state, and the main part is listed as a Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places.



## 54. Student Center

The building opened in 1963, and a 1970 addition provided conference rooms, a swimming pool, offices, and additional space for food service. The Student Center is home to the Student Activities and Housing offices, Student Senate, the Bookstore, the cafeteria and the Viking I.

## 53. Prairie Waters Education Center

Housed in Kathryn, N.D., Prairie Waters provides environmental learning opportunities focused on North Dakota waters for students, teachers, and professionals, and research on aquatic biological resources.



**Great Plains STEM Education Center**  
valley city state university  
[www.stem.vcsu.edu](http://www.stem.vcsu.edu)

## 52. Great Plains STEM Education Center

The STEM Center provides professional development opportunities for K-12 teachers and hands-on, inquiry-based learning opportunities for students in cooperation with government agencies, business and industry.



## 60. Old Gym

Located on fourth floor McFarland, the “little gym” served as the “Attic Theatre” for VCSU drama productions from 1966–73.

## 55. Cink’s Grocery

The College Grocery, which sat on the Student Center site, was operated by Fred Cink for 22 years until 1969.

## 59. Theatre 320

This former library reading room on the third floor of McFarland Hall has served as the performance venue of VCSU Theatre since 1973.



## 57. Viking Golf Scramble

This annual fundraiser for athletic scholarships has teams playing in a scramble at both the Bjornson Park and Country Club courses.

## 58. North Dakota Winter Show

Begun in 1937, the Winter Show is the oldest and longest running agricultural show in North Dakota. The current version features a cattle show, a rodeo, and concert, in addition to exhibits. The chili cook-off and Community Olympics include VCSU teams.



## 56. Kathryn Adventure Center

The Kathryn Center for Lifelong Learning was established by VCSU in 1994. Housed in the building that is now the home of Prairie Waters, the “adventure center” included a high-ropes course and offered team-building training to campus and external groups alike.

## 62. Willam "Archie" Moore

This longtime professor of science taught at VCSU from 1964–95; he organized an environmental group, ENACT, which celebrated the first Earth Week on campus in 1970 and helped create the green space south of the library, once a parking lot.

## 63. L.D. "Dusty" Rhoades

Namesake of Rhoades Science Center, Rhoades taught chemistry and physics at VCSU from 1919–61 and also coached baseball and football.

## 64. Rufus the Snake

This live python caused campus consternation when it occasionally escaped its confines in the science building.



## 61. The Grill

Located on ground floor McFarland, the college grill was a place to grab some food and a cup of coffee and socialize and/or study. Some of the seating area's murals can still be seen today in the mail room located off the Faculty Materials Center.

## 65. Lokken Stadium

VCSU's stadium was named after President Roscoe L. Lokken, who served from 1946–70. The stadium was dedicated in October 1967.

## 66. St. Kate's Christmas concert

St. Catherine's church in Valley City provides a fitting venue for this moving VCSU choral concert held annually.





## 67. meeting your future spouse on campus

Sometime it's love at first sight, and sometimes it's more of a "Weren't we in class together freshman year?" sort of thing, but in any event, VCSU has brought many, many couples together over the years. ❤️

## 69. scholarship program

Through its V-500, Century and endowed scholarship funds, the VCSU Foundation will distribute more than \$1.25 million to students for the 2015-16 school year.

## 71. laptop computers

In 1996, VCSU became the second college in the country (and the first in North Dakota) to issue laptops to all of its full-time students. Then a bold move, the program has served students and faculty well and has helped create and sustain the university as a leader in technology in education.

## 70. VCAB

The Viking Campus Activities Board provides a host of entertainment opportunities for students, as did its earlier incarnations—the Student Union Board of Governors and the Program Board.



## 68. Mary Hagen Canine

Miss Canine taught speech and journalism at VCSU from 1946-73 in the language and literature department. She served as debate coach and advisor to the award-winning "Viking News" student newspaper.

## 72. VCSU backpacks

You need a good bag to protect your laptop, and the ubiquitous VCSU backpacks are a fixture on campus.



## 73. Pizza Corner pizza

"Pizza Dave" Zubrod has created a pizza empire that started at its corner location. Pizza Corner pizza is often a must-have when alumni return to Valley City.



## 74. Wild pizza

Nothing like having pizza delivered to your dorm room direct from the cafeteria

## 75. Viking I

This short-order grill in the Student Center stays open in the evenings and weekends for hungry students.



## 81. athletic championships

Valley City State University's rich athletic tradition features 129 team conference championships and 143 All-American athletes. The men's basketball and football programs both have won 29 conference championships each. Sports such as cross country, track, gymnastics and tennis have seen dozens more individual conference championships.

## 77. socials under bowling alley

Students gathered to socialize in the basement of Valley City's downtown bowling alley, now the site of the Iron Stallion motorcycle shop, into the 1980s.

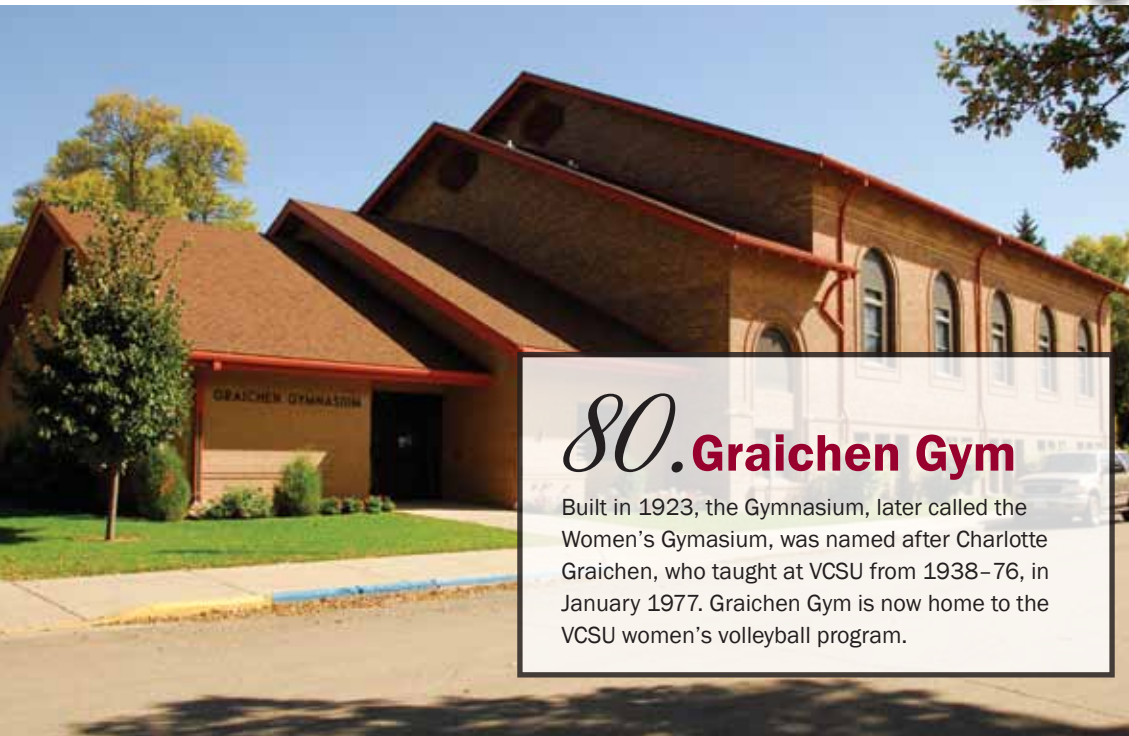
## 79. ghost stories

You'd swear the campus was haunted by a host of poltergeists if you heard all the stories. Sightings (or at least the sounds of specters) have been experienced at the President's House, McFarland fourth floor, the Alumni Room on second floor McFarland, Theatre 320 on third floor McFarland, McCarthy Hall third floor, and the hillside behind Snoeyenbos Hall.



## 76. student dances

Now held at the Eagles Club, student dances were formerly held in the cafeteria and in Graichen Gym.



## 80. Graichen Gym

Built in 1923, the Gymnasium, later called the Women's Gymnasium, was named after Charlotte Graichen, who taught at VCSU from 1938-76, in January 1977. Graichen Gym is now home to the VCSU women's volleyball program.

## 78. swimming pool

Once the site of pool parties, the Student Center pool is now primarily used for community swimming lessons.

## 83. Dave O'Bannon

The "Voice of the Vikings," this KOVC radio sports director broadcast hundreds of VCSU athletic contests, served on the Booster Board and was inducted into the Viking Hall of Fame in 2000.



## 82. Charlie Brown Field

The center of Valley City baseball, Charlie Brown Field is the VCSU Vikings' home field. Its namesake was the longtime statistician for the Legion team and a staunch supporter, not the Charles Schulz cartoon character.



## 86. Meryl O'Connell

O'Connell served the university for 25 years, including from 1968-87 as bookstore manager.

## 85. Harry Salisbury

Salisbury served as dean of men from 1968-74, dean of students from 1974-78, and dean of student affairs and director of placement from 1978-85.



Roscoe Leonard Lokken



## 87. Lou Bruhn

Bruhn served the university from 1938-73. He was dean of men from 1941-68, director of placement from 1945-68 and professor of social science from 1968-73. He also served as city commissioner and mayor of Valley City; he repaired bicycles in his garage and was a sought-after square dance caller, including in Charlotte Graichen's PE classes.

## 84. VCSU presidents

From Normal School to university, 13 individuals have stood at the helm of this institution: James W. Sifton, 1890-92; George A. McFarland, 1892-1918; Carlos Eben Allen, 1918-36; Joachim Frederick Weltzin III, 1936-38; James Emery Cox, 1938-42; Eugene Henry Kleinpell, 1942-46; Roscoe Leonard Lokken, 1946-70; Howard Coburn Rose, 1970-74; Ted DeVries, 1974-82; Charles B. House, 1982-93; Ellen-Earle Chaffee, 1993-2008, Steven W. Shirley, 2008-14; Tisa A. Mason, 2014- .

## 91. Jimmie/Viking rivalry

There's nothing that boils the blood of a VCSU Viking quite like the sight of a rival Jimmie. Separated by just 35 miles, Valley City State University and University of Jamestown sport one of the best small-college rivalries in the Midwest. The athletic contests between our two schools are heated and fierce, and draw the biggest crowds (and most creative T-shirts) of the season. The rivalry is perhaps most heated on the football field, where the two teams play each year for the Paint Bucket Trophy.



## 90. Paint Bucket Trophy

The traveling trophy that the Valley City State and University of Jamestown (formerly Jamestown College) football teams play for each year was created in 1961 to help alleviate unsportsmanlike conduct by the two student bodies. VCSU's football team leads the Paint Bucket Series, 35-30, and leads the overall series with Jamestown, 58-51-5.



## 89. student center lock-ins

These crazy (but popular) events brought students together overnight for silly contests such as mattress piling and goldfish eating.

## 92. college friends

What can be said about college friends? They're the people you meet at a time in your life in which you have more freedom than you've ever had (and maybe ever will), and because you learn and grow (and make mistakes and sometimes do outrageous things) together, you'll remember them for the rest of your life.



## 93. dorm roommates

If it works out (and we know it sometimes doesn't), this person (or these people) see you in your home environment and know lots about you, and vice versa. Sometimes not your closest friends (although that may be the case), but you'll never forget them.

## 88. Adolph Soroos '26

Soroos served as business manager from 1935-64 and as registrar from 1935-70. The Alumni Room (now McFarland 205) is formally named the Soroos-Bruhn Alumni Center, named for Soroos and Lou Bruhn.



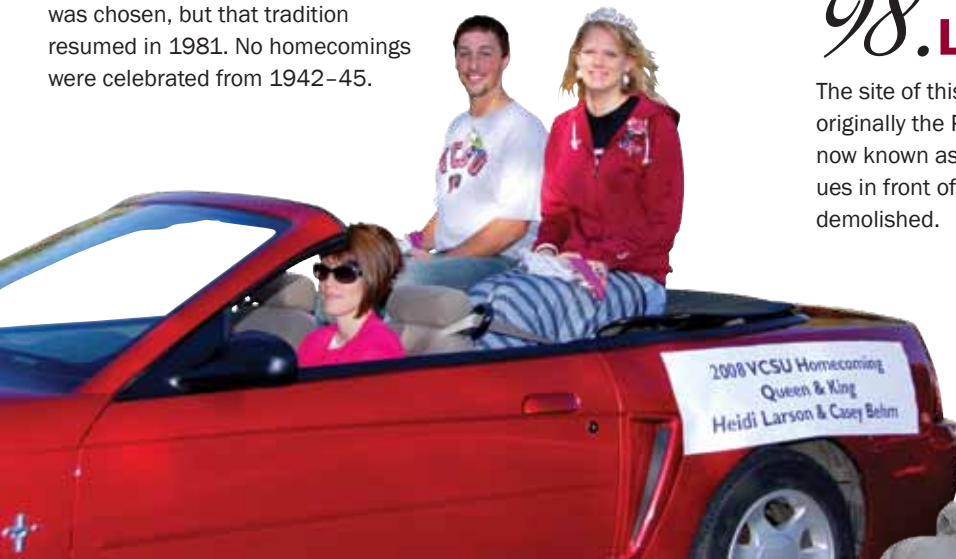
## 94. Viking Athletic Hall of Fame

VCSU's rich athletic tradition is celebrated by the Viking Hall of Fame. Begun in 1986, the Hall of Fame includes 134 individuals and 55 teams thus far. Photographs and bios of each member can be found online at [alumni.vcsu.edu/awards/vp.htm?p=3232](http://alumni.vcsu.edu/awards/vp.htm?p=3232).



## 95. Homecoming royalty

The tradition of electing a Homecoming king and queen began in 1936. From 1964–80 no king was chosen, but that tradition resumed in 1981. No homecomings were celebrated from 1942–45.



## 98. Lions Court ▲

The site of this apartment complex, is now a parking lot. The building was originally the Platou Hospital, built by Dr. Platou, who also built the home now known as the President's House as his own residence. The lion statues in front of the President's House came from Lions Court when it was demolished.



## 97. parking on campus

Did you really drive from the dorm to your classroom building? And back again several times in a day? Parking has been a challenge throughout the years; perhaps that's what makes this annoyance unforgettable. (A word to the wise: If you thought it was bad then, try now.)

## 96. snow days

When blizzard conditions arrive, classes are cancelled and all enjoy an unscheduled holiday. No snow days were called during the winter of 2014–15.





## 101. intramurals

Coed flag football, volleyball, dodgeball, along with men's and women's basketball, are the current intramural offerings.

## 100. East and West Hall

These dormitories for women, which sat east of where McCoy is now, were demolished in 1974. The East Hall dining room, once referred to as Hedberg's Hash House, served the campus.

## 105. North Dakota winters

Winter in Valley City can be interesting, to say the least. As one alumnus put it, "I am trying to forget the 40 below temperatures with 40 mile per hour winds."

## 104.

### Learning to Live, Living to Learn

The freshman orientation class with student mentors provides first-year students with an introduction to a variety of topics.



## 99. Euclid Avenue Cottage

Built in 1890 as a residence, this became the first dormitory for women. Named after its Euclid Avenue (now Viking Drive) location; the cottage sat at the current site of McCoy Hall.



## 103. statues in Vangstad

Who can forget the statues in Vangstad and the appropriately placed fig leaves?

## 102. commencement

The university celebrated its 123rd commencement exercises in 2015. Held in Vangstad Auditorium for many years, the event is now celebrated in Osmon Fieldhouse.





## 108. **Foss Hall**

Foss Hall was named for P.L. Foss, longtime Valley City businessman and state senator who chaired the appropriations committee when funds were designated for the building.



## ↑ 107. **student work experiences**

From working in the cafeteria, to helping clean the building, from shoveling snow to helping a professor grade papers, student work has run the gamut at VCSU. Regardless of its contributions to future careers (which often happened), it did help pay the bills.

## 110. **Kolstoe Hall**

The name of the New Men's Dormitory, completed in 1967, honors Soren O. Kolstoe, who taught at the college from 1924-58 and served as head of education/psychology department for many years.



## ← 109. **McCarthy Hall**

Built in 1993 as the New Lab School, the building was dedicated in May 1968 to honor Margaret McCarthy, superintendent of College Training School from 1919-45.

## 111. **Mythaler Hall**

Completed in 1957, the first men's dormitory was named in honor of Stanley Mythaler in 1960. Mythaler served as dean of men from 1921-41 and chair of industrial arts from 1921-46.

## 112. **Robertson Hall**

Completed in 1962 as another dormitory for men, the building was named in honor of Ina Cullom Robertson who taught geography from 1921-58.



## 106. **Allen Memorial Library**

The library, completed in 1952, is named after the university's third president, Carlos Allen, who served from 1918-36.

# 117. **cheering on the Vikings**

Exhibitions of Viking pride, tailgating before football games, packed student sections in Graichen Gym and Osmon Fieldhouse, and exciting athletic contests are all part of the "Game Day" experience at VCSU.



# 113. **Snoeyenbos Hall**

Opened in 1971 as a dormitory for women, the hall is named after Mabel Snoeyenbos, who taught and served as head of the business department from 1936-70.



# 114. **Lillian Jacobson '40**

Library director from 1965-80, Lillian was student council president and a Viking Pilot during her undergraduate years on campus.

# 115. **Donald Welsh**

Welsh taught communication arts and social science here from 1967-85. He authored "Cornerstones: A Centennial History of Valley City State University, 1890-1990."

# 116. **Viking News**

The student newspaper (now defunct), was distributed on campus and also was inserted with the Valley City Times-Record.

# 118. **Jim O'Connell '48**

O'Connell, a World War II veteran, began teaching at the College School directly after graduating in 1948. He joined the math department faculty in 1956 and served as math department chair from 1964-94.

# 119. **Homecoming buttons**

Produced annually, Homecoming buttons are a way to display Viking Pride and serve as souvenirs in many collections.

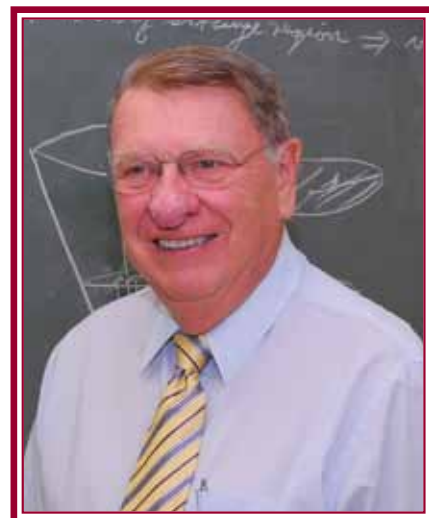
## 123. A&W drive-in

Located east of town on the highway, the A&W was a favorite for students. Nothing like ordering from your car and having a carhop bring your food to you.



## 120. Bob Bruhschwein '57

Bruhschwein taught math at VCSU from 1959–97. He also served as assistant football coach and faculty athletic representative.



## 124. Late-night food and conversation

Venues such as the Hi-Liner Café, Mac's and the Hilltop provided spots for socializing and sustenance.

## 121. Music Hall of Fame

The VCSU Music Hall of Fame recognizes alumni and former faculty who have made significant contributions to the field of music. The Hall of Fame display can be found in Circle Hall in the corridor that leads to Vangstad Auditorium. Members include renowned band composer James Ployhar '49 and music editor Carole (Paulson) Flatau '60.



## 122. Linda Roberts

Roberts coached and taught at VCSU from 1978–90, serving as head women's basketball coach and head softball coach. Her basketball teams won 3 conference championships and her softball teams won 10 championships. The 1982 softball team finished seventh in the NAIA national tournament.



## 125. International experiences

More recently an international experience could mean studying off-campus in China or in La Paz, Baja California del Sur, Mexico, or studying with international students from Spain, Mexico, Mongolia, and China, among others, right here in Valley City. Many alumni from the late '50s will remember 1959 graduate Dayananda Abeywickrame from Ceylon.

# Commencement

# 2015



President Tisa Mason led her first VCSU commencement—and the university’s 123rd commencement exercises—on Saturday, May 16, in W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse.

President Mason and two student speakers, graduate student Duane Arnold and undergraduate student Jacob Olson, presented remarks, as did Eric Murphy, faculty adviser to the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education (SBHE).

Duane Arnold presented the graduate student reflection. A student in the library and information technologies concentration of VCSU’s Master of Education program, Arnold is a resource strategist at Robert Asp Elementary in Moorhead, Minn.

Jacob Olson presented the undergraduate

student reflection. A human services major with a human resources minor, Olson is a member of a VCSU family—his father, Alan (who serves on the faculty); his uncle, Steven; and his brother, Isaac, are all graduates of the university, and his sister, Clarissa, will matriculate at VCSU in the fall.

VCSU had its largest graduating class in university history as 302 graduates—47 students in its Master of Education degree program along with 255 undergraduate students—were eligible to participate in the 2015 commencement exercises.

Video of the commencement ceremony is available online at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-CvTTkIXZO](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-CvTTkIXZO).

▼ **Graduate group at breakfast**

Saturday, May 16, 2015

(front, l to r) Sheena Buckhouse, Darci Bratsch, Kristen Arneson, Jessi Kjemhus, Renita Westerhausen, Rhonda Edwardson, Erica Spangelo, Angela Kitzman

(back) Mandi Clausen, Brittany Olson, Duane Arnold, Hilde van Gijssel, Angela Siewart, Robin Holt, Allison Wendel



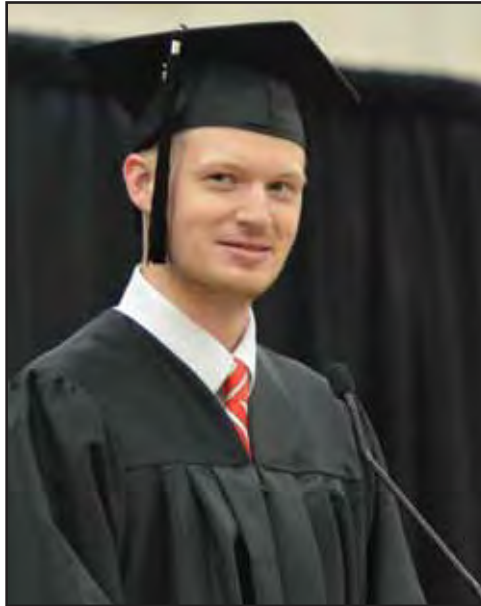


## Class of 2015 senior profiles

Profiles of members of the Valley City State Class of 2015 appear on pages 11–13.

Engaged members of the student body, those profiled include an outstanding student-athlete from Minnesota, a couple from California (an elementary education teacher and a fisheries and wildlife major), a homegrown Valley Citian who studied human services and was the undergraduate commencement speaker, and a native North Dakotan who graduated with a social science education major.

The five students described here were part of VCSU's largest graduating class, with more than 300 undergraduate and graduates students eligible to participate in the 2015 commencement exercises.



### Jacob Olson

It wasn't the first time he'd been asked to speak at a commencement ceremony—he was the baccalaureate speaker at his graduation ceremony from Valley City High School—but Jacob Olson still considered the offer to address his fellow students at VCSU's May 16 commencement a "once in a lifetime opportunity."

Asked to give the undergraduate student reflection by President Mason, Olson was "humbled and honored" by the invitation; "they could have found someone with a higher GPA," he added with a smile.

Despite his self-deprecating comment, Olson was no slouch as a VCSU student. A human services major with a minor in human resources, he is "a classic example of a student who engaged with the material outside the classroom," according to Emily Fenster, instructor in the social science department. Olson would frequently share things he'd seen outside class—a newspaper article or a blog post—with her and his classmates. "He was definitely one of my more enthusiastic students," said Fenster. "He brought an intellectual honesty to class."

But college days weren't all about coursework for Olson. He played intramurals (he's particularly proud of his Tyrant Salmon team's second-division basketball championship!), sang in Concert Choir for a while, and partici-

pated in the theatre program all four of his years at VCSU.

Olson also announced games for the athletic program, doing Viking football, volleyball, basketball, baseball and softball games, and he took second place two years in a row in the VCSU talent show doing impressions. (Captain Jack Sparrow, Bill Clinton and Elmo are at the top of his list; he also did a pretty solid Ed Sullivan when a Beatles tribute band played the Eagles Club for the VCSU Rendezvous in October 2014.)

But it's the acting stage that captivated Olson and captured much of his attention in Valley City. He was active in drama in high school and continued to act at VCSU, appearing in "Little Shop of Horrors," "Tartuffe," "Glass Menagerie," and "A Midsummer Night's Dream," among others. He especially enjoyed acting with his classmates Tony Trautman and Burke Tagney, and the 2012 spring break theatre trip to London and Paris was "definitely a highlight" of his college career. This summer Olson will be appearing in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at Frost Fire Theatre west of Walhalla, N.D.

As for his VCSU experience, Olson is thankful that he had the freedom to get involved. "The size of the university makes participation easy; you don't have to limit yourself," he said. And he gave credit and thanks to professors Fenster, Brenda Finger, Jenni Lou Russi and Rob Walsh, along with his advisor, Erin Klingenberg, for helping shape him—setting high expectations and reminding him to ask why and not just what.

Olson is a member of a VCSU family—his father, Alan '84 (who serves on the education faculty); his uncle, Steven '88; and his brother, Isaac '12, are all graduates of the university, as is his sister-in-law Katie (Paulson) '13 Olson. Jacob's sister, Clarissa, will matriculate at VCSU in the fall. And although he didn't take any education classes, Olson was glad to have his dad around—"close-by is good"—and proud of the role model he provided as a professor.

As for that commencement address, Olson mentioned in a light tone "snowball fights of biblical proportions on the fields of McFarland" and the unofficial VCSU mascots, the campus squirrels. Invoking the university's tagline, he also reminded those assembled that "the world needs difference makers," that "we must

evolve from a saying to a value that impacts our daily decisions.”

For now he’s scratching his acting itch, but Olson is looking to a future career doing recruitment in a human resources setting or coordinating events or programs for a nonprofit. Regardless of where he ends up, he’s left his mark at VCSU. Thanks, Jacob Olson, for making a difference at VCSU.



### Sierra Even

After four years at Valley City State University, recent graduate Sierra Even is preparing to trade in the hardwood of the basketball court for the hardwood of a courtroom.

A native of Windom, Minn., and a four-year contributor on the Viking women’s basketball team, Even graduated in May with a double major in social science and Spanish. With her basketball and undergraduate career behind her, Even will be starting the next step in her life by attending law school this fall at Arizona Summit in Phoenix, Ariz.

Her success story is not uncommon at Valley City State, where small class sizes and numerous cocurricular opportunities lead to well-rounded students ready for bigger challenges. For some, it’s the small class sizes, caring faculty and staff, or reputation as a teacher’s college that drive them to attend VCSU. For others, including Even, it’s cocurricular activities such as athletics.

For Even it was basketball—a mainstay in her life since fourth grade—that led her to VCSU in August 2011. The Viking women’s basketball team had just qualified for the NAIA National Tournament for the first time in school history, and Even was eager to help build on that success.

“It was a winning program, and that’s what I wanted to be a part of,” she said of Viking

women’s basketball, adding that the small class sizes and campus environment also appealed to her.

Coming from a town of just under 5,000 people, Even quickly felt right at home at VCSU and Valley City.

On the court, Even played in two NAIA National Tournaments and was part of the 2012–13 squad that set a school record with 24 wins. She was one of four Viking seniors this past season—along with Stephanie Pederesen, Sadiqah Jihad and Megan Trautman—who finished their careers with an impressive 78-44 record (.693 winning percentage) and winning records in all four seasons.

Individually, Even averaged 6.6 points and 4.1 rebounds per game during her career and started all 56 games in her junior and senior seasons. She holds the school record for assists in a game after dishing out 14 in a 2014 win over Johnson & Wales.

She averaged about 20 minutes and 5 points per game in both her freshman and sophomore seasons as the Vikings advanced to the NAIA National Tournament. She started all 25 games her junior season, averaging 25 minutes and 8.1 points per game. She continued to emerge in her senior season, starting all 31 games and averaging 8.5 points and a team-high 30.6 minutes per game. Her versatility allowed Even to play anywhere from point guard to power forward during her career.

But despite all her and the team’s accomplishments on the court, Even said it is the relationships with her teammates that she’ll remember the most.

“I’m going to miss hanging out with them,” she said. “It’s like your second family, and sometimes your first family because you don’t have time to go home.”

Off the court, Even succeeded in the classroom as she found a balance between basketball, school and activities. She made the President’s Honor Roll (4.0 GPA) one semester and four times she made the Dean’s Honor Roll (3.5 GPA). She was named an NAIA Scholar-Athlete in both her junior and senior seasons as she maintained a cumulative GPA over 3.5 throughout her career. She was president of the Spanish Club and was even able to spend a summer studying abroad in Seville, Spain.

This spring, her four years of hard work paid off—and will lead to more hard work—as she was accepted into Arizona Summit Law School in Phoenix. The dean of admissions there told Even the personal statement she wrote for her application stood out from others, in part because of her diverse experience at VCSU, including basketball, studying abroad and an internship with the Barnes County State’s Attorney office.

She plans to complete the two-year “fast-track” at Arizona Summit and eventually work in family law. She’ll make the move with her

longtime boyfriend Thomas Cortez—a four-year starter at kicker for the VCSU football team—who will attend graduate school at Arizona State University.

Speaking about a week before Commencement, Even was excited to begin the rest of her life but hinted that she wasn’t ready to leave VCSU.

“It hasn’t hit me yet. I feel like I haven’t been here for four years—I feel like it’s only been two,” she said. “I have a lot of good memories here.”



### Karlie (Thompson) and Josue Hernandez

Karlie (Thompson) and Josue Hernandez haven’t been married the whole time they’ve lived in North Dakota; the wedding actually happened three days after their arrival in the summer of 2011.

The couple had moved to Valley City from Bakersfield, Calif., where they had been together since 2005, their junior year at Ridgeview High School. Both throwers—shot put and discus—on the track team, they had known each other since freshman year, but Cupid’s arrow didn’t strike until Karlie came to Josue’s aid when he was accidentally struck by a 12 lb. shot thrown by a teammate. The sight of him lying on the ground injured (no worries; no significant harm was done) was self-revealing for Karlie, and the two have been together ever since.

It was also track and field that brought them to Valley City, with then-coach Galen Morton recruiting the two to come throw in North Dakota for the VCSU Vikings. (Karlie threw for two years at VCSU, but Josue’s athletic career was unfortunately cut short by injuries.)

Arriving in Valley City sight unseen was something of a culture shock for the pair. The transition was easier for Josue, who had grown

up in El Salvador and immigrated to California at age 13 with his family; he found that “life slowed down” in North Dakota.

Karlie and he had both attended Bakersfield College, a community college in their hometown, after high school, but Josue ended up leaving school and worked construction and did plumbing, traveling during the week and returning home on weekends. He was ready for the change.

On the other hand, Karlie was a little taken aback on arrival in Valley City. Small town, rural North Dakota was not for the native Californian at the beginning. But she quickly warmed to the area thanks to the “amazing people” they encountered at VCSU. “They took us in immediately and were very welcoming,” she says, and she quickly found her place in the university’s elementary education program. She had always wanted to teach, and a stint as a teacher’s aide at Bill Williams Elementary in Bakersfield and her initial experience in VCSU’s program confirmed that.

Crucial to her academic career (and her happiness in Valley City) was the support she received from VCSU faculty members. Jackie Owen welcomed her on day one, and Karlie formed an “instant connection” to Daisy Figueroa. Heather Kvilvang served as Karlie’s advisor, and Cindy Zahn helped her achieve a Title 1 reading endorsement. “They all reached out to me as a person, not just a student,” she says. “That was so important to me.”

Josue had read about the fisheries concentration in VCSU’s fisheries and wildlife science program on the university website prior to moving to Valley City, and it’s where he found his academic home once he arrived. Although he says “there’s been so many people” supporting him at VCSU, he gives much credit to professors Andre DeLorme and Casey Williams, and especially Prairie Waters lab manager Louis Wieland (his first direct supervisor for field work), for helping make his undergraduate experience a success.

That experience included two summers of research at Prairie Waters, VCSU’s environmental center in Kathryn, N.D.; a summer working for North Dakota Game and Fish Department in Dickinson; and research presentations at the 2013 National Conference for Undergraduate Research and the annual meetings of the Dakota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) in both 2013 and 2014. Josue also was a driving force in establishing VCSU’s AFS student subunit; he served as president in its inaugural 2014–15 year.

Karlie’s academic career was marked with honors. At the 2015 Senior Awards Luncheon, she was named Outstanding Student in Elementary Education for the VCSU campus. Along the way, she was named to the President’s and Dean’s Honor Rolls and awarded a Delta Kappa Gamma Scholarship, the Jenson

and Johnson Memorial Scholarship, and the Ethel R. Hansen Memorial Scholarship.

Her hard work has paid off—this fall Karlie will begin her teaching career as the K-6 Title 1 reading instructor at Hatton Eielson Public School in Hatton, N.D., and she and Josue have recently purchased a home in the area.

Josue is spending the summer working for North Dakota Game and Fish at the U.S. Wildlife Service’s Valley City Hatchery. He’ll join Karlie in Hatton when the seasonal position ends and look for permanent employment.

The couple hopes to be in North Dakota for years to come. They now have many friends in the state and even some family—Karlie’s twin sister, Lindsey Thompson, came to Valley City to visit and ended up moving here in March 2012.

But regardless of where their life’s journey takes them, Valley City State University will remain a special place for Karlie and Josue, and likewise, for those who know them at VCSU, the two will be thought of fondly for years to come.



### *Scott Westby*

Scott Westby didn’t necessarily think of himself as a student leader at Valley City State; generally he considered himself more the “smiley guy around campus” who wanted “to make VCSU a more fun place.” But recognition started coming his way junior year, and that caused him to acknowledge the leadership role that was clear to others on the basis of his record of involvement and engagement on campus.

Salutatorian at New Rockford-Sheyenne (N.D.) High School, Westby served VCSU as a Viking Ambassador (three years), a New Student Orientation Leader (two years), a Student Senator (two years), president of the history honor society Phi Alpha Theta (two years), and an Improv Club member (two years, and as vice president one year). He also played in the athletic band for a year and in Concert Band two semesters. He was a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, the freshman honor society, and was named to homecoming court his junior year. Westby received the Viking Pilot award, also in

his junior year, for his significant contributions to student life at VCSU.

At the Senior Awards Luncheon on May 15, Westby was named recipient of the Claude M. Burrows Memorial Award for Outstanding Achievement in Social Science, and he shared the Outstanding Student in Teacher Education (Secondary Education) Award. He was also listed in “Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.” And this spring, Westby graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in social science education.

In addition to all of the accolades this past year, Westby had the privilege of having his mother, Laurel (Ploium) Westby ’84, on campus, as she had joined the education faculty as an instructor in fall 2014. The experience brought the two closer together, according to Scott, who felt like his fellow students told him that they had just met his mom and/or thought she was great at least once a day. “That made me appreciate the impact that she had, that any one person can have,” he says.

Reflecting on his days at VCSU, Westby thinks of how quickly it’s gone by: “Crazy pace—time speeds up when you’re busy,” he says, and adds that the time has been “special.” He’s thankful for his faculty mentors Tony Dutton and Steve King—“they have more knowledge than I’ll ever hope to have”—and he considers himself “pretty lucky” to have found his voice on campus and been given a chance to lead and “be a positive role model for others.”

Westby recognizes it’s the things you do and the people you meet, not just what happens in the classroom. One of his leadership roles involved rallying the troops (about 35 of them) for an epic two-and-a-half hour snowball fight on the eve of an already-announced snow day. Calling it one of his “favorite moments” in Valley City, Westby knows he’ll never forget it, just like the many friends he’s acquired. “The relationships you make are incredibly strong and long-lasting,” says Westby. “That speaks to the atmosphere here.”

With his career plans up in the air—he’s contemplating work in a higher ed setting and possibly grad school in the future—Westby is both “excited and a little terrified” thinking about where he’ll end up. But he’s comfortable with his experience at VCSU, which he describes as “personal learning.”

Westby came to Valley City somewhat a shy guy—in his own words, a little “closed in.” “Four years later, no one would say that,” he says proudly. “I figured out what kind of person I want to be, who I want to associate with, reconciling what I think and what I feel with who I am.”

That’s what an education—a VCSU education—can do for a person, especially a bright, talented young man like Scott Westby.



# Valley City State University

# HOME COMING 2015

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bill Osmon Fun Run ..... 4:00 p.m. .... Lokken Stadium Parking Lot

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Scholarship Dinner ..... 6:00 p.m. .... Sabir's Dining and Lounge

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

### Inauguration of our Thirteenth President, Tisa Mason, Ed.D.

Tisa Mason Inauguration Ceremony ..... 3:00 p.m. .... W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse

Inaugural Reception ..... 4:30–6:00 p.m. .... Epworth United Methodist Church

Coronation ..... 7:30 p.m. .... Froemke Auditorium

Student Talent Show ..... 8:00 p.m. .... Froemke Auditorium

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

Tree Planting in Honor of President Mason ..... 1:30 p.m. .... Front of McFarland Hall  
*Join the VCSU Alumni Association in a tree-planting ceremony in honor of Tisa Mason, the 13th president at Valley City State University.*

Ice Cream Social ..... 2:00–3:00 p.m. .... McFarland Hall 205

Campus Tours ..... 2:30 p.m. .... McFarland Hall 205

Dedication of the Don Muga Career and Technical Education Leadership Center ..... 3:00 p.m. .... Rhoades Science Center

All Greek and Alumni Reunion Social ..... 7:00 p.m. .... Valley City Eagles Club  
*Specials guests include our Greek alumni. We welcome back all of our alumni to help us celebrate Homecoming 2015. It's the perfect time to reconnect with the university and catch up with old friends.*

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

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

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

Viking Hall of Fame Tailgating ..... 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. .... Lokken Stadium

Football: Vikings vs. Mayville State ..... 2:00 p.m. .... Shelley Ellig Field

Postgame Social and All Hall of Fame Social ..... Valley City Eagles

*This social is open to all VCSU Alumni and friends to enjoy an opportunity to socialize and reminisce. A special program will take place to honor all our Viking Hall of Famers. No charge to attend this event. There will be a taco bar set up for attendees and a no-host bar.*

Postgame Social/Hall of Fame Reunion Social ..... 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Hall of Fame Reunion Program ..... 7:00–7:30 p.m.

College Student and Alumni Dance ..... 9:00 p.m. .... Valley City Eagles

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

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

VCSU 125th Anniversary Founders Day Celebration



## HOME COMING T-SHIRTS ON SALE

# \$10

Reserve one by e-mailing  
[kari.stricklin@vcsu.edu](mailto:kari.stricklin@vcsu.edu)

For up-to-date schedules and more information visit [alumni.vcsu.edu](http://alumni.vcsu.edu) or call **701-845-7203**.





## Robinson receives non-profit leadership award

Larry Robinson, VCSU executive director of university advancement, received the Walt Odegaard Leadership Award from the North Dakota Association of Nonprofit Organizations (NDANO) during the Nonprofit Leadership Conference May 27 in Fargo.

The Walt Odegaard Leadership Award is given to an individual with more than 15 years of leadership experience who has made a difference by strengthening North Dakota and its nonprofit sector through long-term commitment to leadership, volunteerism and philanthropy.

Robinson has been executive director of the VCSU Foundation since its inception in 1996. During his time as executive director, the foundation has increased student scholarships to more than \$1 million each academic year.

Since the establishment of the North Dakota Higher Education Challenge Fund in 2013, the foundation has matched \$1 million in appropriated funds with \$2 million in private funds to add \$3 million to the foundation's assets.

Robinson has also served in the North Dakota Senate since 1989. He has supported legislation providing grants to foundations affiliated with North Dakota institutes of learning and also sponsored numerous bills in support of the nonprofit sector through grants and income tax credits.

"Senator Robinson has been a leader in nonprofit issues in the state," said Jessica Gilbertson, NDANO executive director. "NDANO is pleased to recognize his accomplishments and commitment to helping others, building community and improving quality of life in North Dakota."

NDANO is the statewide membership association advancing nonprofit organizations

through advocacy and public policy, education and training, resources and research, cost-saving programs, and leadership and networking.



Larry Robinson and Dan Madler, NDANO board president



## Bass named NSAA faculty rep of year

Dave Bass, assistant professor in the School of Education and Graduate Studies, was named the North Star Athletic Association (NSAA) Faculty Athletic Representative of the Year during the NSAA Summit meetings May 29 in Brookings, S.D. The award was voted on by all faculty athletic representatives (FAR) in the conference.

Bass is VCSU's FAR, serving as a liaison between the athletic department and the institution, as well as handling any eligibility questions. He is also the NSAA eligibility chair.

Bass will now be nominated for the Faculty Athletic Representative of the Year award at the national level.

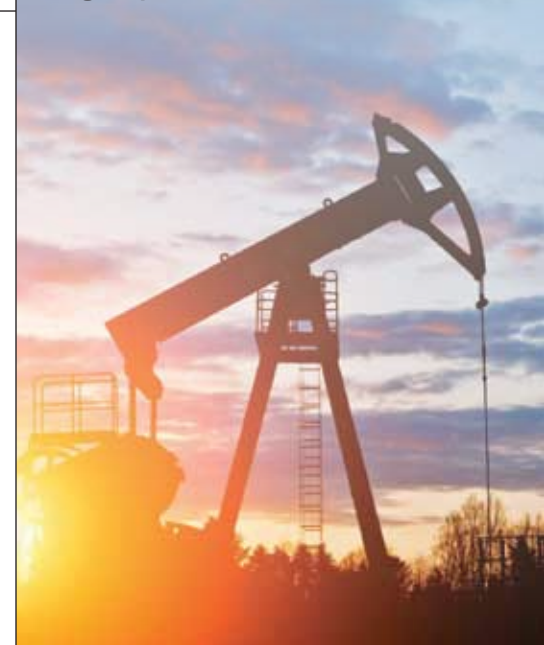
## Do You Own Mineral Rights?

**Please consider making a gift of your land or mineral interest to our organization. You may be able to transfer your land or mineral rights to a charitable remainder trust or fund a charitable gift annuity that will provide you (and your spouse) with payments for the rest of your lives. You will receive a charitable deduction in the year you make your gift, and the VCSU Foundation will benefit from the future proceeds. To learn more about the benefits of gifting land, wind or mineral rights, please call us at 701-845-7203.**

ATTENTION  
**GREEKS**

The VCSU Alumni Association invites back all of our Greek alumni for a reunion and social on **Friday, October 2**, at the **Valley City Eagles Club** starting at **7:00 p.m.**

Start contacting your fellow Greeks and make plans to come home for the weekend! Come home to VCSU!



VCSU First Fridays

# VIKING PRIDE DAY!

Join alumni, friends and students in showing your passion as a Valley City State Viking by wearing your Cardinal or Viking attire the **FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH** to show your support for your alma mater.

We ask that you wear VCSU Viking apparel to your place of work, at home and/or around town to help promote your school pride and to celebrate our great university on the first Friday of every month.

Email your pictures to [alumni@vcsu.edu](mailto:alumni@vcsu.edu), and we'll post the photos on our VCSU Alumni Association Facebook page and, of course, put your name in a drawing for VCSU gear.

If you don't have any gear, go online to the VCSU Bookstore at

[bookstore.vcsu.edu/  
merchandise.aspx](http://bookstore.vcsu.edu/merchandise.aspx)



Championship Flight  
1st Place

(16 under): Shane Ost '15, Ben Sorenson, Tim Sorenson '83, Matt Sorenson '13, and TJ Hansen '04



Championship Flight  
2nd Place

(14 under): Jamie Wirth, Jeremy Wiebe '08, Cameron Walker '02, Tyler Marthaler, and Nate Zerface



Second Flight  
1st Place

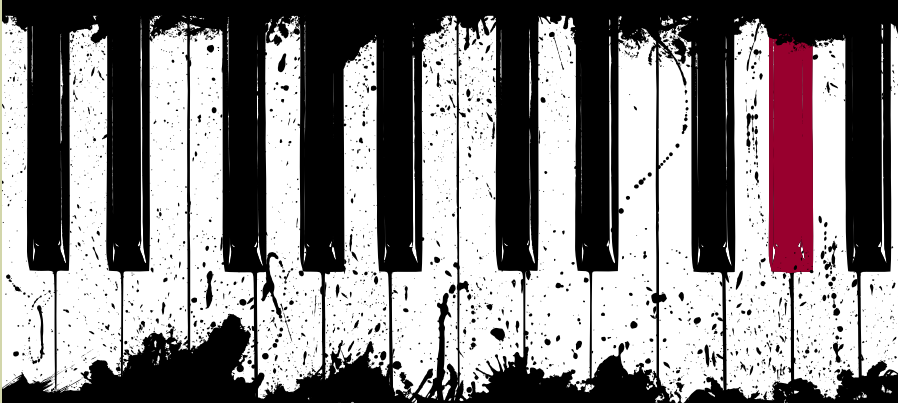
Caleb Johnson, Shane Kalbrener, Kirk Olson, Brian Yanish, and Mark Potts

VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY **V-500** PRESENTS

4th Annual

# VCSU Rendezvous!

Friday, October 23, 2015



**Come out for a night of FUN!\***

**What:** The *Black and Whyte Dueling Pianos* will be setting up their baby grand pianos.

**Where:** Valley City Eagles Club

**When:** Friday, October 23—The fun starts at 7:30 p.m.

**Tickets:** \$30/each (only 300 available)



sponsored by:



**\*21 and Over Only**

**For Tickets Call:  
701-845-7203**

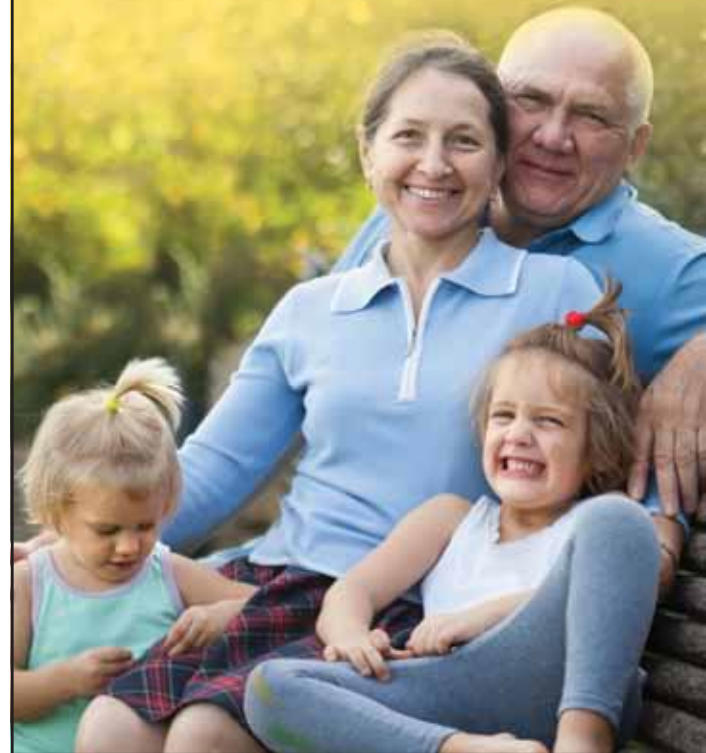
## DON'T WORRY

YOU DON'T NEED A WILL

*The GOVERNMENT will take care of it for you.*



Contact the VCSU Foundation office today for your **FREE**, no obligation, Will Kit  
**701-845-7203**



## HOW CAN I BENEFIT FROM A PLANNED GIFT?

You may have heard about planned giving, but are not familiar with the benefits.

A planned gift is really quite easy—it involves some planning that helps both you and our mission.

The planning tools on our website can help you create a legacy in your will or trust, increase lifetime income for you and your spouse and pass on property to your heirs through a charitable plan.

To learn more about the benefits of making a planned gift, please call 701-845-7203 or visit our website at [www.vcsugift.org](http://www.vcsugift.org).





1



2



3



4

## Foundation holds recognition

The Valley City State University Foundation recognized several individuals and businesses who continue to support the university through donations, volunteerism and other efforts year round, year after year. This year's recognition luncheon was held June 15 in the VCSU Student Center with over 80 attending. The following donors were recognized for reaching a new level of giving over the past year:

### **Clock Tower I Level (\$1,000,000-\$1,999,999)**

George A. & Audrey Gaukler (Gaukler Family Foundation)

### **Platinum Level (\$250,000-\$499,999)**

Ken & Kit Shimota

### **Diamond Level (\$100,000-\$249,999)**

Alliance Pipeline LP

Ray Braun

Bank Forward

Rex\* & Myrna C. McGregor

### **Gold Level (\$50,000-\$99,999)**

Dr. Gigi M. Goven

Mary B. Miller\*

Pizza Corner, Inc.

John Deere Seeding Group

Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel

Mikal & Mary Simonson

### **Regents Level (\$25,000-\$49,999)**

Paul & Margaret Dahlberg

Kathryn Holleque

Dee Jensen

Harvey L. Schilling

Bill & Becky Eiker

Robert & Deanne Horne

Allen Pedersen

Stoudt-Foss Ford, Inc.

### **Legacy Society**

Terry & Julie Anderson

Dennis & Beverly Edwards

Jerry & Marie Topp

Linda L. Bouton

Howard & Marlys\* Langemo

Michael & Vicki Zaun

\*deceased

1. Diamond Level: Myrna (Lindstrom) McGregor '42, Bank Forward (Deb Kohler), Alliance Pipeline (Leighton Smith)

2. Gold Level: Pizza Corner (Dave Zubrod), Mary Simonson, Oliver Nathan Funeral Chapel (Jeff Nathan), Gigi Goven

3. Regents Level: Dee (Johnson) Jensen '66, Robert '59 & Deanne (Roseth) '60 Horne, Margaret & Paul Dahlberg, Diane & Harvey '61 Schilling

4. Legacy Society: Howard Langemo, Marie (Vining) '74 & Jerry '74 Topp

## VCSU Foundation explores additional fundraising opportunities

At its regular meeting in June 2015, the VCSU Foundation voted to explore additional fundraising opportunities. Since the inception of the foundation in 1996, the primary focus of the fund raising efforts has been in the area of scholarship support.

“Scholarship support will remain a very high priority of the foundation,” said Larry Robinson, VCSU executive director of university advancement. “At the same time, we realize that there are other needs on the university campus. Our board has expressed an interest in exploring

other fundraising opportunities in an effort to broaden the scope of our efforts and to provide our donors with a choice as to where to direct their contributions.”

Some of the other needs discussed included wrapping up the fundraising effort for the Valley City Health, Physical Education and Wellness Center; providing financial support for a major enhancement to the W. E. Osmon Fieldhouse; renovation of the VCSU track at Lokken Stadium; financial support to acquire property adjacent to the campus for future growth and

expansion, and unrestricted dollars that can be directed to the area of greatest need.

“As our foundation continues to grow and mature,” said Robinson, “it is important that we are sensitive to the growing needs of the university. In addition to the ongoing, ever-present need for a strong scholarship program, our donors often want to have a choice as to where to direct their contributions.”

For further information, contact the VCSU Foundation office at 701-845-7203 or email Robinson at [larry.robinson@vcsu.edu](mailto:larry.robinson@vcsu.edu).

## Legislative session positively impacts VCSU

North Dakota’s 64th Legislative Assembly provided much needed funds for Valley City State University.

VCSU had made requests for two capital projects—a new Heating Plant, which was funded at \$14.3 million, and a new Communication and Fine Arts Building, which received contingency funding (based on a economic trigger) of \$28.5 million.

The Heating Plant will be designed by JLG, architects for the project, with Obermiller Nelson Engineers (ONE) serving as the engineering firm. Completion target is for the plant to be on line for the 2017–18 winter heating season.

The communication and fine arts building (pictured at right) funding depends on state revenue reaching a specific level; revenue will be tallied beginning with the new fiscal year July 1, 2015. Predictions are optimistic that the trigger level will be reached and funding secured in winter 2015–16. (An online graph of progress toward reaching the trigger goal may be found at [www.vcsu.edu/finearts-fund](http://www.vcsu.edu/finearts-fund).) Hammel, Green and Abrahamson (HGA), a Minneapolis-based architecture firm, has done the predesign for the project.

The new building will replace Foss Hall, soon to be on the wrong side of a permanent floodwall. By moving and consolidating other classrooms and offices, the project will also allow for the razing of McCarthy Hall, saving a significant amount of deferred maintenance.

Two VCSU budget deficiency requests were also addressed by the legislature. An additional \$152,000 was funded for expenses incurred in the demolition of the old science building, and in partnership with the City of Valley City, \$3 million was funded for VCSU’s share of permanent flood protection to secure the campus. Work on the flood protection began this spring.

The higher education funding bill provided general operating funds based on a funding formula tied to student credit-hour production. VCSU’s positive efforts in efficiently growing enrollment, increasing retention rates and helping students succeed have resulted in additional funds to be used for a variety of initiatives at the university’s discretion.

Key 2015–16 VCSU budget decisions include a 5.5 percent salary increase effective July 1, 2015, for faculty and staff. This increase will raise faculty salaries to a modest goal of 85 percent of market median (as determined by rank, not discipline) and make a strong impact toward (but not reach) the staff goal of 80 percent of market median.

VCSU has also budgeted \$300,000 for an expansion of W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse to address safety, accreditation and office-shortage issues.

The structural integrity of McFarland Hall remains a key concern and a focus moving forward; the university has allocated about \$150,000 to support foundation work on the building in the upcoming biennium.



## Faculty and alumni attend ITEEA annual conference in Milwaukee

VCSU was well represented at the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA) annual conference March 26–28 in Milwaukee.

The 2015 conference saw another increase in attendance both domestically and internationally, with 10 countries represented. In addition to honoring a number of members with professional awards, the STEM partnership-focused conference included dozens of professional development sessions and workshops as well as a full array of vendor exhibits.

James Boe '92, VCSU assistant professor and director of graduate studies and research, led the conference as ITEEA president. He hosted the general sessions, Spirit of Excellence and Program Excellence breakfasts and the Special Recognition and International luncheons. In addition to the recognition functions, Boe presided over the board of directors meetings and international partnership meetings. His term as past president began once the conference ended; he is now responsible for the development and implementation of the new ITEEA strategic plan and the work of the task force groups during 2015–16.

VCSU Department of Technology faculty members Lana Fornes, M.Ed. '09, and Peder Gjovik co-chaired the ITEEA Teacher Excellence Awards, facilitating the presentation of the 2015 Teacher Excellence Awards to 33 elementary, middle school and high school technology and engineering educators selected within their state or province. VCSU alumnus Tom Weber '87, who teaches in the Fargo public schools, was a recipient of this award.

In addition, 20 technology and engineering programs from across the nation received Program Excellence Awards recognizing outstand-

ing programs in technology and engineering education. Daniel Hanson, who has a VCSU major in technology education, was recognized for his outstanding program at Edmore (N.D.) High School. Cory Booth M.Ed. '10, VCSU alumnus and adjunct instructor, was also recognized for his program at Tucker (Ga.) High School.

Fornes, Gjovik and Hilde van Gijssel, professor in the Department of Science, participated in other activities at the conference including the general sessions, exhibit hall sessions and curriculum training. Fornes took part in “Scratch, Sensors, and Homemade Devices Working Together,” “EbD High School: Technological Design” and “EbD Middle School: Technological Systems.”

Gjovik attended training in “EbD High School: Advanced Technological Applications and Foundations of Technology.” Van Gijssel attended training in “EbD High School: Technological Design, Advanced Technological Applications, and Advanced Design Applications.”

Misty (Ross) Lindgren '91 attended as a representative of the VCSU Graduate Program. She met with prospective students and promoted the graduate concentrations during the exhibitor sessions.

The attendance and participation of alumni in the association’s conference, board of directors and committee leadership has significantly increased the national recognition of VCSU’s Technology Education program.



**VCSU Group at ITEEA in Milwaukee 2015**

(front, l to r) Cory Booth M.Ed. '10 (adjunct instructor, VCSU Department of Technology), Peder Gjovik (assistant professor and chair, VCSU Department of Technology; North Dakota affiliate representative and ITEEA Teacher excellence co-chair), Blaire Booth M.Ed. '10 (adjunct instructor, VCSU Department of Technology), Lana Fornes (instructor, VCSU Department of Technology, and ITEEA Teacher excellence co-chair), James Boe (VCSU director of graduate studies, ITEEA president)  
(back) Hilde Van Gijssel (professor, VCSU Department of Science), Justin Foss M.Ed. '10 (VCSU alumnus), Daniel Hanson (VCSU alumnus, ITEEA Program Excellence Award recipient), Don Fischer '79 (VCSU alumnus, ITEEA Board of Directors member), Tom Weber (VCSU alumnus, ITEEA Teacher Excellence Award recipient)

## Retirees gather on campus



A group of retired VCSU employees, along with several spouses, met with a few current VCSU faculty and staff for a luncheon July 7. Included in the group were (l to r, front) Betty Gibbons, Larry Grooters '57, Margaret (Neys) Wieland '57, Ellen Kienitz, Meryl O'Connell, Joan (Lundholm) Noeske '62; (middle) Archie Moore, Bob Bruhschwein '57, Jan Drake, President Tisa Mason, Connie Pederson '91, Bev McAllister, Connie Reed, Margie Eggert; (back) Roger Rand, Richard Betting, Gordon Hoff, Don Schaack, Kathryn Holleque, Keith Baumgartner.

## Community breaks ground for Wellness Center



Doing the honors at the Valley City Health, Wellness and Physical Education Center ground-breaking ceremony on June 3 were (l to r) Mark Lloyd, Grotberg Electric; Dick Gulmon, president, Valley City Parks Board; Larry Robinson, executive director of university advancement, VCSU; Tisa Mason, president, VCSU; George Gaukler, president, Sheyenne Valley Community Foundation; Paige Bjornson, president, Valley City/Barnes County Development Corporation; Paul Johnson, director of field operations, G6 Construction; Dan Miller, architect, JLG Architects; John Froelich, commissioner, Barnes County; and Bob Werkhoven, mayor, Valley City.

A ground-breaking ceremony for the Valley City Health, Wellness and Physical Education Center was held Wednesday, June 3, at the building site east of W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse on the VCSU campus.

The wellness center—a collaborative project of Valley City State University, Valley City Parks and Recreation, and the Sheyenne Valley Community Foundation—will provide a much-needed facility for the greater Valley City community.

Built on the VCSU campus, the building will be owned and managed by the Valley City Parks and Recreation Department.

VCSU students will use the facility, which will include court space, a pool/aquatic center, a walking track, a cardiovascular fitness center, a weight room and a children's playground.

The facility will also include classroom and lab space for the VCSU Health and Physical Education Department, which has seen large increases in enrollment over the years.

JLG Architects is designing the project, with G6 Construction Services serving as general contractor. Subcontractors include Manning Mechanical, Grotberg Electric, Johnson Controls, Associated Pool Builders and Strata Corp. Obermiller Nelson Engineering (ONE) will do the mechanical and electrical engineering; BKBM Engineers will handle the structural engineering; and KLJ will do the civil engineering.

More information about the wellness center can be found online at [www.valleycitynd.org/svcf\\_wellnesscenter.php](http://www.valleycitynd.org/svcf_wellnesscenter.php). View progress online via a webcam at [technologyservices.vcsu.edu/vp.htm?p=3420](http://technologyservices.vcsu.edu/vp.htm?p=3420).

Contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7203 to make a gift or pledge to the project.



VCSU alumni DuWayne Bott '58 (left) and George Gaukler '62 were among the lead donors for the Valley City Health, Wellness and Physical Education Center. Gaukler has been the driving force behind the Wellness Center, tirelessly pursuing, planning and contributing to the project.



## VCSU recognizes four retirees and their contributions to the university

Four individuals who retired from VCSU this spring were honored at the Employee Recognition and Retirement Dinner in the Student Center on May 14.

All four—Jan Drake, director of student academic services; Marcia Foss, director of career services; Kathryn Holleque, professor of education; and Dale Hoskisson, associate professor of education—were granted emeritus status by President Tisa Mason.

Collectively the four provided more than 130 years of service to the students of Valley City State University—an achievement very much worthy of recognition. Thanks for all you’ve done for VCSU!

### *Kathryn Holleque*



Kathryn Holleque joined the VCSU community in 1973 as campus counselor and faculty member after earning a master’s degree at North Dakota State University and teaching eighth-grade English for four

years in Brainerd, Minn. She had previously earned a bachelor’s degree from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.

Retiring in May 2015, Holleque ended her 42-year VCSU career, one that spanned six presidents and more than a third of the institution’s 125-year history. During that time, she taught thousands of students; served on countless committees, councils and task forces, often in a leadership role; and played a part in many pivotal activities that strengthened VCSU.

Throughout her tenure, Holleque demonstrated unwavering commitment to students and their well-being and cared deeply about all that represents VCSU and defines its highly regarded culture of excellence. Embracing challenges as opportunities for growth and change, she exhibited steadfast allegiance and service to the institution and life beyond it through her passion, talent, interest and resources.

Holleque served as Student Senate advi-

sor from 1973–84, was named VCSU Chapter Employee of the Year in 1976 and received recognition among the “Outstanding Young Women of America” in 1977.

With support from a National Teaching Fellowship and graduate assistantship, Holleque took an annual leave from VCSU in 1980 to pursue doctoral work at Montana State University, completing the terminal degree in 1982.

In 1979, Holleque taught the initial VCSU evening course at the institution’s first off-campus site in Jamestown, and in the early 1980s, she developed the freshman Preceptor Program, a precursor to Learning to Live, Living to Learn. Using TopClass, she piloted the first VCSU online course in the 1990s, which helped spur development of hybrid and online courses at the institution.

The VCSU Student Senate honored Holleque with its first Teacher of the Year award in 1990; she received the award again in 1996. In 2000, nominated by students, she was named to “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers.”

From 1990–99, Holleque served as a consultant and mentor in the North Dakota BRIDGES Project, which enhanced middle school education in the state by revamping curricula, teaching method and endorsement criteria. To strengthen parental and community support, she offered recommendations in a paper commissioned by the Governor’s Task Force on Early Adolescence.

She served as a primary writer for a \$1.7 million collaborative U.S. Department of Education Title III grant awarded for instruc-

tional innovation and transformational change. The corresponding multi-year research Holleque conducted on the VCSU laptop initiative not only brought national recognition to the university through institutional reports, professional presentations and scholarly articles, but also provided important information, resources and benchmarks for other institutions across the country.

Holleque worked diligently to secure the psychology major/minor and the Master of Education program at VCSU and supported scholarships at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Through the VCSU Foundation, she recently established the endowed Psychology Scholar Award.

With her departure from the institution, Holleque reflected:

Cherishing rich memories, I leave this calling and move forward in faith to pursue another. Still, wherever I am, my heart will continue to celebrate VCSU and its remarkable community.

As a personal note, she added:

My dear students, colleagues, and friends... You bring joy to the journey, and I am enormously grateful for your presence in my life. I salute you for who you are and remember those who are no longer with us. Thank you for your meaningful gifts of support, encouragement, and camaraderie throughout the years.

With love, Kathryn Holleque



## Marcia Foss '72



Marcia Foss began working at VCSU in March 1978, helping Luther Skogen out in Admissions by making phone calls to prospective students. By August of '78, she was teaching both a daytime and

nighttime Freshman Composition class and also working with the vice president of academic affairs. That position transitioned into a Writing Center, Tutoring Program and typing service for students.

In April 1984, Marcia was offered the director of career services position, where her responsibilities have been student employment, internships, career exploration and more. In addition to these duties, she also gained responsibility for the prior learning assessment (PLA) program.

The type and variety of services offered to students has grown over the years. In the early days, it was offering workshops on a variety of topics; today, it's presenting in the portfolio classes offered by departments. Marcia also presents to the Introduction to Education and Practicum students in VCSU's elementary education program at NDSU.

Marcia has served on a number of committees at the university: chairing the staff grievance committee, serving on Staff Sen-

ate, serving and acting as chair on a number of search committees, and serving on Higher Learning Commission accreditation committees and the Program Optimization Committee. This May, she was recognized as VCSU Student Advocate of the Year by Student Senate. Marcia also represented the university on the Commerce Committee of the Valley City Chamber of Commerce. In April 2015 she was recognized with the Community Spirit Award for her volunteerism in the community.

Technology has changed and enhanced the way business has been done, and Marcia has led the Career Services entrance into social media via Facebook and Twitter ([www.facebook.com/vcsucareerservices](http://www.facebook.com/vcsucareerservices), @VCSU-JobOpps), in addition to creating a comprehensive Career Services website ([www.vcsu.edu/careerservices](http://www.vcsu.edu/careerservices)).

This spring, Marcia augmented the website by doing video interviews with several VCSU alumni in different career fields. An alumni mentoring program, accessible via the website, was also started this year.

Marcia's history with the university is long; she is a VCSU graduate (class of '72), as are her grandmother, mother, sister, brother-in-law, niece, nephew and her two children, Cameron "Cam" Walker '02 and Jessica (Walker) Steiner '04. Her grandfather, P.L. Foss, a North Dakota legislator and chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, was instrumental in helping VCSU obtain funds to build the music building; in recognition of his assistance, the building—P.L. Foss Hall—was named after him.

Her original plans were to retire June 30 and move to Fargo where her two children work, but

Marcia is staying on at VCSU in the near-term to help in transitions among the Student Services staff. She will also continue her part-time employment as executive director of the North Dakota Counseling Association and her two-year term of service on the North Dakota State P.E.O. Board.

Marcia's work at VCSU is perhaps best described in the words of her colleague, Glen Schmalz, former VCSU vice president for student affairs and staff emeritus:

When I reflect on the work you did, I am struck by the depth and breadth of the career services and internship programs that you developed as a one-person office. VCSU students have had access to the same level of programs and services that they would find on any larger campus anywhere. ...It was obvious that you cared about the success of the students you served because you worked so hard to reach out to every student at every class level. ...The number of student lives that you have touched and the impact you have had on their educational experience is hard to imagine.

Marcia's own words put a cap on her VCSU career and indicate her attitude about retirement: "Working with all of the students over the past 37 years has been a joy," says Marcia, "and what's fun now is to hear about their lives and accomplishments. Who knows what adventure is waiting around the next corner!"

## Jan Drake



Jan Drake came to Valley City State University in 1985 and has served the university as director of student academic services for 30 years. Although much has changed in the position over those three

decades, one constant throughout the years has been the importance of academic advising for the campus, and Jan has worked with the National Association of Academic Advising to ensure that VCSU's academic policies are in line with best practices and legal requirements.

Academic advising begins early at new

student orientation, and orientation registration was an original part of—and still remains in—the Student Academic Services bailiwick. A mainstay of the freshman orientation experience—the Learning to Live, Living to Learn course—originated in Jan's office and was developed with the help of Student Services staff. L2L, as it's known in shorthand, has undergone changes over the year and now has its own coordinator.

Working with nontraditional students was also an aspect of Jan's work. She spent several years handling prior learning assessment (PLA), which helps students obtain college credit for life experience, and she worked with older students enrolled in VCSU's Jamestown program, which required adaptation and innovation to serve their needs.

Jan also spent several years working with faculty and staff on retention at VCSU. Relying on resources from and sharing information

with vendors and organizations such as ACT, the Educational Testing Service, the Midwest Association of Professional Administrators of College Testing, and Noel-Levitz broadened her experience and expertise and put her in touch with professional contacts who became friends over the years.

The movement to provide disability services on campuses throughout the United States grew in momentum and became law during Jan's tenure in Student Academic Services. She credits the establishment of the North Dakota Disability Services Council, in conjunction with the Department of Public Instruction, for developing consistent methods for determining and providing accommodations for students throughout the 11 campuses in the North Dakota University System. Serving on the council provided a trove of contacts and colleagues who were able to help one another; it also led to the need to learn new technologies, "an

*Retirements continued from page 39*

experience to treasure,” in Jan’s words.

Jan also taught at VCSU as an adjunct instructor in psychology and sociology, an experience in which she was continuously doing as much learning as her students. Teaching both face-to-face and online required different preparation and presentation methods; that background, coupled with her work in the development of VCSU’s abilities and assessment program, contributed to Jan’s success working with students in her office on a day-to-day basis.

“Instilling lifelong learning and success into students’ lives” is the way Jan describes her ultimate goal at VCSU. Buttressing her endeavors toward that end—and contributing to her own

learning and success—was her campus and community involvement. She served as advisor to the Alpha Lambda Delta freshman honor society since its inception on campus and also served as a member of VCSU Staff Senate, the North Dakota State Staff Senate, the Council of State Employees Board of Directors, and the aforementioned Disability Services Council. In addition, Jan also was a member of the Valley City Abused Persons Outreach Center (APOC) Board of Directors and the President’s House Preservation Society, which restored and revitalized the former president’s residence on campus as a guest inn.

Characterizing the adjustment to her new-found retirement as a “day to day” process,

Jan lets on that her friends say that she “will be back doing something educational in three months or less.” She counters (but doesn’t dismiss) that notion: “With three adult children [sons Jason ’96, Justin and Josh ’01] and three grandchildren along with other family, I say ‘maybe.’”

Plans for the future include perhaps doing more adjunct teaching—“the learning I receive from students is difficult to move away from,” she says—and becoming more knowledgeable with social media (“Having an account does not make one knowledgeable!”). She’s also looking forward to rekindling old hobbies or—always a lifelong learner—beginning new ones.

*Dale Hoskisson*



Dale Hoskisson, who retired this spring as associate professor in the School of Education and Graduate Studies, joined the Valley City State University faculty in 1991.

Prior to coming to Valley City, Hoskisson

taught elementary school for six years, produced computer-based training for a number of companies and served in the Army Reserve. He has also done instructional design consulting for more than 25 years.

Hoskisson has given more than 40 presentations at regional, national and international

conferences. His current research interests include the soul in education, developing creativity in the classroom, reverence in the classroom, and digital storytelling.

An expert in instructional technology, he served as co-director of a Preparing Tomorrow’s Teachers to Use Technology (PT3) grant from the U.S. Department of Education and an Innovative Teachers grant from Microsoft and the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. He also served as team leader for a US West Foundation grant, “Collaboratively Created Multimedia Modules for Teachers,” directing the creation of a CD and web-based product for the grant.

He also designed and helped produce the first version of the software Classroom Link that accompanies the book “Instructional Media and Technologies for Learning” and conducted a distance-education workshop for Mid-continent Research for Education and

Learning (McREL).

Hoskisson holds an Ed.D. degree from the University of Georgia, an M.Ed. from Utah State University and a B.A. from Brigham Young University.

A descendant of Brigham Young on his mother’s side, Hoskisson has served in various local and regional positions in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Hoskisson and his wife, Elizabeth have been married more than 37 years, which he describes as “the best thing I have done.” They have two adult children, one son-in-law and two grandchildren.

At the faculty and staff recognition dinner, Jackie Owen, his colleague in the education department, described Hoskisson as “the kindest man she knows,” an appellation that suits him just fine. A soft-spoken man with a glint in his eye and a smile on his face, he will be missed at Valley City State.

A Bequest of  
*Life Insurance*  
Is Easier Than You Think

Life insurance proceeds can make a wonderful gift to our university. The gift of life insurance can be made by simply naming us as the beneficiary of your policy. Your life insurance proceeds will help further our good work and your estate will benefit from an estate tax charitable deduction based on the value of the proceeds paid out.

To learn more about making a bequest of life insurance, please call or visit our website today.

**1.800.532.8641 x37203 ♦ [alumni.vcsu.edu/givingopp](http://alumni.vcsu.edu/givingopp)**



# 2015 Recognition



5 Years



10 Years



15 Years



20 Years



25, 30, 35,  
40 Years



## Years of Service

### Five Years

Kathleen Bennet-Zaun  
Erica Bunn  
Shou-ching Chao  
Teresa Cole  
Karen Crooks  
Carolyn DeLorme  
Jack Denholm  
Lana Fornes  
Jessica Frerich  
Kim Knodel  
Sarah Milner  
Ray Nelson  
Sheri Okland  
Nathan Trader  
Emma Tufte  
Lacey Udem  
Kathryn Woehl

### Ten Years

Bob Anderson  
Rose Berger  
Bridget Blunck  
Jeff Kaminsky  
Jody Klier  
Casey Olney  
Jamie Paurus  
Susan Pfeifer  
Nathan Stover  
Cindy Zahn

### Fifteen Years

LaDonna Anderson  
James Boe  
Jody Henjum  
Loree Hill  
Todd Rogelstad  
Jon Rudolph

### Twenty Years

Deb Feuerherm  
Curt Hill  
Rick Ross  
Julee Russell

### Twenty-Five Years

Dale Hoskisson  
Erin Klingenberg  
Alan Olson

### Thirty Years

Jan Drake  
Marcia Pritchert

### Thirty-Five Years

Rhonda Fairfield

### Forty Years

Larry Robinson

## Student Advocate 2015

**Marcia Foss**, Director of Career Services/  
Internships/PLA

## Teacher of the Year 2015

**Anthony Dutton**, Assistant Professor and Chair,  
Department of Social Science

## "The Difference is Me" 2014-15

**Jan Drake**, Director of Student Academic  
Services

**Marcia Foss**, Director of Career Services/  
Internships/PLA

**Jennifer Larson**, Director of Human Resources

**Joseph Munowenyu**, Computer Programmer

**Ray Nelson**, Carpenter

**Connie Stavens**, Help Desk/IVN Specialist

**Tyler Tufte**, Web Applications Developer

## VCSU Employee of the Quarter 2014-15

**Alice Beauchman**, Math and Science  
Administrative Assistant/Lecturer

**Ray Nelson**, Carpenter

**Katie Sather**, Accounts Receivable Specialist

**Kari Stricklin**, Director of Student Center and  
Student Activities

## Staff Members Completing Degrees 2015

**Rose Berger**, Building Services

**Joseph Munowenyu**, Computer Programmer

## Retiring Department Chair

**Susan Pfeifer**, Associate Professor, Department  
of Computer Systems and Software Engineering

## Faculty Awarded Promotion for 2015-16 Academic Year

**James Boe**, Assistant Professor, Director of  
Graduate Studies and Research

**Shannon VanHorn**, Associate Professor  
and Director of Distance Learning Faculty  
Development

## Faculty Awarded Promotion and Tenure for 2015-16 Academic Year

**Jackie Owen**, Instructor, School of Education  
and Graduate Studies

**Jenni Lou Russi**, Assistant Professor  
and Director of Theatre, Department of  
Communication Arts

## Faculty Excellence Awards 2015

**Lana Fornes**, Instructor, Department of  
Technology

**Christopher Redfearn**, Assistant Professor and  
Chair, Department of Music

**Alan Olson**, Associate Professor, School of  
Education and Graduate Studies

## Retirements

**Jan Drake**, Director of Student Academic  
Services (May 2015)

**Marcia Foss**, Director of Career Services/  
Internships/PLA (June 2015)

**Kathryn Holleque**, Professor, School of  
Education and Graduate Studies (May 2015)

**Dale Hoskisson**, Associate Professor, School of  
Education and Graduate Studies (May 2015)



# INSIDE ATHLETICS

by Mark Potts, sports information director

Another athletic year is officially complete at Valley City State University as we wrapped up the 2014-15 season May 23 with Monica Madavi competing in the women's marathon at the NAIA National Championships.

That competition brought to a close an athletic season that began Aug. 22 when Viking volleyball opened the year in Sioux City, Iowa. Along the way we had four teams post winning records, crowned five individual conference champions in track and cross country, won three golf tournaments and set numerous school records in several different sports.

Here are some of the highlights from 2014-15:

Viking football won its 29th conference championship, advanced to the NAIA Playoffs for the 8th time in school history, beat rival Jamestown twice, posted a 9-2 record and set more than a half-dozen school records.

Viking women's basketball went 22-9 and placed second in the North Star Athletic Association.

Viking baseball set a new school record with 32 wins. VCSU finished the year 32-25 overall, broke more than a dozen school records, and finished third in the North Star Athletic Association.

Viking softball posted its second straight season with a winning record, finishing 24-22 overall and placing third in the North Star Athletic Association.

Viking volleyball went 15-18 overall, tying the program's most wins in a season since 2006.

Runner Richard Langdeaux won four individual conference championships this season. He won the men's cross country championship, the indoor mile

run, indoor 5,000 meter run, and the outdoor 10,000 meter run.

Monica Madavi won the women's outdoor 10,000 meter conference championship and advanced to the NAIA National Championships in marathon.

Men's golf won three straight tournaments during the fall season, and junior Ben Sorenson went on to place third at the NAIA national qualifying meet in April.

A total of 21 Viking athletes were named NAIA Scholar-Athletes, which means they must be a junior or senior and must have maintained at least a 3.5 GPA during their college careers. Six softball student-athletes and five women's basketball student-athletes were on the list.

Viking athletes received NSAA all-conference honors 37 times this season; that number includes 13 football players.

It was a memorable season at VCSU, but already excitement is building for 2015-16. The 2015 season officially begins Aug. 21 when Viking volleyball opens with a tournament in Phoenix, Ariz. Viking football follows that with its opener Aug. 29, a nonconference game at rival University of Jamestown.

Homecoming Saturday this year is Oct. 3, 2015. During Homecoming weekend Valley City State University will be hosting a reunion for all members of the Viking Athletic Hall of Fame. The event tentatively includes numerous social opportunities, a short program and video, and plenty of reminiscing amongst Hall of Fame members and teammates!

You do not need to RSVP to attend the Hall of Fame reunion, but if you are planning to attend we'd love to hear from you! Feel free to email some of your VCSU athletic memories to mark.m.potts@vcsu.edu.

As always, don't forget to follow us online for the latest Viking athletic news.

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/vcsuvikings](http://www.facebook.com/vcsuvikings)

Twitter: @vcsuvikings

Instagram: vcsuvikings

Website: [www.vcsuvikings.com](http://www.vcsuvikings.com)



## Go Vikings!

CALLING ALL MEMBERS OF VCSU VIKING

# HALL OF FAME

Join us for a celebration on **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3**

- Tailgating at Lokken Stadium at 11 a.m.
- Social and Reunion at the Valley City Eagles Club (Social at 5 p.m. and Program at 7 p.m.)



# 2015 FALL SPORTS

Check out our website, [vcsuvikings.com](http://vcsuvikings.com), to view the latest schedules for all sports.

Home games in **bold**  
**All times are Central Time**  
 \*Denotes NCAA conference game



## Athlete of the Year



VCSU Athlete of the Year award: (l to r) Richard Langdeaux (track/cross country), athletic director Jack Denholm, Georgia Williams (women's basketball), Kurtis Walls (football)



## Female Champions of Character



VCSU Female Champions of Character Award: (l to r) Jenna Coghlan (track/cross country), Courtney Dixon (women's basketball), athletic director Jack Denholm, Mackenzie Hamre (softball)



## Male Champions of Character



VCSU Male Champions of Character Award: (l to r) Chris Holden (baseball), athletic director Jack Denholm, Jake Miller (football)



## Senior Athletes of the Year



VCSU Senior Athletes of the Year: (l to r) George Trujillo (football), athletic director Jack Denholm, Sadiqah Jihad (women's basketball).

## FOOTBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Aug. 29	@ University of Jamestown	1:00 p.m.
Sept. 5	@ Mayville State	1:00 p.m.
<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>vs. Robert Morris</b>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b>
Sept. 19	@ Waldorf College*	1:00 p.m.
Sept. 26	@ Dickinson State*	3:00 p.m.
<b>Oct. 3</b>	<b>vs. Mayville State* (Homecoming)</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 10</b>	<b>vs. Dakota State*</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>
Oct. 17	@ Presentation College*	1:00 p.m.
<b>Oct. 24</b>	<b>vs. University of Jamestown*</b>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b>
Nov. 8	North Star Bowl @ Fargodome	TBA

## VOLLEYBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Aug. 21-22	@ Arizona Christian Tournament, Phoenix, Ariz.	
Aug. 21	Arizona Christian	2:00 p.m.
Aug. 21	Benedictine University	4:00 p.m.
Aug. 22	Embry Riddle	2:00 p.m.
Aug. 22	Faulkner University	4:00 p.m.
Aug. 26	@ Bismarck State (exhibition)	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 1	@ Concordia-Moorhead (exhibition)	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 4-5	@ Corn Palace Classic, Mitchell, S.D.	
Sept. 4	Johnson @ Wales	9:00 a.m.
Sept. 4	Presentation College	5:00 p.m.
Sept. 5	Dakota Wesleyan	10:30 a.m.
Sept. 5	Grace University	5:00 p.m.
Sept. 8	@ University of Mary	7:00 p.m.
<b>Sept. 11-12</b>	<b>Valley City/Jamestown Invitational</b>	
<b>Sept. 11</b>	<b>vs. Bemidji State</b>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 11</b>	<b>vs. Univ. of Great Falls</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>vs. Montana-Northern</b>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>vs. Waldorf College</b>	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 18</b>	<b>vs. Presentation College*</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 19</b>	<b>vs. Dakota State*</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
Sept. 25	@ Dickinson State*	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 26	@ University of Jamestown*	6:00 p.m.
Sept. 29	@ Mayville State*	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 2-3	@ Clarke Univ. Tournament, Dubuque, Iowa	
Oct. 2	Bellevue University	4:00 p.m.
Oct. 2	Viterbo University	8:00 p.m.
Oct. 3	Mount Mercy	10:00 a.m.
Oct. 3	Ashford University	2:00 p.m.
<b>Oct. 6</b>	<b>vs. Concordia-Moorhead</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
Oct. 16	@ Dakota State*	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 17	@ Presentation College*	6:00 p.m.
<b>Oct. 23</b>	<b>vs. University of Jamestown*</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 24</b>	<b>vs. Dickinson State*</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 28</b>	<b>vs. Mayville State*</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 31</b>	<b>vs. Clarke University</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
Nov. 7, 11, 14	NCAA Tournament	TBA

## Viking track and field recap

Viking track and field crowned two individual conference champions during the 2015 outdoor season.

Senior distance runners Richard Langdeaux and Monica Madavi both placed first, respectively, in the men's and women's 10,000 meter races at the North Star Athletic Association Championships on May 8 in Dickinson.

Madavi dominated the women's 10,000 meters, winning by more than four minutes and setting a new VCSU school record in the process. Madavi also qualified to compete in the marathon at the NAIA National Championships, but was unable to finish the race due to illness.

Langdeaux bested second place by more than 30 seconds during his 10,000 meter NSAA victory. It was part of a busy day at the NSAA Championships for Langdeaux, who also placed third in the 5,000 meters and fourth in the 1,500.

The top three finishers in each event were named all-conference. The Vikings had four athletes place second in their respective events: Jessica Meland (hammer throw), Jenna Coghlan (javelin), Daniel Machado (1,500 meter run) and Alex Askerooth (3,000 steeplechase).

Third-place finishers included Alexandra Cardenas (5,000 meters), Jessica Meland (shot put), Richard Langdeaux (5,000 meters), Niklas Ernst (400 hurdles) and Dillon Thomas (decathlon).

Including the NSAA Championships, Viking track and field competed at seven meets during the outdoor season. Madavi was the only athlete to qualify for nationals this season, but women's throwers Jenna Coghlan (javelin) and Jessica Meland (hammer throw) were both agonizingly close to the national qualifying distance throughout the season.

Individual champions at regular season meets included junior Jenna Coghlan, who won the women's javelin at the April 17 Blue Hawk Games with a season-best throw of 38.27 meters. On the men's side, junior Misael Herrera won the 5,000 meter run on April 25 at the Al Cassell Relays in Jamestown.



Dillon Thomas



Jenna Coghlan



Monica Madavi



Richard Langdeaux

## Viking baseball recap

The Valley City State University baseball team broke more than a dozen school records this season as the Vikings posted the program's best year since 2003 and set a new school record for wins.

VCSU finished the season 32-25 overall and took third in both the North Star Athletic Association tournament and regular season. A total of nine team records and four individual records fell this year as the Vikings put up record-breaking numbers in head coach Casey Olney's eighth season.

First and foremost, VCSU set a new school record with 32 wins. That breaks the old mark of 28 set back in 2003. The Vikings swept doubleheaders from both Mayville State University and the University of Jamestown, something that hadn't been done in more than 10 years. In both of those doubleheaders, the second victory came on a walk-off hit by junior infielder Jake Rambow.

The Vikings were the No. 3 seed entering the NSAA Tournament and opened with a pair of victories over Dakota State University (8-4) and Presentation College (9-5), earning a spot in the semifinals. VCSU was eliminated from the tournament after losses to Mayville State (5-13) and Dickinson State (5-6), finishing one win short of playing in the championship series.

Along with setting a new record for wins, the Vikings also set a new team record for triples. VCSU hit 40 triples, which led the nation this season in NAIA baseball. The Vikings also set new single-season school records for at bats, hits, runs, doubles, RBIs and pitcher strikeouts. The 2014-15 Vikings also tied the saves record.

Individually, center fielder Anthony Nechochea set a new single-season hits record with 81, breaking the old mark of 72 held by Josh Evans (2010). He also holds another individual record with 214 at bats this season.

First baseman Joe Demers hit a record 13 triples, which is both a season and career record at VCSU. The old season record of 8 was held by Doyle Fraddosio (1978) and the old career record of 12 was held by Josh Evans.

"It was great to see the team and individual success that the guys were able to experience this season," said Olney. "Some of those records were held by legendary Viking teams and players. Being associated with them in any regard is a special accomplishment. It speaks to a lot of people working hard and being committed to taking Viking Baseball to the next level. This year was a step forward, and I know the current and future Vikings are passionate about taking another step forward in the coming seasons."

The Vikings also announced their team awards after the season. Joe Demers was named Hitter of the Year and Team MVP, while David Whitaker was named Pitcher of the Year. Mitch Scheer was honored with the Viking Award, and Brock Powell and Xavier Padilla shared Rookie of the Year honors. Third baseman Nate Bagby was honored with the team's Gold Glove award. Bagby was also named first team all-conference and received a conference Gold Glove award. Bagby led the Vikings with a .382 batting average, 48 runs scored and 40 RBIs.



◀ Anthony Nechochea

## Viking softball recap

The Viking softball team posted its second winning season in a row after finishing the 2015 campaign with a 24-22 record. In conference play, VCSU went 9-11 in the North Star Athletic Association this past season and placed third in both the regular season and conference tournament.

The Vikings entered the tournament as the No. 3 seed and opened with a pair of victories over Presentation College (3-2) and Dickinson State (5-0). But the Vikings finished a win short of the NSAA championship series after losing their next two games to the University of Jamestown (1-4) and Dickinson State (2-12).

Highlights of the season included an 11-7 record during VCSU's spring trip to Tucson, Ariz., and a double-header road sweep at Concordia College-Moorhead.

Three Vikings were named to the NSAA all-conference team, including senior outfielder Savannah McMillin. A four-year starter at VCSU, McMillin led the Vikings with a .370 batting average this season. She scored 28 runs, hit 9 doubles and drove in 30 runs.

Also named all-conference were junior infielders Cejay Hillhorst and Katie Cameron. Hillhorst was second on the team in batting average (.359), runs scored (35) and RBIs (33). She led the Viking offense with 6 home runs. Cameron batted .327 this season and led the Vikings with 38 runs scored and 5 triples. She also drove in 20 runs and stole 14 bases.

A pair of Viking freshmen had solid seasons in their VCSU debut. First baseman Kelli Moore batted .296 with 10 doubles and 18 RBIs, and posted a sparkling .983 fielding percentage at first base. Freshman pitcher Kathleen Gallais had a team-best 4.05 ERA and went 4-4 in 64 innings pitched.

Senior Lindsey White led the pitching staff with a 9-7 record in 105 innings pitched. She had a 4.80 ERA and recorded 97 strikeouts. Another senior, outfielder Mackenzie Hamre, had a breakout season with a .316 batting average, 33 runs, four home runs and 28 RBIs. Hamre was one of five Vikings to bat better than .300.

VCSU said goodbye to four seniors after the season as Hamre, McMillin, White and outfielder Shayna Taffinder all played their last games as Vikings. Hamre, McMillin and Taffinder were all four-year players at VCSU, while White transferred to VCSU prior to her junior season.

The 2015 season was head coach Elle Fracker's second season at the helm. It followed a 2014 season in which the Vikings went 22-21 and won a conference championship.



Cejay Hillhorst

## Men's and women's golf recap

The Viking men's and women's golf teams were able to play three tournaments during their short spring seasons this year.

The Vikings played one-day tournaments at the University of Jamestown and Dickinson State, and then traveled out of state to play at their respective NAIA national qualifier tournaments.

The VCSU men's golf team finished third in Jamestown and second in Dickinson before placing fourth of six teams at the NAIA national qualifier/NSAA championship in Dakota Dunes, S.D.

The Viking men had two players earn all-conference honors with Top 10 finishes at the national qualifier. Junior Ben Sorenson placed third individually, eight shots behind the leader, and was named first team all-conference.

Freshman Kyle Wiebe tied for sixth place at the meet and was named second team all-conference. Wiebe had the low round of the tournament with a 75, and VCSU's team score from round three (327) was the low team round at the tournament.

Valley City State's women placed fourth in Jamestown and fifth in Dickinson. At their NAIA national qualifier in Garden City, Kan., the Viking women placed 10th of 11 teams. Nicole Heinitz was the top Viking after placing 33rd overall. Nicole Mosiman finished 38th at the national qualifier.

The Viking golf teams also played in six tournaments last fall.

Ben Sorenson ▶



## Women's basketball at top in GPA

The 22-win season posted by the Viking women's basketball team was the big story surrounding the team on the court this winter, but off the court the women have proven themselves as well.

Most coaches look for hard-working students when recruiting, yet this year's team is a rare find in the classroom. Along with their 22 wins, head coach Jill DeVries's squad combined to be one of the top academic teams in the nation.

The Viking women posted a team GPA of 3.69 this past year, which ranked them first on the Women's Basketball Coaches Association NAIA Academic Top 25 Honor Roll. Valley City State was also named an NAIA Scholar-Team by the NAIA national office and had the second highest GPA among all the NAIA women's basketball Scholar-Teams.

"We are very proud of the commitment both academically and athletically the student-athletes display in our program," said DeVries. "Being honored for their academic success is important because these young ladies are going to be professionals in various disciplines outside athletics."

The Viking women had six players make the President's Honor Roll (4.0) fall semester and five players make the Dean's Honor Roll (3.5). In the spring semester, six Vikings made the President's Honor Roll and two made the Dean's Honor Roll.

Five Vikings were named NAIA Scholar-Athletes by the national office, with criteria requiring junior or senior status and at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Juniors Tracie Boehmlehner and Courtney Dixon received the honor, along with three seniors: Megan Trautman, Sierra Even and Steph Pedersen.

"I feel blessed to have the buy-in and leadership within our program that cultivates a culture where less than their best in everything they do is unacceptable," said DeVries. "Our student-athletes truly are what gives our program the 'wow' factor: different, noticeable and appealing. I want to thank the young women in our program for their uncommon commitment to excellence both on and off the court."



1. Daune Brown (left) directed and played the leading role in Luigi Pirandello's "Six Characters in Search of an Author" with Ginny Paulson and Eddie Agre in July 1971
2. David Wyum (center) in "Dark Victory" in Theatre 320 with Jennell Johnson Quinlan (left) and CeCe Karapetsa
3. Brad Stephenson (center) as Babbs, Miriam Wagner (left) as Donna Lucia, and Laurel Simmers as Ela in "Charley's Aunt" in Theatre 320
4. David Wyum (left) and Brad Stephenson at B.D.S. Books

## Daune Brown Theatre Scholarship established

by Jenni Lou Russi, assistant professor and director of theatre

"He was our director, but he was also our friend" is how VCSU Theatre alumni David Wyum '76 and Brad Stephenson '79 describe Daune Brown, former VCSU Theatre professor. Brown, who retired from VCSU in 1996 and died in April 2012, is being remembered with a scholarship initiated by the two lifelong friends who met as drama students at VCSU.

I recently had the pleasure of meeting Stephenson and Wyum over lunch in Fargo.

Wyum is now a broker associate in West Fargo and "still married to his first wife!" He says that his studies with Brown enhanced his personal and professional success. "I'm a very shy person," says Wyum. "Theatre taught me how to get out in front of people."

Stephenson, owner of B.D.S. Books in Fargo, says that he uses his theatre skills every day. "In theatre you learn your lines, understand your character, and hit your marks—that's life! In a venue like Theatre 320 you learn how to act with your toes. There's nowhere to hide."

Citing Brown as a significant influence in their studies while in college, their careers, and their personal lives, the friends agreed that Brown "opened the world to a lot of North Dakota farm kids."

Brown came to Valley City after having served in the U.S. Army and Air Force and in both the Korean and Vietnam wars. His discipline in the classroom and rehearsals was uniquely appreciated, often describing himself as "good, kind, sweet, and lovable—but not nice!"

His international experiences extended to his academic pursuits as he traveled to Cambridge University in the United Kingdom each summer. In 1978 Brown encouraged Stephenson and Wyum to join him in the United Kingdom and the two VCSC students attended classes at Oxford for the summer. The two friends agree that the experience abroad was life-changing. "I took my wife over the following year. North Dakota is not the center of things," says Wyum as he recalls the ways in which the trip influenced his future.

The two alumni hope the Daune Brown Memorial Theatre Scholarship will enhance opportunities for future students who choose to participate in VCSU Theatre. Contributions towards this scholarship fund may be made via the VCSU Foundation Office. Please contact Kim Hesch at 701-845-7403 or [kim.hesch@vcsu.edu](mailto:kim.hesch@vcsu.edu) for more information.



## Department invites nominations for VCSU Music Hall of Fame

The Department of Music is asking alumni and friends of the university to nominate qualified individuals for possible induction into the VCSU Music Hall of Fame in fall 2016. The Hall of Fame recognizes and celebrates VCSU alumni and past professors whose music careers and community service exemplify the highest achievement and professional distinction.

The selection committee will apply the following criteria in evaluating nominations; nominees should demonstrate superior performance or significant leadership in at least three of the five criteria below:

1. A distinguished career in professional music, music education, or music business, typically spanning a minimum of 20 years
2. Significant professional contributions to the field of music (such as publications, published compositions or performances)
3. Recognition for excellence in music from one or more state, regional, or national organizations
4. Evidence of voluntary service to advance music appreciation or skill beyond the profession
5. Recognition for voluntary service from one or more state, regional, or national organizations

A nomination form can be found online on the Music Department website at [music.vcsu.edu](http://music.vcsu.edu). For more information, call or email Paula Larson at 701-845-7272 or [paula.larson@vcsu.edu](mailto:paula.larson@vcsu.edu).

Deadline for nominations is Nov. 1, 2015.



## VCSU duo perform at Frost Fire

Alumnus Jacob Olson '15 and VCSU student Mariah Smith, a theatre minor, were cast members in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at Frost Fire Summer Theatre near Walhalla, N.D.

Based on the "Coat of Many Colors" story in the Book of Genesis, the show featured music by Andrew Lloyd Webber with lyrics by Tim Rice.

## FALL 2015 FINE ARTS

### Music

Sept. 12	Choir Rummage Sale	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 pm
	<i>Foss Hall</i>	
Sept. 25	Faculty Recital	7:30pm
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Oct. 5	Silver Winds Flute Quartet	7:30pm
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Oct. 7	Fall Choral Showcase	Noon
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Oct. 9 & 10	Ployhar Festival	All Day
	<i>TBA</i>	
Oct. 16	Student Recital	10:00am
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Oct. 16	Guest Artist, Andrew Childs, tenor	7:30pm
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Oct. 24	Concert Band/Jazz Concert	7:30pm
	<i>TBA</i>	
Oct. 30	Geraldine Ong and Jason Laczkoski	7:30pm
	Faculty Recital	
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Nov. 6	Student Recital	10:00am
Nov. 7	Solo Song Symposium	All Day
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Nov. 9	Nick Meyers & James Adams, Faculty Recital	7:30pm
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Nov. 14	Single Reed Symposium	All Day
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Nov. 16	Guest Artist, Hong-Da Chin, flute	7:30pm
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Nov. 20	Student Recital	10:00am
	<i>Froemke</i>	
Dec. 3	East Region Instrumental Contest	All Day
Dec. 3	Christmas at St. Catherine's	7:30pm
	<i>St. Catherine's Church</i>	
Dec. 4	Concert Band/Jazz concert	7:30pm
	<i>TBA</i>	
Dec. 5	Community School of the Arts	3:00pm
	Christmas Choral Concert	
	<i>Nazarene Church</i>	
Dec. 8	Christmas at The Vault	7:30pm

## Vikings on the Move

### 1940s

**Esther (Haugaard) Lee '47**— 86 years old—is the proud grandmother of six and great-grandmother of five, including twin girls. She is very active in church and music club; she is also serving in her 43rd year as a hospital volunteer.

### 1950s

**Don Johnson '57** is originally from Fort Ransom, ND. Don taught in rural schools: 3 years in Kathryn, N.D.; 1 year in Lisbon, N.D.; and 3 years in Duluth, Minn. He also lived and taught school in LaHabra, Calif., for 35 years for a total of 42 years in education. He has been retired for 21 years. In 1998, Don and his wife moved to Mora, Minn., to be closer to his mother who was 98 at the time; she lived to be over 100. They have 2 children, 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. This fall, Don and his wife will be moving to Texas to be closer to their son who just retired from the army. They are also celebrating their 58th wedding anniversary.

**Lowell Peterson '58** retired in 1992 and moved to Valley City in 1995. He had previously been a teacher and superintendent at Fingal, N.D., and superintendent at McVile, N.D. Lowell and his wife, Mary, celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary on May 30, 2015.

**Rodney Lipp** retired in November 2006 after 13 years at the City of St. Paul, Minn.; 22 years at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.; and 5 years at the University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.

### 1960s

**Harry '66** and **Vera (Ringsaker) '61** Grammond are still living in Grey Eagle, Minn., and would enjoy hearing from anyone who knew them at VCSU.

**Beverly (LaPlant) Kelly '63** moved into an apartment following her husband's death. She does some traveling and hopes to do more.

**Don '64** and **Rosalie (Ward) '66** Dragland celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 20, 2015, in Bella Vista, Ark., which has been their home for the last 14 years. They were married in 1965 in Tolna, N.D., on a Sunday night; all that followed the wedding ceremony was a small reception and some picture-taking. Fifty years later, they “pulled out all stops” and had the sit-down dinner and wedding dance that they didn't and couldn't have 50 years ago. “Life has been very good to and for” the both of them. They send greetings to their former band and choir mates. That's where they met.

**Mel Olson '64** recently retired after 49 years in education serving as teacher and coach, secondary principal, superintendent of schools, state director of technical education and director of the NDCS Fargo campus.

**Faye (Olson) Bubach '65** and her husband, Bob, moved to Valley City in June 2015. Faye retired from a career of 41 years in education. They enjoy living close to family and friends, and to being grandparents to five grandsons.



▲ **Virginia Eck '65** was inducted into the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame (NDCHF) at a ceremony in Medora on June 20. Eck, a barrel-racing champion and 1963 Miss Rodeo North Dakota, received the NDCHF Legacy Award.

**Marilyn (Lunneborg) Worner '65** and her husband continue to live in Mayville, N.D., and spend summers at White Earth Lake, Minn. Marilyn is a retired teacher from the Fargo Public Schools, and her husband retired as a professor at Mayville State.

**Bernadine (Lang) Kuhn '66** is retired and enjoying life.

**Janet Schultz '66** is still retired (after all these years!)

**Delores (Bennetto) Baltrusch '69** loves visiting with family and friends. She is blessed with 13 great-grandchildren (5 girls and 8 boys); they are scattered from North Dakota to St. Kitts in the Caribbean. Delores enjoys her church activities at Faith Lutheran and playing piano Tuesday afternoons at the Long Term Care Bible. She also belongs to the Red Hat Rowers and Lonetree Retired Teachers Association. Delores also does not turn down coffee dates with friends; in other words, she is enjoying retirement!

**Jay Morgan '69** attended the 51st annual North Dakota Suncoast Association luncheon on Feb. 21, 2015, at the River Wilderness Golf and Country Club in Parrish, Fla. There were 61 attendees. The program was highlighted by Merit Johnsrud, who gave in-depth information on the Bakken/Three Foks Oil Field. The slide presentation and hand-out were filled with mind-boggling statistics. The luncheon concluded with door prizes from VCSU and Bank Forward and a silent auction. The next luncheon will be the third Saturday in February 2016. Call Jay at 944-378-4444 for more information.

### 1970s

**Craig '70** and **Pam (Stockland) Sturlaugson '69** like to travel and entertain their five grandchildren. Craig is beginning his 45th and final year of coaching at Centennial Schools in Circle Pines, Minn. He also continues to do behind-the-wheel drivers education and ushers for the Minnesota Twins. Pam is busy teaching piano lessons.

**Verna Moos '73** retired after 41 years of teaching special education in North Dakota and Texas. She recently moved back to Jamestown, N.D., from Texas.

**Boyd '75** and **Kathy (Shape) Sussex '74** have lived and taught at Milbank, S.D., for 28 years. Boyd is the athletic director, and Kathy is the at-risk coordinator. They moved to Big Stone Lake five years ago and love lake-living. They invite classmates to visit them.

**Janis (Paulson) Wallender '77** and her husband, Brent, are fully retired. Janis spent 35 years in education. For the past 2 1/2 years, they have lived at Lake Shore Estates on Lake Sakakawea; this has proved to be an adventure. She notes that it is very peaceful during the winter months and very busy in the summer. Traveling to visit their daughters keeps them busy and young. Janis's hobby of quilting has turned into sewing for others as well. Janis wrote, “VCSU was an awesome place, and my time there holds many treasured memories.”

**Dave Katzenmeyer '78** will be officially retiring at the end of the 2016 school year after 38 years of service, 36 in the Rosemount, Apple Valley, and Eagan, Minn., schools. By that time, he will have a freshman and a sophomore at Apple Valley High School and a 36 year-old (Tark) teaching band at Woodbury High School. Dave says hi to all VCSU alumni and hopes to join future functions.

### 1980s

**Davy '80** and **Sheila (Lindeman) Zinke '80** reside in Valley City. Davy retired after 34 years of teaching physical education. He continues to coach football and this fall will be coaching at Valley City High School. Sheila is teaching choir and guitar at Valley City High School.

**Nanette (Peterson) Hoover '81** had a big year in 2014. Her daughter, Erin, got married June 1 and Nanette and the groom's father officiated the wedding. On October 4, her son, Phillip, got married—two weddings in one year! Recently, Phillip and his wife, Heather, announced that “Baby Hoover” is on the way.

**Amy (Ottinger) Kitching '83** recently opened a new office in Statesboro, Ga., and is incorporating wellness, weight loss and medical massage into her chiropractic practice.

**Mark '86** and **Jody (Enstad) Sand '85** are still residents of Steele, N.D., where they have lived since 1990. Mark left teaching in 2008 and is now an ag lender at Northland Financial of Steele. Jody is teaching library skills to students at Kidder County—Steele School. Their daughters, Mallory (27) and Lindsey (24) are both in Bismarck, N.D., and have started their own careers. Their son, Ryan, is a senior at Kidder County—Steele and has decided to attend VCSU. They are excited to have him become a Viking!

**Jay Nitschke '88** retired from teaching this year.

### 1990s

**Teresa (Luthi) McDonough '94** is a lieutenant colonel in the North Dakota Air National Guard and just passed the 26 year mark. She and her husband, Bert, and her stepson, Landen, live in Moorhead, Minn., and enjoy summers on Pelican Lake.



## Felchle siblings return to campus

Alumni siblings (l to r) Karla (Felchle) Barkman '84, M.Ed. '11; Ken Felchle '96, M.Ed. '08; and Kimberly (Felchle) Waale '87 jumped for joy to be back on campus this summer. Karla is district library media and technology specialist in Soldotna, Alaska; Ken teaches seventh grade social studies and coaches in Kenai, Alaska; and Kimberly teaches seventh grade language arts in Dilworth, Minn. A fourth sibling (not pictured) is Karen (Felchle) Black '79, M.Ed. '09, technology coordinator and gifted/talented coordinator in the Rugby (N.D.) Public Schools.



Photo of all four taken at Goodrich (N.D.) School: (l to r) Ken Felchle, Kimberly (Felchle) Waale, Karla (Felchle) Barkman, and Karen (Felchle) Black

**Debbie (Jensen) Walton '95** lives in Lisbon, N.D., and has been working at BRI-TON, Inc. for 10 years. She has four children: Brandon (17), Carter (13), Kaylee (7) and Samuel (3).

**Adam Houser '99** has been promoted to vice president of staff engineering, products and system development at F.M. Global in Johnston, R.I. Adam took over his new duties on April 1, providing strategic direction, design, development and maintenance of company engineering products and systems. He's worked at F.M. Global since 2008 as the manager and assistant vice president of intellectual property and localization within the marketing organization. Adam and his wife, Sara (Buckmeier) Houser '99, live in Medway, Mass., with their two sons, Evan (7) and Oliver (5).

### 2000s

**Matt '05** and **Sheri (Stein) Scherbenski '05** have moved to Bismarck where Matt is the dean of students and activities director at Shiloh Christian School and Sheri is lucky to stay home with their children: Hannah (5), Regan (3) and Jonah (1).



▲ **Mark Nielson '06** has been deployed to Romania. While there, he is proudly wearing his VCSU shirt—always promoting VCSU!



◀ **Sara Etzel, M.Ed. '07**, was named to the newly developed role of director of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and CTE (career and technical education) in the Minneapolis Public Schools

(MPS). She will oversee the K-12 continuum of educational opportunities for 35,000 MPS students, ensuring they learn through problem-solving, collaboration and hands-on activities while they address real-life issues. Etzel has worked for MPS for eight years.

## HELP US LOCATE THESE LOST ALUMNI

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

### 2006

Man Chu  
Jonathan Hanson  
Melie Ilogu  
Deric Ingram  
Julie Jensen  
Amanda Krenz  
Dena Muri  
Joshua Sponsel  
Lindsey (Johnson) Sponsel  
Andrew St. Vincent  
Brooke (Tangen) Tangen-Huus

### 2007

Heather (Docktor) Beaudoin  
Carling Beninger  
Skye Braun  
Danielle Buggert  
Kendall Campbell  
Michelle Castillo  
Raymond Caylor  
Jamie Flath  
Joseph Foertsch  
Casaundra Francis  
Jessica (Peterson) Hanson  
Jenna (Poeppel) Jewett

Ashley Kunz  
Jennifer Porter  
Dawn (Sandbeck) Ransom  
Brent Solberg

### 2008

Ashley Barr  
Michael Fox  
Benjamin Gasal  
Carl Hintzman  
Briana Schlosser  
Valerie Schultz  
Monica Townsend

### 2009

Brandon Boehm  
Jenny Colby  
Daniel Hill  
Erin (Ottinger) Low  
Yusuke Oikawa

### 2010

Brenda Browning  
Amanda Carter  
Eva Dusolier  
Alesha Horst  
Clay Johnson  
Alicia (Rohr) Kelly



# Lil' Vikings

Have you had an addition to your family within the last six months? We want to know!

Contact Kim Hesch at [kim.hesch@vcsu.edu](mailto:kim.hesch@vcsu.edu) to receive a free t-shirt for your new Lil' Viking. Please be sure to tell us your baby's name and birthdate. After you have received your baby's Lil' Viking shirt, send us your baby's photo so we can include it in the next issue of *The Bulletin*. Email the photo to [kim.hesch@vcsu.edu](mailto:kim.hesch@vcsu.edu).



**Cam Jonathan Heidorn**

January 18, 2015  
5 pounds 10 ounces,  
19 inches  
Jonathan & Lindsay  
(Elsner) Heidorn '06



**Timothy Backstrom**

November 13, 2014  
8 pounds 11 ounces,  
20 1/2 inches  
Jordan '11 and Heidi  
(Larson) '10 Backstrom



**Ava Grace Strittmatter**

September 3, 2014  
7 pounds 10 ounces,  
19 1/2 inches  
Joins brother Blake and  
sister Gabrielle (2 year-  
old twins)  
Steve Strittmatter '02  
and Kristel (Engelby)  
Strittmatter '04



**Catherine Autumn Shuler**

January 1, 2015  
7 pounds 11 ounces,  
19 3/4 inches  
Christopher and Jessica  
(Hall) '12 Shuler



**Molly Rose Thomas**

May 22, 2014  
4 pounds 11 ounces,  
18 inches  
Trisha (Voeltz) '13 and  
Troy Thomas



**Luciana Rose Leguizamon**

December 29, 2014  
8 pounds 10 ounces,  
19 1/2 inches  
Amy (Foss) '09 & Guill-  
ermo Leguizamon  
(grandparents Mike '80  
& Karen '80 Foss; great-  
grandparents Robert '57  
& Rosalyn Bruhschwein)



**Lucas James Helvik**

December 10, 2014  
8 pounds 10 ounces,  
21 1/2 inches  
Joins brother Noah (2 1/2)  
Jess and Janae (Larson)  
'07 Helvik



**Jonah Matthew Scherbenske**

April 17, 2014  
8 pounds 13 ounces,  
22 inches  
Joins sisters Hannah (5)  
and Regan (3)  
Matt '05 and Sheri  
(Stein) '05 Scherbenske



**Beau Andrew Pederson**

March 14, 2015  
10 pounds 14 ounces,  
22 3/4 inches  
Chelsey (Miller) '10 and  
Andrew Pederson



**Korbin Paul Hagen**

October 18, 2014  
7 pounds 15 ounces,  
21 inches  
Erik '07 and Hope Hagen



**Bentley James Askegaard**

April 28, 2015  
6 pounds 12 ounces,  
20 1/2 inches  
Joins older brother  
Zachary  
Dustin Askegaard and  
Jessica James '05  
(grandparents Tammy  
and Stephen "Doc" '72  
Dockter)

# Just Married



1



4



2



5



3

**1. Steve Trudeau '06** and Kelli Smart were married Aug. 2, 2014 in Ada, Minn. Steve is the electrical shop foreman at Dakota Turbines in Cooperstown, N.D., and Kelli teaches math at Northern Cass High School.

**2. Kayla Straabe '09** and Dan Cash were married April 18, 2015. Kayla is a sales director with Mary Kay Cosmetics and has been in the top 2% of the company since 2009. Her business degree from VCSU has helped her in many ways to lead over 150 women on her team to success. Kayla's husband, Dan, is the general sales manager of Midwest Radio of Fargo-Moorhead, which includes KFGO, Froggy 99.9, and Y94. Dan is a 2006 graduate of Western Michigan University.

**3. Jessica Fischer '10** and Ryan Johnson were married April 18, 2015, in Hankinson, N.D. Jessica graduated from North Dakota State College of Science and Valley City State University. She is currently employed at Sheyenne Care Center in Valley City. Ryan was discharged from the United States Air Force. He is currently employed at Heartland Flax in Valley City.

**4. Trisha Voeltz '13** and Troy Thomas were married in Jamestown, N.D., on November 22, 2014.

**5. Jill Noeske '13** and Zack Rischmiller were married on June 12, 2015.

## More Weddings

**Jerica Buckman '15** & Joshua Smith, June 6, 2015

**Chelsey Dockter '13** & **Preston Jensen '13**, June 6, 2015

**Alyssa Tait '14** & **Jake Schauer '14**, June 20, 2015

Traci Powers & **Taylor Nelson '12**, June 21, 2015

## In Remembrance

Olivia (Kjelland) Carlson '33, Minneapolis, Minn.

Julia (Fehr) Albus '41, Oakes, N.D.

Catherine (Andersen) Kaim '41, Wahpeton, N.D.

Oliver "Bud" Kolstoe '41, Laguna Woods Village, Calif.

Judy (Riskedahl) Borhaug '42, Washburn, N.D.

Dorothy (Monson) Moen '43, Gary, Minn.

Alvina (Winter) Raugust '44, Harvey, N.D.

Colleen (Baertsch) Witt '46, Baytown, Texas

Beatrice (Langley) Cudworth '47, Sheyenne, N.D.

Lois (Bayer) Sedevie '49, Minot, N.D.

Rose (Lang) Sylling '49, Billings, Mont.

Ernie Janisch '51, Starbuck, Minn.

Richard Starke '52, Helena, Mont.

Cliff Schlosser '54, Willmar, Minn.

Roselyn Schmitt '55, St. Joseph, Minn.

Clarice (Pals) Churchill '56, Grand Forks, N.D.

Don Johnson '56, Valley City

Glen Lahlum '69, Valley City

Donald Hodek '80, Medina, Ohio

Mary (Osmon) Flam, Plymouth, Minn.

Duane Plecity, Valley City

Cal Sebilus, Fargo, N.D.

## Former Faculty & Staff

Lillian (Langemo) Jacobson '40, Valley City  
(see obituary below)

George Judd '79, Valley City

Kleda Kuehne, Valley City



## In Remembrance: Lillian (Langemo) Jacobson '40

Lillian (Langemo) Jacobson died Sunday, April 19, 2015, at age 95. Born on the family farm near Fingal, N.D., she was the 11th child born to Ida (Maasjo) and Halvor Langemo.

Valedictorian of her class at Valley City High School, she attended Valley City State Teachers College, graduating in 1940 with a major in English with minors in biology and library science. Over a period of 40 years, she held library positions in several schools and colleges in North Dakota, Oregon, Minnesota and Illinois. She was director of VCSU's Allen Memorial Library from 1965-80.

Lillian married John Jacobson on Feb. 1, 1957, in Valley City. In 1980 both Lillian and John retired. They spent 19 winters in Arizona and twice traveled to Norway and Sweden. John died Jan. 7, 2005.

Active in our Our Savior's Lutheran Church and a part of V-500 at VCSU since its inception, Lillian was recognized with the VCSU Alumni Service Award in 2007. She was a 50-plus year member of Delta Kappa Gamma and the American Library Association.

Lillian is survived by a sister, Ruth Steen, and a brother, Howard, along with several nieces and nephews. Services were held April 23 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Valley City.

# Continue the Viking Family Tradition!

Valley City State University will be awarding a \$1,000 Alumni Scholarship to FIVE freshman students attending VCSU because *it's their parents' Alma Mater* – and what an Alma Mater it is!

Continue the VCSU Viking Family Tradition and get paid for it!

For information on the Alumni Scholarship application, contact Enrollment Services at 701.845.7101 or refer a student at [alumni.vcsu.edu/tradition](http://alumni.vcsu.edu/tradition)



# Security for you Today

## A Brighter Future for Tomorrow

Giving to our university has benefits. By funding a charitable gift annuity with a gift of cash or appreciated assets, you can receive secure, lifetime payments from us at a rate based on your age.

Creating a gift annuity is easy. Fund one by transferring cash or property to us and create lifetime payments for yourself, for you and another person, or as a gift for someone special. Receive the satisfaction of knowing your gift made a difference.

Other benefits of a charitable gift annuity include:

- ◆ Income tax savings
- ◆ Capital gains tax avoidance
- ◆ Possible tax free payments

**Call us today for more information! 701-845-7203**



## Scholarship auction takes a road trip

The 21st annual Valley City State University Scholarship Auction—with the theme “Road Trip USA: All Roads Lead to VCSU”—was held Friday, April 24, at the Valley City Eagles Club. The club was transformed into famous U.S. tourist stops for the event, and many attendees dressed in themed attire.

The Scholarship Auction is a collaborative effort of the VCSU Booster Board and V-500 Board. All proceeds from the event are split 50/50. “The scholarship auction is the single biggest event in terms of generating scholarship dollars that the VCSU Foundation Office works on each year,” said Kim Hesch, assistant director of advancement at VCSU. “Scholarships are vital to VCSU’s success, and all proceeds from the auction go directly to V-500 and Century Club scholarships.”

A social hour and silent auction began at 5 p.m., giving participants an opportunity to check out the large variety of gift baskets and other items available to bid on.

The live auction kicked off at 7 p.m. Attendees had a chance to bid on some great deals while contributing to an outstanding cause. Items auctioned included a six-course authentic Italian dinner for four, golf packages, UND hockey tickets, Minnesota Vikings tickets, tools, car washes, an Amazon Fire HD6 Kids Edition, patio heater, quilts and more.

“We continue to have high enrollment numbers, and scholarships play a large role in our continued success in attracting students to

Valley City State,” said Hesch. “We were able to raise \$74,000 in scholarship dollars.”

The scholarship committee wishes to thank all the businesses and individuals for donating items to the auction. With their support of this annual event, they have repeatedly played a key role in its success. We also want to thank all those that bought tickets and attended the auction; as a result we had another successful auction and are positioned to continue our support of the V-500 and Century Club scholarship programs.





NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
FARGO, ND  
PERMIT NO. 1159

**Valley City State University**  
Alumni Association  
101 College Street SW  
Valley City, ND 58072

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

