



## THE VHS BACKBONE RETIRES

BY MADDI KALLSEN

2019 is the last year at Vermillion High School for three beloved administrators. Curt Cameron, Barb Cameron and Candy Joy are retiring after many good years of serving our school district. They have all had amazingly productive and memorable years in Vermillion, specifically, at the high school. These three administrators have been an important part of the Vermillion High School experience.

Curt Cameron has been an educator for 34 years and has mixed feelings about retiring. He's excited to have free time to do what he enjoys like visiting family, traveling and boating. Although, he's sad to be leaving a job he likes so much. His favorite part of his job is interacting with the kids. One of his favorite memories at VHS is break dancing at homecoming. Curt Cameron has loved his time at VHS, but he looks forward to his future.

Barb Cameron has worked at VHS for 17 years and has really enjoyed working at the school. She plans to enjoy her free time by going boating, seeing family, and traveling with Curt Cameron, her husband, who she met while attending USD. Seeing kids grow and interacting with them has been her favorite part of her job. She's had a lot of good moments at VHS and is sad to be leaving but looks forward to a fun and free future.

Candy Joy has greatly enjoyed working at VHS. She has many memories at the school, but the one that sticks out the most, to her, is when she sang to Bill Settles during homecoming; this happened to be Jason Huska's idea. She has mixed emotions about leaving but is ultimately excited to enjoy the retired life. Candy plans to volunteer around the community, travel and spend more time as grandma. Her favorite part of the job is getting to know the kids and seeing them develop and grow. "Working here as long as I have, I don't think people give teenagers enough credit. There is hope."

Everyone is going to miss these three wonderful administrators, and we all hope the best for their future endeavours. We are so grateful for everything they have done for the school and hope their retirement is bright and fun!



Left to Right: Barb Cameron, Curt Cameron, and Candy Joy are retiring this year. Photo by Maddi Kallsen.

## Memories from the Graduates

COMPILED BY KEEGAN RETZLAFF

**"Going to Football Games we actually won" -Lilly Foster**

*"Probably the senior trip because I had so much fun with everyone in Kansas City and on the Bus!" -Makenna Druecker*

**"Soccer practices with coach Fitz. She'd makes us work our butts off but we always were laughing and having fun." -Kasey Herbster**

**"Dancing at Halftime shows" -Tasia French**

**"Getting into a clay Fight in the Ceramics room." -Brooklyn Hanson**

**"WINNING STATE SHOW CHOIR." -KYLEE SALTZGIVER**

**"When I became a drum major. I Love my Band!" -Keely Passick**

**"Winning State softball and going to National" -Alisha Leber**

**"Sophomore Year taking pictures of the Parade" -Parker Koble**

**"Going on photowalks with the photography class because I love the outdoors and nature." -Ayanna Jones**

## Mann's Music Re-Review

BY TYLER MANN

Since November, I reviewed an album for the Vermillionaire each month, bar January. Today I will be looking back on those five albums and ranking them from my least to most favorite.

5. Pink Floyd's rock opera The Wall was the first album I reviewed back in November. Along with four novicely written paragraphs, I gave it a grade of A. Seven months later, and I don't look at the album quite as positively as I did then. It feels bloated at points, with certain songs, such as "Goodbye Blue Sky" and "Bring The Boys Back Home" not feeling essential to the album's story. These songs, also, aren't the best the album has to offer instrumentally, paling in comparison to legendary moments like "Comfortably Numb". Arbitrary Grade: B+

4. For the December issue, I talked about Vince Guaraldi's A Charlie Brown Christmas. It remains my favorite batch of Christmas songs, perfect for those cozy winter nights. Between Guaraldi's originals and his versions of classics ("Für Elise"), the three minute "Linus and Lucy" is my favorite, as it never fails to put a smile on my face. Arbitrary Grade: A-

*"... Simply, it is just pure sonic bliss.."*

3. For the top three albums, my opinions haven't changed on them at all, and that includes Slint's Spiderland, which I reviewed in April. It remains one of the more creepy and atmospheric, but rewarding albums I've ever heard. It is a patient album that requires a patient listener, but it is one that pays off incredibly well. Arbitrary Grade: A

2. My first review of 2019 was Television's debut album, Marquee Moon. In the review, I highlighted the phenomenal guitar playing of Tom Verlaine and Richard Lloyd, particular on the title track, as well as "Torn Curtain". I called the latter song one of my favorite's of all time, and it remains so. The whole album is chock-full of great, enjoyable tunes that every rock fan can enjoy. Arbitrary Grade: A+

1. "My favorite piece of media of all time, ever," I proclaimed about Sonic Youth's Daydream Nation in March. This is probably still the case, and if not, it's definitely number two. Either way, it remains an absolutely astonishing album that is somewhat hard for me to describe, even though I tried in my full length review. Simply, it is just pure sonic bliss to me. Arbitrary Grade: A+

Thank you for taking this musical endeavor with me, and the music review segment will return in September to the Vermillionaire.





## May's **PAUSE** 4 Diversity

### WHAT DOES GRADUATION MEAN TO YOU?

BY ZADYA ABBOTT

Graduation is seen largely as a right of passage, or the end of an era. However to ignore the intricacy of each students feelings toward the subject, would be to ignore their individual humanity. For some, more focused on their day-to-day, graduating is merely a formality; it is not as important compared to the four years of schooling accomplished. However, for others graduation means everything. I fall into the latter group. Graduation, to me, is an undeniable symbol of my ability to succeed. Plus the ceremony comes with cool outfits! The following are quotes from VHS students describing what graduation will/does mean to them.

- “It means leaving High School...entering adulthood.” -Paige K. (VHS Junior)
- “Graduation will mean that I accomplished something.” -Madison F. (VHS Junior)
- “Making my parents happy.” -Billy R. (VHS Junior)
- “It means having official bragging rights, and an end to AR Points.” -Ellie (VHS Sophomore)
- “I look at graduation as a beginning to the rest of my students lives... The commencement ceremony is just the start.” -Mr. Brunick (VHS Art Teacher)
- “It means going on to the next step in my life.” -Keeley P. (VHS 2019 Graduate)
- “Graduation to me means going on to college and getting lots of student debt.” -Isabel Y. (VHS 2019 Graduate)

## VHS Track Lines Up for State

BY MYA DEJONG

The regular track season this year has come to an end. This season we had ten seniors. Our four girl seniors included Rachel Brady, Makenna Druecker, Fatima Alemam, and Peyton Larson. Ben Finnegan, Regan Heine, Gray Peterson, Mason Schroeder, Justin Sorenson, and Ryne Whisler were the six boy seniors. The seniors were all good leaders and represented Vermillion well, and the Tanager track program will miss them next season.

The season officially started April 1st at the first track meet, Dan Lennon, at USD's track and field. Since then there have been 12 meets including the Dakota 12 conference meet and our region 4A meet. State track was the full days of the 24th and 25th. The first day of state was in Tea and the second day was at the Howard Wood field in Sioux Falls. The Tanagers sent seven qualifying girls to the state meet. This included our 4x1 relay team, 1600 sprint medley team, and 4x2 relay team. VHS's individual qualifiers were Lexi Saunders (Junior) in the long jump, Rachel Brady (Senior) in both the 800 and 400 meter dashes, Taryn Whisler (Sophomore) in the 3200 race, and Makenna Druecker (Senior) in the 100 meter dash. On the boys side, VHS sent nine state qualifiers.



Lexi Saunders races for the finish line. Photo by Basmala Alamam.

This included our 4x8 relay team, and our sprint medley team. For male individual qualifiers VHS sent, Tommy Nikkel (Sophomore) for the 400 and 800 meter dash, Jakob Dobney (Sophomore) for the 800 meter dash, Justin Sorenson (Senior) for the 1600 and the 3200, and Riley Ruhaak (Sophomore) for the 3200. Lastly, VHS sent Ty Hertz (8th Grader) to state for the Pole Vault. Stay tuned to all VHS Track and Field events by following their twitter account, @VHStrackfield.

The Vermillionaire Staff Wishes You A Great Summer, And Looks Forward To Writing For You In The Fall!!!

## Golf Tees Up

BY MYA DEJONG

The Tanager girl golfers this year started their season at home on the 9th of April. Our team this year is coached by Kirk Hogan. The team consists of Alex Carr, Kenzie Mulheron, Megan Brady, Mackenzie Brady, Stephanie Carr, and Kaliyah Beacom. We have a young team with two juniors, two freshman, one eighth grader,

“...setting their personal record...”

and one seventh grader. The team has had many accomplishments, including setting their personal record at the Vermillion Invite on Monday the 13th. They also won duels against, both, Madison and Dakota Valley. The team got third at the Vermillion Invite. Alex Carr personally won the EPJ meet, the dual with Madison, the dual with Dakota Valley, and the Vermillion Invite. We wish our Tanager golfers good luck at regions as they make their way to state!

Check out **VHS Senior**, Logan Wadley, perform on NPR's "From the Top" on Monday, June 17.

Check your local listings for times and channel.

## Spring Play Review

BY STEPHANIE MAGANA

Closing off the school year with a laugh, the drama cast performed the parody of Macbeth, Scots on The Rocks. Their showtimes were from May 3rd-May 5th from 7:30 Friday-Saturday and 2:30 Sunday in the Thomas H. Craig Center for Performing Arts. Students paid \$3, adults \$5 and it was FREE for senior citizens and those with the District Activity Card. All were welcome to sit back and enjoy this show. Hoping to share laughs, the cast and crew ended the show with a bang.

“I really like the script. Felt like I was a play.”-Jake Oehler (VHS Junior, Macbeth in Scots on the Rocks)

““...Felt like I was a play,’ -Jake Oehler...”

## PAPER CLUB

BY MARCUS DIAZ

