

# Nordic Hall of Fame

## February 19, 2010



Coach Anderson

Coach Thompson

Football 1953-54

1954-55



## LeRoy Lokken, Class of 1943

While in high school LeRoy participated in three sports. Football became a high school sport at NHS his junior year. LeRoy quickly became a star running back scoring most of his team's points. He served as captain his senior year. He was a two year starter on basketball teams that were 33-3. He pitched and played short stop on the Newfolden town baseball team. His senior year was cut short as he was called into the military before the end of the basketball season. He served the duration of the war in the south Pacific taking part in the Gilbert and Mariana Island campaigns. After his discharge he moved to California where he owned and operated his own appliance store until his retirement in 1987. LeRoy was married in 1949. He has one son, 4 grandchildren and lives in Salin, CA. Below is a write up of the last three football games of the 1941 season.

### Newfolden 19, Strandquist 12

Playing for the first time on their own gridiron, the Newfolden football team came through with a convincing 19-12 win over their traditional rival Strandquist. Lokken, who ran, passed, and kicked, from the full back position was the mainstay of the offensive. Knutson and Englesrud played brilliantly at the ends.

### Newfolden 36, Greenbush 25

The Newfolden steam-roller with Mr. Mueller holding the throttle looked very powerful as it took the diminutive Greenbush team into camp. Lokken was the spearhead of the attack, having four touchdowns and 3 placements to his credit. Paul Erickson ran back a kickoff for the other touchdown.

### Newfolden 20, Karlstad 12

What might have been a mediocre season must be considered a definite success, since the Nordics came through with an unexpected win over a much favored Karlstad team. Lokken again took care of the bulk of the scoring, his three touchdowns and a place kick made him high scorer. Englesrud, Knutson, and Barr played well in the line while Erickson and Anderson backed up that line splendidly.





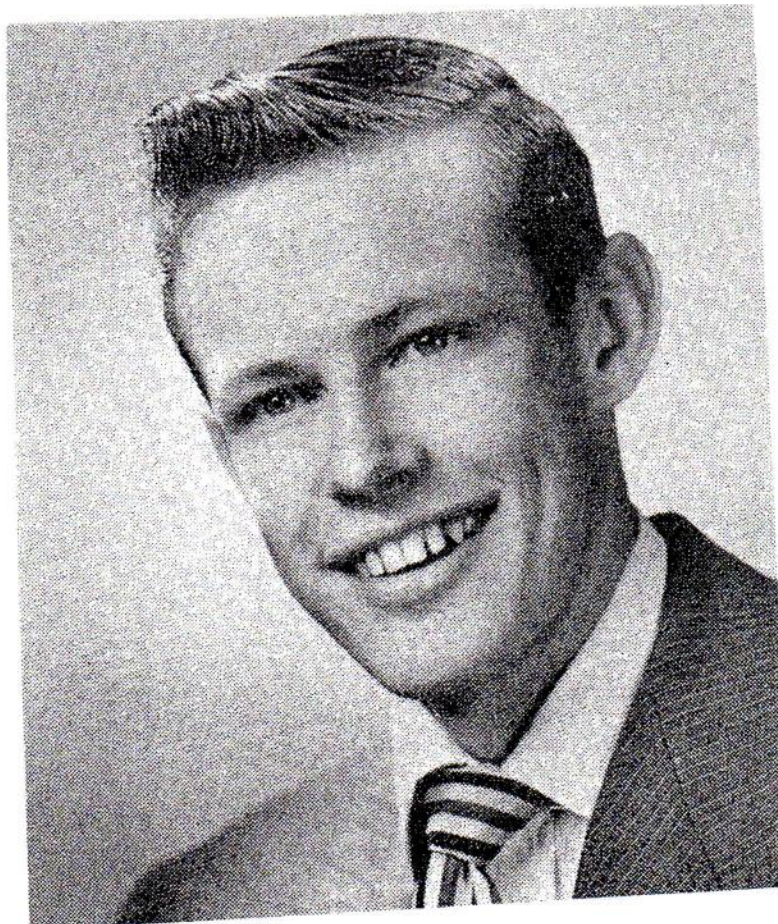
## Gene Halvorson, class of 1955

Gene earned twelve letters in four sports at Newfolden High School, one in track where he was a sprinter, three in basketball and four each in football and baseball. The three basketball teams he played on had a combined record of 51-23 and won a district title. The four football teams were 14-7. His senior year he was captain of all three sports.

While still in school Gene played baseball for the Viking Independent baseball team. He was a standout baseball and softball player for many years following high school.

Gene has eight children, all MCC graduates, and to date eighteen of his grandchildren are MCC graduates. All twenty-six have participated in athletics and combined have accounted for over 250 varsity seasons winning awards to numerous to mention.

Following high school Gene farmed, worked for Arctic Cat, and the Good Samaritan Society. He is currently retired and living in Viking.





## Donnie Engelsrud, Class of 1960

Donnie was a two sport athlete in high school lettering in baseball as a pitcher and outfielder, and lettering in basketball. In basketball Donnie was a leading scorer for three consecutive years and was the first Nordic to score 1,000 points finishing his career with 1,251. The 1959 team was 20-6 and participated in the regional tournament. He was the career leader from 1960 until 1977.

Donnie had a well rounded high school career. He participated in track and football in junior high. He was class president, was in drama, student council, and participated in choir where he was often a soloist. He built a boat in high school shop and was well known for his woodworking ability. He farmed until he passed away in 1983. He is survived by two children Shawn and Tiffany.

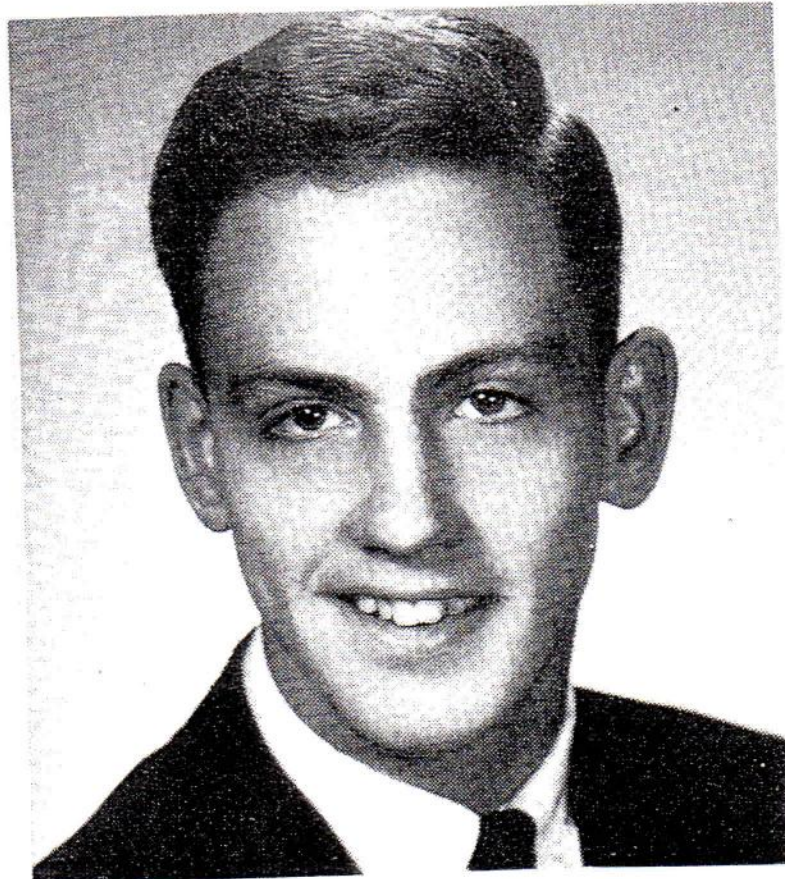


## Jerry Strandquist, Class of 1964

Jerry won eleven varsity letters while in high school, one in baseball, and three in track where he was a high jumper and ran the 800. He held the high school record in the 800 for nearly 30 years. He earned three letters in basketball playing on teams that had 40 wins and 17 losses, serving as captain his senior year. He lettered four years in football, started at quarterback three years, all conference twice and served as team captain.

Jerry was also active in band and choir during his high school career. He and his wife Kathleen have three children.

Jerry received a bachelor's degree from North Central University where he played basketball. He did graduate work at Crown College. He has served as pastor in Farmington, MN and Kenosha, WI. He is currently the pastor at Cedar Valley Church in Bloomington, MN.





Sara Lokstad, Class of 1994

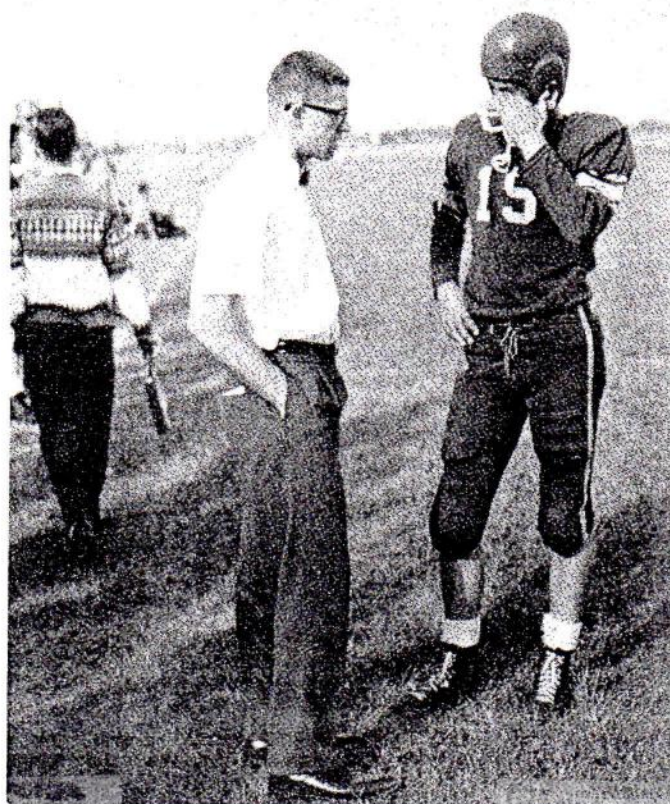
Sara won thirteen varsity letters while in high school. In volleyball she lettered three years, was all conference two years, MVP, and team captain. In basketball she lettered four years, all conference three years, all area team in 1994, MVP for two years, team captain, and scored 1,443 career points, which ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> all time. In track she lettered six years, participated in four state track meets in shot-put, placing 7<sup>th</sup> two years. Sara holds the school record in the shot-put at 40'7".

Sara is also an accomplished vocalist, winning numerous awards in high school music contests and having the lead role in the high school musical.

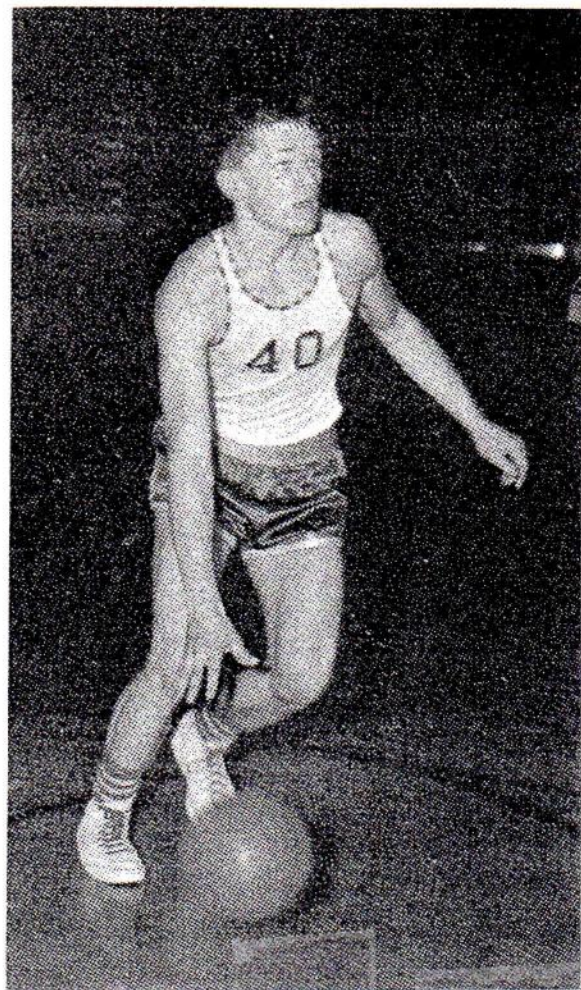
Sara received a BA from St. Scolastica and a Dr. of Medicine from the University of Minnesota. She is currently a Major in the U.S. Army, and has done a tour of duty in Iraq. She is married to Michael Bauman and has a daughter. They are currently stationed in Basehor, KS.



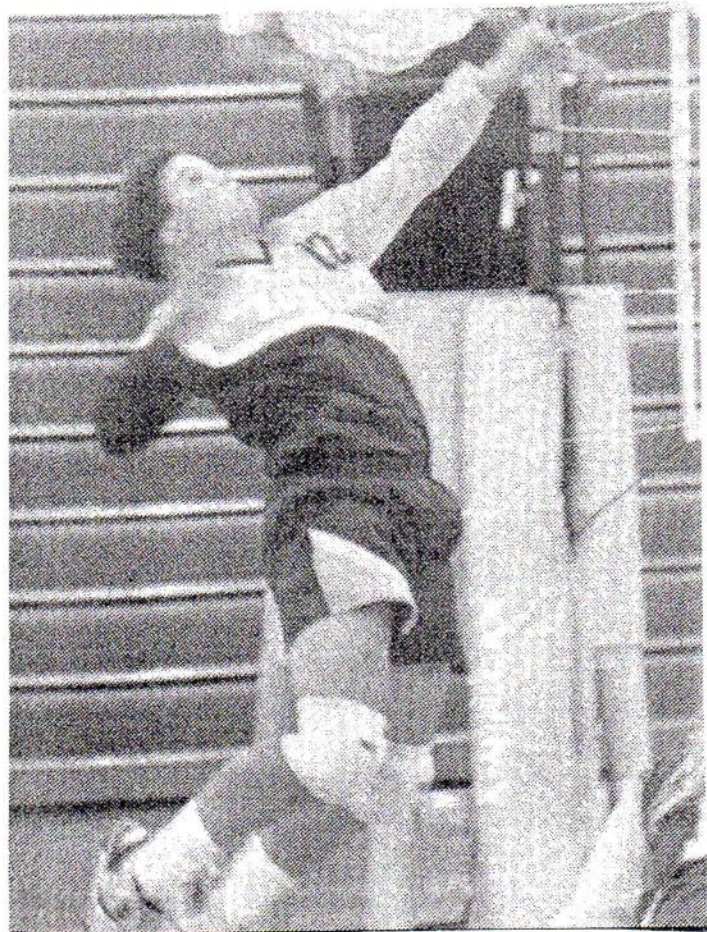




Quarterback Jerry Strandquist  
Coach Sheldon Elseth



Donnie Engelsrud



Sara Lokstad

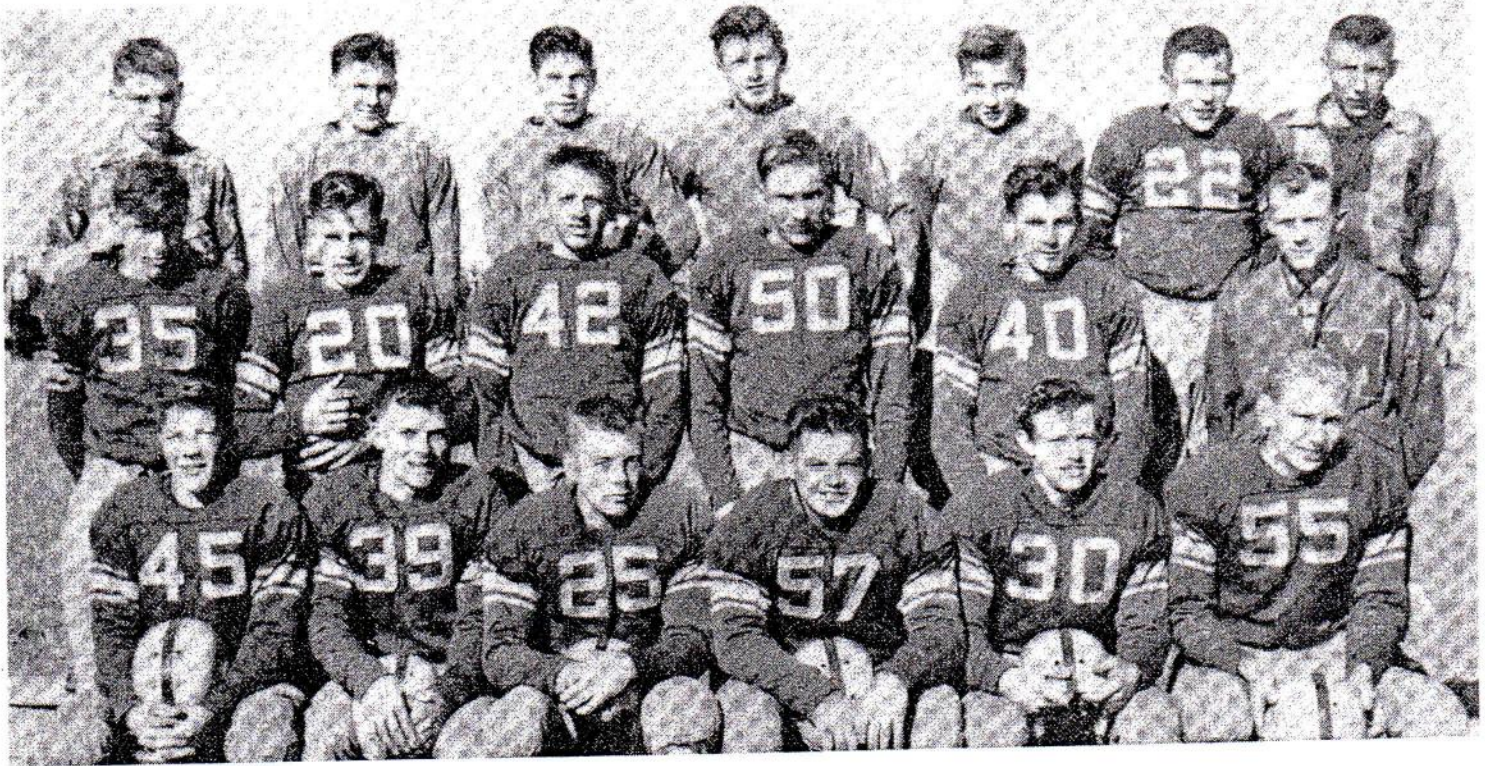


Co-Captains 1955  
Dwight Tandquist  
Gene Halvorson



# Football

# 1953-54



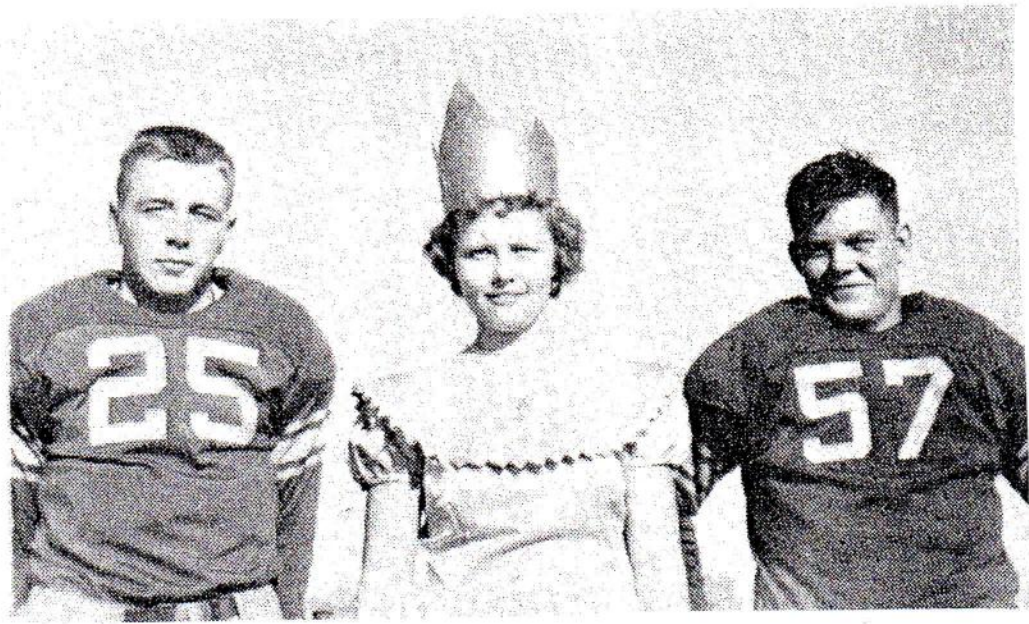
Back Row L to R: Glen Hollatz, Clarence Nelson, Norlan Windahl, Duane Nelson, Arlo Waller, Gorden Taylor, Donald Magner  
Middle Row L to R: Duane Krohn, Harlan Anderson, Hilmar Ellingson, Gorman Hallick, Richard Trochman, Coach Anderson  
Front Row L to R: Ken Noreen, Rolland Amundson, Jerry Elseth, David Gustafson, Gene Halvorson, Adrian Sollom



1942 - 1943 players after LeRoy Lokken's final game before going into the Navy.

(Left to right): Coach Mueller, Robert Olson, Wallace Mattson, Earl Erickson, LeRoy Lokken, Lowell Anderson





Co-Captain  
Jerry Elseth

Homecoming Queen  
Claudette Harstad-Forsberg

Co-Captain  
David Gustafson



La Rue Fricker  
senior

We		They
12	Lake Bronson	6
32	Badger	14
12	Greenbush	6
33	Middle River	6
13	Karlstad	0
8-MAN DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP		
13	Argyle	19



Loretta Sherva  
sophomore



Shirley Nelson  
senior



Janice Waller  
sophomore



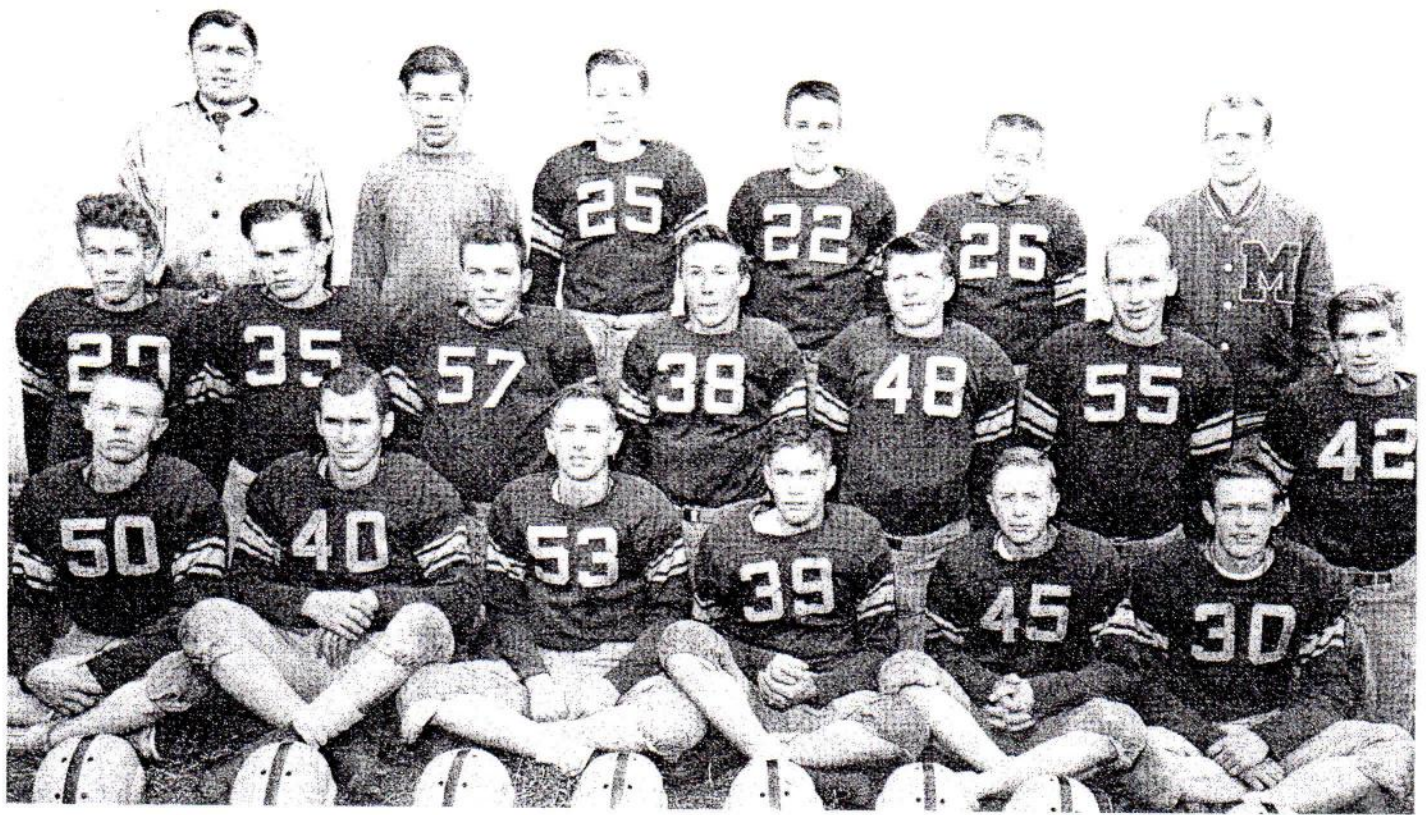
Vernice Bakke  
senior



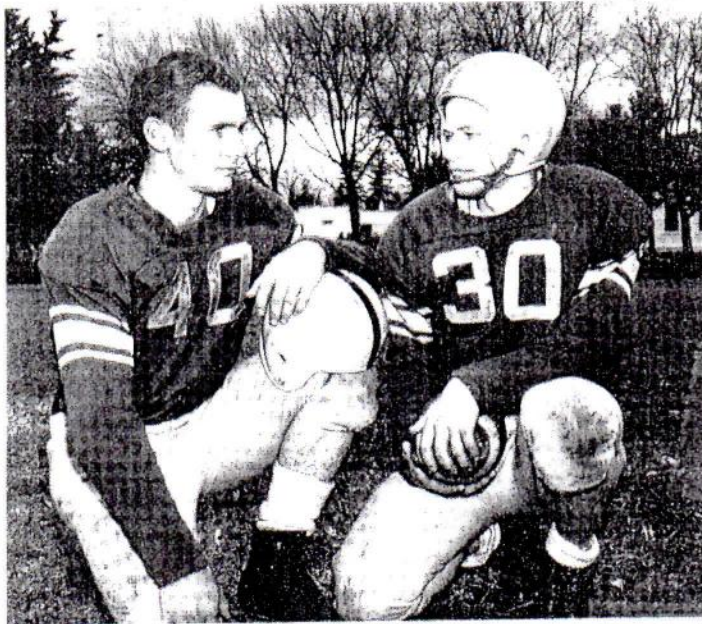
Bev Bjornrud  
junior

## Football Cheerleaders 1953





THIRD ROW: Assistant Coach Thompson, Clayton Hjelle, Lyle Stokke, Rodney Doran, Richard Halvorson, Coach Anderson. SECOND ROW: Lyle Jorgenson, Harlen Anderson, Gordon Taylor, Donald Magner, Duane Nelson, Adrian Sollom, Patrick Dadey, FIRST ROW: James Engelsrud, Richard Trochman, Hilmar Ellingson, Nolan Windahl, Ronald Shern, Gene Halvorson.



## CO-CAPTAINS

Richard Trochman and Gene Halvorson

## CHEERLEADERS

Janice Waller, Beverly Bjornrud, Arlene Ellingson, Elvida Sollom, Jeanette Grabanski, Donna Lindquist.

1954 SCHEDULE		
We		They
33	Badger	18
38	Greenbush	13
13	Karlstad	8
39	Middle River	18
18	Lake Bronson	30
<u>25</u>	Argyle	<u>14</u>
166	Opposition	101





### 1954 Nordic football team

\*James Engelsrud, senior halfback

Jim was a letter winner in football and track where he was a sprinter. Jim has been a life time farmer in the Newfolden area. He is married to Leola Chapman. They have four children and are still active farmers.

Hilmar Ellingson	senior	quarterback
Gene Halvorson	senior	quarterback-halfback
Richard Trochman	senior	halfback
Norlan Windahl	senior	guard
Ron Shern	senior	halfback
Harlan Anderson	junior	halfback
Lyle Jorgenson	junior	guard
Adrian Sollom	junior	end
Donald Magner	junior	end
Gorden Taylor	junior	guard
Duane Nelson	junior	guard
Patrick Dadey	sophomore	running back

\*Patrick Dadey attended Newfolden High School through his junior year. He currently lives in Lebanon, OR.

\*Rodney Doran, sophomore guard

Rodney was a three sport athlete at Newfolden High School. He was captain of his football team. Rodney received a teaching degree from the UM in Physics and Math. He served two years in the army. He earned a Masters degree at Cornell University and a PhD from the University of Wisconsin. He taught 33 years at Buffalo University, Buffalo, NY. He has three sons and is retired living in Buffalo, N.Y.

\*Richard Halvorson

Richard was a three sport athlete in high school. Serving as football captain his senior year. After a tour of duty in the army he went to work in the Viking elevator. He was manager of the Drayton ND elevator. He married Darlene Anderson and has three daughters and seven grandchildren. Richard passed away in 2000.

\*Lyle Stokke

Lyle was a four year letterman in baseball and three in football, and was captain his senior year. He played baseball and fastpitch softball following high school. He served eight years in the National Guard. Lyle and his wife Mavis have four



children. Denise, who is a member of the Nordic Hall of Fame, Valerie, Nathan, Daren, and eight grandchildren. He has been a lifelong farmer in the Viking area.

\*Clayton Hjelle

Clayton was the only 9<sup>th</sup> grader to play on either the '53 or '54 teams. After his junior year he enlisted in the service and finished his high school education. He served in the 82<sup>nd</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne. After the service he started Hjelle Roofing Inc. which he still owns and operates.

### **1953 Nordic Football Team**

\*David Gustafson, senior guard, captain

David was a four year letter winner in both baseball and football serving as captain in both sports. Following high school David served in the military for three years where he played baseball for the base team as a catcher. After the military, he went to work for Boeing aircraft and remained there until his retirement in 1994. He married Newfolden graduate and Viking native Janice Waller. They have four children and live in Renton, WA.

\*Jerry Elseth, senior quarterback, captain

Jerry played basketball and football for four years, baseball three years and was captain of both football and basketball his senior year. Following graduation, he was in the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne for three years. Jerry has a BA from MSU with a PhD in genetics and biochemistry from Utah State. He spent thirty two years at Bradley University teaching and doing research in genetics and biochemistry. Married to Newfolden graduate Carol Martin, they have two children and are retired living in Crookston.

\*Rolland Amundson, senior center

Rolland played football three years, baseball three years and basketball three years and was captain his senior year. Rolland attended the University of Minnesota, and spent two years in the military. He returned to spend the rest of his life farming in Marsh Grove township. He married Doreen Kvenshagen and has a daughter and three grandchildren. Rolland passed away in January 2000.

\*Ken Noreen, senior guard

Ken came to Newfolden his senior year and was a member of the football team. After high school he played baseball and softball for local teams. He owned and operated his own construction company for many years. He and his wife are retired and live in St. Hilaire.



\*Duane Krohn, senior end

Duane was a four year letter winner in baseball and three in football. He and his wife Mavis have five children Becky, Marge, Lynn, Karen, and Ken. He owned and operated a dairy farm at Viking until 1996, then worked as a machinest at Ericco Tool until 2003. He and Marge are currently retired and live in Viking.

\*Arlo Waller, senior center

Arlo played football as a senior after having served as student manager his junior year. He was living in Brainerd, MN, when he passed away.

\*Clarence Nelson, senior guard

Clarence was a two year letterman in football and also played basketball and baseball. After high school he worked at the Great Lakes Naval Station as a bricklayer. He passed away in 2006.

\*Gorman Hallick, senior end

Gorman was a three sport athlete in high school lettering in football and basketball and four years in baseball. Following high school he attended Aaker Business College. He married Lila Swenson in 1956. They have five children and eleven grandchildren. He worked for Border State Electric for 35 years. Gorman passed away in 1993.

\*Hilmer Ellingson, junior quarterback

Ike was a letter winner in football, basketball, and baseball. In baseball he was an outstanding pitcher. After high school he pitched in the military and then for several area teams. He worked for Lakehead Pipeline. Ike is retired and lives in Viking.

\*Gene Halvorson, junior half back

\*Richard Trochman, junior half back

Richard participated in four sports in high school. He had great speed and quickness and is best remembered as an excellent football player. He was team captain his senior year. After high school Richard was a paratrooper with the 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne. Following the service he owned a snowmobile parts manufacturing company in Delano, MN. In recent years he has taken up running marathons. He finished 2<sup>nd</sup> three years in a row at Grandmas marathon in Duluth. He holds the state record in MN for the 10K for 66-68yr bracket and has twice been named MN runner of the year. Richard has two children. He is retired living in Spring Park, MN.



\*Norlan Windahl, junior guard

Norlan participated in football and baseball in high school. He attended Moorhead State College then worked for Lake Head Pipeline. He is married, has five children, and lives in Deer River, MN where he owns a cabinet shop.

\*Ron Shern, junior halfback

Ron was a letter winner in football and baseball. After high school he continued to play baseball and softball for area teams. Ron and his wife Sandy had five children. He lived at Viking where he farmed and worked for Ericco Machine Shop until his death in 1992.

\*Harlen Anderson, sophomore half back

Harlen was a letter winner in three sports serving as football captain his senior year. Following high school he served three years in the Navy. He worked in construction for 44 years. He is retired and lives in Hardin, MT.

\*Lyle Jorgenson, sophomore guard

Lyle was a four sport athlete lettering in football, basketball, baseball and track. He is retired and he and his wife live in Southweber, Utah.

\*Adrian Sollom, sophomore end

Adrian lettered four years in basketball and was captain his senior year. He played football and baseball three years. Following graduation, Adrian moved to California where he worked a variety of jobs, finally settling into firefighting. He was a firefighter for twenty-seven years working in rescue. He is married and retired living in Petaluma, CA

\*Donald Magner, sophomore end

Donnie was a 2 year letter winner in both football and basketball. Following high school, he owned and operated the Dynamite Drive-in in Thief River Falls. He is currently retired and living in Thief River Falls. He and his wife spend a lot of time at MCC watching their granddaughter, who is a three sport athlete.

\*Gorden Taylor, sophomore guard

Gorden was a three sport athlete in high school serving as football captain his senior year. Following high school, Gorden was a Military Police in the Marines. After the Marines he was on the Grand Forks police department and then served several terms as the Grand Forks County Sheriff. After retirement he had several jobs. He currently lives in Stephen.

\*Duane Nelson, sophomore, guard

Duane played baseball, football, and basketball while in high school. He was living in Indiana when he passed away in 2008.