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From Coronation to the reunions, the parade, Varieties, the game and the Blue & Gold Gala, the campus was in a “Viking State of Mind” in celebration of the 83rd annual Viking Days. Even Ole the Viking joined in the fun!
The important contribution of alumnus Peter Eide ‘66, creator of the Ole the Viking statue, originally dedicated in 1967, was recognized at a re-dedication ceremony on Friday, Oct. 14. A plaque commemorating the statue, provided by Kent Morstad, ‘58, was unveiled at the event.

PICTURED ABOVE: Kent Morstad, Mary Eide Boyd ‘66 (Peter Eide’s sister), Eunice Eide Hovland ‘50 and Howard Hovland ‘50.

Audrey Burkart ‘14 (center) performs with Chris Borchardt ‘12 and Nicole Lewis ‘14 in the “Big Apple Saxophone Circus” at Viking Varieties 2011.

Senior biology majors Casey Ortbahn, Pierre, S.D., and Jackie Miles, Tea, S.D., were crowned King and Queen of Viking Days 2011 during the “Late Night Coronation Show” at the Elmen Center. Joining Ortbahn and Miles as members of the Royal Court were seniors Dan Bock, Arvada, Colo.; Erik Nyberg, Sioux Falls; Jacob Bury, Sioux Falls; Josh Belville, Van Dyne, Wis.; Ashley Weber, Cold Spring, Minn.; Jessica Haugo, Waubun, Minn.; Heidi Nelson, Custer, S.D.; and Hannah Miller, Mankato, Minn.

David Stadem ‘12, Glynnis Kunkel ‘12, Tyler Wasberg ‘12 and Callie Berg ‘13 performed “Java Jive” at Varieties.

Ben Parsley outruns a defender as the Vikings took on the Winona State Warriors at Kirkeby-Over Stadium. More than 5,000 fans filled the stands to watch the Vikings win 23-15.

Hundreds of alumni returned to campus to enjoy reunions, the parade, the game and the Gala.
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ABOVE: Members of the "Augieholics" celebrate Augustana during the parade. From left to right, Eric Hieh, Gentry Pletts, Emily Tekavec, Trevor Chadwick, Erik Nyberg, Joe Meader, Krista Youngberg, Isaac Krueger, Ali Lammers, Kyle Mielke, Joel Hermann and Taylor Lambert. BELOW: The Community Service float celebrates Augustana's efforts to help others in need. This fall, more than 400 students participated in Community Service Day, completing more than 1,600 hours of service for 25 local organizations and collecting more than 1,250 pounds of food.

Below: Members of KANSAS sport "Augustana Orchestra" t-shirts alongside Dr. Stanichar following the concert.

Above: Five alumni received achievement awards for outstanding contributions to their fields of endeavor and for exemplifying the College's values, including Christian faith, excellence, the liberal arts, community and service at the 2011 Blue and Gold Gala. From left to right: Dr. John Berdahl '99, an ophthalmologist at Vance Thompson Vision in Sioux Falls, received the Augustana Horizon Award, an honor recognizing the rising career of a young graduate (less than 15 years after graduation); Paul Harmel '72 was recognized for his leadership and vision as the chairman and CEO of Lifetouch Inc.; Jayne Meyer '74, serves as a senior clinical trial associate for clinical affairs at Dendreon Corporation where she works in the biotechnology research field; Retired Supreme Court Justice Robert Amundson '61 was recognized for his lifetime of service to the citizens of South Dakota as a lawyer and judge; and Dr. Jim Reynolds '65, was a founding member of the North Central Heart Institute in Sioux Falls and led the creation of The Heart Hospital (now known as the Avera Heart Hospital of South Dakota). Now retired, Reynolds performed more than 4,500 open heart procedures in his career.

Below: Ron Bloem '61, Caryl Bloem, Joanne Stensaas '61 and Jim Berven '61 at the parade on Saturday.

Above: Hall of Fame inductee Stacy Johnson Hart '98 watches the parade with her daughters Brooklyn and Kasey.

Below: The Berdahl family gathered along Grange Avenue to watch the student floats and marching bands.

Below: Dr. John Berdahl '99 discussed "Eliminating Blindness in our World" at the Augustana Thought Leader Forum on Friday, Oct. 14.