



# nc advance

nebraska christian schools — building lives for eternity

## Oh, Magnify the Lord

by Josh Cumpston, Administrator



*I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. Psalm 34:1-3*

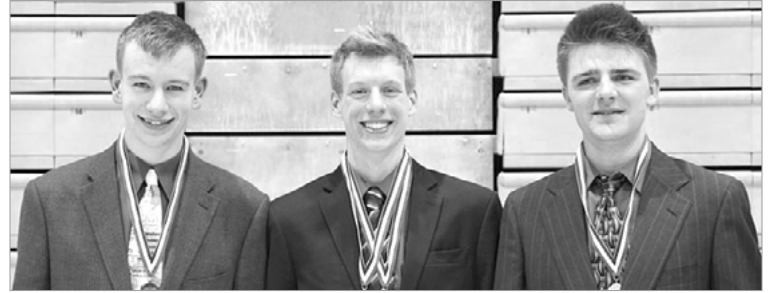
What a magnificent Lord we serve! God has blessed Nebraska Christian in many ways this past year, and I have been able to rejoice watching Him work. This year we have seen many students put their faith and trust in Jesus and make new decisions or rededications to follow Him. Several of our students were baptized on Easter Sunday, and the testimonies of all of these students have been a great encouragement. We have witnessed God growing our students and providing them with opportunities to serve others and be Christian leaders on campus and within their spheres of influence. Our elementary students have taken turns spending time at one of the local senior care centers and are encouraging the residents and being encouraged themselves. And, we've heard from some NC alumni about how God is using them in ministry, their careers, their families, and their churches. *Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.*

This year God has provided, through good and faithful servants, financial gifts to our

general fund that are necessary for NC to operate. Daily expenses, maintenance, books and supplies, and staff salaries all come from this general fund. Others have partnered with us by investing in Christian education through the NC Scholarship fund. This fund provides tuition help for students who, due to finances, would not otherwise be able to attend NC. The Dinner and Benefit Auction was a success, adding substantial amounts to both our general and scholarship funds. As of this writing, we are yet to reach what is needed from financial gifts for this year's budget, but we are ahead of where we were at this time last year. *Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.*

The Lord has provided our students with many great experiences and successes in academics and activities this year. A sold-out crowd once again joined us in worship at the Festival of Lessons & Carols. Our Boys' Cross Country team continued its successful run, winning the Class D championship. The Football team made the playoffs for the second year in a row, and our Girls' Basketball team set the NC record for wins in a season. The Nebraska Christian Speech team was Conference and District Champion and had a class C2 State Event Champion. Our Quiz Bowl team won the Goldenrod Conference title and qualified for

*continued on pg. 9*



## Speech Team Wins State Medals

Seniors Jahn Landrigan and James Royle capped a very successful speech season by winning duet at the Class C2 State Speech Meet on Friday, March 22. Landrigan and Royle are NC's first state event champions since Aaron McHargue ('03) won the C2 Extemporaneous title in 2003. They also placed first in conference and district competition with their piece, Neil Simon's "The Good Doctor."

Nebraska Christian had two other medalists at the state meet: junior Beran Fisher placed 6th in persuasive, and Landrigan placed 6th in humorous prose. Other state qualifiers were senior Kim Deichmann (entertainment), Fisher (informative), Royle (humorous prose), junior Scott Smith (extemporaneous and persuasive), and seniors Sophia Zhang & Vicky Zhang (duet). The team placed 8th overall.

The NC team also won both the conference and district titles and placed in the top 10 at many invitationals.

**Top:** Class C2 State Speech Medalists (l-r) Beran Fisher, Jahn Landrigan, and James Royle.

**Above:** The NC State Speech team. Front: Sophia Zhang, Vicky Zhang, James Royle, Kim Deichmann. Back: Assistant Coach Becky Ritta ('99), Volunteer Coach Ruth Ferris, Beran Fisher, Jahn Landrigan, Scott Smith, Head Coach Charissa Smith ('94).

## Mazankowski Receives Gilson Award



Senior Ashley Mazankowski received the Gilson Sixth Man Award in a ceremony at the Performing Arts Center in Central City on

Sunday, April 7. The award honors one male and one female basketball player in each NSAA class who has shown leadership and teamwork under trying circumstances. Mazankowski was the female Class C-2 recipient.

The Gilson Award is named in honor of the late Doug Gilson of Central City, a former basketball coach, teacher and school administrator. Gilson, who was killed in an auto accident in September 2001, was an enthusiastic supporter of high school sports.

# nc advance

volume 43 • number 1

Josh Cumpston, *Administrator*  
 Becky Ritta ('99), *Editor*  
 Beth Ritta ('98), *Layout & Design*

The NC Advance is available free of charge. To subscribe, change your address, stop receiving the publication, or submit information, please contact us at:

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**Editorial Submissions:** All news or information from NC Alumni, students and teachers is welcome. Letters may be edited for length or clarity.

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**Mission:** The mission of Nebraska Christian Schools is to assist the family and church by providing a Christ-centered education, equipping students with a biblical worldview and encouraging a love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.



Tune in to  
 AM-750 KMMJ  
**Saturday at 1:04 p.m.**  
**Sunday at 10:30 a.m.**  
 to hear Josh Cumpston  
 and Gordon Thiessen.

## Dollars & Sense by Tom Dockweiler ('79), Business Manager



As I write this, we are one month from graduating our 54th class of seniors. If we have been successful in our mission and this year's 36 graduates leave NC with a Christ-centered education, a Biblical worldview, and a love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, one can only imagine what God might do through their lives in the next half century. Thank you for your support and prayers that make all this possible.

This year has provided some unique experiences, the most recent being two April snow days. I don't know if that has ever happened before. If it has and you remember it, feel free to write and tell us about it. Better yet, post it on our Facebook page.

I hope it was a unique experience this year when we clerked the benefit auction in March without the help of Dave and Ann Kauk. Our prayers go out on behalf of Dave and his family as they deal with the death of Dave's father. Dave, Ann and the Sutton Christian School community are among many who have played a role in what God is doing at

Nebraska Christian in recent years.

The most unique experience that I may have this year could happen on June 30th, when we close the books on this fiscal year. Allow me to explain.

Of necessity in all the years I have been in the business office, we have used money intended for the following fiscal year to cash flow the last few weeks or even months of the current fiscal year. Even in good years, when we finished in the black for a given fiscal year, we would still end up short because we had used some of that year's money to finish up the previous fiscal year. Theoretically, a school could continue to manage cash flow that way indefinitely, and I am grateful to God that we have been able to do it for as long as we have. Having said that, borrowing from next year to finish this year has never been a situation we wanted to be in.

This year, God has blessed us to the extent that we have a chance to erase some and perhaps all of the perpetual deficit we have been carrying. It is still too early to tell if this will be the year that we erase the deficit, but it is exciting just to know that it could be. If this isn't the year, it will not cause me to doubt God's

## Calendar of Events\*

### MAY

- 11 Graduation, 10:30 a.m.
- 14 8th Grade Graduation  
6:30 p.m.
- 16 School dismisses for summer, 11:30 a.m.
- 17-18 State Track, Omaha
- 29-31 Tiny Talons Basketball Camp  
Grades K-2, 9 a.m. - 12 noon

### JUNE

- 3-5 Lady Eagle Basketball Camp  
Grades 3-6, 9 - 11:30 a.m.  
Grades 7-8, 9 a.m. - 12 noon
- 17-19 Boys' Junior Eagle Basketball Camp  
Grades 3-5, 9 a.m. - 12 noon  
Grades 6-8, 1 - 4 p.m.
- 24-26 Junior Eagle Football Camp  
Grades 3-6, 9 - 11:30 a.m.
- 24-26 Lady Eagle Volleyball Camp  
Grades 3-6, 9 - 11:30 a.m.  
Grades 7-9, 9 a.m. - 12 noon

\* For additional events, check our website, [www.nebraskachristian.org](http://www.nebraskachristian.org)

provision. We will still continue to budget, plan, and pray with the goal of eventually ending our fiscal years without borrowing funds intended for the next fiscal year.

Thanks again so much for your support and prayers on our behalf. Until next time, may God bless you and yours.

## NC Flashback



Sports have long been important at Nebraska Christian. Can you identify these members of a mid-70s volleyball team? If you can correctly name four of these seven girls, you could win our prize! Send your guesses to [advance@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:advance@nebraskachristian.org).

**From the last issue:**  
 Congratulations to Andrew Musgrave ('95)! His name was chosen from all the entries correctly identifying the man in the photo as Gilbert Glad, so he wins our prize.





2013 Quiz Bowl Team. Front: Scott Smith, Tori Swanson, Kim Deichmann, Katie Cumpston, Sophia Zhang. Back: Sophia Songthangtham, Kevin Cheng, Braden Moody, Jahn Landrigan, Whitney Heuermann. Not pictured: Head Coach Dee Flynn.

## Quiz Bowl Team Advances to State

For the second consecutive year, Nebraska Christian's high school quiz bowl team advanced to state competition. The team kicked off the season with a conference

championship. At the district meet at Fullerton, they placed second to Columbus High and qualified for the state tournament at Holdrege. The team placed fifth at state.

## NCS Foundation

by Jody Heuermann, NCS Foundation Executive Director



Won't you consider leaving a legacy that builds lives for eternity?

What is God's plan for your talent and wealth? What is your responsibility in multiplying your wealth for the spreading of the Gospel?

*"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:6-7*

God gives each of us resources to use and invest for his purpose. The resources God gives us are not to be hidden, foolishly devoured, or thrown away. Won't you consider your part in giving a portion of the resources God has blessed you with?? Funds given to the NCS Foundation will be invested so that the principal will remain in the storehouses in perpetuity and the income from the funds can be disbursed to the school as needed.

How blessed we are to have a

school that daily seeks to equip students with a biblical worldview and encourage a love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Would you consider helping to grow one of the following Endowment Funds as we seek to build lives for eternity?

- Student Scholarships
- Teachers Salaries
- General Fund
- Capital Improvements
- Athletic Equipment

Ways to begin your philanthropic journey:

**Gifts of Cash:** cash gifts are a convenient and popular means of support.

**Gifts of Long-Term Appreciated Property:** a gift of property can increase your tax benefits.

**Gifts of Real Estate:** capital gains tax savings can result from this gift.

**Gifts of Life Insurance:** simply name the Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation as policy owner and beneficiary.

*Our Mission: to glorify God by providing a means through which gifts can be received and invested in order to build a solid financial base for Nebraska Christian Schools.*

# Pi

Math teacher Andy Falk, with the help of his geometry students, combined math concepts with fun challenges to create an afternoon of fun and learning for the elementary students.



Elementary students Alyssa Broman, Seth Hower, Zachary Egeland, Malachi Zaruba, Kylie Merchant, Tyler Cumpston, Bennett Zaruba, Madison Felt, Faith Springer, Christopher Medlock, and Alison Winsterman celebrate after successfully completing a challenge on Pi Day.

## Smith Selected to Cornhusker Boys' State



Nebraska Christian student Scott Smith will join nearly 400 other high school juniors from

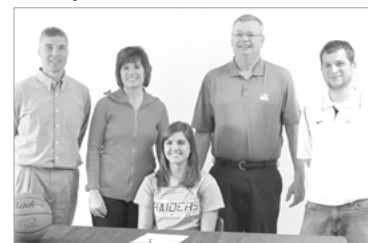
across Nebraska participating in the American Legion Cornhusker Boys' State, June 2-8, 2013, at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln downtown campus. The annual citizenship program, sponsored by the Nebraska American Legion, is designed to provide youths with a better understanding of how city, county, and state governments operate.

Special lectures and addresses will be delivered by experienced public officials and professional leaders, including Governor Dave Heineman and Supreme Court Chief Justice John M. Gerrard.

## Landrigan & Mazankowski Sign Letters of Intent



NC Assistant Track Coach Larry Hoff, NC Head Track Coach Carl Ostrand, Jahn Landrigan, NC Cross Country Coach Janet Landrigan, Paul Landrigan.



Dave Mazankowski, Amy Mazankowski, Ashley Mazankowski, NC Girls' Basketball Coach Gordon Thiessen, CCC Women's Basketball Coach Mike Kroupa.

Seniors Jahn Landrigan and Ashley Mazankowski have signed letters of intent to compete in collegiate sports. Landrigan will run cross country and track at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, and Mazankowski will play basketball at Central Community College - Columbus.

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facebook.com/nebraskachristian

## Alumni Spotlight: Sheila (Adams '82) Dixon

*You have been merciful to me, Oh Lord. I will praise you to all my brothers; I will stand up before the congregation and testify of the wonderful things you have done.*

• • •



My name is Sheila Dixon. I'm here to testify of the wonderful way that God has made "all things new" in my life. He has taken me through a life-threatening health crisis in order to deliver and restore me.

• • •

I put my faith in Jesus for salvation as a child, but what most people didn't know was that I later struggled with a terrible food addiction. Many years ago I shared with a friend that the answer to my food addiction would be spiritual, and if I ever became a diabetic, I would be in trouble. Meanwhile, I tried several of the diets out there, but nothing worked, and yes, I became a diabetic.

A year ago last fall, the Lord impressed on me to put away all my diet books. This deliverance was going to be between Him and me. That October, I went on a prayer retreat with several women from our church. It was an awesome time of praying together for hours. The gals prayed over me as food had become such a stronghold that I felt strangled by it. They prayed for my "journey," none of us knowing what would lay ahead of me on that path.

Around that time I listened to a sermon online where the pastor encouraged his congregation to tell the Lord they were ready for Him to do something new in their lives. So I stopped and I prayed. I also prayed and asked God to prepare me for things ahead.

• • •

In May of last year, we celebrated one of our children's graduations from high school. I felt fine. What I didn't know was that my body was about to crash. The next day I became deathly sick. I was sent by ambulance to Lincoln, where I would spend the next 45 days. In addition to being diagnosed with pancreatitis, my triglycerides soared to 3,500, my blood sugars went from 200 to 1,000, my kidneys were shutting down, and my stomach was literally rotting. I was put into ICU and heavily sedated. A ventilator and feeding tube kept me alive while my body fought for life. The doctors told my family, "Sheila will die without surgery, and we don't think she will live through surgery. Tell her goodbye." Medically speaking, I should have died, but God had another plan. He wanted to show many His power.

• • •

God began laying it on the hearts of His people to pray. Some of the ways they prayed were that no plans of the enemy would prosper, that God would show us great and mighty things we knew not, and Psalm 91. Some were challenged to consider whether they were praying

believing God would do something or if they were doubting He would.

Due to being sedated, I never knew I was dying. But I do know I was ready to meet my maker.

God brought me through a series of surgeries, and my body began to heal. My stomach began to hold liquids and then food. My kidneys were restored to full function. Being sick for so long, I couldn't walk, write, or talk and was extremely weak. Due to so much medicine, I had trouble with my mind and memory. Each step was a new victory that amazed the doctors and nurses. Step by step God completely healed me.

God also cared for and protected my family while I was in the hospital. During one of my husband's trips to see me, a large golf cart came across the median of the interstate and stopped before hitting him. We saw God's hand not only in His healing, but all over this, and we believe there are several reasons He allowed it. This was about us, but yet it wasn't just for us. Many of you prayed for us (some spending hours), others sent cards, helped with expenses, and came to visit us. A brother and sister in the Lord came to the hospital telling me they

were praying that I wouldn't blame myself. I hung onto that. THIS IS what the body of Christ does. Thank you so much.

It is amazing to think I could be with Jesus now, but for my family's and friends' sake I'm glad He didn't take me.

God is also delivering me from the food addiction. Beth Moore says, "No matter what our addiction, God can set us free. He requires from us time, trust, and cooperation. He is far more interested in our getting to know the Deliverer than simply being delivered. His unquestionable will is our freedom from this yoke, but, also trust that HE has written a personalized prescription for our release."

HE IS OUR HOPE!!! OUR ONLY HOPE.

"All Things New" is a perfect theme for me: new health and a new chance at embracing those whom I was holding at arms length, but the biggest new thing is a heart overflowing with gratitude to my Savior and Lord.

Last of all, we did as Jacob did in Genesis 35: "I will build an altar to God who answered me in the day of my distress and who has been with me where ever I have gone."

### Memorial Gifts

For: Faye Berghold

From: Gil & Dorothy Glad

For: John Brega

From: Tuesday Morning Mens' Bible Study

For: John Brega to honor Ken & Judy Taylor

From: Faye Berkheimer

The Blockers

Timothy & Tonee Gay

Bernice Grantham

Richard & Julie Haney

William & Luann Menke

Kim & Ruby Miller

Erma Mohrman

Larry & Anne Pilakowski

Antonio & Concetta Zaccone

For: Jim Booth

From: Gil & Dorothy Glad

For: Evelyn Meyer

From: Gil & Dorothy Glad

For: Sharon Nelson

From: Linda Peterson

For: Roger Lord

From: Mary Reisinger

For: Donald Turner

From: Jean Marie Turner

For: Doug Young

From: Darrel & Myrna Jeanne Davis

Gary & Connie Gannon

Stephen & Sharon Gleason

Sam & Kay Grimminger

Betty Hill

Robert & Christy Horky

Doug & Jody Hughes

Dwight & Elaine Johnson

Dave & Linda Lenz

Marian Maciejewski

Wesley & Marilyn Rowe

Everett & Marian Schwartz

Don & Marie Stoltenberg

Carol Swartz

Stanley Urwiller

Mr. & Mrs. David Young

In Honor of: Dr. John & Judy

Ahlschwede's Retirement

From: Harold & Dorothy Cook



*Class Colors: Black, Silver, and Blue*

*Class Flower: Baccara Rose*

*"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'*

*Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."*

*— 2 Corinthians 12:9*

*"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy."*

*— Martin Luther King Jr.*

• • •

**Shanna Ruth Bailey** has attended Nebraska Christian for six years. Her parents are Danny & Amy Bailey of Central City. Shanna's sister Janelle graduated from NC in 2010. Shanna plans to attend Wayne State next year. Her favorite NC memory is when the speech seniors decided to practice "skiing" and "snowboarding" on the bus on the way home from a speech meet. She credits NC with helping her become more outgoing through participating in class discussions and speech meets. Her

favorite verse is 1 Timothy 4:12.

**Carrie Jo Beck** is the daughter of Jerry & Linda Beck of Central City. Carrie has attended NC since kindergarten, and she is the fourth member of her family to graduate from NC; her brothers Jason ('90) and Casey ('11) and sister Katie Batenhorst ('08) are all alumni. Carrie is grateful for all of the people she met at NC who have helped her through tough times in her life. Her favorite NC memory is when, as a child, she would run up to and hug an older family friend who also attended NC—she's grateful for how kind he always was to her. Carrie plans to attend Central Community College and study early childhood development. Her favorite verse is Proverbs 16:20.

**Cong Minh (Kyle) Bui** of Hanoi, Vietnam, is the son of Tan Van Bui & Lien Thi Tran. He has attended NC for two years. Kyle's future plans include going into business. Kyle has especially enjoyed dorm life, basketball, track, and Spiritual Emphasis Day. He is grateful for his time

The graduating seniors at Nebraska Christian Schools.

Row 1: Mia Dinh, Vicky Zhang, Hoa To, Carrie Beck, Tori Swanson. Row 2: Yena Yoo, Ency Chen, Lindsey Ngo, Sophia Zhang, Shanna Bailey, Heidi Hofmann, Katherine Welk. Row 3: Kim Deichmann, Shawna Ritta. Row 4: Anthony Faeh, Kyle Bui, Andy La, Daniel Kim, Derek Rose, Braden Moody, Anna Kirby, Katie Griess, Ashley Mazankowski, Bekah Mead. Row 5: Neil Lin, Matt Kim, Tanner Cooper. Row 6: Kemery Myers, James Royle, Jahn Landrigan, Curtis Heuermann, Alex Frederick, Jeff Hilderbrand, James Lee. Not pictured: Jacob Winsterman.

at NC, as it is where he learned about God, and the teachers really prepared him for the future. Kyle's favorite verse is Luke 1:37 because it reminds him of God's power.

**Enxi (Ency) Chen** of Wenzhou, China, is the daughter of Zubo Chen & Libin Liao. She has attended Nebraska Christian for three years. Following college, Ency hopes to travel extensively and work in business. Her favorite memory from her time at NC is the San Antonio trip the international students took one year at Thanksgiving. She says that being at NC has encouraged her to pursue a Christ-like life. Ency's favorite verse is Hebrews 4:16.

**Tanner Michael Cooper** of Central City has attended NC for three years. His parents are Ben & Tonja DeGross and Shawn & Shannon Cooper. Tanner's favorite NC memory is beating Newman Grove in football his junior year,

which gave our team the title of District Champion. Tanner believes that attending NC has encouraged him in his walk with Christ. He plans to major in psychology at UNL. Tanner's favorite verse is John 3:16.

**Kimberly Ann Deichmann**, daughter of Dave Deichmann and Becky Deichmann, is from Central City. She has attended Nebraska Christian for 13 years. Her brother-in-law and sister, Chase ('02) and Stephani ('03) Francl, are also NC grads, and her brother Chet would have graduated in 2000 had he not passed away his senior year. Senior trip, speech meets, and choir tours stand out as some of her favorite times at NC. Kim's favorite verses are Proverbs 3:5-6 because they remind her to trust in God. She plans to attend Hillsdale College and become a biologist.

*continued on pg. 6*

**Class of 2013**, *continued from pg. 5*

**My Thi Tra (Mia) Dinh** is from HaNoi, Vietnam. Her parents are Son Ngoc Dinh & Hang Thu Nguyen. Mia has attended NC for 2-1/2 years. She plans to continue her education at UNL. Mia is the second person in her family to graduate from NC—her cousin Cuong (Nick) Le is a 2011 graduate. Mia's favorite NC memories are from senior trip in Minnesota, especially the ice skating and skiing. Mia says that being at NC taught her to study hard and love others.

**Anthony Brock Faeh** of Central City is the son of two NC grads, Lanny ('79) and Jewel (Schweitzer '82) Faeh. His siblings Ryan ('04) and wife Suzanne (Schmid '04), Truman ('07), and Ashley ('08) are also NC grads. He has attended NC for 12 years. Anthony's favorite NC memory is playing football at recess in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades. He says his NC education has helped foster his relationship with Christ and other Christians. His favorite verse is Hebrews 11:1 because it reminds him that his faith in God is to be at the forefront of his relationship with Christ. In the future, Anthony plans to get training to be an air traffic controller and work at an airport in Denver, Omaha, or Kansas City ... unless God leads him elsewhere!

**Alexander K. Frederick** is the son of Kenn & Angie Frederick of Doniphan. This is his third year at Nebraska Christian. Alex plans to attend Southeast Community College at Milford and study Construction Technology. His favorite NC memory is building the utility trailer in shop class with Mr. Gee, Curtis Heuermann, Jeff Hilderbrand, and Jacob Winsterman. Alex says that NC has impacted his life both spiritually and physically, as he has grown closer to the Lord through his classes and has become stronger and able to lead

through weights and sports. Alex's favorite verse is John 3:16.

**Katherine Rebekah Griess** of Sutton is the daughter of Loren & Susan Griess. Katie is the fourth child in her family to graduate from NC: Emily Fakkema graduated in 2005, Allison Hand graduated in 2007, and Elizabeth (Loy) Sahr graduated in 2009. Katie plans to attend a four-year college to major in business with an advertising emphasis. Of her time at NC, Katie says, "I have consistently been surrounded by people who love the Lord and encourage and push me in my walk with Him." Her favorite NC memory is going to get Happy Water and gummy bears before home volleyball games. Katie's favorite verses are Philippians 4:6-7 because they remind her that she is under the care and control of God, who has already determined all the plans for her life.

**Curtis Alan Heuermann** of Archer has attended NC for 13 years. He is the son of Alan Heuermann and Jody Heuermann. Curtis's favorite NC memories are shop class with Mr. Gee and going to state playoffs in football his junior and senior years. Curtis says that he has always seen NC as a place of refuge and a place that helped him grow spiritually. His favorite verses are Luke 9:23-24. Next year, Curtis plans to attend Chadron State to study rangeland management and animal science.

**Jeffery Michael Hilderbrand** is the son of Roy & Cheryl (Dockweiler '90) Hilderbrand of Central City. He has many Dockweiler relatives who have graduated from Nebraska Christian, as his mom and multiple aunts, uncles, and cousins are alumni. Jeff plans to attend Midland Lutheran in the fall. He fondly remembers the time he spent living in the dorm his sophomore and junior years. Jeff's favorite verses are Job 42:2-

6 because they remind him that sometimes it's best to quietly listen to God.

**Heidi Marie Hofmann** of Sutton is the daughter of Fred & Lori Hofmann. Heidi has attended NC for four years. She says her favorite memory of NC is singing and dancing in the locker room before volleyball games. She is grateful for the amazing people she has met at NC, and she knows some of those people will remain her friends for life. Heidi plans to attend Peru State College in the fall and major in business marketing. Her favorite verse is Romans 8:28 because it reminds her that no matter what, God is working out His plan for her life.

**Hyun Tae (Matt) Kim** has attended Nebraska Christian for three years. He is the son of Seung Hee Kim & In Hea Park of Seoul, South Korea. Matt plans to major in engineering in college. One of Matt's favorite NC memories is running to Dairy Queen for cross country practice. He's grateful for the American and international friends he made while at Nebraska Christian, and he says being at NC helped make him more responsible. Matt's favorite verse is Proverbs 24:27.

**Sung Hwan (Daniel) Kim** of Ilisan, South Korea, is the son of Hyeong-Sang Kim & Mi-Kyeong Choi. This is his first year at Nebraska Christian. Daniel especially enjoyed the Thanksgiving trip to Missouri and meeting people from many countries. He plans to study foreign affairs in college and eventually become a diplomat. Daniel's favorite verse is Colossians 2:8.

**Anna Claire Kirby** of Central City has attended NC for 12 years. Her parents are Terry & Kathy Kirby. Anna's sister Jessica graduated from NC in 2005. She plans to attend Palm Beach Atlantic University in Florida

to study marine biology. She especially enjoyed the Washington D.C. and senior trips, as well as the time she spent playing sports, and she credits NC with giving her a firm foundation for her faith. Anna's favorite verses are 1 Peter 3:13-14 because they remind her that God will always be with her, even through the tough times.

**Anh Trung (Andy) La** of Hanoi, Vietnam, has attended NC for 1-1/2 years. His parents are Son Hong La and Bac Thi Pham. Andy hopes to become an economist. He says his favorite NC memories are the senior trip and just living in the dorm. Andy has learned about who Jesus is while attending NC. His favorite verse is John 14:6.

**Jahn Paul Landrigan** has attended NC for four years. He is the son of Paul & Janet Landrigan of Broken Bow. Jahn's sister Janae McHargue ('10), brother-in-law Jordan McHargue ('11), and brother Levi ('12) are all NC graduates. Jahn plans to attend UNK, where he will study science and run cross country and track. Jahn has many great memories of NC, including senior trip, winning two state cross country team titles, and becoming state duet champions with James Royle. Of his time at NC, Jahn says, "NC has helped develop me spiritually, physically, and academically into the man I have become." His favorite verse is Philippians 4:13.

**Young Wook (James) Lee** of Seoul, South Korea, has attended NC for three years. His parents are Bum Sun Lee & Young Soon Kim. James plans to major in international relations and international business and eventually work for an international organization or the government. He especially enjoyed the school trips to Oklahoma City, Denver, Texas, Minnesota, and Washington, D.C. James says that his time at NC helped him

grow spiritually, and he is grateful for the friends and teachers who influenced him. His favorite verse is Proverbs 1:16. He says, "I used to read Proverbs with my mom. When I read Proverbs, it always advises me to not turn away from my Lord."

**Ta-Fu (Neil) Lin** is the son of Chao-Tse Lin and Xiao-Ying Liu. He is from Taichung, Taiwan, and he has attended NC for three years. He plans to study medicine in college and become a doctor. Neil's favorite times at NC were when he hung out at the local Dairy Queen with friends. While at NC, he found the Lord and learned to serve others. His favorite verses are Proverbs 13:18-20 because they remind him to seek wisdom and submit to correction.

**Ashley Ann Mazankowski** of Columbus has attended NC for four years. Her parents are Dave & Amy Mazankowski. Ashley plans to attend Central Community College in Columbus, where she will play basketball and earn an associate degree in nursing. Then she plans to finish her bachelor's at UNMC and become an RN. Her favorite NC memory is when, as a freshman, she was told that the math teacher (Mr. Bill Uhler) could do pull-ups in the doorway. (Mr. Uhler did eventually show the class!) Ashley is grateful for her time at NC, saying, "I have been blessed to have great teachers who personally care about me not only academically but also spiritually." Her favorite verses are Proverbs 3:5-6.

**Rebekah Anne Mead**, daughter of Steve & Debra (Hansen '88) Mead of Aurora, has attended NC for 12 years. Her mom and aunt, Sandy (Hansen '81) Wentworth, are also NC grads. Bekah plans to attend Dordt College to study either construction management or communications. Bekah's favorite NC memory is partner stretching

with Rachel Miller during sophomore year track. She says that she values her Nebraska Christian education because it has given her some guidelines for living as a Christian in the world. Bekah's favorite verses are Ezekiel 18:31-32.

**Braden Alan Moody** has attended NC for 13 years. His parents are Tim ('89) & Jo Moody of Central City. In addition to his father, Braden has had many aunts and cousins graduate from NC. He plans to go through basic training, ROTC, and college to become a military officer and get a criminal justice degree. Braden has built many wonderful friendships while at NC, and he credits NC with helping to keep him in the faith. His favorite verse is 2 Corinthians 12:9 because it reminds him of what Christ continually does in his life.

**Kemery Evan Myers** of Central City is the son of Chuck & Luella Myers. He has attended NC for three years. He plans to get a degree in marketing and advertising. Kemery says his favorite NC memory is 3rd hour study hall his sophomore year with Levi Landrigan ('12), Stephany Krieger ('11), and Alycea Unruh ('11). He appreciates NC because it has shown him how beneficial a Christian perspective is when going through education and life. Kemery's favorite verse is John 16:33. He says, "It reassures me that no matter what trials you go through in life, God is bigger than all of them. He is in control."

**Loan Thanh (Lindsey) Ngo** from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, has attended NC for three years. Her parents are Hien Quoc Ngo & Loan Thi Kim Nguyen. Lindsey's brother Trung graduated from NC in 2011. Lindsey plans to attend UNL and eventually become a dentist. Some of her favorite NC memories are the dorm trips and

senior trip. She says that not only did she meet some great friends while at Nebraska Christian, but she also was saved by Jesus Christ. Her favorite verse is Proverbs 29:22 because, while she struggles with anger, this verse helps her calm down and reminds her to ask God to take away her anger.

**Shawna Marie Ritta** of Marquette has attended NC for 10 years. Her parents are Ed ('73) & Marilyn Ritta. All of Shawna's older siblings have graduated from NC: Beth ('98), Kate Perry ('00), Jon ('08), and Nate ('11). Her sister-in-law Abbie (Krug '10) is also an alum, as are multiple aunts, uncles, and cousins. Shawna plans to attend Frontier School of the Bible. Her favorite NC memory is when the speech team played music and danced on the back of the bus on the way home from a speech meet when no coaches were on the bus. She says she has grown tremendously in her faith while at NC, and she really appreciates her Christ-centered education. Her favorite verse is Jeremiah 29:11.

**Derek Michael Rose** has attended NC for 7-1/2 years. His parents are Ron & Jo Rose of Aurora. Derek's brothers Kirk ('07) and Casey ('09) are also NC graduates. He plans to study biology with a health science emphasis at UNK. Choir tours and track meets are some of Derek's favorite NC memories. He says that his NC education has given him the tools to guard against the worldliness he will face in college. Derek's favorite verses are Colossians 2:8-9 because they remind him to always be on guard against corruption.

**James Thomas Royle** of Central City is the son of Mike & Susan Royle. He has attended NC for two years. James is the second person in his family to graduate from NC: his aunt Rebecca (Holmstedt) Parde graduated in 1999. He

plans to attend UNK, majoring in international business and language. He wants to study abroad in Germany and China. He's also considering pursuing a career in the music industry. James's favorite NC memories are speech meets, choir tours, and especially winning duet at state speech with Jahn Landrigan. James is thankful for the friends he has made while attending NC, and he's also grateful that NC has given him an outlet for his talents. His favorite verse is Romans 10:9.

**Tori Denae Swanson** is the daughter of Doug & Karen Swanson of Aurora. She has attended NC since seventh grade. Her brothers Braden ('09) and Andrew ('12) are also NC graduates, as are several cousins. Her favorite NC memory is her sophomore year of cross country. Of her time at NC, Tori says, "It has helped me grow tremendously in my faith and provided me with a strong foundation before going off to college." Next year, Tori plans to attend Hillsdale College. Her favorite verses are Psalm 47:1-3 because they remind her that God will always be with her and will help her in times of need.

**Hoa Tran Minh To** of Hanoi, Vietnam, is the daughter of Hao Manh To and Hang Minh Tran. This is her first year at Nebraska Christian. Hoa fondly remembers the girls' dorm trip and senior trip. While at NC, Hoa has learned the importance of loving and forgiving others, and she has vastly improved her English skills. Hoa's favorite verse is John 13:14. She plans to study at a university in the United States and then go back to Vietnam to work.

**Julia (Jae) Marie Welk** of Grand Island has attended NC for 13 years. Her parents are Scott & Patty Welk. Jae is so thankful

*continued on pg. 8*

**Class of 2013**, *continued from pg. 7*  
for all the friends she has made at Nebraska Christian. Her favorite book of the Bible is James. Her brother Scott graduated from NC in 1994, and her sister Robin Kubik graduated in 1996. Her sister Katherine is also a member of the class of 2013.

**Katherine Elizabeth Welk**, daughter of Scott & Patty Welk of Grand Island, has attended NC since kindergarten. Next year, she plans to attend Hastings College and major in music education and vocal performance. Her favorite NC memories are going on choir tours, competing at music contests and speech meets, and singing and playing in the Festival of Lessons & Carols. Katherine says that NC has helped prepare her for what she will face in college. Her favorite verses are Jude 24-25. They remind

her that the glory for everything she does goes to God, and all her actions should point to Him.

**Jacob Steven Winsterman** of Central City has attended Nebraska Christian for 3-1/4 years. He is the son of Denise Winsterman, and his sister Abbigail Galles graduated from NC in 2011. Jake wrapped up his on-campus studies at NC in December 2012, and in March 2013 he graduated from Five Star Shoeing School in Minco, Oklahoma. He has accepted an apprenticeship with Pat Burton at Granbury Equine Hospital in Burseson, Texas. His favorite NC memory is getting 20 tackles against Howells, and he says that NC has helped strengthen his beliefs and given him the courage to reach his goals. His favorite verses are 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.

**Yena Yoo** of Seoul, South Korea,

has attended NC for three years. Her parents are Kyung Mo Yoo & Hye Sook Park. Her brother James attended NC for one semester between high school and college and received a certificate of attendance in 2010. Yena plans to attend college in the United States and go into broadcast journalism. Her favorite NC memory is the Easter egg fight she had with Lindsey Ngo. Yena is grateful for her time at NC because it is while she was a student that she accepted Jesus as her personal Savior. She says she also learned how to serve others while living in the dorm. 1 Corinthians 13 is her favorite Bible passage. "Sometimes we misunderstand what love really is," she says. "This chapter shows God's love towards us, and I am trying to love others in the way the Bible says."

**Mo (Vicky) Zhang** of Long-

yan, Fujian Province, China, has attended NC for three years. Her parents are Gang Zhang and Ping Guo. Vicky plans to attend college in the United States and then work in Hong Kong. She fondly remembers her ESL class, senior trip, and all the dorm activities. Vicky says she will never forget her time at NC. Her favorite verse is Matthew 6:34.

**Yu Xuan (Sophia) Zhang** of Taiyuan, China, is the daughter of Hongming Zhang & Lijun Yang. She has attended NC for three years. She plans to attend college in the United States and become a teacher. Sophia's favorite NC memory is the Thanksgiving trip to Branson. She is thankful for NC because it brought her to God. Sophia's favorite verse is Deuteronomy 6:5.

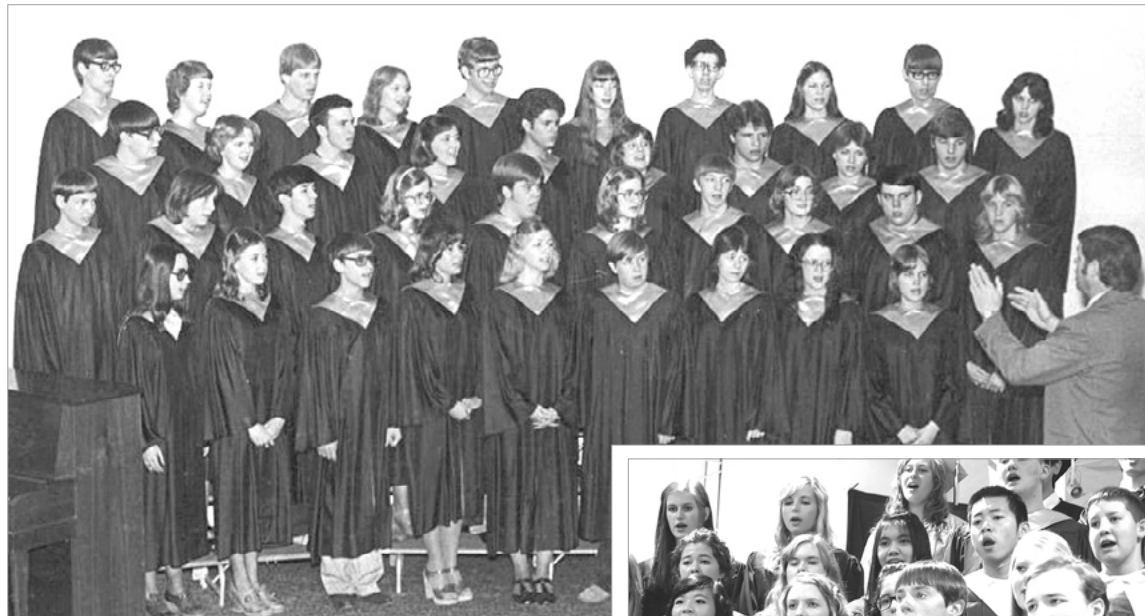
## Sing Unto the Lord: A Tradition of Music by Stephani (Deichmann '03) Francl, Development Director



There is a beloved tradition at Nebraska Christian Schools that is older than the school itself: music. Well over half of the students who have walked NC's halls have sung in the choir, and choir performances are special features at major campus events like the Harvest Festival, Spring Concert, Christmas Festival and Graduation. But the tradition began before the school opened in the fall of 1959.

They didn't know it at the time, but a small group of five individuals started this tradition at the request of NC's first Superintendent, Walter Ediger. In the summer of 1959, before the school had convened a single class, Kay Sawyer, the first music director, assembled a girls trio and pianist from among the future student body of NC.

It wasn't a glamorous start. Mr.



Sawyer remembered, "It was primitive—the school's facilities," and transportation for the group was a challenge. "Paul Oswald loaned us a car, because ours broke down on the move [from Kansas to Nebraska]," Mr. Sawyer explained. The group of 5 toured in the borrowed car to minister through music, re-

cruit students, and raise support for the fledgling school. They performed at Bible camps, churches, and Youth for Christ meetings, where they presented the new option of a Christian education at NC.

Once NC's doors opened, the



music continued. Olive Lutes Gurney ('61) recalled the spring of 1960 when the choir traveled to north-

*continued on pg. 10*





## Auction Notes by Kathy Chase, Auction Coordinator



We are pleased to report that God has chosen to pour out his blessing on NC by once again moving the hearts of many very generous donors to give to the Dinner and Benefit Auction. While final figures are not yet available, it appears that we will have a net profit of \$170,000. Over 380 items up for bid from more than 260 donors and approximately 100 volunteers contributed to the success of this event. The 17 corporate sponsorships this year was a record, and, along with our eight regular table sponsors and individual ticket purchases, we raised nearly \$25,000 in dinner reservations alone.

Nearly 300 guests braved the wintry weather for the Saturday night dinner and were welcomed by the soft glow of candlelight and the big band sounds of the Knights of Rhythm. The student servers once again impressed our guests with their gracious service.

Twenty-six items were offered for sale on the Live Auction. Items that sparked aggressive bidding were a Royal Caribbean Cruise, dinner with Governor Heineman and the First Lady, 1,000 bushels of quality yellow corn, and a yellow lab puppy. The Berck & Strobel Motorsports Racing package, the hot air balloon ride for two, and the Nebraska Christian Festival

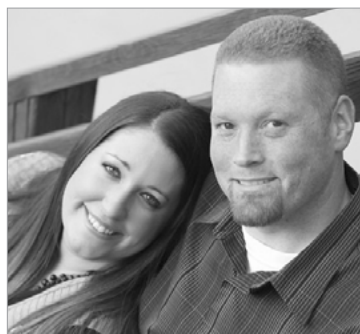
package each sold twice for a total of \$8,400.

Other items of special interest included a dinner flight, a family fishing trip, a Carrie Underwood concert package, and a prize-winning quilt.

The Scholarship Auction continues to be an avenue of giving that our donors are enthusiastic about. NC has a \$100,000 line item in the budget for student scholarships each year. Prior to the event, \$27,750 had been received in response to mailings and phone calls toward the \$100,000. The Live Scholarship Auction bidding resulted in \$45,300 bringing the total to \$73,050! We are praising the Lord that we are within \$26,950 of funding that line item 100% for this year. All these funds will be used to provide a Christian education for students who might otherwise not have the financial means.

We are grateful to all who were able to donate time, talent, or treasure in order to make this event a success. The total net profit made for the school through the benefit auction in the last 11 years has now passed \$1.1 million. Please join us in thanking God once again for his amazing faithfulness to NC through the Dinner and Benefit Auction.

*Due to space constraints, the complete list of donors, table sponsors, and corporate sponsors will appear in the summer issue of the Advance.*



## Miranda Stelk ('99) & Stephen Goodspeed ('97)

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Stelk are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter, Miranda Stelk, to Stephen Goodspeed, son of Mr. & Mrs. Roy Cupples.

Miranda was born in Grand Island, NE, and raised on a farm near Chapman. She attended Nebraska Christian High School and graduated in 1999. After high school, Miranda attended Hesston College and studied early childhood education. She currently resides in Omaha and is working at Gallup.

Stephen was born and raised in Omaha, NE. He attended Nebraska Christian High School and graduated in 1997. He currently resides in Omaha and is working at Classic Chevrolet.

The couple is planning a June wedding.

## Summer Sports Camps for boys and girls in grades K-9

Camps & dates on the Calendar on pg. 2

### Cumpston, *continued from pg. 1*

the state meet, both for the second year in a row. Also, NC had nine students named to the Conference Academic team, which requires an ACT score of 26 or higher; three of these students scored over 30. The music programs, both elementary and secondary, continue to be a blessing to all who hear them. *Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.*

# NC Almanac

## 10 years ago ('03)

- Aaron McHargue ('03) places 1st in extemporaneous speaking at state, and the team places 4th in Class C2.
- Whittier Hall is razed.
- 21 students graduate. Brianna Epp is valedictorian; Ashley Chase, Stephani Deichmann, and Lisa Weedin are co-salutatorians.

## 20 years ago ('93)

- Pat ('88) & Charyse (Rogers '89) Harvey receive the Alumni of the Year award at the Advance Dinner.
- 29 students graduate. Rachel Behrens is valedictorian; Bridget Behrens is salutatorian.

## 30 years ago ('83)

- 21 students graduate. Sharon Binder and Kirsten Ferris are co-valedictorians; Hope McGrew and Lori Nelson are co-salutatorians.
- The board decides to raise senior high tuition for '83-'84 to \$1675.

## 40 years ago ('73)

- 27 students graduate. Christine Boehr is valedictorian; Marilee Jones is salutatorian.

## 50 years ago ('63)

- 17 students graduate. Gwen Smith is valedictorian.
- The board raises tuition to \$125 per semester.

Please join us in praising the Lord for the wonderful year he has given us! Also, keep our students in your prayers—both the graduating seniors and those who will be returning to us after the summer. Pray also that God would continue to provide the finances we need and that we would continue to trust Him. *Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.*

# Introducing Nebraska Christian's Redesigned Website!

We've completely redesigned and updated our site to make it more welcoming and user friendly. Visit us at [nebraskachristian.org](http://nebraskachristian.org) and let us know what you think.



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## Sing Unto the Lord: A Tradition of Music, *continued from pg. 8*

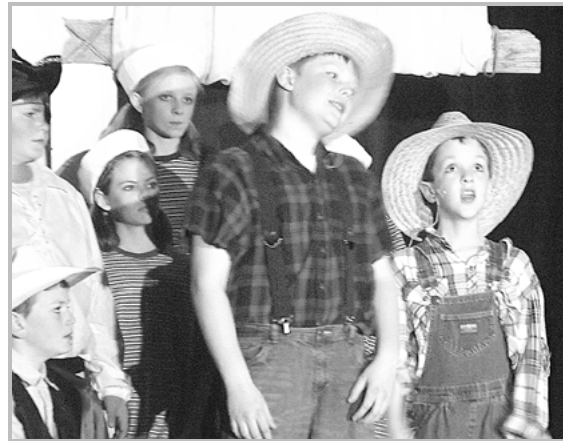
western Nebraska on its first choir tour. "The tour started out in a bus, which broke down within the first 100 miles. Hurried phone calls brought the needed results, and several cars appeared some time later so that we could continue the journey... During that tour, we sang at several churches and even appeared briefly on television."

Choir tours have continued each spring ever since. In addition to tours, the choirs have performed in school events as well as at competitions among local schools. Trophies and plaques won for champion performances by the choir and small groups at competitions fill NC's trophy cases. "Representing the school and the Lord ... brought great satisfaction, whether in the context of a local church or that of secular venues like annual competitions and

evaluations," Stephen LeBar ('61) explained.

It's no surprise that music has been a feature at Nebraska Christian, since music is a primary method of offering praise to the Lord. Stephen LeBar also described, "the satisfaction of merging spiritual and musical expression, [and] learning to blend our voices and minister as a team, not just the choir, but in octets and quartets as well," as some of his favorite memories.

Current students explained that while they don't especially like getting up to load the bus in the early morning hours on choir tour days, they do love the food. Churches that host the choir provide a meal for the members – no small feat for this year's 80-member choir. Senior Carrie Beck shared that she likes "hearing the testimonies from the brave ones in the choir" who speak



### Elementary Musical: Polecat's Poison

Sixth grader Trevor Cumpston and fifth grader Cory Ruybalid Ruybalid sing together during the elementary's Patch the Pirate Musical.

during the testimony time at each choir performance.

Participating in the NC choir has helped countless students grow in their appreciation for and love of music. Alumni have gone on to participate in college choirs, lead worship in their local churches, and share their love of music with those around them. From humble beginnings in primitive facilities to champion performances in major

competitions, God has used NC's choir throughout Nebraska. When asked what he remembered about his time as choir director, Mr. Sawyer responded without missing a beat, "Directing choir was a highlight of my life." He went on to say, "I loved the choir." I suspect many alumni would agree.

*For more on this story, see our blog at [nebraskachristian.org/blog](http://nebraskachristian.org/blog).*