



# nc advance

nebraska christian schools — building lives for eternity

## Finishing with Honor

by Josh Cumpston, Administrator



Our junior class recently hosted the Honor Banquet for our seniors, senior parents, and pastors of our seniors. It was a new event this year designed to help celebrate the culmination of our mission statement: “to come alongside the family and the church by providing a Christ-centered education, equipping students with a Biblical worldview, and encouraging a love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.”

The evening consisted of an elegantly decorated formal banquet. We enjoyed a great meal, had a time of recognizing seniors, prayed over the class, and closed the evening with dessert. Following the banquet the students were taken to Timberlake for an after party.

The purpose of the evening was to bring glory and honor to God for the talents and gifts that He has given to our seniors and to recognize and celebrate how they have used these talents to make a difference. We also wanted our seniors to honor their parents by writing them a tribute, and we also gave the parents a chance to write a letter—almost a blessing—to their son or daughter.

They exchanged these letters during dessert and had time to talk and share with each other.

A couple of weeks before the event I gave questionnaires to all of our

*continued on pg. 6*

## “Honor” Brings New Spring Formal Tradition

Formal dresses? Check. Class pictures? Check. A delicious meal? Check. An intense and fun after party? Check.

While this may sound like the makings of a traditional junior-senior banquet, in reality it was something much different and incredibly meaningful: the first annual Honor Banquet. Superintendent Josh Cumpston, who organized the event with the assistance of junior class sponsor Patty Welk and several junior parents, designed Honor to be a time of recognizing the graduating seniors for the impact they had on others during their time at Nebraska Christian. The seniors’ parents, pastors, and teachers were all invited to the event and shared in

## Quiz Bowl Team Competes at State

After winning the Goldenrod Conference Quiz Bowl and placing second at the ESU 7 District competition, the NC quiz bowl team boldly went where no NC quiz bowler had gone before: the state competition. This competition, put on by the state Educational Service Unit, was comprised of the top two teams from each ESU. The NC team beat Silver Lake in the first round, lost to Syracuse in the second, beat Hemingford in the



**Above:** The Junior class at Honor Banquet.

the time of recognition.

Following a prime rib dinner served by the junior boys, Cumpston read statements from other students about each senior, which allowed them to get a glimpse of the impact they had on the atmosphere of the school. Of this part of the evening, senior Joey Sun said, “Having every senior honored in the way of others paying tribute to them was a great part of the night. It introduced seniors in a different way and gave

us a new perspective in seeing how we had influenced others.” After the time of recognition, each pastor who attended the evening prayed over the seniors, and the formal portion of the evening ended with the seniors and their parents exchanging letters over dessert.

The students then loaded the bus for Timberlake Ranch Camps, where an Amazing Race-style competition ensued. Then the students returned to campus for breakfast before heading home.

This new event is one the 2012 seniors will remember as they head into the next phase of their lives, and it is one that the underclassmen will eagerly anticipate in years to come.



**Senior High Quiz Bowl Team.** Row 1: Coach Dee Flynn, Scott Smith, Kim Deichmann, Tori Swanson, Sophia Zhang. Row 2: Braden Moody, Tym Whisenand, Jahn Landrigan, Beran Fisher, Kevin Cheng, Jeff Hilderbrand. (Not pictured: Levi Landrigan.)

third, and was eliminated after losing to North Platte St. Patrick’s in the fourth round.

**Alumni: Want to connect with former classmates and teachers?**

.....  
NC Alumni Facebook Page  
[www.facebook.com/nebraskachristian](http://www.facebook.com/nebraskachristian)  
Nebraska Christian Alumni Website  
[www.alumni.class.com/nebraskachristian](http://www.alumni.class.com/nebraskachristian)

# nc advance

volume 42 • number 1

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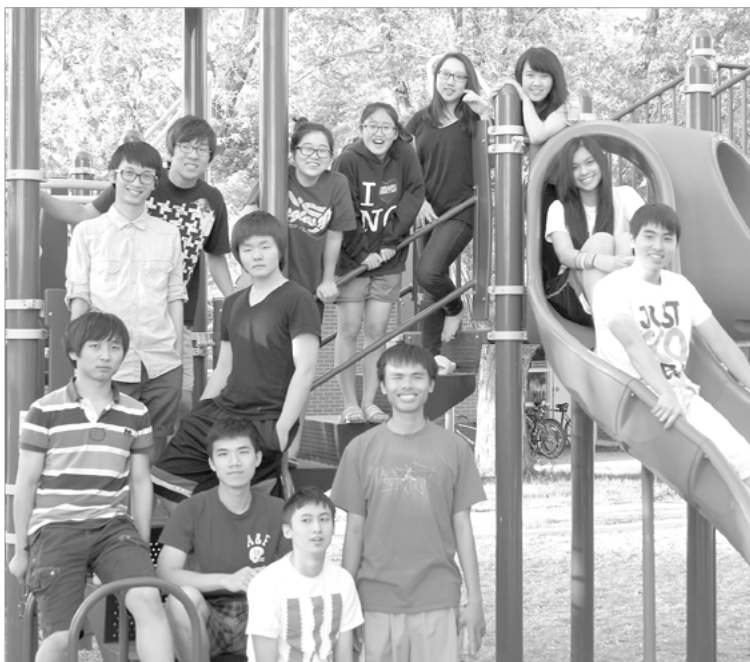
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**Mission:** The mission of Nebraska Christian Schools is to assist the family and church by providing a Christ-centered education, equipping students with a biblical worldview and encouraging a love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.



**Above:** In 2012, Nebraska Christian graduated more international students than ever before.

Clockwise from top right: Janet Song (China), Eunice Songthangtham (Thailand), Sebastian Chang (Korea), Dat Nguyen (Vietnam), Wai Ng (Hong Kong), Jerry Vuong (Vietnam), Jim Tao (China), Joey Sun (China), Soonchan Jung (Korea), Jay Han (Korea), Jane Seok (Korea), Jessica Kim (Korea), Mina Kim (Korea).

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



**2011-2012 Giving**  
**Needed: \$500,000 Actual: \$319,850**

What a privilege to be wrapping up another year of ministry at Nebraska Christian Schools. Again this year we have added to the number of students who have graduated from Nebraska Christian Schools with a Christ-centered education, a Biblical worldview and a love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. We thank God for that.

Success in our mission at Nebraska Christian Schools is accomplished by the contributions of many. For each student who enrolls at Nebraska Christian Schools, at least three distinct contributions are made.

The first contribution is made by the staff of Nebraska Christian Schools. The cost to educate any student in the state of Nebraska averages \$10,000. Many of our staff have accepted positions at salaries lower than they could make elsewhere. We thank God for staff

members who see their work as a ministry and not just a job. Their contribution to our mission means that our cost per student is only \$7,000. This cost is for actual classroom instruction and excludes room and board, extracurricular activities, the cost of the international program, etc. It is about the same for every 1st through 12th grade student.

The next contribution is the tuition checks written by parents, students, and other interested parties. We thank God for students, parents, relatives, churches, and others who see the value of our mission and invest in it. The board's stated policy is that tuition costs should be held "to a minimum" without allowing "expenses to exceed the funds the Lord provides annually..." A very small number of our students are charged the full \$7,000 for tuition, and the average student pays quite a bit less than

## Calendar of Events\*

### MAY

17 School Dismisses for Summer

18-19 State Track

### JUNE

4-6 Lady Eagle Volleyball Camp

*Grades 3-6, 2:00 - 4:30 PM*

*Grades 7-9, 2:00 - 5:00 PM*

4-6 Junior Eagle Football Camp

*Grades 3-6, 2:00 - 4:30 PM*

13-15 Lady Eagle Basketball Camp

*Grades 3-6, 2:00 - 4:30 PM*

*Grades 7-8, 2:00 - 5:00 PM*

*Grades 9-12, 9:00 AM - 12:00 N*

18-20 Boys' Junior Eagle Basketball Camp

*Grades 3-5, 9:00 AM - 12:00 N*

*Grades 6-8, 1:00 - 4:00 PM*

### AUGUST

6 Football Practice Begins

7 Registration

13 Cross Country & Volleyball Practice Begin

14 School Begins

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

that, which brings me to the third contribution: yours.

Each year hundreds of people step up and make a contribution to the mission of Nebraska Christian Schools. We thank God for them. Their donations make up the difference between the cost of our mission and the contributions of our staff and parents toward achieving our mission. Without it, our staff would be paid less or our students would be charged more.

On behalf of our staff and students, thank you for doing your part. I hope you can join me, the staff, students, parents, churches, and other donors who are a part of our ministry in saying, "What a privilege to be wrapping up another year of ministry at Nebraska Christian Schools." Until next time, may God bless you and yours.



Tune in Saturday  
afternoons at 1:04 p.m.  
and Sunday mornings  
at 10:30 a.m. to hear  
Josh and Gordon on  
AM-750 KMMJ.



# Seven Qualify for State Speech



**Above:** NC State Speech qualifiers. L-R, Row 1: Katherine Welk, Hannah Rogers. Row 2: Levi Landrigan, Joey Sun, Jahn Landrigan. Row 3: Scott Smith, Beran Fisher.

Capping a successful season in which the team won the Goldenrod Conference meet and placed second at the district meet, seven speech team members qualified for the state meet at Kearney. Senior Hannah Rogers, a two-time qualifier in informative speaking, placed 5th with her speech “The Benefits of Color.” None of the other team members broke into finals, but several received first place rankings in one of their two rounds.

**Qualifiers:**

- Beran Fisher, informative
- Jahn Landrigan, humorous prose
- Levi Landrigan (3x qualifier), extemporaneous and persuasive
- Hannah Rogers (2x qualifier), informative and poetry
- Joey Sun (3x qualifier), poetry
- Scott Smith (2x qualifier), extemporaneous
- Katherine Welk (2x qualifier), serious prose



**Top:** 2011-12 NC Wrestling Team. Row 1: Isaac Elge, Carson Huenefeld, Andrew Swanson. Row 2: Head Coach Terry Elge, Coach's Aide Chris Schweitzer, Student Manager Jessica Davis, Student Manager Shelsea Boutin, Student Manager Jaydon Elge, Coach's Aide Scott Griepentstroh. Row 3: Tjrn Whisenand, Dusty Whisenand, Sam Davis, Matthew Swanson, Tim Smith.



**Below:** 2012 NC Speech Team. Row 1: Vicky Zhang, Dana Poppe. Row 2: Head Coach Charissa Smith, Lindsey Ngo, Yena Yoo, Ency Chen, Tori Swanson, Talia Murphy, Rachel McHargue, Whitney Twogood. Row 3: Neil Lin, Natalie Bui, Kim Deichmann, Katherine Welk, Janet Song, Rae Zhong, Zoe Flynn, Sophia Zhang, Shanna Bailey, Scott Smith, Assistant Coach Becky Ritta. Row 4: Jeff Hilderbrand, Joey Sun, Hannah Rogers, Beran Fisher, Jahn Landrigan, Levi Landrigan, James Royle. Not pictured: Taylor VanPelt, Michaela Church, Anthony Faeh.

## NC Flashback



**Left:** Can you identify this pole vaulter from the early '80s? Since his face is a bit obscured, we'll give you a hint: his three boys currently attend NC. Send your guesses to [advance@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:advance@nebraskachristian.org). You could win an NC coffee mug!

*From the last issue (below):* Congratulations to Kristin (Hattan '95) Yale, the winner of last issue's flashback. The men pictured are Bob Ritta ('69) and Jeff Prusa ('98). Though several people did guess correctly, many others identified Jeff as either Eric Prusa ('94) or Jon Ritta ('08)! Thanks for playing!



## Lady Eagle Volleyball Camp

NC will host a volleyball camp June 4-6 for students entering grades 3-9. It will be held from 2:00-4:30 p.m. for grades 3-6, and 2:00-5:00 p.m. for students in grades 7-9. NC coaches and players will instruct the students on fundamental skills of volleyball. Cost of the camp is \$20 and will include a camp T-shirt. Registration forms are available in the office, and are due May 15. Campers may sign up after this date, but a T-shirt will not be guaranteed. Contact Tonya Ostrand at 402-984-9819 with any questions.

## Lady Eagle Basketball Camp

June 13-15 are the dates for the NC basketball camp for girls entering grades 3-12. Grades 3-6 will meet from 2:00-4:30 p.m. and grades 7-8 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. Girls in grades 9-12 will meet from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. NC coaches and players will instruct students on fundamental skills of basketball. The cost of the camp is \$20 and includes a camp T-shirt. Registration forms are available in the office and are due May 15. Campers may sign up after this date, but a T-shirt will not be guaranteed. Contact Tonya Ostrand at 402-984-9819 with any questions.

# remember

Remembering what God has done.  
 Supporting what God is doing.  
 Looking forward to what God will do. [www.nebraskachristian.org/support/remember](http://www.nebraskachristian.org/support/remember)

# Nebraska Christian Class of 2012



Nebraska Christian Class of 2012. Row 1: Sebastian Chang. Row 2: Jessica Kim, Jane Seok, Mina Kim, Eunice Songthangtham. Row 3: Jim Tao, Tym Whisenand, Isaac Elge, Andrew Swanson, Joey Sun, Savannah Clapper, Joanna Stuhmer, Janet Song. Row 4: Jacob Simmons, Levi Landrigan, Johnny Smith, Cody Smith, Hannah Rogers, Jessica Davis, Shelisa Boutin, Soonchan Jung, Jerry Vuong, Kameron Kaelin, Seth Bailey, Jay Han, Wai Ng, Dat Nguyen.

**Seth Robert Bailey** of Grand Island is the son of Robert & Lisa Bailey. He has attended Nebraska Christian for seven years. Seth's favorite NC memories include chasing squirrels by the administration building and drinking Monster during yearbook. Seth is unsure what his future holds, but he knows he wants to have fun! His favorite verse is Luke 9:62 because it shows him he shouldn't try to serve God halfheartedly. Seth's sisters and brother-in-law also graduated from NC: Katie in 2008, and Jessica & Darren Holzinger in 2010.

**Shelisa Lee Boutin** has attended Nebraska Christian for six years. She is the daughter of Shawn & Michele Boutin of Central City. Shelisa's favorite verses are Ephesians 6:10-13. Two events from Shelisa's time at NC tie for first place among her NC memories: the senior trip and the back-to-school social that featured the slip-n-slide. Shelisa plans to study early child development and art design.

**Se-chan (Sebastian) Chang** is new to NC this year. He is the son of Kyung Seok Chang & Young

Ju Ko of Seoul, Korea. Sebastian's favorite verses are Matthew 7:13-14, and his favorite NC memory is senior trip. He plans to study engineering in college.

**Savannah Lorelle Clapper**, daughter of Roudy & Lori Clapper of Ainsworth, transferred to Nebraska Christian for her senior year. Savannah says, "Within my first weeks here, I knew that I was called to be a missionary. This school makes me focus on Christ and making Him the center of everything. The friendships and activities that flourish here resonate from that." Her favorite verse is Luke 12:34 because it reminds her that Christ should be first in whatever she does. Savannah will attend Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa, majoring in missions and possibly art and competing in indoor and outdoor track & field.

**Jessica Kathryn Davis** of Central City is the daughter of Jayne Davis. Jessica has attended Nebraska Christian for 12 years, and her favorite verse is Jeremiah 29:11.

**Isaac Lee Elge** has attended NC for 10 years. His parents are Terry

& Kelly (Bokelman '81) Elge of Aurora. His sisters Meagan Dees ('05) and Shelby Swanson ('08) are also NC grads. Isaac says that his time at Nebraska Christian has given him a chance to grow in his faith and prepared him for college. Isaac participated in football and wrestling while at NC (he became NC's second wrestling state champion, after his brother-in-law Mike Swanson ['08]), and he cites his time in those sports as being among his favorite memories of his schooling. Isaac plans to study engineering and wrestle at Colorado School of Mines. His favorite verses are Psalm 144:1-2.

**Jewon (Jay) Han** is from Daejeon, South Korea. His parents are Suk Gyu Han & Moon Sook Song. Jay has attended Nebraska Christian for three years, and his favorite verse is John 12:26. Jay has loved playing basketball while at NC. He isn't sure what his future holds, but he does know he wants to be successful and make money.

**Soonchan Jung** has attended NC for two years. He is from Daegu, Korea, and his parents are Sung-il

Jung & Sun-hee Yang. His sister So Young graduated from NC in 2008. While at Nebraska Christian, Soonchan's walk with Christ has strengthened, and he values the time he spends reading the Bible. His favorite verse is Romans 8:18. He plans to attend a 4-year college.

**Kameron James Kaelin** of La Vista is the son of Ken & Jamie Kaelin. He has attended NC for three years. His sister Kensy graduated from NC in 2009. Although Kameron spent most of his football career battling one injury or another, he still counts his time on the football team as his favorite part of being at Nebraska Christian. "I'll never forget looking around the huddle and seeing my brothers strengthening each other and keeping our focus on Christ," he says. Kameron isn't sure what life holds for him—he's currently praying for the Lord's direction. His favorite verse is Romans 1:16.

**Hyang Eun (Jessica) Kim** is from Cheong-Ju, South Korea. Her parents are Sun Kak Kim & Mi Jeong Kim. Jessica has spent four years at Nebraska Christian.

*continued on pg. 5*



**Class of 2012** *continued from pg. 4*

Her favorite book of the Bible is Philippians. Jessica came to Christ while at NC, and she says, "I have learned how to be a true Christian, and all the teachings from the Bible have helped me to see things through the eyes of Jesus Christ." Jessica plans to become a nurse.

**Mina Kim** has attended NC for two years. Her parents are Do Kyun Kim & Ha Yoon Lee of Seoul, Korea. Mina's favorite verses are Ephesians 4:31-32. She especially enjoyed the trips she was able to take as a student—to Texas, Kansas City, and Minneapolis. She plans to major in business with a marketing concentration.

**Levi Robert Landrigan** of Broken Bow is the son of Paul & Janet Landrigan. Levi has attended NC for four years, and his favorite verse is Romans 5:8. Of his time at NC, Levi says, "Being in a strong Christian environment has helped to strengthen my faith and encouraged my walk with God." Levi will be the third member of his family to graduate from NC: his sister and brother-in-law, Janae ('10) & Jordan ('11) McHargue, are grads as well. Levi plans to attend Calvary Bible College in Kansas City next fall and major in history.

**Chit Wai Ng** is from Hong Kong. His parents are Man Kang Ng & Sze Lim. This is Wai's fourth year at Nebraska Christian. Wai's cousin, Ho Wai Ng, graduated from NC in 2007. Wai's favorite verse is Psalm 146:1. He especially enjoyed the trips to NBA games the dorm boys went on his junior and senior years. He plans to attend college in the United States.

**Dat Nguyen** of Nha Trang, Vietnam, is the son of Bon Nguyen & Yen Tran. This is his first year at Nebraska Christian. Dat's favorite verse is Philippians 1:21, and he appreciates Nebraska Christian because he "learned the Truth" here.

He plans to become a businessman.

**Hannah Allyn Rogers** is the daughter of Dan & Kelani Rogers of Sutton. Hannah has attended NC for two years, and her favorite verse is 2 Corinthians 12:9. Of her time at NC, Hannah says, "From bonding on senior trip at a hockey game to being interviewed on 'The Christian Worldview' radio show and being part of an amazing speech team, I have been blessed through my years at NC." Hannah's favorite school memory is when Mr. Cumpston barged into English class as a character from *Hamlet*. She plans to major in engineering and play volleyball and softball at Covenant College in Lookout Mountain, Georgia.

**Jin (Jane) Seok** of Seoul, South Korea, is the daughter of Kwangyal Seok & Bong-hyo Kang. Jane has attended NC for 3 years and plans to continue her education at Calvary Bible College in Kansas City. Her favorite verse is 2 Corinthians 5:7. Jane says that NC has had a great impact on her life because it was here that she became a Christian. She has great memories of the Washington, D.C. trip and various international student trips.

**Jacob Ethan Simmons** of Central City has attended NC since kindergarten. His parents are Andrew & Karrie Simmons. Jacob's favorite verse is Mark 3:28.

**Yuying (Janet) Song**, daughter of Yatao Song & HuiLin Wang, is from Urumqi, XinJiang, China. Janet has attended NC for three years. Her favorite verse is John 14:6 because it reminds her that Jesus is the only way. Janet values her NC education because she became a Christian here. She plans to major in accounting at the University of Illinois—Chicago.

**Nattanit (Eunice) Songthangtham** is the daughter of Somchai & Patriya Songthangtham of Bangkok, Thailand. This is her third year at

Nebraska Christian. Eunice's favorite verses are Psalm 3:3-4 because they remind her that the Lord will always help her. Her favorite NC memory is when Mrs. Flynn set off fireworks as the international students were leaving for the airport at 2 a.m. She hopes to become a doctor.

**Cody Michael Smith**, son of Steve & Jane Smith of Grafton, has attended NC for four years. His older siblings Heather Nienhueser ('06), Liz ('08), and Jen ('10) are also alumni, and his twin brother Jonny will graduate with him. Cody's favorite NC memory is when Mr. Cumpston had the seniors play Outburst in order to get them talking in Bible class. His favorite verse is Galatians 2:20.

**Jonathan Caleb Smith**, twin brother of Cody, has attended NC for four years, and his favorite verse is Philippians 4:13. Jonny credits NC with helping him understand what it means to live life for God's glory. He plans to become a mechanic and farmer.

**Joanna Alice Stuhmer** has attended NC since kindergarten. Her parents are Kerry & Janice Stuhmer of Central City. All of Joanna's older siblings graduated from NC: Travis in 1994, Sarah Schoen in 1996, Tammy in 1998, and Samuel in 2007. One of Joanna's favorite NC memories is jumping her personal best, 16'3", at a track meet her senior year. Joanna is grateful for the education she received while at NC, as well as for the teachers who would challenge her spiritually. She plans to become a large animal veterinary technician. Her favorite verse is John 15:5.

**Peizhao (Joey) Sun** has attended NC for 3½ years. Joey is from Shenzhen, Guangdong, China, and his parents are Wensheng Sun & Yupin Zhao. His favorite memories while at Nebraska Christian include senior trip, All-State Music, and being part of the 2012 speech

team. Joey's favorite verses are 1 John 2:15-17. He plans to attend Northeastern University in Boston, majoring in business.

**Andrew Chase Swanson**, son of Doug & Karen Swanson of Aurora, has attended NC for six years. Andrew is the second in his immediate family to graduate from NC (brother Braden graduated in 2009), and he has numerous cousins and cousins-in-law who are NC alums. Andrew says that being at NC has helped him focus on putting Christ into all areas of his life, and he especially enjoyed his senior year of football. Andrew's favorite verses are 1 Corinthians 2:9-10. He will attend Hillsdale College in the fall.

**Jun (Jim) Tao** of Nan Chang, China, has attended NC for three years. His parents are Jin Bae Tao & Jian Ying Hu. Jim's favorite verse is Deuteronomy 31:6 because it reminds him that God is always with him, so he should not fear. The senior trip, other trips, and time spent with friends are some of Jim's favorite memories of his time at Nebraska Christian. While he would love to be an artist, he will most likely go into business.

**Anh Quoc (Jerry) Vuong** is from Vietnam. This is his first year at Nebraska Christian, and his parents are Dat Quoc Vuong & Phuang Thi Nguyen. Jerry's sister Linh also attended NC, graduating in 2010. His favorite verse is Matthew 7:24. Jerry plans to study electrical engineering at the University of Florida.

**Timothy William Whisenand** of Central City is the son of Arden & Jenny Whisenand. Tym has attended NC for 2½ years (if you ask him, he'll be happy to explain), and his favorite verse is Isaiah 41:10. Tym has especially enjoyed playing football at NC, and he says that being at NC has helped strengthen his faith in the Lord. He plans to major in computer engineering at South Dakota School of Mines.

## NCS Foundation by Jody Heuermann, NCS Foundation Executive Director



When looking to move ahead, it's often helpful to look back and remember the lessons the Lord has taught us in the past. In reviewing the history of the school, I was struck by how God worked in the unlikeliest of ways.

This beautiful campus was the last choice of the founders – in fact, they weren't even going to take time to look at it until after the Grand Island dog pound building didn't work out. Fifty-four years later, Nebraska Christian sits on a beautiful campus with space to grow as the Lord leads.

The Nebraska Department of Education told the founding board how unlikely it was that a non-denominational Christian school would ever survive, because how would it raise enough funds to pay

**Honor** *continued from pg. 1*

students K-12 to get information about the soon-to-be graduates. I asked them to answer questions about a few of the seniors that they knew. I asked what gifts and talents they saw, words to describe them, things that they appreciated about them, and stories or examples of how they had used gifts or talents to serve others in a Christ-like manner. I was very encouraged by the answers that came in.

The following are just a few of the responses that were written about the graduates. I hope the following excerpts give you a glimpse of the fine young people that are graduating.

I appreciate that you are always counseling other girls in their walk with Christ. You love on them and share the Gospel. It is inspiring to see that you have a passion, and it's burning bright.

its bills? The school has remained solvent through a combination of tuition payments and gift support.

Then there was the question of students – would enough come to make the school a viable institution? Today our classrooms and dormitories are full, and not just with local kids, but with young people from around the world.

We are part of a miracle where we get to see God work day by day and throughout the years. A new challenge we face is building a foundation for the long term support of the school in a volatile economic climate.

Yet as we watch the Lord move over the course of only four years, the Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation has more than \$250,000 invested for the long term support and financial stability of the school. These funds have been set aside, like Joseph set

When my roommate was sad, you comforted her. You talked, read the Bible, and prayed for each other until 12:30 that night. You really sacrifice for others, and care for others as well.

Last year I had study hall with you. I always noticed you carried a pen that you never used for assignments. I asked what it was for, and you said it was your Bible pen. You used this pen everyday to underline Scripture as you read it. This has always been a good example for me to read God's word daily.

In class, you always bring up points and you talk about the Bible. I can tell you are in the Word because you talk about it a lot and base your thoughts and words off of it.

You are always encouraging others and reminding them to look to Christ.

During basketball, you were always



2011-12 NC Yearbook Staff. Row 1: Layout Manager Joanna Stuhmer, Savannah Clapper. Row 2: Bekah Mead, Co-editor Seth Bailey, Co-editor Joey Sun, Business Manager Andrew Swanson, Tori Swanson, Adviser Becky Ritta, Ency Chen.

aside resources during the years of plenty in order to prepare for the years of want. Our board is carefully managing these funds to help ensure that the option of a Christian education is always available to students.

Someday, our successors may look back on these years for inspi-

ration and to be reminded of how God can move. My prayer, as we work to leave a legacy that builds lives for eternity, is that we will be faithful stewards of the Lord's resources and that He will be glorified by the work of our hands today and forever.

a good sport. Even if you didn't get to start, you had a good attitude and always tried your hardest. You always helped those who didn't understand. You're patient and willing to listen. When you help us in track, you always push us to be our best. Also you remind us who we are working for.

I will remember how you accepted the challenge of being a cabin leader during bow hunter's week (at summer camp) and were able to make a difference in 6 young boys' lives. You were willing to serve the Lord in a way you never thought you would be able to.

I will remember the multiple times you have brought tears to my eyes as I have heard you speak of your love for the Lord. Your faith encourages me.

I will remember the joy you have in Christ.

I will remember our Christ-centered conversations and the way you live your life.

I appreciate you spending many nights after lights out with me trying to help me know Jesus better.

I will always remember you leading me to Christ.

If you have partnered with us financially in the past, thank you for helping to provide a Christian-education. I feel that God is using NC to help prepare our future leaders by giving them a Biblical worldview and encouraging their spiritual growth and relationship with Christ.

Send address changes to  
[advance@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:advance@nebraskachristian.org)



**Development Office** by *Becky Deichmann, Kathy Chase, and Jody Heuermann*

**Above:** NC's student servers for the 2012 Dinner & Benefit Auction.



We are pleased to report that God has chosen to pour out his blessing on NC by once again moving on 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 from the event of well over \$180,000. Over 350 donors contributed to the success of this event along with approximately 100 willing volunteers.

Two hundred eighty-five guests at the Saturday night dinner were welcomed by the soft glow

of lamps and candles 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. An Asian dinner for eight, donated by Larry and Barb Hoff and prepared by the girls' dorm students was the item bringing the highest bid at \$4,500. And, it sold again for \$4,400.

Lt. Governor Rick Sheehy, who attended the event, challenged the crowd to make this the first time the Lt. Governor's luncheon brought more than the Governor's dinner. After much spirited bidding, the Lt. Governor won out at \$3,550 for his luncheon. Gov. Heinemann's dinner for eight

brought \$3,500. Three Cornhusker football tickets brought \$3,500, in part because the Lt. Governor added an invitation to the Governor's tailgate party prior to the game.

Hot air balloon rides were another "hot" item, selling three times for a total of \$7,950. U.S. Figure Skating Spectacular VIP tickets, River City Rodeo and Concert tickets, "Fiddler on the Roof" at the Orpheum tickets and several other exciting experiences and fun items kept the bidding lively.

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, \$47,242 had been received in re-

sponse to mailings and phone calls toward the \$100,000. The Live Scholarship Auction bidding resulted in \$41,612, bringing the total to \$88,854! We are praising the Lord that we are within \$11,146 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. Please join us in thanking God for blessing NC in a big way through the Dinner and Benefit Auction.

View photos of the event on our facebook page: [www.facebook.com/nebraskachristian](http://www.facebook.com/nebraskachristian)

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*continued on pg. 8*

**Donors** *continued from pg. 7*

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 Grand Island Little Theatre  
 Green Line Equipment, Grand Island  
 Griffith, Chuck & Kathleen  
 Grow Nebraska  
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**Be assured that if your name was  
 misspelled or omitted, it was not  
 intentional. We are very sorry and  
 would like to know, so we can correct  
 it in the future.**



# Alumni Class Reunions

## Classes of '02 & '03

The classes of 2002 and 2003 will celebrate 10 years at a joint reunion June 29-July 1. Activities will include a formal dinner on Friday night, a Saturday morning tour of the campus, an evening barbecue, and other festivities. For more information or to secure your reservation, please contact Stephani (Deichmann '03) Francl at [steph.francl@gmail.com](mailto:steph.francl@gmail.com) or 308-940-0100.

## Classes of '81, '82 & '83

The Nebraska Christian Class of 1982 would like to invite members of the Classes of 1981 & 1983, as well as those staff members (past and present) who would have taught us during our years at NC, to join us for lunch on campus Sunday, August 5th, at 12:30. We will serve lunch and have a chance to get caught up on what has been happening in our lives. Tours of the campus will be available, so you will be able to see some of the changes since we were students at NC. You will also have the opportunity to get acquainted with Superintendent Josh Cumpston.

If you have any questions, contact Rod Ruybalid at 308-946-3212 or [coachrube@email.com](mailto:coachrube@email.com).

We hope to see you then.

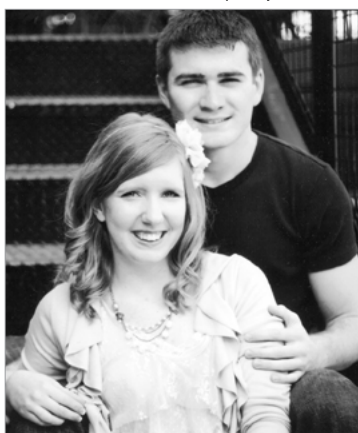
## Memorial Gifts

For: Bill Alberts	The Lavelle Family
From: Anna Marie Moore	Bob & Susan Ritta
For: Dwaine Bailey	For: Wayne Magnuson
From: Gil & Dorothy Glad	From: Gil & Dorothy Glad
Ed & Marilynn Ritta	For: Marilyn McEntarffer
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For: Anne Larsen	From: Roy & Trudy Creutzberg
From: Kent & Diana Holtorf	Dave & Ruth Ferris
For: Mildred Larsen	Gil & Dorothy Glad
From: Dave & Ruth Ferris	Kent & Diana Holtorf



**Above:** The 5th and 6th grade cast of "The Tumbleweed Opera". Row 1: Bennett Zaruba, Carsyn Ostrand. Row 2: Jon Dockweiler, Jessica Hilderbrand, Halle Strong, Jada McHargue, Joel Poppe. Row 3: Adrian Longoria, Chase Gulbranson, Micah Smith, Savannah Zimmer, Andrew Feely, Alison Winsterman, Claire Ostrand, Daniel Myers, Dani Davis, Trevor Cumpston, Ryan Dexter.

## Abigail Krug ('10) & Nathan Ritta ('11)



Norman & Sue Krug of Chapman are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Abigail to Nathan Ritta, son of Ed ('72) & Marilynn Ritta of Marquette. Miss Krug is currently a junior in the psychology program at Grace University in Omaha, Nebraska.

Mr. Ritta is a Scott Scholar at the University of Nebraska—Omaha majoring in architectural engineering.

The couple will wed on June 29, 2012, at the Stuhr Museum in Grand Island.

	The Lavelle Family
	Bob & Susan Ritta
	Ed & Marilynn Ritta
For:	Dr. Gordon E. Till
From:	Jesse & Jennifer Scherer
	Jim & Pam (Till) Scherer
	Justin & Maria Scherer
For:	Dorothy Uehling
From:	Anna Marie Moore
For:	Dennis Waggoner
From:	Bob & Susan Ritta

## NC Almanac

### 10 years ago ('02)

- A secondary PTF is formed to take the place of the Ladies Auxiliary.
- The first annual Dinner & Benefit Auction is held, raising \$54,000 for the school.
- The freshman class goes on the first-ever school Washington, DC trip.
- 23 seniors graduate. Andrew Ritta is valedictorian; Kate Schmid is salutatorian.

### 20 years ago ('92)

- The gym floor is removed for a much-needed renovation.
- The speech team wins both the conference and district meets. Nathan Musgrave ('92), Heather Jones ('93), and Joy McHargue ('94) qualify for state.
- 15 seniors graduate. Voleta Cooper is valedictorian, and Verna Musgrave is salutatorian.

### 30 years ago ('82)

- Dr. Donald Canfield completes his service as NC's administrator.
- 21 seniors graduate. Michelle Zoucha is valedictorian; Sheri Larsen is salutatorian.

### 40 years ago ('72)

- 22 students graduate.

### 50 years ago ('62)

- 14 students graduate.

# Merrick County Spelling Bee

Junior high Merrick County Spelling Bee participants (l-r) Marilla Flynn, Katie Cumpston, Alexis Hower, MaKenna Bolanos. All of NC's participants advanced to the oral round of the bee, and Cumpston placed second.



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## Two Qualify for State Wrestling; Elge is State Runner-Up

Senior Isaac Elge added to his collection of state medals when he became the state runner-up in the Class D 132-pound weight class. Elge, a state wrestling qualifier each of his high school years, was defeated by Eric Coufal of Howells, who became a four-time state champion. Elge finished the year at 38-4. In 2009, Elge wrestled at 103 pounds and was eliminated in the consolation second round of the tournament. In his sophomore year, he lost in the first round of the tournament but came back to place 5th overall in the 119-pound class. In 2011, he won the Class D 125-pound state title. Elge ends his NC wrestling career at number one on the leaderboard for season wins (38 in '11-'12) and near falls (52 in '11-'12) and for career wins (131), escapes (84), reversals (97), and near falls (275).



Senior Tym Whisenand also qualified for state in the 195-pound weight class. He was eliminated in the consolation first round and finished the season at 17-21.

**Top:** Isaac Elge secures a takedown in the state finals. Elge, the 2011 Class D 125-lb. state champion, lost to Eric Coufal of Howells in the 132-pound championship match.



**Above:** Wrestling state qualifiers Tym Whisenand (left) and Isaac Elge.

## Boys' Junior Eagle Basketball Camp

June 18-20 are dates for the Junior Eagle Basketball Camp for boys entering grades 3-8 next year. The cost is \$25, which includes camp instruction and a camp T-shirt. Boys entering grades 3-5 will meet from 9 a.m.-12 noon and those entering grades 6-8 will meet from 1-4 p.m. Basic fundamentals will be taught, and prizes will be awarded each day with all participants at camp having an opportunity to be successful. Registration forms are available in the office and are due June 4.

## Junior Eagle Football Camp

A football camp for students going into grades 3-6 will be held June 4-6 from 2-4 p.m. For registration information, please call the school office at 308-946-3836.