



may - june 2017

volume 47 • number 3

nc advance

nebraska christian schools building lives for eternity

Pray for
NC
Building Lives for Eternity



Sending Them Off

by Josh Cumpston,
Administrator

We just wrapped up another school year, and the students have begun their summer vacations. One of the highlights of the end of the school year is our commencement. I don't view this time as so much an end to high school but as a launching of our graduates into the world to make an impact for Christ wherever He takes them.

At graduation, in addition to our visiting commencement speaker, we always hear from a few senior class speakers. The students are usually shy to accept the invitation to speak, but I'm always amazed at how they pull their thoughts together and ably represent their class, their family, their church, Nebraska Christian, and Christian education. Ultimately, they are a great testimony to Jesus. I want to use my column in this issue to share excerpts from our three 2017 student speakers.

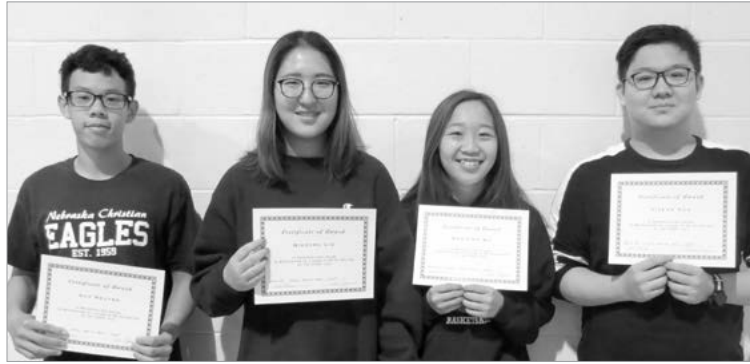
Benjamin Stevens



Hometown:
Ord, Nebraska
Parents:
Daniel and Julie Stevens
Future Plans:
United States Military Academy at West Point

"Today is May 13, 2017. On this day in history, near Brownsville, Texas, the battle of Palmito Ranch, the final battle in the Civil War, ended with Private John Jefferson Williams of B Company, 34th Regiment Indiana Infantry as the last casualty in a vicious

continued on pg. 8



TOEFL score award winners: Harry Nguyen, Eva Liu, Grace Wu, Alex Hao.

Student Achievements Honored at Academic Excellence Celebration

Nebraska Christian held its second annual Academic Excellence Celebration the morning of May 10. This celebration, according to Superintendent Josh Cumpston, is intended "to recognize students who have done well and hopefully motivate and inspire younger students to be aware of scholarship opportunities that are available."

The morning kicked off with scholarship presentations, including a \$1,000 scholarship from Cornerstone Bank that was given to Emily Halstead. Other seniors were also recognized for the scholarships they've been awarded, and special recognition was given to Benny Stevens, who will enroll at the United States Military Academy at West Point. (For more information on Stevens, see page 4 of the March-April Advance.)

Another special scholarship was given out, this time to two underclassmen. The Mary & Victor Snell Scholarship is intended for students who are continuing their education at Nebraska Christian. Mary Ann Keeling, the Snells' daughter, was on hand to present the scholarship to its first recipients.

Also recognized at the event were students who received academic letters. The 25 students on the "Highest Honors" honor roll received special recognition.

Other students recognized included the new National Honor Society members, those who received perfect attendance, the Goldenrod Conference All-Academic team, and international students who received a score of 90 or higher on the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language).

The morning ended with some athletic awards. First, six students received Academic All-State honors for their contributions in their sports/activities and in the classroom. Then seniors Katie Entz, Benny Stevens, and Andrew Winterman received the Shield Award, which is presented each year to one or two male and female athletes who exhibit strong Christian character. The head coaches and athletic director select the students who are honored. Finally, Andrew Winterman received a special award from Coach Carl Ostrand for being a 3-sport athlete for four years.



Students & Staff:

Pray for our students and staff members who are serving in VBS, at camps, and on mission trips this summer.

School:

Pray for recruitment for the next school year, that God would bring the right families to NC.

— Philippians 4:6 —

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Josh Cumpston, *Administrator*

Becky Ritta '99, *Editor*

Beth (Ritta '98) Keim, *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.



The preschoolers visited the new Widman Cinema and Central City Family Dental on their field trip. Front: Brinlee Galles, Mabel Mankin. Middle: Jonah Parde, Gabriel Green, Ryan Berck, Lily Francl, Lucy Perry, Tyla Stuhmer. Back: Widman Cinema Manager Tina Boroviak.

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



A little over a month ago, the 58th graduating class at Nebraska Christian Schools walked across the gym stage and received their diplomas. The next 12 graduating classes are already lined up and will be our 1st through 12th grades next fall, and the 71st graduating class will join them as next year's kindergarten class. I don't know if I will still be employed here or if I will even still be living when that class walks across the stage in the spring of 2030, but I know that I will en-

joy whatever time God gives me to watch what he is doing through the lives of the students and graduates of Nebraska Christian Schools. It is a privilege to come alongside these students, their families and their churches to provide them a Christ-centered education, equip them with a Biblical worldview, and encourage them in their love for the Lord Jesus Christ. Thanks for seeing that privilege and being a part of this ministry by supporting it with your finances and your prayers.

We are very near the end of our fiscal year, and once again we have an excellent chance of finishing the year in the black. That continues to be a huge praise for us. I derive a great amount of pleasure from observing the generosity of God's people—not just to Nebras-

Calendar of Events

AUGUST

- 7 Football Practice Begins
- 7 Volleyball Practice Begins
- 14 Cross Country Practice Begins
- 14 Open House, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 First Day of School
- 18 Carnival, Football Scrimmage, & Cross Country Run 5:30 p.m.
- 24 Volleyball Scrimmage 5:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

- 6 Homecoming

NOVEMBER

- 2 Harvest Festival 6:30 p.m.

DECEMBER

- 15 Festival of Lessons & Carols 6:15 p.m.

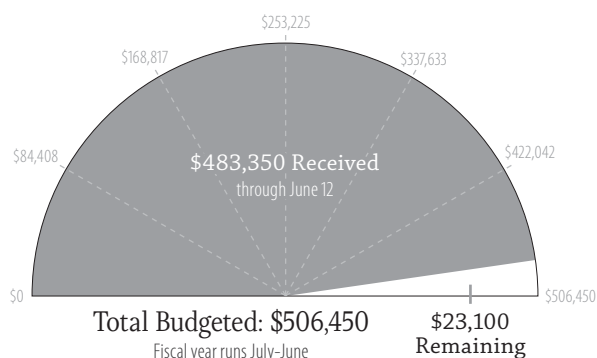
For additional events visit
nebraskachristian.org/calendar

ka Christian Schools directly, but to individual families within our student body. Please pray that all of us, as we manage the resources we receive from God, will prove to be good stewards of what we have received.

Please enjoy your summer, but don't forget to pray for us as we prepare for the next school year and the graduation exercises of the 59th graduating class of Nebraska Christian Schools.

Until next time, may God bless you and yours.

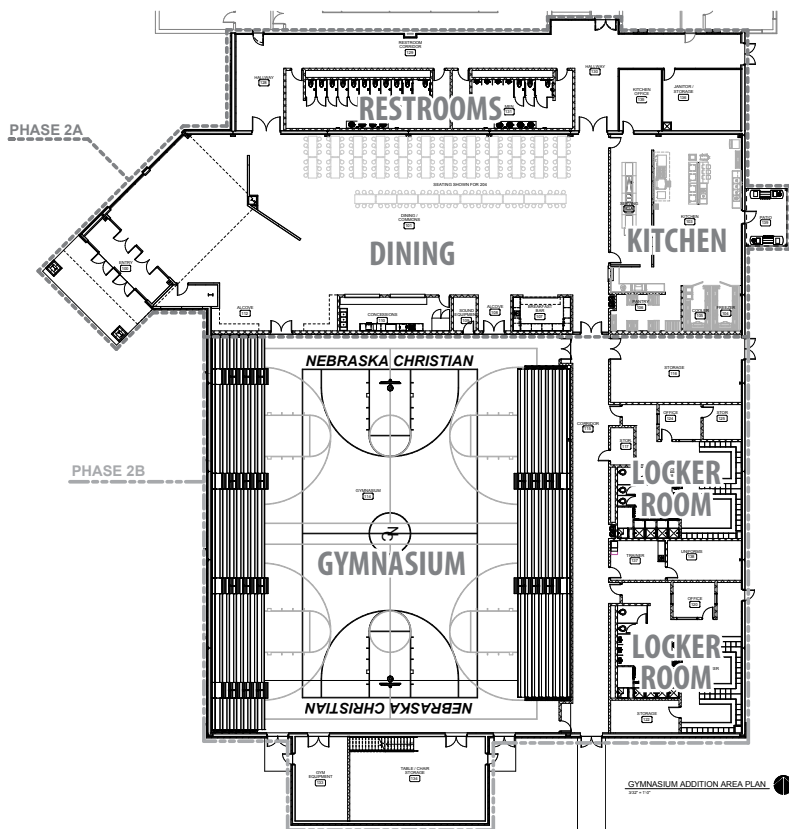
2016-2017 Gift Income: \$483,350 Received through June 12



God continues to provide for the needs of Nebraska Christian Schools through the gifts of people like you. Thanks so much for your faithfulness. Your support makes our mission possible.

Nebraska Christian is hiring dorm parents for our Boys' Dorm!

For more information,
see the employment page of our website:
nebraskachristian.org/resources/employment-opportunities



Phase 2 New Kitchen, Commons Area & Gymnasium

Phase 2A \$3.2 million

- State of the Art Kitchen
- Dining Hall with seating for over 200
- Concession Stand for Activities & Fundraising
- ADA Restrooms
- Entrance & Commons Area
- Exterior remodel of existing Gymnasium Building
- Expanded Parking Lot with convenient drop off and pickup

Phase 2B \$2.8 million

- Collegiate sized 94' Competition Gymnasium & Activity Center, with seating for over 900
- Boys & Girls Locker Rooms
- Athletic Training Room & Uniform Storage
- Athletic Storage Space
- Fine Arts/Programming Storage

Make checks payable to Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation

Mail to:
Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation
PO Box 222, Central City, NE 68826
EIN: 45-1300291
Jody Heuermann, Foundation Director

Contact us:
308.946.3836
foundation@nebraskachristian.org
nebraskachristian.org/foundation



Foundation Update *by Jody Heuermann, NCS Foundation Executive Director*

The Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation was established to provide a means through which gifts can be received and invested in order to build a solid financial base for the school. As God provides, we seek to put the dollars entrusted to us to work equipping the next generation to continue the legacy. We are grateful that many endowment areas have continued to grow, and this past month the foundation was able to award endowment scholarships to six current Nebraska

Christian Schools families. We are thanking God for these provisions that are made possible by the generosity of faithful people who want to “leave a legacy that builds lives for eternity.” We continue to look forward towards Phase 2 of the Next 50 Years Capital Campaign, the new kitchen/commons area/gymnasium. This will be one place on campus that impacts every student, teacher, staff member, guest, and visiting group. This will also enhance the special events that take place on campus throughout the year. Please

prayerfully consider what your part might be in helping to financially move this phase forward. Thank you for your support of Nebraska Christian Schools and the Next 50 Years Capital Campaign.

keep up with NC

- Website: www.nebraskachristian.org
- Striv: striv.tv/channel/nebraska-christian
- Facebook: facebook.com/nebraskachristian
- Calendar: nebraskachristian.org/calendar
- YouTube: youtube.com/user/NebraskaChristian
- Twitter: [@nebr_christian](https://twitter.com/nebr_christian), #NCEagles
- Instagram: [@ne_christian](https://www.instagram.com/ne_christian)



Joe Hesselgesser presents the Joe Hesselgesser UNL Scholarship to Wendy Bornmann.
Row 1: Guidance Counselor Steve James, Superintendent Josh Cumpston, Wendy Bornmann, Joe Hesselgesser. Row 2: Foundation Executive Assistant Amy Fetterley, Foundation Director Jody Heuermann, Dan Bornmann, Linda Bornmann.

NCS Foundation Awards Scholarships

The Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation recently awarded several scholarships. Endowments were established to create these scholarships.

The Mary & Victor Snell Memorial Academic Scholarships were awarded to two current NC students. This scholarship was established to support the integration of Christian Ideals and Christian Education by assisting Nebraska Christian Schools families with financial enrollment support. Mrs. Mary Ann Keeling, the Snells' daughter, was on hand to present the scholarships at the Academic Excellence Celebration.

The Joe Hesselgesser UNL Scholarship was recently awarded to Wendy Bornmann. This scholarship was established to provide \$75,000 to a 2017 Nebraska Christian Schools graduate who is planning to attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to obtain a 4-year degree.

The Beth Knudson Scholarship was recently awarded to four current NC students. This scholarship was established to support the integration of Christian Ideals and Christian Education by assisting Nebraska Christian Schools families with financial enrollment support.



Gilbert Glad

long-time staff member & father of John ('78), Jim ('80), and Joel ('85)

Gilbert Norris Glad went Home to be with the Lord on the morning of May 10, 2017, after a short struggle with heart disease. Born May 31, 1927, near Arborville, Nebraska, to Edwin and Esther (Gustafson) Glad, he had recently moved with his wife Dorothy to Boone, Iowa.

After graduating from high school in Polk, Nebraska, he earned his B.S. and M.E. at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. While earning his degrees, he taught in several rural schools in Nebraska before becoming the elementary school principal in Stromsburg, Nebraska. In 1956 he moved to Colorado and began his teaching career as a principal in Aurora, Colorado. While there he met and married Dorothy Wolf in 1959. After a 21 year career as a principal in Colorado, they moved to Nebraska where he helped launch the Nebraska Christian Elementary School in Central City. After retiring from teaching

full time, he faithfully dedicated his service to Nebraska Christian Schools for a total of 39 years until moving to Iowa this past Fall.

Gilbert was a kind, loving and faithful husband and father. He loved traveling with his family and spending the summers with his family out on the farm in Polk, Nebraska. After his family, his next greatest enjoyment came from playing the organ: at church, county fairs and even a Wendy's restaurant in Grand Island. He reluctantly gave up his last career of playing 6 days a week over the lunch hour for fast food diners, in order to move to Westhaven Retirement Community in Boone, Iowa, where he occasionally got to entertain residents with his organ music.

He loved the Lord Jesus Christ with all his heart and faithfully served Him in several capacities including the Gideons International. One of his favorite verses was Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

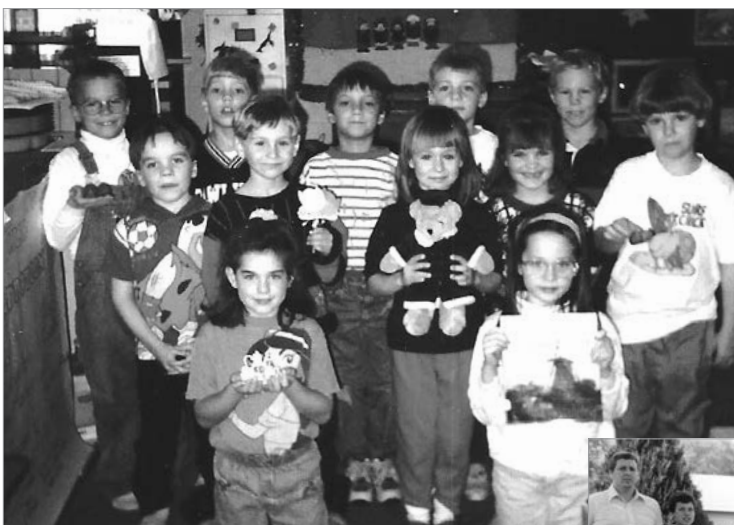
He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; sons, John (Carol) of West Des Moines, Iowa, James (Jenny) of Swisher, Iowa, Joel (Tomoko) of Park Ridge, Illinois; 7 beloved grandchildren; along with nieces and nephews.

Gilbert was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Grace; and brother, Gordon.

Memorial services were held on Monday, May 29, 2017, at Heartland Evangelical Free Church in Central City.

Memorials may be sent to Heartland Evangelical Free Church, 1620 19th Street, Central City, NE 68826; Nebraska Christian Schools, 1847 Inskip Ave, Central City, NE 68826; or The Gideons International, P.O. Box 140800, Nashville, TN 37214-0800.

NC Flashback



We go back to December 1994 for this flashback! Can you identify these students, several of whom graduated in our Class of 2006? Correctly identify at least four of them to be entered to win our prize. Earn an extra entry if you can tell us who their teacher was that year.



From the last issue: Front: Tom McKinnis, Kyle Berck ('87), Clint Bokelman ('87), Sean O'Hara, Tom Boley, Mike Snuffer, Joel Cook. Back: Brad Poland ('87), Paul McHargue ('88), John Hauser, Randy Dockweiler ('87), Pat Harvey ('87), Darryl Zogg, Russ Barnell ('88), Russell Swanson. Congratulations to Elyse (Harvey) Wheeler (Pat's daughter), whose name was drawn from all the correct entries. She wins our prize!



Skylar Ann Stuhmer, Augustus Wayne Stuhmer & Thea Mae Erickson, grandchildren of Kerry & Janice Stuhmer

Kerry and Janice Stuhmer are excited to announce the arrival of three new grandchildren!

Thea Mae Erickson was born to Eric & Tammy (Stuhmer '98) Erickson of Central City on February 3, 2017. She weighed 7 lb 3 oz and was 20 inches long. Thea is welcomed home by a brother, Josh Erickson, and sisters, Melissa (Cody) Barry, Kayla Lipker, Teagan Haynes, and Tyla Stuhmer. Mary Shrontz of Superior is the paternal grandmother. Great grandpa is Richard Monnier of Raymond, NE and great grandmother is Ruth Hobleman of Superior, NE.

Skylar Ann Stuhmer, daughter of Samuel ('07) & Stephanie Stuhmer of

Central City was born on March 27, 2017, and weighed 6 lbs 4 oz and was 19 inches long. Her maternal grandparents are Craig and Jo Nelson of Central City. Great grandparents are Richard Monnier of Raymond, NE, and Betty Nelson of Central City.

Augustus Wayne Stuhmer made his appearance on May 7, 2017, weighing in at 7 lbs 1 oz and measuring 19 3/4 inches long. He is the son of Travis ('94) & Kimberly Stuhmer of Polk. Big brothers are Grant, Chantz, and Stetson Stuhmer. Maternal grandparents are Ray and Flo Swick of Ava, MO, and great grandfather is Richard Monnier of Raymond, NE.



Joanna Stuhmer ('12) & Curtis Heuermann ('13)

Kerry and Janice Stuhmer of Central City are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Joanna, to Curtis Heuermann, son of Jody Heuermann of Archer, and Alan Heuermann.

Joanna is a 2012 graduate of Nebraska Christian High School and a 2017 graduate of Chadron State College. She is employed by the University of Nebraska as an Extension Assistant-NEP (Nutrition Education Program) in the West Central Extension District (Hall County).

Curtis is a 2013 graduate of Nebraska Christian High School and a 2017 graduate of Chadron State College. He is employed by Sengenta Seed Corn Company as a Field Manager at Phillips, NE.

An August 12, 2017, wedding ceremony is planned at Fort Hartsuff State Historical Park near Burwell, NE.



Skylar Ann Stuhmer daughter of Samuel ('07) & Stephanie Stuhmer

Samuel & Stephanie Stuhmer of Central City are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Skylar Ann Stuhmer. Skylar was born March 27, 2017. She weighed 6 lbs 4 oz and was 19 in long.

Memorial Gifts

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| For: Leona Armatys | John & Linda Rasmussen |
| From: Ed & Marilyn Ritta | Mary Reisinger |
| For: Vina Clancy | Don & Kayleen Riley |
| From: Don & Kayleen Riley | Bob & Susan Ritta |
| For: Gil Glad | Dorothy Ritta |
| From: Corinne Adelson | Ed & Marilyn Ritta |
| Jerry & Linda Beck | Eddra Ritta |
| Dorothy Burger | Mike & Kathy Ritta |
| Larry & Virginia Cooper | Frank & Joyce Rodriguez |
| Michael & Nancy Davenport | Mary Lou Sandell |
| Gary & Carol Deaville | Larry & Denise Schreiber |
| Gordon & Jewell Deichmann | Ken & Greta Swanson |
| Dave & Ruth Ferris | Ken & Judy Taylor |
| Bernice Grantham | Rick & Joyce Wolfenden |
| Keith & Jennifer Hauser | For: Lowell Keyes |
| Marcella Hauser | From: Anna Marie Moore |
| John Hauser | For: Pam Mesner |
| Gary & Cheryl Haussermann | From: Dorothy Ritta |
| Carolyn Knee | Eddra Ritta |
| Akiko Kobayashi | For: Carol Mieth |
| Mark & Judi McHargue | From: Dorothy Ritta |
| Anna Marie Moore | For: Bonnie Lou Owens |
| Rich & Sara Musgrave | From: Tod & Gayle Francl |
| Merlin and Shirley Nyberg | |

NC Almanac

May-June '07

- 27 seniors graduate. Ron Brown is the commencement speaker. Allison Griess ('07) and Luke Faeh ('07) are the class speakers.

May-June '97

- 23 seniors graduate. Rev. Wesley Weiss delivers the commencement address. Rebecca Kaiser ('97) is valedictorian, and Krista Kuhns ('97) is salutatorian.

- The board votes to add cross country for boys and girls in the fall.

May-June '87

- 26 seniors graduate. Jon Ruybalid ('77) is the commencement speaker. Daurice Pizzolato ('87) is valedictorian, and Mark Binder ('87) is salutatorian.

May-June '77

- 35 seniors graduate. Dr. Martin Stuck delivers the commencement address. Valedictorians are Phil Graber ('77) and Ruth Schmidt ('77), and Penny Grantham ('77) is salutatorian.

May-June '67

- 23 seniors graduate. Rev. Homer Mouttet is the commencement speaker. Milford Thieszen ('67) is valedictorian, and Robert Lee ('67) is salutatorian.

Now Accepting Applications for Enrollment for the 2017-2018 School Year!

Fill out an application by clicking the "Apply Now" button on the top right corner of our website, or call us at 308.946.3836 to ask questions or schedule a tour.



On May 13, 2017, 34 Nebraska Christian seniors marched down the aisle at their commencement ceremony. An hour later, they left the auditorium as graduates. To read more about the ceremony, see Josh Cumpston's article on page 1.

Wendy Nicole Bornmann is the daughter of Dan & Linda Bornmann. Her hometown is Dannebrog. She has attended NC for four years. Wendy credits NC with giving her a solid foundation for her faith, as well as introducing her to great friends. Wendy plans to attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) to study secondary education and theater.

Hailee Jo Broman of Central City is the daughter of Kevin & Christina Broman. She has attended NC for 6-3/4 years. Hailee says that NC feels like home, and her life is better because of it. She plans to establish and work full time in her own photography business.

Soyoung (Gladys) Choi is the

daughter of Daesung Choi & Hyunha Hong of South Korea. She says, "NC helped me to grow a lot spiritually and mentally, and it taught me how to study by myself." Gladys plans to attend college and travel to Africa with her father to do mission work.

Trang Minh Doan is the daughter of Binh Thanh Doan & Huong Thanh Luong. She is from Vietnam and has attended NC for three years. Trang's favorite NC memory is of snow days in the dorm. She plans to travel the world.

Jeremiah Michael Ebel of Columbus is the son of Michael & Fran Ebel. He has attended NC for four years. Jeremiah's favorite memory of NC is the overtime football win over Fullerton. Jeremiah is a member of the Nebraska Army National Guard, and he plans to attend college and go into law enforcement.

Jaydon Josiah Elge is the son of Terry & Kelly (Bokelman '81) Elge of Aurora. He has attended NC for

10 years. In addition to his mother and several aunts and uncles, Jaydon's siblings are also NC graduates: Meagan ('05), Shelby ('08), and Isaac ('12). Jaydon loves that attending NC gave him the opportunity to wrestle with his dad as his coach, and his favorite NC memory is when he and teammate Juan Lasso Velasco both medaled at the 2017 State Wrestling Tournament. Jaydon plans to attend South Dakota State University, where he will be on the wrestling team.

Katie Grace Entz of Ansley is the daughter of Darrel & Joyce Entz. She has attended NC for four years. She is grateful that she has been around people who love the Lord and encourage her in her faith while at NC. Katie plans to major in business at Grace University.

Marilla Donn Flynn of Palmer is the daughter of Mike & Dee Flynn. She has attended NC for 12 years, and she is the last of her siblings to graduate from NC: Mandy (Flynn)

Schweitzer graduated in 1995, Michael graduated in 1997, and Kaity graduated in 2006. Marilla's cousin Tommy is also a member of the NC Class of 2017. Marilla says, "I have grown up in a loving community that has taught me how to truly love God, myself, and others." Marilla plans to study vocal performance or musical theater at Grace University.

Thomas Kelly Flynn is the son of Kelly & Angie Flynn of Broken Bow. He has attended NC for five years, and his sister Zoe ('14) is also an NC graduate. His favorite NC memory is beating Fullerton in football 20-18 in overtime. He plans to join the workforce.

Xuanyi (Corina) Ge is the daughter of Hongyuan Ge & Hong Chang of Taiyuan, China. She has attended NC for three years. She especially enjoyed spending time in the dorm with friends, food, and WiFi. Corina plans to explore the world.

Yuzhen (Sophie) Guo of Taiyuan,

continued on pg. 7

2017 Graduates *continued from pg. 6*
China, is the daughter of Hai Guo & Ma Dong Mei. She has attended NC for 2-1/2 years. Sophie has especially enjoyed attending chapel each week and making friends in the dorm.

Emily Mikayla Halstead of Marquette (formerly of Topeka, Kansas) is the daughter of Timothy & Miriam Halstead. She has attended NC for one year. "Having the opportunity to attend chapel every week and then reflect on each chapel with my E-group has really been an encouragement. I really enjoy the opportunity to mentor younger students in an E-group setting and grow with them in our understanding of God's word," she says. Emily plans to earn a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and become a paralegal.

Jia Kun (Alex) Hao is the son of Zhiqiang Hao & Ji Qin Liu of Taiyuan, China. He has attended NC for four years. Alex's favorite NC memory is competing on the speech team. He plans to become a designer.

Dayna Marie James is the daughter of Chad ('90) & Ronda Jividen of Hordville. She has attended NC for one year. Dayna says, "Being at NC has allowed me to not only learn about academics, but also to learn about Christ and grow closer to Him." She plans to study nursing at Northeast Community College.

Minseong (Tom) Kang is the son of Dong Woon Kang & Seong Hye Kim of Suwon, Korea. Tom has attended NC for three years. He says that NC has helped him to build good friendships and gain sports skills. He looks forward to the day when he will become a father.

Juan Sebastian Lasso Velasco is originally from Bogota, Colombia, but now lives in Columbus. His parents are Luis Lasso & Liliana Velasco. Juan has attended NC for six years. He believes NC has opened many doors for his future. He will attend Duke University to study biomechanical engineering. "I want to become a biomechanical engineer who advances the biomedical field

with many different innovations while reaching the world to influence it for Christ," he says.

Yuejuan (Anna) Li is the daughter of Dezhi Li & Jianhua Huang of Taiyuan, China. She has attended NC for three years. Anna is grateful for the friendships she's formed at Nebraska Christian.

Desiree' Hanna Lutes of Grand Island is the daughter of Daryl ('74) & Jeanne Lutes. Many of Desiree's family members, including her father, brother Jeremy ('06), and several aunts and uncles, are also NC graduates. Desiree' has attended NC for four years. She is grateful for the godly friends and teachers she met while at NC. She plans to work and follow God's plan for her life.

Angela Karimi Mate of Nairobi, Kenya, is the daughter of Dismas & Mercy Mate. She attended NC for one year. Her favorite NC memory is the senior trip. She says being at NC taught her how to interact with people from all over the world. She is attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Taylor Lee Morris of Elba is the son of Troy & Jessica Morris. Taylor has attended NC for four years, and his sister Makenna ('14) is also an NC graduate. One of his favorite NC memories is sliding in the mud with the football team one day after a rainy practice. Taylor plans to work for his dad and eventually take over the family plumbing business.

Janie Rae Mousel of Central City is the daughter of Kirby Mousel and Linda Mousel. She has attended NC for four years. Janie says, "I wouldn't be where I am today if I had never attended this school. It has encouraged me to not just avoid doing wrong, but to look for ways to do good." She plans to study nursing.

Anh Quynh (Ann) Nguyen of Hanoi, Vietnam, is the daughter of Kien Nguyen & Hoa Pham. Ann has attended NC for one year. Her favorite memory of NC is the senior trip. She plans to attend college in the fall.

Giang Truong (G) Nguyen is the

son of Ha Hong Nguyen & Anh Phuong Pham of Hanoi, Vietnam. G has attended NC for two years. His favorite NC memory is senior trip.

Huy Nhat (Harry) Nguyen of Hanoi, Vietnam, is the son of Duong Tung Nguyen & Linh Mai Nguyen. He has attended NC for one year. Harry's favorite NC memory is the football game vs. High Plains where the team came back to win the game. He plans to attend UNL.

Khanh Tran Phan Nguyen is the son of Hong Ha Thi Phung of Hanoi, Vietnam. He has attended NC for one year. Khanh's favorite NC memory is the senior trip. He plans to get a degree from UNL and then return to Vietnam.

Cole Manuel Ruybalid of Central City is the son of Rod ('82) & Teri Ruybalid. His brother CJ graduated from NC in 2015. Cole has attended NC for seven years, and he credits his NC education for helping him gain confidence and grow in his relationship with the Lord. Cole plans to attend Central Community College and earn a media arts diploma.

Morgan Dale Schulze is the daughter of Timothy & Linda Schulze of Hordville. Morgan has attended NC for four years, and her brother Caleb ('11) is also an NC graduate. Morgan's favorite NC memory is getting up early on speech mornings and "being hilariously tired all day." Morgan credits NC with helping her learn about her faith and grow closer to Christ. She plans to major in family and consumer science education at Wayne State College.

Sarah Elizabeth Simmons of Marquette is the daughter of Andrew & Karrie Simmons. Sarah is the only member of the class of 2017 who attended NC from kindergarten through 12th grade. Her brother Jacob ('12) and sister Emily ('15) are also NC graduates. Sarah says that NC has taught her how to understand theology and stand firm for what she believes. She's also grateful for the friends she has made at

NC. Sarah plans to study business at Fort Hays State University.

Benjamin Gordon Stevens of Ord is the son of Daniel & Julie Stevens. He has attended NC for four years. His brother Danny and sister-in-law Rachel (McHargue) graduated from NC in 2014. Benny's favorite NC memory is playing football beside his brother Danny. He says, "NC has shaped my worldview and helped prepare me for the rest of my life." Benny plans to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Vu Long (Victor) Thai of Hanoi, Vietnam, is the son of Phong Van Thai & Huong Thu Nguyen. He has attended NC for one year. Victor's favorite NC memory is the senior trip. He plans to attend UNL.

Patricia Reagan Williams is the daughter of Wayne & Mechelle Williams of Central City. She has attended NC for 10 years. Reagan's favorite NC memory comes from grade school. "I ate all the erasers off the pencils, and [my brother] Spencer took the blame so I could go to recess!"

Minh Nhat Vu of Hai Phong, Vietnam, is the son of Lam Vu & Hien Bui. Minh has attended NC for two years. His favorite NC memory is the senior trip.

Andrew James Winsterman is the son of Denise Winsterman of Central City. He has attended NC for eight years. Andrew's siblings Abbi ('11) and Jacob ('13) are also NC graduates. Andrew says that NC has nurtured and challenged him to grow in his Christian walk. He plans to attend Hastings College, where he will play football and study business and construction management.

Wen-Ying (Grace) Wu of Kaohsiung, Taiwan, is the daughter of Tung-Ye Wu & Chia-Hui Huang. She has attended NC for 3-1/2 years, and she is grateful that NC has helped her to grow in Christ. Grace's favorite NC memory is the senior trip, and she would love to return to NC one day to teach Chinese.

Cumpston, continued from pg. 1

war that tore our country in half, leaving behind a devastating wake. Reconciliation and reconstruction of the country lasted years afterwards.

“But, as we look into this day and age, the same story is taking place. Our nation is divided. A society subsumed by falsehood and a forced inculcation into this culture is everywhere. But as believers we do not need to follow blindly to seek an obscure truth brought forth by men’s creation. Rather, we seek the truth held forth in the gospel. So I would like to thank everyone that has made an impact in our Christian walk for helping us grow in our faith and teaching us how to use discernment while others are blinded by false precepts.

“The hardest week for Navy Seal training is unbearable for a reason—to teach mental toughness, physical endurance, and much more. There are not many candidates who finish this week. The training is so rigorous; the instant gratification of leaving is extremely easy. Ring a bell and have a blanket brought to you while you

delight in coffee and donuts. The same is for our walk. It is hard to follow God’s word diligently, and the temptation to give in to the desires of this world is great. So I urge those who are now going out into this world from the shelter we have been given not to take this newfound time lightly, but to fastly hold onto the truth. Now looking to the future, there is becoming less and less time to fight the good fight. As Paul tells the church of Thessalonica in 1 Thessalonians 5:2, ‘For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night,’ and continues in 5:4 ‘But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.’”

Marilla Flynn

Hometown:
Palmer, Nebraska
Parents:
Mike and Dee Flynn
Future Plans:
Grace University

“NC has given me an excellent education. Although I came out with a good GPA and good test scores, I have

learned much more. The education and the curriculum brought me to a deeper level of understanding. Some of my teachers made me forget that I was even striving for a grade. Yes, I wanted good grades, and yes I wanted to do well on paper, but I was thirsty for the knowledge that they were imparting to us. I know I am not alone in these sentiments. Not only with academic knowledge, but with spiritual knowledge as well, we, as students, have been challenged to dissect and examine our everyday life and our spiritual lives. So we can become who God is calling us to be.

“We have seen many great times and successes during our years here at NC. But we have also seen and experienced many trials. Whether it is a crushing defeat, a botched final, a bad rating, or something entirely unrelated to school. We have learned many useful things, but sometimes, you do everything you can possibly do and you still fail. Thomas Jefferson said, ‘with great risk comes great reward.’ He wasn’t completely right. With great risk comes great failure, but this makes our successes even sweeter. When you fail, all you see is your failure, and it is easy to forget that God is sovereign and he is in control. Psalm 20: 7-9 says, ‘Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm. Lord, give victory to the king. Answer us when we call!’ And He does answer. God uses our trials to turn us into what He wants us to be—something more beautiful than we can imagine. Our class verse this year is: ‘But He knows the way that I take; when He has tried me, I shall come out as gold.’ Job 23:10. So take the job, start the ministry, start the business. Reach out to that person. Don’t shy away, and don’t talk yourself out of it. And expect failure. It will come, and it will be brutal. But just remember this quote by Richard David Bach; ‘What the caterpillar calls the end of the world the Master calls a butterfly.’”

Juan Lasso Velasco

Hometown:
Columbus, Nebraska
Parents:
Luis Lasso & Liliana Velasco
Future Plans:
Duke University

“It truly is difficult to summarize all the knowledge I have gained from this school. Yet, as I examine my years at NC and all I have learned in those years, one lesson, which I have learned personally, stands above the rest. This lesson is the importance and virtue of being firmly planted in the Truth. A group of verses that my parents have prayed over me all my life are the passages in Psalms 1. This section of scripture describes those who have been renewed by God. It speaks of the righteous as being like a tree, planted by streams of water, that bears its fruit in its season, and whose leaf shall not wither, and whatever he does prospers. We, like saplings, have been given the opportunity to dig in our roots, but the reality is that none will know if our roots will hold until the winds begin to beat upon us. For when our shelter is removed and the storm begins to rage, our very lives will hinge upon the hope that we will be firmly planted.

“A major reason that many of us have even survived up to this point is the fact that we have been kept in the shade. For the most part many of us have lived in relatively safeguarded environments. We have been fed the truth of God and His word by mouth and are expected to find some way of involving Christ in our lives whenever the question arises. We have been exposed to the world and its evil to some degree. A scorch here, a breeze there, but nothing that truly jeopardized or challenged the essence of our faith. There are a few of us that have gone through experiences that have rocked us to our core, but only a few. This leaves us in a state in which we can only anticipate what it will be like when the hurricane comes.

continued on pg. 9

Scenes of Graduation



Left: Commencement speaker Marc Bauer, assistant professor and former head wrestling coach at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, addresses the crowd.

Below: Board Chairman Paul McHargue ('88) presents Taylor Morris with his diploma.



Cumpston, continued from pg. 8

“The storms that are ahead are numerous and diverse. From the deluge of ideologies to the heavy winds of temptation, there is no weakness one can hide when he is out in the open. All areas are hit by a multitude of forces that sweep across the nation and the world. Many have claimed to leave the faith under the scorching heat of the college environment, many have renounced their belief with the erosion of fear, many have fallen prey to the pull of the flesh that gradually increases in strength until the growing plant is uprooted.

“These great multitudes have fallen for the very same reason: they convinced themselves that their roots were deep enough. For years now we have been told the same truth countless times, and to each of those times many of us have responded the same way: with a thought that fades with the passing of only a few days. This repetition has been done only so that the truth is engraved within us. The entire reason we are even here is not so that we only think, but that we also act. For if standing firm above the ground is of little importance to us, then rest assured that we will not remain standing for very long.

“In light of all this, I hope that all of you are not dismayed, but are encouraged to ready yourselves. My prayer, for the student body and myself, is that we soak in the nutrients of truth that we have been given. That we listen with attentiveness to what our God tells us through His word, and that we grow deeper in our faith so that we can bear fruit. For the only saplings that remain standing are the ones that are planted and raised by God.”

Isn't it great to read the thoughts of young adults as they get ready to tackle the world? I am excited to see where God leads the entire senior class, as well as other recent alumni. Please keep all of them in your prayers.

Student Achievement Awards

Shield Award Winners
Katie Entz, Andrew Winsterman, and Benny Stevens.



Goldenrod All-Conference Academic Team.
Row 1: Marilla Flynn, Emily Halstead, Jaydon Elge, Juan Lasso Velasco. Row 2: Alex Hao, Grace Wu, Morgan Schulze, Benny Stevens.



Perfect Attendance:
Halle Strong, Baron Bai, Michelle Huang, Alex Hao, Barry Zhang



Spring Academic All-State Recipients: Juan Lasso Velasco, music; Benny Stevens, boys track; Andrew Winsterman, boys track; Olivia Prettyman, girls track; Emily Halstead, girls track; Marilla Flynn, music.



Save the date for Homecoming, October 6-7, 2017!

Cookout & Football vs High Plains on Friday — Renewed Strength 5K on Saturday
More information to follow!

To request info about reunions or to plan a reunion, contact Stephani Francl at sfrancl@nebraskachristian.org.



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Field Trip Fun

Elementary students spent a day in Lincoln in early May. They visited the Lincoln Children's Zoo and the State Capitol. L to R: Trev McHargue, Dallas Reyes, Alyza Leonard, Ali Williams, Kaley Krug, Emily Perry.



Front: Olivia Prettyman, Grace Langemeier, Laura Carlson. Back: Noah Boersen, Sam Twogood, Andrew Winsterman, Jon Dockweiler, Ryan Dexter.

Winsterman Wins State Track Medal

Eight Nebraska Christian students qualified eight entries to the State Track Meet, which was held in Omaha May 19-20. Of the qualifiers, senior Andrew Winsterman was the only one to bring home a medal, placing 5th in the 200 meter dash.

State Qualifying Entries

- 200 meter dash & 400 meter dash: Andrew Winsterman
- 3200 meter relay: Ryan Dexter, Sam Twogood, Jon Dockweiler, Noah Boersen
- Pole vault: Laura Carlson
- Long jump: Grace Langemeier
- High jump, 800 meter run, 1600 meter run: Olivia Prettyman

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