



# nc advance

nebraska christian schools — building lives for eternity

## In His Grip

by Dan Woods, Administrator



This year we have been challenging our young men and women to carefully examine what it means to be a godly man and a virtuous woman. The characteristics of godly manhood and virtuous womanhood have been studied in classes such as Men of Vision and Family and Consumer Science.

In our postmodern culture, the word “virtuous” seems outdated or ancient. The characteristics of a virtuous woman according to God’s Word are completely opposite of the values portrayed in today’s secular media.

Charles Bridges wrote this in the mid-1800’s regarding the virtuous woman:

So rare is this treasure that the challenge is given: who can find a virtuous woman? (Prov. 20:6) Abraham sent to a distant land for this inestimable blessing for his beloved son (Gen. 24:3,4). Perhaps one reason of the rarity of the gift is that it is so seldom sought. Too often is the search made for accom-

*continued on pg. 2*

*The Senior Class of Nebraska Christian Schools announces its commencement exercises on Saturday, May 16, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in the gymnasium.*

## Speech Season Culminates in State Medals

The speech team wrapped up a successful season with strong showings at the conference, district and state meets. The team placed second in the conference, receiving the runner-up plaque. At districts a week later, the team again placed second, and nine students qualified for the state competition. At the state competition on March 20, the duet placed fifth, the OID placed fourth, and the team came in ninth.

Head Coach Becky Ritta attributed the team’s success to hard work, upperclassmen on the team, and the difficult regular season schedule. “We compete against Class A and B schools throughout the season [NC’s class is D1]; if our students want to be competitive in that setting, they



**Above:** 2009 State Speech Qualifiers. Left to right: Kiel Hansen, Audra Faeh, Stephanie Ritta, Abbie Krug, Shannon Rodehorst, Janelle Bailey, Levi Landrigan, Janae Landrigan, Darren Holzinger.

must really push themselves. Then, when we get to conference and district, they’re already used to competing at a high level.”

*Conference & District Speech Results, pg. 2*

## The Friendship Mutiny



**Above (left to right):** Emily Simmons as Captain Fiendly, Cassidy Ostrand as Vanity Feline and Whitney Heuermann as Big Sty.

The Nebraska Christian Elementary students presented a Patch the Pirate musical adventure on March 20 and 21. This year’s adventure, *The Friendship Mutiny*, focused on choosing the right kind of friends. The students worked very hard and did an excellent job each evening to the delight of large crowds! The main characters were: Patch (Jerod Prettyman), Captain Fiendly (Emily Simmons), Vanity Feline (Cassidy Ostrand), Big Sty (Whitney Heuermann), Peanut (Alyssa Prettyman), Pixie (Christina Bailey), and Pee-Wee (Hannah Mead).

Following each evening’s performance, the Parent Teacher Fellowship hosted a pie social.

## Johnson, Elge Qualify for State Wrestling



**Above:** State Wrestling qualifiers Ray Johnson (top) and Isaac Elge.

Two Nebraska Christian wrestlers ended their season with appearances at the State Wrestling Tournament in Omaha. Capping a winning season, senior Ray Johnson placed 6th in the 215-pound division in Class D. Johnson wrestled all four years of high school, but

this season was his first in the 215-pound weight class. Isaac Elge, a freshman 112-pound wrestler, also qualified for the state tournament. While only two wrestlers qualified for the state tournament, the team as a whole had a successful season, including a third place finish at the Elgin Tournament.

# nc advance

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Dan Woods, *Administrator*

Becky Ritta ('99), *Editor*

Beth Ritta ('98), *Layout & Design*

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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.

## NC Board of Directors:

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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.

## Conference & District Speech Results

### Conference Results:

*OID (Oral Interpretation of Drama):*

Janelle Bailey, Audra Faeh, Darren Holzinger, Abbie Krug & Shannon Rodehorst (2nd)

*Duet:* Janae Landrigan & Levi Landrigan (2nd)

*Entertainment:* Kiel Hansen (1st); Darren Holzinger (2nd)

*Humorous Prose:* Kiel Hansen (2nd); Shannon Rodehorst (3rd)

*Poetry:* Kris Hoehn (4th); Jessica Bailey (5th)

*Persuasive:* Jessica Bailey (4th); Rebecca Woods (5th)

*Serious Prose:* Stephanie Ritta (5th); Rebekah Poeffel

*Extemporaneous:* Levi Landrigan (5th), Cheri Garwood

### District Results:

(State Qualifiers noted with \*)

*OID:* Janelle Bailey\*, Audra Faeh\*, Darren Holzinger\*, Abbie Krug\* & Shannon Rodehorst\* (1st)

*Duet:* Janae Landrigan\* & Levi Landrigan\* (3rd)

*Entertainment:* Kiel Hansen\* (2nd); Darren Holzinger (6th)

*Humorous Prose:* Kiel Hansen (4th); Shannon Rodehorst (5th)

*Poetry:* Abbie Krug (4th); Kris Hoehn

*Persuasive:* Jessica Bailey (4th); Rebecca Woods (6th)

*Serious Prose:* Stephanie Ritta\* (3rd); Rebekah Poeffel

*Extemporaneous:* Cheri Garwood (4th); Levi Landrigan (5th)

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



**Not to us, O Lord,  
not to us but to  
your name be the  
glory, because  
of your love and  
faithfulness.**

Thus begins the psalmist in Psalm 115. We have seen the truth of this at Nebraska Christian Schools. The most recent example is our benefit auction. Our auctioneer had told us to expect a fifteen to thirty percent decline in sales. God gave us an auction that did better than last year.

**Why do the nations say, "Where is their God?"**

The psalmist asks this as a rhetorical question, but there is a legitimate answer. When we trust in something or someone else, acting as if our God does not exist, why shouldn't the nations ask, "Where is their God?"

**Our God is in heaven: he does whatever pleases him.**

To be sure, we have a list of priorities we believe are important for Nebraska Christian Schools. At the top of the list is the completion of a sewer line connecting this campus to the Central City sewer system.

Not far down the list is replacing an aging bus. What actually gets done will be whatever pleases our God. Pray that we will align ourselves with His will.

**Trust in the Lord – he is their help and shield.**

After explaining that idols are useless and that trusting in them will make us useless as well, the psalmist repeats this command three times. Please pray with us that we will trust God to do exactly what he thinks is best for Nebraska Christian Schools.

**The Lord remembers us and will bless us... He will bless those who fear the Lord – small and great alike.**

It is not a question of the Lord remembering or blessing; it is a question of our fearing Him. Pray that He will reveal himself to us in order that we might fear Him.

**May the Lord make you increase, both you and your children. May you be blessed by the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.**

The psalmist says it so much more eloquently than I do. Until next time, may the Lord bless you and yours.

**...it is we who extol the Lord both now and forevermore. Praise the Lord.**

## Calendar of Events\*

### MAY

- 8 Junior/Senior Banquet
- 13 District Track Meet  
*Osceola*
- 13 Awards Chapel, 9:00 AM  
Senior Class Night, 7:00 PM
- 14 Graduation, 2:00 PM
- 19 8th Grade Graduation, 6:30 PM
- 21 Last Day of School  
*School Dismissed at 11:30 AM*
- 22-23 State Track Meet  
*Omaha Burke High School*

### JULY

- 17-18 Class of '99 Reunion

### SEPTEMBER

- 18 Homecoming
- 18-19 Class of '68 & '69 Reunion

### DECEMBER

- 18 Festival of Lessons & Carols  
7:00 PM

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

## In His Grip continued from pg. 1

plishments, not for virtues; for external and adventitious recommendations, rather than for internal godly worth.

In the Men of Vision class, Mr. Ziegler's challenge to the young men has been to peer deeply into God's Word in order to understand what it means to be a godly man.

Charles Spurgeon wrote, "God knows what godliness is, for He created it, He sustains it, He is pledged to perfect it, and His delight is in it...Therefore be not afraid to possess this peculiar character, for though it is misunderstood on earth, it is well understood in heaven."

It is my prayer is that our students will desire to become godly men and virtuous women – men and women who will desire to do that which is good.

Thanks for partnering with us as we train the next generation.

**TRUTH IN FOCUS**  
*thinkingbiblically.org*

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

## NC Senior is Nebraska's Voice of Democracy



Senior Jessica Bailey, daughter of Robert & Lisa Bailey of Grand Island, was recently selected as the Nebraska

state winner of the Voice of Democracy competition. She was sponsored by VFW Post and Auxiliary 1347 of Grand Island. After winning the local competition, Bailey advanced to the District II competition in St. Paul and then competed against 10

other district winners before being named state winner. In April, Bailey traveled to Washington, D.C., where she competed with other state winners for the national prize of a \$30,000 college scholarship.

Entrants in the competition wrote original speeches on the topic "How the service and sacrifice by America's veterans benefits today's youth." Bailey wrote about her grandfather, a World War II and Korean War veteran, and the effect his funeral had on her.

## Griess, Murphy Receive Conference Basketball Awards

Elizabeth Griess, daughter of Loren & Susan Griess of Sutton, has been selected to the Goldenrod Conference All Conference 1st Team. Emily Murphy, daughter of Chuck & Trish Murphy of Stromsburg, received Honorable Mention honors.

Griess averaged 14.3 points and 10 rebounds per game. She had 53 blocked shots for the season and made 51 percent of her shots from the floor. In her

career, she had 878 points and 758 rebounds, ranking her second in all-time points and first in all-time rebounds. She also is first in season rebounds.

Murphy only played in 12 games before being sidelined by an ACL tear. In those 12 games, she averaged 8.9 points and 7.6 rebounds per game. She finished her career as NC's 3rd leading scorer and 3rd leading rebounder.

## Ferris Receives Speech Award



Ruth Ferris, Nebraska Christian's assistant speech coach, received the prestigious Central Nebraska Forensics

League (CNFL) Director of the Year award at the CNFL-2 speech meet on January 31. This award is voted on by speech coaches from more than 30 CNFL member schools. Mrs. Ferris has been involved with Nebraska Christian speech since the 1990's. She began as a volunteer assistant coach and judge, became the head coach in 2000, and has been the assistant coach for the past five years. Ferris has coached several state champions, and her 2001 team was the class D-1 state runner-up. She is also a highly respected speech judge who often judges at the state competition. The NC speech team is truly blessed to have her!

## Rodehorst Selected as Boys' State Representative



Junior Shannon Rodehorst, son of Randy & Shelly Rodehorst of Kearney, has been selected as a representative to Cornhusker Boys' State. He is sponsored by Lone Tree City American Legion, Post #6, Central City. Rodehorst, who is in his third year at Nebraska Christian, is involved in speech, drama, and student government, and is a state speech medalist. He has been an AWANA leader for three years and is an Eagle Scout. Rodehorst will attend Boys' State at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln city campus from May 31 – June 6, 2009. He will join over 400 other Nebraska students who are participating in this unique citizenship training program.

Our website has recently been redesigned! Check it out at [www.nebraskachristian.org](http://www.nebraskachristian.org)

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



It is with grateful hearts that we praise God for another very successful Dinner and Benefit Auction.

The Scholarship Auction brought in nearly \$80,000, and the Silent and Live Auctions brought in more than they had in the past. The combined total for the Scholarship, Silent and Live Auctions is \$140,000! This blessing, despite tough economic times, tells us that God wants to bless NC and have us continue building lives for eternity.

The financial blessing is only a part of the benefit to Nebraska Christian from this event. Many new relationships were built through contact with businesses and people who donated and attended. Over 100 people attended the dinner who have never attended before. We have heard lots of comments that folks enjoyed the evening

very much and want to come again next year.

Over 500 items were offered for silent and live bidding. The top selling items were the dinner and private tour of the Governor's Residence for a party of eight that sold for \$5,100, the honorary pit crew experience from Kyle Berck Motorsports that sold for \$5,000, and the off-road racing experiences offered by Strobel Motorsports that sold for \$4,600. Other items of special interest were the grandfather clock made by Deverle Cooper and the pinwheel design quilt made by Marilyn Heins.

Because of the willingness of many volunteers, the evening went very smoothly. Nearly



100 people were hard at work on Saturday evening. From the student servers to the behind-the-scenes kitchen help, the clerks, the stage assistants, the hors d'oeuvres servers, the valet

parkers, the orchestra, and so many more, everyone worked together to make this a successful fundraiser.

**Above:** Auctioneer Scott Wall encourages the audience to bid during the Live Auction.

**Right:** Many junior and senior high students worked as servers during the banquet.



# Class of 2009

**Jessica Ilene Bailey** is the second child in her family to graduate from Nebraska Christian; her sister Katie graduated in 2008. Her parents are Robert & Lisa Bailey of Grand Island. Jessica has attended NC for all four years of high school, and her favorite memory of that time is all the snow days! Jessica's favorite verse is Isaiah 12:2. These verses remind her that her strength and joy lie in God and not in her circumstances.

**Caleb James Coleman** of Central City has spent five years at Nebraska Christian. His parents are Gordon ('81) & Melinda Coleman. Caleb became a Christian while attending NC, and his favorite Bible passage is Psalm 39. "It is what I aspire my conduct to be modeled after," he says. Next year, Caleb plans to attend Barclay College in Kansas; he would eventually like to transfer to a school on the East Coast and major in art. Many of Caleb's relatives have graduated from NC, including several aunts, uncles, and cousins, as well as his brother Tim ('06).

**Jessica LaRae Dexter** from Burwell is the daughter of Zane ('85)

& Kathy Dexter. Jessica transferred to NC for her senior year, and she has especially enjoyed being friends with the international students. Her favorite verses are Matthew 7:13-14, and she plans to attend the University of Nebraska at Kearney next year. Jessica says that NC has impacted her life because of what she has learned and how she has grown spiritually.

**Audra Jean Faeh** has attended NC for five years. Her parents are Andy ('81) & Lori Faeh of Marquette. Her older brother Luke graduated from NC in 2007. Audra's favorite memory is her senior year of volleyball. She says that being at NC has challenged her to really think through what she believes and has given her the knowledge she needs to be able to defend her faith. Her favorite verse is 2 Corinthians 12:9: "It reminds me that when I'm weak, God can use me even more for His purposes."

**Cheri Nicole Garwood** of Atkinson has spent four years at Nebraska Christian. Her parents, Arden ('79) & Lynn (Peterson '79), and older

**Above: Nebraska Christian Class of 2009.** Front: Karrah Miller, Jessica Bailey, Stephanie Ritta, Cheri Garwood, Shinri Uemura, Danielle Richards, Elizabeth Griess, Lacy Tonniges, Audra Faeh, Rebecca Woods, Kensy Kaelin. Middle: Kenneth Go, Kore Lee Hoehn, Cas Luong, Darren Holzinger. Back: Braden Swanson, Kiel Hansen, Zach Troester, Wes Kembel, Casey Rose, Jae Kim, Ray Johnson, Ben Thiessen, Caleb Coleman, An Tran, Chansoo Park. (Not pictured: Jessica Dexter, Emily Murphy.)

sister, Kelli ('06), are also NC graduates. Cheri plans to attend college next year, majoring in English education and minoring in journalism. While at NC, Cheri has learned to truly appreciate her relationship with Christ. "I realized that being a casual Christian is not enough; I must live out my faith on a day-by-day basis," she says. Her favorite verse is Psalm 46:10 because it reminds her that God always has everything under control. Cheri has many fond memories of her time at NC; she especially appreciates Mrs. Uhler's storytimes in accounting and the late night talks she had with her sophomore year roommate, Shan Yu ('07).

**Koung Hwan (Kenneth) Go** is from Bu-an, South Korea. His parents are Young Sung Go & Jang Ok Lee. He has attended Nebraska Christian for one and a half years. His favorite memories at NC come from the trips the international students take each year. Kenneth's favorite verse

is John 13:34 because it is the first Bible verse he ever saw. Next year, he plans to attend college.

**Elizabeth Anne Griess** from Sutton is the daughter of Loren & Susan Griess. She has attended NC since her freshman year. Her sisters Emily ('05) and Allison ('07) are also NC grads. Elizabeth's favorite NC memories are the home volleyball games. Her favorite verse is Psalm 46:10 because it comforts her during tough times. She is thankful for her time at Nebraska Christian because it has made her aware of issues going on in the world, and she has learned how to deal with them.

**Kiel Dean Hansen** has attended NC for four years. He is from Central City, and his parents are Don & Renee Hansen. Kiel's favorite verse is Zephaniah 3:17. He says it reminds him of God's true love for him. Being at Nebraska Christian has helped Kiel become closer to Christ and have a better understanding of who He is.

**Kore Lee Kristopher Hoehn** of Central City has attended NC for five and a half years. His parents are Robert & Deb Hoehn. He plans to attend Central Community College next year, then transfer to a four-year college and eventually become a pastor or missionary. Kore Lee says NC has challenged him physically and spiritually: "From thought-provoking classes and chapels to gut-busting wrestling practice, I feel like I have been refined through the fire." One of his favorite memories is the long spiritual discussions he had with (former boys' dorm parent) Mr. Cronk. Kore Lee's favorite Bible passage is Psalm 23 because it reminds him to put his faith in God day after day.

**Darren Joseph Holzinger** has attended NC since his freshman year. He is from Grand Island, where he lives with his parents, Darrell & Annette. Darren plans to attend Central Community College-Grand Island next year. His favorite memories of NC come from track season, when he would "chillax" with other team members in the track tent. His favorite verse is Jeremiah 29:11 because it reminds him that "no matter what trials I may face, God's plan will remain unchanged."

**Raymond Russell Johnson** of Phillips has attended NC for four years. His parents are Russ & Marna Johnson. Ray plans to study criminal justice in college and then join the police force. His favorite NC memory is qualifying for state wrestling his senior year and then placing sixth in the tournament. Ray loves Philippians 4:13 because it reminds him that when persecution comes, God will be with him.

**Kensy Lynn Kaelin**, daughter of Ken & Jamie Kaelin of LaVista, has attended Nebraska Christian for two years. Kensy appreciates the friendships she has built at NC, and she especially enjoyed becoming closer to her classmates on the senior retreat.

Kensy's favorite verses are 1 Peter 3:3-4. "They remind me that outward appearance is not what matters most to the Lord, but having a gentle and quiet spirit is important to Him."

**Wesley Randal Kembel** of Aurora is the son of Randy Kembel and Rhonda Johnson. Wes has spent five years at NC. Next year, he plans to attend Grace University in Omaha. Wes is grateful for all the biblical teaching he has received at Nebraska Christian. His favorite verses are James 4:7-8 because they "tell us to draw near to God even though we've sinned and don't deserve Him."

**Jae-Hyun Kim** is in his second year at Nebraska Christian. He is from Busan, South Korea, and his parents are Eun-Churl Kim & Youg-In Kwon. Jae especially enjoyed the Washington, D.C. trip last year. He plans to become a pilot one day. Philippians 4:6-7 are his favorite verses.

**Trung Anh (Cas) Luong** is from Hanoi, Vietnam. He is the son of Dzung Luong & Hai Le. This is his first year at Nebraska Christian, and he has especially enjoyed living in the dorm. Cas is thankful for his time at NC because it has taught him about God. His favorite verse is Proverbs 1:7. In the future, Cas plans to become an accountant.

**Karrah Nicole Miller** of Aurora is the daughter of Ray & Sheila Miller. She is the second child in her family to graduate from Nebraska Christian; sister Ashley graduated in 2006. Karrah has attended NC for four years, and she is grateful for the friends she has made, saying they have helped her grow in her faith. Her favorite verses are Proverbs 3:5-6. She says, "These verses are a constant reminder that I cannot do anything on my own; I need my Savior. I will always be happier when I am walking in God's will."

**Emily Kristine Murphy** is in her fourth year at Nebraska Christian. Her parents are Chuck & Trish Murphy of Stromsburg. Emily's sisters

Charlene Friesen ('04) and Holly ('06) are also NC graduates. Emily plans to go to cosmetology school, and she hopes to one day work in a salon with her oldest sister. Her favorite NC memory is from Superhero Day her freshman year. The freshmen were golfing, and Emily, dressed as a Powerpuff Girl, raced Caleb Coleman, who was dressed as the Grim Reaper. (Emily won.) Emily believes that her NC education has impacted her life in ways she does not even realize. Because of the education she received here, she feels prepared to recognize the enemy and defend herself against him. Her favorite verse is Galatians 2:20.

**Chansoo Park** is from Bundang, South Korea, and he attended NC for his junior and senior years. His parents are Kyung-suh Park & Hokyung Lee. Chansoo says that while he called himself a Christian before coming to NC, he did not live a Christian life. While here, he learned what it means to be a Christian. His favorite verse is Proverbs 1:7 because it tells him why he should listen to instruction. Chansoo especially enjoyed the trips the international students took to Branson and Kansas City, Missouri.

**Danielle Renee Richards** from Central City is the daughter of Bill Richards and Arlene Richards. She has attended NC since her freshman year. She is thankful for the education she has received at NC because it has given her a Christian worldview. Her favorite verses are Psalm 139:8-10 because they show "God's constant existence, even outside of space and time, and they reassure us that He will always be there for us." Danielle plans to attend Dordt College next year.

**Stephanie Joy Ritta** is the only senior who has attended Nebraska Christian since kindergarten. Her parents are Robert ('69) & Susan Ritta of Central City, and her siblings Becky ('99), Andrew ('02),

and Valerie ('05) are all NC grads, as well as several of her aunts, uncles, and cousins. Stephanie fondly remembers Miss Charissa Smith ('94) reading to her class in the afternoons during fifth and sixth grade. While at NC, Stephanie has seen first-hand what it means to "love God wholeheartedly and to live for Him in all areas of life." Her favorite verses are Romans 8:38-39 because they tell us that nothing can separate us from God's love. Stephanie plans to attend college next year and might become a teacher.

**Casey Lee Rose** from Aurora is the son of Ron & Jo Rose. He has attended NC for three and a half years. Casey's brother Kirk ('07) is also an NC graduate. Casey's favorite memory from his time at NC is winning the last football game his senior year. While at NC, Casey says he has made his faith his own. He plans to attend college next year, but he is not yet sure where. His favorite verses are Proverbs 3:5-6.

**Braden Douglas Swanson** will be the first in his immediate family to graduate from Nebraska Christian, though several of his cousins are alumni. Braden is from Aurora, and his parents are Doug & Karen Swanson. He has attended NC for all of junior high and high school, and he is thankful for his time here, as it has helped him make his faith his own. Braden's favorite verses are Ephesians 2:8-9 because they show us that "we can do nothing to save ourselves. Jesus is the only way."

**Benjamin Ty Thiessen** has attended Nebraska Christian for three years. His parents are Bruce & Melody Thiessen of Grand Island. Ben has especially enjoyed the Bible classes and chapel services at NC. His favorite memory is playing speedball in weightlifting class. Next year, Ben plans to attend Grace University in Omaha. His favorite verses are James 1:2-3 because they "affirm the im-

*continued on pg. 6*

## NCS Foundation – The First Year

by Jody Heuermann, NCS Foundation Executive Director

The Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation has been in existence for nearly a year now, and we have seen God's hand of blessing in many ways. During the year, the board has developed a mission statement and motto, along with setting up parameters, guidelines and a vision for the future of the Foundation. We have brainstormed ideas for reaching out to possible donors through personal visits, mailings, and phone calls.

The following endowment areas have now been funded:

- General Operating Budget - \$2,375
- Student Scholarships - \$10,635
- Teacher Salaries - \$1,250
- Where needed most - \$50

**Class of 2009** *continued from pg. 5*

portance of trials.”

**Lacy Rae Tonniges** from Duncan is the daughter of Duane & Linda Tonniges. Her brothers Grant ('04) and Jake ('06) are also NC graduates. Lacy has attended NC for four years, and her favorite memory is playing basketball her freshman year. Lacy's favorite verses are 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 because they remind her that even when life is hard, God promises that he will never leave her alone.

**An Tuan Tran** is the son of Tuan Tran & Phuong Nguyen of Hanoi, Vietnam. He has attended NC for one and a half years. An is a classical guitarist, and he hopes to one day be a guitar teacher. His favorite NC memory is playing guitar at the 2008 Festival of Lessons & Carols. An's favorite verses are Proverbs 1:7-8 because they are the first verses he read and understood. While at NC, An says he learned the truth, and the truth changed his life.

**Zachary Adam Troester** joined the NC student body in the eighth grade. His parents are Kurt & Nancy Troester of Hampton. Zach has especially appreciated his Bible classes at NC. “[They] have impacted me most

- General Endowment - \$10,100
- Festival of Lessons & Carols - \$1,000
- Capital Improvements - \$50,000 (for music, science, and elementary; transportation and maintenance equipment)

There are many other endowment areas available. Feel free to contact me to discuss your area of interest.

I welcome any opportunities to share our vision for the Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation at civic organizations or other groups. We want as many as possible to know that by investing in the Foundation they will be “leaving a legacy that builds lives for eternity.”

because they have shown me how to witness to people, what the Bible says about big issues going on in the world, and how to properly interpret Scripture.” Zach's favorite verses are Proverbs 3:5-6, and he plans to attend Grace University next fall.

**Shinri Uemura**, from Osaka, Japan, has attended Nebraska Christian for two years. Shinri's parents are Sute-mi Umemoto & Yoshimi Uemura. In the future, she hopes to become a flight attendant and get married. Shinri's favorite NC memories are the DC trip and all the international trips. She says that being at NC has helped her learn to study more. Deuteronomy 5:8 is Shinri's favorite verse because it tells us to love God “with all you've got!”

**Rebecca Ann Woods**, daughter of Daniel & Kimmarie Woods, is from Central City. She has attended NC for four years, and her sister Danica (Woods '06) Marble is also an NC alum. Rebecca's favorite verses are 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. She says those verses “remind me of the sufficiency of Christ and that I can trust in His power to strengthen me.” Her favorite NC memory is eating popsicles after cross country practices.

## Deichmann Wins County Spelling Bee



Eighth grader Kimberly Deichmann, daughter of Dave & Becky Deichmann of Central City, won the Merrick County Spelling Bee in February. She went on to compete in the regional contest in Omaha on March 14. Deichmann has competed in the Merrick County Spelling Bee for four years and has advanced to the oral round each time.



Above (clockwise from top): Fifth and sixth grade boys Dillon Rose, Shane Myers, Jarod Prettyman, Ethan Unruh, Andrew Sack.

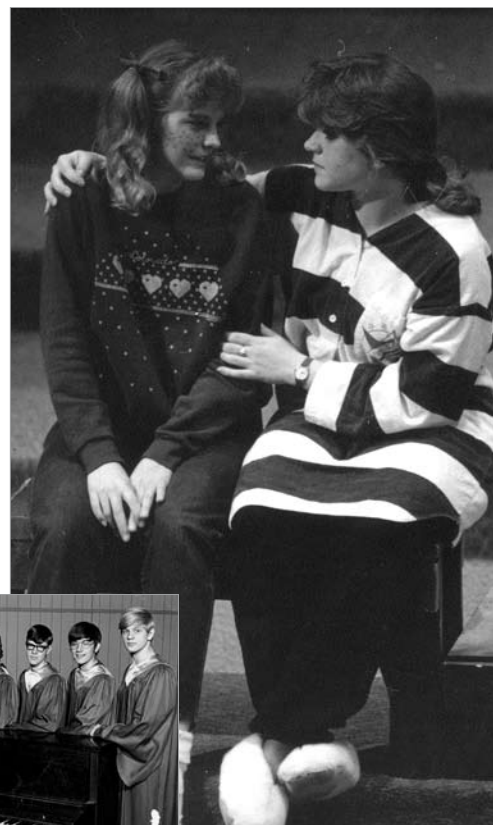
send address changes to  
[advance@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:advance@nebraskachristian.org)

## NC Flashback

Can you identify these late 80's NC drama team members (photo at right) who are performing Frank Peretti's “Tilly”? E-mail your guesses to [advance@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:advance@nebraskachristian.org).

**From the last issue (below):** Congratulations to Arlene (Mieth '75) Penner, whose name was drawn out of all the correct submissions. She will receive an NC baseball cap. From left to right: Mr. Ken Liebelt, Tim Rollo-gas ('73), Stan Buller ('74), Daryl Lutes ('74), Vincent Ressel ('73), Phil Binder ('73), Norman Mieth ('73), Dave Anderson ('74), and (seated) Dana Osmanson ('73).

*Special thanks to Ed Ritta ('73) for identifying the members of the group so we could use the photo in the last issue.*



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

Check out the Nebraska Christian Alumni Website at <http://www.alumni-class.com/nebraskachristian>

Also check out the NC Alumni Facebook group: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=25989872393>

# Alumni News



**Jack Aaron Tucker**  
son of Daniel & Lanea (Garwood '01) Tucker

Daniel & Lanea Tucker announce the birth of Jack Aaron Tucker on February 15, 2009. Jack weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz., and was 20 inches long. He is welcomed by his big brother Owen (age 2).



**Shauna Eileen Stull**  
daughter of Chad & Shellie (Creutzberg '99) Stull

Chad & Shellie Stull are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Shauna Eileen. Shauna was born at 12:59 a.m. on Dec. 3, 2008. She weighed 8 lbs., 2 oz., and was 20 1/2 inches long. Shauna joins big brothers Garrett (age 5) and Dalton (age 3).



**Acácia Bella & Eliana Carina Schuh**  
daughters of Trevor & Sarah (Buller '01) Schuh

Trevor and Sarah Schuh announce the births of their two daughters, Acácia Bella and Eliana Carina. Acácia was born on March 10, 2007, and Eliana was born on December 25, 2008. The Schuhs currently reside in Stowe, Ohio, and are raising support for their first assignment with Wycliffe Bible Translators.

## Memorial Gifts

- For: Velma Arnold
- From: Mr. & Mrs. Gene Lavelle
- For: Ronald Belitz
- From: Gil & Dorothy Glad
- For: Dorothy Channer
- From: Mark & Angela Gustafson
- Aaron & Mary Reisinger
- Steen & Rogene Stone
- For: Sharon Cook
- From: Leona & Rebecca Sharman
- For: Astrid Erickson
- From: Gil & Dorothy Glad
- For: Ayvah Flynn
- From: Mark & Angela Gustafson
- Donn & Carolyn Russell
- Steen & Rogene Stone
- For: Paul Hansen
- From: Deryl & Linda Peterson
- For: Donald A. J. Meyer
- From: Steen & Rogene Stone
- For: Naomi Samuelson
- From: Aaron & Mary Reisinger
- For: Kent Sandell
- From: Gil & Dorothy Glad
- For: Bob Willits
- From: Gil & Dorothy Glad
- For: Don & Bethel Cunningham's  
65th Wedding Anniversary
- From: Joyce Glynn



**Andrew ('02) & Susan Ritta**

Susan Jean Eisenhauer, daughter of Lyle & Pam Eisenhauer and Dale & Kathy Johnson, and Andrew Wayne Ritta, son of Robert ('69) & Susan Ritta, were united in marriage on April 25, 2009, at St. John Lutheran Church in Sterling, Neb. The couple resides in Lincoln where Susan works for Cabela's World's Foremost Bank and Andrew attends the University of Nebraska College of Law.

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**Card Shower:** The family of Royce Jordan is requesting a card shower in honor of his 80th birthday which was March 25.  
Send cards to 85074 Falcon Ave., Burwell, NE 68823.

**see what's happening online at [www.nebraska.christian.org](http://www.nebraska.christian.org)**

# NC Almanac

## 10 years ago ('99)

- The largest class in NC history graduates with 41 members. Valedictorian Melody Johnson ('99), salutatorian Becky Ritta ('99), and former administrator Rich Musgrave deliver commencement addresses.
- Jeff ('88) & Daurice (Pizzolato '87) Hower receive the Alumni of the Year award at the Advance Dinner.

## 20 years ago ('89)

- Mr. & Mrs. Erceil Sellers are inducted into the Hall of Faith.
- Judy Garwood ('65) receives the first Alumnus of the Year award.
- The class of 1989 graduates with 20 members. Joanna Schmidt ('89) is valedictorian, and Dorothy Jordan ('89) and Jennie Pizzolato ('89) are co-salutatorians.

## 25 years ago ('84)

- Three hundred twenty-five people attend the 25th Anniversary Advance Dinner on April 5.
- Twenty-nine seniors graduate on May 11.

## 35 years ago ('74)

- Thirty-one seniors make up Nebraska Christian's 15th graduating class.
- Dwight Curry ('75), Dave Anderson ('74), Bob Schroeder ('74), and Sandra Sharman ('77) compete at the first Nebraska State Speech Meet in Kearney.

## 45 years ago ('64)

- Twenty-eight seniors graduate. Esther Lutes ('64) is valedictorian, Carol Hamilton ('64) is salutatorian, and Rev. Spencer Bower gives the commencement address.
- The board holds a special meeting to discuss the need for a new boys' dorm. A month later, the board decides to go ahead with plans to build the dorm.

**NC Classes of 1968 & 1969 are planning a combined class reunion in Central City on September 18-19, 2009.**

Friday, Sept. 18, is NC Homecoming, so we could be part of those activities and watch a football game. We would then have time together on Saturday, Sept. 19.

*For more information, please contact Wayne Green at [greenserv@kmtel.net](mailto:greenserv@kmtel.net) or Bob Ritta at [sritta@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:sritta@nebraskachristian.org)*

**Class of 1999:**  
Mark your calendars for our  
**10 year reunion**  
the weekend of July 18.

*For more information, contact Becky Ritta at 308-946-3836 or [britta@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:britta@nebraskachristian.org)*

## Junior High Repeats as Quiz Bowl Champion

On March 2, the junior and senior high quiz bowl teams competed at the Goldenrod Conference Quiz Bowl in St. Edward. The junior high team won its division's championship for the second consecutive year. Ten teams participated in each division, which was a double-elimination tournament. The students were asked questions from the areas of social studies, language arts, science, mathematics, and current events.

At Right (left to right): Head Coach William Uhler, Tori Swanson, Haley Warnock, Kim Deichmann, Gailyn Ostrand, Danielle Thiessen, Anthony Faeh, Hannah Warnock, Beran Fisher.



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## Nebraska Christian 2008 - 2009 Winter Sports & Activities



**Girls' Basketball** • (left to right) Row 1: Shinni Uemura, Lacy Tonniges, Elizabeth Griess, Emily Murphy, Danielle Richards, Anne Tran, Rebecca Woods. Row 2: Arisa Chon, Jen Smith, Alycea Unruh, Sarah Amatys, Amber Rainbolt, Michelle Toukan. Row 3: Student manager Gailyn Ostrand, Alice Kim, Jasmine Guo, Katie Wilkins, Joanna Stuhmer, student manager Katrina Troester. (Not pictured: Janae Landrigan, Head Coach Gordon Thiessen, Assistant Coach Tonya Ostrand, Coach's Aide Frank Rodriguez, student manager Stephany Krieger, student manager Danielle Thiessen.)



**Wrestling** • (left to right) Row 1: Caleb Urban, Son Nguyen, Andrew Swanson, Isaac Elge, Cas Luong, Caleb Coleman. Row 2: Coach's Aide Chris Schweitzer, Chansoo Park, Jae Kim, Ray Johnson, James Davis, Braden Swanson, Alex Newby, Tim Cho, Coach's Aide Mark Perry, Head Coach Terry Elge. (Not pictured: Casey Beck, Nathan Ritta, Coach's Aide Scott Griepentroh, student manager Jessica Davis, student manager Kendra Griepentroh.)



**Boys' Basketball** • (left to right) Row 1: Seth Bailey, Luke Woods, Cody Smith, Levi Landrigan, Jonathan Smith, Wai Ng. Row 2: John Zhang, Michael Chen, Scott Ritta, Willy Shih, David Kim, Fred Lee, Johnny Chang. Row 3: Elliot Murphy, An Tran, Kenneth Go, Wes Kembel, Ben Thiessen, Zach Troester, Casey Rose, Adam Richardson. (Not pictured: West Zhang, Head Coach Robert Ziegler, Coach's Aide Gib Killian.)



**Speech** • (left to right) Row 1: Rebekah Poeffel, Stephanie Ritta, Rebecca Woods, Jessica Bailey, Head Coach Becky Ritta, Sable Homolka, Abbie Krug, Janelle Bailey, Assistant Coach Ruth Ferris, Ashley Kenny. Row 2: Levi Landrigan, Shannon Rodehorst, Janae Landrigan, Darren Holzinger, Kiel Hansen, Audra Faeh, Cheri Garwood, Danielle Richards. (Not pictured: Kris Hoehn, Kelsey Shepherd.)