

The Alert



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1990
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DAYS
GALA

SEPTEMBER 27-29

Regional Booster Clubs form

Uniting old friends, inviting new friends

1990 marks the beginning of a new era for the Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association. A new plan has been set into motion to reunite alumni and to provide a network of information for those who are friends of the school. Regional Alumni Booster Clubs are being established to achieve this result.

We are interested in creating NCC Alumni Booster Clubs in, at least, the following regions: the Denver area (Region IV); eastern Colorado/western Nebraska/northwestern Kansas (Region III); southeastern Nebraska/southwestern Iowa/northwestern Missouri/northeastern Kansas (Region II); northeastern Nebraska/northwestern Iowa/Minnesota (Region I); and central Iowa (Region V).

We are asking each booster club to have a minimum of one meeting per year, and to adopt a project to help the college. All aspects of the meeting will be determined by the area individuals planning the event. NCC personnel are ready and willing to come and present these programs, and to answer any questions you may have about the present status of Nebraska Christian College. If you are interested in taking leadership in organizing a regional booster club, please let Joel Burkum or Dick Bruner know.

Jerry Beckenhauer and a group of alumni in the McCook, Nebraska, area hosted the first NCC Alumni Booster Club event, February 24 and 25. Alumni President Joel Burkum, Dick Bruner and NCC gospel team Voices of Praise lead the program.



"Thanks for the memories....," say more than twenty NCC alumni who were present at the inaugural meeting of the Region III NCC Alumni Booster Club, the first club to be formed.



Former Alumni Association President Jerry Beckenhauer (center) organized the February event.



Clark Bates will serve as Region III Booster Club president.



Are Bible colleges obsolete?

by Dr. Richard Brown

Editor's Note: The following article recently appeared in "The Christian Link," the newsletter of First Christian Church in Norfolk. We felt the points made by Dr. Brown in the article were worth repeating.

Remember, about 60 percent of our students don't go into "the ministry," but do become active workers in local churches.

Has NCC outlined the need for its

'Pray'lude for 2000

King Solomon must have been having a bad year when he put his pen to the parchment and delineated his existential philosophy: "Meaningless! Meaning-

John Bunyan said, "You can do more than pray once you've prayed. But you cannot do more than pray *until* you have prayed."

WRITE JAB

by Joel A. Burkum



less! Everything is meaningless! There is nothing new under the sun. There is no worth in labor, long life, knowledge, wealth, pleasure, power—or even wisdom."

How did this powerful, rich, hip sort of guy with all the chics and the panache of a yuppy CEO lose his zest for life? What factors contributed to this world-renown sage's pessimistic outlook on life?

In his pursuit of wisdom, knowledge and the ultimate "buzz," Solomon failed to nurture his relationship with God and, as a result, he lost touch with the reason for living.

You and I can very easily fall into the same trap. Surrounded by hoards of wealth, knowledge and comfort, it's easy to forget about the necessity for communion with God.

With all the monumental historic events taking place worldwide, and with the mounting moral battles emerging across our nation, I believe we Christians must begin the '90s with prayer—the real down-on-your-knees kind—if we want to have any impact on our world.

We must pray. For prayer empowers us for living. Prayer puts things in proper perspective. Prayer is power over Satan.

As we pray, let us remember Nebraska Christian College. Please take a few minutes, right now, to pray for the following specific areas: 1) the search for a new president and a new music professor; 2) interim president Dwayne Johnson; 3) new professor Chuck McCoy and family; 4) the faculty and staff; 5) the student body; 6) prospective students excited about ministry; 7) increased financial support; 8) NCC alumni in Christian service at home and abroad; 9) NCC Alumni Association leaders; 10) NCC's impact on the world for Christ.

This year, NCC celebrates 45 years of "holding fast the faithful Word" and "excellence in Christian leadership education." An anniversary celebration is being planned by NCC personnel, to be held in conjunction with the 1990 graduation ceremonies in May. Watch the college news for details.

This spring, we will be honoring professor Bill Miller for 25 years of faithful service and leadership at NCC. The ceremony for Mr. Miller will be held in conjunction with the Spring Banquet, May 2 at 7:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall. (The guest speaker for the banquet will be Bart Campolo, son of nationally recognized speaker Tony Campolo.)

In appreciation for Mr. Miller's special contribution to the college, the Alumni Association is sending the Millers on a

"working vacation" to South Africa, via Europe. The Millers plan to begin their trip the week following graduation. Bill and Dorothy will be working with NCC alumni Bill and Verna Weber in and around Johannesburg, South Africa.

To help raise funds for their trip, Mr. Miller agreed to make a recording of several of his best-loved (the ones *we* like best, and the ones *he* likes best!) piano arrangements of hymns. We have released this wonderful, professionally recorded collection on high-quality chrome audiocassette. You may obtain as many copies of this cassette as you wish for a minimum \$10 donation each. Money raised from the sale of the tapes will go toward the "Send the Millers to Africa" project. If you would like to write Mr. Miller a letter of appreciation and congratulations, please send it to: Mr. Miller's 25th Anniversary, c/o NCC. We will include your letter in a nicely-bound folder.



Mr. Miller rehearses a hymn arrangement.

another way to train our ministers, missionaries, youth ministers and other workers; until we find another way to genuinely put the Bible back into American education; until we find someone else to provide consultants and resources for local churches; until we find a way to educate Christians beyond the present Sunday school level, I think NCC still needs to be here

Is Your Name Written There?



The NCC Alumni Association is dependent on the alumni for its support in the form of dues. Annual dues are only \$10 per alumnus. Lifetime memberships are still only \$100 for an individual and \$150 for a couple.

We encourage you to pay your 1990 dues (*annual dues expire December 31*), and to challenge other alumni you know to do the same. Simply fill out the enclosed dues form and questionnaire and return it, with your payment, to the college.

Thanks to the following people who have paid their dues for 1990:

M/M Dennis Armstrong	Dave Lamberson
M/M Gerald Beckenhauer	M/M Shelley Lee
Gretchen Biehle	M/M Don Ludwick
Linda Bigbee	Randall Maas
M/M Allen Boelter	Shirley Maxson
M/M Richard Brown	M/M Todd McCracken
M/M Joel Burkum	Lynne McLernon
Joy Carringer	Larry Michael
M/M Mark Chaplin	M/M Paul Miller
Janelle Clark	M/M Glen Moorhead
M/M Bruce Dieter	M/M Gene Mueller
Mavis Diment	Beverly Munden
M/M Kirk Eggleston	Jeanette Parker
Vada Fancher	Linda Petersen
Jim Ferguson	M/M Gary Radtke
Ron Fichter	Leslie Reynolds
M/M Harold Fox	Carla Robinson
Diane Halls	Merrill Sheffler
Ila Henning	Carol Shivers
Shirley Hill	M/M Jim Stark
Beckie Hyatt	Jolynn Stinehagen
M/M Dwayne Johnson	Joe Thurstenson
Joan Kohls	Nancy Wehling

Has Nebraska Christian College outlived its usefulness? Some are asking this question in churches, in preacher's meetings, and even at NCC.

Some people are answering this question with a resounding "yes." They point to such indicators as: 1) NCC's declining enrollment—which may suggest the Bible college is no longer meeting student needs; 2) the college's increasing financial problems—which may be the result of declining contributions from people and churches who no longer see the need; and 3) the many applications received by churches looking for ministers (some have received more than 100)—which may indicate a surplus of Bible-college-trained workers.

While acknowledging that each of these points needs to be addressed, before I'm willing to answer "yes," I need good answers to the following questions:

1. If NCC were not here, where would the churches turn for trained leaders? To Wayne State College? To the University of Nebraska? To some other Bible college (if any still existed, since they are grappling with the same issues we are)? I remember that it was this need that brought NCC into existence in 1945.

2. If NCC were not here, where could a Christian student go who desires to study the Bible at the college level in an atmosphere of faith and loyalty to the Lord? I know that church-related colleges in Nebraska (who are not Bible colleges) require their students to take certain Bible courses. But these only amount to a very few hours in their total program, and consist of freshman-level survey courses. This is certainly not comparable to the education received at a Bible college.

3. If NCC were not here, where would churches turn for help in locating a minister, in working through a congregational problem, in finding quality programming for local church functions, and in providing continuing education opportunities geared for the church?

4. If NCC were not here, how would the local church meet the need for trained workers at the volunteer level?

The NCC motor fleet is becoming dangerously unreliable. Director of Development, Dick Bruner, and some businessmen he has contacted, have issued a challenge to the NCC Alumni Association to match a \$10,000 gift for a new van. Can we do it, alumni? Of course, we can! Please send a generous gift to the "Keep Those Vans a Rollin'" project. Let's do all we can to provide NCC with safe, reliable transportation.

Finally, let me announce our new plan to help alumni keep in touch with the college—and with each other. We are attempting to create at least five regional NCC Alumni Booster Clubs (see related article above). This will afford alumni and friends of Nebraska Christian College with the opportunity to find out what is happening at NCC without having to drive to Norfolk. We hope that you will take advantage of this unique fellowship experience. Do keep in touch, friends!



t for the "Prelude" taping session in Omaha.



Calvin Miller lead the alumni into the '90s with his sessions on "Leadership."

Spirits high at 1989 Alumni Days Gala

More than 100 alumni and family members enjoyed the 1989 Alumni Days Gala weekend celebration.

Calvin Miller's workshops on leadership were inspiring. Calvin and his wife, Barbara, also treated the alumni to readings from several of his books, and autographed copies for the alumni.

Bread of Life (Jeff Hicks, Jon King, Todd McCracken and Bryan Myers) and Kindred (Joyce Andrews, Faye (Shafer) Reed and Joel Burkum) sang some of their greatest hits from college days. Thanks to both of these groups, and to Alumni



Romaine Daniels and Ardith Books served at the Friday evening reception.

Speaker Jon Palmquist, for sharing their talents.

The Friday night banquet and reception and Saturday picnic featured some great food. Thanks to Greta Milliken for planning the class reception and to Terry Bowland and members of FCC in Norfolk for organizing the picnic.

Dennis Quigley was honored as the 1989 "Friend of NCC." Dennis is married to alumna Linda Kaye Sitton. Dennis owns his own construction business in Bassett, Nebraska. For the last four years, Dennis and Linda have enthusiastically given ten days of their precious time to help sponsor New Way Singers tours. Thanks, Dennis and Linda, for your loyal friendship!

The Distinguished Alumnus award was not given, since no nominations were received. (1990 nominations are needed!)

Alumni vs. students basketball and softball games, an NCC panel discussion, and the annual meeting rounded out the busy weekend.

Many positive comments were received about the activities and dates. The 1990 Alumni Days Gala is set for the weekend of September 27-29. Plan now to attend!



It's a hit! Tony Brandt nails one during the alumni vs. students softball game.



"Friend of NCC," Dennis Quigley, has sponsored four New Way Singer tours.

Peter Parson pfalls p

by Jeff Baker

The polls are closed, the final tally complete, and the NCC mascot has a new name to go with his new look. *Peter Parson* is no more. Due to strong alumni support in the voting process, the mascot will now be named *Phinehas T. Parson* (P. T. to his friends).

The vote was taken among alumni and students during Alumni Days, 1989. The voting was dominated by several last min-



The Recruiter's Office

by Jerry Hopkins

Changeableness, fluctuation, inconstancy, indecision, irresolution, oscillation, reeling, rocking, swaying, uncertainty, wavering . . . are all *synonyms* of the word **vacillation**—a word that describes all of us from time to time. It describes young people more of the time.

Did you know that, on the average, only 67 to 73 percent of those who apply for admission to any given college actually enroll? Would you pray for the young people listed below who have applied for admission for the coming fall? Would you, if you know them personally, encourage them in their decision to attend Nebraska Christian College? Your prayers and encouragement could make the difference.

At the time of this writing, April 2, we have 63 new student applications for the fall of 1990. Last year at this time we had 57, and only 25 the year before that.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Wayne Anderson | Mason City, NE |
| Becky Bartley | Carl Junction, MO |
| Craig Beedle | Onawa, IA |
| John Beyard | Central City, NE |
| Susan Bisbee | Wilcox, NE |
| Millisa Brown | Wathena, KS |
| Carrie Casey | Newell, IA |
| Dan Cleveland | Ord, NE |
| Jason Cornell | Viola, WI |

- Troy Cronkhite
Cathy Debski
Dan Driggs
Jane Dukes
Chris Duncan
Sean Dunn
Eric Ehresman
Humphrey Gadabu

- Tom Gill
Darren Glandt
Geneva Goehring
Yolanda Haglund
April Hair
Connie Hallsted
Lori Hamilton
Lacy Harkins
Deanna Harrold
Rebecca Howrey
Shellie Hyatt
Marc Kelly
Julie Kendall
Kevin Kriz

- Grand Junction, CO
Pueblo, CO
Cheyenne, WY
Bronson, IA
Groton, SD
Clay Center, NE
Anamosa, IA
Lilongwe, Malawi, Africa
Broken Arrow, OK
Norfolk, NE
Eureka, SD
Fairmont, MN
Ida Grove, IA
Truman, MN
Norfolk, NE
Tempe, AZ
Broken Bow, NE
Galena, KS
Kansas, OK
Mitchell, NE
Grinnell, IA
Alliance, NE

- Paul Labig
Lynn Laufenberg
Tina Leonard
Albert Martins
Justin May
Vicky Mohn
Will Ogle
Jeff Oster
Sherry Perdue
Kapu Price
Dean Reynolds
Connie Ruttman
Kevin Safranek
Jenny Schmitt
Jason Seeger
Derek Shacklett
Lisa Shippy
Brian Smith
Sally Steele
Tom Steele
Molly Thompson
Stephanie Thorpe
Jeremy Trotter
Jennifer Tubbs
Michelle Tuttle
Chad Welch
Kim Werner
Cheri Westergaard
Mary Westover
Lisa Widman
Michelle Wing

- Fruita, CO
Madison, WI
Logan, IA
Accra, Ghana, Africa
Council Bluffs, IA
Missouri Valley, IA
Burlington Jct., MO
Traverse City, MI
Florence, CO
Prescott, AZ
Rockwell City, IA
Nelson, NE
Merna, NE
Marne, IA
Phoenix, AZ
Oakley, KS
Waban, MA
Brooklyn, IA
Norfolk, NE
Sutherland, IA
Cheyenne Wells, CO
Canby, MN
Palmer, NE
Joplin, MO
Ewing, NE
Kearney, NE
Norfolk, NE
Storm Lake, IA
Ashby, NE
Chapman, NE
Grand Island, NE

m prestigious position

protection) submitted the name *Whatsa*. While no alumni voted for this name, it started a grass-roots movement among our current students. (Ah, yes, "the youth of today, the alumni of tomorrow," . . . but we've heard that before.) In student voting, *Whatsa* won by a landslide, receiving twice as many votes as the next two nominees, *Peter* and *Johnny*.



When the final vote was tabulated,

NCC Alumni Questionnaire and Dues Form

Name _____ (if husband and wife, include both first names)

Alumnus? Husband ☐ Wife ☐ Wife's maiden name (if alumna) _____

Children's names _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone () _____ - _____

Occupation _____

Church attended _____

Years attended NCC 19____ - 19____ Spouse 19____ - 19____

Degree(s) received _____ Spouse _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for dues

Please include me/us on the mailing list for Booster Club Region: ☐ I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐ V

Clip and send this form to: NCC Alumni Association, 1800 Syracuse, Norfolk, NE 68701



Bread of Life quartet (l to r: Jeff Hicks, Jon King, Bryan Myers and Todd McCracken) provided music for the Friday evening banquet.



Jon Palmquist takes a trip down memory lane, as he scans an old NCC yearbook.

alumna, Maria Johnson, submitted her infamous college-days nickname, Phinehas T. (She says that the "T" stands for "tell it like it is.") For her award-winning entry, Mrs. Johnson will get her 1990 alumni dues paid.

In the alumni vote, *P. T. Parson* doubled the total for any other candidate, easily outdistancing *Johnny* (an obvious reference to Norfolk's "favorite son"), the incumbent *Peter*, and *Kit*. Another alumnus (who shall remain nameless for his

Alertly Yours

by Jolynn Stinehagen

Our world is changing fast! The wall that has separated the East from the West for nearly 30 years has come down . . . seemingly overnight. Communist governments that have ruled with an iron hand since World War II are being toppled from within. A black South African leader has been released after spending more than 27 years of his life as a political prisoner. Six months ago, such changes were inconceivable to most people. Even the visionaries never imagined these changes could occur so quickly.

Indeed, our world is changing fast. Or is it? When I first began reading about all the changes taking place in Eastern Europe, I asked myself, "Where did this come from? Why are the Communist party leaders allowing it to happen? Will these new freedoms last?" I think most people shared my surprise and confusion at the apparently sudden turn of events.

Since then, I have been studying these changes much more closely as part of a research project for a graduate journalism class. One thing is becoming apparent: An undercurrent of change has been building for years. The people were just waiting for the right time and conditions to make their views known. But the rest of the world was never informed about what was really happening.

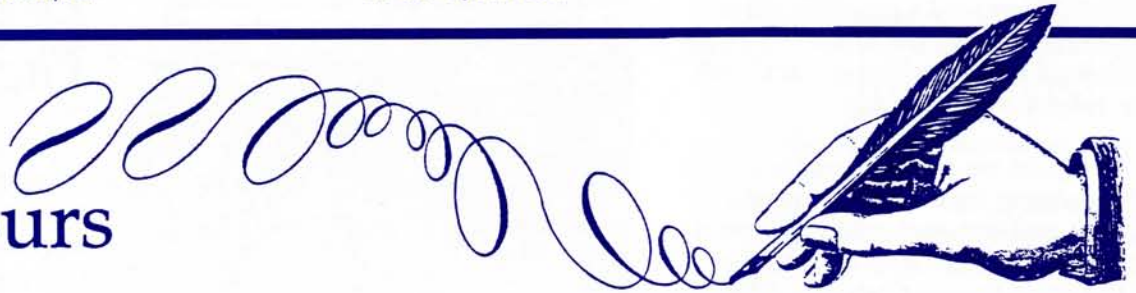
We don't know what will be the result of all the current changes. Likewise, we will never fully understand all the forces at work in these events. But the Lord knows, and is in control of the situation. We should be concerned with using the opportunities these changes present us for evangelism.

In this issue of *The Alert*, we have focused on changes taking place in the life of NCC. The college is in a period of transition of leadership. Some are questioning the purpose (and need) of a Bible college (see Dr. Brown's article). While student enrollment has been dropping throughout the 80's, applications for the fall are up significantly. The traditional role of ministry is also changing. Christians are being called to serve in ways never imagined when NCC opened its doors in 1945. In this, the college's 45th year of service, her leaders are seeking the Lord's direction for the future. We don't know what changes the college will be called to make in this decade. But the Lord knows, and He is in control.

One thing is apparent, however. The alumni of NCC play an important role in the continuing life of the college. The alumni are one of the most effective recruiting tools the college has. According to Student Recruiter Jerry Hopkins, 60 percent of incoming freshmen report

having a relative who attended NCC, and 80 percent said that they visited NCC at least once before making their decision to attend. But, most significant, is the fact that 54 percent of the students said that most of their information about the college came from alumni. You are to be commended for the work you are doing in telling prospective students about the college and in taking them to visit. I want to encourage you to do even more in recruiting students and in following up on these young men and women so that more who apply actually enroll. There may be an abundance of ministers applying for churches in certain areas of the United States (see Dr. Brown's article), but most of this country and the world are still waiting for the Gospel to be preached to them. The need for Christian workers has never been greater!

Likewise, the college needs your input. As part of the "real world," whether as a full-time Christian worker or as a lay minister, you have insights into the practical aspects of education and how the college can best serve the churches and the world. Share these insights with the faculty and board. As President Milliken was so often heard to say, "The best years of NCC are still ahead!" Be a part of that future!





narrow victory over *Whatsa*, followed closely by *Johnny* and *Peter*.

Other notables such as *Parson Brown*, *Kit*, *Parosh*, *Publius*, *Peppy* and, of course, *Pinhead*

finished well behind the leaders. □

(We *mature* alumni, using our common sense and experience, were able to humbly turn back the youthful and foolhearty student body. It brings to mind my favorite cheer: "NANNY NANNY NOO NOO, WE SLAUGHTERED YOUOO!!!")

Johnson honors Johnson



Ralph Johnson, who served as Professor of Biblical Studies at NCC until his retirement in 1982, was recently honored by the alumni of Johnson Bible College in Knoxville, Tennessee. Johnson was given the Johnson Bible College Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award in ceremonies held February 13.

Professor Johnson, who graduated from Johnson Bible College in 1940, taught at NCC for 28 years. Before coming to the college, he served 13 years at Dakota Bible College. Since retirement, Professor and Mrs. Johnson have lived in Norfolk, where they continue to be involved at First Christian Church and in the life of NCC.

Future Students

Micah John Agler
born December 16, 1989
weighing 8 pounds, 5 ounces
John and Leah Agler
Rural Route 2, Box 63, Wayne, NE 68787

Andrew Craig Barrows
born August 16, 1989
weighing 7 pounds, 7 1/2 ounces
Larry and **Susi (Sturm) Barrows**
15 A Scott Circle, Hanscom AFB, MA 01731

Tyler Mark Brown
born July 31, 1989
weighing 8 pounds, .2 ounces
Mark and Penny (Brooks) Brown
301 East Braasch, Apt. 4, Norfolk, NE 68701

Mitchell James Chitwood
born November 20, 1989 (adopted)
weighing 8 pounds, 2 ounces
Mark and Linda (Marshall) Chitwood
3458 East Poinsettia, Phoenix, AZ 85028

William Nicolas Coston
born September 5, 1989
weighing 8 pounds, 4 1/2 ounces
Vic and Paula (Chapman) Coston
702 Sherman Street, Wayne, NE 68787

Kelsey Anne Doolittle
born July 18, 1989
weighing 8 pounds, 14 ounces
Wendell and **Eileen (Case) Doolittle**
Rural Route 3, Box 110A
Webster City, IA 50595

Cassidy Paige Fletcher
born November 24, 1989
weighing 6 pounds, 3 ounces
Don and Kelly (Paige) Fletcher
11010 Oakbrook Drive, Omaha, NE 68154

James Andrew French
born July 11, 1989
weighing 8 pounds, 15 ounces
Jim and **Nancy (Hallsted) French**
761 East 21st Street, Brooklyn, NY 11210

Cassandra LeeAnn Gimple
born December 20, 1989
weighing 7 pounds, 15 1/2 ounces
John and **Anita (Keys) Gimple**
9534 Garrison Court, Westminster, CO 80021

Dustin Lee Hammond
born November 14, 1989
weighing 7 pounds, 12 ounces
Ken and **Rhonda (Kinnan) Hammond**
Route 1, Box 80, Lexington, NE 68850



Jaxon David Justice
born August 11, 1989
weighing 7 pounds, 4 ounces
Troy and Andrea (DeFor) Justice
1114-B Centaur Circle, Lafayette, CO 80026

Elizabeth Anne Klundt
born December 18, 1989
weighing 7 pounds, 13 ounces
John and **Kayleen (Balmbridge) Klundt**
1800 Syracuse, Norfolk, NE 68701

Ryan Paul Milliken
born July 15, 1989
weighing 8 pounds, 9 1/2 ounces
Paul and Holly (Hinds) Milliken
Post Office Box 4, Lane, IL 61750

Jared George Nassiff
born October 11, 1989
weighing 8 pounds, 1 ounce
David and Tamara (Petersen) Nassiff
6205 Yorkshire Court, #144
Tampa, FL 33614

Brady Christopher Nicholson
born September 9, 1989
weighing 9 pounds, 4 1/2 ounces
Pat and Deb (Marshall) Nicholson
Rural Route 1, Box 195, Allen, NE 68710

Lauren Hope Novak
Charissa Lucille Novak
born February 21, 1989
weighing 2 pounds, 1 ounce
weighing 2 pounds, 7 ounces
Mike and Kelly (Codr) Novak
1105 17th Street, Central City, NE 68826

Rebekah Grace Reynolds
born April 3, 1989
weighing 8 pounds, 3 ounces
David and **Beth (Roseberry) Reynolds**
6850 Judson Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89115

Melissa Ring Walker
born January 17, 1990
weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces
Doug and **Jeanne (Ring) Walker**
6615 Briarleigh Way, Alexandria, VA 22310

Justin Nassiff Wentz
born July 22, 1989
weighing 6 pounds, 15 ounces
Matt and Kathy (Nassiff) Wentz
222 North 18th, Unionville, MO 63565