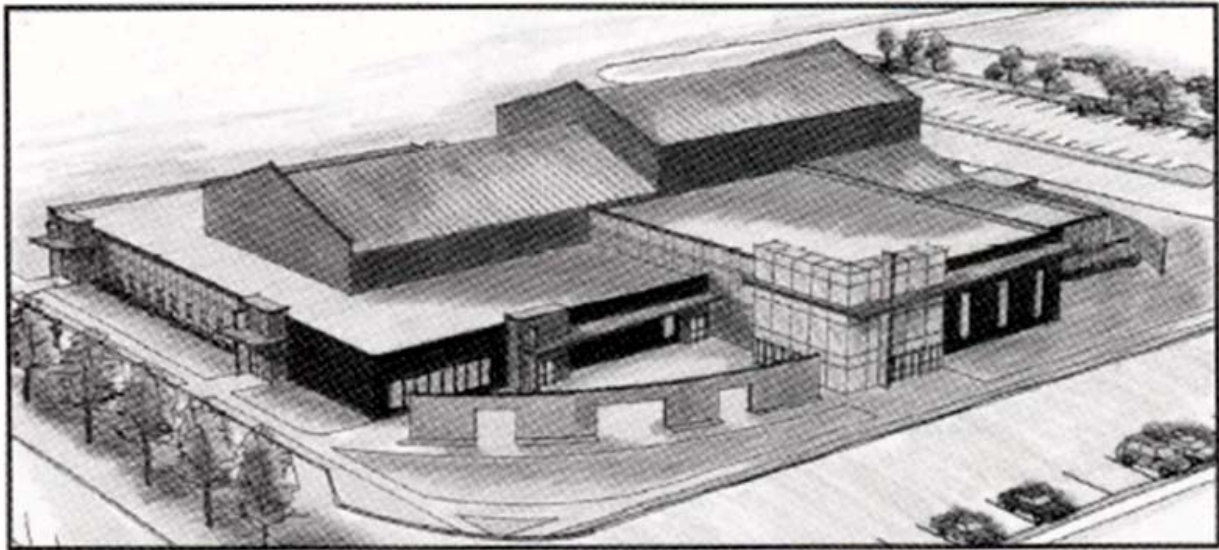


NCC purchased the 79 acre Papillion campus site on February 28, 2002 for \$800,000

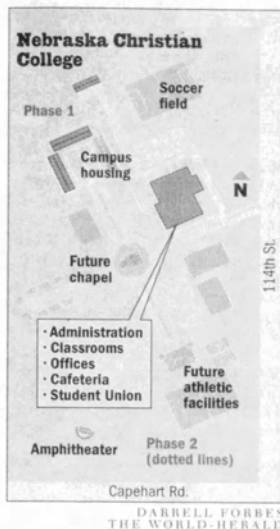


NCC property, looking northeast towards Papillion / Omaha. South border Capehart Rd. (running east – west) and east border 114th St. (running north – south).
-photo by Joel Burkum (photographer) & Jeff Clausen (pilot)



Architect's drawing of the proposed multi-purpose building at the new location. Please pray for this process.

June 2004



College to begin with dorms

■ The school, which trains students to lead churches and ministries, is building a campus in Sarpy County.

By JOE DEJKA

WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Nebraska Christian College plans to build dorms for 148 students in the first phase of its new Sarpy County campus.

The college put its Norfolk campus up for sale this month and received a special-use permit last week from the Sarpy County Board to build the campus at 114th Street and Capehart Road, according to David Huskey, dean of students.

The first phase also will include a soccer field, a maintenance facility and a 52,000-square-foot multipurpose building containing classrooms, offices and a cafeteria, Huskey said.

Officials hope to begin construction by July and open in the fall of 2006, he said.

Later phases would include a chapel, an athletic building and additional housing on the 80-acre site southwest of Papillion.

Current enrollment is 170, with a maximum capacity of 200 at the Norfolk campus. The new campus will have an initial capacity of 400 students, he said.

The college is "a niche school," providing professional training for students who want to lead churches and ministries, he said.

The college is nondenominational, Huskey said, but historically associated with the Churches of Christ.

The college offers degree programs in pastoral ministry, youth ministry, missions and family counseling, he said. The curriculum has three basic components: general studies; Bible and theology; and practical ministry.

The college is accredited by the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges. It is not accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

The fund-raising campaign to support the relocation has raised about \$3 million of its \$4.9 million goal, Huskey said.

Officials are still looking for a major donor who can complete the campaign, he said.

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

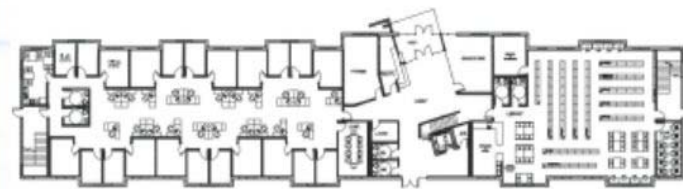
Relocation Update

The Nebraska Christian College Trustees have committed to begin classes in the Omaha area in the fall of 2006. Currently we anticipate the first two buildings will be dormitories with rooms for 136 students.

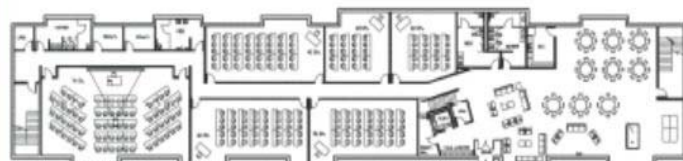


Typical Dormitory Floor Plan

Included in these buildings will be a temporary library and twenty-five offices. Additionally, a lower level is being considered for one dormitory that will include space for six classrooms and a student fellowship area.



Temporary First Floor Library and Office Spaces



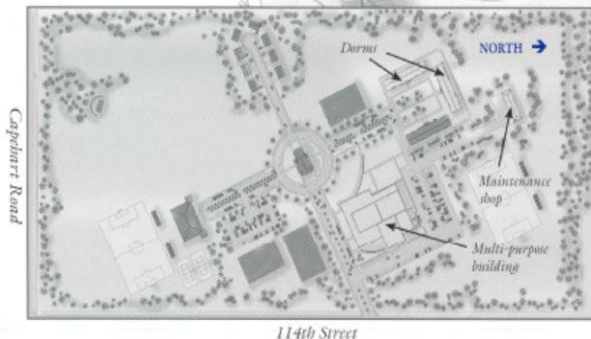
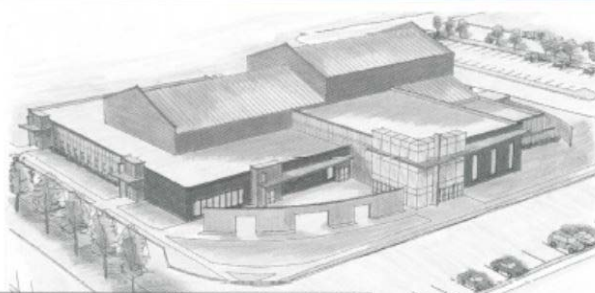
Lower Level Temporary Classrooms and Student Fellowship

The Immeasurably More campaign has raised over \$3 million in commitments of the \$4.9 million needed for the first phase of construction. About \$1.5 million of these commitments have already been received. The number and size of non-residential buildings that will initially be built on the new campus will be determined from the money raised in the campaign and the sale of the Norfolk campus. Presently, 49 churches have committed over \$1.4 million, and current and former board members, staff, alumni and friends of the college are supplying the rest. Please consider today the role you, your family, and your church will play in this Kingdom-building project!

continued on page 4

Relocation continued

In order to make the relocation a reality by the fall of 2006, the college has considered partnerships with various churches and ministries during the construction of the new campus. These plans will be communicated as soon as they are finalized.



← Master site plan, 114th & Capehart, Sarpy County, Nebraska

We invite you to visit our website at www.nchristian.edu for updated information and downloadable drawings and floor plans.

Omaha World Herald
April 4, 2004, Pg 7

April 2005

Ground Breaking at Sarpy County Campus

3:00 P.M.
Sunday, July 24, 2005



All area churches, college friends and alumni are invited to join us for a celebration and prayer time to break ground at 114th Street and Capehart Road.

Construction will begin on the first two buildings of the new campus in July. Two dorms for student housing and temporary classrooms, offices and library will be built on the eighty acre site in southwest Omaha.

Ground Breaking at Sarpy County Campus Sunday, July 24, 2005



Ground Breaking at Sarpy County Campus — Sunday, July 24, 2005



Construction at the Sarpy County Campus

— Photos by Mr. David Huskey









College settles into its Sarpy County home

Omaha
World
Herald
November
11, 2009
Pg 19

■ The move from Norfolk offers better hands-on experience for Nebraska Christian students.

By TERESA LOSTROH
WORLD-HERALD NEWS SERVICE

They miss the famous onion rings and thick chocolate malts at the former Double K restaurant. They miss the late-night runs through Wal-Mart's empty aisles, the crab rangoons at the Super China Buffet and Ricardo's Tex-Mex flair.

But what the students and faculty of Nebraska Christian College, which was uprooted from Norfolk to the Papillion area three years ago, miss most about their former longtime home has nothing to do with the comfort of fried food.

"I miss the people in Norfolk," said Judy Gillen, a Nebraska Christian alum and longtime receptionist for the college.

The college was founded in Norfolk in 1944. In the early 1970s, Nebraska Christian gradually migrated from its cramped downtown quarters to Norfolk's northwest edge, where it remained until its move to Sarpy County in 2006.

The somewhat remote location in the '70s mirrors the college's current one in the Omaha metro area, said President Richard Milliken and Chief Development Officer Jim Hardy.

The college's current 80-acre campus is perched among vast fields of deep green corn, along a gravel road a few miles west of the bustle of Papillion. Bright red, yellow and pink flowers dot the roughly 20 developed acres.

Looking east from the main building, Papillion's homes and buildings peek above the horizon. But the campus seems untouched by the city. Although it creeps closer each day, city noise has yet to drown out the songs of birds and the deep croaks of frogs.



Richard Milliken, president of Nebraska Christian, outside one of the college's new buildings near Papillion in Sarpy County. The college moved from Norfolk in 2006.

The aging Norfolk campus had plenty of room for expansion, but the existing buildings were more than 30 years old by the time the college relocated to Sarpy County.

The six classrooms were spread throughout two separate buildings, and spaces were smaller and less flexible than those on the new campus, which boasts six in one building and five others available for teaching use.

"We have a lot more square footage here," Milliken said. "There's more shop maintenance room, dorm space and office space here."

The buildings were constructed to tailor to the college's anticipated growth. The main facility — divided into two wings for administrative offices, student housing, a small student center and classrooms — will eventually be completely converted into residential units.

Milliken contends that the shift from Norfolk to Papillion was unrelated to its facilities.

In a town of nearly 25,000, there are limited opportunities for students to train in spreading the faith.

"Our program was so focused on ministry," Milliken said, "that our students had to be able to get hands-on experience."

In Norfolk, about 10 supporting churches were within an hour's drive, Milliken said, compared with the 42 surrounding Papillion. "That allows our students to get plugged into church ministries, rescue missions and working with troubled families," he said.

And college enrollment is growing. Last year's student body of 165 was the second-largest in the past 25 years, Milliken said.

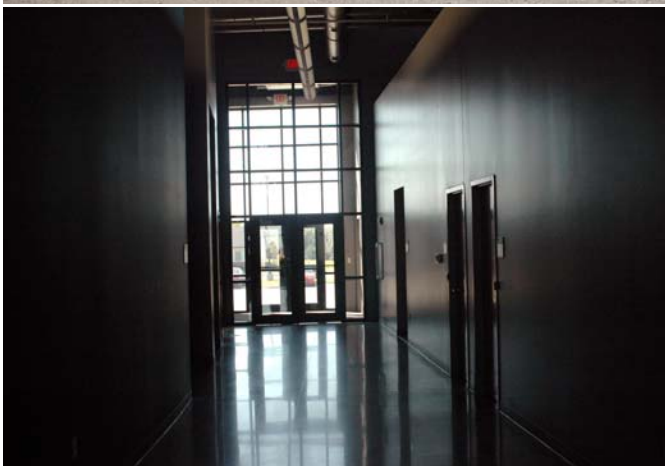
He and other administrators are moving forward to expand the campus. Hardy said they have plans to develop 40 of the plot's 80 acres. The rest may be used by supporting churches or as an investment opportunity.

A \$3 million capital campaign is under way for a Ministry Equipping Center, which will house a 500-seat chapel, preaching lab and specialized classrooms for the worship arts program. Hardy said about \$800,000 has been raised so far.

Within three to five years, they'd like to build an activities center with a gym and cafeteria.

"God's ways are better than our ways, so we'll just have to keep hoping for all of this," Milliken said. "If we are doing the right thing, God will take care of us."

Construction of Sapp Bros. Ministry Equipping Center



Construction of Sapp Bros. Ministry Equipping Center



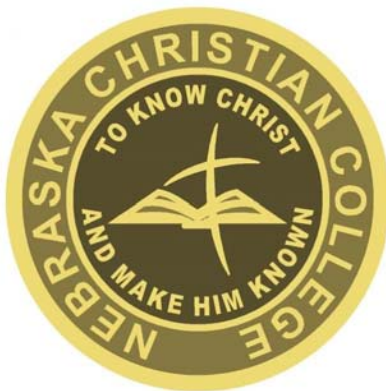
Construction of Sapp Bros. Ministry Equipping Center



Construction of Sapp Bros. Ministry Equipping Center



Dedication of Ministry Equipping Center



You are invited to the Sapp Brother's Memorial

MINISTRY EQUIPPING CENTER DEDICATION CELEBRATION

FRIDAY & SATURDAY • OCTOBER 14 & 15 • 2011

FEATURING

AVALON

Join us for a FREE fun weekend of indoor and outdoor events for the entire family!

ALUMNI EVENTS
Reminiscence and see your NCC classmates!

All Events Free!

DAVID FAUST
Keynote Speaker

JORDAN HOWERTON BAND

21 short tugging angles, 6 Dove Awards, 3 Grammy nominations and an American Music Award

DARRELL EVANS
Worship & Encouragement Seminar and Worship Leader

THE ALLEN FAMILY SINGERS

KIDZONE!
Featuring: Angela Naeve, children's worship leader, Douglas the Puppet, Inflatable & Balloon Creations

EVENT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY • OCTOBER 14

10:00am-11:30am
DARRELL EVANS
WORSHIP SEMINAR

4:00pm-4:45pm
Ribbon Cutting

5:00pm-6:30pm
Alumni Barbecue
(Meals not free)

6:30pm-7:45pm
ALUMNI EVENT
Watchmen | Jubilaires | Joy Unlimited | Enthusiastics | & more

8:00pm-9:00pm
Allen Family Singers
in Concert

SATURDAY • OCTOBER 15

9:00am-10:30am
Remembering
NCC's Legacy

11:00am-12:30pm
Lunch On Campus
(Meals not free)

1:00pm-3:00pm
MAIN EVENT
Avalon | Worship with
Darrell Evans | NCC
Gospel Choir | Keynote
Speaker: David Faust |
Celebration Offering

4:00pm-5:30pm
AVALON CONCERT

6:30pm-8:30pm
Jordan Howerton Band |
Worship Concert |
CITY's Worship Band

See more info on back!

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE TO KNOW CHRIST AND MAKE HIM KNOWN • SINCE 1945!

Go to www.GoingToNCC.com for the event schedule and more details!

About NCC

Nebraska Christian College (NCC) is a private, accredited, four-year Bible-based undergraduate college whose purpose is to equip Christian leaders for the ministry and the marketplace. NCC has nine bachelor level programs and three associate level programs. NCC was founded in 1945 in Norfolk, Nebraska and relocated to the Omaha metro area in 2006. NCC has 3,700+ alumni serving all around the globe.

NCC has been blessed! Over 80% of the funds have been raised to complete the \$3 million **Ministry Equipping Center**. NCC already has a rich history of equipping leaders to lead Christ's Church. This Ministry Equipping Center will be a vital tool to continue this legacy.

Please prayerfully consider an investment in the next generation of Christian leaders by participating in the **Celebration Offering** that will be taken during the **Main Event** on **Saturday, October 15th**. Let's partner together to reach a generation for Christ.

Event Notes:

Meals:

All Dedication Celebration events will be FREE. However, food will need to be PURCHASED. Meals will be available Friday evening, Saturday lunch, and Saturday evening.

In the EVENT of Rain:

If it is raining, we will still have the scheduled outdoors events inside at **Papillion-Lavista South High School**, just two miles north of NCC at 10799 Highway 370, Papillion.

Darrell Evans Worship & Encouragement Seminar:

All worship leaders and instrumentalists from any church are welcome! Darrell's projects "Let the River Flow" and "Freedom" both garnered Dove award nominations. Darrell's songs include "Trading My Sorrows", "Your Love is Extravagant" & "So Good To Me".

www.darrellevans.com

Ribbon Cutting:

All are welcome

Allen Family Singers:

This talented entertaining family travels the country all year sharing the Gospel through music. They are one of America's most beloved musical families.

www.allenministries.com

Remembering NCC Legacy:

This will be two panels of two generations of alumni and faculty, sharing memories and stories about NCC's Legacy.

MAIN EVENT:

If you attend just one event this weekend, please join us for this time! We will honor alumni during this event and have a large group photo of all alumni attending after this main event, so bring a smile! This event will be outdoors in the NCC grass courtyard. We will have some chairs, but bring your own lawn chair to guarantee a seat for yourself.

AVALON Concert:

This concert will be outside as well.
www.avalonlive.com

Jordan Howerton Band:

This will be an awesome energetic time of worship for all students of any kind. Tell your friends and join us. This worship concert will be in the Ministry Equipping Center.
www.jordanhowertonband.com

KidZone:

This will be an indoor event except for the inflatables

TIMES:

Friday child care only (3-4yrs):
6:00-8:00pm

Saturday KidZone (all ages):
8:30-11:30am & 12:30-3:30pm

FEATURING:

- **Angela Naeve** is a music teacher, singer, songwriter, and VBS writer. Children's ministry and family ministry are the focus for her music and energy as she seeks to communicate the Gospel truths in a dynamic, fun way to impact lives for Jesus.
- **Balloon Creations** by Dale the Clown
- **Douglas The Puppet**
- **Inflatables**

Alumni Event:

Here are the alumni and artists that will perform at the Alumni Event:

Watchmen Quartet

Jubilaires Quartet

Joy Unlimited

Enthusiastics

1979-1980

Connie Jo Hardy

Duane & Peggy King

Allen Family Singers

David Hook

Everything Visible

NCC Gospel Choir

Accommodations

HOTELS:

We have a block of rooms reserved for a discounted rate at the new **Holiday Inn Express** just a few miles from NCC. The discounted rate is \$99 which includes breakfast. Call 402-504-3716 and let them know you are with NCC.

RV CAMPING:

We have a few RV sites reserved anyone who would like to reserve one at \$14 per night. This RV park is only two miles from the NCC campus and has 30amp & 50amp sites as well as a dumping station. You can reserve one by calling NCC at 402-935-9400, or going to www.GoingToNCC.com at the bottom of the page.

This is a free NCC campus event. Reservations are not required (just show up!) — but we request that you please visit our website and fill-in the online form. This helps us tally numbers and plan accordingly. It will also have the latest details regarding this Dedication Celebration.
www.GoingToNCC.com



DEDICATION CELEBRATION

October 14th & 15th



Come and Celebrate With Us!

On this weekend we will be dedicating the new NCC
Sapp Brothers Memorial
Ministry Equipping Center



Alumni Events

Main Event *Featuring:* Avalon, Darrell Evans leading worship, David Faust Keynote Speaker & the NCC Gospel Choir.

Concerts: Avalon, The Allen Family Singers, Jordan Howerton Band

KidZone: Event for children featuring children's worship leader Angela Naeve

This will be a free event on the NCC campus

(See reverse side for Dedication Celebration Schedule)



Dedication Celebration

Schedule of Events

Friday, October 14

10:00am

Darrell Evans: Worship & Encouragement Seminar...Darrell's projects "Let the River Flow" and "Freedom" both garnered Dove award nominations. www.darrellevans.com

4:00pm

Ribbon Cutting

5:00pm

BBQ Meal (*Not free*)

6:30pm

- Alumni Event featuring the Watchmen Quartet, NCC Gospel Choir, Duane & Peggy King and hosted by Bryan Myers

8:00pm

The Allen Family Singers in concert...*one of America's most beloved musical families* www.allenministries.com

Saturday, October 15

KidZone children's area provided during the day with children's worship, puppets, inflatables, and balloons. Kid-Zone schedule: 8:30 - 11:30 and 12:30 - 3:30 on Saturday.

9:00am

- Remembering NCC's Legacy featuring a panel of NCC alumni, faculty and staff and hosted by Rich Milliken

1:00pm

Main Event featuring:

Avalon....21 chart topping singles, 6 Dove Awards, 3 Grammy nominations and an American Music Award www.avalonlive.com

Darrell Evans leading worship

NCC Gospel Choir

David Faust keynote speaker

Celebration Offering

4:00pm

Avalon Concert

6:30pm

Jordan Howerton Band Worship Concert...worship band for Christ In Youth Conferences www.jordanhowertonband.com

NCC has been blessed and is thankful to report that over 80% of the funds have been raised to complete the \$3 million needed for the new Ministry Equipping Center! We invite you to join us at the Dedication Celebration and prayerfully consider an investment in the next generation of Christian leaders by participating in a **Celebration Offering** that will be taken during the main event on Saturday, October 15th. There will be an ongoing effort to reach our goal between now and this event, and it is our hope that with this Celebration Offering we can celebrate together, on this day, the reaching of the \$3 million goal. NCC has a rich history of equipping effective leaders to lead Christ's Church, and this Ministry Equipping Center will be a vital tool to continue this legacy.

Please make plans to join us for a weekend of dedication and celebration for all ages! This will be a free event on the NCC campus and reservations are not required to attend (just show up if you like), but as a courtesy, if you plan on attending any of the events, would you please visit www.goingtoNCC.com and let us know by filling out the online form so we can plan accordingly. This website will also have the latest details about the Dedication Celebration. **You don't want to miss this!**

Nebraska Christian College 'very excited' about center

By TRENTON ALBERS
WORLD-HERALD NEWS SERVICE

Just a few miles west of Papillion, down a dirt road, dreams of building a state-of-the-art facility are about to be realized.

Last month, the Nebraska Christian College broke ground on an 18,000-square-foot Ministry Equipping Center that will house classrooms, fellowship areas and a 540-seat auditorium.

"The whole campus community and the alumni are very excited," said President Richard Milliken. "For 40 years, the college has wanted to have a separate, dedicated chapel. Our campus in Norfolk didn't have that. It's going to be a great facility for us."

The center is one of two major buildings in the college's second phase of construction. The first phase for the college, which moved to Sarpy County in 2006, was to build dorm and residential buildings with temporary space for academic and administration space — a total of more than 72,000 square feet. A student activities center, with a gymnasium, cafeteria, exercise room and student center is the other component to phase two of construction, but fundraising for that project hasn't started.

"Both buildings are needed, but we chose to go one building at a time with the fundraising," Milliken said.

So far, the college has raised \$2.1 million for the \$3.2 million project. Milliken said the college hopes to complete its fundraising campaign within the next four to six months, with construction done over the next 11 months.

"We should be able to have our first chapel service at the beginning of fall next school year in 2011," he said.

The new building will provide space for the college's preaching and worship arts programs. The preaching program trains

students to become preachers, missionaries and youth ministers, while worship arts trains students to become worship leaders and sound and video technicians for churches.

Milliken said he's also looking forward to using the auditorium for such things as weekly chapels, graduations, seminars, leadership training and youth events. He said he

hopes other area churches also will want to use the space for events and activities.

The college offers four-year bachelor degrees, plus two-year degrees that can transfer to Grace University, York College and Bellevue University for degrees in education and business.

The college has 142 students from 20 states and two foreign countries. College officials have said that once the new buildings are in place, the college hopes to grow to an enrollment of about 225.

"For 40 years, the college has wanted to have a separate, dedicated chapel. ...It's going to be a great facility for us."

*Richard Milliken,
president of Nebraska
Christian College*

"Wow! It looks kind of like an ant farm out here," commented a recent visitor. They were referring to the flurry of activity going on at the construction site for our new Sapp Brothers Memorial Ministry Equipping Center. The basic structure is up, the concrete road is poured, and the inside is really taking shape. We have been assured that construction of the building will be completed by the middle of August. Things will then need a good dusting, a generous dose of decorating, lots of furniture, technology and...students. This whole project is about our students. This building should help recruit even more students and help us do an even better job of equipping them for ministry.

You can see by the pictures that the majority of the exterior work is complete and the interior is now receiving much of the attention. Our students will soon be receiving the benefits of the spacious chapel, the designated classroom spaces, the coffee lounge in the reception area and the outdoor courtyard. This is an exciting time on our campus as we anticipate the completion of this building, the arrival of new students and the return of current students for another year of outstanding ministry training.

Since our last newsletter there has been good progress toward reaching our \$3 million goal for the purchase of this important building. We feel blessed that to date close to 80% of the funds have been raised toward the goal, however, we are still in need of just over \$600,000. We continue to meet with friends of the college to ask for their support of this project, and many are saying, "yes!" to this unique and progressive opportunity to help advance the Kingdom of God. So many have given and are now praying for success.



If you have not yet had an opportunity to invest in The Next Chapter campaign through a pledge, please contact us today with your three-year pledge. Our Dedication Celebration service on October 15th will be so much sweeter if we are able to announce, "the goal has been reached!" There will be a Celebration Offering taken during the main session of the Dedication Celebration and we ask that you please be praying in advance about how you can get involved in equipping the next generation of Christian leaders through this offering.

Please make plans to join us for a weekend of celebration for all ages! This will be a free event. Reservations are not required to attend. As a courtesy, if you plan on attending any of the events, please go to www.goingtoNCC.com and let us know you are coming so we can plan accordingly. This site will also have the latest details about the Dedication Celebration.



Omaha World Herald
October 9, 2010, Pg 26

Nebraska Christian College

Ministry Equipping Center
Dedication Celebration
October 15, 2011

College celebrates its future in Papillion

Nebraska Christian College started in a house in Norfolk, Neb., in 1945.

More than 60 years later, the campus is growing on the southern edge of Papillion — and has reason to celebrate.

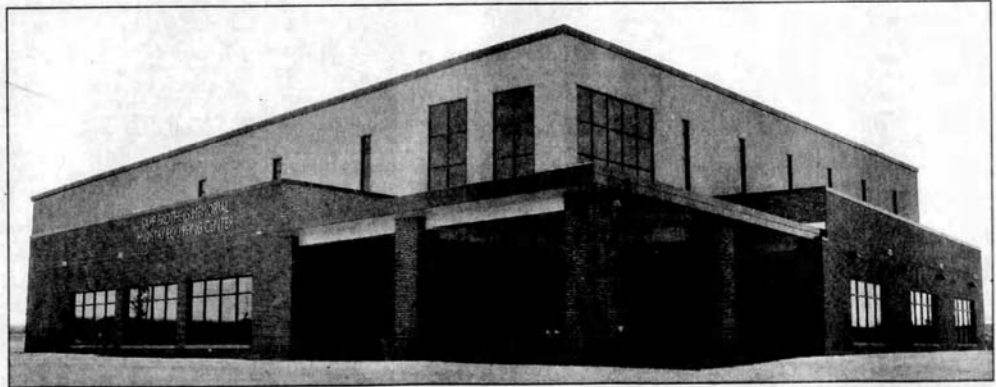
By VINCE MANCUSO
WORLD-HERALD NEWS SERVICE

Last month, the college dedicated the Sapp Brothers Memorial Ministry Equipping Center, a facility built and designed to train, equip and send out preachers and worship leaders. The celebration featured nationally known Christian band Avalon, worship leader Darrell Evans and keynote speaker David Faust.

"We love Papillion," said JD King, director of marketing and special events for the college. "We're excited God has placed us here."

Papillion Mayor David Black told a crowd of alumni, current students and other supporters that Papillion was happy to welcome Nebraska Christian College and celebrate its growth. Bill and Lee Sapp — the brothers from whom the building gets its name — also spoke.

Besides an auditorium where musicians and light and sound technicians can practice their craft with a venue that seats 500, the multimillion-dollar center offers private rehearsal rooms for vocals and instruments. Another room is set up to teach students



VINCE MANCUSO/WORLD-HERALD NEWS SERVICE

The Sapp Brothers Memorial Ministry Equipping Center is the first building visitors see as they drive in to campus.

"There aren't a lot of colleges doing what we're doing."

Dustin Runcie, NCC senior

the technical aspects of worship, such as music and video production.

"If you graduate from NCC, you'll be prepared to lead a worship team but also have a command of the technology used to communicate," King said.

Senior Dustin Runcie said the campus is at the leading edge of Christian worship arts. "There aren't a lot of colleges doing what we're doing," he said.

The building also offers a preaching lab. Students can stand on a mock-pulpit and deliver sermons to their teacher, classmates — and a camera. In the same room, instructors and students can sit side by side and critique the presentations.

The new center is just one of the steps to bring a more campus-like feel to the campus. The college next plans fundraising for an activity center. That center likely will be built in phases, starting with a gym and locker room. A cafeteria and wellness



VINCE MANCUSO/WORLD-HERALD NEWS SERVICE

Worship artist Darrell Evans leads the NCC Gospel Choir through a time of praise.

center will be added as funds become available.

Justin Raulston, 32, was among the alumni present who had graduated from the Norfolk campus. He said he appreciates that Papillion has offered support,

and he thinks Nebraska Christian already is more recognized here than it was in Norfolk.

"This is just the first step in God doing awesome things in this campus and in the community of Papillion," he said.

MORE MIDLANDS NEWS



KENT SIEVERS/THE WORLD-HERALD

Leaders at Nebraska Christian College hope that the merger with Hope International University in California will boost enrollment at their small school in Papillion.

Landscapes change as Papillion college announces merger

Nebraska Christian says the link to California will give students more opportunities, flexibility

By HAILEY KONNATH
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Emilie Knauss, a junior at Nebraska Christian College, is eager to move to Colorado in August for a yearlong internship.

The move is intriguing to her not only for the mountain scenery but also because she'll be able to continue taking classes for her degree online.

That option is now available because of a recent merger between her Papillion-based college and Hope International University in Fullerton, California.

"That'll be really exciting," Knauss said, "to be plugged into a new environment and still finish my degree."

tion program through Hope International. He was able to start taking online classes for his degree during the 2015-16 school year, before the merger, thanks to the initial agreement between the two institutions.

"I think everybody is excited and enthusiastic about the merger," he said.

Juniors and seniors in certain programs at Nebraska Christian are required to do an internship or residency. Many, like Knauss, choose to do it elsewhere in the country or abroad. Hope International is giving those students, as well as students at the Papillion campus, a host of online class options that weren't previously available.

Students will have more flexibility in course scheduling, and advising will be easier for faculty members, said Andrew Wood, a professor of intercultural studies and history at Nebraska Christian.

Both schools will use an in-

tegrated campus management system, share online learning and classroom technologies, and have access to extensive library resources and research databases, a press release said. The merger also will give regional accreditation to Nebraska Christian.

Wood said faculty at both institutions will collaborate in curriculum planning, mission trips, study abroad programs, marketing and recruiting.

"We are able to benefit from the expertise of a larger college, as well as share our own expertise as a smaller college that has been able to experiment with innovative approaches," he said.

Nebraska Christian's curriculum until now has mostly focused on pastoral leadership. Curriculum will not change in the college's existing degree programs, Clark said.

The new curriculum options will give students room for more electives, Wood said, which is helpful when students transfer credit or change majors. It'll also allow students to explore more areas of personal interest, such as foreign language, music or physical fitness.

"I think this delivers a more well-rounded education," he said.

Hope International University was established in 1928 and offers degrees in arts and sciences, business management, education, psychology and counseling, and ministry and biblical studies.

Adding Nebraska Christian as a partner allows Hope International to extend its reach to the Midwest, the press release said. Students interested in the university but not interested in moving to the West Coast can now enroll in those programs via the Nebraska Christian College campus.

"They can come here and get the atmosphere of a college that is spiritually on the move and financially on the move," Beebe said. "They can experience all of that while being close to home."

Clark said he hopes the merger will increase enrollment in coming years because of the addition of several new degree programs, such as business administration, teacher education and psychology. Nebraska students also will have access to online master's degree programs.

Derek Beebe, a senior at Nebraska Christian College, is the first student to major in the new business administra-

tion program through Hope International. He was able to start taking online classes for his degree during the 2015-16 school year, before the merger, thanks to the initial agreement between the two institutions.

"I think everybody is excited and enthusiastic about the merger," he said.

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Students will have more flexibility in course scheduling, and advising will be easier for faculty members, said Andrew Wood, a professor of intercultural studies and history at Nebraska Christian.

Both schools will use an in-

Integrated campus management system, share online learning and classroom technologies, and have access to extensive library resources and research databases, a press release said. The merger also will give regional accreditation to Nebraska Christian.

Wood said faculty at both institutions will collaborate in curriculum planning, mission trips, study abroad programs, marketing and recruiting.

"We are able to benefit from the expertise of a larger college, as well as share our own expertise as a smaller college that has been able to experiment with innovative approaches."

Andrew Wood, a professor of intercultural studies and history at Nebraska Christian

Andrew Wood, a professor of intercultural studies and history at Nebraska Christian

THE NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE CAMPUS





2020

Nebraska Christian College to close

School blames
move on declining
enrollment

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PAPILLION — Nebraska Christian College has too few students to sustain operations, so it must close at the end of this semester, officials said.

The college moved to Pa-

pillion in 2006 after opening in 1944 in Norfolk. The college merged in 2016 with Hope International University in Fullerton, California.

Students enrolled at the Nebraska school already are Hope International students by virtue of the merger, Hope International President Paul Alexander said in a news release Thursday.

“We fully understand

that this news, initially, is shocking, unsettling, and disappointing for our students, but we want them to know that we will do everything in our power to assist them through this,” he said.

Students may choose to transition to Hope International’s California campus or complete their degrees online. Ministry students participating in residencies can continue at their host

churches.

Enrollment jumped briefly to 140 students — a 27% increase — after the merger. But by spring 2020, enrollment plummeted to a 30-year low of 85. The decrease caused crippling operating losses, officials said.

“Good stewardship of God’s resources requires that we take action, no matter how difficult,” Alexander said.

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