New beginnings as new members join NHS and NJHS

by Fre Bentz

National Honor Society (NHS) and National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) have been going on for a year at Oneida Baptist Institute. They had their annual induction of new members on March 26, 2015. The ceremony took place in the chapel with the help of Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Gritton, and Mrs. Cordle the organization’s adviser. The ceremony had all the new members as well as the president, vice president, secretary from NHS as well as NJHS. The new members took the pledge and received their pin as well as lighting a their candle. At the end of the ceremony new members and their families were invited to a special reception in Anderson Hall for lunch.

Junior Autumn Dunzweiler is one of the members of NHS, and she is also the secretary. She has been in it for about a year, and says her experience has been enjoyable. The thing she likes the most about NHS is serving others. Her advice for the new people joining is, “It’s something that helps build your character for the better.”

NJHS Secretary Eileen Phocas has been in the organization for about a year now. She said her experience of being in the NJHS has been positive because it “helps you learn care about others besides you, not only about academics but other things as well.” Her advice for the new people joining would be that it’s a good group to join into because it’s learning how to express new ideas with people and a good way to learn communication.

Food show showcases possible new cafeteria items

by Kirsten Frazier

The Food Service department, led by Mrs. Martha Taylor, held a food show on March 20. Mrs. Taylor says she was inspired to do the show so she could see what the students liked, and it gives the students an opportunity to choose food that they like for themselves. The food show featured a variety of food displayed on a table with five tickets that students could vote with and put in a basket for the food of their choice. There were different kinds of protein, milk, pizza, hamburgers, and fries displayed. The sale representatives from different companies all came together to put on this food show for OBI, and the food show started at 12:30 P.M. after lunch. Each class got to go in the cafeteria for 30 minutes to talk, eat, and get to know new people, also to ask about the different varieties of foods.

Nineteen new members joined the NHS and NJHS increased by one. OBI has had chapters of NHS and NJHS since last year.

Freshmen Fillmore Smith and Talia Geerlings enjoy the food and hang out time together.
Friendship House is a blessing to campus and community

by Kirsten Frazier

The Friendship House is a place where people go to get clothes and to learn how to communicate with others and have an opportunity to hang out with their friends and co-workers. One quote Friendship House director Mrs. Amy King offered about her work at the Friendship House is, “May your days be filled with laughter, friendship, and love.” Mrs. King says she was inspired to work in the Friendship House because the clothes, and other items were being incorrectly held, and the staff wasn’t getting the best items out of what was being donated. She has worked there for seven years, helping people and making the community a better environment.

The Friendship House has helped the community tremendously by giving them the opportunity to get their clothes locally instead of having to travel very long distances and spending a lot of money. It also helps the community come together and be a big family. Mrs. King stated that it teaches you to not be ungrateful with what you have, and to always be friendly because family always sticks together. Mrs. King quotes, “For 50 cents there shouldn’t be any child that has to go without clothes.” She also comments that “if the Friendship House wasn’t there then there would be a lot of people in the community without clothes.”

Mrs. King has many volunteers help her through the months of April to August, and she also has a local friend, Pam Marcum, who helps her out when needed. She has one field placement student, Rachel Roughton, who helps a lot through the week.

What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear “Easter”? 

by Isabella DeLong

Lincoln Lanbard: Eggs
Sierra Jacks: Bunnies
Tyler Parr: Resurrection
Kelsey Choate: Avron
Elena Clements: The Easter bunny
Amina Seye: Avron
Mr. Lawson: Jesus
Eileen Phocas: Death of Jesus Christ and candy
Rahel Robinson: I think of a lot of candy and a bunny, and the blood of Christ
Ocha Ewurum: Flowers
Megan Stiles: God
Kay Cooper: Eggs

Jayden Giblin: Candy
Alvin Gibson: Candy
Andrew Pettus: Jesus
Chevy Anisca: Eggs, and the Easter Bunny
De’jour Frazier: Eggs
Falisha Ebelhar: tulips
Miss Kitty: Resurrection of Christ
Mrs. Jaspersen: Resurrection
Skylar Holler: Pretty spring colors
How are the seniors feeling as graduation approaches?

By Spencer Montgomery

What is your biggest fear about graduating?

Erin Buchko: Leaving behind relationships at OBI

Jason Biyo: Not being able to follow the career path of my choice

Addison Fry: Being on her own and providing for myself while balancing time management

Luke White: Balancing jobs, sports and school

Tolu Sola-Adeymi: Leaving friends and meeting new people

What are your future plans?

Erin Buchko: EKU in the fall and then following with transferring to be a dental hygienist

Keon Burton: Study in Italy then go to James Madison University with a degree in political science and international relations and minor in foreign policy

Jason Biyo: California AMDA

A.J. Shackelford: UK or EKU, degree in psychological therapy for young people of our nation because I have been blessed with being a people person

Describe this senior in one word...
Lady Mountaineers are sliding into softball

by Isabella DeLong

From the long white lines, and a big bright yellow ball, you really can’t miss this season for the Lady Mountaineers’ softball team. The 2014-15 softball team has a good look on this year’s schedule. Interviewing three players, we found out how they feel towards the sport and what they would change.

Starting the game off is rookie freshman Sammie Forko, who doesn’t quite understand softball. She states every day that “ball is life,” speaking about basketball. In her own words, she states that softball is different from basketball because “there is not a bat in basketball, more running in basketball. Basketball is indoors and not outdoors [and] it just works with me.” Sammie explains how she doesn’t even know how to play, saying, “Right now what I know how to do in softball is just run. Well, at least that is what Mr. Parkhouse makes me.” Sammie has never played softball before. In the end, Sammie claims that basketball is her one and only sport. “I actually understand basketball and have played the game before. I fit in well, I just get lazy when it comes to running but overall ball is life!” Sammie stated.

Returning player freshman Amy Decker is coming this year with more than ever. Amy is back again for the Lady Mountaineers along with her two sisters. She reported how she loves playing with older sister Deborah Decker and younger sister Rebekah Decker, saying, “I can feel a little competition between us, but sometimes it doesn’t.” Amy has been playing softball for almost ten years now and still thinks she can improve her batting and her balance in her stance as she bats. Amy plays center field, and she would love to play everywhere in outfield only because she has a powerful arm. Other than outfield, she would love to play catcher, however she can’t because her knees are too bad with catching.

Sherya Barua is bringing it all in with a grand slam. Sherya was asked about how she felt about playing for Oneida this year. She states, “It is easier than a public high school team. Between all the pressure and cuts, OBI really doesn’t have that problem, for an individual and a team.” Sherya picked softball before track and tennis because she said she played a game sort of like softball but called rookie ball for four years of her life. One thing she would change about the softball team is the practice time. Sherya says “I love my teammates; they are very competitive, but always fun to be around.” The Lady Mountaineers currently have a 2—2 record so far this season.

Mountaineer baseball is swinging into the season

by Noble Zika

Baseball has already hit off into a new season, winning two games against Pineville and Red Bird. Starting junior Daniel Decker said, “I want to see the team go really far this year by winning a lot of games, and I also want to get really serious with baseball so I can be prepared for college baseball.” Junior Trey Stout said, “We did not do good last baseball season, but I hope that changes this season because all of us are willing to work hard to win and go far this season.” The Mountaineers currently have a 2—2 record.

Let the races begin!

by Noble Zika

The season of running and field events has begun. Coach Tomas Clark coaches the boys’ track and field team and Coach Bonita Robinson coaches the girls’ team. Coach Clark said, “We have to work hard in practices so we can show up on meets because the team has athletes with God-given talent, and we are not going to waste it.”

Athletes have been practicing to get better at whatever event they do. The first track meet was on March 21. Each of our athletes did well for their track meet, and from that they have all learned from their mistakes so they can work on it and do even better next time.
Q and A with Mrs. Ronda Leach and Kidus Shiferawe

by Redeat Amare

Mrs. Ronda Leach

What’s your favorite food? Chinese
What’s your favorite color? Pink
How long have you been at OBI? Two years and six months
Where were you before OBI? I worked for a neurosurgeon
How did the change from the farm to the office affect you? It’s a big change, but it was harder there
Pet peeve? Unkind people
Highlight of the day? Seeing the people and students in OBI
What is your favorite thing to do in Oneida? I can’t choose
When working on the farm did you think it held you back? No, it just didn’t give me the opportunity to use what I had
When is your birthday? July 18
What is your favorite class? AP Biology

Kidus Shiferawe

Favorite color? Blue
Favorite food? Kitfo
How long have you been in OBI? Two years
What is your favorite class? AP Biology
Where were you before OBI? Ethiopia
Pet peeve? Moise Gonago
Highlight of the day? The diversity
Favorite thing to do in OBI? Socialize with my peers
When is your birthday? November 14
Dream place to visit? Israel
What college do you want to go to? Johns Hopkins

what Fre has to say...

by Fre Bentz

It is almost that time of the year where school is almost over. I am also getting lazy. Since it is coming towards the end of the year, my advice would be for nobody to get lazy and to work as hard as you would in the beginning of the year because the grades right now still matter by the end of the year. I am so excited to be a senior. I have been waiting to be a senior since my sixth grade year. I am also nervous because being a senior comes with the whole applying to college, taking the ACT, leaving all my friends behind, but it’s also a great experience being on my own meeting new people and learning to be independent. I hope everybody keeps working hard and keeps up with the good grades because the end of the year is not here yet.
For Mountaineer tennis serving is just a start

by Spencer Montgomery

Tennis is off to a great start. On March 24, they had their first home match. The Mountaineers won over all. Freshman Mianna Baker commented that this year will be a growing season with all players and new coaches. This year the tennis team is having some trials with changes. Mianna’s best memory is hitting with previous coach Mike Waslewski and not being able to hit it straight.

New head coach, Mr. Tim Cochran, said he is excited about this season, but it is unknown. The boys have a lot of potential to be really good, and the girls are improving. He comments that the biggest advantage we have is that our team is not too big or too small, so when on the courts people can be competitive and they are also learning.

Luke White, a senior, says that this year will be memorable to all of the players. Luke has been playing most of his life and has a tennis scholarship for college.

Senior Luke White is a veteran on the OBI tennis court. He has received a tennis scholarship for college next year.

Freshman Mianna Baker has improved immensely in her tennis game over the years. She is a vital member of the girls’ team this year.

Junior Simon Robinson is another of the tennis team’s returning players.

The Bridge staff wishes you and your family a blessed Easter season.

He is risen!

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