



Founded in 1899

ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

Education for Time and Eternity

A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute

July/August 2011

OBI tennis player competes at state level



An OBI sophomore advanced to state competition in tennis this spring. **Anna Davidson** earned the chance to play at state by winning two regional rounds in Knott County May 15-18.

Assistant coach **Mike Waslewski** said, "Anna split sets with the number one seed in the region in the semi-finals and lost the third set 4-6. She is a true warrior!"

Anna recalled, "The three sets took three hours. It was a really good match--the best I'd ever played."

At the state contest in Lexington on May 26 Anna got two games in on her second set. It was her third year in a row to qualify for state. "I won more games than I did the last two years," Anna said.

Coach **Cindy Waslewski** noted much improvement in Anna's game this year, despite the setback of a sprained ankle. "She came back full force with determination and daily dedication to becoming better in her tennis game," Waslewski stated. "She has improved in her serving, as she gets many of her first serves in. She has played more at the net than in the past, which has also been another improvement. We, as coaches, appreciate Anna's hard work and dedication to becoming the best she can be and even bettering her best."

Eight other students participated in the regional competition. **Taylor Ter-Burgh** and **Isaac Waslewski** played singles while **Brittany Hoeweler**, **Maria Stamatis**, **David TerBurgh**, **Eric Grant**, **Nathan Cahall** and **Jacob Bortell** played doubles.

Mrs. Waslewski commented on OBI tennis in general: "The opportunities to play tennis are so open at Oneida. As students put forth effort and a love for the sport, they develop their talents and playing techniques, moving up in seed order as they play in matches between each other. We have a wonderful opportunity playing in our region, competing against schools our size. When winning regional tournaments with singles, doubles and/or boys' and girls' teams, we can then go on to the state tennis tournament."

Anna said that although she had already been to state competition the past two years, it was still a very exciting event. "I want to thank God for the experience," she said. Anna noted, "Our coaches sometimes spent five hours practicing with us on Saturdays and they stayed late on weekdays, too. A lot of our success as a team and my success is due to the hard work and dedication of the coaches." □

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Quality assurance from the Kentucky Board of Education

By *Dan Stockton, OBI principal*

During the 2010–2011 academic year, OBI renewed our 15-year relationship with the Kentucky Non-Public Schools Commission by engaging in the five-year accreditation and certification process. The Kentucky Board of Education participates directly with the Kentucky Non-Public Schools Commission in working to assure that quality educational programs are offered to students who attend private schools in the state. KRS 156.160(3) directs that any "private, parochial, or church school may voluntarily comply with curriculum, certification, and textbook standards established by the Kentucky Board of Education and be certified upon application to the Board..."

Educational accreditation is a quality assurance process under which services and operations of educational institutions or programs are evaluated. Since state certification is voluntary for private schools, it is an honor and a privilege to be a part of the select group of institutions who have chosen to achieve this highest standard. On June 8, 2011, the Kentucky Board of Education approved OBI's certification, effective from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

The Kentucky Non-Public Schools Commission gives each participating school the necessary "document" for the detailed self-study. The comprehensive self-study, comprised of over 500 pages,

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requires that each school precisely examine, document, and assess 13 major standards. The most critical include these areas: (1) the school's established philosophy and mission, (2) the overall governance structure, (3) the personnel are appropriately qualified for the positions in which they work, (4) the educational program has clearly defined and communicated academic expectations, and (5) the financial stability of the institution is able to support and maintain the expected learning outcomes of the educational programs.

The project takes approximately 12 months to complete, but the rewards are immensely beneficial to our students. We take humble pride in knowing that our Christ-centered efforts combined with the determination of our students equips them with an outstanding educational experience, which allows them to attend any college/vocational program or the real world work force. Without a diploma from an accredited school, some of these opportunities would be non-existent.

The accreditation and certification process provides proof that OBI has a Christian environment in which each student is challenged to grow mentally, physically, socially, and spiritually. □

Two graphic design students place at Bluegrass Regional Art Show



(Top) Anujin's 2nd-place "Vintage; A Font Project"
(Bottom) Julia's 3rd-place "Bristol."

The Kentucky Bluegrass Regional Art Competition was February 27-March 24 at Eastern Kentucky University. OBI seniors



Julia Harmon (left), **Anujin Enkhbat** (right), **Evan Bracewell**, **Nahom Muluneh** and **Jacob Isaacs** participated.

Anujin won second place with her work entitled "Vintage; a Font Project." Her piece was a custom designed font made into an advertising poster for the font. Judges praised her originality for the poster and font concept, as well as her technical capabilities.

Julia won third place with a piece called "Bristol." Her work included a hand drawn icon for a furniture company. Judges appreciated the ability and creativity required to make a custom icon and integrate it into a logo.

Commercial Art teacher Sheri Nutter said, "All participants in this year's regional competition have developed skills that will propel them into a career in graphic design, learning how to use freehand drawing tools on the computer, photo-editing skills, typography and advanced color techniques." She added, "My students have always done really well at regional, usually placing in the top three." □



(Far left) **Timothy Wells** and **Ollie Gibson** posed before the 2011 OBI Senior Banquet. The menu included steak, shrimp, fruit and casseroles.
(Left) Middle school principal **Emily Kelley** congratulated **Jenny Peters** after our 2011 Commencement service. The 52 students who graduated on May 14 brought the total number of OBI graduates to 3,636! Our first graduating class in 1908 boasted only five students. 75% of the graduates in the class of 2011 earned Advanced Diplomas, which is the second highest percentage in Oneida's history.



On April 27 our Baptist Campus Ministry sponsored a silent dessert auction for disaster relief in Japan. They raised \$642 for Samaritan's Purse.

Bits and tidbits

Our mission statement

The mission of Oneida Baptist Institute is to provide a Christian living, learning and working environment in which each of its students, Christian or non-Christian, is diligently challenged to grow mentally, physically, socially and spiritually in order to acquire an *Education for Time and Eternity*.

OBI continues to participate in these special programs:

Campbell's "Labels for Education"™

Send us the entire label. Look for "Labels for Education"™ not only on Campbell's foods, but also on their other products, such as Vlasic®, Franco-American®, Prego®, Swanson®, Pace® and Pepperidge Farm®. These labels earn points for us that we can redeem to get free educational equipment and other items for our school.

Tyson's "Project A+"™

Send entire labels from specially marked Tyson chicken products. These are worth 24 cents each, and return to us as a cash reward.

General Mills "Box Tops for Education"™

Send specially marked box tops. Each is worth 10 cents, and this program also turns points into cash.

Are you receiving duplicate mailings from us?

If so, help us save on postage. Send us the label of the address you want us to delete and mark it "cancel." Or e-mail:

peggy.jackson@oneidaschool.org

Include your name, the address you want to cancel and the 5-digit number above your name on that label.

Do you know of a teen in grades 6-12 who could benefit from our ministry?

If so, tell the family about OBI. Direct them to our web site for more information and admissions forms.

Phone: (606) 847-4111

Fax: (606) 847-4496

Web: www.oneidaschool.org



OBI is one of the agencies and institutions of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Experiencing the love of Christ

Dear Friends,

Oneida Baptist Institute has been a part of the rich and vibrant history of southeastern Kentucky for well over 110 years now. Through OBI's halls have passed many. Some of these have achieved great notoriety by the world's standards and others have lived a more austere life. Regardless, all those who have passed through share in this one truth: all are broken and in need of salvation through God's most high and wonderful gift, eternal salvation through Jesus Christ.

I came to OBI at the age of 16. I was uncertain and in need of direction, yet full of energy. I came from a good home but I lived a life inconsistent with the values being taught in that home. At OBI I received love, guidance and structure, along with what was the most important aspect of my education. I received the immutable eternal love of Christ inflected through the hearts and lives of his servants at OBI. I experienced the love of Christ in so many ways. Whether through the time of a patient ear, the academic instruction of a faculty member, the challenge of a coach or the correction from a houseparent, I experienced the love of Christ with and through the hearts and labors of those who served the OBI mission of "Education for Time and Eternity."

OBI planted the seeds of hope in my life. This hope is a living hope, a risen hope, a message that rises above all despair in this world. He is risen. May the love of Jesus continue to shine in your life and in the lives of those with whom you walk.

I am thankful for those who made Oneida Baptist Institute a part of my life. Our school has been sustained not only through financial and material contributions or labor, but most importantly by prayer and faith. Thank you to those who have endeavored to see our ministry through.

Sincerely,  R. Keith Todd (OBI '91)

OBI faculty 7/99 - 12/00 and 7/06 - 6/11



Homecoming Highlights



Great weather, great food and great friends made the 2011 Homecoming at Oneida a special day for nearly 400 visitors. After the Hymn Sing at Oneida Baptist Church and barbecue lunch, OBI alumni and friends gathered in the chapel for special recognitions of the 50th anniversary class of 1961, which included this year's Athletic Hall of Fame inductee **Winston Kilgore**, and the unveiling of a portrait of **Martha Coldiron Hogg**, who donated the land on which our school was built.

ONEIDA BAPTIST INSTITUTE
PO BOX 67
ONEIDA KENTUCKY 40972-0067

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25 years of ministry: "It feels like home"



On April 25 we honored our faculty and staff who have served at OBI for five, ten, (etc.) years.

Three people received 25-year service awards: **Martha Jane Harmon** (left), **John Kirby Smith** (right) and **B.J. White** (not pictured).

Ms. Harmon is a tutor in our Tutoring Lab, while Smith works in the business office. White is a houseparent in the boys' dormitory and a 1982 OBI graduate.

In presenting the awards in chapel, president **Dr. W.F. Underwood** (OBI '63) reminded students and visitors that Oneida staff earn very modest salaries. If a family with children comes to serve at OBI, the children as well as the parents make sacrifices to be a part of our ministry.

"We're not a traditional Christian school," Underwood explained. "We take non-Christian students and kids with low grades. We are a missions-driven ministry. We seek to do things differently from most other Christian schools, and we believe that's the reason we're still here."

Smith began his Oneida career in the Tutoring Lab, later moving to the library and then the business office. Why has he remained at OBI so long? "The Lord opened the door for me to come here and He hasn't closed that door," he answered.

Ms. Harmon started out in the Tutoring Lab and has happily stayed. "Tutoring is a perfect fit for me," she said. "It feels like home." She enjoys the atmosphere at Oneida; "There are a lot of changes every year, but there's the stability of the ministry." □

See the chapel, see the steeple...

In June workmen were lifted by crane to the steeple of our chapel. Removing the steeple was the first step in replacing the roof of the chapel building, Sylvia Russell Hall. Leaks have been a problem for quite some time. The elevated portion of the new roof that supports the steeple will have a copper-colored metal surface instead of shingles. The steeple itself will be completely renovated and painted before being reinstalled.



Ag students excel

On April 8 the Oneida FFA chapter sent 10 members to participate in a Field Day sponsored by the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

Danessa Hill claimed first place in Job Interview. **Megan Hatton** took second place in Pig Processing, while **Brandon Swan** earned second in Senior Tractor Driving. **Sara Huerta** placed third in Calf Processing. **Nicholas Behm**, **Olivia Bevil** and **Randi Wise** came in fifth as a team in Livestock Evaluation. **Beth McBride** placed fifth in Horse Knowledge. **Cassi Hept** was eighth in Livestock Evaluation. **Lily Wynn** participated in Dairy Evaluation.

Having this many students take part in the U.K. Field Day was a pleasant surprise for our chapter. Farm Manager **Lynn Cole** stated, "More kids went this year than ever before. Usually it's just the students who compete in tractor driving, but more were interested in it this year." He estimated that between 20 and 30 schools participated.

Senior **Megan Hatton** (below) also excelled with her FFA Proficiency this spring, placing first at the regional level. Her specialty area was Swine Placement. A proficiency involves keeping records of job descriptions, hours worked and more. Regional first-place proficiencies are sent on to the state FFA review committee to compete against other regional winners. □

