

OBI hosts District Governor's Cup Competition



usually wouldn't have been exposed to until they were seniors."

Jaden was on the academic team of his former school his freshman and sophomore years, and has participated on our team the past two years. He explained, "Academic team covers a wide area of topics. We have to know a little bit of everything." He recalled, "When I first started, I was really bad at it and I had low confidence. Now I look back on those days and I see how much better I am now."

Mrs. Schmittendorf summed up, "Throughout the contest the faculty and staff truly exhibited that, here at OBI, success is achieved as we function as ONEida." □

In January, OBI hosted the Academic Team District Governor's Cup Competition.

Jaden Kim placed first in math and tied for first in science; **Aliceson Barger** placed second in social studies and fifth in science; **Caleb Monday** placed fourth and **Destiny Tanner** placed fifth in language arts; while **Oluchi Nwangwu** placed fourth in written composition. These students advance to the regional competition to be held at Corbin on February 15.

We had not hosted the district

competition in many years. The contest included the written assessments listed above, quick recall, and future problem solving. Four schools participated -- Barbourville, Knox Central, Clay County, and OBI.

Hosting the competition took planning and plenty of help from Oneida faculty and staff. There was a hospitality room. Several people served there as hosts, while numerous staff members brought food. During the contest, OBI faculty/staff proctored written assessments, read the questions for quick recall, and judged quick recall.

Coach **Tricia Schmittendorf** said, "The team worked really hard this year. I was particularly proud of the freshmen who worked so hard learning information spanning the breadth of high school literature which they

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Holiday highlights

Clockwise: A happy Thanksgiving dinner!
 Decorations were big in the Lower School.
 'Twas the season to deck the chapel.
 OBI faculty/staff **Steve Grant, Tim Cochran,**
 and **Charles Roughton**
 played brass in the annual Christmas concert.
 Shepherds on the Walk to Bethlehem.



YOU can make a difference in a young life!

Do you know of a child in grade 7-12 who could benefit from the ministry we provide? Tell the family about OBI. A teen's life may be turned around because someone like you took the time to care.



Summer dates

May 18 - Summer school & summer work program begin
 June 12 - Summer school & summer work program end



Former Coach Larry A. Gritton, Sr. honored



Coach Larry A. Gritton, Sr. (center) was honored at a ceremony in the OBI Sparks Gymnasium on December 7. A plaque recognizing 410 coaching victories “and the countless lives he touched for God’s Kingdom” was presented by OBI president **Larry A. Gritton, Jr.**, while **Larry A. Gritton, III** (“Trey”) had the honor of unveiling the banner which now hangs alongside several retired jerseys. Many of Gritton’s former OBI players as well as several former Oneida coworkers were in attendance.

Gritton and his wife, **Linda**, served on the Oneida staff from 1973-1993. Gritton taught many subjects, including French and Bible. He also coached cross country and led his 1992 boys’ team to a state runner-up finish. Gritton also served as athletic director and principal.

Mrs. Gritton was a teacher and middle school principal. The Grittons raised their three children, **Holly**, Larry Allen, Jr., and **Jeremy** at OBI.

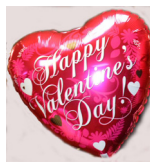
In 1993 God called the Grittons to Curtis Baptist School in Augusta, Georgia. While serving seven years there, Gritton led his 1994 and 1997 basketball teams to the Georgia Independent School Association’s state championship.

While coaching basketball at OBI, Gritton amassed 410 victories and averaged over 20 wins per season. His 1983 team still holds the state record for points averaged per game over the course of an entire season. That team averaged 95.5 points per game, and it was before the three-point line existed in high school basketball. Had the three-point line existed then, that average would have been well over 100 points per game.

Gritton won over 650 games in his overall coaching career at four different schools. Coach Gritton led his Mountaineers to the 1977 49th District Tournament championship and the 1992 13th Region Class A Championship. Gritton’s 1984 team won the All A Classic Championship before the event went statewide in 1990.

Although Gritton’s coaching resume is impressive, perhaps his most lasting legacy will be the lives he touched and countless young people he pointed to Jesus. The many former players who attended the event are a testament to the impact Gritton had on their lives. Many players who were not able to be here sent notes of appreciation for Coach Gritton. □

What do students LOVE about OBI?



“I love chapel. I like when everybody is singing. The preaching...teaches me how I should be.”

“I enjoy working on the farm. It’s nice to get out in nature and relax a little bit, and there’s some really nice people. They’re very encouraging.”

“We’re a family here. I have never had ‘family’ at school!”

“This year, my grades have definitely improved. I have the time to actually get stuff done..I feel like I just do better all around here.”

“I feel like it’s easier for me to learn here. They teach a different way. I’m doing so much better. My mom is proud of me.”



Do you know someone to nominate for our Athletic Hall of Fame? It can be an athlete or a coach. Watch for full criteria & a nomination form in the next *Oneida Mountaineer*. Inductions will be at our 2020 Homecoming on October 17.



OBI Drama
p r e s e n t s

Hans Christian Anderson’s

The Snow Queen

Adapted by Will Ledesma

March 26-28

7:00 PM

OBI Chapel

Admission is FREE!

Freshman sings in All-Festival Chorus



Freshman **Maira Morgan** represented Oneida in the annual Southeast Kentucky Music Association All Festival Chorus on November 26.

After an audition, 224 top singers from 22 regional high schools were selected to participate. The singers were placed in either the Mixed Chorus or the Women’s Chorus and rehearsed college-level music with guest conductors for two and a half days before the concert at the Central Baptist Church in Corbin. OBI choir members attended the concert.

This was Maira’s first time to be a member of the All-Festival Chorus. “It was fun,” she said.

“I got to meet a bunch of new people -- friendly people with amazing voices -- and I loved being able to sing with them.” Maira explained that the experience made her realize that OBI choral director, **Tim Cochran**, had been trying to teach her many of the same things. “It made me pay more attention in Mr. C’s class,” she acknowledged.

“It was awesome,” Maira concluded. “I hope I can represent OBI again next year.” □



Come to the table

Work continues on our new dining facility. Meanwhile, we’re still telling stories! Would you like to share a memory?



Through stories, we are celebrating our OBI community as we look forward to the W. F. “Bud” and Kay Underwood Dining Hall.

A few memories of the dining hall from the 1996-1998 era are: Getting to eat in the faculty dining room for lunch as a senior- big dogs on campus. Got to drink tea!! Also, many of us started a food fight, and it was so fun - UNTIL we had to clean the entire dining room before being allowed to go back to class. Spent many a night in late-night study hall (in the faculty dining room) ‘til 3:00 a.m. studying for tests as a junior/senior. And “sneaking” down the back stairwell of the girls’ dorm into the dining room to get late-night snack of chocolate milk--yumy! ~ Submitted by Amy Walls

For more information about the new facility and the Underwoods’ Oneida ministry, and to read more stories, visit: <http://www.oneidaschool.org/the-bridge.shtml> Feel free to share your story about fellowship in the OBI dining hall via e-mail: tamara.cochran@oneidaschool.org □

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*.

Where we are

Web: www.oneidaschool.org

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/OBI.KY>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/Oneida_Baptist

Phone: 606-847-4111 **Fax:** 606-847-4496

Mr. Gritton: <https://twitter.com/lgritton>

Want an easy way to give?

Go to our web site and click the “Give/Volunteer” tab, then the “Donate now” button to give via credit card, debit card or PayPal: <http://www.oneidaschool.org/support.shtml>

Want to receive the *Mountaineer* or *Alumni News* by e-mail?

Send your name, mailing address, e-mail address and the 5-digit number above your name on this issue’s mailing label to: diane.dimsey@oneidaschool.org Let her know if you’d like the e-Mountaineer or e-Alumni News or both. **IMPORTANT:** Be sure to add mountaineer@oneidaschool.org to your contact list in your e-mail program, or it may reject our publications as spam.

OBI continues these programs:

Tyson’s “Project A+”™

Send entire labels from specially marked Tyson products, worth 24 cents each. <http://projectaplus.tyson.com/>

General Mills “Box Tops for Education”™

Box Tops are digital! Each is still worth 10 cents with points-to-cash. Check it out: <http://www.bboxtops4education.com/>

Amazon Smile donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to OBI.

<http://smile.amazon.com/about>

Kroger “Community Rewards”

Shoppers with Plus cards can register at www.Kroger.com. Add OBI (PJ703) as the non-profit you want to support.

Office Depot “Back to Schools”

Give our school name or ID# 70040770 & we earn 5% of your purchase.