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ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

Founded in 1899

Education for Time and Eternity A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute November/December 2017

Homecoming highlights 2017



Clockwise from above: The Hymn Sing gives Homecoming guests a chance to worship and share stories. The golf tournament is always the day before Homecoming. The Fall Festival provides fun for our own students plus the children of our guests -- like pumpkin painting! Our Hall of Fame inductees were the 1982 boys' state championship fencing team (pictured) as well as **Chris Kendrick** (Class of 2003) and **Tim Phoenix** (Class of 2003).



Mark your calendar!

It's our second annual **OBI Pastors' Conference and Retreat** July 23-25, 2018. Please spread the word. Tell ministers you know!



It's FREE!

"An amazing transformation"



Our Lady Mountaineers volleyball team has undergone what President **Larry A. Gritton, Jr.** (OBI '93) called "an amazing transformation."

Their 2015 record was 0-17, and 2016's was 3-17. This year, they ended the season 18-7, which

broke all known OBI records. The most wins previously on record was 10 in 2002.

The team finished as Class A Regional Runner-Up, and twice defeated arch rival Clay County High School in straight sets.

This very young team featured several key players who were still in middle school. The starting lineup of six girls included two eighth graders, two freshmen, one sophomore, and one junior.

Several players attended a summer 10-day intensive volleyball camp, which had an obvious impact on their skills. Coach **Allie Valdeperas** noted, "Camp helped with their individual abilities, like working through bad serves, and hitting. They had a lot more control of the ball." □

Athletes go to state in both golf and cross country



Ruth Puributr, Newcomer of the Year.

Tyler and five other members of the golf team also played in our Alumni and Friends Homecoming Golf Tournament October 20.

OBI varsity cross country runners competed at the regional meet on October 28. Senior **Isador Yesuf** qualified for state with his sixth-place finish. **Chris Schulz** and **Jesse Muhire** finished in the top half of the region.

The state meet was November 4 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington. Isador's state time was 19:14, putting him ahead of more than 150 other runners.

Coach **Steve Grant** said, "Several runners improved a lot this season. The lower school runners did well. **Alex Gritton** had six first-place finishes." □



New schedule for summer 2018

Summer school and summer work program will both be May 21 - June 22.



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Marking 500 years

This fall, Oneida Baptist Institute joined with Christians around the world in commemorating the five hundredth anniversary of the Reformation. Chaplain **Joe Scull** had thought about it for nearly a year. "I said, 'It's the five-hundredth anniversary!'" he recalled. "We've got to do something special here!"

Scull asked Creative Ministries to come up with a skit for each day in chapel. Juniors **Seth Smith** and **Sierra Dunzweiler** took part in the daily drama. Choral Director, **Tim Cochran**, led a congregational hymn Monday-Thursday, and the praise team led in worship on Friday. OBI commercial art students made banners for the chapel. Campus Minister, **David Price**, shared the preaching with Scull. The sermons each day focused on one of the pillars of the Reformation -- "Christ alone," "grace alone," "faith alone," and "scripture alone," all of which are "to the glory of God alone."

One day Scull preached in a Martin Luther costume, complete with a wig. "It was fun," he said. "I hope the kids had fun." In addition to the chapel services, students could nail quotes from Luther's 95 Theses to a door, and could stamp ink on paper to represent the printing press.

Scull was pleased with how everything turned out. "The students seemed to be attentive and alert in chapel," he noted. "Several staff members said now they intend to read Luther's 95 Theses. I hope this encouraged them to go deeper in the faith." □



New middle school academic team



For the first time since 2000, OBI has a middle school academic team.

Coach **Renae Cushman** (OBI '95) shared, "I thought about starting a middle school

academic team a few years ago while I was helping with the high school team, but I didn't want the entire responsibility at that time...I was contacted by **Mrs. Osterrieder** [OBI Principal] at the beginning of this school year about leading a middle school team, but I declined the offer." A few days later, a chapel sermon changed Cushman's mind.

OBI is in the Lake Cumberland Academic League, Eastern Division. This division is composed of McCreary, Laurel, Clay, Whitley, and Knox Counties. Each competition consists of a written assessment in one of five content areas--math, science, language arts, social studies, arts and humanities--and a quick recall match. The 10 students on the team practice three days a week. So far, "Our season is going well," Cushman said. "At least one of my students place first or second each week on a written assessment. We have won two quick recall matches and lost two. Not bad for a new team!" □

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*.

Need to contact us?

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

Does your church have a web site?

If so, ask them to link to OBI:

Web: www.oneidaschool.org

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

Twitter: https://twitter.com/Oneida_Baptist

Connect with 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 chicken products. They are worth 24 cents each, and return to us as cash. <http://projectaplus.tyson.com/>

General Mills "Box Tops for Education"™
Send specially marked box tops, each worth 10 cents with points-to-cash. <http://www.boxtops4education.com/>

Oneida Baptist Institute is proud to be an institution of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.



Historic *Moriah Morning* produced for the third time



On Homecoming weekend, OBI Drama produced *Moriah Morning*, written by **Denise Day Spencer**, OBI publications. It was based on *The Crucible*, the autobiography of our founder, **James Anderson Burns**. Former OBI president, **Dr. Barkley Moore** (OBI '58) asked Spencer to undertake the project, which she completed in

1995 after his death in 1994.

Former president, **Dr. W. F. "Bud" Underwood** (OBI '63) requested the play be performed in 1999 for the Centennial Celebration. To "work the bugs out" for the Centennial, director **Debbie Winters** staged the play in 1997 as well.

Drama director, **Tamara Cochran**, was asked by current OBI president, **Larry A. Gritton, Jr.** (OBI '93) to produce the play for Homecoming. "The most challenging aspect was casting," she recalled. "The script called for 54 roles." She edited the script for length, and doubled and tripled roles.

A highlight for Cochran was sharing the history of Oneida's founding with students. She explained, "At rehearsals, I would read excerpts from Burns' book and show the students that they were portraying real people! Some of our local students marveled that they could be related to some of the characters. After our matinee performance, we walked to Cemetery Hill to view the graves of Burns and other OBI founders named in our play." □

2017-18 Yearbook Queen "Everyone has their own unique story"



On November 11 senior **Aisha Biyo** was crowned 2017-18 Oneidian Yearbook Queen. **Aisha**

is the 17-year-old daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Auguste Biyo** of Clarksburg, Maryland. She has attended OBI for six years, and has been a Resident Assistant (RA) in the dorm for two years. She has been a member of National Honor Society, and has also participated in FFA, dorm devotions, ONE, FCA, drama, Campus Activities Board, softball, soccer, and cheerleading.

In her resumé, Aisha stated, "I've always wanted to be someone who has a positive impact on the world...Being an RA has shown me that everyone has their own unique story."

Two young ladies tied for runner-up -- **Elise Bowen** and **Chasity Stevens**. Elise is from Louisville, and has attended Oneida for three years. Chasity is one of our day students, and this is her second year at OBI.

The contestants were judged by three guests from off-campus in the areas of individual resumé, interview with the judges, casual wear, appropriateness of evening gown, talent, stage presence and punctuality, and final question on stage. □

Oneida students connect



Some of our internationals attended Connect International, a three-day

conference for international students to celebrate their cultures, make friends and learn about the Christian faith. The event was sponsored by Kentucky Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) at Cave City. There were hundreds of college-age attendees. OBI is one of the few high schools in Kentucky with an active BCM, and the KBC's International Student Coordinator made sure we were invited. **Randy and Tricia Schmittendorf** chaperoned. □



Thank you for your support! Our students and staff wish you a merry Christmas and a blessed new year!

