



Founded in 1899

# ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

VOL. 93, NO. 4

Education for Time and Eternity

A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute

July/August 2016

## Students compete at state level in three areas

### Tennis team serves up success



In May, four OBI athletes competed at the state level in tennis.

**Kaikai Choopat Suvimolsteian** (second from right) was the regional boys' singles champion for the third year in a row. He was #3 seed in the state boys' singles bracket. He finished as a quarter-finalist and was named to the All-State Team.

**Mianna Baker** (left) was the regional girls' singles champion. This was her third time to represent Oneida at the state level.

**Simon Robinson** (second from left) and **Misha Natyshak** (right) were the regional boys' doubles runners-up. It was Simon's third time to play for OBI at state.

Coach **Tim Cochran** is hopeful about the future. He said, "We're

(See "Tennis," pg. 2)

### FFA excels in proficiency and speech

Our FFA chapter sent four members to compete at the state convention.

**Jonathan Sink** (center) won first place in Swine Production Placement Proficiency. He will compete at the national FFA convention this fall.

**Grace Sink** (left) placed third in Prepared Public Speaking. Her speech was on "Biotechnology in Agriculture." **Seth Shockley** (right) competed in Small Animal Impromptu Speaking, having placed second at the regional level. And **Stephen King** participated in Extemporaneous Speech after placing first at regionals.

At the state convention our chapter was also honored with the Bronze

(See "FFA," pg. 2)



### Track/field team sprints to victory



Our boys' track/field team advanced to state competition after winning second place in the region. This was the fourth year in a row for OBI to be represented at state in track/field.

The track team was over 20 strong until near the season's conclusion. Regional competition wasn't until after the end of our school year, and many of our athletes went home. Four girls and eight boys stayed to attend the regional contest. Six boys qualified for state.

The state-level athletes were **Noble Zika, Alex Assa, Steven Collins, Heru DeCaires, Montee Flahn, and Abu Jal-loh**. As a group, they qualified for every event at state except two, including the 4x100 relay, 4x200 relay, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 1600-meter run, 800-meter run, 110-meter hurdles, 300-meter hurdles, long jump, triple jump and high jump.

**Daniel Gay** was one of our assistant coaches. He said, "We dominated all season. We had a lot of seniors who were awesome athletes." Gay is already looking toward next year. "We will have several returning students who should qualify for state," he predicted, adding, "We should have a really strong team next year." □

## Spring happenings

Spring always seems like the busiest time of the school year. (clockwise from top left) **Our agriculture department** hosted a science fair attended by our science classes. **At the Spring Fling**, students had fun with contests and challenges. **Graduation was May 14**. Congratulations to our top five in academics, and to all of the Class of 2016! **Our annual Senior Banquet** was a time to dress in formal wear, enjoy a wonderful meal, and elect banquet royalty.



### You can make the difference in a young life!

Do you know a teenager who could benefit from the ministry we provide? Tell the family about OBI. Thank you!

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# Farming with hydroponics



From building the system...



...to growing...



...to eating!

This spring we began reaping a harvest from our new hydroponics system on the OBI farm. Hydroponics is the art of growing plants in a mineral-based solution with or without an alternate growing medium such as perlite or gravel, in the absence of soil. The time between planting and harvesting can be shortened by a few weeks because the plants receive more nutrients from constantly moving water than they would from soil.

Hydroponically raised tomatoes and lettuce appeared in our dining hall first, followed by cucumbers. Farm Manager **Marty Bevil** stated, "I want to be able to supply the kitchen year-round with all the vegetables they can possibly eat." □

*Written by Everett Kirkman,  
OBI Class of 2016*

# Meeting the standard



In May we completed our accreditation process and came through with flying colors. Our school is now fully accredited for another five years. Oneida Baptist Institute has private school accreditation through the National Non-Public School Commission (NNPSC), the Kentucky Non-Public School Commission (KyNPSC) and the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE).

The KyNPSC was created to address the common concerns of private schools that wanted to be in voluntary compliance with state standards. □

# FFA (continued)

Chapter Award. Grace Sink was also accepted into the Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute this summer. The Institute's purpose is to develop future business leaders in Southern and Eastern Kentucky. It is an intensive, week-long experience focused on developing creativity, teamwork, business and leadership skills. A total of 21 students from 45 counties were selected. Grace's team won the competition, and each member received a presidential scholarship to ECU all four years. ELI is sponsored by Kentucky Representative Hal Rogers and the Center for Rural Development. □

# Tennis (continued)

looking forward to next year. We have several strong players coming back, and some young players who showed promise. There's a lot of potential for next year." □

# Saying "thank you"



In April we honored faculty/staff who have served for five, ten, etc. years, including **Geneva Couch** (25 years), **Martha Harmon** (30 years) and **Kirby Smith** (30 years). We also said a fond farewell to **Joy and Blake Godbold** (below) who are retiring after 29 years of Oneida ministry.



# Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament October 21 and Homecoming October 22

The fall play will be that weekend, too, plus our Fall Festival!

Questions? Contact:  
Amanda Roberts, Alumni Director  
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The 2015-16 school year brought a new plan of action to our boys' and girls' dormitories -- the Resident Assistant program.



# Resident Assistant program off to a good start

Dean of Students **Claudia Kelsey** is quite pleased with the new venture. "The goal of the Resident Assistant (RA) program is to set the tone for life in the dorm," she explained.

The dormitories already had hall monitors, but they only made sure everyone was in bed on time. Mrs. Kelsey and others believed students could take a greater leadership role, much like resident assistants in college dorms. "The RAs (pictured above with dorm staff) are to set an example by their own behavior," she said.

RAs work different shifts, beginning right after school. Weekends are included. While on duty, they are to leave their doors open and be available to the other students on their floors. RAs talk to peers who are having problems. They are role models and mentors. They listen to what's going on around them, and intervene as needed.

Mrs. Kelsey recalled one time when she began to deal with a conflict between two girls, only to discover that the RA had already taken care of it. Sometimes a houseparent might ask an RA to talk to a student who is going through a difficult time, or to help mediate in a dispute. If a resident assistant is working with younger students, he/she may need to deal with hygiene issues. The RA, however, does not serve in any way as a disciplinarian, but only in a supportive role.

To be an RA, a student must be a junior or a senior, complete a written application, have been at OBI at least one semester, and have good relationships with the houseparents. Hopeful RAs are interviewed by Mrs. Kelsey; **Jennifer Fanin**, Dean of Girls; **Jeff Kelsey**, Dean of Boys; **Angie Gritton**, Administrative Assistant; and **Dr. David Price**, Campus Minister.

Resident assistants are not paid for their work, but they do earn Career Placement hours. They get a number of "perks" as well, such as having one roommate instead of three. They also may have a small couch, mini-refrigerator, microwave, and Keurig® in their rooms.

**Everett Kirkman** was an RA, and he said, "I enjoyed working with my peers and being able to make a difference." □

# The following classes will have Homecoming reunions in 2016:

Class of 1946.....	70 years
Class of 1951.....	65 years
Class of 1956.....	60 years
Class of 1961.....	55 years
<b>Class of 1966.....</b>	<b>50 years</b>
Class of 1971.....	45 years
Class of 1976.....	40 years
Class of 1981.....	35 years
Class of 1986.....	30 years
Class of 1991.....	25 years
Class of 1996.....	20 years
Class of 2001.....	15 years
Class of 2006.....	10 years
Class of 2011.....	5 years

# 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](http://www.oneidaschool.org)

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

**Twitter:** [https://twitter.com/Oneida\\_Baptist](https://twitter.com/Oneida_Baptist)

Connect with Mr. Gritton:

<https://twitter.com/IGritton>

# Want to receive the e-Mountaineer?

Send your name, mailing address, e-mail address and the 5-digit number above your name on this issue's mailing label to: [peggy.jackson@oneidaschool.org](mailto:peggy.jackson@oneidaschool.org)

Let her know if you'd like the e-Mountaineer.

**IMPORTANT:** Be sure to add [oneidaschool.org](mailto:oneidaschool.org) to your contact list, or it may reject our publication as spam.

# 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>

# 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.bboxtops4education.com/>

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

