



Founded in 1899

ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

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Education for Time and Eternity

A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute

September/October 2016

At OBI, we believe in awarding students for their accomplishments. Every spring, the administration, faculty, and houseparents choose recipients of the Most Outstanding, Most Studious, and Most Improved awards, while the student body votes for the Brad Dorough Friendship Award winner. We would like to introduce you to three of our special young people.



Aster Kidus (left) was chosen by her peers as the winner of the Brad Dorough Friendship Award. The award provides full room and board for the following year.

Aster is a senior from Ethiopia. This is her seventh year at OBI. She said she was surprised to receive the award.



Andruw Sharts was voted one of our Most Improved. A senior, this is his second year at Oneida. He is from Arkansas, and has been involved in FFA, cross country, and Baptist Campus Ministry.

Like Aster, Andruw was surprised to receive this honor.

When asked why he may have been chosen. Andruw ventured, "My grades came up. I got more involved in school activities, and I got in less trouble." With academics in particular, he made a conscious effort to improve. Andruw's goal for this year is "to graduate with at least a B average."

Kathy Roughton and her husband, **Charles**, sponsor our BCM organization. Last year she noted, "Andruw seems to improve daily. He is more outgoing and helpful, and has grown in the Lord. He is faithful to BCM; he comes early to set up and stays late to clean up...He is a great example. I am excited to see what God has planned for his future."

Andruw shared that he appreciates the fact that at OBI, "Everybody tries to be family." □

Award-winning students

When voting, students are instructed to choose someone sensitive to the needs of others, particularly those of new students. Aster is a Resident Assistant in the dormitory for the second year in a row, so she has the opportunity to reach out to other girls.

She has also made (See **Aster**, pg. 2)

Megan Stiles was named both Most Outstanding and Most Studious. She is from Georgia, and is a senior. This is Megan's third year at OBI, and she has been involved in soccer, swimming, track/field, volleyball, and cross country. She is also a Resident Assistant in the dorm.

She said that she appreciates the way OBI teachers live on or near campus, "so you can just talk to them." She also spoke of how "friendships here are more meaningful, because you spend so much time together."

Megan stated that her grades have always been good, and she has maintained mostly A's at Oneida. The title of Most Studious does fit Megan, who said the A's don't come easily. "My classmates say, 'You're really smart,'" she said. "They think it comes easy, but I have good study habits, and I work hard at everything." Megan struggles most with English and history, and said that math and science are her favorite subjects.

Regarding the Most Outstanding award, Megan admitted, "I was kind of surprised to receive that one." Faculty member **Jonathan Barnes** explained, "I see in Megan a genuine friendliness toward others. She has a contagious smile and a positive spirit. Megan also works hard academically and is a high achiever. I was proud of her for scoring well on the tough A.P. U.S. History exam. It was a joy to have her as a student." □



Fall fun for all

OBI students participated in the yearly debate at the 11th Annual Bert T. Combs Symposium (right). The theme of the Oneida vs. Clay County High School contest was "Is the war on poverty winnable?" OBI was declared the winner of the debate.

On September 3, Baptist Campus Ministry sponsored their annual Silent Dessert Auction (right). This year the funds are going to Chad's Hope, a local ministry. The auction raised over \$437.00. Thank you, BCM!

Senior **Regina Barger** (far right) was a recipient of the Bert T. Combs scholarship in September. The scholarship was presented at the symposium. Regina is a day student whose father and grandfather are both OBI alumni.



Also in this issue:

Another honors student.....	p. 2
Volunteers.....	p. 2
Homecoming fun.....	p. 3
Fall play invitation	p. 3
Bits & tidbits.....	p. 3
Fall fun photos	p. 4

(Aster, continued from pg. 1)

connections through her participation in sports -- tennis, basketball, cheerleading, and softball. Does Aster make a special effort to be friendly to newcomers? "Definitely!" she said, adding that she still remembers the girl who first befriended her.

Senior **Jeremiah Taiwo** shared why he thought Aster received this honor from her peers -- "She's been here for a while, so she understands how it feels to be here. She's friendly in general, and she relates to the homesick students. She has a kind heart." □

Oneida student participates in state leadership seminar



Stephen preaching in a student-led worship service.

This summer junior **Stephen King** attended the state leadership seminar of the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Program. The three-day event was held at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond.

The conference was a mix of keynote speakers and activities geared toward team-building and leadership. Stephen had already exhibited leadership qualities on campus by being an FFA officer, swim team captain, and a leader in the youth group program, "Lion's Den," at the Oneida Baptist Church.

Stephen described "HOBY" as "definitely one of the high points of my summer," adding, "I learned some really great stuff." He stated, "I loved the guest speakers," and explained that "The focus of the seminar was who you are and how you influence others." □



These two friends were all smiles on the first day of school.

Please pray for our students, faculty, support staff and administration during the 2016-2017 school year.

Do you know a student who should be at OBI?

We are blessed by volunteers

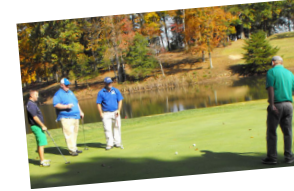


Summer is "volunteer season" at OBI, though we do have volunteers year-round. Just a handful of tasks these special folks helped us with this summer were fire alarm maintenance, painting lines of parking spaces, indoor painting, and unloading donations.

Will we see you at Homecoming 2016?

The fall play will be October 20-22.
Enjoy the show!

Our 3rd annual Alumni & Friends of OBI Golf Tournament is Friday, October 21. Bring your team or sign up as an individual and join a team here.



The Alumni and Friends Dinner will be Friday, October 21.

Our main Homecoming celebration is Saturday, October 22.

- ✓ Visit with friends all day
- ✓ Hymn Sing at the church
- ✓ Silent auction of arts and crafts. Bring something to auction if you like. Come prepared to shop for treasures!
- ✓ BBQ lunch
- ✓ Athletic Hall of Fame
- ✓ Recognition of anniversary classes, especially honoring the Class of 1966 on their golden anniversary.
- ✓ Group photos of anniversary classes
- ✓ Fall festival for our students that day. Bring your children or grandchildren and let them join in the fun!
- ✓ Indoor picnic supper



You won't want to miss any part of it!

Questions? Contact Amanda Roberts, Alumni Director
amanda.roberts@oneidaschool.org or (606) 847-4111 ext. 229.

OBI Drama
presents...

Born
to be
WILD

October 20, 21 & 22
at 7:00 PM
OBI Chapel

Join us for the Alumni & Friends Dinner October 21 at 5:30 PM
RSVP: amanda.roberts@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*.

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/Igritton>

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: peggy.jackson@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.bboxtops4education.com/>

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

