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Education for Time and Eternity

A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute

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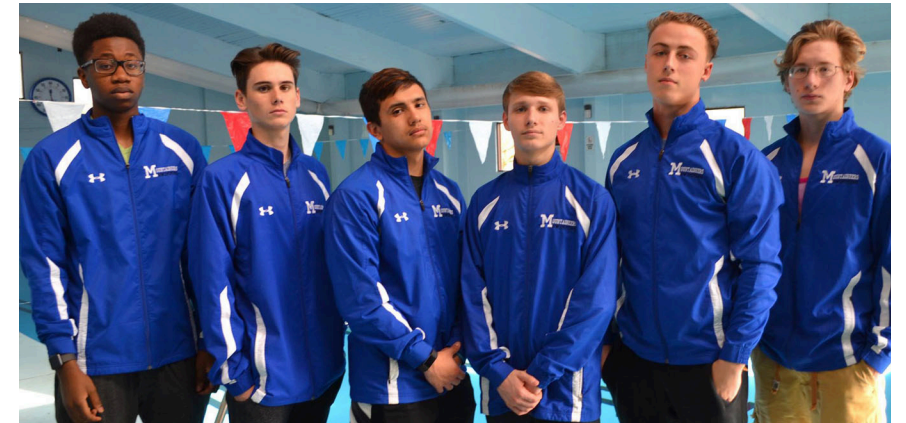
Boys' swimming relay team competes at state level

OBI's boys' 400-meter freestyle relay swim team participated in the state competition February 23-25 in Louisville, after placing second at the regional contest. The relay team consisted of (middle four, left to right) **Teegan Parkhouse, Ivan Gonzalez, Tyler Miller, and Wayne Anderson. Abu Jalloh** (far left) and **Stephen King** (far right) were alternates.

Ivan went to state last year with the 400-meter freestyle relay team. This was the first time for any of his teammates to advance the state level.

It was a good season overall, with the team bringing home several trophies and the relay team taking a second off their fastest time of this year.

The swim team was coached by **Kirbee Parkhouse** and **Amy King**. "We had a lot of



returning swimmers who stretched themselves this year swimming new strokes/events," Parkhouse noted. "And we had new swimmers just starting out who did a great job. We are graduating 14 from the swim team, so that is a little sad." □

Alumni bring a blessing during Spiritual Emphasis Week



Our students were blessed for the second consecutive year to have the spring Spiritual Emphasis Week led by **Reverend Christian L. Thomas** (OBI '93), pastor of Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan. Of the 29 church members who came with Thomas, three others were graduates of OBI -- Thomas' sister, **Patience Williams** ('92), **Destini Smith Jackson** ('96) and **Marcellus Travers** ('96). Another, **Bessie Dorsey**, has a son, **Terrence**, who was a 1995 Oneida graduate.

In one service, Thomas shared his testimony of

how academic struggles brought him to Oneida. He honored his OBI tutor, **Martha Harmon**, with gifts for her to open while he shared. Harmon has been teaching at OBI since 1986. When Thomas surprised her with gifts, she said, "I was overwhelmed with how much appreciation he was showing!"

In Thomas' testimony he stated, "I really struggled all through school." He was held back in the third grade, and by the time he reached high school, he recalled, "They pushed me forward, but they didn't help me. My grades were all D's and F's, but they pushed me on." Compounding his problems was the fact that he was skipping school and acting out in class.

Thomas' parents realized he needed a change. He chose OBI, where his sister was already enrolled. When he arrived, he was shocked to learn that he was classified as a freshman rather than a junior. He told then-president **Dr. Barkley Moore** (OBI '58) "I'm not a freshman, I'm a junior!" He said Moore's response was, "Prove it!" He sent Thomas to "Special Help" to speak with Harmon about getting caught up. Thomas told her, "I want to graduate with my class."

Harmon recalled,
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Summer Dates!

Mark your calendar
now so you don't miss
anything!



May 22: Summer school begins
June 23: Summer school ends
June 26: Work program begins
July 21: Work program ends



Homecoming 2017
Golf tournament 10/20
Homecoming 10/21



Oneida Baptist Institute Athletic Hall of Fame 2017 nomination form Deadline for nomination is June 1, 2017

Name of nominee _____

Decade of participation: 1930's 1940's 1950's 1960's 1970's 1980's 1990's 2000's 2010's

Sport(s) nominee participated in or coached _____

Your name _____

Your complete address _____

Your phone number _____

Why you are nominating this person (awards, records set, etc.) _____

See criteria on page 3. Fill out the above form, clip and mail to OBI, Attn: Athletic Director.

(continued from pg. 1)

“He didn’t think there was much use in trying because he wasn’t going to be able to do it. I explained that I’d be helping him, but he’d have to put in quite a bit of extra time. I think his family caring about how he did and his desire to graduate on time caused him to start using my help.”

Thomas met daily with Harmon, who, he said, “loved me like I was her kid!” She worked with him during evening study hall. With Harmon’s support and guidance, Thomas graduated on time -- with an Advanced Diploma.

He did not receive his printed diploma until his visit this year, when it was presented in chapel by OBI president **Larry A. Gritton, Jr.** (’93) The diploma, signed by then-president Moore, had been in a file since 1993. It is typical for a diploma to be held until a student’s account has been settled, but in Thomas’ case the diploma was never mailed after his bill was paid. He received a standing ovation from OBI students and faculty when presented his diploma on January 24, 2017.

When asked why he began traveling to OBI for short-term missions trips, Thomas replied, “In October 2015 the Holy Spirit placed Oneida in my heart very heavy. I felt as though it was time to return, not as a student but as a preacher of the gospel. So I called President Gritton, expressed what was on my heart, and we put it together...I was once in [these students’] shoes. So I know what it is to have a visitor come and be a blessing to the student body, faculty, and staff.”

“Oneida is an amazing place that I believe everyone should experience,” Thomas asserted. “This year, I brought 29 church members with me. Everyone was ministering and involved in some way.” In addition to leading worship in chapel and ministering to students at free time, two group members who are professional hair stylists offered haircuts to students.

Thomas concluded, “We came to be a blessing to Oneida Baptist Institute, but OBI was a bigger blessing to Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church. I can’t wait to see what God does in 2018! When God is in it, there is no limit!” ☐



Ms. Harmon opening her gifts



Each student got a valentine.



The February International Bazaar celebrated the diversity of our student body with food from around the world.

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: 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/>

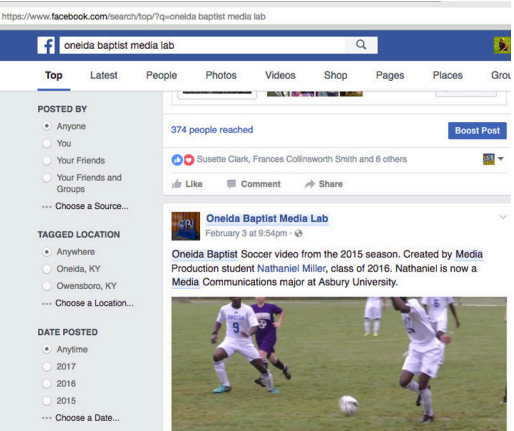
General Mills “Box Tops for Education”™

Send specially marked box tops, each worth 10 cents with points-to-cash. <http://www.boxtops4education.com/>

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



OBI media lab on Facebook



The Oneida media lab has a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Oneida-Baptist-Media-Lab-251359521945579/>
See their creativity in photography, video, and graphic design.

OneidaPastors'Conference

Oneida Baptist Institute

July 24-26, 2017

Cost: FREE!

Info: OPC@oneidaschool.org



Goodbye, Brenda Crowe



We thank God for **Brenda Crowe**, who passed away December 25 while at home with the family she loved. Mrs. Crowe was a full-time volunteer, serving as our courier and running errands for the school for seven years. Her husband, **Jerry**, was our volunteer coordinator.

The Crowes came to us from McHenry in western Kentucky, and were members of McHenry Baptist Church. Mr. Crowe has moved back to McHenry and said, “I thank all my friends for the kind words and prayers...I have been truly blessed to serve the Lord at Oneida Baptist Institute.” ☐

New dorm updates

The new Carnahan-Daugherty Hall is on track to be completed by March 31. As we praise God for this incredible blessing, we are already planning the new Huang Hall girls’ dormitory. A donor is willing to match contributions up to two million dollars. To date, \$484,825.47 has been given for Huang Hall! It’s a great start, but we need to keep praying and spreading the word.

You may give online: <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org>

Be sure to name Huang Hall as the “special purpose” for your gift in the field provided. For more information, call 606-847-4111 or email OBI President Larry A. Gritton, Jr. at president@oneidaschool.org ☐

Athletic Hall of Fame nomination criteria

The purpose of the OBI Athletic Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor our outstanding coaches and athletes. The Hall of Fame Committee consists of the President, Principal(s), Athletic Director and coaches who have coached a state-recognized sport for five years or more at OBI and are still employed by our school. Nominations may be made by any person. The inductees will be chosen by the Athletic Hall of Fame Committee.

Requirements for eligibility for nomination of an athlete:

1. The nominee must have been outstanding in one or more sports while a student at OBI.
2. The nominee must have left OBI in good standing.
3. A nominee must have graduated from high school--not necessarily from OBI--at least five years before he/she is inducted into the Hall of Fame. Only his/her OBI achievements will be considered.

Requirements for eligibility for nomination of coaches:

1. Any coach whose team wins a KHSAA-sanctioned state championship is automatically considered for induction.
2. Any other coach to be considered must have been a varsity head coach at OBI for at least three years.

Additional requirements for eligibility for nomination:

1. Nominee must be present at the induction ceremony. If unable to attend due to illness, the nominee may be represented by a family member.
2. The nominee may be someone already deceased. In this event, he/she will be represented by a family member at the induction ceremony. Persons interested in nominating a former OBI athlete or coach should send information such as newspaper clippings, statistics, a picture of the nominee (preferably a photo made at or around the time the person was at OBI), and/or other items of documentation that make the nominee worthy of consideration.

Enclose information with the nomination form on page 4.

