



Founded in 1899

ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

Education for Time and Eternity

A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute

March/April 2013

Oneida sends two to all-state choir, orchestra



Grace Kim, All-State Symphony violinist, far left. Jordan Cochran, Kentucky Junior High Mixed Chorus, center.

For the second year in a row, OBI was represented in both the All-State Chorus and the All-State Orchestra.

Sophomore **Grace Kim** secured a place in the orchestra for the second time. She is an accomplished violinist, and is one of our international students from South Korea. This is her third year at Oneida.

Our state-level vocalist was freshman **Jordan Cochran**. Both of Jordan's parents are members of our adult ministry team. His father, **Tim**, is our band/choir director. His mother, **Tamara**, works in the publications department and is the drama coach.

Grace and Jordan joined other leading Kentucky high school musicians in Louisville February 6-9. Grace played in the All-State Symphony Orchestra

under the direction of **Laszlo Marosi**, Director of Instrumental Ensembles at the University of Central Florida. Last year Grace played in the All-State Commonwealth String Orchestra. "The Symphony Orchestra is a higher placement than the String Orchestra," Mr. Cochran explained. "The best of the string players make the symphony Orchestra, and the rest are placed in the String Orchestra."

Jordan sang baritone in the 2013 Kentucky Junior High Mixed Chorus, directed by **Russell Robinson**, Professor of Music and chair of the Music Education Department at the University of Florida.

Both students took part in approximately 15 hours of rehearsals and then performed in concerts at the Kentucky Center for the Arts.

This was the first time in the 10 years Cochran has been choir director that Oneida has sent a singer to the state chorus at the junior high level. "We've auditioned a few, but Jordan was the first to make it in," Cochran said. □

Library undergoes major renovation



Last summer and fall our Floy DeJarnette Library experienced a major renovation. Now called the "Library Media Center," the library has become a space devoted to a number of different purposes and information needs.

OBI president, **Dr. Paul Davidson**, and principal, **Dan Stockton**, wanted to make the library a more relevant part of school and campus life. It had been several years since any new books had been ordered, and many years since outdated materials had been weeded from the shelves.

Volunteers gave the entire space a facelift. Then "Dr. Davidson and Mr. Stockton gave me

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the liberty to basically start from scratch," said **Ryan Cordle**, our new library media specialist. "We wanted to make the library a hospitable and relevant place," Cordle explained. "A library must keep a collection that is both interesting and useful in order to have patrons. So the basic framework was to judge books on whether or not they had a use for our student body and whether or not they would circulate among our students."

Now the Library Media Center houses some 3,000 books. "Our goal is to maintain a collection of 12-18 high-quality books per student," Cordle said. "In a school library, quality is much more important than quantity. Otherwise, we would have thousands of unopened books collecting dust."

If you enter our library looking for the old card catalog, you won't find it. Now patrons use a web-based automated cataloging and circulation program. This is a step toward college-readiness for students. Automation also means the library's collection is easier to search and maintain. Checking out materials is faster, too; Cordle simply scans the book's assigned barcode.

In addition to books, the Library Media Center offers 10 laptops and four desktop computers, a digital projector, a mobile projection screen, a document camera, webcams and approximately 200 DVDs. The library is also now part of the Kentucky Virtual Library. This gives us access to dozens of databases that house thousands of periodicals, journals, encyclopedias, and books. "Our students now have the resources to do high-quality research," Cordle stated.

Students have access to the library both before and after school. Cordle estimated that on a typical day about one-fourth of the student body will visit during those times. "Now we usually circulate more books in a week than we did all of last school year," he said. Teachers bring their classes to check out books, do research, and do presentations. Students come outside of school hours to check out books, use the computers (including access to the school's WiFi), print, do homework, or simply socialize. "It's an 'unquiet library,'" Cordle said, "and I encourage that."

When one of the English teachers recently learned of a Shakespeare competition, Cordle offered to host it in the library. "I thought it would be a good way to encourage our students to do something creative and academic," he explained. "It would also allow some other people to see the new library space."

Cordle is planning other events to promote the Library Media Center, including possible "Library Late-Nites," in which the library would be open for students' musical and artistic performances. □



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*.

OBI continues to participate in these special programs:

Campbell's "Labels for Education"™

Send us the entire label. Look for "Labels for Education"™ not only on Campbell's foods, but also on their other products, such as Vlasic®, Franco-American®, Prego®, Swanson®, Pace® and Pepperidge Farm®. These labels earn points that we can redeem to get free educational equipment and other items.

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.

General Mills "Box Tops for Education"™

Send specially marked box tops. Each is worth 10 cents, and this program also turns points into cash.

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

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Does your church have a web site?

If so, ask if they will put a link to Oneida Baptist Institute on their site:

www.oneidaschool.org

Need to contact us?

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

OBI is one of the institutions of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.



Well on the way with FCA

Fellowship of Christian Athletes gets a new start on campus



During the winter sports season, FCA sponsored prayer after the home basketball games.

The 2012-13 school year has seen the revival of Fellowship of Christian Athletes on the Oneida campus. Sponsor **Jonathan Barnes** estimated it has been approximately nine years since we have had an FCA chapter at OBI.

To stir up interest in the beginning, Barnes arranged for **Josh Anderson**, a former Major League baseball player, to speak in chapel. "There was a good response to him," Barnes recalled. Now the group has an average of five to six students who meet weekly. Four other adults help with the group as well.

The FCA mission is "to present to coaches and athletes, and all whom they influence, the challenge and adventure of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, serving Him in their relationships and in the fellowship of the church." Barnes stated, "Athletes and coaches are the obvious focus, but FCA is open to everyone re-

gardless of athletic involvement." The organization's core values are integrity, serving, teamwork, and excellence.

Barnes and his wife, **Michelle**, have been part of the OBI ministry team for eight years. Why did he wait so long before sponsoring an FCA chapter? "I had not necessarily planned to restart FCA, but earlier in the school year an FCA representative came and spoke and encouraged us to start one," he explained. Barnes thought about the many other opportunities for Christian growth that we already had on campus -- Baptist Campus Ministry, dorm devotions, daily chapel, Sunday worship, and more. He wondered if there was really a need for FCA. "I prayed and thought about it," he said, "and as I prayed I remembered a Christian coach I had when I played high school football. He talked about FCA, but we met only a couple of times so it never got established. There were other ministry groups on my high school campus, but I didn't think they were a good fit for me so I didn't get involved. I had been interested in FCA because it involved sports, which I have always had a passion for." Barnes had stopped coaching OBI basketball and reasoned that this could be what God would have him do.

So far the Oneida FCA has sponsored prayer at the end of each home basketball game, and they intend to continue that at the baseball and softball games this spring. Our chapter plans to host an FCA rally in April. Barnes said the event will go on for four nights, and will include a band, speakers, a Christian illusionist, and student testimonies.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes identifies four "C's" of its ministry -- coaches, campus, camps, and community. "Camps are a really big part of their program," Barnes stated. One of Barnes' goals for the future is to send some Oneida students to an FCA camp. He would even like for OBI to possibly host a camp someday. □

Spring is a lovely time to visit our campus. Enjoy the beauty of the budding trees and blooming flowers.

Join us for chapel, take a tour, and then enjoy a tasty lunch in our cafeteria.

Call 606-847-4111, extension 201 to schedule your visit.



*Our FFA and Student Council made sure Valentine's Day was full of fun. The FFA sold "Hug-O-Grams," card/candy combos delivered by FFA members. The Student Council sold roses--red for romance, yellow for friendship, white for anonymous. Roses were delivered by Student Council members. OBI First Lady **Diane Davidson** enjoyed a double celebration; her birthday is on Valentine's Day.*



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Oneida represented at statewide Shakespeare competition



On March 3 OBI junior **Yohannes Seifu** attended the state level of the ESU National Shakespeare Competition in Louisville.

To qualify for the Kentucky contest, Yohannes came in first in our own OBI Shakespeare competition in February. For the school contest, participants memorized a Shakespeare monologue of their choice and recited it for a panel of judges. Yohannes portrayed Sebastian from *Twelfth Night*. At the state level, he performed his monologue and also one of Shakespeare's sonnets.

ESU stands for the "English-Speaking Union," a non-profit, non-political educational organization. The ESU "celebrates English as a shared language to foster global understanding and good will by providing educational and cultural opportunities for students, educators, and members."

English is definitely a "shared language" for Yohannes, because he is one of our international students from Ethiopia. Since English is not his first language, many other international students told Yohannes, "You'll not even win the school's competition," he recalled.

"It was indeed hard for me," Yohannes admitted. "I practiced every day by telling my roommates to help me memorize it. I asked Mr. Self [senior English teacher, **Scott Self** OBI '93] to coach me at his leisure time. He did carefully, as if it was his own work. I really thank him for that. At last it was time to present it to the judges. I was a little nervous, but with God's help I did well."

Once he got to the state competition, Yohannes talked to the other contestants. "Most of them had two or three years of experience and none of them were international, so I knew what I was up against," he stated. Though he didn't win, Yohannes said, "No problem; it was my first time." He's already planning for next year, though; "Next year it's my time!" □

Plan now to join us for Homecoming 2013



Homecoming is a wonderful time to renew former friendships from by-gone days.

At our Homecoming on **June 29** the class of 1963 will celebrate their fiftieth anniversary. Other features of the day will include:

- Visiting with friends, looking at yearbooks, etc.
 - The annual Hymn Sing at Oneida Baptist Church
 - Recognition and group photos of anniversary classes
 - Shuttle buses around campus
 - Lunch and supper provided
- We invite all friends of OBI to join us on our special day!*

On February 1 the Student Council sponsored a Faculty/Staff Variety Show.

The ten acts included two stand-up comedy routines, a trumpet solo, two musical comedy numbers, a humorous monologue, an original song, an illusionist act, an original poem, and a multi-media comedy routine. Our Variety Show had lots of variety!

