



Founded in 1899

ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

Education for Time and Eternity

A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute

September/October 2013

Oneida students earn places in summer honors programs



Taylor

Jacob

Four OBI students took part in honors programs this summer.

Seniors **Taylor Cochran** and **Jacob Bortell** earned places in the Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program. They spent five weeks with other top scholars from across the Commonwealth in a setting designed to stress excellence in leadership and academics.

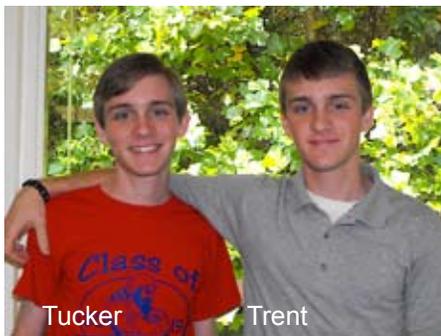
Taylor studied "Music Theory and Performance" at Morehead State University. "Each week fo-

ocused on a different topic," she explained. For example, "one week the topic was peer teaching. I taught a girl percussion and she taught me flute." A highlight for Taylor was going to an opera in Cincinnati. "It was the most beautiful thing I have seen and most memorable experience of my life," she said. "It really made me feel 'all grown up' to go to an opera dressed up." Taylor enjoyed making friends, particularly with the other music students. "We really connected with music," she recalled. "I loved being around other students who excel and building friendships on the level of academic excellence."

Jacob studied "Spanish Language and Culture" at Murray State University. "We played games, went on field trips, did art projects, and worked on conversational language skills," he said. One of the field trips was to the "Garden of the Gods" in the Shawnee National Forest in Illinois. Jacob particularly liked the convocations, which included guest speakers, drama and music performances, and talent showcases. He spoke of how the Governor's Scholars Program helped prepare him for the future: "GSP introduces an individual to a community of intellectual and creative people. When I go to college, I'll look for those people. GSP helped me learn how to work with people at my level or higher."

Both Taylor and Jacob took part in a GSP-hosted college fair. "They had a board of people who gave us advice about college applications and scholarships," Taylor said. "That really helped us know what to do, and helped me narrow down my choices."

Trent and Tucker Parkhouse,



Tucker

Trent

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FFA spring, summer and fall



K-2 faculty/staff children learn about agriculture.

Oneida students now have a new option in choosing an after-school job in the student work program -- FFA. Our FFA chapter was chartered in 1999, and is a vital part of the OBI agriculture program.

In the spring, our chapter's 22 members led the campus in a whirlwind of activity for FFA Week. They created an FFA bulletin board, taught our K-2 faculty/staff children about agriculture, served the student body with a "Build A Burger" supper, participated in a 6:00 A.M. worship service, organized a daily scavenger hunt for the student body, gave candy and a message from the FFA to students, led in chapel on two days, thanked the fac-

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Later in the spring, the FFA hosted a banquet for their organization and invited guests from the adult ministry team. The students prepared much of the pulled pork dinner themselves.

In May, both the FFA members in grades 5-12 and the 4-H faculty/staff children in grades K-6 participated in our annual campus livestock show. Judges were brought in from off campus to score contestants in the different categories.

The OBI show is good preparation for the yearly Laurel County Ag Fair, held in London, Kentucky in July. This year our students earned first and third places in the Goat Showmanship division; first, third and fifth places in Hog Showmanship; three second place awards in various Market Hogs weight categories; first through fourth places in two Market Goat weight classes; second place in Feeder Calf Showmanship; first through fifth places in Market Calves; and first through fourth places in the rabbit show. **Lily Wynn** was named Grand Champion in the Feeder Calf division, while **Coleman Dennis** won Best of Breed in rabbits. Lily also placed third in the Cornett Awards, and **Sylvia Bevil** was tenth. In the Skill-A-Thon, Lily was seventh, giving her an eighth place overall.

Thomas Kornovich is a long-time FFA member. "FFA is a good organization -- period," he stated. "It provides a lot of opportunities I wouldn't get elsewhere. We learn the different sides of agriculture, and how our economy is ag-based. And we have an advantage most other schools don't have -- a working farm." Thomas likes having FFA as his job; "We learn more if it's our job and not just an organization."

The FFA motto is, "Learning to do, doing to learn, earning to live, living to serve." The organization's three primary components are classroom instruction, supervised agricultural experience, and life skills. Being a part of FFA and working daily on the Oneida farm teaches students about a wide variety of agricultural careers.

FFA advisor, **Jennifer Sink**, said that so far the organization is off to a good start this school year. She said, "I so appreciate being able to work with people like **Marty Bevil** and **Bobby Nelson**." Mrs. Sink stated that one of her plans for this year is for the FFA to do a monthly newsletter. "We're also trying to collect addresses of Oneida FFA alumni," she added. "We'd love to be able to send them our newsletter." If you would like to be added to our list of OBI FFA alumni, you may e-mail jennifer.sink@oneidaschool.org to contact Mrs. Sink. □

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*.

Come and visit us!

Autumn is a great time to visit our school. Attend chapel, eat lunch, and take a tour. Call ext. 201 to schedule.

OBI continues these 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.

Choir schedule on the web site

Our fall choir schedule is on our web site. Will we be going to a church near you? The students love it when our friends and supporters come to hear them sing. Check it out:

www.oneidaschool.org

Does your church have a web site?

If so, ask them to link to OBI:

Web: www.oneidaschool.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OBI.KY?ref=ts&fref=ts>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/Oneida_Baptist

Phone: 606-847-4111

Fax: 606-847-4496

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



Meet two of our “Most Improved”

Each year OBI faculty and houseparents choose the recipients of our major student awards. Nominees for “Most Improved” were judged on progress in attitude, character, study habits, academics and self esteem. We are proud to introduce you to two Most Improved students.



Ivan Gonzalez is a freshman from Kentucky. He first came to OBI three years ago, but returned home after a year. He enrolled with us again for 2012-13, and was one of our Most Improved eighth-graders. “I missed everything about Oneida,” he remembered. “I missed being able to be on a sports team without being cut, my friends, and teachers being able to spend one-on-one time with me.”

Ivan believed academics to be a big factor in his getting the award. “My math and reading skills needed improving when I first came,” he explained, “so I was in the Tutoring Lab. Then when I left and came back, I was in Algebra I.” He admitted that his attitude was a problem at first, too. “My mom, the teachers, and houseparents all helped me realize I had to change,” he stated.

Amy Nelson, Tutoring Lab tutor, said, “It has been a blessing to see Ivan’s growth since he worked with us in the lab. Back then I could see that he had great potential, he just needed a gentle push in the right direction. When he dropped by the lab one afternoon during the first week of school this year just to say ‘hi’ and show me his algebra book, I could only say, ‘I knew you could do it.’ It brings a smile to my heart to see how far he has come.”

Alexis Brown is a junior this year. She is from California, and enrolled at OBI last spring. “I wanted to be more independent,” she recalled. Alexis immediately became involved in our agriculture program, working on the farm and joining FFA. She gives FFA credit for her improved grades. “I feel like I’m doing better because I know how to study,” she explained. “I didn’t know how to study before. FFA teaches me how to study because we have to memorize the creed. It helps me in all ways.” Alexis has seen improvement in her grades since coming to Oneida, and says she is still working. One of her goals for the 2013-14 year is to make the “A” average honor roll.



A spiritual turn-around has been one of Alexis’ biggest changes. She gave her life to Christ in the spring and was baptized. This led to improvements in her behavior in the dorm as well as at school. “I learned to let people help me and not push them away,” she said. “I’ve learned to be totally honest. Lies get you nowhere.” She added, “God is reaching out to us...No matter what, you have to trust in God. He can change you; He changed me.” □

Honors, cont. from p. 1

both juniors, attended the Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership program, a three-day seminar at Transylvania University in Lexington. While there, students listened to lectures on leadership. “We took notes,” Trent said. “They were real-world stories and experiences.” Participants then put their skills to work in team-building activities. For example, “one of our projects was cleaning up a graveyard,” Trent explained. “We would work together and see who became the leader. Then we discussed it.” Tucker added, “They wanted us to get out of our comfort zones by meeting new people.” Students were assigned to teams at the beginning, but halfway through the experience the teams were mixed up so participants would get to know even more of their peers.

Trent stated that attending HOBY “expanded my understanding of leadership.” He had already seen some potential for leadership within himself, “and this helped me learn to be a more effective leader.” Tucker said HOBY “changed my perspective on things. It taught me how to get involved, give my opinion, and listen to others. Now I can be a better leader and also build a better team and be a part of that team.” □



OBI Drama presents . . .

Murder by the
Book



by Craig Sodaro

October 31, November 1 & 2
7:00 PM in the OBI Chapel



Two students given the Brad Dorough Friendship Award

The Brad Dorough Friendship Award is the only major honor given to a student that is voted on by his/her peers. It was established in 1990 by the family of a former OBI student, **Brad Dorough**, after his death. The award provides full room and board for the following year. Brad had talked of how special his Oneida friends were. The student body is told to vote for someone sensitive to the needs of others, particularly those of new students. This year two people shared the award.

Karen Negedu is a senior in her third year at OBI. She has been a volleyball player, a volleyball manager, a basketball manager, and has played tennis. She has also served on the Student Council. An international student from Nigeria, Karen has found it easy to identify with peers who are homesick. Another international student, **Inae Bae**, said, "Karen likes to encourage people. If I'm afraid of doing something new, she'll say, 'Don't be scared.' She is so nice to me. She says, 'You can come to me if you have a hard time.'"

Michael Negussie is also a senior. He came to Oneida from Ethiopia in the eighth grade. In his four years here, he has played soccer and baseball, and has been a part of the student work crew. What does Michael like about OBI? "Everything," he said. "The people." He was "kind of surprised" to win the Brad Dorough Friendship Award, but Michael indicated that being a friend to others is not something at which he has to work. "I'm not trying, but I'm nice," he explained. It seems natural for him to help new students in particular; "New people don't know anything about OBI, and I've been here a long time." Senior **Moses Vincent** described Michael as "a great guy." He continued, "Michael tries to help. He thinks about others. He's a leader. If you're going through something, he'll be there for you. He's a good friend." □



Back to school at a special place



(Left) Students in grades 10-12 went to the Gritton Gym to sign up for classes.

(Right) A new schedule always means a trip to the bookroom for new textbooks.

*(Below) In the first chapel service of the school year, Campus Minister, Joe Scull, asked all of the faculty to surround and pray for our new President, **Larry A. Gritton, Jr.** (OBI '93).*

