



Golf Season 2023

By James Hill

She•kú my name is James Hill and I am going to talk about the Oneida Nation High School's Golf Team's highlights of the season so far.

We are in mid-season and some of the highlights are that I (James Hill) took 10th place as an individual at our first match at Parkway in Pound, WI. Another highlight is we got to play at Whistling Straits on the Irish Course. I shot a 107 – not my best but a good score for me considering the PGA tour plays on “the Straits” main course. Jonas Johnson shot a 90 and tied 6th place as an individual, his best at Whistling Straits. Another highlight is that we took 4th as a team in our match at Oak Creek in Norway, MI.

We are on the way to our next meet in Crivitz at Hunter Glen. We play there on Friday as well. We have Thornberry Creek here in Oneida coming up on Monday, May 15.

I would like to thank our coaches, Tek Skenandore and Jamison King for taking time out of their day to bring us to these meets and help us improve our game.

Why Are Athletes Role Models?

By Zoe Doxtator

Even if athletes don't want to be role models, they are. 92% of children have athletes as their role models. That is a higher percentage than those that said their parents. It is not just children that have them as role models, it is also other athletes.

Often athletes are idolized and put in the spotlight. They are in the public eye; everything they do or say is always being watched and scrutinized. They are so idolized because they shine a glimmer of hope to the masses, and they demonstrate what the education system, hard work and determination can do, no matter what race or background. This allows the children to see themselves in the athletes. The children can see what they can accomplish, if they have determination and dedication.

That is the driving force behind why many athletes do drugs, get arrested or cheat on their spouse. It is talked about on a large scale because they're so idolized, but it is not just their lives that change. It is the lives of people that idolize them, that look up to them. Whether they like it or not, they are in a position of power. Some athletes understand that and take it very seriously. Other athletes do not and are the ones who do drugs and get arrested. They do not understand, or are tired of being a role model, but they have power in what they do. Let's say one athlete starts taking drugs and is fine, then others will follow that example, like a mob mentality. That is not just dangerous for the children but other athletes as well. If one of their friends says doing drugs is fine, they might have to make a public announcement about how they do not support their friend anymore, even if it's someone they truly care about.

It is not just athletes' job to teach people what they can do. It is all of our jobs to help children and others to be the best versions of themselves. These athletes are also human and they will make mistakes, even if they are in the public eye. It's our job as the viewers at home to understand that, and to take what these celebrities do with a pinch of salt.

Braiding Sweetgrass For Young Adults

By Lydia Stevens

Every school day, all of ONHS is engaged in reading from 9:50 to 10:20. This is done through "reading groups" of a half-dozen or so students assigned to each staff member.

Many times, reading groups pick out their own books to read; sometimes the entire school reads the same book. This school year, all reading groups read two books: *Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley and, most recently, *Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults* by Robin Wall Kimmerer.

There are many important lessons in *Braiding Sweetgrass*. Here a couple of examples that stand out for this writer: "Plants tell their stories not by what they do. They speak in a tongue that every breathing being can understand. Plants teach in a universal language, food." "We gather our minds to greet and thank the enlightened teachers who have come to help throughout the ages. When we forget how to live in harmony, they remind us of the way we were instructed to live as people, with one mind, we send greeting and thanks to caring teachers. Now our minds are one."

2023-2024 School Calendar Approved

By Dustin Elm

Don't look now, but summer vacation is almost here. It might seem early to think about next school year, but it isn't too early to know some of the basics for next year.

On August 22 and 23, teachers return from their summer break to prepare for the year. On August 28, students start their first day. The first quarter ends on October 31 and the first semester on January 23. The school year wraps up on June 7.

Other Key Dates include Winter Break from December 22 – January 1, Mid-Winter Ceremonies from January 15 – 19, and Spring Break from March 25 – 29. But, for now, enjoy your summer vacation.

ONHS Summer School Straight Ahead

By Skye Morin

A look at the calendar as this article is written says that the 2022-2023 School Year ends in just 10 days. That doesn't leave much time for final project, papers, and exams and ONHS students are scrambling to take care of these things.

Like years past, ONHS will have a focused summer school program again this year. Summer school will run from Monday, June 5 through Friday, June 30. ONHS Summer School is a time for students to get finish classes where they might have an incomplete or bring up a grade in a class they want to improve.

Because summer school runs during the morning and students don't go from class to class, there is more time to focus on the work for one or two classes and get one-on-one help from teachers. When a student finishes a class or classes they were working on, they can be done with summer school. This writer will be going to summer school and to work on some online Acellus courses.

Teacher Appreciation Week – May 8-12

By Thunderhawk Times Staff and Journalism Class

ONHS teachers were shown appreciation the week of May 8 with snacks and various gifts. Everyone probably has that favorite teacher – maybe now, maybe in the past. But what makes a good teacher? Journalists in our class weighed in.

“Showing respect back to their students,” said one.

“If they can actually explain the material they are teaching patiently,” said another.

“Y'all give us so much learning and you guys are so respectful,” added another student.

“A Good Teacher is understanding,” one classmate said.

“They know when a student is having a rough time,” concluded another.

Whose Land? Project Update

By Thunderhawk Times Staff

Wednesday, June 7, 9am-Noon is the next Community Archives Day at Norbert Hill Center to support the Whose Land? Project. This year-long project, undertaken by ONHS students and staff working with Professor James Levy and Oneida Community resources, continues to make progress.

With a summer-full of historic celebrations taking place in Oneida, the project is focused especially on researching and recording the history of the Norbert Hill Center property from its time even before buildings were on the site to the present day.

Students have been poring through historic documents and photographs with the goal of establishing the locations of buildings that are no longer on the site in relation to the current building. They continue to work toward a timeline of the site and sharing the information through a timeline, public kiosk-type display, and special portions of a student-produced podcast.

In early March, the project hosted a Community Archives Day for community members to share stories and personal keepsakes such as letters and photographs of the Norbert Hill Site and other areas on the reservation as well as the people of Oneida. The June 7 event will be an extension of the March get together.

Hey Seniors – It’s Almost Graduation Time!

By Thunderhawk Times Staff

As one ONHS senior put it recently when asked how senior year was going by, “Too fast!”

Several seniors have talked about how slow four years can seem to go, but one year – senior year – goes by so quickly. “It’s like it takes forever and then it’s gone by so fast,” said one.

ONHS seniors actually have 4 graduations over the summer. First, graduation at the Radisson on Thursday, June 1 for students reaching 23.5 credits. Then, three graduations over the summer for students earning a Core Diploma based on Wisconsin State law requirements for high school graduation.

Those three graduation dates are based on school board meeting dates as Core Diploma grads get their diplomas directly from the school board.

The first Core Diploma Graduation date will likely be Monday, June 5. Others will follow in early July and August.

Another annual senior event, The Car Parade, will take place for all seniors on Tuesday, May 23. ONHS seniors will be lined up at Norbert Hill Center and those who want to join the car parade to celebrate the graduates should meet at the Turtle School parking lot at 5:30.

Journalism class loses one senior this year, James Hill. Good Luck, James!