

Oneida Nation High School

THUNDERHAWK TIMES



NWTC Options for Next Years Seniors – An Insider’s Look

By Ari Mousseau

ONHS seniors and some juniors have taken dual credit courses at NWTC for years and many ONHS graduates have continued their education at “TC.” TC is a good opportunity for the Oneida Students to get some of their general education credits early. I am currently taking a sociology class on the NWTC campus, and I enjoy it. I like being on campus and getting to experience the college a little. It also is preparing me for going full time in college. The class is about community, social life, social causes, and consequences of human behavior. This class is instructed in-person and lasts 3 hours. It consists of lectures, watching videos, and homework. The material that is needed for this class is a pencil, paper, and a laptop or iPad. There's a big difference between an ONHS class and a “TC” class. At Oneida, a class usually lasts about 50 min, while a “TC” class lasts about 3 hours. Also, at “TC” the student ages vary more than at ONHS. At 17, I am the youngest one in my class and the oldest is

in their mid-forties. “TC” has a larger campus than the high school and has more classes to choose from. I think that “TC” is a good opportunity for the ONHS students because you can receive Gen Ed credits while still being a high school student. It's like getting a head start for college. Plus, you get a feel for college and learn what to expect.

Spring Has Sprung

By Thunderhawk Times Staff

Warming temperatures, longer days, and the end of the school year staring us straight in the face. We're in the fourth quarter, spring sports are well under way, seniors are stressing over graduation and college concern, and other students are considering final exams, last-mute projects, and other deadline items...It's the perfect recipe for student and staff of joy, stress, and distraction. Just some of the other efforts currently underway at ONHS include:

- Putting away the specialized eyeglasses after viewing the Solar Eclipse on Monday, April 8. This event included a video on Haudenosaunee Astronomy by Samantha Doxtator that was presented recently at the Hayden Planetarium in NYC.

- Manifesting the 2024 Prom, set for Saturday, May 4 at the Oneida Hotel (formerly, the Radisson). The theme is Garden of Romance and chaperons can still volunteer by calling ONHS at 930-869-4308.
- Preparing for Graduation and Graduation Ceremonies. Seniors – get your senior picture and baby pictures in for the yearbook by May 20!
- Looking ahead to Culture Days in early May.
- Continuing work on the Whose Land? Project with students preparing to interview elders about schools, boarding schools, and the Oneida Boarding School on May 7.
- Finalizing a Dual-Credit program with NWTC for the 2024-2025 School Year. Juniors, make sure you are in good shape credit-wise to participate.
- Hosting the ITA program in conjunction with UW-Madison this summer.
- Welcoming next year's freshman who will be visiting ONHS for a tour and orientation.
- Enjoying the annual Spring Sports Banquet, and much more.
- For stressed out students, remember. Help is just an ask away. Talk to your teachers, speak with student support staff, look to community resources for even more help. Watch these pages for updates and much, much more as the school year draws to a close.

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These Ladies Aren't Powderpuff



By Anthony Cornelius, Yethiyatanunha - Student Advocate

Picture a beautiful spring Saturday, the Green Bay Packers indoor field in the Don Hutson Center, and 18 Lady T-hawks running, passing, catching, and grabbing at flags in opposing players back pockets. That was the scene on Saturday, April 13 when approximately 160 girls from all over the state of Wisconsin participated in the Girls Flag Open, an all-girls flag football exhibition hosted by the Green Bay Packers. The games were played 6 on 6 with two 12-minute halves and was played on a 40 by 35-yard field in the Don Hutson

Center. They had a lot of rules mirrored to NFHS (high school rules). It was a challenge trying to explain to ladies who have not played any other sports other than backyard football. Like why they can't all be sent in motion at the same time. Preparing for their contests was a lot of fun we had full commitment from the ladies for the week leading up to the event. We started on Wednesday because the weather was finally nice enough for us to get outside. On our first day we established who we are representing; themselves, ONHS, and the Oneida Nation as a whole. We had 3 events we got the chance

to compete in. Relay race, longest throw, and 40-yard dash. Our first day we got to see which ladies were best fit for each spot in our relay, because we could only have seven participate in the relay and 1 for the longest throw and 1 for the 40-yard dash, the ladies that did the other 2 events could not participate in the relay. For the Lady T-Hawks Deanna Castillo, Kamaben White, Jardina White eye, Joie Gutierrez, Lola Bailey, Mariana Skenandore, and Jaylyn Caldwell. Our longest thrower was Osa Wheelock-Flores. Our 40-yard dash sprinter was our track sprinter Jianna Danforth. The 2nd and 3rd day of practice we were able to put in our offense and defense. Our offense was able to learn eight plays and our defense was able to put together a couple man, zone, and blitz packages. Within 3 days they were as confident as any other going into our games. Along the way, there they ladies embraced the pride of this event. Knowing who we represent was a huge piece of how hard they worked along the way. They were all coming out ready to compete for a starting spot as well. We started out with twenty-four ladies and due to schedules not all were able to be there Saturday. Offensive players were Mariah Cloud, Jaylyn Caldwell, Deanna Castillo, Rhianna Danforth, Jianna Danforth,

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Osa Wheelock-Flores. Defensive players were Saniya Ninham, Joie Gutierrez, Dusty Boyiddle, Layna Jordan, Alexis Webster, Lola Bailey, Dasia Elm, Jardina White Eye, Stevi Ventura, Mariana Skenandore. A few players played both sides of the ball.

The impact of this event goes beyond the scoreboard. It showed these young ladies that they are laying the groundwork to push females into a male dominant sport. Empowerment is an understatement to what this event brought to women in sports. During the lunch at the Lambeau Field Atrium they held a panel of all Female lead NFL staff members to come talk to the ladies and explain their path on getting into the roles they have now. Our team went 1-2, one blowout win, one blowout loss, and one back and forth loss. We took second in the relay event and the longest throw contest we were right there with the top throw-

ers, and in the 40-yard dash Jianna was neck and neck with the girl in second and took third in her heat. This event opened the door for us to be invited to the regional event on May 18th . If we win this, we get to play in the championship event hosted at the NFL Hall of Fame this summer in Ohio. We do have to narrow our team down to ten girls for

these events which isn't ideal, but it was nice to give the opportunity to as many student athletes as we could. We will also be fielding a seventh-grade girls' team to bring to this as well because we did have heavy interest with that group.

As the Head Coach of our Girls Flag Football team, I was extremely pleased with how well we did for it being our first time. The teamwork and cooperation with each other were very pleasing to see. Like any competitive sport there were difficulties, but the ups outweighed the downs by far and they continued to battle it out. I want to thank the other coaches on our staff who were there helping the ladies prepare for their competitions. These included Johnny Danforth who ran our defense, Caleb Anderson, Emily Skenandore, Sarah Wunderlich, Gordon House, and Jessica Katchur. Byran Halona also came by and did some videography for us which we really appreciated.

