Soroti triplets overcome sickness to excel

By Godfrey Ojore

Three shy, but brilliant brothers have become the pride of their family and school after posting outstanding results in the 2025 Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE) examinations at Teso College Aloet.

The triplets Isaac Odongo, Abraham Opio and Jacob Ochen impressed teachers and fellow students with their academic performance, enabling the school shine in last year's results.

The triplets, who are the fourth-born of Anthony Okello, a deputy headteacher of Serere Secondary School, sparked celebration among family members and the school community.

Odongo scored 20 points in physics, mathematics, technical drawing and ICT, while Opio obtained 18 points in physics, economics, mathematics and ICT. Ochen scored 16 points in biology, chemistry, mathematics and ICT. The trio is now preparing to join a university in August.

Odongo wants to pursue civil engineering.

"My goal is to become a civil engineer and make my parents proud. I devoted much of my time to reading and the hard work has paid off," he said.

PHOTO BY GODFREY OJORE



Grace Atim, the mother of the triplets, shares a light moment with her children who excelled in last year's UACE exams

Opio, who scored 18 points, said repeated bouts of malaria affected his preparation and may have cost him a higher score.

"I was aiming for 20 points, but persistent malaria attacks affected my studies. I also want to pursue civil engineering because our father challenged us to achieve more than he did," Opio said.

Ochen, who scored 16 points, hopes to pursue medicine at university.

"I tried my best to catch up with my brothers, academically. I am grateful to God for the 16 points I obtained," he said.

Their father, Anthony Okello, expressed gratitude to God for blessing him with hardworking children.

"The triplets have set a record in my family by scoring such points. I thank God for the gift of these bright children," Okello said.

However, he admitted that raising tuition fees for university will be challenging given his modest salary and the number of children still in school. He currently has eight children.

"My salary alone cannot manage the tuition, but I pray that at least two of them secure government sponsorship so they can pursue their dream courses," he added.

Okello noted that at O'level, Odongo scored aggregate 8, Opio aggregate 11, and Ochen aggregate 12, which earned them full bursaries for their A'level studies.

"I am grateful to the board of Teso College Aloet for supporting me with a full bursary," he said.

PROUD MOTHER

The triplets' mother, Grace Atim, said raising the triplets had not been easy.

"They used to fall sick frequently while growing up, but I thank God for bringing them this far," she said.

The headteacher of Teso College Aloet, Julius Opasso, described the brothers as disciplined and hardworking students.

"As a school, we are very proud of them," he said.

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