



# BLUE JAY CORNER

## Rock Port hosts scholar bowl competition

By Riley Vogler

On March 19, the Blue Jay Scholar Bowl team held a quad meet. Participating teams included Rock Port, West Nodaway, and Northeast Nodaway. Due to the horrendous flooding in Northwest Missouri, the other invited team, Craig, was unable to be present. The Rock Port junior varsity filled the fourth spot in place of Craig.

The night began with a match between Rock Port's varsity against junior varsity. The varsity, whose members include Ayden Wilroy, captain Ethan Lucas, Josie Watkins, and Riley Vogler, took control of the match and secured the win. They defeated the JV team 450 to 130. This win added to the Blue Jay's perfect record, making it 12-0.

The second round was Rock Port versus Northeast Nodaway.

The Blue Jays were anticipating a tough match and had a somewhat slow start. By half-time, the Jays were down by 90 points. As the second half progressed, Rock Port began to make quite a comeback. Unfortunately, the Jays fell just short of the win. The final score was 250 to 260.

After suffering their first loss of the season, the varsity team was determined to get back on track. They faced West Nodaway for the final match of the night. The match concluded with an easy win for Rock Port. The final score of this match was 390 to 60. The Jays ended the

night with a record of 13-1.

In junior varsity action, the Blue Jays fell to West Nodaway after facing the varsity. JV 1, consisting of captain Zachary Clauson, Matthew Hance, Fischer Tharp, and Scarlett Kish, beat JV 2 180-80. JV 2 was made up of captain Cody Davis, Gabe Abbott, Kate Ottmann, and Corbin Hale.

Final point totals for varsity for the night were Ethan Lucas - 230, Ayden Wilroy - 80, Josie Watkins - 70, Riley Vogler - 10.

Point totals for junior varsity were Zachary Clauson - 70, Fischer Tharp - 40, Kate Ottmann - 30, Cody Davis - 30, Scarlett Kish - 20, Matthew Hance - 20, Gabe Abbott - 10.

Due to the cancellation of pool play, the Jay's next match will be the Top Eight Tournament on March 27 at DeKalb.



Senior Josie Watkins, sophomore Ethan Lucas, and senior Ayden Wilroy wait patiently for a game to start. Photo by Makenna Farmer.

## Rock Port Elementary students prepared for Battle of the Books

By Amy Skillen, Librarian

On Friday, March 29, 24 Rock Port Elementary students plan to travel to the Tarkio Resource Center to battle for the title of 2019 Battle of the Books Champion.

The battle begins at 3:30, and spectators are welcome.

Students have read the books nominated by the Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL) as Mark Twain Award nominees as well as a classic selection. This year's classic is *Walk Two Moons*, the Newberry Award Winner by Sharon Creech. Creech has a book on the current Mark Twin Nominee List as well, *Moo*.

Another interesting fact about this year's competition is that two books on the nominee list had very similar titles, *Ghosts*, a graphic novel by Raina Telgemeier, and *Ghost*

by Jason Reynolds. Because the titles were so similar, the committee chose to include only one in the competition. They chose *Ghost*, which was the second overall favorite of Rock Port students in grades 4-6.

By one vote, RPE's favorite Battle of the Books book was *Counting Thyme* by Melanie Conklin. Following the MASL guidelines, any student in grades 4-6 who reads at least four of the 12 nominated books can vote. Several students who chose not to be on a Battle of the Books team still read four or more of the nominated books.

Other books that got at least two votes were *Framed! A T.O.A.S.T. Mystery* with four; *Maxi's Secrets, Save Me a Seat*, and *Moo* with three each; and (my personal favorite) *When Friendship Followed*

*Me Home* with two.

In addition to reading books independently, students have had the opportunity to attend after-school study sessions on some Thursdays in the elementary library. They have made cards to study the authors, written possible competition questions, and played online study games.

The format of the questions in the Battle requires students to listen to information from one of the books and then discuss with their teammates the answer. They received one point for correctly identifying the books and an additional point if they also know the correct author.

RPE had six fourth graders, 12 fifth graders, and nine sixth graders attend study sessions.

Check next week's Atchison County Mail for results!

The Rock Port NHS would like to reach out to community members in need. In this time of tragedy, we would like to offer our resources to help in any way. Those in need of goods or workers, feel free to contact Megan Bebb at [megan.bebb@rpbluejays.com](mailto:megan.bebb@rpbluejays.com) or call 660-744-6296.

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