



South O'Brien High School

The Wolverine Roar

Editors: Alexis Babb and Emilee Arrick

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Science Fair Held Using Zoom

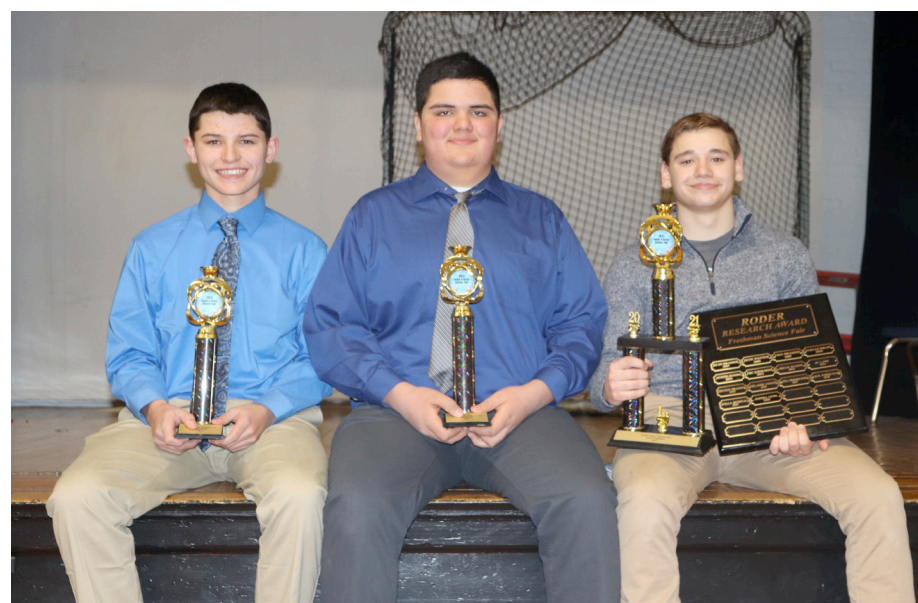
By Eric Mars and Abby Boardman

The annual South O'Brien Science Fair took place on February 22. Because of COVID-19, students presented their projects to judges and were scored through zoom calls. Awards were presented that night following the tabulation of results to the top fifteen projects.

Freshman Cole Tjossem walked away as the top finisher. His project dealt with physics, gravitational pull, and weight distribution. Tjossem said, "My favorite part about science fair was making the project and working with the catapult."

Sandra Nyenhuis, high school science teacher,

said, "The zoom judging worked well. The students were able to talk about their projects even though it was a little difficult not being able to be in person." She added, "Overall, it went very well." This was Nyenhuis' first year organizing the science fair at South O'Brien High School.



Science Fair Top 3: 3rd-Ben Woodall, 2nd-Mitchell Enger, and 1st-Cole Tjossem

Top 15 Science Fair Winners

1st-Cole Tjossem, 2nd-Mitchell Enger, 3rd-Ben Woodall, 4th-Justin Paulsen, 5th-Aaron Funkhouser, 6th-Lindsey Jones, 7th-Justice Frerk, 8th-Ian Oliver, 9th-Avarie Logan, 10th-Claire Wagner, 11th-Salma Younes, 12th-Josh Gnade, 13th- Jordan Wulf, 14th- Elodie Wilson, 15th-Chole Gergen.

CONGRATULATIONS

South O'Brien Jazz Choir!

The South O'Brien Jazz Choir, under the direction of John Krager, sent in audition tapes to earn the privilege to compete at State. The group was notified on March 8 they were selected to compete. They will be competing at Des Moines Valley High School on March 29. Watch the South O'Brien Facebook page for more details on the competition.



South O'Brien Jazz Choir

Back: Isacc Thomas, Aiden Ball, and Ethan Strubbe. Front: Addison Presthus and Alyssa Harper.

NHS Members Hold Annual Volleyball Tournament

By Alyssa VanBeek & Whitney Einck

South O'Brien National Honor Society sponsored the annual NHS Volleyball Tournament on Tuesday, March 9. High school students paid \$10 each to participate. A total of three teams competed in the tournament, a round-robin format. NHS Coordinator Abby Fish and Head Volleyball Coach Cortney Roskamp officiated the tournament. A team made up of sophomore and junior boys came in first, winning the prize of a breakfast pizza party.

Originally, the profits were going towards the Adopt-a-Family Organization, but due to covid, South O'Brien didn't participate in it this year. The proceeds from the tournament will be used for NHS induction expenses and affiliation dues. The fundraiser was originally scheduled to take place in November of 2020. Due to the high numbers of covid in the county, it was moved to spring. Fish stated, "A total of \$180 was raised from the tournament and will be used to cover NHS affiliation dues."



Hudson Oolman, Sawyer Honkomp, Parker Struve, Pete Bottjen, Jacob Van Lith, and Keadon Louscher throw up the W after winning the NHS Volleyball Tournament.



Senior Tyson Wulf gets ready to serve at the NHS Volleyball Tournament on Tuesday, March 9.

Spring Play Replaces Dinner Theater: Tickets on Sale NOW!

By Abby Schreck and Kaylee Jacobs

The performance of *Ten Ways to Survive a Zombie Apocalypse*, written by Don Zolidis, will hit the stage Saturday, March 27, at 7:00 pm, and Sunday, March 28, at 2:00 pm, in the East Gym at South O'Brien High School. This year's performance will be a play rather than a dinner theater because

of COVID restrictions. Tickets for the performance, which cost \$5, are on sale in the superintendent's office or from cast members. Tickets will also be available at the door. COVID protocols will be similar to what was expected at basketball games, according to Activities Director Kent De Zeeuw. Masks

are required, and families should social distance themselves from other households. The production is directed by Jr High English Teacher Penny Pingrey and Choir Director John Krager. Pingrey and Krager agreed to take over after long-time director Dennis Dickmeyer stepped down. Dickmeyer

directed the spring dinner theater for 45 years. In this year's performance, 2 narrators help offer advice on how to survive an apocalypse. Performers try to escape the planet before the zombies take over. The audience will enjoy lots of laughs as the characters try to survive. Get your tickets now for the performance.

Spring Play Tickets on Sale NOW!



Get your tickets for the spring play from a cast member or at the superintendent's office.



FFA Sub-District Contest Results

By Samantha Wilbur
The South O'Brien FFA chapter hosted the Annual Northeast Sub-District Contest on February 25th. South O'Brien has hosted this contest two other times, once in 2007 and again in 2016. Kumm stated, "All the Ag teachers in

the area met to decide who should hold the competition, and it was decided that I would do it." Kumm added, "The other advisors were either in their first or second year of teaching, or they had just hosted it." Over 60 people from the community came out to help judge students from the 10 different schools who were in attendance. "I felt that the competition went smoothly, and our members performed to the best of their abilities," said Kumm. FFA members competed in 9 different competitions, ranging from Ag Sales to Creed Speaking.

FFA Sub-District Results

Jack Farquhar: 1st in Ag Sales. Advanced to District.
Aidan Rehder, Eric Mars, and Abby Boardman: 1st in Chapter Program. Advanced to District.
Alexus Babb: 3rd in Extemporaneous Speaking. Alternate to District.
Claire Wagner: 3rd in Creed Speaking.
Jason Wittrock: 3rd in Job Interview.
Ben Woodall: 2nd in Ag Broadcasting.



Seniors Eric Mars, Abby Boardman, and Aidan Rehder get ready to set up for the NE Sub-District leadership Contest.



Senior Alexis Babb prepares before she competes in Extemporaneous Speaking.



Senior Jack Farquhar poses after he presented his product for Ag Sales to the judges.



Cheer and Dance Team Back: Alyssa VanBeek, Whitney Einck, Riley Draper, Emilee Arrick, Karlee Warnke, and Kenna Bauer. Front: Jalyssa Joines, Jadyn Renken, Ashlynn Tjossem, Jinger Nieuwenhuis, and Annika Jenness.

South O'Brien Yearly Dance Camp Takes Place

By Riley Draper and Maddy Jungers
The South O'Brien Cheer and Dance Teams held their Annual Youth Cheer and Dance Camp for 55 students in grades TK through 6 on Saturday, February 27. Because of COVID-19, each grade came at a different time throughout the day. They were not able to perform during halftime of a basketball game this year either. Instead, the students performed their dances and cheers in front of their parents at the end of the groups' assigned camp time. Senior Dance Team Member Alexis Babb said, "It's nice being able to teach young kids about the joys of dance, and it is fun to see the girls enjoy their day learning new things." The South O'Brien Cheer and Dance Squads were very thankful to be able to hold the youth dance camp despite the challenges of COVID-19. The dance camp raised approximately \$700. The fundraiser helps the dance team with various expenses each year.

SOHS Celebrates National FFA Week

By Makenna Rehder
National FFA Week was held February 21-27. FFA Members were excited to celebrate one of the FFA's most memorable traditions, as normal as they could while COVID-19 is still a concern. Senior FFA member Alexis Babb stated, "FFA week is always a fun tradition because it involves the whole school." Dress-up days allowed all students 7-12 to participate. Dress up days included hick day, FFA t-shirt day, and FFA jacket day. The South O'Brien FFA members held a scavenger hunt throughout the week. FFA emblems were hidden around the school for students to find. Once found, the emblems were turned into Ag teacher and FFA advisor Eric Kumm to receive a prize. The prizes ranged from FFA-related pencils, cups, or food. To end FFA week, South O'Brien hosted the NE Sub-District Leadership Contest.



South O'Brien FFA members dress up in their FFA jackets on Jacket Day.

What are you looking forward to most about the nice weather?



Freshman
Kylee Lepley

"Going on walks."



Sophomore
Hudson Oolman

"Being able to swim and fish in my pond."



Junior
Willa Sickelka

"Running track."



Senior
Josh Johannsen

"Being able to wear shorts."



Staff
Camille De Zeeuw

"Going for walks outside and planting in my garden."