

March 24, 2010

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fresno County Spell Off Results

What do questionnaire and subpoena have in common? Both were winning words for the Fresno County Spell-Off on Wednesday, March 24, 2010. The elementary winner, Emily Bevins of Central Unified, correctly spelled questionnaire in an oral competition to win 1st. A few hours later, Danielle Delemos, last year's 2nd place junior high winner, spelled subpoena correctly in the written competition.

Words like scrupulous, sapphire, and reconnaissance were spelled and spelled correctly under the watchful eyes and ears of judges. If that was not challenging enough for the young students, it was done while their peers, who were also nervously awaiting their opportunity to shine, looked on.

This year 74 students from 21 districts demonstrated their spelling prowess at the 2010 Fresno County Spell-Off sponsored by the Fresno County Office of Education held March 24, 2010.

Fresno County Office of Education 2010 Spell-Off Results

Elementary: 18 Rounds of competition

1. Emily Bevins
2. Matteo Mendiola
3. Megan Ashley
4. Sammy Huntress

Winning word: questionnaire

School/District/

Steinbeck Elementary--Central Unified
Laton Elementary--Laton Unified
Foothill Middle--Sierra Unified
American Union Elementary

Jr. High: 42 Rounds of competition

1. Danielle Delemos
2. Mary Blair
3. Shelby Moshier

Winning word: subpoena

School/District/

Our Lady of Victory--Diocese of Fresno
Kerman Middle--Kerman Unified
Foothill Middle--Sierra Unified

MORE

The top two winners in both the elementary and junior high school divisions will next represent Fresno County in the California State Spelling Championship, to be held May 15th at Sonoma State University, and the junior high state competition will be held at Miller Creek School in San Rafael on May 8th.

"The Fresno County Spell-Off competition decided the champions from Fresno County. However, equally important, each contestant who participated is already a champion, having won his/her district spelling bee," said Shirley Hargis, Literacy Consultant for the Fresno County Office of Education and event coordinator, under the direction of Dr. Lisa Benham, English/ Language Arts and History/Social Science Coordinator.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Lisa Benham, at 265-3073.

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