

## Southeast Service Cooperative

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For: Immediate Release

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## Rochester Catholic Schools 6<sup>th</sup> grader is the Southeast Minnesota Spelling Bee Champion

Twelve spellers (six from each Regional Spelling Bee) competed in the Final Spelling Bee on Tuesday, February 26, at 9:00 AM at the Southeast Service Cooperative in Rochester. Fifty-Six (56) students from 37 districts through Southeast Minnesota participated in the two Regional Spelling Bees on February 12, 2013, coordinated by the Southeast Service Cooperative.

**Christine Farnberg,** an 6<sup>th</sup> grade student from Rochester Catholic Schools-Holy Spirit was declared the champion after correctly spelling the word *INNOCUOUS*.

Christine advances to the 86<sup>th</sup> annual Scripps National Spelling Bee on May 28 - June 1, 2013. She won an expenses paid trip (for herself and one adult) to Washington, D.C. (donated by Southeast Service Cooperative). She also received a first place trophy, *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* (provided by Scripps National Spelling Bee), a one-year subscription to Britannica Online Student Edition, a \$100 Series EE Savings Bond (donated by Jay Sugarman, Chairman and CEO of iStar Financial in honor of his father, Samuel Louis Sugarman) and *Valerie's Spelling Bee Supplement Booklet*.

**Devon Nerstad**, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student from Spring Grove Public Schools, was the 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up. Devon received a trophy, and *Valerie's Spelling Bee Supplement Booklet*.

**Marisa Alvarado,** an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student from Kasson-Mantorville, was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up. Marisa received a trophy, and *Valerie's Spelling Bee Supplement Booklet*.

Other students participating in the Southeast Minnesota Final Spelling Bee were:

Maxfield Brevick, Chatfield Public Schools, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Emma Bucknam, Winona Public Schools, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Dylin Danielson, Lanesboro Public Schools, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Shane DeSilva, Pacelli Catholic School, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Olivia Fratianni, Kasson-Mantorville Public Schools, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Jackson Hillmann, Northfield Public Schools, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Alyssa Mancilman, Zumbrota-Mazeppa Public Schools, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Emma Rector, Rochester Schaeffer Academy, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Olivia Sailer, Wabasha-Kellogg Public Schools, 7<sup>th</sup> grade

The Spelling Bee competitions in southeast Minnesota are sponsored and coordinated by the Southeast Service Cooperative.