

PRESS RELEASE -- For Immediate Release

Southeast Service Cooperative  
210 Wood Lake Drive SE  
Rochester, MN 55904  
Contact: Kirsten Kuehl  
Phone: 507-281-6670  
Email: kkuehl@ssc.coop

**Local students advance to Southeast Minnesota Final Spelling Bee**

Two Regional Spelling Bees were held on Tuesday, February 17 at the Southeast Service Cooperative in Rochester. Seventy (70) students participated in the two Regional Spelling Bees. Students from forty-one schools throughout southeast Minnesota advanced to compete in the Regional competitions coordinated by the Southeast Service Cooperative.

The top twelve spellers (six from each Spelling Bee) now advance to the final Spelling Bee on Tuesday, March 3, at 9:00 a.m. at the Southeast Service Cooperative. Co-sponsors are McNeilus Steel, Inc. and KM Telecom. The winner of the final will advance to the annual Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C. on May 26-27, 2009.

Students advancing to the Southeast Minnesota Final Spelling Bee are:

Regional Spelling Bee at 9:00 a.m.

1 <sup>st</sup> place	Radhika Edpunganti	LaCrescent-Hokah
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Kyle Lewis	Owatonna
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Casey Olson	Mabel-Canton
4 <sup>th</sup> place	Laura Galbus	Kasson-Mantorville
5 <sup>th</sup> place	Mark McGivern	Albert Lea
5 <sup>th</sup> place	Emily Walsh	Rochester Catholic

Regional Spelling Bee at 1:00 p.m.

1 <sup>st</sup> place	Melissa Brown	Rochester
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Megan Klotz	Zumbrota-Mazeppa
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Rachel Cohrs	Rochester
4 <sup>th</sup> place	Josh Meyers	Pine Island
5 <sup>th</sup> place	Alyssa Luebbe	Medford
6 <sup>th</sup> place	Brendan Wilder	Rochester