

22nd Scripps National Spelling Bee

The **22nd Scripps National Spelling Bee** was held in Washington, District of Columbia on Friday, May 27, 1949, at the auditorium of the National Press Building, sponsored by the E.W. Scripps Company.

Competition

The winner was 13-year-old boy Kim Calvin of Canton, Ohio and sponsored by the Canton Repository, correctly spelling the word *dulcimer*, followed by *onerous*,^[1] and winning \$500.^{[2][3]} James Shea, 13, of Brooklyn, New York, and sponsored by the New York World-Telegram, placed second (missing *dulcimer*). Worn out from almost five hours of spelling, Shea almost fainted at the end of the bee.^{[4][3][5][6]} Fred Shoup of Palo Alto, California placed third and won \$100.^[7] It was the first time in the Bee's history that boy spellers took the top three slots, and Calvin was the 7th boy to win in the 22 Bees held to date.^[8]

There were 49 contestants in this bee,^{[3][9][10]} and 614 words were used over 58 rounds.^[11]

References

- ↑ (28 May 1949). Ohio Boy Wins Spelling Bee; Californian Third (<http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=d&d=SBS19490528.1.2>), *San Bernardino Sun* ("Calvin, 13, from Avondale school, correctly spelled "ducimer" after Shea spelled it "dolicimer" ... Calvin correctly spelled "onerous" to clinch the championship.")
- ↑ (20 April 2012). Kim J. Calvin (obituary) (<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/washingtonpost/obituary.aspx?pid=157124137>), *The Washington Post*
- ↑ (28 May 1949). Ohio Youth Wins National Spelling Bee (<http://dailyiowan.lib.uiowa.edu/DI/1949/di1949-05-28.pdf>), *Daily Iowan*, p. 4
- ↑ Macguire, James. American Bee: The National Spelling Bee and the Culture of Word Nerds (<https://books.google.com/books?id=iP1Pfv55Qr0C&pg=PA54&lpg=PA54#v=onepage&q&f=false>), p. 54 (2006)
- ↑ Harbour, Nicole (22 June 2013). Spelling veteran shares his memories with three year contestant Yasir Hasnain (http://herald-review.com/entertainment/games/spelling-veteran-shares-his-memories-with-three-year-contestant-yasir/article_b4f62cb2-da84-11e2-aac8-001a4bcf887a.html), *Herald Review*
- ↑ Ruhe, Shirley (13 October 2015). Arlington: Shea Wins Spelling Bee 67 Years Later: But this time without fainting (<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2015/oct/13/arlington-shea-wins-spelling-bee-67-years-later/>), *The Connection*
- ↑ (2 June 1949). Fred Shoup (<http://stanforddailyarchive.com/cgi-bin/stanford?a=d&d=stanford19490602-01.2.26#>), *The Stanford Daily*

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National Press Building

Date	Friday, May 27, 1949
Location	Washington, D.C.
Winner	Kim Calvin
Age	13
Residence	Canton, Ohio
Sponsor	<i>Canton Repository</i>
Sponsor location	Canton, Ohio
Winning word	onerous
No. of contestants	49
Pronouncer	Benson S. Alleman
Preceded by	21st Scripps National Spelling Bee
Followed by	23rd Scripps National Spelling Bee

8. Boy Wins Spelling Bee (<https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/116667258/>), *Arizona Republic*
9. (27 May 1949). U.S. Spelling Champs Come From All Sections (https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=950&dat=19490527&id=Z_9PAAAAIBAJ&sjid=gVUDAAAIBAJ&pg=2412,6300155&hl=en), *Evening Independent* (Associated Press)
10. (21 May 1949). Keith Carries Lucky Chestnut to Bee (<https://newspaperarchive.com/el-paso-herald-post-may-21-1949-p-1/>), *El Paso Herald-Post* ("The finals will be held next Friday at the National Press Club in Washington with 49 spelling champions from all parts of the U S competing")
11. Journal of the House of Representatives of the State of Ohio, Volume 123 (<https://books.google.com/books?id=tNdIAQAAMAAJ&q=dulcimer+%22kim+calvin%22&dq=dulcimer+%22kim+calvin%22&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKewiNpNveiZTZAhXrzVQKHAMDDyoQ6AEIKDAA>), p. 1133 ("Kim Calvin captured the championship in the fifty-eighth round of spelling. It took 614 words of the 750 on the pronouncer's list to attain the coveted goal. These are the word Kim Calvin spelled correctly during the long tense battle of the dictionary: gamble, benign, epaulet, axiom, anent, gingham, demurring, cuticle, voracious, disparate, enigma, insidious, ratification, patrician, dais, innate, annuity, camisole, harangue, pompous, pungent, fictitious, sentient, reprieve, connoisseur, surreptitious, brochure, papyrus, surveillance, equipage, seraphic, scintillate, bouillon, malign, irascible, liquefy, transient, geopolitical, adolescence, solder, elegiacal, sarcophagus, perfidious, innocuous, abhorrence, philology, discountenance, capillary, atrophy, annihilate, appurtenant, tonsillectomy, antimacassar, vermilion, acolyte, residual, chandelier, satellite, hirsute, dulcimer and onerous ...")

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