

29th Scripps National Spelling Bee

The **29th Scripps National Spelling Bee** was held at the Department of Commerce auditorium in Washington, District of Columbia on May 17, 1956, sponsored by the E.W. Scripps Company.^[1]

The winner was 13-year-old Melody Sachko of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania,^[2] correctly spelling the word "condominium". Second place went to Sandra Owen, a 13-year-old from Justus, Ohio, who failed to spell "afflatus".^[3] Third-place was taken by Ann Malone Warren, 13, from Monticello, Georgia, and fourth went to Karin Carter, 12, of San Francisco, California.^[4]

There were 63 spellers this year, and boys (34) outnumbered girls (29) for the first time. Three spellers were return contestants, including Sachko, who had placed 6th in 1954.^[1] 632 words were used, and Bee took eight hours to complete.^[4]

The first place award was \$1,000, doubled from the previous year, with \$500 for second place and \$250 for third. The next five each received \$100, the next ten \$50, and the remaining 45 spellers \$25 each.^[1]

References

- ↑ (11 May 1956). 63 Young Champions Entered In National Spelling Contest (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1454&dat=19560511&id=3mNgAAAIBAJ&sjid=9HENAAAIBAJ&pg=668,2092160&hl=en>), *Wilmington Star-News*
- ↑ Levin Steve (6 July 2003). Past winners spell out pain and glory of 'The Bee' (<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/nation/2003/07/06/Past-winners-spell-out-pain-and-glory-of-The-Bee/stories/200307060016>), *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*
- ↑ (18 May 1956). 'Affaltus' And 'Condominium' Win Melody Spelling Crown (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1755&dat=19560518&id=f-scAAAAIBAJ&sjid=8mQEAAAIBAJ&pg=2686,2879169&hl=en>), *Sarasota Herald-Tribune* (Associated Press)
- ↑ (19 May 1956). Girl is Winner of Spelling Bee (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=266&dat=19560519&id=6u4rAAAIBAJ&sjid=d2cFAAAAIBAJ&pg=1202,3886434>), *Kentucky New Era* (Associated Press)

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Department of Commerce auditorium

Date	May 17, 1956
Location	Department of Commerce auditorium, Washington, D.C.
Winner	Melody Sachko
Age	13
Residence	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Sponsor	<i>Pittsburgh Press</i>
Sponsor location	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Winning word	condominium
No. of contestants	63
Pronouncer	Benson S. Alleman
Preceded by	28th Scripps National Spelling Bee
Followed by	30th Scripps National Spelling Bee

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