

74th Scripps National Spelling Bee

The **74th Scripps National Spelling Bee** was held in Washington, D.C. on May 29–31, 2001, sponsored by the E.W. Scripps Company.

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Winners

Thirteen-year-old Sean Conley, from Anoka, Minnesota won the competition in the 16th round by correctly spelling the word "sucedaneum".^{[1][2][3]} Conley was appearing in his third bee. He fell in the sixth round in 1999, and placed second in 2000.^[4] Second place went to Kristin Hawkins of Virginia, who missed "resipiscence".^[2]

Competition

248 contestants participated in the competition; 138 girls and 110 boys; 170 from public schools, 28 from private schools, 25 from parochial schools, and 25 home-schoolers. Fifty-two spellers had previously participated in a national bee, a new record.^[5]

The bee used a three-day format for the first time this year, though bee staff already planned to return to two days the following year by adding a written-test for the first time. The contest began at 4pm on Tuesday May 29, with one-half of the spellers competing in round one starting at 4pm, and the other half at 7pm.^[6] 178 spellers survived the first day.^[7] Two additional split-rounds continued on Wednesday.^[6] The finals, with survivors from both groups, started at 8am on Thursday and were broadcast on ESPN starting at 10am.^{[4][8]}

The first place prize was \$10,000, and second place took \$5000.^[2]

References

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- Toppo, Greg (31 May 2001). Minn. 13-Year-Old Wins National Spelling Bee (<http://abcnews.go.com/US/story?id=93197>), *ABC News*
- (1 June 2001). 'Sucedaneum' gives Minnesota teen a win at National Spelling Bee (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=110&dat=20010601&id=6zJQAAAAIBAJ&sjid=nFUDAAAIBAJ&pg=6954,6806331&hl=en>), *Ludington Daily News* (Associated Press)

74th Scripps National Spelling Bee	
Date	May 29–31, 2001
Location	Grand Hyatt Washington in Washington, D.C.
Winner	Sean Conley
Age	13
Residence	Anoka, Minnesota
Sponsor	<i>Aitkin Independent Age</i>
Sponsor location	Aitkin, Minnesota
Winning word	sucedaneum
No. of contestants	248
Pronouncer	Alex Cameron
Preceded by	73rd Scripps National Spelling Bee
Followed by	75th Scripps National Spelling Bee

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5. (29 May 2001). Popular is word for national spelling bee (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1955&dat=20010528&id=2WMxAAAAIABAJ&sjid=O6MFAAAAIBAJ&pg=959,8384695&hl=en>), *Reading Eagle* (Scripps Howard News Service)
6. Braciszeki, Kevin (29 May 2001). Ludington speller in national bee this week (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=110&dat=20010525&id=QaFOAAAAIABAJ&sjid=cEwDAAAAIABAJ&pg=3788,6313689&hl=en>), *Ludington Daily News*
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8. (30 May 2001). Maine spelling champ makes second round of national bee (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=2457&dat=20010530&id=r6NJAAAAIABAJ&sjid=cg0NAAAAIABAJ&pg=6280,4317765&hl=en>), *Bangor Daily News*

External links

- [List of spellers eliminated in Rounds 1-4 in order and by word \(http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/nation/2001-05-30-spellround2.htm\)](http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/nation/2001-05-30-spellround2.htm), via USA Today
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