

The Learning Curve

This page was written and designed by Education First in cooperation with the Bibb County Board of Education, the Peyton Anderson Foundation, and The Telegraph.



Your weekly guide to students, schools, teachers and triumphs in Bibb County's Public Schools

Bibb County Public School students to be well-represented around state

Regional Science and Engineering Fair held at Georgia College & State University

On February 4 and 5, Bibb County students gathered at Georgia College & State University for the Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Below are the awards handed out to the students.

SECONDARY FAIR SENIOR DIVISION

Best of Show

Eric Malmquist - Westside

1st Place

Eric Malmquist - Westside
Mary Marshall, Aamne Shalabi Central

2nd Place

Phillip Knighton - Westside
David Canady - Westside

SECONDARY FAIR JUNIOR DIVISION

1st Place

Leigh Arthur, Katie Holloway,
Hazel Merihew - Alex II
Katherine Powell - Howard

2nd Place

Julia Cherry - Alex II
Justin Stephens - Miller
Kyle Newark - Weaver
Lauren Sullivan - Weaver
Benjamin Weintrout - Alex II
Kate Willis, Maisie Hugdahl,
Leah Parris - Miller
Keith Russ - Miller

3rd Place

Marissa McCranie - Weaver
Torrey Dozier, Tayla Dozier,
Shantrice Danielly -
Burdell-Hunt
Emmalee Brown - Miller
Rebecca McAleer,
Amelia Edwards - Miller
Mitchell Wachtel - Weaver
Clair Horton - Weaver
Anil Adiga - Howard
Lee Whaley, Brett Combs
Rutland Middle

ELEMENTARY FAIR

1st Place

Emily King - Alex II
(1st place and Best in Class)
Brantley Collins - Springdale
(1st place and Best in Class)
Cody Cruse - Alex II
Blair Liles - Heard

2nd Place

Sarah David - Alex II
Anna Hood - Heard
Matthew Ely - Porter
Austin Marsh - Taylor
Skyla Smith - Skyview
Jordan Everett - Springdale
Garrett Arisman - Springdale
Seth Thompson - Springdale

3rd Place

Kirsten White - Alex II
Abigail Hobby - Alex II
Akelsea Wynn - Morgan
Janin Irby - Taylor
Jaylen Green - Union
Sierra Stephens - Vineville

SPECIAL AWARDS

United States Navy Special Awards

David Canady - Westside
Leigh Arthur, Katie Holloway,
Hazel Merihew - Alex II
Julia Cherry - Alex II
Mitchell Wachtel - Weaver

Herbert Hoover Presidential Library Association Award

Justin Stephens - Miller

Society for In Vitro Biology Award

Eric Malmquist - Westside

Eastman Kodak Company Award

Eric Malmquist - Westside

Ricoh Sustainable Development Award

Anil Adiga - Howard

National Society of Professional Engineers Award

Phillip Knighton - Westside

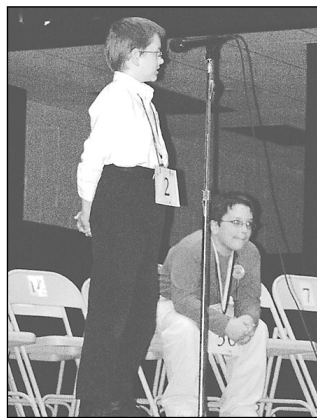
United States Air Force Special Awards

Mary Marshall, Aamne Shalabi Central

County-wide Spelling Bee winners to advance to district level

"The real winners in this room are the students," said Dr. John Swint, Bibb Association of Educators President. "Each student can hold their head high in this competition."

On February 7, students from around the county gathered at Vineville Academy's Performing Arts Centre to compete in the Bibb Association of Educators' County-wide Spelling Bee Competition. Before coming here, each student



Spelling Bee Champion Robert Wallen prepares to spell his final word: graduate.

involved had to win the spelling bee at their respective schools.

"They're the best of the best," added Swint.

Each student received a medal and round of applause as they were introduced by name and school to the crowd of more than 200. Rules for the competition included announcing the word before and after spelling the word; no elimination for mispronouncing the word; a student could not change a letter once it was said; obsolete and archaic spellings were not allowed; and the student, before spelling the word, could ask to hear the word again, have the definition recited, and have the word used in a sentence. Third place this evening would receive a \$50 prize; second place would receive a \$75 prize; and first place would receive \$125.

Each student was given a practice word to get them used to the process before the competition began. When it did, the excitement

in the air became palatable as the end drew near.

Students were spelling words with ease like homestead, empower, error, lingual, fortification, reformatory, misfortune, and antacid. Cheers arose when a student would stall on a word but still get it right. Each student leaving the stage left to loud applause and was greeted with a gift and pats on the back from family and teachers.

As the competition rolled down to the last few, each word spelled correctly received applause, and each student leaving the stage received loud applause, honoring their accomplishment. Down to the last three, families, friends, and students were on the edge of their seat, listening to the spelling of each word, wondering who would walk away with the title of champion.

Down to the final two contestants - Robert Wallen from Vineville and Reed Pucket from Heard, both of who will move on to the district competition in Byron on February 26 - the rules changed: if one contestant missed a word, the other had to spell that word correctly, then another to win. If they couldn't, the process reversed.

They went back and forth, neither missing a beat as they went through words like nitrite, uncouth, pastel, siesta, archaic, and insanity. Then, a small, but crucial mistake: the second 'i' was left out of 'ingredient.' An audible intake of breath could be heard as the crowd realized this could be it. The word moved to the other contestant, who spelled it right and received his final word: graduate. Without hesitation, he spelled it out, enunciating clearly: "g-r-a-d-u-a-t-e." A momentary stunned silence and then people were on their feet cheering for Bibb County's new Spelling Bee Champion: Vineville Academy's Robert Wallen.

"Superspellers. That's what we have," said Spelling Bee Coordinator Cassandra Hicks-Wilson.

Bibb County hosts Fourth Annual Technology Fair

The morning of February 5 saw 240 students from 28 schools gather at Hutchings Career Center to compete for a chance to move on to the state competition in Atlanta later this month.

Technology Specialist Tolecia Woodard says the event "was a tremendous success." Hutchings Principal Laura Perkins agreed: "we've had a great turnout."

First place winners will be headed to the state competition and received a digital camera the size of a credit card. Second place winners got a CD and mp3 player, and third place winners got a flash memory key.

Listed below are the students who will be representing Bibb County Public Schools in Atlanta.

Animated Graphic Design

Grades 3-4: 1st Caroline Martin (Alex II)
Grades 7-8: 1st Makita Thatcher (Appling)

Case Modification

Grades 3-4: 1st Jessica Krauss (Morgan)
Grades 7-8: 1st James Langstaff (Howard)

Digital Imaging/Video Editing

Grades 3-4: 1st Heather Brown (Heritage)
Grades 5-6: 1st Darren Hogan, Yari Randall & Alesa Somers (Vineville)
Grades 7-8: 1st Taylor Barnes (Howard)
Grades 11-12: 1st Lashaunte Wade (Hutchings)

Internet/Intranet

Grades 3-4: 1st Austin Riley (Carter)
Grades 5-6: 1st Cayce Rumph (Burdell-Hunt)
Grades 7-8: 1st Alyssa Armstrong, Tarver Bechtel & Shelby Boatwright (Howard)
Grades 9-10: 1st Justin Stanley (Hutchings)

Multimedia - Individual

Grades 3-4: 1st Shelton Hatton (Alex II)
Grades 5-6: 1st Johnny Mitchell (Miller)
Grades 7-8: 1st Sean Williams (Howard)
Grades 9-10: 1st Victoria Landers (Hutchings)
Grades 11-12: 1st Ervin Glover (Northeast)

Multimedia - Team

Grades 3-4: 1st James Cosnahan & Jasmin Morehead (Skyview)
Grades 5-6: 1st Ronnie Anderson & Joshua Arnett (Skyview)
Grades 7-8: 1st Emily Dodds & Cooper Lowe (Rutland Middle)

Non-Multimedia Applications

Grades 3-4: 1st Joey Hornung (Heritage)
Grades 5-6: 1st Richard Flint & Jazalyn Grace (Burghard)
Grades 7-8: 1st Richard Smith (Weaver)

Non-Animated Graphic Design

Grades 3-4: 1st Dalton Dunlap (Heritage)
Grades 5-6: 1st Willard Poole (Vineville)
Grades 7-8: 1st Ryan Warrick (Howard)
Grades 9-10: 1st Morgan Brannen (Hutchings)

Project Programming

Grades 3-4: 1st John MacNeil (Alex II)
Grades 7-8: 1st Zachary Zion (Howard)

Robotics

Grades 5-6: 1st Christian Grandison & Marquez Henderson (Alex II)
Grades 7-8: 1st Shakira Curry, Ericka DeBerry & Kierra Hill (Appling)