

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **South Fayette Township School District**

2250 Old Oakdale Road

Phone: 412-221-4542 ext. 421

e-mail: [belcher@southfayette.org](mailto:belcher@southfayette.org)

McDonald, PA 15057-2580

Fax: 724-693-2883

[www.southfayette.org](http://www.southfayette.org)

Contact: Shelly Belcher, Public Relations

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 9, 2005**

### **South Fayette 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Spelling Bee Champion**

*South Fayette Township, PA* – South Fayette Elementary held its First Annual 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Spelling Bee on June 8, 2005. Thirty-three students competed in the final phase of the competition after weeks of preparation and the winners were: Nick Chepkevich, 1<sup>st</sup> place; Max DiNicola, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; and Rachel Sherbondy, 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The finalists made it through over 12 rounds of spelling words. In the final round, Chepkevich had to correctly spell “crocodile,” which was misspelled by DiNicola, he then correctly spelled “defensive” to take the title of Spelling Bee Champion.

Interested 4<sup>th</sup> grade students took at test to qualify for the Bee, with the top scoring students earning a place on stage for the final contest. The students worked after school for several weeks studying and practicing oral spelling to prepare for the event.

The event was organized by Ms. Brenda Ungarean, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, and sponsored by the South Fayette Elementary PTA who supplied prizes for all the participants. The top three winners received book gift certificates; desk sets that included a dictionary, thesaurus, and vocabulary builders; and an engraved trophy to commemorate the achievement.

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