

Region's top spellers to compete

By RAY WESTBROOK, Avalanche-Journal

This region's spelling experts will gather at 1 p.m. todaytr at Cavazos Junior High to face words that will send one of them to Washington. The Scripps Howard Lubbock Avalanche-Journal Regional Spelling Bee has entrants this year from nine counties. The spellers are Elida Diaz, Bailey County; Marty McGee, Dawson; Alison Aubry, Gaines; Tesha Arant, Hockley; Sarah Sanghavi, Howard; Ashley Lewis, Lea, N.M.; Vasanthi Reddy, Lubbock; Josh Schoppa, Lynn; and Wendy Proffitt, Scurry. They range in age from 10 to 14, and represent grades fifth through eighth. During the event today, each student will be given a word to spell. They can request a repeat of the pronunciation, an alternate pronunciation, a definition and an example of its use in a sentence. The contest continues until only one remains. In addition to the expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to compete in the national contest, the winner of today's event will be given prizes. Those include a Compton's Interactive Encyclopedia, a gift certificate and a Merriam Webster's Third New International Dictionary. Today's second place winner will receive a deluxe electronic edition of the Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary. The student who comes in third will be given a Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary.