Louella Dizon of Detroit Country Day School, Beverly Hills, will represent Michigan in a national spelling bee after out-spelling 37 other district winners. (Staff photo by Stephen Cantrell)

House of Dentyres





Spelling champ outsmarts mom

By BARBARA UNDERWOOD

Louella Dizon knows her Ps and Qs.
The bright-yelog better Country Day
School sixth grader from West Bloomfield outspelled 37 other district
winners to win the metropolitan Detroit area annual spelling bee Wednesday. She will go to Washington, D.C.,
the week of June 4 to compete in the
national spelling bee.

Before Louella spelled "vignette'
correctly to become the winner, she
add to spell "pingue" also, the word
missed by Philip Brandt of Dearborn
Heights who came in second in the
competition.

The two had gone back and forth,
with first one missing a word and then
to other, several times before Louella
finally won. The winner had to correct,
yspell the word that had been missed
by the previous contestant plus one
more word to win the competition.

"It seemed like forever," Louella sald Friday. "We spelled 27 words before en got to the winning word. We were the got to the winning word. We were the standing wild guesses. They were just input so that the standing wild guesses. They were just input so that the standing was sure Philip, an eighth grader, would be the winner, she said.

"It seems scary to compete with other people to represent your own state with a lot of people depending on you."

This is Louella's second year at Country Day and the second year she has been the school's number one speller, qualifying her to compete in the district finals. She came in 19th last year was the second the second state of the secon

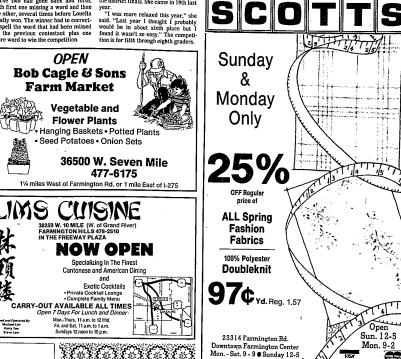
When the competition was down to Louella and Philip, the words they were asked to spell were "out of this world," shear and world, "words of Champions," which Louella did.

"SOME OF them I can't even pronounce. My mother never heard of them and she's a doctor. You can get a heart attack from that."

Spelling bees "usually are won by tack," Louella said, and also by the kind of words you get, experience and from reading."

did.

Her parents, both doctors at Mt. Carmel Hospital, also quizzed her and she studied the dictionary some and is an actually a distinction of the properties. "This grows on you," she said. "You win one and you want to win another. But right now I don't think spelling is my favorite subject."





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