

Roosevelt speller ties for 4th place

(<http://www.pioneerlocal.com/riverforest/news/985267.rf-sloan-060408-s1.article>)

June 4, 2008

By [DEBORAH BAYLISS](#) dbayliss@pioneerlocal.com

In her second appearance at the Scripps National Spelling Bee, Roosevelt Middle School eighth-grader Rose Sloan tied for fourth place Friday. Last year she tied for 34th place.

"I'm happy with where I placed," Sloan said Monday. "You can know every word except the one you get and you're out."

This was last time Sloan can compete in the national event as she graduates from middle school today.

Sloan competed against 288 participants last week in Washington, D.C. The contest got under way with computerized preliminary rounds May 25.

"Rose misspelled 'rollick' during the on-stage second round, but went on to the quarter finals (with 90 others Thursday) because of the high score of 23 out of 25 she achieved on the computerized round," her mom, Maurine Neiberg, said Monday.

On Friday, Sloan was one of 12 in the finals. She tied with three others for fourth place after misspelling "sheitel," a head cover worn by Orthodox Jewish women, Neiberg said.

Rose was coached by her mom, dad Bob Sloan, a professor at UIC, and Sandra Painter, a Roosevelt teacher.

Sloan earned \$2,250 in prize money from Scripps and a \$500 savings bond from her sponsor, ComEd.

