

Two Local Spellers Near The Top At WI State Bee

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Two students from La Crosse schools finished 'in the money' at the state spelling bee in Madison this weekend.

Akshith Mandepally from Longfellow Middle School placed third out of 48 spellers in the state finals, and Nathan Jarrett of Providence Academy came in sixth. Both boys qualified for the Badger Spelling Bee by finishing high at a regional bee last month in West Salem. Akshith is an eighth-grader, so this was his last year to compete in the bee. However, Nathan is in fifth grade, and has three more chances to go to Madison. The state winner this year, Aisha Khan of Madison, will represent Wisconsin at the national bee in May.