

PANCH

So, is that understood spellers?

SPELLERS

YES

RONA

BEFORE ANYONE IS DISQUALIFIED  
AND BEFORE PROCEEDINGS TURN SNIDE  
AND CONTESTANTS TURN NASTY,  
I SOBERLY CONFIDE:

IN THE MOMENT BEFORE THE BEE  
CLAIMS ITS FIRST CATASTROPHE,  
I LOVE WHAT I SEE:  
KIDS ACTING INNOCENTLY.  
IT'S MY FAVORITE MOMENT OF THE BEE.  
IT'S MY FAVORITE MOMENT OF THE BEE.

PANCH

Then, without further ado, let the spelling begin.  
With: Miss Schwartzandgrubenierre.

RONA

Miss Schwartzandgrubenierre is head of the Gay-Straight Alliance at her elementary school.

PANCH

STRABISMUS

SCHWARZY

Strabismus. May I please have the definition of that word?

PANCH

The inability of one eye to obtain binocular vision with the other because of an imbalance of the muscles of the eyeball.

SCHWARZY

Can you use it in a sentence please?

PANCH

In the schoolyard Billy protested that he wasn't cockeyed. "I suffer from strabismus," he said, whereupon the bullies beat him harder.

*as Panch looks to Rona for approval, Schwarzzy is writing the word on her arm*

RONA

Notice how she writes on her forearm. This is her way to see the word before she speaks it out loud.

SCHWARZY

Strabismus. S-T-R-A-B-I-S-M-U-S. Strabismus.

PANCH

That is correct.  
Mr. Coneybear

RONA

Mr. Coneybear was second runner up in the Putnam Basin district

*...Phone rings. A flashback to the moment when he found out he's in*

SCHWARZY as LEAF's MOM

*Brook, will you tell Leaf he has a phone call?*

MARCY as LEAF'S SISTER

*Leaf! Phone!*

CONEYBEAR

*Thanks! I got it!*

Hello, Leaf speaking. Uh, huh. Uh, huh. Uh, huh.

You're kidding? I'm gonna represent the Basin in the bee? Wow, I can't believe it.

*As he calls his family members, kids rise taking on these roles audience volunteer is also pulled up to be "Paul"*

CONEYBEAR

Mom, Dad, Marigold, Brook, Pinecone, Raisin, Landscape, Paul, - you're not going to believe this!

BARFEE as DAD: What's up Leaf?

LEAF: I made the county finals in the spelling bee!

*family laughs*