

A High Country youth is on his way to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC. After four years of intense local and regional competition, 12-year-old Josiah Wright of Ashe County won this year's Regionals in Winston-Salem to gain a chance at the national competition May 30th.

The word that sent him to the big event? Philately. According to Webster's Dictionary, it means the collection and study of postage stamps, but for Josiah, it means that all those hours of study paid off. Incidentally, in addition to being a champ, Josiah Wright is also a philatelist.