

'Ptilopod' a worthy foe for Ashe boy

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Ashe County's Josiah Wright competed at the National Spelling Bee. Though he survived the first day, a word in round 5 on Thursday proved to be his downfall. The word was Ptilopod, pronounced TILL-O-POD, which means "having the feet feathered." Wright was caught off-guard by the silent "p". Earlier in the competition, Wright correctly spelled the words hybrid, chattle and unguiculate. Only 59 spellers made it to Thursday, if that tells you anything about Wright's ability. A total of 286 spellers qualified for the national competition.