

## SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

# Miss Smith goes to Washington

The Chronicle-Telegram

Local spelling bee champion Bridget Smith is beginning her journey to Washington, D.C., where she will compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee against the best spellers in the nation.

Bridget, of Lorain, is a seventh grader at Durling Middle School who was crowned Lorain County Spelling Bee Champion on March 9. She bested 32 other spellers at Avon Middle School with the winning word "wunderkind," a German word meaning "a person who achieves great success when relatively young."

Bridget said Friday she has been continuing to study hard with her dad's help. It will be her first trip to the nation's capital and said she looks forward



**Bridget**

to checking out the historical monuments.

"I'm excited to do it but it's also like nerve-wracking," Smith said.

Heading out early Sunday morning, Bridget will be ready for preliminary rounds May 30.

The competition will continue with quarterfinals May 31, and semifinals and finals June 1.

The competition can be viewed on ION Plus, ION and [www.spellingbee.com](http://www.spellingbee.com).

The 39th annual Lorain County Spelling Bee was presented by the Educational Service Center of Lorain County and The Chronicle-Telegram.