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## SCHOOL BULLETIN

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE



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### King David crowned

David Banh is responsible for a 16-table club at his high school. No wonder his commitment to the game both at and away from the table has earned him the crown as the 2005 King of Bridge.



*David Banh  
2005 King of Bridge*

The award for the King or Queen of Bridge is presented each year to an ACBL member who is a graduating high school senior and has been cited for promotional contributions to bridge as well as outstanding tournament performances.

*Continued on page 2.*

### BRIDGEISCOOL.com

#### 7,394 Visitors Can't Be Wrong

They're adding up by the thousands — the visitors to the new BridgeisCool.com web site for younger players — with 7,394 visits just in the month of November. This is where you now can find the latest news of junior events, accomplishments and more. You also can register at the site to receive special announcements and be eligible for contest prizes in the future.

BridgeisCool also links you to our partners in bridge — organizations such as Girls Inc. and the YMCA that are helping the ACBL spread the word about our great game. You also will find links to teachers dedicated to mentoring younger players and even to other gaming sites.

**Add BridgeisCool.com to your favorites and visit us often.**

### Starting early

Youngsters who play bridge at an early age often become some of our top players. Each year a high school senior is named the King or Queen of Bridge. The award is given by the ACBL Educational Foundation to a high school senior who has contributed to bridge and done well in tournament play.

#### Where are they now?

Here is an update on a few of the recent King and Queen of Bridge title holders.

**Robert Glickman**, of Woodland Hills CA, was awarded the title in 2004. A student at the University of California, Berkeley, he is majoring in computer science and economics. He has been chosen for the ACBL Youth Team for bridge players under 21. As a member he is expected to compete in the World Schools Team Championship in 2006 in Bangkok Thailand.

**Scott Waldron**, of Cockeysville MD, is a student at Johns Hopkins University. The 2003 award recipient is majoring in computer science and is treasurer of his school's local chapter of ACM, an organization for computer persons. He still plays bridge, but not as much because of his studies.

**John Kranyak**, of Bay Village OH, won the World Youth Team Championship in 2001 and 2005. He also took the NABC Mixed Pairs title in Pittsburgh with his mother, Laurie, earlier this year. Kranyak was King of Bridge in 2002.

**Erin Anderson**, of Regina SK, was the 2001 recipient and has just graduated from the University of Regina with a bachelor's degree in education. She is teaching French in an elementary school in her hometown. Anderson actively plays bridge both at local clubs and in tournaments.

### 2006 Edition

**AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE**

2990 Airways Blvd.  
Memphis TN 38116

www.acbl.org





*Yale — 2005 College Champions: Marc Glickman, Jonathan Bittner, Randall Rubenstein and Christina Craige.*

## BULLDOGS NIP BEAVERS

The teams had played tough for a total 16 hours over two days, only to be faced with yet another hour to determine the winner in an overtime match. At the end, Yale prevailed over MIT to become the 2005 North American College Bridge Team Champions.

The Yale victory came during the North American Bridge Championships (NABC) held during July in Atlanta.

Playing for Yale were Marc Glickman, 22, of Woodland Hills CA, a 2005 graduate in economics; Jonathan Bittner, 20, of Chappaqua NY, a junior in physics; Christina Craige, 26, of Pomona NY, a law and business student; and Randall Rubenstein, of Cincinnati OH, a senior in environmental engineering.

“The competition was great; the camaraderie was great,” said Glickman. “Some of us have played together online, so it was fun to meet in person.”

Yale, MIT and teams from Stanford, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, UCLA, University of Toronto, Harvard and University of Michigan qualified to play in the event during an online game in February. The top eight teams received a free trip to Atlanta, and members of the winning team received \$500 scholarships.

Glickman comes from a bridge family. His father, James, is a Gold Life Master and brothers Robert, a student at the University of California, Berkeley, and Steve, a graduate of Columbia Law School, also are accomplished players. Marc and Robert both have represented the United States in international Youth competitions.

## King David crowned

*(from page 1)*

A graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in his hometown of Annandale VA, Banh spent the past four years developing his high school bridge club and its players. Besides being the organizing force, he teaches and plays with his fellow students.

“I work to maintain a pleasant environment for the other players to enjoy,” he says. “Bridge, though it may be a most complicated, enjoyable yet challenging game, is still just that, a game.” His club promotion, which he described as “very aggressive,” was more successful than he expected, with a table count that has grown to 16 and the recruitment of several dozen young ACBL members in the process.

High school history teacher and advisor to the club Jay Lamb wrote, “David has provided uncountable hours of bridge instruction and advice to our students during club time, lunch and before school. Because of this, the students love their bridge.”

Banh, 17, who holds the rank of NABC Master, also serves on the Northern Virginia unit board as the youth representative. Due to his input, the Washington Fourth of July Regional had special games for newcomer pairs with 0–5 masterpoints.

Banh now is a freshman at the University of Virginia with plans to major in math and physics. Although he is proud of his achievements in bridge, he says, “My academic record is my most impressive asset.” In high school, he completed 84 college credits in courses from Brigham Young, Stanford and George Mason universities and Advanced Placement tests.

Banh also plays the piano and is involved in chess. His high school chess team won the Virginia state championship.

Banh learned to play bridge four years ago from friends. He did not take lessons, and when asked about reading bridge books, he says, “I might have read one or two, but basically I learned by playing.” Besides playing in clubs and tournaments, he plays online. One of his favorite partners there is fellow member Jeremy Fournier of Knoxville TN.

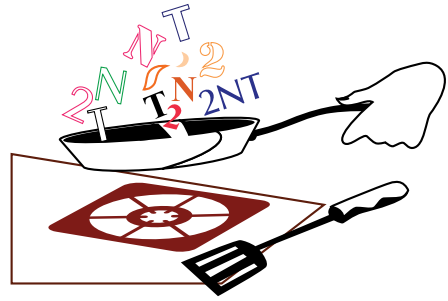
When he learned of his award, Banh modestly said, “I’m not really that good a bridge player.” His record, however, says otherwise. At the recent NABC in Atlanta, Banh won more than 42 masterpoints, the most for a player in his category. In March 2004, he played in the Reno NABC representing District 6 in the North American Pairs, Flight C.

The King or Queen of Bridge award is presented by the ACBL Educational Foundation and includes a \$1000 scholarship.

# Briddles

Answers on pg. 8

10, 9, 7, 6, 5



1. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
**NOTHING**

2. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_



**LONGEST**  
**STRONGEST**

**COUP**  
**COUP**  
**COUP**

6. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_



**2NT**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**CALL**

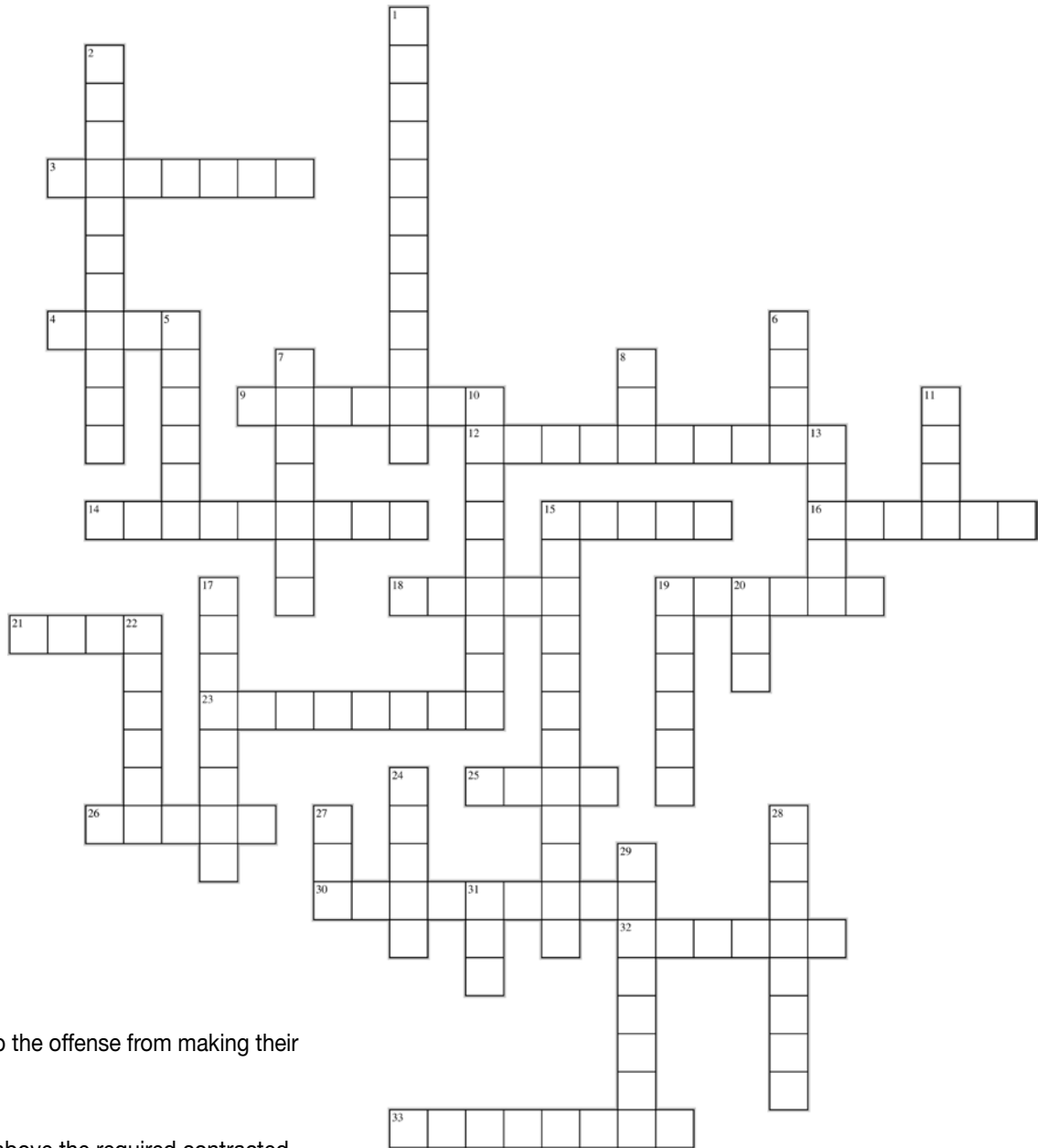
3. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

# BRIDGEWORD

(Answers to BRIDGEWORD can be found on page 8.)  
Thanks to teacher Kathy Rolfe for letting us use her crossword puzzle.



by Kathy Rolfe

## Across

- 3 pair of players trying to keep the offense from making their contract
- 4 worth three points
- 9 highest ranking minor suit
- 12 extra tricks taken over and above the required contracted tricks
- 14 only one card in suit
- 15 person holding the hand opposite the declarer
- 16 first person to make a bid other than pass
- 18 worth 2 points
- 19 highest ranking major suit
- 21 no cards in a suit
- 23 minimum value of a hand to make an opening bid (usually)
- 25 grand or small means one side has contracted to take either all the tricks or all but one of the tricks
- 26 13 in a deal, 1 card from each player is in it
- 30 contract bid below game
- 32 could mean — “you can’t make that contract.”
- 33 shape of the hand with no voids, no singletons, and at most 1 doubleton

## Down

- 1 type of points given for extra length in a suit
- 2 amount by which contract was missed
- 5 type of fit with 8 or more cards in a major suit in the combined partner’s hands, usually want that fit to determine the trump suit
- 6 lowest face card in a suit, valued at one point

- 7 minimum value of a hand required to open 1Notrump
- 8 golden game worth 100 points plus game bonus
- 10 only two cards in a suit
- 11 same meaning as going set, e.g. “You’re \_\_\_\_ by 3.”, meaning you were unable to make your contract, missing by 3 tricks.
- 13 points earned by the play of the hand
- 15 one of the 4 suits or notrump
- 17 last bid prior to 3 consecutive passes
- 19 any two or more consecutive cards in the same suit, usually used in reference to high cards — example, K, Q, J of spades would be a \_\_\_\_\_
- 20 highest face card in the suit, valued at 4 points
- 22 first person to make any bid including pass
- 24 synonym for dummy, as in “you’re on the \_\_\_\_\_”, meaning you took the trick in the dummy and must lead from there.
- 27 high card points (abr.)
- 28 first player from the offense to mention the denomination at which the contract is played
- 29 one meaning — “I can too make my bid.”
- 31 verb, meaning to not make the contract, e.g. “We went \_\_\_\_.” “We \_\_\_\_ you 2 tricks.”

# Fast learners

## Students excel in annual School Bridge Instant Matchpoint Game

A pair of young women from Ontario and a pair of young men from New York topped their respective directions to each claim \$500 scholarships in the ACBL's 2005 annual instant matchpoint game for students.

Ashley Kelly and Nicole Williams attend Holy Family Catholic School in Kingston ON. The duo took up the game in seventh grade. Paul Proderick and Jim Reilly, their seventh- and eighth-grade teachers, tapped Kingston resident — and ACBL accredited teacher — Ed O'Reilly — Nicole Williams and Ashley Kelly to teach bridge to their students.



Ashley and Nicole entered the annual event held on April 20 and finished first North-South with a huge 84% game.

The winners scored 1008 out of a possible 1200 (12 boards, 100 top each), edging out the second-place pair of Peter Johnson and Nicholas Smith from W.H. Morden Middle School in Oakville ON. Peter and Nicholas posted a 1006 total.

O'Reilly, writing for the Kingston Whig Standard, said, "Getting along is one of the principles emphasized in school bridge. When interviewing the girls, it is easy to see why they get along so well at the bridge table. One would think that one was talking to identical twins. Both are keenly interested in sports — especially basketball — and both play on the school team. The two said they enjoy bridge because they have fun while playing. Both would also like to become either a teacher or a lawyer."

Bridge has been a high-profile activity at Holy Family School for several years. Principal Guy White "couldn't be

prouder" of the bridge achievements of his school's pupils over the years and what the game has done for the self-esteem of many of the participants.

The champs in the East-West direction were Jason Yao and Kokoro Ryono,



Jason Yao and Kokoro Ryono

Ryono, eighth-grade students at Marie Curie Middle School No. 158 in Bayside NY. Their teacher was Sandra Jones.

Jason and Kokoro scored 855 matchpoints out of 1200 maximum (71.25%).

In second with a score of 827 were Jared Bajkowski and Thomas Gardner of Cedar Creek School in Lee's Summit MO.

Jason believes "Bridge is really fun, mostly because of our teacher, Ms. Jones, and my great partner, Kokoro. It really helps me mentally to build my memory, logic sequencing skills and thinking skills. Bridge has helped me in my other classes, too, including math, social studies and English. I find I remember a little more of what my teachers are saying. It is really cool when you actually understand what people are saying in 'bridge lingo.' "

Kokoro believes that "Bridge is an exciting game and it is really fun when playing with friends. I can beat my friends and no one gets angry. They'll say 'Hey ... how did you do that?' It has helped my thinking abilities and my creativity. It has also inspired me to help others."

Kokoro and Jason are avid basketball players and fans. Jason enjoys other card games, swimming and chorus. Kokoro is involved in break dancing, Junior Honors Society and a number of other clubs. Of their teacher, Ms. Jones, the pair said, "She will always be remembered as the teacher who taught us how to think things out before responding."

More than two dozen schools (elementary, middle and high schools) participated. The contest attracted more than 135 tables.

Names	Teacher	School	Score
1. Nicole Williams – Ashley Kelly, Ontario	Ed O'Reilly	Holy Family Catholic Middle School	1008
2. Peter Johnson – Nicholas Smith, Ontario	Joanne Ingram, Jack Stark	W.H. Morden Middle School	1006
3. Vandra Kapil – Christina Whyte, Ontario	Ed Hills	Williams Parkway High School	935
4. Dione Lee – Frances Dinger, Ontario	Peter Pagoni	Bloordale Middle School	918
5. Henry Fung – Aakshay Joshi, Ontario	Andrew Mellary	Camilla Road Senior Public School	912
6. Jake Schnessler – Chris Heywood, Maryland	David Brown	St. Andrews Episcopal School	897
7. Suissan Rajasekaram – Brandon Hibbert, Ontario	Joanne Ingram, Jack Stark	W.H. Morden Middle School	892
8. Arun Kumaraswamy – Krishna Kumaraswamy, Ontario	Andrew Mellary	Camilla Road Senior Public School	880
<b>Overall East-West</b>			
1. Jason Yao – Kokoro Ryono, New York	Sandra Jones	Marie Curie Middle School No. 158	855
2. Jared Bajkowski – Thomas Gardner, Missouri	Kathy Rolfe	Cedar Creek Elementary School	827
3. Nina Sakolovic – Jeremiah Witt, Ontario	Joanne Ingram, Jack Stark	W.H. Morden Middle School	763
4. Dominic Antonacci – Mike Antonacci, Missouri	Kathy Rolfe	Trail Ridge Elem./Lee's Summit West High School	732
5. Bruce Lauritch – Gianni Reclitis, Ontario	Carole Berry	Parkwood Hills Elementary School	731
6. Brad Demacio – Cody Williams, Ontario	Stan Marshall	Joyceville Elementary School	725
7. Megan Mackay – Samuel Yuan, Ontario	Lester Gagnon	William Berczy Public School	720
8. Iryna Gel – Rachele Benjamin, Ontario	Joanne Ingram, Jack Stark	W.H. Morden Middle School	717

# USA takes Gold in Australia; Canada wins Bronze

A six-man squad from the U.S. won the 10th World Youth Team Bridge Championship held Aug. 7–17, 2005 in Sydney, Australia. Team members were Joe Grue of New York NY, John Kranyak of Bay Village OH, Joel Wooldridge of Buffalo NY, John Hurd of Charleston SC, Ari Greenberg of Malibu CA and Justin Lall of Plano TX. Bob Rosen was the non-playing captain. The team, USA1, earned the gold medal by defeating Poland in the final.

*by Paul Linxwiler*

The U.S. trailed Poland for much of the match, once by as much as 30 IMPs, but rallied in the last quarter to tie it. In a dramatic overtime, USA1 prevailed.

The U.S. won the eight-board overtime match 15–0.

Playing for the silver-medal Polish team were Konrad Araskiewicz, Krzysztof Buras, Jacek Kalita, Krzysztof Kotorowicz, Piotr Madry and Wojciech Strzemecki. Poland's NPC was Marek Markowski.

The ACBL had another medal-winning squad in Australia as Canada took the bronze. The Canadian lineup featured Tim Capes and Charles Halasi of Toronto ON, Vincent Demuy of Montreal QC, David Grainger of Etobicoke ON and Daniel Lavee and Gavin Wolpert of Thornhill ON. Jonathan Steinberg was the NPC.

Players from 18 countries participated in the championship which featured an age limit of 26. Teams from the U.S., Poland, Canada and France survived a week-long round-robin which eliminated the other

14 countries. The U.S. defeated Canada in the semifinal round, while Poland beat France.

The winning squad included some familiar names.

Wooldridge, 26, is pursuing a B.A. in elementary education from Buffalo State University. Hurd, also 26, plays bridge full time, traveling to numerous ACBL events. He received a B.A. in geology from the College of Charleston. Greenberg, 24, received a B.A. in computer science from Stanford and is currently earning



*Lall, Greenberg, Kranyak, Grue, Hurd, Wooldridge and Rosen (NPC)*

his master's. Lall, 18, is the youngest member of the squad. He is currently a software designer assistant for SCA, a prize promotion company in Dallas owned by another bridge great, Bob Hamman. Grue, 23, moved to New York after graduating from high school and now competes full time in bridge tournaments. Kranyak, 21, is a senior studying mathematics at Columbia University in New York.

## BEGINNER'S CORNER



### Opening Bids

An opening bid at the one level begins a conversation with your partner. Each bid attempts to convey information regarding the strength of your hand (point count)

and shape (suit distribution) to assist responder in his role as captain. Guidelines for opening the bidding are briefly summarized.

1. With 13 or more points, always open the bidding.
2. With 15-17 or 16-18 points and a balanced hand (some cards in every suit, no more than one two-card suit), open 1 NT.
3. Open your longest permissible suit. (Remember that to open 1♥ or 1♠ shows a five-card or longer suit.)

4. If you have two equal-length suits from which to choose, open the higher ranking of permissible four-, five- or six-card suits.

5. If you must open a three-card suit, open the lower ranking.

As dealer, what is your decision in each of the following?

- |            |              |           |             |
|------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1). ♠ Q542 | 2). ♠ AQ1076 | 3). ♠ J64 | 4). ♠ AKQ10 |
| ♥ K43      | ♥ K104       | ♥ KQ543   | ♥ 73        |
| ♦ K86      | ♦ K102       | ♦ AJ7     | ♦ J84       |
| ♣ KJ5      | ♣ 75         | ♣ KQ      | ♣ K643      |

- |             |             |           |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| 5). ♠ J9642 | 6). ♠ KJ106 | 7). ♠ AQ3 |
| ♥ 5         | ♥ KQ103     | ♥ A1054   |
| ♦ AKQJ4     | ♦ 752       | ♦ KJ6     |
| ♣ 42        | ♣ A3        | ♣ 432     |

*Answers on page 7.*

# Can't Get Enough of Bridge?

## Become an ACBL Member!

Do you want to learn more, play more and find out about the fascinating world of bridge? Well, here is your chance! Join the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) and receive the reduced student membership rate for an entire year for only \$5.00 (available for school bridge students under the age of 19)! The ACBL and the ACBL Educational Foundation are the organizations that sponsor your school bridge lessons.

Here are some of the benefits of becoming an ACBL student member:

- Access to the three annual editions of the Bridge Is Cool newsletter online at the BridgelsCool.com web site.
- Membership in the exclusive BridgelsCool Community.
- Reduced price entry fees at all ACBL North American Bridge Championships held three times a year which feature a special playing program for new players.
- An opportunity to win scholarships in special Junior contests and competitions.

**Ask your in-school teacher for an instant membership form and join today!**

# Scholarship Opportunities for Juniors

Bridge can lead the way to scholarships to help you further your education. Here is a peak at some of the opportunities:

- **School Instant-Matchpoint Game:** At the conclusion of your school bridge lessons, you are eligible to compete in the ACBL School Instant-Matchpoint game held every year in April. Four winners will walk away with a \$500 scholarship. Check with your teacher for details.
- **King or Queen of Bridge:** Every year a King or Queen of Bridge is selected from graduating high school seniors. The winner will be a person cited for outstanding tournament performances plus recreational, administrative and promotional activities related to bridge. Read the story on the 2005 winner on page 1.
- **Juniors Teaching Bridge to Juniors:** This program awards a \$500 scholarship to Junior players who teach a class of at least eight students, under the age of 26, 16 hours of lessons. You can work with an established bridge teacher to learn how to teach effectively and the program will provide bridge supplies and pay your mentor a fee of \$350. For more information write to juniors@acbl.org.
- **College Team Championships:** College students are eligible to form teams and compete online in a qualifying event that leads to a final at the ACBL's Summer North American Bridge Championships. The qualifiers win airfare and expenses to the final and each of the four members of the winning team receives a \$500 scholarship.

## Concentration at the bridge table

starts at a young age, as seen on the face of Hunter Smith, 10, of Alpharetta GA.

Hunter is one of several advanced math students being taught the game by his grandmother, Carolyn Eckert. Atlanta-area teachers Eckert, Barbara Heller and Patty Tucker brought their students to a Youth bridge game as the 2005 Summer NABC in Atlanta began. Several young players returned for the 0-5 games during the week.



1. Pass. Only 12 points.
2. 1♥. 12 points in high cards plus one for the long spade.
3. 1NT. You have the right point count and the right shape.
4. 1♦. Your longest permissible suit (remember a one spade opening shows at least a five-card suit).
5. 1♥. Open the higher ranking of permissible equal-length suits.
6. 1♦. A good rule is that if you don't know what to do, try to eliminate the things you know you can't do.
- you can pass (13 points)
- you can't open 1NT (not enough points)
- you can't open 1♥ or 1♠ (only four cards)
- conclusion - 1♦ looks more natural than 1♣
7. 1♣. If you open a three-card suit, open the lower ranking even if it is the 4, 3, 2.

## Beginner's Corner Answers



## 2006 World Youth Pairs and Camp

Join other Junior players from all over the world for the World Youth Pairs and Camp.

Both events will take place in Piestany Slovakia. The Youth

Pairs will run from June 30–July 2 and will immediately be followed by the camp July 3–10.

These events are not just for experienced players. Any ACBL Junior age 17–23 may apply. Some subsidy may be available; however, juniors will be responsible for their own transportation. For more information, contact juniors@acbl.org.

## North American Bridge Championships

Make plans to attend one of the three NABCs held each year. Meet bridge players from across the world! Play bridge or watch some of the best players play! The first Saturday of each NABC is designated **JUNIOR DAY**. During the Summer NABC a special Junior Reception will be held from 5–6 p.m. A meal will be served and a special program will be presented.

Juniors under 16 years of age may play in any event except NABC events with an International Fund surcharge for only \$1 per session. Juniors 16–25 years of age may play in any event for only \$7 per session. Junior coupons may be picked up at any selling station.

The 2005 NABCs are scheduled as follows:



**SPRING • March 30–April 9**

Dallas TX  
Hyatt Regency Dallas



**SUMMER • July 13–23**

Chicago IL  
Hyatt Regency Chicago



**FALL • Nov. 16–26**

Honolulu HI  
Hilton Hawaiian Village



**AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE**

2990 Airways Blvd., Memphis, TN 38116–3847

**EDITOR:** Julie Greenberg **CONSULTING EDITOR:** Charlotte Blaiss

**DESIGN & LAYOUT:** Latrescia Goss

## Articles for the Bridgeiscool Bulletin

Let us hear from you by submitting an article or an interesting bridge hand or problem for the **Bridgeiscool Bulletin**. Write about anything of interest at your school or club. If your material is published, you will receive a bestselling bridge book. Send the article or bridge hand to juniors@acbl.org or to Juniors, 2990 Airways Blvd., Memphis TN 38116.

## Junior Fund Games

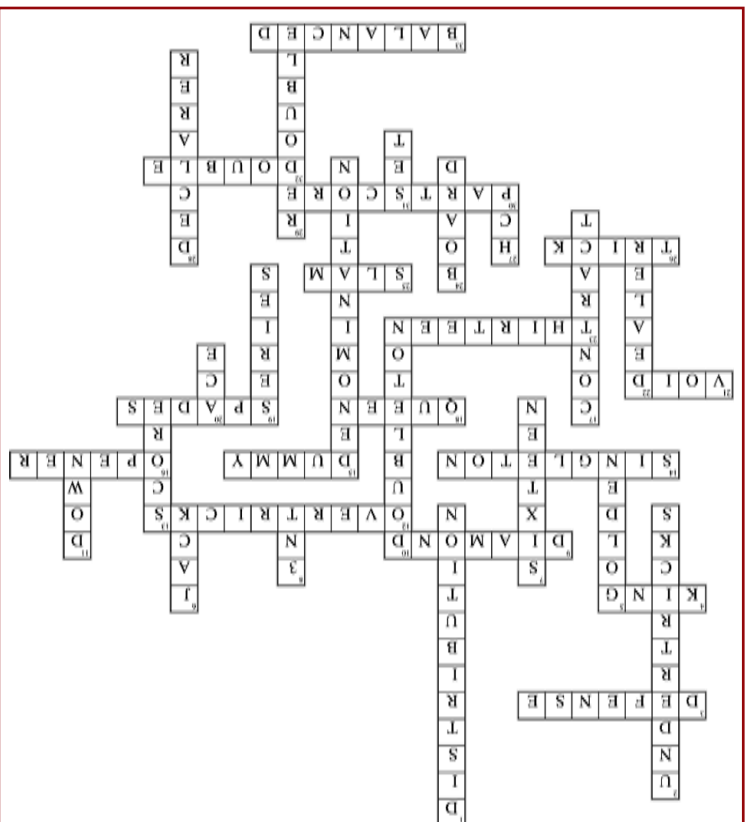
February is ACBL Junior Month. Clubs across North America are encouraged to hold special games that allow players to earn masterpoints at sectional rating for an extra \$1 per session. Junior Fund Games may also be held every month except April and September.

**Encourage your club to hold Junior Fund Games to support Junior Programs.**

1. Broken sequence
2. Void
3. Marked card
4. Scrambling 2NT
5. Top on a board
6. Longest and strongest
7. False claim
8. Top of nothing
9. Triple grand coup
10. Two notrump overcall

(from page 3)

**Answers to Bridges:**



**Answers to Crossword (from page 4):**