

The Grapevine

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The Official Newsletter of the American Contract Bridge League Junior Players (age 25 and under)



American Contract Bridge League

USA Claims Bronze Medal in France

By Jody Latham

USA-II, still reeling from a half-IMP loss to Italy in the semifinal, rallied to defeat Poland and claim the bronze medal at the 9th World Youth Team Championship in Paris in late August.

The team — John Hurd-Joel Wooldridge, Kent Mignocchi-Kevin Bathurst and John Kranyak-Joe Grue — finished second in the round-robin of 16 teams (USA-I and Canada did not qualify for semifinal play).

In the semifinal, Italy jumped out to a 142–50.5 lead at the half-way point. USA-II rallied, winning the third set 64–33 but trailing 175–114.5 going into the final 16 boards.

With one board remaining, USA-II had closed the margin to a half-IMP but the last board was a push at 7♠. USA-II won the last set 82–22 but it was not enough. Italy won the match 197–196.5.

Italy defeated Denmark in the final 271.67–184. Italy claimed their second world Junior title; they won in Fort Lauderdale FL in 1999.

In the play-off for third place, USA-II led Poland 102–98 at the half-way point. They won the third set 63–30, lost the final set 38–48 but claimed a 203–176 victory.

This is the same U.S. team (with Brad Campbell

instead of Bathurst) that won the world Junior title in Brazil in 2001.

The Canadian team of Ian Boyd, Vincent Demuy, David Grainger, Charles Halasi, Daniel Lavee, Gavin Wolpert and NPC Martin Hunter and the USA I team of Meredith Beck, Lisa Burton, Robert Glickman, Joon Pahk, Lindsay Pearlman, Xing Yuan and NPC Mike Cappelletti also participated in the event.



NPC Bob Rosen, Kranyak, Wooldridge, Grue, Hurd, Bathurst and Mignocchi

U.S. and Canadian Juniors scored big at World Junior Pairs and Camp

By Barry Rigal

The venue in July for the fifth World Junior Pairs was Tata, Hungary, situated 50 miles outside Budapest. The location was an Olympic sports camp — excellent facilities and comfortable surroundings.

Nearly 200 pairs participated, with Adi Azizi and Yuval Yener of Israel taking top honors. They were followed by Jerome and Guillaume Grenthe of France, while brothers Bas and Bob Drijver of the Netherlands were third. John Kranyak and Joe Grue of the U.S. placed fourth, less than one board away from the gold medal.

Here's Grue in action:

Dir: South ♠ Q 5 2
 Vul: E-W ♥ K 10 9 6
 ♦ J 10 7 3
 ♣ 7 6

♠ A 9 7	♠ 8 3
♥ Q 7 5 3	♥ A J 8 2
♦ Q 8 5	♦ A 9 4
♣ A 9 2	♣ K Q 8 4

♠ K J 10 6 4
 ♥ 4
 ♦ K 6 2
 ♣ J 10 5 3

West	North	East	South
Kranyak		Grue	

Pass	Pass	1♥	1NT ⁽¹⁾
4♥	All Pass		

(1) Modified Michaels.

It appears impossible to stay out of trouble with the East-West cards; 4♥ looks down at least one trick, does it not?

Well, Kranyak passed the West hand and that apparently got his side off to a good start — but Grue (East) opened 1♥ in fourth chair. Now when South overcalled 1NT (modified Michaels), Kranyak jumped to 4♥.

On a low club lead, Grue put up the ♣A and ran the ♥Q, covered all round. He then led a low diamond to dummy's queen (good!) and tried a heart to his 8 (better!).

Now he had 10 tricks by simply arranging a spade ruff in hand — and garnering all the matchpoints.

To set the contract, South had to win the ♦K at trick three. Once he ducked, even if North had split his heart honors at trick four, Grue would simply have won, cashed the ♣K and gone to dummy with the ♠A to lead a third club, after which the defenders

are helpless.

When North discards, Grue can win, then cash the ♦A for his side's eighth trick, following by ruffing the fourth club with the ♥7 to ensure two more trump tricks for his side.

After the pairs competition had finished, 150 of the participants — 23 from the U.S., two from Canada — loaded up their stuff and went 50 miles down the road to Vargesztes. There we found a venue ideally suited to a bridge camp. There were enough sporting facilities to entertain the players, be it swimming, volleyball, table tennis or swimming. The climate was in the 70's with no humidity, and villas accommodating four Juniors at a time — enough comfort to keep even the most spoiled player happy, at an affordable price.

The format of the camp was to play sports in the morning, have a lesson in the early afternoon, play bridge in the afternoon and evening, with a post-midnight game available for the really desperate thrill-seekers.

Jeroen Bruggeman of the Netherlands won the Youth Cup, established by Dirk Schroeder in 1987. The cup went to the participant who obtained the best results over three of the qualifying pair events in the Junior camp, playing with three qualifying partners of different nationalities — excluding his own.

The WBF Youth Awards went to Kare Gjaeldbaek of Denmark, Ben Green of England, Filippas Karamanlis of Greece and Joel Wooldridge of the United States.

Wooldridge was cited for his humor

and his partnership skills. "At the World Junior Pairs Championships in Tata, he formed a partnership at the last minute with a less-experienced player — who asked him to let him know what he did wrong. He is still waiting for a single criticism of any of his actions."

Here's a deal where John Kranyak and Yoram Bar-Yosef of Israel combined for a nice defensive effort.

Dir: East ♠ 8 2
 Vul: N-S ♥ A J 8 6 5
 ♦ J
 ♣ K Q J 9 4

♠ Q J 5	♠ AK 10 7 6 3
♥ 10 7 4 2	♥ K Q 3
♦ 8 7	♦ 10 6 4
♣ 10 8 6 3	♣ A

♠ 9 4
 ♥ 9
 ♦ A K Q 9 5 3 2
 ♣ 7 5 2

West	North	East	South
Kranyak		Bar-Yosef	
Pass	2♥	2♠	2♦
3♠	4♣	Dbl	4♦
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

Look just at the West cards and decide what you might lead against 4♦ doubled.

Kranyak found the inspired club lead. Bar-Yosef won his ♣A and underled in spades to Kranyak's jack. Kranyak returned a club, ruffed, and a spade came back to his queen. Another club ruff led to plus 500 — worth all the matchpoints, since 3♠ was the limit on the East-West cards (because of the heart ruff).

North American Junior Scores & Placement

4 th	..... Joe Grue & John Kranyak	59.68%	..... USA
10 th	..... Joshua Donn & Scott Waldron	58.91%	..... USA
14 th	..... Kevin Bathurst & Kent Mignocchi	57.82%	..... USA
22 nd	..... Ari Greenberg & Justin Lall	56.85%	..... USA
33 rd	..... Jon Rice & Tim Crank	54.90%	..... USA
67 th	..... Paul Bethe & Jason Feldman	51.79%	..... USA
76 th	..... Susan Doty & Marc Glickman	51.16%	..... USA
83 rd	..... Drew Becker & Jason Rosenfeld	50.75%	..... USA
85 th	..... Robert Glickman & Xing Yuan	50.55%	..... USA
114 th	..... Mather Fisher & Joel Wooldridge	48.94%	..... USA
137 th	..... Andrew Carver & Ben Englert	47.54%	..... USA
155 th	..... Mark Donovan & Matt Donovan	45.12%	..... CAN
164 th	..... Jared Fournier & Jeremy Fournier	44.35%	..... USA

HUNGARY WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

Youth Award Winners



Schroeder Cup Winner



Preteen winner

A Barrington Bridge Club regular has won the \$5000 J. Homer Shoop Preteen Scholarship Award.

Jeremy Koegel, who has been playing weekly at Barrington Bridge Club in Los Angeles for the last three years, has been named the 2003 winner of the J. Homer Shoop Preteen Scholarship.

Koegel, who lives in Los Angeles and who turned 13 in July, received a 10-year maturity \$5000 certificate that can be used for academic or career training. The award was established by Shoop in 1989 and is now administered by the ACBL Educational Foundation.

Koegel is a seventh grade student at Walter Reed Middle School, where he is enrolled in the Individual Honors Program. His proud mom, Ilene Bell, says he is “an avid reader and has been so his whole life. Jeremy loves creative writing and his favorite school subjects tend to be English and history.”

He plays soccer and tennis and is a sports enthusiast. A fan of the Lakers and the Dodgers, “he has been

reading the sports section of the *Los Angeles Times* daily since he was about 5 years old. He likes bowling and he loves board games, especially games of strategy like chess and ‘The Cities and Knights of Catan.’ ”

He also loves bridge and was taught the game by his uncle, Bob Bell of Washington DC. “My brother taught Jeremy and his older brother, Daniel, to play,” says Ilene Bell. “Both of them learned, but Jeremy was smitten.”

In fact, at his uncle’s suggestion, Koegel taught three friends to play — so he would have partners for the Anaheim NABC. He’s been a weekly regular at Barrington Bridge Club for the last three years and is now a Sectional Master. He’s earned almost 125 masterpoints and has already fulfilled the gold- and red-point requirements for Life Master.

“He’s a great kid, one of the most generous and unselfish people I know,” says his mom. “He is kind,



thoughtful and sensitive about others.”

“He was very excited about receiving this award and, in his usual manner, relatively quiet about it. He never told his bridge player friends about it — we ended up spilling the beans.”

Previous winners of the preteen scholarship are Lisa Kow, Joel Wooldridge, Vincent Molgat, Bonnie Greco, Ari Greenberg, Tara Gokavi, Gavin Wolpert, Dan Hirschman, Scott Waldron Jr., Justin Lall, Roger Lee, Alex Phillips and Angela Collura.

Stanford Wins

Left to right: Samuel leong, Ho-Lin Chen, Joon Pahk and Eric Mayefsky.

Stanford University captured the North American College Bridge Team Championship yesterday by defeating Harvard in the 32-board final 133—65. Playing for Stanford were Joon Pahk, Eric Mayefsky, Samuel leong and Ho-Lin Chen.

On the Harvard squad were Vijay Bal, Alex Ogan, Seth Pritikin and Greg Ingolia. Harvard advanced to the final by defeating the University of Michi-



gan team composed of Ilya Podalyako, Jaremy Vosko, Jonathan Zimmer and Jeremy Iskin in the semifinal round.

In the other semifinal bracket, Stanford defeated a squad from the

University of Ohio Wesleyan, represented by Svetozar Palankov, Thomas O’Reilly-Pol, Elizabeth Dale and Matthew Bernardina.

Ohio Wesleyan defeated Michigan in the play-off for third place.

Wooldridge and Hurd Seize Fast Pairs Title

John Hurd and Joel Wooldridge won the four-session NABC+ Fast Pairs by more than a full board, finishing with 1284.43 on a 38 top. This is the first NABC victory for Hurd of Charleston SC and the second for Wooldridge of Buffalo NY. Wooldridge won the 1997 IMP Pairs with Tom Carmichael. "We were the fastest and

the bestest," said a grinning Wooldridge as partner Hurd rolled his eyes and laughed.

Hurd and Wooldridge, both 24, have been playing together for four years. They were members of the USA II Junior Team who placed third in the World Youth Teams Championship in Paris this summer. In second with



1237.99 were Ed Schulte and Joe Godefrin. Third were Richard Miller and Jerry Helms with 1193.44.

Juniors Honored at Long Beach Junior Reception



Left to right: Yuan, Pahk, Pearlman, Burton and Burns

The ACBL Junior Corps inducted four new members during the Junior reception at the Long Beach NABC. Charlotte Blaiss, director of ACBL's Junior program, and Peggy Burns, representative of the United States Playing Card Company who sponsored the reception, awarded Junior Corps pins to Lisa Burton, 19, who attends Texas A&M; Lindsay Pearlman, 18, a student at New York Technology Institute; Joon Pahk, 24, a doctoral student at Stanford University; and Xing Yuan, 17, a senior at Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor MI.

The Junior Corps is an organization founded to honor those Junior players who actively promote bridge and are good citizens of the bridge world.

On behalf of the U.S. Playing Card Company (which many players are familiar with through its Bicycle brand

playing cards), Burns also presented the recipients with sweatshirts bearing the Bicycle logo.

"The U.S. Playing Card Company has an interest in promoting bridge playing among young people," said Burns.

ACBL CEO Jay Baum and ACBL President AL Levy were also on hand to address the dozens of Junior players who attended.

Blaiss also extended special thanks to Jade Barrett and the North American Youth Bridge Foundation for sponsoring the North American youth program for the past 10 years.

In other Junior Corps news, Meredith Beck was elected chairperson of the Junior Corps. Beck and Blaiss will work through the Junior Corps to find new ways to promote bridge to young people.

Visit our website at www.acbl.org



How do you play to take 12 tricks?

North
 ♠ K 2
 ♥ A K 5 4
 ♦ K Q 10 6
 ♣ 7 6 5

South
 ♠ A 5 4
 ♥ J 3 2
 ♦ A J 5 4
 ♣ A K Q

The contract is 6NT and West leads the ♠Q. What line of play offers you the best chance to make your contract? (Hint: There are three chances with the best line.)

Answers on page 6 ➤

Scholarship Opportunities for Juniors

A scholarship program is available for ACBL Juniors. The program, which owes its funding to some very generous external donations, is available to college and high school bridge players under 26 who teach bridge in schools.

The program will award \$500 scholarships to those who teach the equivalent of the ACBL Bidding Series (Club Series) or 16 hours of lessons to a class of at least eight students who are under 26 years of age.

In addition, the ACBL Educational Foundation and the ACBL Education Department will provide books, t-shirts and a stipend of \$270 for teaching the courses.

The \$500 scholarship is payable to the school of choice for the Junior bridge instructor. The scholarship will be paid to an accredited college, university, or trade school for high school graduates.

Contacts for this program are Jayne Thomas <jtacbl1289@aol.com> or Charlotte Blaiss <charlotte.blaiss@acbl.org> . Scholarships are available for every group taught starting January 1, 2003.



Plan To Attend the 1st World Junior Individual Championship and the 6th World Junior Bridge Camp

New York City

The World Junior Individual Championship will be launched next year in New York City, and will take place July 14–16, 2004 during the North American Bridge Championships . The World Individual Championship will be immediately followed by the 6th World Junior Camp, which will take place at Adelphi University, on New York's Long Island, July 17–24.

The World Junior Individual Championship will complete the world titles already available to young players in the other forms of bridge competition (teams, pairs). It is designed to be held biennially in North America in odd-numbered years (starting from 2007), exactly as the World Junior Pairs Championship is being held biennially in Europe (in even-numbered years as from 2006).

The World Junior Individual Championship is open to all players who are Juniors (born in 1979 or later, for next year's event) and members of a National Bridge Federation (NBO). There are no restrictions as to the number of players an NBO may send. All players will play a simple natural system, which will be announced by the WBF in due time. Very much like the pairs tournament, the individual championship will be played in four sessions. Scoring will be with the barometer system, which allows competitors to know their exact position minutes after they have played a round.

The individual championship presents a different kind of challenge to competitors, in that players need to be skillful in performing in a non-

preset environment. Like in life, one needs to adjust to existing conditions rather than rely upon things being as planned. For this reason, the individual stresses the social element of bridge.

The ACBL and the the WBF Youth Committee look forward to welcoming as many Juniors as possible to the 1st World Junior Individual Championship and the 6th World Junior Bridge Camp. Details will be announced soon and will be posted on the official websites of both the WBF (www.worldbridge.org) and ACBL (www.acbl.org).

North American Juniors should contact Charlotte Blaiss, charlotte.blaiss@acbl.org or 901-332-5586 (ext. 1214) to register for both events.

Answer to Beginner's Corner:

Declarer needs 12 tricks to make the contract. There are two tricks in spades, two tricks in hearts, four tricks in diamonds, and three tricks in clubs for a total of 11. You have three chances to win the 12th trick. Can you see how to cater to all the chances? First! lead the ♠A or ♠K to see if the ♠Q will drop singleton (a chance, albeit a remote one). When it doesn't, lead a small heart toward the ♠J. If East has

the ♠Q, he will probably take it. If he does not, you probably should still play the ♠J. When West shows up with the ♠Q, win the return and play the last high heart from dummy. If hearts split 3-3, you have 12 tricks. 1. Before touching hearts, you might want to play off all of your diamonds and then a couple of clubs to see if you can get an opponent to discard a heart for you. 2. If your sixth sense is screaming that West has the ♠Q and you think it is

doubleton, you could always duck and hope he has to win with it anyway, but unless you have more information about the distribution of cards or points, it is better to play the ♠J from your hand. 3. For you non-beginners out there, yes there is slight chance for a squeeze if West is 6-4 in the majors, so you could always hold off on that last high heart until you finish playing all of your minor suit cards and the ♠A ♠K, retaining the lead in the South hand.

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 Fall NABC in New Orleans LA, an informal Junior dinner will be held 5–6 pm. Come and meet some of your fellow Junior players!

NOTICE: JUNIOR COUPONS AT NABC HAVE BEEN CHANGED!

Student coupons will be given to those who have not had their 22nd birthday or those who have offered proof that they are full-time students and have not reached their 26th birthday. The cost of entries purchased using student coupons will be \$6.00/session for any event. The coupons are **only** for residents of North America and **must** have the Junior's name, event and ACBL number on it.

2004 NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

Teams that qualify in the online zonal competition will win a free trip to New York City to play in the final. The online zonal event has been scheduled for March 6, 2004.

More information will be posted on

the ACBL Junior home page at <<http://66.147.103.154/html/juniors.html>>

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP A GREAT DEAL

Students under the age of 26 **who are currently enrolled and are attending school** may renew their membership for \$12.75 U.S. In addition the ACBL is now offering a special \$5.00 membership for Juniors under the age of 19 who are currently taking an ACBL School Bridge Lesson Series course. \$12.75 and \$5.00 memberships will not be processed without the **name of the school** and **date of birth** on the application or renewal form. \$5.00 memberships also require the name of the bridge teacher in whose course the student is participating.

ARTICLES FOR THE GRAPEVINE

Let us hear from you by submitting an article or an interesting bridge hand or bridge problem for *THE GRAPEVINE*. You are encouraged to write about anything of interest that is happening at your school or club. If your material is published, you will receive a best-selling bridge book for your bridge library. Just send the article or bridge hand to Charlotte Blaiss, ACBL, 2990 Airways Blvd., Memphis TN 38116 or e-mail Charlotte at <charlotte.blaiss@acbl.org>.



JUNIOR MONTH

February is designated as Junior Month but Junior Fund Games may be held every month!!! The ACBL Board of Directors has voted to allow clubs to run up to four Junior Fund Games for each sanctioned session in every month throughout the year! Any time during the year, clubs are authorized to hold sectionally rated black-point games designated as Junior Fund Games for its members (this means you can win more masterpoints for playing!). An additional fee of \$1 per player per session above the regular fee is charged by the ACBL with the monies going to the Junior Programs.

Encourage your club to hold Junior Fund Games to support Junior Programs!

Double Dummy



PLAY Contest

Test your mettle with this double dummy problem. Win free entries to the NABC of your choice by correctly solving the problem (New Orleans, Reno or New York City only) and submitting your **detailed** response to Juniors@acbl.org. (Free entries do not include Charity Day.) Contestants submitting answers must be Juniors (under 26) and ACBL members. All submissions must have been received by October 17, 2003. The drawing will take place on October 20. Answers will be posted on the Junior pages of the ACBL web site (www.acbl.org) in mid-October.

♠ A K Q 3 2	♠ —
♥ 10 9 8 7 6	♥ Q 5 4 3 2
♦ A 7 3	♦ K Q J 9 4 2
♣ —	♣ 8 2
♠ J 10 9 8 7 6 5	♠ 4
♥ —	♥ A K J
♦ —	♦ 10 8 6 5
♣ K Q J 10 6 3	♣ A 9 7 5 4

Contract is 3NT. West leads the ♠J. South must win nine tricks against any defense.

YOUTH RACES

1.	Vincent Demuy, Laval QC	821
2.	Justin Lall, San Antonio TX	387
3.	John Kranyak, New York NY	296
4.	Samantha Nystrom, Burnaby BC	287
5.	Brad Campbell, Smyrna GA	259
6.	Jeremy Fournier, Knoxville TN	214
7.	Jared Fournier, Knoxville TN	208
8.	Jason Chiu, Cambridge MA	190
9.	Matt Meckstroth, Gainesville FL	164
10.	Michael Gentry, Charleston SC	156
11.	Jonathan Ohliger, Ridgewood NJ	139
12.	Owen Lien, Hickory NC	111
13.	Andrew Carver, Edwardsville IL	106
14.	Mather Fisher, Ben Lomond CA	91
15.	Daniel Hollingshead, Birmingham AL	89
16.	Jeremy Koegel, Los Angeles CA	85
17.	Andrew Quinton, Moody ME	73
18.	George Mann III, Kinnelon NJ	69
19.	Lisa Burton, Austin TX	66
20.	Meredith Beck, Riverton NJ	63
21.	Ben Englert, Edwardsville IL	59
22.	Lindsay Pearlman, Trumbull CT	55
23.	Eric Mayefsky, Chappaqua NY	55
24.	Joshua Bailey, Burton OH	54
25.	Marc Glickman, Woodland Hills CA	53
26.	James Dulmage, Regina SK	44
27.	Laura Macdougall, London, England	44
28.	Gregory Vance, San Leandro CA	43
29.	Adam Grossack, Newton MA	43
30.	Sam Katz, Hinsdale IL	43
31.	Nicholas Flores, Portland OR	42
32.	Matthew Cavanaugh, Ripon CA	40
33.	Alex Phillips, North Little Rock AR	38

JUNIOR RACES

1.	Gavin Wolpert, Thornhill ON	844
2.	Vincent Demuy, Laval QC	821
3.	Joe Grue, New York NY	662
4.	Leo LaSota, College Park MD	615
5.	John Hurd, Charleston SC	602
6.	Kent Mignocchi, Bronx NY	481
7.	Justin Lall, San Antonio TX	387
8.	Ian Boyd, Calgary AB	382
9.	Kevin Bathurst, Columbia SC	337
10.	Tim Crank, Wheaton MD	324
11.	John Kranyak, New York NY	296
12.	Jacob Morgan, Madison WI	295
13.	Joel Wooldridge, Buffalo NY	290
14.	Samantha Nystrom, Burnaby BC	287
15.	Brad Campbell, Smyrna GA	259
16.	Daniel Korbel, Waterloo ON	256
17.	Will Engel, Urbana IL	251
18.	Mike Rice, Winston-Salem NC	251
19.	Jon Rice, Raleigh NC	242
20.	Andrew Hurd, Charleston SC	233
21.	Joshua Donn, Chestnut Ridge NY	225
22.	Charlie Garrod, Pittsburgh PA	223
23.	Jay Helekar, Newport Beach CA	217
24.	Jeremy Fournier, Knoxville TN	214
25.	Henry Wong, Cambridge MA	211
26.	Jared Fournier, Knoxville TN	208
27.	Noble Shore, Pittsburgh PA	195
28.	McKenzie Myers, Eugene OR	193
29.	Jason Chiu, Cambridge MA	190
30.	Michael Ventura, Raleigh NC	190
31.	Rob Meckstroth, Gainesville FL	186
32.	John Gropp, New Orleans LA	180
33.	Timothy Capes, Toronto ON	178

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