



# THE GRAPEVINE

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## USA takes Gold in Australia; Canada wins Bronze

by Paul Linxwiler

A six-man squad from the U.S. won the 10th World Youth Team Bridge Championship held Aug. 7-17 in Sydney, Australia. The 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.



Rosen (NPC), Greenberg, Kranyak, Woodridge, Hurd, Grue and Lall

Bob Rosen was the non-playing captain. The team, USA1, earned the gold medal by defeating Poland in the final.

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 by the score of 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 four nations — 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 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,

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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.

This is the second gold medal for Wooldridge, Hurd, Kranyak and Grue. They were members of the winning squad from the 2001 championship in Brazil. That team also included Kent Mignocchi and Brad Campbell. In Paris in 2003, the U.S. team made it to the final of the championship against Italy (with Kevin Bathurst replacing Campbell), but lost by the frustrating margin of a half IMP. They went on to take the bronze medal that year. In 2005, Lall and Greenberg were added to replace Mignocchi and Bathurst who, at the advanced (!) age of 27, are too old to participate in Youth events any longer.

This deal from the final match (taken from the on-site Daily Bulletins by Brian Senior and Ron Klinger) swung 11 IMPs to USA1:

Dir: North     ♠ 10  
 Vul: None     ♥ A 9 4 2  
                   ♦ 9 3  
                   ♣ K J 8 7 6 5

♠ K J 9 6 5		♠ Q 4 3			
♥ Q 8 3	<table style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♥ K J 7 6 5
N					
W E					
S					
♦ 8 6		♦ 10 7			
♣ A 10 3		♣ Q 4 2			

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Kotorowicz</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♠	1NT (1)	2♠	3NT
All Pass			

(1) Transfer to clubs.

After the 1♠ overcall, Kalita transferred to clubs and that did not encourage Kotorowicz to look beyond game. It seemed likely that North had some heart length, so Kotorowicz punted 3NT, ending the auction. Hurd led a heart to the queen and ace and Kalita cashed his nine tricks for plus 400.

West	North	East	South
<i>Buras</i>	<i>Greenberg</i>	<i>Araskiewicz</i>	<i>Lall</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♠	Dbl	2♠	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♦
All Pass			



*Steinberg, Demuy, Wolpert, Halasi, Grainger, Capes and Lavee*

Lall heard his partner make a negative double and was sufficiently impressed that he checked on aces and then bid the diamond slam. Buras led a spade to the queen and ace and Lall led his club. It would have done Buras no good to go up with his ace. If he switches to a heart, declarer has a club trick and two spade ruffs in dummy. A trump lead reduces the spade ruffs to one, but now declarer can ruff out the clubs and has the ♥A in dummy as a late entry to cash them. Buras actually played low on the club, but Lall went up with the king and took his two spade ruffs for plus 920.

## 2006 USA Youth Team Trials



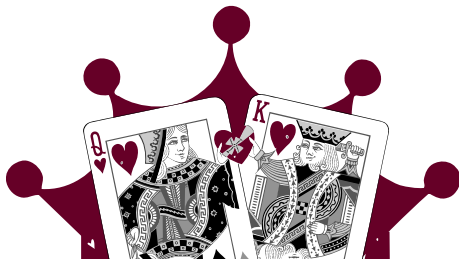
Join us for the 2006 World Youth Team Trials in Denver CO. Win a trip to represent the United States!

Junior Team Trials are set for Friday and Saturday Nov. 25 and Nov. 26 at the Denver NABC. Times will be at 1:00 pm and 7:30 pm. If more than eight teams enter, the event will extend through Sunday. Teams must consist of four U.S. residents born in 1980 or later.

The winning team will qualify to play in the 2006 World Youth Team Championship.

If you need a partner or a team, please contact Juniors@acbl.org.

For more details about the 2006 World Youth Team Championship, please visit the WBF web site at [www.worldbridge.org](http://www.worldbridge.org).



## King David crowned

David Banh is responsible for a 16-table club at a 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.

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.

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."

Leo Cardillo, president of the Northern Virginia Bridge Association, helped Banh establish the free lesson series and run the club. He said Banh recently has been contacting other nearby school boards to encourage them to promote bridge as an extracurricular activity.

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.



*David Banh*

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  
*(continued on page 4)*

## 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. He is a student at the University of California, Berkeley, where 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 next year at a venue to be decided.

**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. He also took the NABC Mixed Pairs 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 her local clubs and in tournaments.

## Young players wowed by first look at an NABC

Marie Majarov and her grandson, Jake Branch, drove 12 hours from Winchester VA to attend the Atlanta NABC. On the first Thursday afternoon, Majarov spent her time taking photos of her young bridge prodigy as Jake played in a special game organized by Atlanta player and teacher Patty Tucker. It was worth the trip for Jake, who came in first East-West playing with 15-year-old Mandy Lowell, who lives in Louisville but spends her summers in Atlanta. North-South winners were identical twins Marcus and DeMarcus Jenkins of Lithonia GA.

The special game was the culmination of a week-long bridge camp Tucker put together to try to introduce more young people to bridge. Ten of the 11 youngsters who participated in the camp played in the special game, a three-table affair.

Majarov and her husband, Milan, came to Atlanta so that he could take the Teacher Accreditation Course and she and Jake could play some bridge. They taught him to play at home in Virginia, starting about two years ago when he was 10. He plays at the Winchester bridge club and with friends in person and online. At school, Jake did a

*Patty Tucker with participants in the special game she organized for her bridge camp youngsters.*



how-to project in which he taught his class how to evaluate a bridge hand.

Tucker started the bridge camp for the youngsters so they could see how duplicate works. She brought them to the NABC so they could experience the atmosphere at a big tournament. Jake was impressed, but then he has already developed an affinity for the game. "It's exciting, it's challenging and you have to think a lot," Jake said. "It's just fun."

## 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 Summer NABC in Atlanta began. Several returned for the 0-5 games during the week.



## ► King David crowned

*(continued from page 3)*

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.

The list of past winners of the award reads like a who's who of bridge, including Jeff Meckstroth, Robert Levin, Martha Benson (now Katz) and Eric Greco.

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.

# 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.



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

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.”

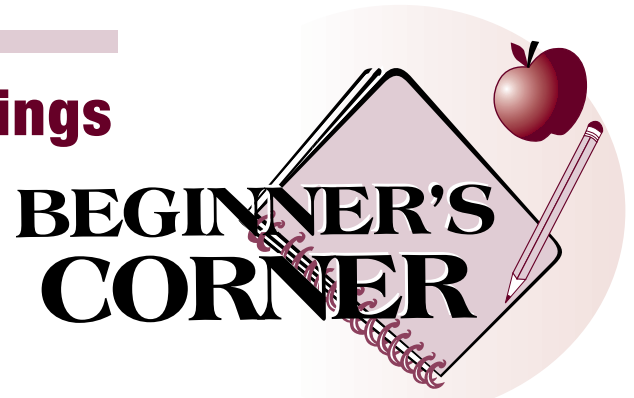
Yale, MIT and teams from Stanford, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, UCLA, University of Toronto, Harvard and University of Michigan qualified to play in the event during an online game in February. The top eight teams received a free trip to Atlanta, and members of the winning team received \$500 scholarships.

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.

## Responding to Minor Suit Openings

When partner opens the bidding 1♣ or 1♦, what are your priorities as responder?

As a partnership you are always looking for at least an eight-card fit in a major suit. To move toward this goal, the first priority is to respond with a four-card or longer major suit. In order to do this, one must have at least 6 points, but there is no upper limit because bidding either 1♥ or 1♠ is forcing (all new suits by responder are forcing). If there is not a four-card major suit, the second priority is supporting partner’s minor. Since partner could have as few as three cards in the suit, one needs five cards to support. A bid of two of the minor would show 6 to



10 points with five or more cards and a bid of three of the minor would show an invitational hand with 11-12 points and five or more cards. With 13 or more points even with support for partner’s minor suit, bid a new suit first or jump to 2NT, these bids are forcing. Any questions? No? Okay, on to the quiz.

Partner opens 1♣, over to you:

				Total Points	Your Bid
1) ♠ KJx	♥ Axx	♦ AQxxxx	♣ x	-----	-----
2) ♠ Axxx	♥ KQJ	♦ xxx	♣ xxx	-----	-----
3) ♠ Jxx	♥ Qxxx	♦ A	♣ KJxxx	-----	-----
4) ♠ AKJxx	♥ AJxxx	♦ xx	♣ x	-----	-----
5) ♠ AKQJ	♥ KJxxx	♦ K	♣ KQJ	-----	-----
6) ♠ Jxx	♥ AQx	♦ QJx	♣ KJxx	-----	-----
7) ♠ x	♥ Kx	♦ Jxxxx	♣ Kxxxx	-----	-----

# Three new members inducted into Junior Corps

The ACBL Junior Corps officially welcomed its three newest members at the Junior Reception at the Summer NABC in Atlanta. Andrew Dubay, Patrick Amrine and David Banh were presented with pins from their ACBL Board of Directors representatives. They also had the chance to chat with Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates, who visited the reception and congratulated the new members.

The youngest new Corps member is Andrew Dubay, 15, of Voorheesville NY. He learned to play bridge from his parents about two years ago, and

he's working to establish a club at his high school, where he will be a junior this fall. Atlanta was his second NABC.

Patrick Amrine, 22, of Tulsa OK, is a senior at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. He'll

graduate in December with a degree in industrial engineering and psychology. When Amrine visited the campus bridge club as a freshman, he found one table in play. He volunteered to help promote the club and he soon became the club manager, game



*Amrine, Banh and Dubay*

director and campus bridge teacher. Today, the club averages eight tables per session and is the only club in District 15 to have earned two-star status from ACBL. Amrine stressed the importance of the free lessons and free entry fees in

drawing students to his club. He also sponsored a 299er sectional that introduced the campus players to tournament play.

David Banh, 17, of Annandale VA, is a freshman at the University of Virginia. He plans to major in math, physics and law and find time to play some bridge, too. Banh learned to play four years ago from friends (neither of his parents play) and began working to start a bridge club at his high school. His promotions, which he describes as "very aggressive," were more successful than he expected. By his senior year, the club was hosting 16-17 tables every Friday afternoon, and he developed a mailing list of more than 130 students who either play in the club or have expressed serious interest. David is also the 2005 King of Bridge. (See page 3.)

The Junior Corps was started by Hall of Fame member Bobby Wolff to acknowledge players age 25 and younger who are active in promoting bridge to other young people. There are about 50 current members. More information about the Corps is available on [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org) or by e-mail from [juniors@acbl.org](mailto:juniors@acbl.org)

## Microsoft chair drops in

Microsoft Chair Bill Gates surprised participants in the Junior Reception at the Atlanta NABC when he dropped in for a brief chat. Gates was grilled by the young players on his system – he told them it's 2/1 – and online play. He was complimentary of the Bridge Base web site, created by Fred Gitelman, one of Gates's bridge mentors. Gates also posed for photos with the young players. He was in Atlanta for a Microsoft conference, so he stopped in to the NABC to play some bridge.

Asked about his interest in bridge, Gates told the youngsters, "It's a fun game and it makes you think." Before he left the reception – he was playing in a knockout team – Gates was made an honorary member of the ACBL Goodwill Committee by Aileen Osofsky, chair of the committee.



*Bill Gates poses with several players during the Junior Player reception Saturday.*

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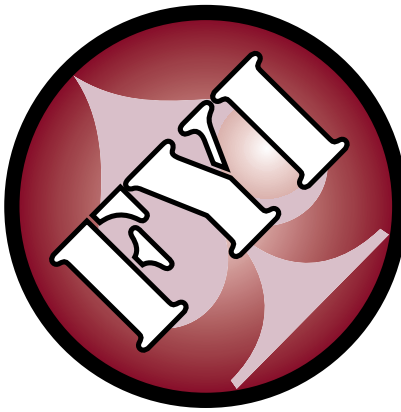
The ACBL launched a new and exciting web site for Junior players on Sept. 16. Check it out. We hope you will enjoy this new Junior online meeting place.

## 2006 WORLD YOUTH PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP and 2006 WORLD JUNIOR BRIDGE CAMP

The 6th World Junior Pairs (for players born in 1981 or later) and the 1st World Schools Pairs (for players born in 1986 or later) will be held June 30 – July 2 in Piestany, Slovakia. The World Junior Camp will be July 3 – 10 in Piestany, Slovakia. Detailed information will be available through the World Bridge Federation internet site [www.worldbridge.org](http://www.worldbridge.org) beginning in October 2005. To apply contact [juniors@acbl.org](mailto:juniors@acbl.org). The ACBL will not be offering subsidies for these events.

## 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. On November 19 during the Fall NABC in Denver, a special informal



reception will be held between sessions. Check the daily schedules and come meet and fraternize with your fellow Junior players!

## JUNIOR ENTRY FEE PLAYER POLICY

The ACBL policy for entry fees for Junior players at the NABCs remains a great deal! The entry fee for all players who have not yet reached their 16th birthday will be \$1 per session, except in NABC-surcharged events. At all NABCs, the entry fee for paid up ACBL members in good standing who have not reached their 26th birthday will be no more than 50% of the regional-rated event entry fee.

The ACBL encourages all districts, units and bridge clubs to consider similar policies for its regional tournaments, sectional tournaments and club games.

## JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP RATES CHANGED TO \$14

Just a reminder: Junior membership is now \$14/year. School memberships for \$5 are still available for those who have completed a school bridge class and are under 20 years of age. Please note school memberships do not include the Bridge Bulletin.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR ACBL JUNIORS

A scholarship program is available to college and high school bridge players who actively seek to teach bridge to others. It is open to any or all Juniors still involved in the educational system. The program will award \$500 scholarships to those who teach a class of at least eight students under 26 years of age the equivalent of the ACBL Bidding Series (Club Series) or 16 hours of lessons.

The ACBL Educational Foundation and the ACBL Education Department will provide books, T-shirts and an additional stipend of \$350 for teaching the course. The scholarship is payable only to an accredited college or university for high school graduates. Contact Charlotte Blaiss at [juniors@acbl.org](mailto:juniors@acbl.org) to register classes for the school and scholarship programs.

## Play contest

Contract: 3NT  
Opening Lead: ♦8

♠ A 2  
♥ A J 9 5 4  
♦ 7 6 5  
♣ Q 10 4

♠ K 9 7 6 5  
♥ K Q 6  
♦ 8  
♣ J 8 7 3

N
W
E
S

♠ Q 4 3  
♥ 3 2  
♦ Q 4 3 2  
♣ A K 9 2

♠ J 10 8  
♥ 10 8 7  
♦ A K J 10 9  
♣ 6 5

West leads the ♦8.

**The Challenge:** Continue from here double dummy to guarantee nine tricks for North/South against any defense. Please be specific and give the best defense and how declarer should overcome this.

**The Reward:** Win free entries to all events at the Dallas NABC in March 2006 by submitting a correct detailed play analysis to [Juniors@acbl.org](mailto:Juniors@acbl.org). All submissions must be made by Oct. 16. All contestants must be ACBL Juniors members (under 26). A drawing from correct submissions will take place on Oct. 19 to determine the one winner.

# YOUTH RACES

1.	Justin Lall, Dallas TX	553
2.	Kevin Dwyer, Lehigh Acres FL	313
3.	Jeremy Fournier, Knoxville TN	313
4.	Owen Lien, Hickory NC	220
5.	Matt Meckstroth, Gainesville FL	174
6.	Keith Veale, Ottawa ON	159
7.	David Banh, Annandale VA	148
8.	Andrew Dubai, Voorheesville NY	136
9.	Raghavendra Rajkumar, Arlington VA	120
10.	Matthew Stahlman, Portland OR	120
11.	Ben Englert, Edwardsville IL	116
12.	Shane Zeller, York PA	116
13.	James Berglund, Pasadena CA	116
14.	Jason Chiu, Cambridge MA	115
15.	Sam Katz, Hinsdale IL	96
16.	Gregory Vance, San Leandro CA	91
17.	Robert Brady, McLean VA	84
18.	Andre Asbury, Atlanta GA	76
19.	Meredith Beck, Riverton NJ	72
20.	Daniel Goldfein, Lincolnwood IL	71
21.	Nicholas Flores, Portland OR	71
22.	Daniel Hollingshead, Birmingham AL	67
23.	Adam Kaplan, New Port Richey FL	64
24.	Kevin Sivaneri, Morgantown WV	59
25.	Patrick Beard, Metairie LA	52
26.	Robert Glickman, Woodland Hills CA	52
27.	Zachary Brescoll, Mansfield TX	51
28.	Rachna Goyal, Cincinnati OH	50
29.	Benjamin Kelley, Federal Way WA	49
30.	James Sundstrom, Wyckoff NJ	39
31.	Jeremy Koegel, Los Angeles CA	38
32.	Michal Dajwowski, Joliet IL	38

# JUNIOR RACES

1.	Joe Grue, New York NY	1058
2.	Will Engel, Freeport IL	733
3.	John Hurd, Charleston SC	641
4.	Gavin Wolpert, Thornhill ON	620
5.	Justin Lall, Dallas TX	553
6.	Joel Wooldridge, Buffalo NY	550
7.	John Kranyak, Bay Village OH	546
8.	Vincent Demuy, Montreal QC	543
9.	McKenzie Myers, Eugene OR	399
10.	Jon Rice, Winston Salem NC	340
11.	David Grainger, Etobicoke ON	334
12.	Andrew Carver, Edwardsville IL	324
13.	Mike Rice, Winston Salem NC	323
14.	Daniel Lavee, Thornhill ON	320
15.	Kevin Dwyer, Lehigh Acres FL	313
16.	Jeremy Fournier, Knoxville TN	313
17.	Travis Crump, Wyomissing PA	277
18.	Daniel Korbel, Waterloo ON	250
19.	Samantha Nystrom, Burnaby BC	247
20.	Hao Ge, Cleveland OH	240
21.	Andrew Garnett, St Petersburg FL	239
22.	Tim Crank, Wheaton MD	235
23.	Joshua Donn, Canoga Park CA	223
24.	Owen Lien, Hickory NC	220
25.	John Barth, Santa Cruz CA	218
26.	Jared Fournier, Knoxville TN	218
27.	Jason Rosenfeld, Potomac MD	217
28.	Prahalad Rajkumar, Arlington VA	212
29.	Eric Mayefsky, Stanford CA	202
30.	Matt Meckstroth, Gainesville FL	174
31.	Andrew Hurd, Charleston SC	172
32.	Keith Veale, Ottawa ON	159

Results as of Sept. 12, 2005

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