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## Cook, Hatton, Hejlik, Irabli & Valentin Strike Gold



*Philadelphia, PA* - Athletes from the Glenville, NY based Jason Morris Judo Center (JMJC) enjoyed another big medal haul at the 27th annual Liberty Bell Judo Classic, April 5, 2014. Burnt Hills High School graduate, **Jack Hatton** (18) won his second straight Liberty Bell crown going 5-0 to claim the 90kg weight class along with the \$350 winner's purse. Hatton, who holds the #1 slot for the 81kg under21 category and #5 on the 81kg Sr. rankings bumped up a weight to get more matches and now is #3 in the 90kg under 21 weight class and #8 on the Sr. 90kg rankings with this result. Burnt Hills High Junior, **Nick Irabli** also took gold dominating the +100kg division winning all four of his matches by ippon (full point) to collect the \$350. Irabli moved to a career high #7 on the USA Judo senior ranking list with this result. **Ashley Hejlik** (27) dominated her new weight class having moved down from 52kg to 48kg, taking a gold, her first at the Liberty Bell, posting a 3-0 record. Hejlik debuts on the ranking list in 48kg at #7. **Jimmy Valentin** added another novice title to his collection going 4-0 to win the 66kg division. **Dave Harris** (28) continued to improve going 4-1 to take a silver in the very deep 66kg category which moves him up to a career best #7. SCCC student, **Maria Dhami** (18) lost only in a very tight final to Alain Abuan to take a silver medal in 52kg. Dhami holds on to her #3 Sr. ranking and #1 under21 ranking. **Joe Martinez** (21) looked sharp picking up a bronze medal in 60kg going 3-1 on the day. Martinez rose

to a career high #9 on USA Judo's rankings list. **Rich Connell** (32) won a bronze in +100kg to enter the rankings for the first time coming in at #10. Connell also picked up a bronze in the +100kg masters (over 30) category. Burnt Hills High Freshman, **Quentin Cook** (15) went 4-0 to capture the gold in the 66kg under21 division and Burnt Hills High Senior, Eric Skylar (17) continued his steady improvement picking up a bronze in the 81kg under21 category to close out the JMJC medal count





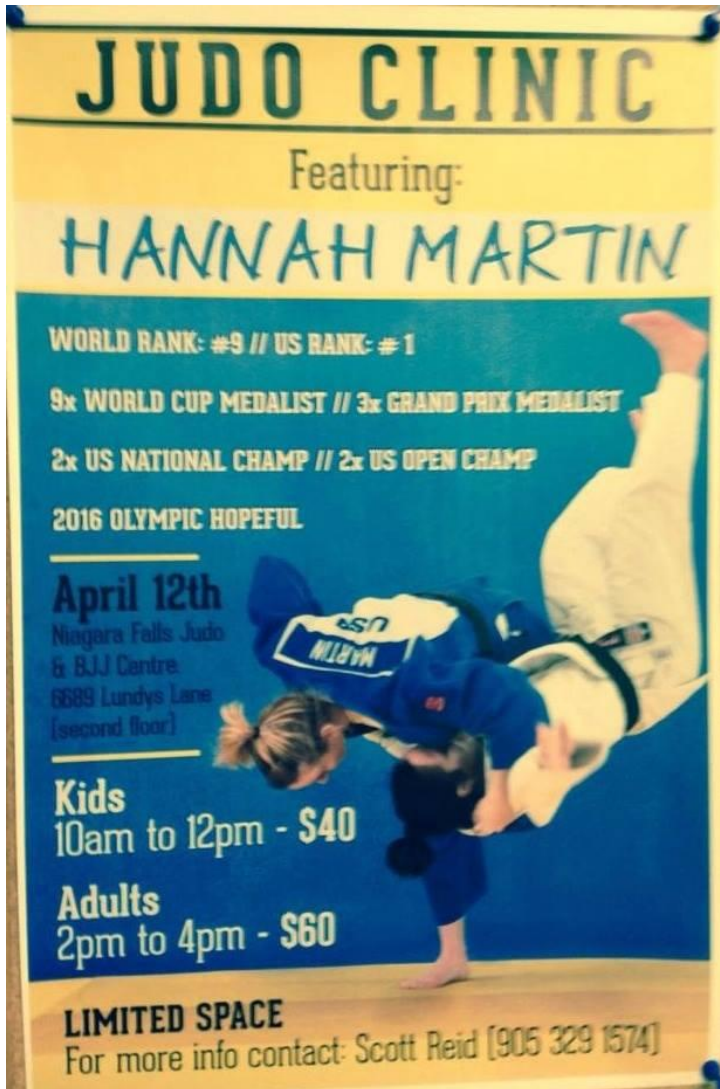
## JMJC Athletes Compete in Sambo Tournament



Bryn Athyn, PA - Jason Morris Judo Center athletes, **Alex Hall** (15), **Nick Irabli** (17) & **Eric Skylar** tried their hand at Sambo, April 12, 2014 as they competed in the Sambo Cadet, Jr. & Sr. National Championships. This event also served as a qualifier for the Sambo Cadet, Jr. & Sr. World Championships. Hall led the way winning a gold in the 15-16yrs. 66kg division to qualify for the Cadet Worlds which will be held in Limassol, Cyprus, December 4-7, 2014. Burnt Hills High School Junior, Irabli was a double medalist taking a silver in the 17-19yrs. +100kg category and also picked up a bronze in the Sr. +100kg division. Burnt Hills High Senior, Skylar won a silver second in the Jr. 17-19yrs. 81kg weight class along with placing 5th in the Sr. 81kg division. Both Irabli and Skylar have a good chance now of being selected to compete for the US at the Jr. Sambo Worlds in Seoul, Korea October 9-13, 2014. Irabli might also be selected for the Sr. Sambo Worlds in Narita, Japan November 20-24.

Photo: L to R: Alex Hall, Nick Irabli & Eric Skylar





Niagara Falls, ON – JMJC athlete, Hannah Martin conducted a clinic on April 12<sup>th</sup> at the Niagara Falls Judo and BJJ Centre. She held two sessions, one for kids and one for adults. In between her sessions she was presented with by the Mayor of Niagara Falls, Mayor James Diodati with an official welcome certificate from the city.



Hannah with Mayor Diodati



## Kossor Fifth at the Pan American Championships



Guayquil, Ecuador - On the weekend of April 25-27th three Jason Morris Judo Center (JMJC) athletes **Brad Bolen** (25), **Nick Kossor** (28), **Hannah Martin** (25) along with Coach and 4x Olympian **Jason Morris** traveled to Ecuador for the Pan American Championships. On the first day of competition Kossor in the 60kg division ended up placing fifth defeating Venezuela via arm bar submission. In the quarterfinal Kossor was defeated by Abel Montero (DOM), which dropped him down in the repechage to fight Gabriel Sabatino from Argentina. Kossor submitted Sabatino with another arm bar (juji) to earn a spot to fight for the bronze medal. Kossor lost the bronze medal match to Lenin Peciado from Ecuador who he has recently beat at the 2013 World Championships.

Teammate Brad Bolen also competed on the first day, placing 7th. Bolen won his first match against URU with his signature "Bolen Arrow" choke, in the quarterfinals against Antoine Bouchard from Canada he earned 4 penalties, in his repechage match Bolen was countered for ippon by Wander Mateo from the Dominican Republic.

On the second day of competition, Hannah Martin competed in the 63kg division. Martin had a bye into the



The JMJC with -44kg Allie Hyatt

quarter-final where she faced Wisneybe Machado (VEN), Martin lost 2-1 in shidos. In Martin's repechage match against Andrea Guitierrez (MEX) who she beat twice at the 2013 Pan American Championships and Team Tournament was thrown for wazari and was unable to perform to her potential due to a lingering knee injury that she sustained at the Samsun Grand Prix a month prior.



Jason Morris with 2x Olympic Medalist, Tiago Camilo from Brazil

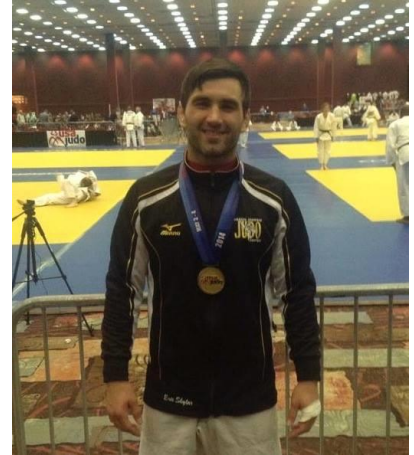


## Bolen and Sangimino Win National Championships

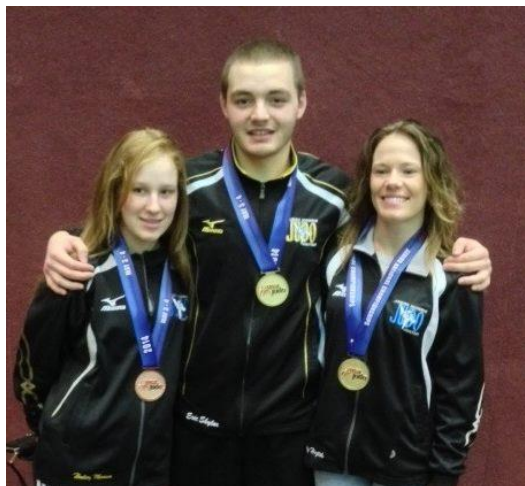


*Reno, NV* - **Brad Bolen** (25) from the Jason Morris Judo Center (JMJC) in Glenville, NY captured his second US Sr. National title winning the 66kg division on day two at the Grand Sierra Resort & Casino, Sunday, May 4, 2014. This was Bolen's fifth overall medal at the Nationals having been in the finals the last four years (Gold 2012, Silver 2013 & 2011) along with picking up a bronze in 2009. Bolen won the final against up and comer Spencer Augustine (22) getting his signature "Bolen Arrow" choke in the first

minute of the match to give the JMJC it's 26th National Champion. **Tony Sangimino** (23) who won silver last year took it one step further going 4-0 on the day in dominating fashion giving the JMJC its 27th US National Champion. This was Tony's third overall National medal.



SCCC student, **Maria Dhami** (18) continued to improve as she made it all the way to the 52kg final losing only to #1, Angelica Delgado by penalties 3-0. **Ashley Hejlik** (27) also continued to improve as she picked up her first US Sr. National medal winning a bronze at 48kg. Hejlik now moves all the way to #5 in the US. Hejlik also won a gold in the 48kg Brown belt division with JMJC teammate **Haley Meara** (18) taking a bronze. Burnt Hills High Senior, **Eric Skylar** (17) posted a 5-0 record on the day to capture a gold in the 81kg brown belt category making that his first Sr. National medal. **Dave Harris** (28) lost to eventual silver medalist, Augustine, who he had beaten just a month earlier placed 7th in 66kg. The JMJC has now won a remarkable 93 total medals at the US Sr. Nationals in its 13 year history. RPI Graduate, **Leah Fisher** (29) had her career best performance at the Nationals taking a silver in 70kg. Burnt Hills High School Junior, **Nick Irbli** (17) turned in his best performance at the Nationals as well taking 5th place at +100kg improving upon his 9th place finish last year. Burnt Hills graduate, **Jack Hatton** placed 9th at 81kg as did SCCC student **Alex Turner** at 73kg.



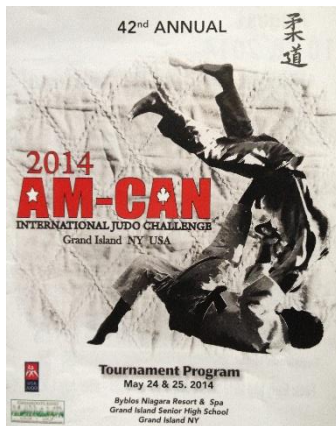




**Brad Bolen** (white) submits Spencer Augustine in the 66kg with his signature "Bolen Arrow" choke final to claim his 2nd US National Judo Championship

Photo by: *Sebastian John*

# JMJC Capture Team Title



Grand Island, NY - Athletes from the Glenville, NY based Jason Morris Judo Center won their second straight senior team title at the 42nd Annual Am Can International Judo Challenge May 24 & 25, 2014. 2013 Burnt Hills High graduate, **Jack Hatton** (18) led the way winning double gold. He won the 90kg under21 category going 4-0 then topped that claiming the 90kg senior crown which included winning a dramatic battle in the final against Gerard Benoit (Canada). Hatton's JMJC teammate and 2014 US National Champion, **Tony Sangimino** (23) picked up a bronze at 90kg. Both Hatton and Sangimino normally compete at 81kg. Burnt Hills High Junior, **Nick Irabli** turned in his best performance to date going 5-0

in a deep +100kg division to claim his first Am Cam gold. Irabli showed off his much improved mat work skills as he won three of his matches on the ground, winning by a pin, choke and arm bar. The trio of **Brad Bolen** (25), **Nick Kossor** (28) and **Hannah Martin** (25) all cruised to victory in their respective weight classes as they used this event as a warm up for their South American tour as they will compete in the Cuba Grand Prix June 7-8 then move on to the El Salvador World Cup. Any points earned by the JMJC trio down there will count toward qualifying for the Rio Olympic Games. Bolen posted a 5-0 record by winning all of his matches by ippon (full point) to claim the 73kg title. Kossor eased to a 3-0 mark to capture the 66kg crown and Martin went 4-0 to win the 63kg championship.



SCCC student, **Maria Dhami** (18), who will be competing in the El Salvador World Cup with Bolen, Kossor and Martin dominated all of her opponents going 4-0 in the 57kg division to win gold. Shenendehowa 7th grader, **Kiernan Shanahan** (13) won a gold in the 13-14yrs. 52kg weight class going 5-0 on the day including winning an action packed overtime thriller in the final against Lennox Wollak from Ohio. Burnt Hills Senior, **Eric Skylar** (17) was a double medalist as he won a gold in the Brown Belt 90kg category beating JMJC teammate Averill Park High School graduate, **Joe Donnelly** (21) in the final and also picked up a bronze in the 90kg under21 division. **Kell Berliner** (19) was also a double medalist winning a silver in the brown belt 73kg division and a bronze in the elite 73kg category. Watervliet High School graduate, **Jimmy Valentin** (22) continued his winning ways claiming a gold in the 73kg novice category going 3-0. Burnt Hills Senior, **Haley Meara** (18) had a good day as she was 3-2 to grab a bronze in 48kg to close out the JMJC medal count.





Photo: From L to R back row: Nick Irabli, Quentin Cook, Nick Kossor, Brad Bolen, Haley Meara, Eric Skylar, Kell Berliner, Jack Hatton L to R Kneeling: Tony Sangimino, Dani Morris, Teri Takemori (Coach), Randi Morris, Jason Morris (Coach), Paul Martin

## 2014 Morris Cup XIII Goes to 2 Days



*Glenville, NY* - The 13th Annual Morris Cup Judo Championships will be a two day event this year (2014) for the first time in its history, the hosting group, Jason Morris Judo Center has announced. The tournament will be held at the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School in Burnt Hills, NY and will feature over 500 of the best competitors in the Northeast and Canada. The Judo action will start at 10am each day and continue nonstop until approximately 4pm. The event will feature many local stars including Burnt Hills students & graduates, **Chris Alaynick** (18), **Quentin Cook** (15), **Nick Irabli** (17), **Jack Hatton** (18), **Nick Kossor** (28), **Hannah Martin** (26), **Haley Meara** (18), **Eric Skylar** (17) & Olympian, **Kyle Vashkulat** (24). Winners of the Elite divisions can earn \$300. The Jason Morris Judo Center will attempt to win the team title for the 6th year in a row and 8th overall winning in 2002, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 & 2013.

Judo has been an Olympic sport since 1964. It is the most-widely practiced martial art in the world. In its competitive form judo involves throws, pins, chokes and arm locks but no kicking or punching. Many of the skills developed in wrestling are incorporated by judo players. People who practice judo develop high levels of physical fitness, discipline and an unshakeable respect for their opponents.

Interest in Judo around the capital district peaked at 1200 registered players in the mid-1970s and in the past generation interest has been renewed and revived due to the success and attention brought to the sport by Jason Morris, a 4x Olympic competitor, 1992 Olympic Silver medalist and the USA's 2008 Olympic Judo head coach in Beijing. Jason is committed today to growing our next generation of Judo champions through his own club and the state, national and international agencies with which he has become familiar.



JMJC's Maria Dhami (white) throws with Uchimata

*Photos by: Lou DiGesare/realjudo.net*



2013 Venue



## *Hatton & Skylar Excel*



*Paterson, NJ* - This past weekend, athletes from the Jason Morris Judo Center enjoyed another large medal haul winning 11 total and including 4 gold. Burnt Hills High School graduate and former section 2 wrestling champ, **Jack Hatton** (18) was a double gold medalist winning the 90kg & 100kg weight classes. Burnt Hills High Senior, **Eric Skylar**, had a busy day winning medals in four different categories. Skylar took gold in the brown belt 90kg weight class, silver in the 90kg elite division, bronze in the 81kg elite along with picking another bronze in the brown belt 81kg division. **Pete Stanley** (30) easily won a gold in the +100kg category while SCCC student, **Maria Dhami** (18) continued her recent success taking the gold in 52kg. SCCC student **Joe Martinez** (21) snagged a silver in 66kg and Burnt Hills High Senior, **Haley Meara** won a silver in 52kg. To close out the JMJC medal count Burnt Hills 7th grader, **Tyler Michaelson**, (12) won a bronze medal in the 11-12yrs. 52kg category and **Kell Berliner** (20) won a bronze in the brown belt 73kg division. **Dave Harris** placed 5th in the deep 73kg weight class which was featured national quality players.



Make sure to check out the new International Judo Federation (IJF) website at <http://www.judobase.org>. This new website allows you to follow competitions, look at your favorite athlete's statistics, look at the World Ranking List and many other interesting features!

Leah Mary-Rose Anastasi, a graphic design student from the United Kingdom, decided to make a sports poster of one of her favorite Judokas, **Hannah Martin**, for her final exam project. Check out the cover photo that she designed for Hannah on her facebook fan page at <http://www.facebook.com/judohannah>





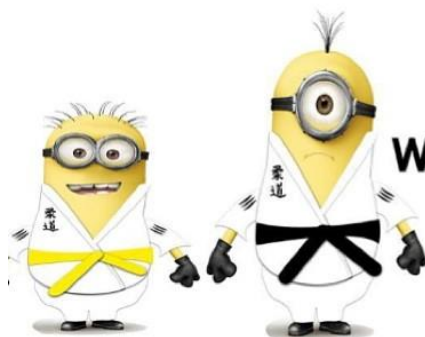
## Celebrity Fans

Lead Guitarist, Josh Ramos (left) & Lead Singer, Johnny Gioeli from the rock band *Hardline* sport JMJC T-shirts during a light moment in between their recent concerts in Milan, Italy. Gioeli also fronts another JMJC favorite rock act from Germany, the Axel Rudi Pell band.



## 2014 Upcoming Events

- June 7-8 - Cuba Grand Prix - Havana
- June 8 - Celita Shutz Open - Staten Island, NY
- **June 14 - JMJC OPEN - Jason Morris Judo Center, Scotia-Glenville, NY**
- June 14-15 - El Salvador Open - San Salvador
- June 21-22 - Hungary Grand Prix - Budapest
- June 27-29 - Jr. Olympics - Irving, TX
- July 4-6 - USJA/USJF Jr. Nationals - Honolulu, HI
- July 4-6 - Mongolia Grand Prix- Ulaanbaatar
- July 12-13 - Russia Grand Slam- Tyumen
- **July 20 - Liberty Games - Scotia, NY**
- July 26-27 - Pan American Open - Chile
- July 27-28 - Asian Open - Taipei
- Aug. 2-3 - USA Pan American Open- Miami, FL
- Aug. 25-31 - World Championships - Chelyabinsk, Russia
- Sept. 12-14 - Croatia Grand Prix - Rijeka
- Sept. 27-28 - European Open - Estonia
- Oct. 4-5 - European Open Women- Great Britain
- Oct. 4-5 - European Open Men - Portugal
- Oct. 10 -12 - Kazakhstan Grand Prix - Astana
- **Oct. 11-12 - Morris Cup XIII - Burnt Hills, NY**
- **Oct. 13 - Morris Cup Mini Camp - Jason Morris Judo Center**
- Oct. 16-18 -Uzbekistan Grand Prix - Tashkent
- Oct. 22-26 - Jr. World Championships - Miami, FL
- Oct. 31- Nov. 2 -Abu Dhabi Grand Slam - Abu Dhabi
- Nov. 1-2 - Ontario Open - Toronto, Canada
- Nov. 8-9 - Quebec Open - Montreal, Canada
- Nov. 8-9 - African Open- Port Louis
- Nov. 9 - Irwin Cohen Memorial - Chicago, IL
- Nov. 14-16 - Oceania Open - Australia
- Nov. 19-21 - Qingdao Grand Prix - Qingdao, China
- Nov. 27-29 -Jeju Grand Prix - Jeju, Korea
- Dec. 5-7 -Tokyo Grand Slam - Tokyo, Japan



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## Where JMJC Athletes Stand in the Rankings



Alex Turner

### World Ranking List (WRL)

- #12 Hannah Martin -63kg
- #26 Nick Kossor -60kg
- #34 Brad Bolen -66kg
- #107 Cammi Kaichi -52kg
- #126 Kyle Vashkulat -100kg
- #133 Maria Dhami -52kg
- #180 Alex Turner -73kg
- #189 Tony Sangimino -81kg
- #191 Brice Rudat -90kg



Maria Dhami

### US Sr. National Ranking Roster

- #1 Nick Kossor -60kg
- #1 Hannah Martin -63kg
- #1 Brad Bolen -66kg
- #1 Kyle Vashkulat -100kg
- #2 Cammi Kaichi -52kg
- #3 Maria Dhami -52kg
- #3 Leah Fisher -70kg
- #5 Ashley Hejlik -48kg
- #5 Tony Sangimino -81kg
- #6 Nick Irabli - +100kg
- #7 Dave Harris -66kg
- #8 Jack Hatton - 90kg
- #9 Joe Martinez -60kg
- #8 Haley Meara -48kg
- #10 Jack Hatton - 90kg
- #10 Rich Connell - +100kg
- #11 Jack Hatton -81kg
- #12 Kyle Vashkulat - +100kg
- #15 Alex Turner -73kg
- #17 Tony Sangimino -90kg



Dave Harris



Jack Hatton

### Jr. National Roster

- #1 Maria Dhami -52kg
- #1 Jack Hatton -81kg
- #2 Nick Irabli - +100kg
- #3 Jack Hatton -90kg
- #6 Quentin Cook - 66kg
- #7 Eric Skylar - 81kg
- #7 Haley Meara -48kg



Eric Skylar



Nick Irabli