

BYRAM HILLS WINS JV TITLE IN TWO NAIL-BITERS

Coach Martin Gilbert has been bringing teams from Byram Hills (NY) to Nationals as long as we can remember. They won it all in 2006, before the event was divided into Varsity & JV divisions. This year he added a national title for the JV team. Byram Hills is only the second school ever to win both Varsity & JV titles – something Daviess County (KY) achieved in 2015 (JV) and 2016 (Varsity).

Byram Hills edged Parkland (PA) 315-305 in the semifinals, while Merrimack (NH) overcame Mountain View (PA) 445-225.

Talk about two evenly-matched teams! Merrimack and Byram Hills were tied at 60 apiece after the first period. Merrimack moved ahead 120-110 at halftime after they swept the HORSE bonus. The New Hampshire team enjoyed a 200-150 lead going into the final period after outscoring the New York team 80-40 in the 70 Seconds Round. An explosion of scoring by both teams characterized the fourth quarter. Byram Hills trailed by 10 going into the last question: “The most popular airline route between Russia and America connects which two cities? One city has airport codes DME, SVO, and VKO. The other has airport codes LGA, nearby EWK, and JFK.” Byram Hills answered “Moscow and New York,” and won the game on the final question.