



## Gold and Silver Medals to Open University Students in the International Computer Science Youth Olympics

*Amit Kambar with his gold medal. Photo: Amit Magal, Yediot Ahronot.*

A glimpse at the outstanding talents of the future can be had from the international achievements of two Open University students who won the gold and silver medals in the International Computer Science Youth Olympics, for young people under the age of 20. Amitai Kambar from Kibbutz Beit Alpha, who finished high school and studied Computer Science at the Open University alongside his high school classes, won the gold medal. At the Open University, he was on the President's List for exceptional academic achievements. Yonatan Rosenshein, from Kfar Saba, a graduate of Galili high school, who

also studied Computer Science at the Open University alongside his high school studies, won the silver medal.

This year the competition was held in Poland. The two are experienced participants from last year's international Olympics, in which they both took bronze medals. The Olympics are held under the auspices of UNESCO and take place each year in different cities all over the world. Youth Olympics are held in Computer Science, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Astronomy and Mathematics. The first Olympics in Computer Science was held in Bulgaria in 1989 and 13

delegations participated. This year, 79 countries were represented.

Israeli participants in the international competition are chosen from participants in a national competition that includes hundreds of youngsters. 30 compete in the semi-finals, and 10 in the finals. Of these, four are chosen to represent Israel in the international Olympics. The four undergo intensive training in Israel by computer experts Dr. Ela Zur of Computer Sciences at the Open University and Dr. David Ginat of Tel Aviv University, who have worked together for years training the Israeli teams.