

In the last match against England, Marvin showed he desperately wanted to win this event. The entire week he played on the top of his level and this board was no exception:

Board 16. Dealer: West. E/W Game

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

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Marvin | | Frank | |
| 1♠ | Pass | 3♠ | 4♥ |
| 4♠ | Pass | Pass | Dble |
| All Pass | | | |

The lead was the 10 of hearts to the Queen. South returned a low diamond.

Marvin passed this test by raising with his King, and cashed the Ace of spades. When spades broke 4-0 he still had to find a way to make his contract. When you start by ruffing some clubs you will be stuck in dummy after the second ruff.

So Marvin rightly returned a diamond to North's Queen. The most challenging defense now is to return a spade, but declarer will take this in dummy and take a club finesse, ruff a club, draw trumps and develop a diamond for 10 tricks.

At the table North returned a club leading to effectively the same play for +790 and 12 IMPs for the Netherlands.

A safe extra chance?

By Andrzej Aleksandrak (Poland)

In this 3NT of round 11, Fabio lo Presti thought he could afford to take an extra chance. But the Polish defense showed him wrong!

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vulnerable.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|--------|-------|-----------|
| Riccardo | Szymon | Fabio | Krzysztof |
| Pass | Pass | 1NT | 2♣* |
| Dble | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

2♣ showed a one-suiter. The lead was the Queen of diamonds.

Still not completely sure of the location of the Jack of diamonds, Fabio decided to first try a heart to the Queen.

Krzysztof Buras took the King of hearts and now returned the 8 of spades!

This made the spade suit fluent and enabled the defense to cash four more tricks for one down.

IBPA Editor: An excellent newspaper hand, and textbook switch by South. It should be a candidate for IBPA's okBridge Junior Award but may be it came too late.

The European Simultaneous Pairs

It is very important that as many clubs as possible compete in the forthcoming European Simultaneous Pairs - the European Bridge League needs the support of its member nations to achieve its programmes and your help is needed to ensure that these events are given as much publicity as possible.

The Simultaneous Pairs will be played over four days, from Monday 26th to Thursday 29th November, with different hands being played each evening.

Details can be found at <http://www.eblsims.org> or by emailing Anna Gudge who is organising the event, at anna@ecats.co.uk

Six nations compete in okBridge Championship quarterfinals

By Henry Francis (USA)

Teams from Romania, France, Iceland and Hong Kong will battle for the Eastern Hemisphere finalist berths in the third annual OKbridge Internet Bridge Championship. Canada and three United States teams will battle for the Western Hemisphere place in the final.

The quarterfinal pairings: Romania Beauty vs. Hong Kong Dragons, www.funbridge.com (France) vs. Iceland Express, Misfits (Canada) vs. Tameware (U.S.), Speed Demons II (U.S.) vs. Columbia River Aces (U.S.)

The Romanians defeated the United States in last year's final in Birmingham AL. Playing for Romania are Dorin Petre Nusat (petre), captain; Serban Criscota (dodog), Alexandre Feber (feber) and Catalin Popescu (senator). (Note – The names in parentheses throughout are the names the players use on OKbridge.)

Romania's quarterfinal opponent has performed well in Asian tournaments. On the Hong Kong team are Alan Sze (alsze), Derek Zen (derekzen), K.L. Choy (klchoy) and Thomas Ng (thomasng), Sam Wan (samwan) and Karic Chiu (kaa).

Hong Kong eliminated the DBBC All-Stars from Australia in the region final.

France has advanced to the quarterfinals with four players who are making their first major appearance on the international scene. Their advance to the quarterfinals was quite unusual. Their regional final match was against the DeFalco team from Italy, a powerful squad captained by world champion Dano DeFalco. However, DeFalco

conceded the match at the halfway break. The French team consists of Jerome Rombaut, Francois Combescure, Lionel Sebbane and Laurent Thuillez.

Iceland defeated www.netbridge.dk (Denmark), 89-65 in the region final. Playing for Iceland Express will be Throstur Ingimarsson (iced), Matthias Thorvaldsson (icecat1), Magnus Magnusson (iceking) and Thorlakur Jonsson (icethor1), Karl Sigurhjartarsson (karls) and Jon Baldursson (icebjj).

The only international match in the Western Hemisphere quarterfinals will pit Canada's Misfits against America's Tameware. In the region final, Canada outscored a tough Argentina team – the group that won the South American Championship and qualified to play in the Bermuda Bowl earlier this year. Playing for the Misfits will be Steve Aarons (snoraa), Wayne Timms (ira), Jordan Cohen (jordic) and Steve Cooper (scoop)

Tameware, which scored a solid 134-72 victory over Follow Suit in the region final, has four players who are well known internationally. The team consists of Adam Wildavsky (adamw), Debbie Rosenberg (debrose), Mark Feldman (markf) and Bill Pollack (bpollack), Brian Platnick (toona) and Gerr Seixas (gerbs1).

Two players who have won all three major World Bridge Federation championships – Bermuda Bowl, World Team Olympiad and World Open Pairs – are the backbone of Speed Demons II. Chip Martel (chipm) and Lew Stansby (lews) have been stars at the world level ever

| CalendarEvent | Venue | IBPA Contact |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| NOV 9/11 | 2 nd EOC CA-IB Trophy, Warsaw | Kielbasinski |
| 10/11 | Lederer Memorial Trophy, London | Duckworth |
| 18/28 | ACBL Fall Nationals, Las Vegas | ACBL |
| 26/29 | EBL Simultaneous Pairs | anna@ecats.co.uk |
| 2002 | | |
| JAN 17/20 | Cap Gemini Invitation, Hotel des Indes, The Hague | henk.van.dalen@capgemini.nl |
| MAR 7/17 | ACBL Spring Nationals, Houston | ACBL |
| 16/22 | EBL Mixed Pairs and Teams, Ostend | EBL |
| JUN 7/8 | World Wide Bridge Contest | anna@ecats.co.uk |
| 16/30 | European National Teams, Salsomaggiore | EBL |
| JUL 4/14?? | European Youth Team Championships | youthcmte@bridge.gr |
| 15/20 | Commonwealth Games Bridge, Manchester | EBU 44+ 1296 394 414 |
| 18/28 | ACBL Summer Nationals, Washington | ACBL |
| AUG 2/11 | World University Teams, Bruges, Belgium | anna@ecats.co.uk |
| 9/18 | England Summer Nationals, Brighton | EBU 44+ 1296 394 414 |
| 16/31 | World Bridge Championships, Montreal | WBF |
| NOV 28/ 8 Dec | ACBL Fall Nationals, Phoenix | ACBL |
| 2003 | | |
| MAR 6/16 | ACBL Spring Nationals, Philadelphia | ACBL |
| JUN | European Open | EBL |
| JUL 17/27 | ACBL: Summer Nationals, Long Beach, CA | ACBL |
| AUG 8/17 | England Summer Nationals, Brighton | EBU 44+ 1296 394 414 |

since winning the World Open Pairs in Biarritz, France, back in 1982. They are joined by Marty Fleisher (fleische) and Jan Martel (janm), Joanna Stansby (jstansby) and Ron Gerard (ronge1) who have performed well in North American tournaments. They defeated Kansas City in the region final.

Their quarterfinal opponent will be the Columbia River Aces, who eliminated AJaY, 70-55, in the region final. The Aces team: Eric Stoltz(estoltz)), Dennis Sorenson (densoren), Troy Horton (thorton) and Stan Sather (Stetson) Roger McNay (mcdouble) and Dennis Metcalf (calf).

Quarterfinal matches will consist of 48 boards. The teams can play on two different days if they wish. OKbridge plans to have these four matches completed by October 8. Monitors are required for all players unless affirmatively waived by both captains.

One of the American teams that has reached the OKbridge Internet World Bridge Championship quarterfinals is called Tameware. Why?

“Tameware is the name of my firm,” said Adam Wildavsky, team captain. “I provide custom software development services to corporate clients. I specialize in Extreme Programming”

Wildavsky says he owes a large portion of his success in bridge, and in life, to the philosophy of novelist Ayn Rand. To find out more about Ayn Rand and Objectivism, Wildavsky suggests that you read one of her novels or visit the web site <http://www.aynrand.org>

Wildavsky formed his team by asking five of his regular partners and teammates to join him. He usually plays with Debbie Rosenberg. The other partnerships usually are Mark Feldman – Bill Pollack and Brian Platnick – Gerry Seixas.

Tameware won its region final by defeating *Follow Suit*, 134-72. In the second half of this match, special circumstances forced a change in the partnership alliances – Rosenberg played with Platnick and Wildavsky partnered Feldman.

Follow Suit had several major gains in the second half, but each was set off by equally impressive pickups by Tameware. Here is one of the deals that helped Tameware retain their margin.

| | | |
|------------|--------------|------------|
| IMPs | ♠ A Q 5 2 | |
| Dlr: North | ♥ Q | |
| Vul: E-W | ♦ A K 7 5 | |
| | ♣ A J 4 2 | |
| | ♠ K 7 6 | ♠ J 10 9 3 |
| | ♥ J 9 8 | ♥ K 7 6 4 |
| | ♦ 10 9 8 2 | ♦ Q 3 |
| | ♣ Q 9 7 | ♣ K 10 3 |
| | ♠ 8 4 | |
| | ♥ A 10 5 3 2 | |
| | ♦ J 6 4 | |
| | ♣ 8 6 5 | |

Both teams arrived at a notrump game on the following bidding:

Table 1

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-----------|---------|----------|
| Cooper | Rosenberg | Olanoff | Platnick |
| | 1♦ | Pass | 1♥ |
| Pass | 1♠ | Pass | 2♦ |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3♦ |
| Pass | 3♠ | Pass | 3NT |
| All Pass | | | |

Table 2

| West | North | East | South |
|---------|-------|-----------|-------|
| Feldman | Dalpe | Wildavsky | Boye |
| | 1♦ | Pass | 1♥ |
| Pass | 2♠ | Pass | 3♦ |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

Surprisingly, neither East led a spade though the spade jack appears to be the most likely lead.

Rosenberg got a heart to her queen, and she attacked diamonds. Rick Olanoff, picturing a likely ace-10-fifth in declarer’s hand, ducked and dummy’s jack won. Rosenberg switched to a club, her jack losing to the king. Olanoff continued the heart attack, Rosenberg rising with dummy’s ace and switching back to diamonds. After cashing the ace and king, she attempted to set up a second club trick by cashing the ace and giving up a trick in that suit. It worked – the opponents’ clubs were 3-3.

Steve Cooper, West, in with the club queen, cashed the good diamond 8 on which his partner pitched the heart king. That let Cooper take the heart jack as well, and he switched to a spade. But it was all over. Rosenberg finessed the queen successfully, then took the final two tricks with the spade ace and the club 4. She won three diamonds and two tricks in each of the other suits.

Don Dalpe, captain of *Follow Suit*, did not fare as well. Wildavsky led a club, effectively eliminating the possibility of a second heart trick for declarer. Dalpe took the queen with his ace and led a diamond. As at the other table, Wildavsky ducked and dummy’s jack scored. Dalpe continued with his top diamonds and was disappointed when the suit didn’t split.

Dalpe led his last diamond to West’s 8, and Feldman accurately switched to a heart – queen, king, ace. After taking a successful spade finesse, Dalpe gave up a club to East’s 10. After Wildavsky cashed the club king, he led a heart through dummy’s 10, and Feldman was able to take two heart tricks to set the contract and pick up 10 IMPs.

IBPA Column Service

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Dlr: East
Vul: E/W

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|----------|-------|
| | Pass | 1♥ | |
| Pass | 4♥ | All Pass | |

North-South should silence their opponents with a simple auction: 1♥-4♥. No one ought to have anything more to say, and the point of the deal may be missed on a spade lead, and club shift, in that the hand looks straightforward, until declarer leads a top heart from hand and finds trumps are 3-0. At that point declarer has a minute technical chance for his tenth trick by playing on diamonds in the hope that East has precisely three diamonds including the 98 or that West has precisely K98 or Q98 of diamonds; nothing else will do. (*IBPA Editor: see later*)

What declarer has to do is to lead a top diamond from hand, covered all round, then give up a diamond. West exits with a second club, and declarer wins, draws a second trump, then ruffs a spade, ruffs a diamond and the ♦7 has become established as a home for the club loser. Declarer ruffs his third spade to dummy and cashes the diamond to pitch his club, losing just the queen of trumps now.

IBPA Editor: There is an inferior but equally successful elimination chance. Suppose on the actual layout it went: ♠ to ace, ♣ to ace, spade ruff, trump to ace, diamond covered, club to hand, spade ruff, diamond. West would be endplayed into playing a diamond. That works when West's shape is 3-3-5-2 and East's diamonds are doubleton eight or nine.

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Dlr: West
Vul: N/S

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

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| | 1♦ | 1♠ | 2♥ |
| Pass | 3♥ | Pass | 4♥ |
| All Pass | | | |

The only question on the auction is whether N/S will stop in a heart partscore or reach the excellent game. On a spade lead, South has a complex decision in timing. With only the two aces and a trump trick to lose, the key to the hand is not to lose a second trick in clubs. That looks easy, but it is obviously critical to try to ensure the ability to ruff a club in dummy if necessary.

South ought to win the first spade, and play a club to the king before tackling trumps. When East takes the first club, South can win the next spade, unblock the club jack, draw two rounds of trumps ending in hand and then set up his clubs, using dummy's trump as necessary.

If South errs by cashing the top trumps before leading clubs, East when in with the ♣A can draw dummy's trump, preventing the club ruff in dummy, and setting the hand.

Note that if East ducks the first club, declarer might switch to trumps, worried about a trump promotion on the third round of clubs.

Protecting your partner from error is an underrated virtue; consider the following deal. On the surface of it on this board from the San Antonio Nationals all the sins appear to be East's — but is that really so?

Dir: South ♠ 10 4 2
 Vul: None ♥ 8 5
 ♦ Q J 6 4 2
 ♣ Q 10 5

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

♠ Q 5
 ♥ A K J 9
 ♦ 8 7
 ♣ A J 9 8 3

West North East South
 INT

All Pass

South opened a strong no-trump and played it there. West, playing fourth-best leads, led a low heart to declarer's nine (this would have been a sensible moment for South to false-card by taking the trick with the jack) and South next led a club to the queen and king. East returned an intellectual ♠J to the queen and king, and West played a spade to East, who went back to hearts, allowing south to make his contract.

Of course East could have cashed out, but West must take the rap here — if he cashes the ♦K before playing a second spade, East knows where the defence's seven winners are coming from. As it was, East thought West might need repeated heart plays to break up an endplay or to develop extra undertricks.

IBPA WEBSITE NOTICE

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The November Bulletin will have code 442mx

On the following deal declarer looked to be in trouble in Three Notrumps. There is a ray of light at the end of the tunnel — if you can spot it.

Dir: East ♠ 6 5 3
 Vul: None ♥ A K 10 8
 ♦ Q 5
 ♣ K 10 5 2

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

West North East South

| | | | |
|----------|------|------|-----|
| 2♠ | Dble | Pass | 1♦ |
| Pass | 3♣ | Pass | 3♣ |
| All Pass | | Dble | 3NT |

When South opens 1♦ West should exploit the vulnerability to overcall 2♠, allowing North to make a negative double. South rebid 3♣, and ended in 3NT when North probed with a cue-bid.

Declarer ducked the first spade, won the second, and had to play on diamonds. East won and returned the suit. The good news was that East had no more spades, the bad news came when East showed out on the third diamond, discarding a heart. Diamonds had to be abandoned.

South ran the jack of hearts. East won the queen and exited with a heart. Now declarer cashed all the hearts, to find that West began life with two hearts, as well as six spades and four diamonds, and thus only a singleton club. In the four-card ending South needs to find West with a bare eight or nine of clubs — the bare queen or jack is not enough (*IBPA Editor*: I don't agree. A top club honour might fell West's queen or jack and then the next club can be ducked to endplay East.) North must lead the ten of clubs to pin West's nine of clubs, East must cover, and South ducks, forcing East to lead a club in the three-card ending, and to give declarer the rest.

IBPA Editor: If South could start the clubs from hand he could simply cover West's singleton. As he has to start them from dummy, he must guess whether West's singleton is an honour or a middle card.

A danish dreamer

By Otto "Charles" Pedersen (Denmark)

Sebastian Kristensen (28) from Denmark is a very talented young player, who started to play bridge only 2½ years ago. Sebastian hopes to be able to finish his studies in The United States, and his big dream is to become a professional bridgeplayer in The States. Here is a deal from a recent tournament.

Dealer: West ♠ A Q 10 8
 N/S Game ♥ 9 5 4
 ♦ K Q 5 4 3
 ♣ 10

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

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|--------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| | <i>Jan Nielsen</i> | | <i>Sebastian Kristensen</i> |
| INT | Pass | Pass | 2♥ |
| Pass | 4♥ | All Pass | |

INT = 15-17; 2♥ = Hearts and minor

West led ♠3. Kristensen won with ♠Q, and led ♣10 overtaking with ♣Q to West's ace. West continued a spade to dummy's ace, and ♦K was covered by the ace and

ruffed in hand. South knew the remaining highcardpoints were in West. It looked as if he was going to lose 3 trump-tricks, but he did not give up.

South ruffed a club-winner in dummy, cashed the top diamond, pitching a spade from hand, ruffed a spade, ruffed another club-winner and ruffed a diamond in hand.

The position:

| | | |
|---------|--------|--------|
| | ♠ 10 | |
| | ♥ 9 | |
| | ♦ 5 4 | |
| | ♣ None | |
| ♠ None | | ♠ None |
| ♥ A Q J | | ♥ 7 2 |
| ♦ None | | ♦ 10 9 |
| ♣ 5 | | ♣ None |
| | ♠ None | |
| | ♥ K 10 | |
| | ♦ None | |
| | ♣ K J | |

A third club-winner was ruffed with ♥9, removing West last exit card ♣5! South could play any card from dummy pitching a club. West had to ruff and lead away from his ♥AQ.

This was a very nice declarer's play. Kristensen's dream might come true.

IBPA Editor: Note that declarer made *no* club tricks. His tally was seven trumps, two spades and a diamond.

Geir at the Wheel

By Jan Martel (USA)

Warming up for the Spingold in Toronto, Geir Helgemo picked up Vul vs not 10xxx, KJ, AKQ973, J. His RHO opened a weak 2♠, which normally showed a 6 card suit. Geir overcalled 3♦, LHO raised to 3♠, Geir's partner made a responsive double, Geir bid 5♦ and everyone passed.

Here's the whole hand:

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

Against Helgemo's Five Diamonds, the ♣A was led, RHO played a low club (discouraging or an odd number) and LHO shifted to the ♠9 to dummy's stiff ace. Geir read the hand perfectly – six spades on his right, 5 clubs to the AK on his left. With diamonds 3-2, he had 9 top tricks and a spade ruff for 10. He couldn't ruff a second spade, since LHO, who almost certainly had only two spades, would probably have at least one of the J and ten of diamonds, so he could ruff the third spade in front of dummy and play a trump. But as long as Geir could lose a trick, he had all the ingredients for a double squeeze for his eleventh trick: Once he'd ruffed a spade in dummy, RHO would have the only spade guard. If he could give up a club and ruff a club, LHO would have the only club guard. Both opponents would have to discard down to 2 hearts and dummy could take a trick with a small heart.

So, after winning ♠A, Geir played the ♣7 and pitched a spade (notice that it wouldn't have mattered if

RHO had covered and won the club). He won the diamond return in hand, ruffed a spade, ruffed a club, and ran diamonds. Sure enough, at trick ten, as he played his last diamond, the hand looked like this:

| | | |
|----------|---------|-------|
| | ♠ — | |
| | ♥ A 8 6 | |
| | ♦ — | |
| | ♣ Q | |
| ♠ — | | ♠ Q J |
| ♥ 10 9 5 | | ♥ Q x |
| ♦ — | | ♦ — |
| ♣ K | | ♣ — |
| | ♠ 10 | |
| | ♥ K J | |
| | ♦ x | |
| | ♣ — | |

LHO had to discard a heart to hold his club King, dummy discarded the ♣Q, and Geir could play K, A of hearts, knowing that they were 2-2 and the 8 would take the last trick. Well played!

The Dick Cummings Collection

Edited by Denis Howard (Australia)

Ron Klinger sends two of his own columns dedicated to former columns by Dick Cummings, who died in 1999. Both are excerpts from a book of Cummings' columns edited by Denis Howard, former WBF President.

Weekend Australian 15 September 2001

Cover all but the South cards on Deal #1. North opens one club, you respond one heart, West overcalls one spade and partner bids two spades. East passes and it is your move.

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Dealer: North | ♠ J 4 2 |
| Love all | ♥ K 4 2 |
| | ♦ A K 7 |
| | ♣ A K Q 2 |
| ♠ A Q 10 9 7 | ♠ K |
| ♥ 9 5 | ♥ J 10 8 7 |
| ♦ Q J 10 | ♦ 9 8 6 5 |
| ♣ 6 4 3 | ♣ J 10 9 5 |
| | ♠ 8 6 5 3 |
| | ♥ A Q 6 3 |
| | ♦ 4 3 2 |
| | ♣ 8 7 |

With no stopper in spades and no second suit, you are stuck for a rebid. The least of evils is three hearts. Partner raises to four hearts and West leads the diamond queen. Plan the play.

A quick count reveals eight top winners. Even hearts 3-3 leaves you one trick short. The only plan that might bring in ten tricks is to score two ruffs in hand. You will need West to hold at most two hearts and fewer

than four clubs.

Win the diamond ace, cash the heart ace and heart queen, followed by three top clubs, discarding a diamond. Ruff the fourth club, cross to the diamond king and ruff the third diamond. If you have survived to this point, you are home, with the heart king your tenth trick.

On Deal #2, cover the East-West cards. You are in 6NT, no opposition bidding, and West leads a low club. Dummy's jack holds the trick. Plan the play.

| | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Dealer: South | ♠ K J 8 |
| Game All | ♥ K J 10 7 |
| | ♦ J 9 6 4 |
| | ♣ J 9 |
| ♠ Q 6 2 | ♠ 5 4 3 |
| ♥ Q 9 2 | ♥ 8 6 5 4 3 |
| ♦ 10 2 | ♦ 7 5 3 |
| ♣ K 8 6 4 2 | ♣ 5 3 |
| | ♠ A 10 9 7 |
| | ♥ A |
| | ♦ A K Q 8 |
| | ♣ A Q 10 7 |

After trick one, you have ten tricks on top and a successful guess in spades will bring in two more tricks. However, if you misguess spades, you may fail with the club king almost certainly offside. Can you improve on the spade guess?

Declarer, Bas Tammens of the Netherlands, played a heart to the ace at trick two and followed with the diamond ace, diamond king and a diamond to the jack. Next came the heart king, discarding the diamond

queen, and the heart jack, discarding the club queen! This set up the heart ten for the eleventh trick.

West won and, with only black cards left, was forced to give declarer the extra trick needed, no matter which suit he led. Note that even if West had a fourth heart, declarer could still succeed via a spade guess or a squeeze.

Impressed? If not yet, perhaps you will be when you learn that Tammens was fourteen years old when he made that 6NT.

The Australian Jewish News 20th September 2001

Thursday the Rabbi Played Bridge

“Rabbi, how can you have congregants laugh during the Shabbat morning service?” “Nu?”

“Tell them a joke on Friday night.”

“Perhaps, Rabbi, something like the personal ad, ‘Jewish male, successful, smart, independent, self-made. Looking for girl whose father will hire me.’ “

Dealer: East ♠ 2
 N/S Game ♥ Q J 8 7
 ♦ 8 7
 ♣ J 10 9 8 5 2

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

♠ Q 10 9 3
 ♥ K 9 4 3 2
 ♦ J 10 6
 ♣ A

| West | North | East | South |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| <i>Rabbi</i> | <i>Norman</i> | <i>Ernest</i> | <i>Sam</i> |
| | | 1♣ | Dble |
| 1♦ | 1♥ | 3♦ | Pass |
| 5♦ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

Lead: ♠2

When Ernest did not introduce the spades, because of Sam’s double, the Rabbi took the 3♦ rebid to deny a spade suit. With nothing in hearts, the Rabbi settled for 5♦.

The lead was the ♠2. ‘That looks to be a singleton,’ thought the Rabbi, as he played low from dummy and captured Sam’s ♠9 with the ace. All followed to the ♦K and ♦Q and a diamond to the ace drew the last trump, Norman discarding a club.

‘What now?’ wondered the Rabbi. He took stock. ‘Sam began with three diamonds to the jack, and four

spades to the queen, it seems. We have 26 points between us. That leaves 14 for them. Norman must have a few points for the 1♥ bid and so Sam has made a very weak takeout double, maybe on just 9 or 10 points. In that case, Sam will have good shape to justify the double. Since Sam will have length in hearts, the good shape must be a singleton club. As his values will include the ♣A, it should be ace singleton.’

The Rabbi continued with the ♣3, ♣8 from Norman, but the Rabbi played low from dummy. His reward came when the ♣A came tumbling down.

Sam exited with a low heart to dummy’s ace. When the ♣K and ♣Q were cashed, this was the position:

| | |
|---------|---------|
| ♠ — | ♠ — |
| ♥ Q J 7 | ♥ K J 6 |
| ♦ — | ♥ — |
| ♣ J 10 | ♦ 9 |
| ♠ 8 7 4 | ♣ 7 |
| ♥ 10 | |
| ♦ 5 | |
| ♣ — | |

♠ Q 10 3
 ♥ K 9
 ♦ —
 ♣ —

The ♣7 was led. Sam discarded the ♦9, else the Rabbi could simply set up an extra spade trick, and the Rabbi ruffed. Next came the ♥10, ruffed in dummy. With Sam down to just ♠Q-10-3, the Rabbi led the ♠6 from dummy. Sam won but had to give the last two tricks to dummy.

“As usual, the Rabbi has the last laugh.”

This outstanding declarer play was produced by Victorian expert Ian McCance at the 1993 Gold Coast Congress.

The deal comes from a new book, ‘The Cummings Collection’ edited by Denis Howard. This features the best of the late Dick Cummings’ bridge columns and is a worthy addition to any bridge library. Copies are available for \$20 from the editor, D.W. Howard, 18 Shirley Road, Roseville, NSW 2069 or from The Bridge Shop, tel (02) 9967 0644 or from Paul Lavings Post Free Books, (02) 9388 8861.

The book was launched by ABF President, Keith McDonald at a new national championship, the Dick Cummings Pairs, held at the Hakoah Club, Bondi.

... Postbag (continued from page 16)

Dealer: South ♠ J
 Game All ♥ K 2
 ♦ A J 8 7 6 4 3
 ♣ 7 6 3

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

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| | ♠ 10 8 4 ♥ J 9 6 3 ♦ Q ♣ A K J 5 4 | | |
|--|---|--|--|

| West | North | East | South |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <i>Rick</i> | <i>Keith</i> | <i>Paul</i> | <i>Gordon</i> |
| <i>Delogu</i> | <i>Balcombe</i> | <i>Thurston</i> | <i>Campbell</i> |
| | | | INT(i) |
| 2♠ | 2NT | 4♠ | All Pass |
| (i) | 12-14 balanced | | |

Balcombe led the ace of diamonds and switched fiendishly to the ♥2. Delogu understandably rose with the ace and called for the ♦K. Imagine his shock when Gordon trumped in with the ♠8. Delogu overruffed and led a club towards dummy. Campbell cleverly won with the ace and returned a heart to Balcombe's king for the third trick. Balcome exited with the ♣6. Delogu ruffed in dummy and could still have succeeded by drawing one trump, ruffing a club in dummy and cashing the ♥Q to dispose of his last club. But he must have felt that North had the ♣J for he continued with a diamond ruff to hand, a club ruff in dummy, another diamond ruff to hand and his last club which Balcombe ruffed with the jack of spades.

* *Tim Bourke says:* "The Bridge Magicians: Spellbinding Plays From The Polish Stars" by Mark Horton and Radoslaw Kielbasinski is a splendid collection of declarer plays, well described by the title. They are grouped by player, twenty-five in all, in alphabetical order of surname. The first is perhaps the greatest of them all, Cezary Balicki, and the last is his long-time partner, the truly formidable Adam Zmudzinski.

(Paperback, Master Point Press, 247 pages \$17.95)

The book was launched in Warsaw the day after the attacks on New York and Washington. Mark Horton reports:

There are no obvious reasons why one country should produce so many brilliant players but it is perhaps significant that bridge has been recognised as a sport in Poland since the mid 1960's and they now have

one of the best schools programmes in Europe.

The promotional evening, hosted by CAIB, was a great success. Several of the Polish stars featured in the book were present and they took the opportunity to get in a little practice.

This hand caught my eye – you can try it as a problem. It features two World Champions, Wojtek Siwiec the NPC of the Polish Open Team and :

Dealer: West ♠ K Q J 5
 Love all ♥ A 5
 ♦ A J 7 4 2
 ♣ A 5

| | |
|--|--|
| ♠ A 10 9 4 ♥ K Q 10 9 4 ♦ Q 9 ♣ 7 4 | ♠ 8 7 2 ♥ 6 2 ♦ 10 8 6 ♣ K 10 9 8 2 |
|--|--|

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

| West | North | East | South |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <i>Latala</i> | <i>Siwiec</i> | <i>Kwiecien</i> | <i>Tuszynski</i> |
| 1♥ | Dble | Pass | INT |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

West leads the king of hearts and declarer wins with the ace as East plays the six, and plays on spades. West ducks the king, takes the queen with the ace and returns the ten of spades to dummy's jack.

It does not look difficult to arrive at nine tricks from here but when Tuszynski played a diamond to the king, West followed with the queen.

Now it looks as if declarer can only score three diamond tricks, but if West is 4-6-1-2 and also has the king of clubs, not unlikely in view of his opening bid, there is still a way to get home. Two rounds of clubs are followed by two top diamonds. Then West can be thrown in to present declarer with a ninth trick in hearts.

Tuszynski saw this line and took the club finesse. Alas, it lost to the king and East had a heart to return, giving the defence two spades, two hearts and a club.

West's brilliant deceptive play of the queen of diamonds earned a rich reward for Slawomir, who had just returned from the EBL Director course where he was promoted to the 'A' list. Perhaps this hand will earn him a different kind of award.

* *Ron Klinger reports* from his column of 1st September a Mollo-esque deal:

The 2001 Open Teams was won by New South Wales (Matthew McManus - Tony Nunn, Theo Antoff - Al Simpson, Ishmael Del'Monte - Kieran Dyke, Michael Prescott npc). They won the final by 199-140 against South Australia (Attilio DeLuca - David Lusk, Paul Hudson - John Zollo, Peter Chan- Roger Januszke, Phil Gue npc). From the start of the second round-robin these two teams dominated the qualifying stage.

Dyke is a top class young player who has won several national titles over the past decade. On this deal from Stage 3 of the Butler Trials, he brought in a seemingly impossible three spade contract.

Dealer: South ♠ 9 7 4
 Game all ♥ 8 4
 ♦ J 10 8 4
 ♣ K Q 6 2

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

♠ A K J 10 3
 ♥ J 9 7
 ♦ 9 7 5 2
 ♣ A

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| | | | 1♠ |
| 2♥ | 2♠ | 3♥ | 3♠ |
| All Pass | | | |

Against South's 3♠, West began with three rounds of hearts. Dyke ruffed the third heart in dummy and ran the spade to West's queen. Unsure of the minor suit position West exited with a trump.

As declarer has three diamond losers, the contract would seem to be two down. How did Dyke escape this fate?

He played off all his trumps and East had to make three discards. Concerned that South might have ace-another in clubs, East shed three diamonds, coming down to the bare ace. Dyke now led a diamond, felling the queen and ace in one swoop. He thus made three diamond tricks (!) and his contract. With a datum of North-South minus 100, Dyke's +140 was worth 6 Imps.

* *Marc Fiset of Quebec, in a communication in French too long to publish in full, says, if your Editor's translation and precis is correct:*

that in winter 2000 a petition signed by more than 1700 bridge-players invited the Canadian Bridge Federation to conduct a feasibility study into setting up an organisation independent of the ACBL. Citing reasons such as better value for money; more control over their own affairs, and the need to have independent control of selecting Canadian teams for any Olympic event; Fiset says the CBF launched the study, called Bridge Canada Chez Nous. It should be completed by January 2002. The study was led by Ray Lee, President of the CBF. For more details see:

http://www.cbf.ca/ChezNous/index_fr.html

The site is bilingual and, wishing to open a constructive debate on the matter, invites your comments.

An excerpt of Fiset's letter:

À l'hiver 2000, Cartes sur table a fait circuler une pétition demandant à la Fédération canadienne de bridge (CBF) de réaliser une étude de faisabilité en vue de créer au Canada une fédération qui soit indépendante de l'ACBL. Plus de 1700 bridgeurs ont signé la pétition. C'est en partie grâce à cette pétition que les directeurs de la CBF ont décidé en mai dernier d'aller de l'avant avec ce projet qui se nomme Bridge Canada Chez Nous.

Le projet d'étude a été approuvé par le Conseil des Directeurs de la CBF lors de la réunion du mois de mai 2001.

Nous espérons terminer nos recherches et remettre nos recommandations au Conseil des directeurs de la CBF en janvier 2002.

Nous désirons ouvrir un dialogue constructif sur le projet.

Voici l'adresse du site :

http://www.cbf.ca/ChezNous/index_fr.html

Je vous invite donc à le consulter et surtout à faire connaître votre opinion. Les Québécois ont massivement demandé ce projet, nous avons toujours besoin de votre appui.

* *Jude Goodwin-Hanson of Great Bridge Links (Canada) says Great Bridge Links features a Holiday Shopping Page for Card Players. Merchants, booksellers, and shop-owners around the world may be found on the page with links and holiday specials.*

<http://www.greatbridgelinks.com/Xmas>

* *Marty Bergen reports*: unfortunately, because of a variety of reasons, "Marty Sez" books have been delayed at the printer. They are now "expected" to be shipped from the printer on Sept. 26, which means I should have them some time in October. Sorry about that.

The good news is that I have a Special Offer for Teachers, etc. until the end of the year with huge discounts on my self-published books. All other books are available. Free shipping in U.S., reduced shipping in other countries.

Tel: +1 800 386-7432

or E-mail: mbergen@mindspring.com

Discounts range from 25% for purchases under \$30 to 50% for orders over \$400.

Address: 9 River Chase Terrace, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418-6817, USA

* *Rui Marques reports*: the Figueira's Casino, located at Figueira da Foz, near Coimbra, in Portugal, is organizing its 9th Festival, 24-25 (teams) and 26-28 (pairs) October 2001. Prizes are interesting (first place about 3500 Euros) and the location is very nice. Please find more info at the hyperlink below.

<http://www.geocities.com/tirosport/festfig.htm>

* *David Rex-Taylor writes (address supplied to Editor)* Illhealth has forced me to give up Bibliagora (*IBPA Ed: his publishing and book company*) and all other work. It is with huge regret that I am forced to resign as Executive Editor of IBPA after all these years.

My mail is being forwarded (IBPA Ed: so he still gets to see the Bulletin.)

I have truly enjoyed working with you and shall greatly miss the IBPA and everyone I knew and worked with.

In a later letter David adds:

Many thanks for your kind wishes for my retirement and health in the current Bulletin – this is much appreciated. I joined the IBPA in 1966, so have been a member for 35 years, since the days when Rhoda Lederer was the Editor. May I wish you continued success with your Editorship and other activities.

SICILY OPEN

International Bridge

Cefalù (Palermo)

Costa Verde Hotel

2001, Nov. 28th /Dec. 2nd

Open Pairs

Total prizes: Italian Lire 35.000.000

1st prize Italian Lire 3.200.000

Wednesday, November 28th, 2001:

h. 9,00 p.m.: 1th session

Thursday, November 29th, 2001:

h. 3,00 p.m.: 2nd session

h. 9,00 p.m.: 3rd session

Entry fees:

Italian Lire 60.000 per player

Italian Lire 50.000 for Junior players

Open Teams

Danish System – 14 rounds=112 boards.

Total prizes: Italian Lire 60.750.000

1st prize Italian Lire 5.000.000

Fri, Nov 30th & Sat 1st Dec, 2001:

Sunday, December 2nd, 2001:

h. 10,00 a.m.: 2 rounds of 8 boards each

h. 1,00 p.m.: *prize-giving*

Entry fees: Italian Lire 500.000= per Team
(max 6 players)

Hotel accommodation:

Costa Verde Hotel

Full board p.p. in double room per day:

Italian Lire 105.000

1/2 board p.p. in double room per day:

Italian Lire 95.000

Supplement for single room per day:

Italian Lire 30.000

Drinks (during meals), taxes and services inclusive.

Information and booking through:

BORZI'VIAGGI – Via Serradifalco 2c –

Palermo – Tel. **39-91-225511 Fax: **39-91-6820269

ALBOR organization: <http://www.infcom.it/albor>

e-mail: albor@infcom.it

POINTS FROM THE POSTBAG

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

LETTERS . . .

Email: patrickjourdain@compuserve.com (or 100430.2021@compuserve.com)

* *The Portugese Bridge Federation reports* that for the first time the new overall leader of the Portuguese bridge players ranking is a woman. Sofia Pessoa, aged 39, who only started playing bridge in 1990, has had a very fast rise in the Portuguese bridge world, and is for the 2001/2002 season the new number one.

J. Chaves Rosa of the Portugese BF asks whether this has been the case in any other Federation. Contact:

np43je@mail.telepac.pt

LIDIA BEECH 1950-2001

Tim Bourke reports:

Lidia Beech of the Australian Ladies bridge team has died aged 51 after a 57 month battle with breast cancer.

Lidia was my wife's (Margaret Bourke) bridge partner from 1974, representing Australia in 1988 and 1993 through 2000. She was a multiple winner of every Australian Women's title, a great person and a wonderful medical practitioner.

She is survived by three children.

Tim Bourke adds:

Lidia played under the pseudonym of "shifty" on OKB, her son Trevor's little joke when he set up her account.

David Bird wrote up this OKB hand of hers recently.

Dealer: South ♠ —
 Love all ♥ 7 2
 ♦ A K J 10 8 4 3
 ♣ Q 9 7 2

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

♠ K 9 6
 ♥ A Q J
 ♦ Q 7 6 5
 ♣ A 6 3

| West | North | East | South |
|------|---------------|----------|--------------|
| | <i>Bourke</i> | | <i>Beech</i> |
| | | | 1♦ |
| 2♠ | 6♦ | All Pass | |

The deal arose on OK Bridge, one of several Internet systems that allow you to play bridge online. It features Australia's top ladies pair: Lidia Beech and Margaret Bourke. Many players would have bid the North hand more scientifically, starting with a cue-bid in spades. It is equally good, on such a freak hand, to blast straight into the slam. This way you give little information to the defenders. How would you play 6D when West leads the nine of hearts to your jack? A discard from dummy on the third heart is worthless and it seems that the slam may depend on finding West with the club king. Beech set out to play the deal on elimination lines, giving her a chance when East had started with a doubleton king of clubs. She ruffed a spade at Trick 2, led the jack of trumps to her queen, and ruffed a second spade with the ace. A trump to the seven drew the defenders' last trump and permitted a third spade ruff, eliminating that suit. Beech cashed the ace of hearts and ruffed the heart queen. This suit, too, had now been eliminated. Finally she played the ace of clubs and a club to the queen.

East won with the king (oh no!) but had started with only two clubs (yes!) He was forced to give a ruff-and-discard and away went South's club loser. Twelve tricks resulted.

* *Barry Rigal & Sue Picus have a new address:*

22 West 26th Street, Apt 8E
 NY NY 10010, USA
 Tel: 1-212-366-4799
 Fax: 1-212-366 4780

e-mail unchanged: barryrigal@mindspring.com

* *Allan Simon reports that* The 2001 Canadian Team Championship which also served as a qualifier for the 2002 Commonwealth games exhibition tournament in Manchester was won by a four-player team of Judy and Nick Gartaganis, Gordon Campbell and Keith Balcombe. They defeated Paul Thurston-Rick Delogu, IamMcKinnon-Andy Altay, Gloria Silverman-Michael Roche in the finals. THURSTON had actually taken a 3 IMP lead with two boards to go. This was the deciding deal:

In the other room, Nick and Judy bid and made 4♠. In the Closed Room:

.../continued on page 13