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THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

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This Bulletin is published monthly and circulated to around 400 members of the International Bridge Press Association comprising the world's leading journalists, authors and editors of news, books and articles about contract bridge, with an estimated readership of some 200 million people who enjoy the most widely played of all card games.

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Editorial

The opinions expressed here are solely those of the Editor, and do not necessarily represent those of the IBPA Executive or its members.

Carryover is a characteristic of some events with more than one stage and those contested over more than one day. In an event such as the ACBL's Blue Ribbon Pairs or Reisinger Teams, good play on the qualifying days is rewarded with carryover to the subsequent days. So far, so good.

Some World Championships also feature carryover, notably the just-concluded World Junior Team Championship. There, the Conditions of Contest stated that the winner of the Round Robin portion (18 teams, all-play-all) would choose its opponent for the semifinal match and would receive $\frac{1}{2}$ of the IMPs of its margin of victory (to a maximum of 16 for the 64-board match). If, unusually, it chose a team it lost to in the Round Robin, the carryover for that team would only be $\frac{1}{3}$ of the margin of victory. Poland had close matches against USA1 and Canada, but had beaten France by more than the maximum to obtain the 16-IMP carryover, so chose France as its semifinal opponent. USA1 and Canada were left to battle for the other spot in the final, with USA1 having a 16-IMP carryover.

Suppose for a moment that Poland had chosen USA1, for whatever reason. In that case, Canada would have started with a 16-IMP carryover against France, having beaten them handily in the Round Robin. It does not seem reasonable that 32 IMPs in the other semifinal match should swing on the first-place team's choice of opponent.

Really, the Round Robin portion of an event like the WJTC can be considered a separate event from the Knockout portion. The goals are different in each case. Supposing you have three pairs; you want to rest your top pair enough in the Round Robin so that they are in top form in the Knockouts. Your goal is to qualify. In the Knockouts, your goal is simply to win the current match so that you can proceed to the next, and you'll juggle your lineup accordingly. There are many examples in which the 'third pair' has not played at all in the Knockout stage of World Championships, notably some of Italy's Bermuda Bowl teams and Germany's Venice Cup teams.

Well, you say, but what about sportsmanlike dumping if you take away carryover? One of the reasons for carryover is to ensure that each team plays its hardest against all comers. No problem – we are not suggesting doing away with carryover altogether, simply basing carryover on overall performance, not just the result of one match. So, for example, in the 2005 WJTC, Poland would have 15 IMPs carryover, France 10, USA1 5 and Canada 0. Poland would thus start 5 IMPs ahead of France. That would be the performance carryover formula in its simplest form. You could generate a more complex formula that takes into account the margin in Victory Points between first and second, second and third, and third and fourth.

In an event where eight teams qualify, the increments from the simple formula might be 2 IMPs. With either of these formulae, carryover could even be introduced across sections.

If the idea of total performance-based carryover is unappealing to you, rewarding as it would, matches against lower-ranked as well as higher-ranked teams, you could eliminate the results against the lower-ranked teams from the calculation, or work out some weighted combination of rank and performance.

Almost any reasonable formula would be an improvement over what we have now, even eliminating carryover altogether. After all, the WBF does not have carryover to the semifinal or final stages of its flagship pairs event, the World Open Pairs Championship, where the argument for carryover is much stronger.

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2nd European Open Championships (2)

(From the Daily Bulletins edited by Mark Horton. Except where otherwise noted, the material is Horton's. Some further editing has taken place. Article begun last month.)

The weather was still warm and sunny, and the bridge was heating up...

The Sandbin for Sandqvist

Peter Ventura

This nicely played hand comes from the second session of the Mixed Pairs Semifinal A. North opens one spade and South shows support in spades later in the auction. How many tricks as East would you make in four hearts when South leads the ace of spades then switches to the nine of diamonds?

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

Well, one can hope the diamond honours will be well-placed in North's hand. In that case a second finesse in diamonds provides the tenth trick. Shall we agree on ten tricks?

Nicklas Sandqvist, the Swede who, quite some years ago, flew away from all the good-looking Swedish girls to a better climate (?) in England, was the only one in the field to make eleven tricks. This was the full layout:

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

♠ A 9 2
♥ 9 8 6 3
♦ 9 7 4
♣ J 7 3

West	North	East	South
Dhondy		Sandqvist	
—	1 ♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	2 ♠ ¹	Double
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

When South switched to the nine of diamonds at trick two, North played the jack and Nicklas won the queen. Next came a club to the ace and a successful diamond finesse. The ace and king of trumps exposed the bad trump break. Nicklas changed tack and continued with a diamond to the ace then the king of spades and a spade ruff. This was the ending:

2

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

A club followed - and North was thrown in. He had only spades left to play for a ruff and a discard. This brilliant performance contributed to a sixth place for Dhondy/Sandqvist at the end of the Semifinals.

Mixed Teams Final

The Mixed Teams Final was played between Erichsen, a Norwegian team of three couples: Erichsen, Helness and Brogeland, and the Goldberg team from Sweden, consisting of Lars and Ulla Goldberg and Efraimsson/Svedlund.

The Norwegians took a big early lead, which at one point amounted to 39-6, mainly due to this board:

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Goldberg	Brogeland	Goldberg	Brogeland
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♣	3 ♥
Pass	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

Shrewd tactics by Boye Brogeland paid rich dividends: he passed three hearts as he was certain his screen-mate would carry on with three spades; three clubs had been a Bergen raise. When the auction went as he had been hoping, he bid his intended four hearts and even enjoyed the pleasure of being doubled. If you guess well in both red suits you might make six, but one overtrick was still worth a fine plus 990.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Erichsen	Efraimsson	Erichsen	Svedlund
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

When Svedlund did not consider her hand worth an overcall, the bidding ended rather prematurely. When the defence failed to cash their diamond tricks, Erichsen even made his contract for another plus 110 and 15 IMPs to the Norwegians.

Open Teams Qualifying

This was the deal that swung the match between Lavazza and Panahpour.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

	♠ 9 6		
	♥ 9 8 7 6 5 3 2		
	♦ 3		
	♣ A 10 6		
♠ K 2		♠ A Q J 5	
♥ K		♥ Q J	
♦ K 10 8 6 5 4 2		♦ A 9	
♣ 8 5 3		♣ Q J 9 7 4	
	♠ 10 8 7 4 3		
	♥ A 10 4		
	♦ Q J 7		
	♣ K 2		
West	North	East	South
Robson	Bocchi	Zia	Duboin
Pass	Pass	1 ♣	Pass
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	2 ♥	Double	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Naturally, having bid hearts, Bocchi did not lead them; instead he advanced his spade nine, and Robson had been given a temporary reprieve. He won dummy's queen and played diamonds from the top.

Alas for him when Duboin took the third round of diamonds he found the key defensive move of continuing with a second spade. Robson had to win this in hand and now needed to cash some of his diamonds or the defence would still have time to set up hearts.

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

After four rounds of diamonds, Robson sensibly played for the club ten to be doubleton and cashed another diamond to pitch a club from dummy then played on clubs, which led to one down.

Had Robson instead played on clubs, by leading to the nine in the above ending, Duboin would have taken the king and cleared hearts while declarer still had only eight tricks.

Open Teams Round of 16 KO

Dumbovich v Allix

Jos Jacobs

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Dumbovich	Mauberquez	Winkler	Allix
—	1 ♠	1 NT	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

One no trump certainly would not have been everybody's choice holding only one spade stopper, but it paved the way for the Hungarians to reach a hair-raising contract that required very good declarer play as well as a slice of luck.

South led the club queen. When Dumbovich won this with his ace, the club suit was blocked. Next came a heart to the jack, the ace of hearts (thank you) and the heart nine back to hand for the diamond finesse. When this worked, declarer knew he would either get four diamond tricks (if the king had been tripleton originally) or he would need an endplay, throwing North in with the diamond king.

So he crossed to his last trump in hand, using the carefully preserved four of hearts, and took another diamond finesse. When the king did not fall under the ace in the third round of the suit, he followed with the fourth diamond from dummy, North winning his king. As he was known to have started with five spades, it was a certainty that North would have only one top club to cash before being forced to open up the spades. Very well played for a deserved 620 to Dumbovich.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Frey	Szalay	Bessis	Lakatos
—	1 ♠	Double	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

The Français Standard auction did not work well here. Both the double and the two heart bid are straightforward actions, but as each player held a little bit in reserve, the thin, but certainly playable, game was missed. Declarer even made eleven tricks but, unfortunately had to accept a loss of 9 IMPs.

Open Teams Round of 16
Orange 1 v Zimmermann

Jos Jacobs

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

♠ 8 3
♥ 8 7 2
♦ Q J 6 4 3 2
♣ Q 3

♠ J 9 6
♥ 5 4 3
♦ 7 5
♣ A K 8 7 5

♠ Q 10 7
♥ A K Q J 6
♦ K 9
♣ 10 9 2

♠ A K 5 4 2
♥ 10 9
♦ A 10 8
♣ J 6 4

West	North	East	South
Saporta	Bertens	Zimmermann	Bakkeren
Jansma	Fantoni	Verhees	Nunes
Pass	Pass	1 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

The bidding was simple at both tables, but the declarer play made a difference of nine tricks! Nunes in the Closed Room led a top spade and continued with a low spade won by Verhees. To him a successful double finesse in clubs looked like the best chance. When this lost to Fantoni's queen, a diamond came back, so the defenders had three more spades and six diamonds for an unusual down seven. Zimmermann plus 350.

Bakkeren in the Open Room led a low spade, won by Zimmermann, who proceeded to cash his hearts, awaiting developments. Right he was, as South was well and truly squeezed. He first discarded his two low diamonds but he had no good discard on the last heart. If he throws a spade, declarer can play a low diamond from hand felling the ace and thus establishing the diamond king as his ninth trick. If he throws a club, as he in fact did, dummy's long suit will produce five more tricks. So Zimmermann scored a magnificent and maybe a little unexpected plus 460 and 13 IMPs as well.

The hand is actually a beauty. South can discard in many ways, but East always has an answer. If, for example, South holds on to two diamonds and thus discards one more spade, he can be thrown in with the third club to cash his spades and present declarer with his ninth trick as he has to give him the king of diamonds. There are many more variations, of course.

Board 27. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

♠ Q J 9 6 4
♥ K J 7 3
♦ A 6
♣ K Q

♠ A K 10 8
♥ Q 6
♦ Q 7 5 3 2
♣ 7 5

♠ 7 5
♥ A 10 9 8 4
♦ K 9
♣ A 10 9 6

♠ 3 2
♥ 5 2
♦ J 10 8 4
♣ J 8 4 3 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nunes	De Wijs	Fantoni	Muller
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Another quiet part score and plus 110 to Zimmermann. In the other room, the Dutch were very enterprising. As 11 HCP represents an opening bid for them and as an opening bid plus an opening bid means the partnership should end up in game, this was their auction:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Quantin	Verhees	Multon
—	—	—	Pass
1 ♦	1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

If you bid like this, you have to play well, and Jansma rose to the occasion to bring home his contract in a very elegant way. He won the spade queen lead with the ace and immediately advanced the heart queen. This happens to be the technically correct way to tackle the suit and this time too, it worked. Quantin did not cover, so next came a heart to the ten, the ace of hearts and a heart to North's king.

Quantin could already feel an endplay coming, and he did his best by playing the queen of clubs! When Jansma immediately won the ace and led the ten of clubs back, Quantin was once again on lead. With only spades and diamonds left, he elected to cash the ace of diamonds and play another diamond rather than lead a spade into declarer's spade tenace. Close analysis reveals, however, that a spade was the only way to set the contract.

On the other hand, Jansma could have made sure of his contract by leading the six of clubs rather than the ten after winning the club ace! But that was far from obvious, and it's fair to say that Jansma did very well, gaining a 7 IMP swing for his team.

Bridge, Zia...and You!

Peter Ventura

Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

♠ Q 5
♥ A 9 4
♦ 9 8 5 2
♣ K 7 6 4

♠ A K 10 6
♥ J 6 2
♦ K 10
♣ A Q 9 8

♠ 9 4
♥ Q 8 7 5
♦ A J 6 4
♣ 5 3 2

♠ J 8 7 3 2
♥ K 10 3
♦ Q 7 3
♣ J 10

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Robson	Kampmann	Zia	Auken
1 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Schaltz	King	Christiansen	Panahpour
1 ♣ ¹	Pass	1 ♦ ²	Pass
1 ♥ ³	Pass	1 ♠ ⁴	Pass
2 NT ⁵	Pass	3 ♣ ⁶	Pass
3 ♦ ⁷	Pass	3 ♠ ⁸	Pass
3 NT ⁹	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Strong, artificial, forcing
2. 6-9 HCP
3. Relay
4. GF with hearts
5. Balanced
6. Puppet Stayman
7. One or two majors
8. Four hearts?
9. No

Robson opened one no trump and was left to play there; East-West plus 150. In the Closed Room Schaltz/Christiansen kept the artificial engine running once again.

North led a club to the jack and declarer's queen. Schaltz played the jack of hearts from hand and as North erred by declining to win the trick, South won the king. Back came the club ten to declarer's ace then another club was won by North, who exited in the same suit to Schaltz' winning eight of clubs. Now Schaltz was in a good position, and he played a heart up towards dummy. North hopped up with the ace and then played another heart leaving this position:

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

On the thirteenth heart the squeeze works and Schaltz read the position well; East-West plus 430 and well-deserved 7 IMPs to Auken.

Zia's Problem

If Zia comes into the office you know you are going to get something special. Take a look at this deal.

Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

You are East, trying to make six diamonds after the following auction:

West	North	East	South
Robson	Kampmann	Zia	Auken
—	—	—	Pass
1 ♣	1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥	Double
Redouble	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♣	Double	Redouble	Pass
5 ♥	Pass	6 ♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South leads the eight of clubs. Plan the play.

You need to find North with the doubleton king of diamonds and if you might be tempted to win the first club, cross to dummy with a spade, play a diamond to the jack and cash the ace of diamonds. When the king falls you play a club, but North wins and plays a third club to ensure that South scores a trick with the ten of diamonds.

Zia saw this in a flash and found the only counter. He simply ducked the club lead! Now he could win the club return, cross to the queen of spades, finesse in diamonds, cash the ace, dropping the king, draw the last trump and ruff a club. That way he has just enough entries to establish the fifth club as a parking place for his losing spade. This was the layout he was playing for:

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

Well, did you match the master's play?

Cronier's Problem

Philippe Cronier gave us the following declarer play problem. The solution is very intriguing.

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

As West you open one no trump at favourable vulnerability, and after an overcall showing hearts by North you reach three no trump and are treated to a heart lead. You put up the jack (well played!) and it holds, South playing the ten. Having started well, you now have to decide whether to play on spades or clubs. You can decide for yourself of course, but once you've made up your mind, I'll tell you which is the better idea, since spades are five-one and clubs three-three.

Well, that was a big clue, of course. So you will have to decide how to advance the play yourself after that!

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

This is the full story, and I imagine most declarers who decided to play on clubs led to the queen and ace. Now a diamond shift sets the contract (an honour is best, but even a low one is good enough if South reads the position; though not if West puts up dummy's ten!). The point is that declarer cannot keep South off lead in clubs - which will always be the case if South has the jack.

However, declarer is cold for his contract if he assumes from the auction that North must hold the ace of clubs, a very logical assumption. Instead of leading a club to the queen, duck the first club altogether!

Now you duck two diamonds and win the third, then lead the club queen from hand. If North takes his ace, the rest is easy, but if North ducks, what could be easier than overtaking the queen of clubs with the king and clearing the suit - truly an idiosyncratic approach to playing the club honours, but the only way to succeed.

The Journalist's Story

You know how it is, you are hoping to enjoy your dinner at the end of a busy day when someone thrusts a piece of paper in front of you and asks some question you don't really have the least interest in answering. Still, it would be impolite to refuse, especially when your inquisitor offers to buy you a drink. So, take a look at this problem from the Open Pairs Semifinal, Session 2.

Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Guarino	Isporski	Carpentieri	Kovachev
3 ♠	Pass	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Since four diamonds would have shown the red suits, South took a shot at five diamonds. West led the five of spades to the nine and East won with the ace and returned the queen

of hearts. You ruff and cross to dummy with a diamond, East following with the ten. Your plan?

The spades must be seven-one, and it looks as if diamonds are three-one. That leaves West with either two hearts and one club, or vice-versa. Declarer considered the former to be more likely as it looked as if the ace of hearts was with West. So he played a club to the queen, crossed to the other top diamond, ruffed a heart, drew the last trump and played a spade towards the dummy. This was the full deal:

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

West could win, but then had to play a spade, giving declarer access to dummy and the two winners it contained. Notice that declarer did not need the heart trick once the jack of clubs had fallen under the queen.

The statistical information on this deal revealed that eleven declarers had made five diamonds, the other ten on the less challenging lead of the jack of clubs - declarer can win, cross to a diamond, ruff a heart, cross to a diamond, ruff another heart, draw the last trump and play a spade to the ten. Notice that this would be a winning line even if the ace of hearts is with East - the secret is to remove East's exit cards.

Going back to the play where the spade was led, note that if East switches to a diamond declarer can no longer make the contract as a vital entry has been removed.

Well, for once maybe it was not so bad to have your dinner disturbed - what do you think?

(Medal winners in all events can be found in August's issue.)

Online Transmissions		
Sep 8-10	Brazilian Championship	BBO
Sep 10	Black Jack KO Teams, USA	BBO
Sep 12-18	Bank Indonesia Governor's Cup	BBO
Sep 14-15	Pula Festival, Croatia	BBO
Sep 23	NZ Inter-Provincial Teams	BBO
Sep 23-25	Polish 1st Division	BBO
Sep 24-25	Prince Takamatsu Cup, Japan	BBO
Sep 24-25	Hecht Cup, Copenhagen	BBO
Oct 8-9	Netbridge Cup Finals, Denmark	Swan
Oct 13-16	EBL Champions' Cup	Swan
Oct 15-16	Lederer Memorial, London	BBO
Oct 22-Nov 5	WBF World Championships	BBO/ Swan
Oct 29-30	Danish Club Teams	Swan
Nov 26-27	Swedish 1st Division Finals	Swan
Dec 16-18	Pairs GP of Poland	BBO
Jan 21-22	Bergen Grand Pairs, Norway	BBO

IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

(Members may use these deals as they wish, without attributing either the author or the IBPA.)

Something a little different this month: try your hand at solving these intercontinental quiz problems. The first three are from our Wednesday Swiss Teams; the last is from the recent Spingold. As the game is IMP teams, overtricks are immaterial in all of the problems.

The Problems

325. Dealer North. Both Vul.

♠ 7 6 4
♥ A K J 6 5 3
♦ 5
♣ 8 4 3

♠ J 10 9 2
♥ 8 4
♦ A K 7 4
♣ A K 2

West	North	East	South
—	2 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3NT ¹	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Promises at least ♥AKJ

West leads the queen of diamonds. How do you propose to make nine tricks?

326. Dealer West. NS Vul.

♠ 6 5
♥ K 10 6
♦ Q 10 8 7 6
♣ A Q 3

♠ K J 8
♥ A 8 7 5 3 2
♦ —
♣ 10 8 6 5

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
1 ♠	Double ¹	2 ♠	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 3-card heart support

West leads the four of clubs and dummy's queen wins the trick. You cash the king of trumps and West plays the jack. What now?

327. (a.) Dealer East. Both Vul.

You, West, hold:

♠ A K 3 2
♥ A
♦ 10 8 2
♣ K J 8 7 3

and the auction proceeds...

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1 ♠
2 ♣	Double	4 ♣ ¹	Pass
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
??			

1. Preemptive

Suppose you pass. What do you lead?

327. (b.) Suppose you decide to lead the king of trumps and see this dummy:

♠ Q 10 8
♥ K J 9 8
♦ J 9 7 3
♣ A 5

♠ A K 3 2
♥ A
♦ 10 8 2
♣ K J 8 7 3

What do you do next?

328. Dealer East. Both Vul.

♠ 9 8 4
♥ J 9 4
♦ A 7 3
♣ K Q 10 5

♠ A 6 5 2
♥ A Q 7 6 5 2
♦ K 8
♣ 4

West	North	East	South
—	—	1 ♦	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

West leads the nine of diamonds. Plan the play.

The Results

325.

♠ 7 6 4
♥ A K J 6 5 3
♦ 5
♣ 8 4 3

♠ A 8 3
♥ 10 9 7 2
♦ Q J 10 6
♣ J 10

♠ K Q 5
♥ Q
♦ 9 8 3 2
♣ Q 9 7 6 5

♠ J 10 9 2
♥ 8 4
♦ A K 7 4
♣ A K 2

You have six winners and need another three heart tricks to make your contract. If you had an outside entry to dummy, the best play in hearts would be to cash the ace, hoping to drop a singleton queen, and to finesse the jack on the next round of hearts. Without any side-suit winner in the North hand, this play will produce three rather than five heart tricks on the above layout.

To make five tricks from the heart suit here, you must duck the first round of hearts completely. As East wins the first heart with his queen and the ace-king-jack are still intact, the heart suit now runs for five tricks. The same would be true if it West happened to have the singleton queen of hearts.

If the queen of hearts doesn't appear on the first round you should cash the ace and king of hearts next, hoping that the suit is 3-2. As a result of managing the heart suit in this way, the overall chance of success is nearly three times in four.

326.

<p>♠ 6 5 ♥ K 10 6 ♦ Q 10 8 7 6 ♣ A Q 3</p> <p>♠ A 10 9 4 3 ♥ J ♦ K 5 3 ♣ K 9 4 2</p>	<p>♠ Q 7 2 ♥ Q 9 4 ♦ A J 9 4 2 ♣ J 7</p>
<p>♠ K J 8 ♥ A 8 7 5 3 2 ♦ — ♣ 10 8 6 5</p>	

As you need a spade trick should lead a spade to the jack next, hoping that East has the queen of spades. West would surely have led a spade if he did not have the ace rather than a speculative club. Here West wins the ace and plays a second club. (If he was able to lead a trump, trumps would be 2-2 and you would have ten tricks.) You win the ace, cash the king of spades and ruff a spade then lead a club. No matter how East plays, declarer can ruff a club for his tenth trick. All the defence scores is a spade, a trump and a club.

327.

<p>♠ Q 10 8 ♥ K J 9 8 ♦ J 9 7 3 ♣ A 5</p> <p>♠ A K 3 2 ♥ A ♦ 10 8 2 ♣ K J 8 7 3</p>	<p>♠ 5 ♥ Q 10 7 5 4 2 ♦ 6 4 ♣ 10 9 6 2</p>
<p>♠ J 9 7 6 4 ♥ 6 3 ♦ A K Q 5 ♣ Q 4</p>	

A quick, unrepresentative, poll of a few experts suggested that West's best option over one spade was to pass as the club suit is poor and there seems to be little upside for an overcall of two clubs, or even one no trump, particularly as partner is a passed hand.

At the table, West chose to overcall two clubs and continue on to five clubs, which was doubled. On a spade lead, West was able to throw a diamond from dummy on a top spade. However, when West lead a diamond at trick three South won and led the four of trumps. Even though West took the correct view in trumps, playing low from hand, North played ace and another trump to hold West to nine tricks.

I'm not certain that everyone would find the winning defence on this hand. West must cash the major suit aces and exit

with a trump or a diamond, which leaves declarer a trick short. If West shifts to a club at trick two, declarer's club loser disappears. Continuing with ace and another trump is no better for declarer wins, then crosses to hand with a diamond to draw the last trump. Then, after cashing his diamond winners, ending in hand, he leads a heart. As this is a five-card ending and West has only his clubs left, declarer must make the queen of clubs for his tenth trick.

So, the value of West's decision to sacrifice depends entirely on whether he would have found this difficult defence.

328. Sydney Or the Bush

Since the 'bush' in Australia is a euphemism for wild country and Sydney is one of our most cosmopolitan cities, the American equivalent of this article's Australian title would be 'go for broke'. I faced such a dilemma on this hand from the Spingold:

<p>♠ 10 7 3 ♥ K 10 8 3 ♦ 9 2 ♣ J 8 7 2</p>	<p>♠ 9 8 4 ♥ J 9 4 ♦ A 7 3 ♣ K Q 10 5</p> <p>♠ K Q J ♥ — ♦ Q J 10 6 5 4 ♣ A 9 6 3</p> <p>♠ A 6 5 2 ♥ A Q 7 6 5 2 ♦ K 8 ♣ 4</p>
--	--

West led the nine of diamonds which I took in hand with by my king. As West surely had the four missing trumps, my only chance was that the full deal was similar to this.

So at trick two I led a club to the ten. On this layout I would always make ten tricks. Suppose East took the ten with the ace and returned the king of spades. The simplest plan is to duck, win the next spade then cross to dummy with the ace of diamonds to play the two club winners, discarding spades from hand. Then a heart to the ace and heart towards dummy forces West to win his king of trumps and play a black card. Declarer ruffs, leads a heart to the jack and, as West's opening lead suggested a doubleton in diamonds, he crosses back to hand by ruffing the remaining black-suit card in dummy. The queen of hearts draws West's last trump and the seven of hearts is South's tenth trick.

This is a nice story, but in practice I didn't see Sydney for East had the jack of clubs. Well, the 'outback' has its merits too.

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We need to have your correct e-mail address to send you the Bulletin codes each month.

Biarritz 2005

Hervé Pacault, Bordeaux

For this twentieth edition, le Festival International de Bridge de Biarritz became the number one French tournament (passing Juan-les-Pins and Deauville) in terms of attendance in the three main events: Open Pairs (310 pairs), Mixed Pairs (242 pairs) and Teams (126 teams).

More than a thousand participants from 23 nations contesting five events from June 28 until July 10 (IMP Pairs and Individual as well as the three mentioned earlier) is the identity card of the Biarritz Festival. Now Tomasz Przybora and Norberto Bocchi have something else in common in addition to their World Champion titles: they have each won le Grand Prix de la Ville de Biarritz three times.

The Open Pairs was won by Przybora and Marek Symanowski (Poland); the Mixed by Nathalie Frey and Michel Bessis (Paris); the IMP Pairs by Jean le Podeur and Marc Mus (Montpellier); the Teams by Mesdames Pessoa and Rosado and Messieurs Antunes, Castanheira, Pereira and Santos (Portugal); and the Individual by Jean-Luc Aroix (Bordeaux).

The next edition of the Festival will be held from 30 June to 10 July, 2006. Information and results can be found at www.biarritz-bridge.com.

Sophie Dauvergne, who finished third in the Open Pairs partnering Vanessa Reess, is the Director of Baragnon Bridge Club in Toulouse. She made this pretty grand slam:

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

<p>♠ A 10 6 ♥ A 10 3 ♦ 9 6 5 4 ♣ Q 10 2</p> <p>♠ J 3 2 ♥ K Q J 9 7 5 ♦ Q 7 2 ♣ 4</p> <p>♠ K 7 ♥ 8 ♦ A K 10 ♣ A K J 9 7 5 3</p>	<p>♠ Q 9 8 5 4 ♥ 6 4 2 ♦ J 8 3 ♣ 8 6</p>
--	--

West	North	East	South
2 ♥ ¹	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	2 NT ²	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♠ ³	Pass	7 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Weak 2
2. 8+ HCP
3. 2 key cards plus the trump queen

Being able to count 12 tricks on top, South bid the grand slam, hoping for an extra value in the dummy. When West led the heart king, she quickly discarded the potential solution of the double finesse in diamonds in favour of the squeeze possibilities if West held the missing heart honours as seemed quite likely.

She began by winning the ace and ruffing a heart., then pulling trumps, discarding diamonds from the dummy. On

the second-last trump, West was squeezed in three suits. In order to keep the heart queen, he had to decide whether to unguard the queen of diamonds or the jack of spades. He chose, naturally, to discard the spade two. This was the position before the last trump was played:

<p>♠ J 3 ♥ Q ♦ Q 7 2 ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ A 10 6 ♥ 10 ♦ 9 6 ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ Q 9 8 ♥ — ♦ J 8 3 ♣ —</p>
<p>♠ K 7 ♥ — ♦ A K 10 ♣ 3</p>		

On the club three, West jettisoned the spade three, North the now unneeded diamond six and East the diamond three. When South then cashed the spade king and ace, West was squeezed between hearts and diamonds. The ten of diamonds took the thirteenth trick.

Of note is that the discard of a diamond on the next-to-last trump changes nothing. West must either unguard spades on the last trump or expose his partner to a diamond finesse when his queen falls under the first high honour. Bien joué!

Une Amuse

Fritz Babsch, Vienna

This amusing deal is from the Team Tournament in Loiben.

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

<p>♠ 4 ♥ K Q J 8 6 5 3 ♦ 8 7 5 ♣ 6 3</p> <p>♠ K J 10 9 7 6 3 2 ♥ — ♦ A 9 4 ♣ 8 5</p>	<p>♠ A Q 8 5 ♥ 10 2 ♦ K Q 10 6 3 ♣ Q 2</p>
--	--

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
—	Pass	1 ♠	2 ♣
4 NT	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♥
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	7 ♥
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
—	3 ♥	pass	5 ♥
5 ♠	6 ♥	6 ♠	7 ♥
Pass	Pass	7 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South had a clear case for bidding seven clubs rather than seven hearts, but then there would have been no story. As it was...

Open Room: Lead: ♠A ... plus 1770 for North-South
 Closed Room: Lead: ♥K ... plus 1510 for East-West

This was 22 IMPs for a Dutch team. Had the Austrian team found better leads, it would have gained 9 IMPs instead.

The Teams (81 teams) was won by ALIZEE (Morten Andersen, Doris Fischer, Bernd Saurer, Josef Simon).

Mixed Pairs (165 Pairs)

1. S. Spangenberg / B. Daemen (NL)

2. Adele Gogoman / Lindermann

Miss Spangenberg is 17, Miss Gogoman 20.

Open Pairs (176 Pairs)

1. Jan Fucik / Hubert Obermair

2. Andreas Babsch / Renate Hansen

Doris Fischer was Miss Loiben, Bert Daemen (NL) Mister Loiben (for best performance in Mixed, Teams and Pairs).



2005 PABF Championships Missed Chances at Brilliance

Teng-Yuan Liang, Tainan, Taiwan

Open Series. RRI. Chinese Taipei v. China.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

♠ A 10 6

♥ A Q 4

♦ 10 6 3

♣ Q J 3 2

♠ Q J 5 2

♥ 9 7

♦ A K J

♣ 10 9 8 4

♠ 7 4 3

♥ 10 8 6 3 2

♦ 9 5 2

♣ A 7

♠ K 9 8

♥ K J 5

♦ Q 8 7 4

♣ K 6 5

West	North	East	South
--	1 ♣	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

In the open room, West started with a very favourable spade deuce lead to South. Declarer, our hero countryman with more than a dozen PABF titles, won dummy's ten. He then led a low diamond from dummy. When East followed with the five, South inserted the queen, which was topped by the king.

West continued spades and declarer took this trick in hand. A club to the four, queen and ace; the defenders persisted with spades. At this time, the primary chance relied on an even club break. But South could get an extra edge, if he ran hearts first. On the actual layout, West just owned too many things to keep. A club discard was surely fatal. But a spade or diamond discard did no better - declarer could safely establish a diamond trick.

This type of squeeze is called the "unlucky dog" squeeze in our country, for the victim has his dog's day just because he owns too many assets.

This seems easy, right? However, it was missed by South. He tried clubs first and went two down. Maybe he had another plan: try clubs, then turn to establish diamonds, depending on all the diamond honors and short clubs being with East. But it's against the odds.

Zone 6 Bermuda Bowl 2nd Berth Playoff. Chinese Taipei v. Japan. Round 1.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

♠ 10 8

♥ 10 2

♦ A 10 9 5 2

♣ A 10 7 2

♠ Q 6 3 2

♥ 9 7 5 3

♦ Q J 8 7

♣ 6

♠ K 7 5 4

♥ Q J 8

♦ K 3

♣ J 8 5 3

♠ A J 9

♥ A K 6 4

♦ 6 4

♣ K Q 9 4

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

At the table, West led the heart five (third/fifth). Dummy's ten was covered by the jack, and South ducked. East continued with the heart queen; South took this trick, West producing the three. Declarer played a low diamond to the seven, nine, and king - a heart was returned to South's ace.

Declarer, our same representative, played the club king and collected the six from the left and the three from the right. Then he guessed right to lead a low club to ace, but found himself in entry trouble. At this point, declarer played the spade ten from dummy, depending solely on East's owning two spade honours or erroneously covering the ten. No luck here. One down.

However, had he thought deeper, he might have figured out the solution. Before playing spades, just run all the clubs. In order to keep his good heart, West has only four seats left for diamonds and spades. If West keeps three spades and a diamond, South can lead a diamond to the ace to remove West's safe exit card. Then a spade from dummy will end-play West (for the less appealing West 5=4=3=1 hand type). Or on the actual layout, dummy's diamonds are high.

If instead West keeps two spades and two diamonds, South just pops a low spade from hand. Now he won't need two

entries to lead spades. This is the end-position as the last club is played:

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

By the way, if South decided to guard against long clubs with East at trick one, he should not play a diamond at trick two. In that case, if East returns another diamond at trick three, dummy's vital entry is prematurely knocked out. Thus the squeeze is disrupted.



Brian Senior, Nottingham
Peter Ventura, Stockholm

This nice end-play by Huseyin Gurcan Bakan of Turkey contributed to the Turkish team's success in their match against Poland in the Junior Series.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Anter	Buras	Bakan	Araskiewicz
—	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

For Poland, Konrad Araskiewicz made the normal lead of a low spade into the 15-17 no trump on his right and Bakan ran this to his queen then repeated the spade finesse and cashed the spade ace. Next he passed the club ten to South's jack and Araskiewicz was in difficulties.

He solved his problem by exiting with the king of diamonds to declarer's ace but the reprieve was only temporary. Bakan won the ace of diamonds and ruffed a diamond then led the

nine of clubs to the queen and ace. Next came the key play, a second diamond ruff. When Bakan now played the third club to Araskiewicz's king, South had only hearts left and had to lead up to declarer's king to give the contract. Very nicely played. The medal winners were...

Girls

Gold: Netherlands – Rosalien Barendregt, Astrid Dekker, Marlene van Gelder, Marion Michielson, Claudia van der Salm, Meike Wortel

Silver: Sweden – Cecelia Rimstedt, Sandra Rimstedt, Emma Sjöberg, Sara Sivelind

Bronze: Austria – Ursula Assman, Adele Gogoman, Anna Gogoman, Iris Grumm

Schools

Gold: Poland – Bartolomiej Iglą, Joanna Krawczyk, Artur Machno, Jan Sikora, Maciej Sikora, Artur Wasiuk

Silver: Israel – E. Assaraf, D. Padon, R. Schwartz, R. Segev, D. Tal, B. Tarnovski

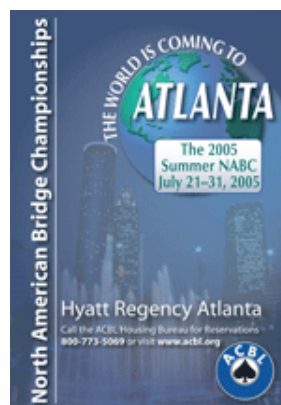
Bronze: Norway – Hakon Bogen, Harald Eide, Lars Arthur Johansen, Fredrik Simonsen, Erlend Skjetne

Juniors

Gold: Poland - Konrad Araskiewicz, Lucasz Brede, Krzysztof Buras, Jacek Kalita, Krzysztof Kotorowicz, Piotr Madry

Silver: Italy – Andrea Boldrini, Stelio DiBello, F. Ferrari, Fabio LoPresti, A. Sangiorgio, Matteo Sbarigia

Bronze: France – Olivier Bessis, Thomas Bessis, Nicolas Chauvelot, Julian Gaviard, Godefroy de Tessières, M. Thibault



From the Daily Bulletins edited by Brent Manley, Memphis TN & Karen Walker, Champaign IL. Contributions also by Barry Rigal, NYC

Summer NABC Atlanta, July 20-31, 2005

"Greed is a terrible thing ..."

Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥ ¹	Pass	2 ♠ ²	Pass
3 ♥ ³	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Puppet to 2 ♠ (hearts or balanced)
2. Forced
3. Hearts

Peter Fredin of Sweden is always quick to tell a tale on himself. On this deal from the first semi-final session of the Life Master Pairs, he turned 100 percent of the match points into zero in one fell swoop.

North led his fourth-highest club to the nine, queen and ace, and Fredin had a choice of plays. He was only due to make ten tricks, but he guessed well to lead the heart nine from his hand, trying to force an entry to dummy. North gave the matter mature consideration and ducked, so Fredin overtook with the ten and had reached dummy at no cost.

Now, he ran the diamond queen, which held. He could have cashed out for 11 tricks, but he was sure that hearts were breaking 4-1 for North to duck the nine, so he repeated the diamond finesse. Disaster!

North ruffed the diamond and exited with a club, ruffed by Fredin. Now Fredin was back to ten tricks, and he wanted that eleventh trick back. He ran all his trumps to reach this ending:

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

Fredin cashed his ace of spades and South unblocked the queen. Fredin exited with the spade jack, hoping South held the king, or if not, the ten and the defence would now have to lead a diamond or give him the dummy. In either case, he would be back to 11 tricks.

No luck. North won the spade king and claimed – down one. Even worse, Fredin realized that he could have made 12 tricks after he won the heart ten at trick two. He could have taken the ruffing finesse in clubs, then drawn trumps and given up a diamond to South. That would allow East's club winner to take care of the spade loser.

The Immaterial Squeeze

Steve Bloom, South, played two spades doubled on this deal from the Swiss Teams (See *top of next column*.) The lead was the heart eight (third from even, lowest from odd). He ducked in dummy and won the ten, then tried to cash the diamond king and queen. West ruffed the second diamond and East followed with a suit-preference jack.

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	1 NT	2 ♠
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

West exited with a low heart, ruffed by East and over ruffed by Bloom. He now led the spade eight to West's jack. Back came another heart, ruffed with the spade nine and over-ruffed with the ten. Bloom now exited with another trump, won by West with the king. This was the ending:

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

West cashed the spade ace, Bloom pitched the club ten from dummy, and East was squeezed in a strange way. He chose to pitch a diamond. Now what was West to do? A heart lead would make dummy high, so he played the ace and nine of clubs, which East ducked ... and so did Bloom. West was now forced to lead a heart to the good dummy.

Had East overtaken his partner's nine of clubs with the jack or king, the defence would still have taken only one more club trick. Either way, East-West were limited to plus 100 for down one.

So why was the position an immaterial squeeze? In the other room, the North-South pair had agreed to play a two no trump overcall as the two lower unbid suits. When West opened a strong club, North overcalled two no trump to show (he thought) the red suits. South, however, interpreted this as showing the minors (since the one club bid was artificial), and he jumped all the way to five clubs, doubled and down 1400. So Steve's efforts to get out for down one instead of down two amounted to a gain of 16 IMPs instead of 15 IMPs ... an immaterial gain! (*The Polish Junior Team might disagree!*)

The Best Unknown Expert

The best unknown expert from the San Francisco Bay area – this is how Doug Dang was once referred to by some

players. Outside the bridge community, he's also known as the first-ever Asian-American District Attorney. He currently practices law, working part-time for the city of Oakland, CA, along with promoting his business endeavour: www.TownCrossing.com.

The last two years has seen Dang undergo four major surgeries, including a quintuple bypass and a resection of the colon. Currently, he's suffering from colon cancer and is undergoing chemotherapy treatments, but he's here playing in the Life Master Pairs and Spingold.

Dang has won well over 60 regional events and numerous sectionals. He also has several high finishes in NABC events to his credit. Bob Hamman said about Dang: "Even though Marshall Miles is the unquestioned leader in the highest number of slams bid off two aces, Doug is the leader in slams *made* off two aces. His tenacity has worked well and I expect it to continue for him throughout his career."

John Sutherlin, Dang's one-time regular partner, with whom he was fourth in the Open Board-a-Match Teams at the 1996 San Francisco NABC, provided this deal:

Dealer North. EW Vul.

♠ 7 5 4
 ♥ J 10 7 5 4 3 2
 ♦ 7
 ♣ Q 6

♠ 8
 ♥ A 9
 ♦ Q 8 3 2
 ♣ A J 10 9 8 5

♠ Q J 9 3 2
 ♥ 6
 ♦ A K 6 5
 ♣ K 7 4

♠ A K 10 6
 ♥ K Q 8
 ♦ J 10 9 4
 ♣ 3 2

West	North	East	South
—	3 ♥	Double	4 ♥
6 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Here's Dang in action in the first qualifying session of the Life Master Pairs. Sitting West, he was declarer in six clubs on the lead of the seven of diamonds. He looked at the lead and rightly deduced that diamonds were not breaking. He won the diamond queen in hand, led the eight of clubs to the king and guessed correctly by playing another club to the ace to pull all the trumps.

Now came the key play of the spade eight. At this point, it's possible to play North for a holding of ace- or king-third, but Dang guessed right again and let it ride to the ten. He won the heart return and tested the diamonds (getting the expected bad news), but he still had three entries to dummy to take ruffing finesses in spades. He finally set up the spade nine for a diamond discard and his twelfth trick.

True Confessions

Michael Rosenberg is a man you'd like to have at the helm in three no trump, right? Not according to him. In the first semifinal session of the Life Master Pairs, he earned himself a complete zero ... then came to the Daily Bulletin office to tell about it.

Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ Q 9 3
 ♥ A K 8
 ♦ Q 10
 ♣ A J 6 3 2

♠ A 6 5 2
 ♥ 10 6
 ♦ 9 6 3
 ♣ K Q 7 4

♠ J 10 8 7
 ♥ Q 7 4 2
 ♦ 7 5 4
 ♣ 9 5

♠ K 4
 ♥ J 9 5 3
 ♦ A K J 8 2
 ♣ 10 8

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♦
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East, Nader Hanna, led the jack of spades, covered by the king and ace, Nagy Kamel returning the deceptive spade six. Rosenberg, North, played the nine and East won the ten and exited with a spade to Rosenberg's queen. Rosenberg now ran the diamonds and came to this ending:

♠ —
 ♥ A K 8
 ♦ —
 ♣ A J

♠ 5
 ♥ 10 6
 ♦ —
 ♣ K Q

♠ 8
 ♥ Q 7 4
 ♦ —
 ♣ 9

♠ —
 ♥ J 9 5 3
 ♦ —
 ♣ 10

When led a club to his ace, Rosenberg knew West had the club honors. He exited with the club jack as East threw a heart. Kamel won the club but did not cash his good spade. Instead, he got off play with a heart!

Now Rosenberg 'knew' the spades were 5-3, and East would not have unguarded the heart queen, so he ducked the heart to East, who won and cashed his good spade. Down one!

A Sure Thing

Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ A K 10 7 6 2
 ♥ A K 10
 ♦ A 10 3
 ♣ Q

♠ 9 8 3
 ♥ 9 7 6 5
 ♦ —
 ♣ A K J 10 9 3

♠ Q 5
 ♥ 8 3
 ♦ 9 8 7 6 2
 ♣ 8 7 6 5

♠ J 4
 ♥ Q J 4 2
 ♦ K Q J 5 4
 ♣ 4 2

West	North	East	South
Roger	Marty	Garey	Sam
Bates	Hirschman	Hayden	Hirschman
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦
3 ♣	4 NT	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Sam Hirschman, South, successfully declared six diamonds in the Swiss Teams. After West, Roger Bates, had passed initially and then backed in with three clubs, Bates led two rounds of clubs to tap the dummy. Hirschman ruffed, cashed the diamond ace and ten, then the spade ace (unblocking the jack from his hand) and the heart ace. He next led the ten of hearts and overtook it with the jack to run the trumps. This was the ending:

	♠ K 10 7	
	♥ K	
	♦ —	
	♣ —	
♠ 9 8		♠ Q
♥ 9 7		♥ —
♦ —		♦ 9
♣ —		♣ 8 7
	♠ 4	
	♥ J 4	
	♦ J	
	♣ —	

When Hirschman cashed his last trump, West was squeezed. A heart discard would allow dummy to jettison the heart king to unblock the hearts. If West throws a spade, Hirschman would still pitch the heart king from dummy, then cash the heart jack. He could then safely lead to the spade king, since he would know that West, who is known to hold one more heart, has just one spade left.

The winners:

Grand National Teams: Chuck Burger, Perry Johnson, Howard Perlman, Michael Zerbini

College Championship: Yale – Jonathan Bittner, Christina Craige, Marc Glickman, Randall Rubenstein

Life Master Pairs: Pat McDevitt, Stephen Gladyszak

Senior Swiss Teams: Jerry Bare, Gene Freed, Jim Murphy, Mike Savage

Open Pairs: Nader Hanna, Nagy Kamel

Women's Knockout Teams: Daniela von Arnim, Sabine Auken, Lynn Baker, Lynn Deas, Beth Palmer, Kerri Sanborn

Open Pairs: Chris Willenken, Ralph Buchalter

Master Mixed Teams: Steve Beatty, Marty Fleischer, Petra Hamman, Peggy Kaplan, Hemant Lall, Rozanne Pollack

Spingold KO Teams: Russ Ekeblad, Fred Gitelman, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Brad Moss, Ronnie Rubin

Open Swiss Teams: Peter Bertheau, Fulvio Fantoni, Christal Henner-Welland, Mike Kamil, Claudio Nunes, Fredrik Nyström

From the Daily Bulletins edited by Brian Senior, Nottingham & Ron Klinger, Northbridge, NSW. Additional editorializing has taken place.



10th World Junior Team Championship, Sydney Olympic Park, August 7-17, 2005

Sports leagues are fond of naming a 'Most Valuable Player'; FIFA has its 'Footballer of the Year'. A case can be made for naming Joe Grue of USA I as 'Bridger of the Year' or, at the least, MVP of the 2005 World Junior Bridge Team Championships. See if you agree.

Following are two deals Grue declared during the Championship: the first was against Canada in the Round Robin, the second against Poland in the final.

Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Demuy	Grue	Wolpert	Kranyak
—	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	3 NT	Pass	4 ♠
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass
West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Grainger	Hurd	Lavee
—	1 ♠	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 NT	Pass	4 ♣
Double	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

There is an inescapable loser in each suit and so Demuy's double gained 2 IMPs for his side, right? Wrong! Grainger was given no chance to make his four spade contract when Hurd led the club jack to Wooldridge's ace and back came the nine of spades.

Grainger won the king, ruffed his club loser and played a second spade to the ace. Seeing that he had a spade to lose, he tried the diamond finesse and was one down for minus 50.

At the other table, Wolpert led a heart against four spades doubled and Demuy ducked it to Grue's nine. To trick two

Grue led the jack of spades (!) from hand, trusting that the spade had to be offside to justify Demuy's double. Had Wolpert gone in with his queen he could then have collected a heart ruff for down two, but he played low, not believing that anyone could play this way from Grue's actual holding. When the spade jack scored and West followed suit, Grue happily cashed the top spades and simply conceded one trick in each side-suit; a wonderful plus 590 and 12 IMPs to USAI.

USAI trailed Poland by 30 IMPs going into the last set of the final but had closed the gap to just 11 with nine boards to play. Then came another great (well, at least a winning) play from Grue.

Board 88. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Kalita	Hurd	Kotorowicz
1 NT	Pass	2 ♠ ¹	Pass
2 NT ²	Pass	3 ♣	3 ♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
1. Clubs			
2. Club fit			

West	North	East	South
Buras	Grue	Araskiewicz	Kranyak
1 ♣	Double	2 ♣	3 ♣
Double	4 ♥	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

At the first table Jacek Kalita won the spade lead and played on diamonds. Joel Wooldridge won the second round and played back the queen of spades. Kalita won and ran the diamonds. Wooldridge was squeezed and threw a heart, so Kalita had four hearts tricks and eleven in all; plus 460.

With hearts four-one, that looked like a good solid result for Poland, as even if USA bid the heart slam it rated to fail. Well, Grue and Kranyak did indeed bid to six hearts. Konrad Araskiewicz led a diamond to the ace and Krzysztof Buras switched to a spade. Grue won the ace of spades and led a low heart to the nine and queen. Then he led the heart eight off the table and, though Buras played smoothly, ran it!

It was plain sailing now; Grue led a third heart to hand, ruffed a club and crossed back to hand with a spade to draw the last trump and claim. That was a fantastic plus 980 and 11 IMPs to USAI, who were level midway through the final session. Eight boards later the teams were still dead

level and that meant eight extra boards to decide the World Youth Team Championship, but, whatever the outcome of those extra boards, without Joe Grue's fine effort on this deal Poland would have been champions already.

The medal winners:

Gold: USAI – Joe Grue, Ari Greenberg, John Hurd, John Kranyak, Julian Lall, Joel Wooldridge

Silver: POLAND – Konrad Araskiewicz, Krzysztof Buras, Jacek Kalita, Krzysztof Kotorowicz, Piotr Madry, Wojciech Strzemecki

Bronze: CANADA – Timothy Capes, Vincent Demuy, David Grainger, Charles Halasi, Daniel Lavee, Gavin Wolpert

On Newsstands Now

The September issue of Woman's Day magazine features an article about how doing what you love is good for you. The article refers to the University of California at Berkeley study that showed that playing bridge boosts the immune system.

World Wide Web Resources for Bridge Journalists

On-line Viewing

<http://www.bridgebase.com/>
<http://www.swangames.com/main/index.html>

Tournament Bulletins

<http://www.worldbridge.org/competitions/>
<http://www.eurobridge.org/index2.html>
<http://www.acbl.org/play/nabc3.html>
<http://www.pabf.org/competitionCorner.asp>
<http://www.bridgeplaza.com/>
<http://bridge.cplaza.ne.jp/necfest.html>
<http://www.thecavendish.com/>

Miscellaneous Information

<http://www.greatbridgelinks.com>
<http://www.ecatsbridge.com>
<http://www.math.aau.dk/~nwp/bridge/>

IBPA WEBSITE NOTICE

To access a Bulletin on the IBPA website, enter the website address www.IBPA.com, followed by a forward slash, then the Bulletin code, immediately followed by .pdf - this Bulletin, September 2005, will have code 488cd so you will need to key in:
www.IBPA.com/488cd.pdf

You can download a copy of the Handbook from www.ibpa.com (click on the link at the page bottom). When you try to open it will ask for a password, which is: **ihccaT** EXACTLY as it appears here.

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2005			
Sep 8-11	39 th Isle of Man Congress	Isle of Man, UK	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 10	International Pairs Tournament	Verona, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Sep 10-21	44 th International Bridge Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.crobridge.com/pula
Sep 12-18	Bank Indonesia Governor's Cup	Jakarta, Indonesia	arifinhl@dnet.net.id
Sep 14-18	21 st International Mersin Festival	Mersin, Turkey	www.mersinbsk.com
Sep 16-25	Guernsey Congress	Guernsey, Channel Islands	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 21-25	12 th International Tournament	Figueira da Foz, Portugal	www.lusobridge.com
Sep 24-31	National Congress	Hamilton, NZ	www.nzcba.co.nz
Sep 28-Oct 2	Festival Internazionale	Venice, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Sep 30-Oct 2	Vilnius Cup	Vilnius, Lithuania	www.bridge-verband.de
Oct 7-9	XXIV International Festival	Stara Zagora, Bulgaria	www.bgbridge.org
Oct 8	24° Torneo Internazionale di Lugano	Lugano, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Oct 11-15	14 th Sun, Sea & Slams	St. Michael, Barbados	www.cacbf.com
Oct 12-16	XXX Torneo Internacional	La Toja, Spain	www.aebridge.com
Oct 13-16	4 th European Champions Cup	Brussels, Belgium	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 15-16	Lederer Memorial	London, England	simonx@simonx.plus.com
Oct 21-27	3 rd FISU Championships	Tianjin, China	www.fisu.net
Oct 22-23	XII Torneo Internacional	Denia, Spain	www.aebridge.com
Oct 22-Nov 5	37 th World Team Championships	Estoril, Portugal	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 23-30	Bridge Festival El Rubicon	Lanzarote, Canary Is., Spain	ayanes@parcan.es
Oct 25-30	World Computer Championship	Estoril, Portugal	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 7-13	Fuengirola Open	Fuengirola, Spain	mariedahlberg@iafatours.com
Nov 7-13	8 th Madeira International Open	Madeira, Portugal	www.bridge-madeira.com
Nov 11-13	II Torneo Internacional	Madrid, Spain	www.aebridge.com
Nov 13-20	11 th Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	www.bridge.co.il
Nov 17-27	ACBL Fall NABC	Denver, CO	www.acbl.org
Nov 19-25	5 th International Bridge Festival	Cuba	www.cacbf.com
Nov 23-27	Sicily Open	Cefalù, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Nov 28&30	European Internet Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs in Europe	www.eurobridge.org
Dec 2-4	International Teams Tournament	Milan, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Dec 16-18	Junior Channel Trophy	Belgium	www.ebu.co.uk
Dec 27	Bridge Pro Tour	New York, NY	www.bridgeprotour.com
2006			
Jan 18-30	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	not@abf.com.au
Jan 21-28	Bermuda Regional	Southampton, Bermuda	www.acbl.org
Feb 6-12	11 th NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 6-13	EBU Overseas Congress	Luxor, Egypt	www.ebu.co.uk
Feb 17-20	25 th Icelandair Open Bridge Festival	Rejkyavik, Iceland	www.bridge.is
Feb 18-25	Gold Coast Congress	Surfer's Paradise, Australia	gcc@abf.com.au
Feb 25-26	White House Top Teams	Amsterdam, Netherlands	jvcleeff@xs4all.nl
Mar 7-12	Commonwealth Games	Melbourne, Australia	a.halmos@rmit.edu.au
Mar 17-19	Yeh Brothers Cup	Taipei, Taiwan	ckshenn@yahoo.com.tw
Mar 30-Apr 9	ACBL Spring NABC	Dallas, TX	www.acbl.org
Apr 11-16	111 th Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON	www.toronto-bridge.com
Apr 13-17	36 th International Festival	Jyväskylä, Finland	www.bridge-verband.de
Apr 18-23	21 st Estoril International Open	Estoril, Portugal	www.fpbridge.pt
May 24-25	Bonn Nations Cup	Bonn, Germany	g.mattsson@t-online.de
Jun 2&3	Worldwide Bridge Contest	Clubs Everywhere	anna@ecats.co.uk
Jun 9-24	8 th World Championships	Verona, Italy	www.worldbridge.org
Jun 30-Jul 2	6 th World Youth Pairs Championship	Piesztany, Slovakia	www.worldbridge.org
Jun 30-Jul 12	21 st International Festival	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Jul 1-8	New Zealand Nationals	Hamilton, NZ	fran@nzcba.co.nz
Jul 3-10	7 th World Junior Camp	Piesztany, Slovakia	www.worldbridge.org
Jul 8-16	Danish Bridge Festival	Vejle, Denmark	www.bridge.dk
Jul 13-23	ACBL Summer NABC	Chicago, IL	www.acbl.org
Aug 12-26	48 th European Team Championships	Warsaw, Poland	www.eurobridge.org
Oct 27&28	European Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs in Europe	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 23-Dec 3	ACBL Fall NABC	Honolulu, HI	www.acbl.org