

Daily



Bulletin

Houston, Texas

52nd Spring North American Bridge Championships

Editors: Brent Manley and Dave Smith

Astronaut splashes down at NABC

"I'm excited to be here," said astronaut and bridge player Greg Johnson.

Johnson presented the ACBL with a playing card, the ace of spades, that traveled with him for 6.6 millions miles. Last year at this time, Johnson was on the beginning of a 16-day journey through space. His ship, the STS-123 Endeavor, orbited the earth 250 times.

Astronauts are allowed to carry 10 personal items on shuttle flights. Johnson carried the usual pictures of his family, friends and parents, but he also selected the ace of spades from an official ACBL deck of cards to honor the organization "that has influenced me and been a big part of my life."

"I learned bridge from my parents," said Johnson. "Even though I play all kinds of games, I found that bridge has the highest level of competition. I just love the game."

Although he knew how to play from an early age, he didn't take bridge seriously until November of 1988 when a friend gave him a copy of the Bridge Bulletin. "I read it from cover to cover and found it fascinating," said Johnson. He was living in Lubbock TX at the time, and went to his first duplicate game in early 1989, and "I was hooked." He earned Life Master status in 2002.

On the space flight, Johnson was the pilot. A pilot is second-in-charge to the commander, similar to a co-pilot in a regular airplane. During ascent, the space craft is highly computerized so little pilot direction is needed. The reentry, however, is done manually, and Johnson flew the spacecraft part of the time. While in space, his crew built a robot for the space station. He directed the robotic arm that did some of the construction.

"I want to play bridge more," said Johnson, "but my job gets in the way. I hoped to play the entire time here, but there is another launch



Astronaut Greg Johnson (right) presents the ace of spades playing card and a certificate of authenticity to ACBL President Jerry Fleming and CEO Jay Baum. The playing card accompanied Johnson in space for 16 days.

scheduled some time this week, and if it goes as scheduled, I'll have to be on duty." Johnson won't be flying this time, but will help coordinate things at mission control.

There are three more scheduled flights and Johnson hopes to go once more, perhaps as commander this time. Johnson is a former fighter pilot and test pilot. "The space program is a dream of mine," he said.

Here are some tidbits from the astronaut:

- Johnson described the flight takeoff as "violent." Even though you prepare for years, it is harsher than you expect.
- Although he wanted to take a complete deck of cards, NASA counted that as 52 items. The limit was 10, so he settled on one card, the ace of spades.
- The view from space was "awesome," according to Johnson. "You can see Mount Everest. You can see China and Australia — it was incredible," he said.
- The space flight reentry was amazing. "The heat was 3000 degrees," said Johnson. "At first you slow down slowly from mach 20. You eventually slow to 'only' mach 5." Mach refers to the speed of sound.
- The ace of spades presented to ACBL was accompanied by a certificate of authenticity.

Top qualifiers closely bunched in Silodor Open

Chicago-area pair David Yang and Xiaodong Shi lead the Silodor Open Pairs. They have a carryover of 234.57 after scoring 62.54% in the afternoon and 60.75% in the evening session of qualifying play.

Close behind with 227.19 are Aubrey Strul, and Michael Becker. David Berkowitz and Larry Cohen lie in third with 217.66. Berkowitz and Cohen won the event in 2004 and 2006.

An additional five pairs have a carryover of more than 200. A total of 156 pairs qualified for today's final two sessions.

The winners of this event will have their names engraved on the Silodor Trophy named after Sidney Silodor, winner of the Bermuda Bowl, the McKenney Trophy and more than 30 North American championships.

Tribute to Grant Baze

Friends of the late Grant Baze gathered for a celebration of his life and his contributions to bridge late on Friday night. A full report on the event will be in the Sunday edition of the Daily Bulletin.

Lair elected to Hall of Fame

Mark Lair, one of America's top players and No. 4 on the all-time masterpoint list, has been elected to the ACBL Bridge Hall of Fame. Lair, who lives in the Amarillo suburb of Canyon TX, is a Grand Life Master with more than 52,000 masterpoints, 20 North American championships and more than 1000 regional victories. He is a World International Master in World Bridge Federation rankings.

A full-time player for decades, Lair was the only one of nine candidates this year who received at least 50% of the votes, required for election. Induction ceremonies will take place during the 2009 Summer NABC in Washington DC.



Eddie Wold, right, is interviewed by Channel 13 New Anchor Dave Ward for a report on the Spring NABC that will be aired on the ABC affiliate station Tuesday at 10 p.m. A short report on the tournament was shown Friday evening.

Goodwill message

Today is Junior Day, the day we celebrate — and salute — our Junior players.

These players, ages 25 and younger, are the future of the ACBL. Encourage them. Today's Junior player is tomorrow's Curtis Cheek.

Aileen Osofsky, Chairman
National Goodwill Committee



SPECIAL EVENTS

MEETINGS / SEMINARS / RECEPTIONS

Saturday, March 14

- 9 am - Noon **Bridge Teachers and Bridge Cruises Seminar.** Join instructor Sue Williams for great tips on being a successful teacher and bridge host on a cruise ship. Fee: \$25 at the door. *Meeting Room 327.*
- 9 am - Noon **ACBL Educational Foundation meeting.** *Meeting Room 331.*
- 9:30 am - Noon **ACBL Laws Commission meeting.** *Meeting Room 332.*
- 9:45 am - Noon Free Bridge Lesson with Jerry Helms. Helms, well-known teacher and Bridge Bulletin columnist, presents a fun bridge lesson for intermediate and newer players. His topic is "Jerryisms." *Lanier Ballroom GHI.*
- 10 am - Noon **ACBL Hall of Fame Committee meeting.** *Meeting Room 326.*
- 10:30 am - Noon **ACBLscore Seminar.** Join ACBL National Director Rick Beye for an informative seminar on the ACBLscore program. *Meeting Room 345.*
- 1 - 3 pm **Bridge Plus+.** Special game for new players. 14 boards, no card fee. *Lanier Ballroom GHI.*
- 5 - 7 pm **Junior Reception.** All Junior players are invited to attend. *Meeting Room 343.*

Sunday, March 15

- 9:45 am - Noon **Free Bridge Lesson** with Gary King.
- 10 am - Noon **Board of Governors/ACBL Membership Meeting.** This meeting is open to all members. *Lanier Ballroom A-F.*

- 10 am - Noon **Reception for Bridge Teachers of Junior Players.** Interested in teaching bridge to Juniors? Currently teaching Juniors? Meet officials of the School Bridge League and the ACBL Education Department staff to exchange ideas and find others interested in pursuing Junior bridge activities in their areas. *Meeting Room 343.*
- 10 am - Noon **Open Team Trials meeting.** *Meeting Room 331.*
- Noon - 5 pm **Happy Bridge.** Special game for new players. *Lanier Ballroom GHI.*
- 5 - 7 pm **Teaching Bridge to Young Students seminar.** Be among the first to take our new, free continuing education course in Houston. It will help you strengthen and grow your current school bridge program. Join Patty Tucker for a great seminar following the afternoon session. *Meeting Room 346.*
- 11 pm - 1 am **ACBL Patron Member Reception.** *Hilton Americas, Suite 21027.*

Monday, March 16

- 10 am - Noon **Competition and Conventions Committee meeting.** *Meeting Room 331.*
- 10:30 am - Noon **NABC Advisory Committee meeting.** *Meeting Room 326.*
- 11 am - Noon **Get Online with BridgeBase.com.** Don't miss this opportunity to meet with Fred Gitelman, creator of the ACBL's Learn to Play Bridge program. Get a guided tour of the Bridge Base web site and its outstanding teaching features. *Meeting Room 327.*
- 5 - 7 pm **Goodwill Reception.** *Meeting Room 343.*

CELEBRITY SPEAKER PROGRAM

Be sure to hear these free expert lectures in Houston.

Saturday, March 14

- 12:15 pm Harriette Buckman *Rule of 14*
- 6:45 pm Gary King *Making Close Decisions*

Sunday, March 15

- 12:15 pm Ken Monzingo *Hand Patterns*
- 6:45 pm Allan Mazer *Tell Your Partner Where to Go!*

Monday, March 16

- 12:15 pm Phillip Alder *Basic Defensive Signals*
- 6:45 pm Mike Flader *Ruling the Game*

Tuesday, March 17

- 12:15 pm Haig Tchamitch *Support Doubles*
- 6:45 pm Larry Cohen *Bidding Over Preempts*

LATE NIGHT/ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment will be provided in Lanier Ballroom J at 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 14

The Over-the-Hill Dixieland Jazz Band

Sunday, March 15

Hollywood Squares, with an all-star cast of bridge celebrities.

Food will be served nightly in the Lanier Ballroom pre-function area at 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 14

Hero sandwiched and chips

Sunday, March 15

Texas-sized cookies

Joann Glasson is Grand LM

Joann Glasson, one of the top players in the East, has topped 10,000 masterpoints and is now a Grand Life Master. The rank requires at least one North American championship or the equivalent in international competition.



Glasson, president of District 4, was on the winning squad in the Wagar Women's Knockout Teams in 1994 and the Women's Swiss Teams last year. The Pennington NJ resident also has a silver medal in the McConnell Cup, the women's team event contested at the World Bridge Championships. Her team finished second in the event in 1994.

Glasson is co-chair of the 2012 Summer NABC scheduled for Philadelphia. She was entertainment co-chair of the 1996 Spring NABC in Philadelphia.

She is married to her favorite bridge partner, Bob Glasson. They have four sons, four daughters-in-law and nine grandchildren.

Alan LeBendig has advanced past the 15,000 masterpoint mark. He is a Grand Life Master who won the Keohane North American Swiss Teams in 1993 and was second in the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs the same year. LeBendig served on the National Board of Directors for District 23 and chaired the Board of Governors. He is battling multiple sclerosis and lives in a nursing home, but still manages to play bridge almost daily.



New Life Master?

If you make Life Master or achieve a New LM rank during this tournament, don't forget to tell the Daily Bulletin about it in Room 339.

Special thanks

1. "Thank you to Baron Barclay Bridge Supply for sponsoring the Win a Bridge Library contest in the IntermediateNewcomer area."
2. "Thank you to Kronberg's Flags and Flagpoles for supplying and delivering the Texas State flag displayed on the 2nd floor."

Electronic devices banned in national events

The ACBL Board of Directors approved a comprehensive ban on electronic devices for all national level events, but not to regional or Intermediate Newcomer contests:

Electronic devices, excluding health related equipment, capable of sending or receiving communication, including but not limited to, headphones, earphones, cellular phones and minicomputers: (1) shall not be allowed in the playing areas, adjacent hallways, restrooms or accessible break areas; and (2) shall not be used during a session.

These restrictions shall apply to all pairs, team members, captains, coaches, recorders and kibitzers and shall apply throughout any actual playing session or segment.

A violation of this policy shall result in a disciplinary penalty of one full board (or 12 IMPs at that form of scoring) for the first offense. A second offense shall result in disqualification from the event for the pair/team.

Kibitzers violating this policy shall be removed from the playing area for the remainder of the session.

Participants will be reminded not to approach the playing area with a personal electronic device in their possession, even if the device is turned off.



JUST FOR NEW PLAYERS

Dear New Players: By Marti Ronemus

The statute of limitations must have kicked in by now. It has been 52 years.



Here's what happened. Picture a blazing summer afternoon. My three younger sisters and I had been banished from the house by our harried mother, told to stay on the property (we lived way out in the country on 25 acres) and forbidden back in the house until dinner. We were bored.

When we noticed a large hornet's nest in an upper eave of our freshly painted white barn, inspiration struck and we plotted ways to knock it down. We tried rocks, but we couldn't throw them high enough. Maybe balled-up wet socks would do the job. (Whoever came up with that deserves A+ for imagination if not common sense.) One sister spotted a left-over can of red paint from said barn's fresh, sparkly new trim. The plan came together. Soak the socks in red paint and heave.

We soon ran out of socks, so we sent Mary, the smallest and youngest, on a secret mission through a back window to gather more socks. While we never did knock the nest down (thank the Lord), we did create a lovely abstract montage on the barn, sacrificing a few dozen socks in the effort.

While time has mercifully erased most of the discussion my parents had with us that evening, one memory stands out after all these years: My inability to answer, "Why did you do it?" I remember struggling to explain that it had just seemed like a good idea at the time.

So why do I bring this up now, and what does it have to do with bridge? Because today's bridge problem we are going to examine is how to answer the unanswerable question, "Why did you do that?"

At one time or another, each of us has been asked that by a confused partner, and each of us has asked it ourselves.

Let me start by saying that this question, while common, is surely the most stupid of questions. (Those who contend there are no stupid

questions, take note.) "Well, I reviewed my options, and picked the one that would cause you the most grief?" Or how about, "I am in the mood to lose, and I thought this would be the quickest path." Or, "Today is my day to seek humiliation and embarrassment." Or, "I listened to the voices in my head, and this is what they told me to do."

No. There is only one possible answer to that question: "It seemed like a good idea at the time."

The *why* question should never be asked out loud, and certainly never asked of our partner. *But* we should ask it of ourselves in, to quote a poet, "that dark, still moment of the soul." Just why did it seem like a good idea? And what went wrong?

When you have an unexplained lapse, your most important thought should be to keep it in perspective. If this is the worst move you make all day, you can hit the sack a success. The fate of the free world doesn't hang in the balance.

Once you've done that, look at the hand records. Take some time and try to reconstruct your thought process (assuming you had one). What were the bids you had to choose from to describe your hand? What had the other bids been? Did you try to visualize each hand as it was bid? How did the bid you made compare to the hand you held?

And at last, the hard part... Can you analyze



what went wrong, what *should* have been your bid? (Can you do this without getting upset?) And finally, how will you recognize this pitfall when it occurs again (and again, and again). My contention is that there are only four mistakes in bridge, but we keep making them over and over, because they appear in different disguises. The successful emerging player is the one who is willing to undergo some soul-searching and recognize weaknesses. Often we can't overcome our weaknesses, but we can accept them and compensate for them.

Let me hear from you. Tell me about your disasters and successes. We can laugh together. mronemus@comcast.net.

Thinking bridge

By Eddie Kantar

Dlr: South	♠ J		
Vul: Both	♥ A K Q 3 2		
	♦ 9 8 5 4		
	♣ A Q 4		
♠ 9 4		♠ 10 8 5 3	
♥ 9 8		♥ J 10 7 5	
♦ A Q 3		♦ 7 6 2	
♣ J 10 9 7 3 2		♣ 8 6	
	♠ A K Q 7 6 2		
	♥ 6 4		
	♦ K J 10		
	♣ K 5		

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

Opening lead: ♠J.

Bidding commentary: South, with stoppers in the unids, decides 3NT is a more descriptive rebid than 3♠. After all, how can partner be expected to rebid 3NT lacking a minor-suit stopper? North clearly has enough to raise to 6NT facing a likely 17-18 high-card points. The six near-solid spades make up for the lack of

HCP. In any case, that is what South is planning to tell North if anything goes wrong!

Play commentary: As South, count your tricks! You have six likely spades, at least three hearts and three clubs for a grand total of 12. Am I good to you or what? Any problems? Yes, spades are blocked! A good declarer (you!) notices blocked suits. A suit is considered blocked if it cannot be run uninterruptedly. In this case, spades cannot be run uninterruptedly unless the ♠J is overtaken and the suit breaks 3-3

(36%). Don't hold your breath. What South needs is an outside entry to the spades. That entry is the ♣K. The first club must be won in dummy (key play), the ♠J cashed, the closed hand entered via the ♣K and the spades, hearts and the remaining club are all high for at least 12 tricks.

When a suit is blocked, conserving an outside entry to that suit is critical. If no side-suit entry exists, a risky overtake is the default solution.



Don't forget to register
The Intermediate-Newcomer section has its own Registration Desk. Sign up to get a goodie bag. IN Co-chair Sue Williams and Chair for Volunteers Carol Irvin are there to help you. The desk is in the center of the fourth floor lobby. The first Saturday and Sunday, the hours are 9:30 a.m. to 12:55 p.m. and 6:30 to 7:25 p.m. After that the hours are 11:55 a.m. to 12:55 p.m. and 6:30 to 7:25 p.m.



Need a partner? Try the partnership desk, located on the fourth floor. Partnership Co-chairs Terry Currie and Jolie Hess help Vinh Tran find a partner. The desk is open from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 7:25 p.m. Come at least 30 minutes early.



Walkin' tall: Lamy Agelidis, of Franklin TN, shoots Roly Gutierrez in pre-game entertainment Friday.

Reversing the Rabbi's Rule

By Mark Horton

Is anyone out there who does not know about the Rabbi's Rule? Here is an unusual example from the Silodor Pairs where it was a defender who took advantage of the situation:

Dlr: North ♠ 9 5 4
 Vul: None ♥ A Q 7 6 3
 ♦ J 10 5 2
 ♣ K

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

♠ J 10 6 3
 ♥ 5
 ♦ A 6 4 3
 ♣ Q J 7 4

West	North	East	South
	<i>Horton</i>		<i>Helman</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♥	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2NT	All Pass		

The Rabbi led the five of hearts and declarer put up dummy's king, which lost to the ace. To the human eye it looks obvious to switch to a diamond (although my finessing friend tells me that a spade is the best defense). I have a sneaking suspicion that a low diamond is the best shot but, just in case, I tried the jack of diamonds, covered by the king and ace.

The Rabbi returned the three of diamonds and with some foreboding I contributed the ten, which declarer won with the queen. He continued with a heart to the jack and I won with the queen.

Rather than play a diamond, I decided to reverse the Rabbi's Rule and tried the effect of playing the king of clubs.

When declarer ducked, I exited with a spade. Seeing no danger declarer now played a low club and the Rabbi was able to win with the jack and exit with a spade, locking declarer in dummy and ensuring one more trick for the defence.

Not a spectacular number of matchpoints for North-South, but the sort of average plus board you need to keep your score ticking along.

Straws in the wind

By Barry Rigal

Dlr: East ♠ A 10 8
 Vul: Both ♥ K Q 10 8
 ♦ J 9 4 3
 ♣ K J

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

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

On this deal from the Thursday afternoon pairs game, the auction at just about every table would have seen East having to choose between 1♣ and 1NT. You and I would say there was no choice – with reversing values, reversing pattern and a low doubleton in one suit, how could you not open 1♣?

Still, many Easts opened and closed the auction with a bid of 1NT.

Say South leads a low spade – the 5 – against that insalubrious contract. Declarer puts up the queen – his best legitimate shot in the suit. North covers with the ace and returns the 10. Whether or not North was planning to shift to a heart if the ♠10 held the trick, South takes no chances, overtaking with the ♠J, cashes the ♠K as declarer pitches a low heart, and continues with the ♠7. What should North pitch and why?

We can all see from looking at the entire deal that it is correct to pitch diamonds. But how does North know that East does not have a hand such as

♠6 4 ♥A 7 6 3 ♦A K 10 7 6 ♣A Q?

The answer lies in the order that South cashed his spades. He had to overtake and cash his other high honor at tricks two and three. Then he can play his other two cards in either order. Jack-king-3-7 shows club values, king-jack-7-3 shows hearts, and the other sequences should therefore show diamonds.

One more thing: Perhaps North should pitch a discouraging ♦3 and then the ♦J – suit preference for hearts. After all, if he throws two low diamonds, South might think a club shift was in order. Oops!

Convention card reminder

Each player is required to have a convention card filled out legibly and on the table throughout a session. Both cards of a partnership must be identical and include the first and last names of each member of the partnership.

If a director determines that neither player has a substantially completed card, the partnership may play only the Standard American Yellow Card and may use only standard carding. This restriction may be lifted only at the beginning of a subsequent round after convention cards have been properly prepared and approved by the director. Further, the partnership will receive a 1/6-board matchpoint penalty for each board played, commencing with the next round and continuing until the restriction is lifted. In IMP team games, penalties shall be at the discretion of the director.

If the director determines the partnership has at least one substantially completed convention card but has not fully complied with ACBL regulations, the director may give warnings or assign such penalties as he deems to be appropriate under the circumstances.

The objective of these warnings and penalties is the encouragement of full compliance with ACBL regulations.

Child Care

Child care is available daily from noon to 5 pm and 7 pm to midnight.

For more information, contact Donna Compton at the Hilton-Americas in Romm 12009.



Teaching Bridge to Young Students



Be among the first to take our new FREE continuing education course in Houston. It will help you strengthen and grow your current school bridge program. Join Patty Tucker for a great seminar following the afternoon session .

Date: Sunday, March 15 **Location:** Hilton Americas — Meeting Room 346 **Time:** between sessions

World Transnational Open Teams

Even if you didn't qualify in a team trials, you can play in the world championships scheduled this year for Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The World Transnational Open Teams will take place during the second week of the tournament, which runs from Aug. 29 to Sept. 12. The Transnational teams will begin on Monday, Sept. 7. The format will be Swiss teams, 10-board matches for 15 qualifying rounds. The knockout phase, starting with quarterfinals, will begin Thursday, Sept. 10. The event will conclude on Saturday, Sept. 12.

Players in good standing with their national bridge organizations are eligible to participate. There are no country quotas, and teams may be made up of players from any countries.

Registration will be open through the start of the tournament, subject to availability. Players eliminated from the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup or Senior Teams will be eligible to play in the TNOT.

Entries may be sent to The World Bridge Federation, 40, rue François 1er, 75008 Paris – France. You may also e-mail cfrancin@worldbridgefed.com.

Sao Paulo is one of the most populous cities in the world with more than 17 million inhabitants. There are more than 70 shopping malls, 12,000 restaurants featuring cuisines from around the world. There are also many cultural attractions.

The tournament will take place at the Transamerica Hotel, a five-star property located near the most important business, shopping and gourmet eating areas of the city. The hotel has free Internet access (wifi and intranet) and offers, together with very comfortable and well equipped rooms: two restaurants, a bar, tennis courts, soccer field, three-hole golf course, jogging lane, fitness center, heated pool, dry sauna and steam rooms, pool tables, etc.

For information about reservations, visit the hotel's web site: www.transamerica.com.br.

Absolute zero

By Mark Horton

Unless you post a really dreadful result, you can usually expect to collect the odd matchpoint, but from time to time the dreaded zero is bound to appear on the card. If you have to donate one, there may be no more deserving recipient than the hard working CEO of the ACBL, Jay Baum, as witness this deal from the Silodor Open Pairs:

Dlr: West ♠ A 2
 Vul: None ♥ A K J
 ♦ 10 4
 ♣ K 10 9 8 5 2

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

♠ K J 9 3
 ♥ Q 10 6
 ♦ K J 8
 ♣ A J 4

West	North	East	South
Reiman	Horton	Baum	Helman
Pass	1NT	Db1	Redbl
Pass	Pass	2♦	Db1
All Pass			

When East came into the auction with a double that promised a single-suited hand, his side looked booked for a poor result, as the Rabbi had more than enough to redouble, and when East retreated to his suit he doubled and led the three of spades. North won with the ace and cashed the king of hearts, putting the defenders on the way to collecting the maximum penalty, before switching back to the two of spades. The Rabbi took East's queen with the king – at least he would have done had he known that card was in his hand!

Alas, it was not on view, and when East's queen held the trick declarer escaped for minus 300 and a complete top.

Tough defense, part 2

Jim Krekorian and John Rengstorff, winners of the North American Pairs, Flight A, were featured in the Friday Daily Bulletin for their excellent defense on a board that earned them a cold top.

In the first qualifying session of the Silodor Open Pairs, Krekorian and Drew Casen showed they, too, are tough defenders.

Dlr: North ♠ K 7 6 2
 Vul: Both ♥ J 9 3
 ♦ A 10 8 7
 ♣ J 3

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

♠ J 3
 ♥ A K 8 5
 ♦ 9 6 4
 ♣ A Q 10 5

West	North	East	South
	Krekorian		Casen
	Pass	Pass	1♣
2♠	All Pass		

South might have reopened with a double, but he was not that keen to put that hand down as dummy in, say, 3♦ should North be forced to bid with a weak hand.

Krekorian led the ♣J, which held the trick. A second club went to the South's 10. Casen now cashed the ♥K, getting a low heart from Krekorian. Now South cashed the ♣A and played the ♣Q. Declarer ruffed with the ♠10, and Krekorian discarded the ♥J.

Declarer played a low diamond from hand, and Krekorian went up with the ace and returned his last heart. Declarer played the 10, ruffing when South covered with the ace. After entering dummy with a diamond, declarer played the ♠9, covered by Casen with the jack to promote a second trump trick for Krekorian. Two down for plus 200 was good for 18.5 out of 25 matchpoints.



Discover The *Best Value* in Bridge Cruises!

Bridge Voyages Welcomes You to Houston & the North American Bridge Championship!
 From March 13 to 16, we invite you to stop by our table at the NABC so we can share the fun and excitement of our Bridge Cruises with you and answer all of your questions. We look forward to meeting you!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING VOYAGES!

PANAMA CANAL - May 22, 2009 - 14 Nights
 Sail from Costa Rica to Ft. Lauderdale aboard the *MV Explorer*
Cruise & Bridge Package from \$1699 INCLUDING AIR!

ALASKA - June 28, 2009 - 7 Nights
 Sail Roundtrip from Seattle aboard the *Norwegian Pearl*
Cruise & Bridge Package from \$1099!

BERMUDA - September 11, 2009 - 7 Nights
 Sail Roundtrip from Boston aboard the *Norwegian Spirit*
Cruise & Bridge Package from \$899!

MEXICAN RIVIERA - October 17, 2009 - 7 Nights
 Sail Roundtrip from Los Angeles aboard the *Norwegian Star*
Cruise & Bridge Package from \$699!

PANAMA CANAL - January 2, 2010 - 14 Nights
 Sail from Los Angeles to Miami aboard the *Norwegian Star*
Cruise & Bridge Package from \$1249!

E. CARIBBEAN - January 30, 2010 - 7 Nights
 Sail Roundtrip from Miami aboard the *Norwegian Pearl*
Cruise & Bridge Package from \$799!

BAHAMAS / FLORIDA - March 6, 2010 - 7 Nights
 Sail Roundtrip from New York aboard the *Norwegian Gem*
Cruise & Bridge Package from \$949!

W. CARIBBEAN - March 21, 2010 - 7 Nights
 Sail Roundtrip from New Orleans aboard the *Norwegian Spirit*
Cruise & Bridge Package from \$849!

IMPORTANT NOTE: To attend our private Bridge Voyages events, you must book your cruise directly through Bridge Voyages using the phone number/website indicated. If you do not book through Bridge Voyages, you can only participate in the program if you contact bridgevoyages@ovc.cc and pay a bridge program surcharge. Those not booking through Bridge Voyages who do not pay the surcharge cannot participate in the Bridge Voyages program.

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

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Marsha Bernstein is chair of the Special Events/Tours desk. Drop by to sign up or find out more information. Monday is a shopping trip to the Galleria. Tuesday you can go to historic Galveston. Interested in the space program? On Wednesday, your hosts offer you a tour of Space Center Houston. Also Wednesday, is the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. An historical tour of Houston is offered on Thursday. The tour desk is located on the fourth floor lobby near the Registration Desk.

ACBL restaurant shuttle

4 p.m. to 7 p.m. daily

Shuttle Route 1: This bus will circle every 10 minutes. There will be two buses on this route.

Stop 1: Stopping in front of House of Blues on Caroline St.

Houston Pavilions-following restaurants located here:

- House of Blues
- McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant
- Guadalajara del Centro
- Josephine's Ristorante

Stop 2: Stopping on Lamar St. next to Massa's Seafood Grill

- Massa's Seafood Grill
- Strip House

Shuttle Route 2: This bus will circle every 20 minutes. There will be four buses on this route.

Stop 1: Stopping on Texas Ave next to Hard Rock Café

Bayou Place-following restaurants located here:

- Hard Rock Café
- Mingalone Italian Bar and Grill
- Slick Willie's

Stop 2: Stopping at Sambuca's on the corner of Travis and Texas

Main Street-following restaurants located here:

- Azuma Sushi and Robata Bar
- Cabo
- Café Express
- Chipolte
- Flying Saucer Draught Emporium
- Frank's Pizza
- Sambuca's Jazz Café
- Timpano Chophouse and Martini Bar
- Yatra Brasserie
- Zula

Pick up and drop off located at the Hilton Americas EAST ENTRANCE.

Buses will pick up where you were dropped off at the restaurant locations.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY MORNING SIDE SERIES I

20.0 Tables	A	B	C		
4.55	1			Harjinder Ajmani, Kula HI; Arun Savara, Honolulu HI	66.81%
3.41	2	1		Adam Kaplan, New Port Richey FL; Sean Gannon, Atlanta GA	66.25%
2.56	3			Ahmed Sorathia, Chino CA; Mariko Kakimoto, Newport Beach CA	61.25%
2.80	4	2	1	Tim White - Renae Gunstone-White, Mercer Island WA	60.83%
1.96	5			Niel Waletzky, Shaker Heights OH; Linda Mamula, Mill Creek WA	60.56%
1.08	6			Mark Lair, Canyon TX; Marc Levine, Lubbock TX	58.75%
1.88		3		James Breihan - Jennifer Breihan, Houston TX	57.50%
1.82		4	2	Patty Moncus, Boerne TX; Rebecca Brown, San Antonio TX	55.56%
1.37		5	3	Laura Delfeld - Malou Flato, Austin TX	54.31%
1.08		6		Alan Cummings, Los Altos CA; Sam Dodson, Houston TX	53.33%
1.03			4	Eric Heinrich, Calhoun LA; Daniel Rosenblatt, Winston Salem NC	52.50%

FRIDAY AM 299ER PAIRS

16.0 Tables	A	B	C		
3.67	1			Phyllis Siegel, Ballwin MO; Jo Chorpening, Ellisville MO	64.73%
2.75	2	1	1	Stephen Banks - Carol Banks, Houston TX	63.39%
2.06	3			Joan Kalinousky, Ridge NY; Lil Schwarzschild, Patchogue NY	56.82%
1.70	4	2		Joyce Eveld - Liz Petrich, Houston TX	56.64%
1.16	5			Janice Vernia - Robert Vernia, Carmel IN	56.61%
0.92	6			Michael Novack - Kim O'Hara, Humble TX	54.39%
1.27		3		Martha Doughery - Kay Bartle, Houston TX	52.05%
1.10		4	2	Norma Callender, Houston TX; Peter Huggler III, Seminole OK	51.67%
0.72		5		Jean Moritz - Janet Williams, Houston TX	48.89%
0.83			3	David Johnson Jr, Dallas TX; John Cisman, Carrollton TX	48.84%

1ST FRIDAY SENIOR PAIRS

29.0 Tables	A	B	C		
10.64	1			Dave McClintock, Bluffton SC; Brenda Montague, Swampscott MA	61.70%
7.98	2			Dottie Ann Goodloe - Susan McMahan, Houston TX	59.62%
5.99	3			Julian Heicklen, Teaneck NJ; Fred Hamilton, Las Vegas NV	58.89%
4.49	4			Martin Morris, Wheeling IL; Charles Nemes, Hinsdale IL	58.81%
3.55	5			Wallace Macdonald, Albany PE; James Praught, Summerside PE	58.49%
3.04	6			Mimi Hagedorn - Phyllis Timko, Houston TX	58.41%
2.66	7			Larry Cohen - James Bjerkan, Elmhurst IL	58.25%
6.38	8	1		Wayne Obitz - James Gray, Indiana PA	57.45%
4.79		2		James Sides - Beth Sides, Lafayette LA	55.53%
3.59		3		John Link - Bobbi Kauffman, Houston TX	54.81%
2.41		4/5		Amaldas Makken, Madison GA; Peter Hanson, Houston TX	54.33%
2.41		4/5		Max Levit - Ariel Leibovitz, Houston TX	54.33%
2.24		6		Tom Kaufmann, Pine Brook NJ; Martin Lesh, Montville NJ	54.09%
3.56			1	Martha Mickey - Shirley Hooks, Houston TX	51.12%
2.67			2	Stephen Bickel, Houston TX; Gary See, Kingwood TX	50.56%
2.00			3	Terry Sucher - Thomas Hamilton, Montgomery TX	48.72%
1.50			4	Alan Holzberg - Rick Burton, Houston TX	48.48%
1.19			5	Allen Brandt - Harry Elliott, Houston TX	48.32%

JO DENE BOND 1 20/50 PAIRS

8.0 Tables	A	B			
1.89	1			Rogie Peyton - Marion Shortle, Houston TX	62.50%
1.42	2	1		James Lawrence, Brookshire TX; Willis King, Houston TX	57.50%
1.06	3	2		Beth Manders - Donna Watkins, Houston TX	54.58%
0.80	4			Mary Dodson - Diane Goodwin, Houston TX	54.17%
0.60	5			Bradley Etnyre, Las Vegas NV; Daniel Potkalesky, Plano TX	53.33%
0.68		3		Suzie Wilson - Mary Watters, Houston TX	51.25%

JO DENE BOND 1 299ER PAIRS

24.0 Tables	A	B	C		
4.80	1			Kim O'Hara - Michael Novack, Humble TX	70.83%
3.60	2			Arlene Rawitscher - Jack Rawitscher, Houston TX	66.37%
3.86	3	1		Jim McCormick - David Durand, Houston TX	64.58%
2.03	4			Evelyn James - Catherine Gonzales, Houston TX	60.71%
1.33	5/6			Johnell McKee, Friendswood TX; Marilyn Hughes, La Porte TX	60.12%
2.90	5/6	2	1	Martha Doughery - Kay Bartle, Houston TX	60.12%
2.17		3		Melva Jane Kalkbrenner - Jo Woody, Beaumont TX	58.63%
1.88		4	2	Jean Moritz - Janet Williams, Houston TX	58.04%
1.41		5	3	Connie Montgomery, Katy TX; Pauline Mitchell, Houston TX	56.55%
1.33		6/7	4	Ann Marie Ross - Nancy Hawkins, Houston TX	55.95%
0.81		6/7		Jessie Williamson, Opelousas LA; Lola Crochet, Cade LA	55.95%
0.79			5	Carolyn Robertson, Houston TX; Michael McKown, Sugar Land TX	55.06%
0.67			6	Doris Meeks, Houston TX; Kathleen Hurst, Katy TX	52.38%



ACBLscore Q&A Session

You have a problem? We'll find a solution! Join the ACBL staff for a lively, informative and entertaining 90 minutes on hints to help make your club's computing problems disappear. Come by for coffee and help us solve problems and find new ideas too.

Location: Hilton Americas — Meeting Room 345 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. — noon **Fee:** FREE

JO DENE BOND I 0-5 PAIRS

14.0 Tables					
1.34	1			Carolyn Harris - William Harris Jr, Houston TX	63.89%
1.01	2			Shana Overton - Alice Heckerth, Houston TX	63.33%
0.75	3			Sharon Green, Houston TX; Kathleen Gregory, Spring TX	60.28%
0.57	4			Dianne Wolchik - Ron Wolchik, Georgetown TX	59.17%
0.42	5			Janice Kruse - Ellen Valentine, Houston TX	58.89%
0.35	6			David Johnson Jr, Dallas TX; John Cisman, Carrollton TX	58.61%

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SIDE PAIRS

19.0 Tables					
	A	B	C		
4.40	1			Joergen Molberg, Trondheim Norway; Terje Aa, Heimdal Norway	67.82%
3.94	2	1		Jerry Thorpe, Tacoma WA; Alan Cummings, Los Altos CA	66.90%
2.96	3	2		Fred Wang - Amy Wang, Houston TX	64.58%
2.88	4	3	1	Tim White - Renae Gunstone-White, Mercer Island WA	62.73%
2.16	5	4	2	Alfredo Ringel - Deborah Ringel, Guadalajara Mexico	61.11%
1.62	6	5	3	Greg Johnson, League City TX; Barbara Nance, Bryan TX	60.19%
1.31		6	4	Vivienne Whitworth, Richmond Hill ON; Malou Flato, Austin TX	59.72%
1.15			5	Phyllis Siegel, Ballwin MO; Jo Chorpeneing, Ellisville MO	55.32%

NANCY STROHMER SWISS TEAMS

56 Teams					
	A	B	C		
10.01	1			Daniel Zagorin, Skokie IL; Michael Polowan, New York NY; Jacob Morgan, Madison WI; Michael Lawrence, Brentwood TN	106.00
7.51	2			Jim Mahaffey, Winter Park FL; Gunnar Hallberg, Brighton United Kingdom; Peter Bertheau, Taby Sweden; Fu Zhong, Beijing People's Republic of China; Jie Zhao, Tianjin People's Republic of China; Fredrik Nystrom, 11421 Stockholm Sweden	101.00
5.63	3			Spike Lay - Marilyn Garcia, Daytona Beach FL; John Brady, Jacksonville FL; Brian Gunnell, St Augustine FL	94.00
4.22	4			Jeffrey Taylor, Eugene OR; William Arlinghaus, Ann Arbor MI; Richard DeMartino, Riverside CT; Dave Swarthout, San Antonio TX	93.00
3.17	5			G S Jade Barrett, Elk Point SD; Randy Field, Overland Park KS; Ed Lazarus - Diane Lazarus, Baltimore MD; Miguel Reygadas, Polanco Mexico; Ellis Feigenbaum, Petah Tikva 493 Israel	92.00
7.28	6	1		Madhusudan Patel, Houston TX; Katherine Rabenstein, Washington DC; James Andre, Sugar Land TX; Jim Andre, Saint Paul MN	87.00
5.46		2		Sharon Haley - Mary McManus, Houston TX; John Williams, Anchorage AK; Adam Parrish, Cincinnati OH	84.00
4.10		3		Roy Perry, St Johns NL; Barbara Rhoades, Wilmington DE; Lorna Johnson, Ridgeway ON; Jan Andreychuk, St Catharines ON	81.00
4.25		4	1	Nancy Strohmer - Hans Strohmer, Houston TX; Robert Clarke - Alma Farley, Richardson TX	76.00
3.19		5	2	Sally Blewett, Beaumont TX; Patsy Pierce, Hardin TX; Ann Blohm - Faye Baker, Houston TX	74.00
1.52		6/7		Phil Brown - Phyllis Giffin, San Antonio TX; Jane Clark, Stephenville TX; Joy McKenzie-Smith, Fort Worth TX	71.00
1.52		6/7		Catherine Brown - Marcella Thomas - Elizabeth Ghrist - Paula Hradecky, Houston TX	71.00
2.39			3	John Reed - Barbara Reed, Clarkston MI; Patricia Miller - Scott Miller, Auburn Hills MI	63.00
1.79			4	Melba Clark - Suzanne Justice, Arlington TX; Margaret Cann, Sydney NS; Mitchell Kontoff, Waitsfield VT	61.00
1.18			5/6	Phyllis Chambers, Winnetka IL; Dee Coats - Jeanne Ingraham - Frank Ingraham, Houston TX	59.00
1.18			5/6	Christy Morrissey - Janet Siefert - Beverley Cheatham, Houston TX; Donna Frederick, The Woodlands TX	59.00

FIRST FRIDAY EVENING 300/200/100 PAIRS

9.5 Tables					
	A	B	C		
2.83	1	1		Michael Skoller, Bellaire TX; Robert Paules Jr, Austin TX	61.57%
2.12	2	2		Richard Markell, Los Gatos CA; Mary Miller, Claremont CA	61.29%
1.59	3			Louise Saik, Metairie LA; Jane Goldring, New Orleans LA	60.89%
1.19	4			Johnell McKee, Friendswood TX; Marilyn Hughes, La Porte TX	60.11%
1.35	5	3		James Crawford - Sally Crawford, Hot Sprgs Vlg AR	54.07%
0.71	6			Arlene Rawitscher - Jack Rawitscher, Houston TX	53.57%
1.79		4	1	Usha Mehra - Laxmi Mehra, Houston TX	53.27%
1.34		5	2	O Bunn - Patricia Bunn, Cypress TX	52.83%
1.01			3	Yvonne Pierce, Houston TX; Maureen Viaclovsky, Friendswood TX	51.37%
0.76			4	Joanne Chalifoux, Bay Shore NY; Louisa Delew, East Islip NY	50.43%

FIRST FRIDAY EVENING 299ER SWISS TEAMS

8 Tables					
	A	B	C		
2.54	1			Bradley Etnyre, Las Vegas NV; Daniel Potkalesky, Plano TX; Arne Hoepfner, Sherman TX; Eusebio Menezes, Cupertino CA	80.00
2.00	2	1	1	Harvey Klein - Eugene Goldgar - Debbie Goldgar - Sandra Klein, Houston TX	79.00
1.43	3			Mary Janak, Webster TX; Patsy Howell - Anne Knott - Sally Knight, Houston TX	75.00
1.50		2		Joseph Cunningham, Conroe TX; Keith Everett, Houston TX; Susan Barker, Magnolia TX; Nancy Caldwell, The Woodlands TX	65.00

**EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET I
9 Teams**

G S Jade Barrett, Elk Point SD; Robert Todd, Tallahassee FL; Miguel Reygadas, Polanco Mexico; Ellis Feigenbaum, Petah Tikva Israel; McKenzie Myers, Portland OR; Randy Field, Overland Park KS
vs
Jim Mahaffey, Winter Park FL; Gunnar Hallberg, Brighton United Kingdom; Peter Bertheau, Taby Sweden; Fredrik Nystrom, 11421 Stockholm Sweden; Fu Zhong, Beijing People's Republic of China; Jie Zhao, Tianjin People's Republic of China

Ruth Stober, Great Neck NY; Elaine Said, Nashville TN; Steven Conrad, Manhasset NY; Frank Mastrola, Swansea MA; Walter Spiewak, Wake Forest NC; Gary Kessler, Springfield IL
vs
Michele Foran, Oconomowoc WI; William Malesevich, Mayville WI; Sun-O Ho, Brookfield WI; Betty Marggraf, Muskego WI

**EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET II
13 Teams**

Julian Barr, Missouri City TX; William Breslin, Katy TX; Terry Currie - Joan Pleason, Houston TX
vs
Russ Jones, Jonesboro AR; Michael McGuire, Hernando MS; Denny Penticoff - Ned Irving, Hot Springs Village AR

Billy Leeper, Fort Worth TX; Marion Gebhardt, Richardson TX; Mike Miller, Temple TX; Roy Baughman, Pantego TX
vs

Stephen Goldstein, Anaheim CA; Gary Brown, San Francisco CA; Cameron Shunta, Grand Haven MI; Christopher Seymore, Mississauga ON

**EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET III
9 Teams**

Fred Wang - Amy Wang - Edwin Zwald Jr, Houston TX; Vern Schmidt, Dickinson TX
vs

Madhusudan Patel, Houston TX; Lily Andre - James Andre, Sugar Land TX; Katherine Rabenstein, Washington DC

Bill Aeschbacher - Max Aeschbacher, Salt Lake City UT; James Flesher, Bountiful UT; David Feldman, Kissimmee FL
vs

Linda Harrison, Calgary AB; Hao Ge, Bay Village OH; Hui Lin Zhu, Chongqing 40001 People's Republic of China; Nongyu Li, Sunnyvale CA; Weidong Pei, Brea CA

**EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET IV
12 Teams**

Henry Sokol, Milwaukee WI; George Kaiser, Tequesta FL; Phil Brown - Phyllis Giffin, San Antonio TX
vs

Henry Caspar, Houston TX; Terry Richardson - Greg Schepens, Austin TX; Joe Handler, Toronto ON

James Tanner, Highland CA; Millie Garrison, Riverside CA; Robert Roman, Greenbrae CA; Lenore Cavallero, Hillsborough CA
vs

Robert Lupton, Aurora CO; Robert Paris, Denver CO; Elaine Everett, Downers Grove IL; Mary Walters, Oak Park IL

**EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET V
12 Teams**

Carol Wilson - Carolyn Lanier - Bette Liebgold - Linda Marlin, Houston TX
vs

Richard Cunningham - Malissa Baugh - David Pennington, Temple TX; Barbara Lyons, Harker Heights TX

Barbara Blaine - Betty Peden - William Kinneman - Beverly Kinneman, Little Rock AR
vs

Frankie Hall, Groves TX; Mary Overbey - Margaret Yeh, Pls Vrds Est CA; Miriam Cooper, Beaumont TX

**EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET VI
12 Teams**

Karen Dittert - Barbara Gadea - Beverly Fanarof - Susan Belding, Houston TX; Erica Jaeger, Bellaire TX
vs

Lloyd Hankinson - Gail Pirodsky - Debra Werman - Carol Krug, Sarasota FL

Don Grider - Inez Grider - Kay Lynch - Dee Els, Georgetown TX
vs

Jeri Nelson - Cyann Martin, Neenah WI; Diana Whitfield - Marcia Jameson, Austin TX

Dress Up Night

Players are encouraged to dress up for the evening session tonight. This is a regular feature of all NABCs.





Carol Robertson, left, manager of ACBL's Club and Member Services Department, hosted a reception for teachers and club owners. With her are Diana Schuld, owner of the Vanderbilt Bridge Club in Lake Success NY; Sandy Stevens, ACBL-accredited teacher and NABC entertainment chair, and Julie Greenberg, manager of ACBL's Education Department.



Second place in the North American Pairs, Flight A, went to Robert Heitzman and Jonathan Weinstein.

Misdefend this Hand with Me

Mark Horton

Try your hand at this defensive problem from the Silodor Open Pairs:

Dr: East ♠ J 10 7 6
 Vul: Both ♥ A J 6 4
 ♦ 5 3
 ♣ A 6 3

♠ A K
 ♥ 8 7 5 2
 ♦ A Q J 7 6
 ♣ 8 2

West <i>Horton</i>	North	East <i>Helman</i>	South
		2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦ (1)	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

(1) Near maximum in high cards.

When South leads the queen of clubs, you can see that prospects are fair, as you will surely score both your aces and a trump and so need to find only one more trick.

You overtake the queen with the ace and when you cash the ace of hearts the trick is completed by the ten, nine and two.

Your move, as the chess players would say.

Without giving it much thought I played a second heart, which was fatal when the full deal was:

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

Declarer ruffed, cashed dummy's top spades, returned to hand with a diamond and played two more rounds of spades.

A moment's thought would have made it clear that there was no rush to play a second heart. If North calmly goes back to clubs, declarer is left without resource.

(In case you haven't guessed already it was our last board of the session – a classic time to take your eye off the ball.)

Bid Box Alerts and Announcements

When using bid boxes, ACBL suggests that players tap the Alert strip and say "Alert" at the same time.

When making an Announcement, use the Announcement word — such as "transfer" — and tap the Alert strip at the same time.

A player who Alerts or Announces a bid should make sure his opponents are aware that an Alert or Announcement has been made.

NABC Insider

Sometimes, it's the little things. 1. Leave a little sign back in the Memphis warehouse and five little missing letters change the entire dynamic in Ask Me Girl's work day. Because her sign didn't say "Ask Me" people had to ask her what she was doing standing there. Still questions, but just not up to the usual high quality that she has come to expect. 2. Assume the Bulletin printer knows how many times to fold the paper and one little missing fold means they don't fit in the newspaper racks. If they don't fit in the racks, no Bulletins at the restaurant. No Bulletins at the restaurant, unhappy bridge players at the breakfast table. We hope you had to unfold this morning's edition and we really, really hope you are not an unhappy bridge player. 3. One little mis-play and you're playing in the compact knockout instead of the finals of the Silodor Open Pairs. But we won't elaborate on that one – sorry we brought it up.

The Insider was checking out the restaurant shuttles last night as most times we have offered those in the past, about 100 little things go wrong. These either went well or they just took everyone to Waco and left them there as we heard no complaints. The busses run each night, leaving from the east drive – the end of the Hilton over by the Convention Center. See elsewhere for a list of the places they serve. The Insider promises no unscheduled trips to Waco.

The Insider often mentions our hard working Tournament Directors. He would like to ask you to let them know what a great job they do. They work long hours. They spend day after day away from home. They have short meal breaks. They have a generally thankless job since any time they have to make their presence known they are likely to be unpopular with at least half the players affected. But, they are the best directors in the world and we would be lost without them. (Here it is Saturday and the Insider feels safe in saying the Thursday afternoon game would not have started – much less finished - by now without a director.) Let them know you appreciate them, the Insider sure does.

Thanks for being here. Let Ask Me Girl or the Bulletin Boys know if you have any issues you would like the Insider to address.

Monitoring

At this and future North American Championships, ACBL will be monitoring NABC+ events with visible, real-time cameras. The images will be recorded and will be available for later official inspection and review.

By general monitoring of the session and participants' behavior, ACBL has another source of information that may be useful in determining facts and settling issues arising from some types of ethical and behavioral complaints or actions. Please summon a director if a problem occurs at the table.

This procedure is intended to assure everyone that the playing field is level and that misbehavior will not be tolerated.

Getting back to average

By Barry Rigal

I don't know about you, but my least favorite opening lead against notrump is from A-K-x-x. This can work badly in so many ways – how come it always works well for my opponents?

Dr: West ♠ Q 6 3 2
 Vul: E-W ♥ Q 7
 ♦ 7 4
 ♣ A J 9 7 4

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

	♠ A K 8		
	♥ A K J 5		
	♦ J 10 5 3		
	♣ 10 2		
West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West duly came forth with the ♦2 – and look what a deadly lead that is! East won the ♦Q and returned the 9, covered all around. West, knowing South was 4-4 in the reds, shifted to the ♠J, not an easy card to read.

Declarer won in hand and ran the hearts as dummy pitched two clubs and East smoothly pitched one. Declarer crossed to the ♠Q to reach this ending:

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

It would have been easy to play for spades to be 3-3, but South could envision the diamond blockage. He tried a low club from dummy. East flew with the ♣K and played the ♦8, ducked all around as dummy discarded a spade. Now the final embarrassment. East had to play a spade, catching his partner in a show-up squeeze. To keep his ♦A, West had to come down to one club, so declarer could lead to the ♣A and claim.



Jo Smith (left) won a \$100 prize for best Western dress at last night's entertainment. Marsha Bernstein took second place and \$50.

Well spotted

By Barry Rigal

As a British convert to the charms of 2/1, I acknowledge that there are some bad hands for the method, but few as bad as the West cards on this deal from the first qualifying session of the Silodor Open Pairs.

Dir: North ♠ 8 7
 Vul: E-W ♥ J 10 5 3
 ♦ J 3 2
 ♣ Q 9 8 6

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

♠ Q 10 9 2
 ♥ Q 7 6 4
 ♦ Q 10 9 8 4
 ♣ —

This was our opponents' bidding.

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

I'll wager that few people would have guessed the West hand pattern before dummy came down!

The opening lead of the ♦10 went to declarer's king. Declarer cashed two high hearts and ruffed a heart as North and South both lied about their heart length. Then a diamond to the ace and a diamond ruff followed. As the cards lay, ruffing a second heart would have made life easy. When declarer tried to cash the ♣A, South ruffed. This was the ending:

♠ 8 7
 ♥ J
 ♦ —
 ♣ Q 9 8

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

♠ Q 10 9
 ♥ Q
 ♦ Q 9
 ♣ —

South didn't know for sure who had the ♠A K, but it looked safe to lead a diamond, ruffed by the 7 and overruffed. Declarer ruffed a heart to dummy and led the ♣K, pitching his last heart. The fifth diamond ruffed by the ♠8 made winners of South's two remaining trumps for one down. Nice spots from North! Of course, as you can see, 6♣ is trivial.

SILODOR OPEN PAIRS QUALIFIERS

(Qualifiers can change due to score corrections. Players should check recaps sheets for latest results.)

78.0 Tables -

		Carryover
1	David Yang, Chicago IL; Xiaodong Shi, Naperville IL	234.57
2	Aubrey Strul, Delray Beach FL; Michael Becker, Boca Raton FL	227.19
3	David Berkowitz - Larry Cohen, Boca Raton FL	217.66
4	Mark Ralph, San Francisco CA; Bruce Noda, Corte Madera CA	211.76
5	Perry Johnson, Bloomfield Hls MI; Jeff Meckstroth, Tampa FL	210.58
6	Gaylor Kastle, Boca Raton FL; Ron Smith, San Francisco CA	205.86
7	Bryan Maksymetz, Garibaldi Highl BC; Zygmunt Marcinski, Westmount QC	202.52
8	Douglas Doub, W Hartford CT; Adam Wildavsky, New York NY	201.43
9	Jared Lilienstein, New York NY; Jacek Pszczola, Chapel Hill NC	196.26
10	John Lusky - Randy Pickett, Portland OR	193.16
11	Lawrence Hicks, Coquitlam BC; Dan Jacob, Vancouver BC	191.42
12	Barry Rigal, New York NY; Alex Ornstein, Roslyn Heights NY	189.48
13	Steve Weinstein, Andes NY; Robert Hampton, Blythewood SC	176.73
14	Melvin Marcus, Waltham MA; Luke Gillespie, Wayland MA	170.88
15/16	Hugh Hillaker, Grand Prairie TX; Kimmel Jones, Euless TX	168.23
15/16	Roger Bates, Mesa AZ; James Gordon, S Burlington VT	168.23
17	John Diamond, Boca Raton FL; Brian Platnick, Evanston IL	165.95
18	Bob Hamman, Dallas TX; Zia Mahmood, New York NY	160.85
19	Michael Golden, Wyckoff NJ; Chris Compton, Dallas TX	154.83
20/21	Debbie Rosenberg, New Rochelle NY; Michael Kamil, Holmdel NJ	153.47
20/21	Rita Ellington, Traverse City MI; Robert Morris, Houston TX	153.47
22	Tom Edwards, Grand Prairie TX; Bryan Storey, Frisco TX	152.79
23	Ed Ulman, Portland OR; Jim Looby, Burbank CA	151.46
24	Ken Scholes, Bellevue WA; Dick Yarrington, Seattle WA	150.93
25	Eric Rodwell, Clearwater Bch FL; Paul Lewis, Zionsville IN	149.04
26	Markland Jones, Phoenix AZ; Ken Barbour, Scottsdale AZ	145.35
27	David Gold, Reading R Great Britain; Tom Townsend, London W9 1sd England	143.61
28	Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA; Neal Satten, Wynnewood PA	138.68
29	Mary Ann Coyle, Rncho Pls Vrd CA; Steve Mager, Hermosa Beach CA	137.06
30	Sally Strul, Delray Beach FL; Jo Morse, Palm Bch Gdns FL	136.50
31	Richard Schwartz, East Elmhurst NY; Bob Jones, Hypoluxo FL	135.02
32	Mark Gordon, Purchase NY; Pratap Rajadhyaksha, Venice FL	134.29
33	Rick Roeder - Jason Feldman, San Diego CA	132.43
34	Hansa Narasimhan, Los Altos Hills CA; Cecilia Rimstedt, Halmstad 30251 Sweden	129.33
35	Mark Teaford, Seal Beach CA; Steven Johnson, San Diego CA	128.43
36	Chuck Said, Nashville TN; Alan Wienman, Morton IL	128.18
37	Robert Lass, Skokie IL; Daniel Neill, Lexington KY	126.91
38	Ralph Buchalter, South Orange NJ; Migry Zur Campanile, New York NY	126.17
39	Brad Moss, Mill Valley CA; Fred Gitelman, Las Vegas NV	124.10
40	Barbara Sartorius - Robert Sartorius, Lake Hiawatha NJ	121.77
41	Craig Allen, Glen Ellyn IL; Michael Huston, Joplin MO	120.10
42	Chester Johnson, Chicago IL; William Turner, Houston TX	119.13
43	Sally Wheeler - Buddy Hanby, Spring TX	115.69
44/45	Lynn Deas, Schenectady NY; Nikolay Demirev, Arlington Hts IL	114.36
44/45	Eric Greco, Philadelphia PA; Geoff Hampson, Las Vegas NV	114.36
46	Louk Verhees, 2215 SH Voorhou Netherlands; Lew Stansby, Dublin CA	113.63
47	Robert Heller, Decatur GA; Len Case, Charlotte NC	110.76
48	Terry Spector, Franklin TN; Bryan Howard, Nashville TN	108.55
49	Brian Glubok, New York NY; Dan Gerstman, Buffalo NY	107.49
50	Sylvia McNamara - Michael McNamara, White Plains NY	105.24
51	Thomas Carmichael - Jenni Carmichael, Kennesaw GA	105.07
52	Arnie Frankel, Laurel MD; Helene Bauman, Arlington VA	104.03
53	Mark Itabashi, Murrieta CA; Steven Love, Laguna Niguel CA	103.83
54	Pierre Zimmerman, Geneva C Switzerland; Franck Multon, Nice France	100.17
55/56	John Bromberg - Beth Bromberg, Dallas TX	99.61
55/56	Mark Wallet, Katy TX; Duane Friedrich, Houston TX	99.61
57	John Rengstorff - Glenn Eisenstein, New York NY	97.98
58	Robert Levin, Bronx NY; Shane Blanchard, New York NY	95.68
59	Stephen Goldstein, Anaheim CA; Gary Brown, San Francisco CA	95.18
60	Stephen Gladyszak, Chelsea MA; Ljudmila Kamenova, Stony Brook NY	94.77
61	Perla Sultan, Aventura FL; Alejandro Bianchedi, Buenos Aires Argentina	94.50
62	Alison Wilson, New York NY; Kent Mignocchi, Bronx NY	93.70
63	Steve Scott - Suzette Wynn, Phoenix AZ	92.58
64	Alan Schwartz, Fairfax VA; Josh Feldstein, Gainesville FL	90.75
65	Runar Lillevik - Ovind Ludvigsen, Oslo Northern Ireland	89.28
66	Alan Osofsky, Palm Beach FL; Alan Sontag, Gaithersburg MD	88.54
67	Sangarapil Mohan, Oak Brook IL; Robert Gardner, Glenview IL	87.95
68	Richard Chan, Markham ON; Bing Le, North York ON	87.80
69	Gary Gottlieb, Brooklyn NY; Peter Fredin, Malmo Sweden	87.71
70	Peter Friedland, Cupertino CA; Allan Falk, Okemos MI	85.59
71	Tom Kniest, University City MO; Karen Walker, Champaign IL	84.91
72	Keith Connolly, Minneapolis MN; Sharon Anderson, Eagan MN	83.76
73	Andrew Rosenthal - David Moss, New York NY	83.38
74	Ed Freeman - Craig Huston, Portland OR	83.29
75	Mitch Dunitz, Sherman Oaks CA; Iftikhar Baqai, Irvine CA	83.02
76	G. Margie Gwozdzinsky - Bill Rosenbaum, New York NY	82.64
77	Kenneth Schutze, Austin TX; Hemant Lall, Dallas TX	80.42
78	Corinne Kirkham - Jim Kirkham, Leawood KS	77.47
79	Sabine Auken, Charlottenlund Denmark; Steve Garner, Chicago IL	77.44
80	JoAnn Sprung - Danny Sprung, Philadelphia PA	76.26
81	Judy Schwarz - Phil Schwarz, Lakeville MN	75.26

82	Lucy Tredennick, San Pedro CA; B Horiguchi, Gardena CA	73.05
83	Lauren Block, Manhasset NY; Howard Friedman, Great Neck NY	71.57
84	Farid Assemi, Fresno CA; Edward Wojewoda, Clovis CA	71.25
85	Mark Bumgardner, Carrollton TX; Richard Meffley, Fresno CA	70.68
86	Andre Chartrand, Lery QC; Charles Martineau, Brossard QC	70.12
87	Rick Kaye, Bingham Farms MI; Mark Perlmutter, San Diego CA	68.62
88	Leon Lyday, Clearwater FL; Ed Bissell, State College PA	68.03
89	Lewis Gamerman, Brookline MA; Robert McCaw, Sudbury MA	67.88
90	Gregory Nowak - Wojciech Kurkowski, Las Vegas NV	67.14
91	Nagy Kamel, Plano TX; Dan Morse, Houston TX	66.61
92	Bob Todd - Douglas Fisher, Winnipeg MB	62.72
93	Ari Greenberg, San Francisco CA; Hiroki Yokoi, Tokyo Japan	62.66
94	Linda Epstein, Delray Beach FL; Steve Gross, Westlake Vlg CA	62.04
95	Gail Greenberg - Jeff Hand, New York NY	61.03
96	Robert Lebi, Toronto ON; Waldemar Frukacz, Gloucester ON	60.50
97	Henry Bethe, Ithaca NY; Allen Tan, Makati Philippines	58.97
98	Jim Barrow, Lake Charles LA; Don Caton, Pensacola FL	58.29
99	Peter Boyd, Darnestown MD; Steve Robinson, Arlington VA	55.34
100	Barry Piafsky, New York NY; Don Piafsky, Toronto ON	55.28
101	Lila Cochran - Bill Booty, Idaho Falls ID	54.66
102	Ray Miller, Seattle WA; Craig Barkhouse, Redmond WA	54.44
103	Carol Schoenhals - Charlotte Blaiss, Lubbock TX	54.16
104/105	Ralph Levene, Vestavia Hills AL; Jim Foster, Birmingham AL	53.86
104/105	Barbara Shaw - Leo LaSota, Laurel MD	53.86
106	Georgiana Gates - Daniel Suty, Houston TX	53.12
107	Josh Sher, Oradell NJ; Clement Jackson, Albuquerque NM	52.39
108	Charles Durrin III, Madison AL; Hjordis Eythorsdottir, Huntsville AL	52.06
109	Kenton Schoen, Falls Church VA; Diane Walker, Gaithersburg MD	50.70
110	Steven Huhman, Larchmont NY; Jack La Vigne, Houston TX	49.43
111	Ira Hessel, San Antonio TX; Keith Garber, Las Vegas NV	47.28
112	Danijel Zenko, New York NY; Richard Wieland, Falls Church VA	47.22
113	Pierre Flatowicz, Omaha NE; Donald Stack, Overland Park KS	46.54
114	Dennis Kastle, Bloomfield MI; P Drew Cannell, Dol-D-Ormeaux QC	45.01
115	William Pollack, Basking Ridge NJ; Steve Beatty, Mill Creek WA	44.51
116	Jim Krekorian, New York NY; Drew Casen, Las Vegas NV	44.03
117	Curtis Polk, Houston TX; Dave Chipman, Lawrence KS	43.59
118	Wenhong Teng - Zhi Jun Zhang,	43.53
119/120	Bruce Rogoff, Tenafly NJ; Cornelis Van Prooijen, Nieuw Vennepp Netherlands	40.58
119/120	Stephannie Russo, New York NY; Marshall Lewis, Cleveland Hgts OH	40.58
121	Joann Glasson - Bob Glasson, Pennington NJ	40.05
122/123	Gale Senter - James Senter, San Clemente CA	39.84
122/123	Edward Groner - Vinh Tran, Houston TX	39.84
124	Stanley Roth, New York NY; Alvin Galland, Hastings-On-Hud NY	39.78
125	James Tritt, Fresno CA; Srikanth Kodayam, Fremont CA	36.21
126	Melanie Tucker - Erez Hendelman, New York NY	36.01
127	Mark McLaughlin - Susanne McLaughlin, Charleston SC	35.42
128	Douglas Dye, Wyndmoor PA; Everett Young, Lafayette Hill PA	30.46
129	Daniela von Arnim, D-68766 Hockenh Germany; Grace Jeklin, Surrey BC	28.91
130	Frank Nickell, New York NY; Richard Freeman, Atlanta GA	27.98
131	George Pisk, Manchaca TX; Barry Schaffer, Frisco TX	27.65
132	Bob Soni - Robert Todd, Tallahassee FL	27.39
133	Jeffrey Miller, Naperville IL; Mark Dahl, Richmond VA	26.95
134	Anton Tsyarkin, Sharon MA; Mark Ospeck, Memphis TN	25.88
135	Willenuan Eyck, ; Jay Apfelbaum, Philadelphia PA	25.56
136	Harjinder Ajmani, Kula HI; Arun Savara, Honolulu HI	25.09
137	Jeff Aker, Briarcliff NY; Glenn Milgrim, Forest Hills NY	23.61
138	Mikhail Kreslavskiy, Marietta GA; Michael Strizhevsky, Dunwoody GA	21.84
139/140	Jay Baum, Germantown TN; Jim Reiman, Mansfield OH	19.18
139/140	Jim Tully, Cocoa FL; Julia Bomalaski, Cocoa Beach FL	19.18
141	Linda Hughes, Edmond OK; En Xie, Saint Louis MO	16.23
142	Allen Hawkins Jr, Birmingham AL; Eugene Saxe, Briarcliff NY	15.89
143/144	Steven Reuschlein, Middleton WI; Eileen Cripps, Madison WI	15.49
143/144	Tommy Garvey, Essex Cm145ww England; David Bakhshi, London England	15.49
145	Leonard Helman, Santa Fe NM; Mark Horton, Bath United Kingdom	14.76
146	Joe Gittelman - Anthony Bianchi, Houston TX	14.37
147	Mario Mory - Phyllis Mory, Los Angeles CA	14.02
148	Susan Bowles, Va Beach VA; Robert Hendricks, Virginia Beach VA	11.86
149	Leonard Doerksen - David Sired, Winnipeg MB	9.59
150	Charles Gill, St Petersburg FL; Andrew Garnett, Raleigh NC	9.56
151/152	Johan Upmark, 115 58 Stockho Sweden; Per-Ola Cullin, Stockholm Sweden	7.38
151/152	Michael Rosenberg, New Rochelle NY; Richard Zeckhauser, Cambridge MA	7.38
153	James Spurlin, Wiscasset ME; Jeffrey Brown, Highlands Ranch CO	5.16
154	David Caprera, Denver CO; Varis Carey, Fort Collins CO	3.69
155	Suzy Burger, West Bloomfield MI; Martin Hirschman, Southfield MI	1.48
156	Tobi Sokolow, Austin TX; Geeske Joel, Palo Alto CA	0.00

Tournament Terminology 101

If you're confused by the terms used to describe the different types of bridge events played at clubs and tournaments, you're not alone. Here's a list of common bridge events with explanations.

Knockout Teams: an event in which a team (of four, five or six players — with four playing at a time) plays another team. The losers are eliminated or “knocked out” while the winners play other winners until only one winning team remains.

The length of a KO match may vary from a single session to a full day (the Vanderbilt and Spingold) to a multi-day event (the Bermuda Bowl).

Bracketed Knockout Teams: a KO event in which teams are divided into groups — usually of 8, 16 or 32 teams — based on their masterpoint holdings. The top group — Bracket I — and all other groups compete in a separate event with their own set of winners.

Compact Knockout Teams: a shorter version of Bracketed KO teams.

Swiss Teams: an event in which a team (of four, five or six players — with four playing at a time) plays other teams in seven-, eight- or nine-board matches. Team A sits North—South at Table 1 and East—West at Table 2 while Team B sits East—West at Table 1 and North—South at Table 2. The results are compared and scored by International Match Points (IMPs).

Pairings for the first round are random. Pairings for succeeding rounds are determined by a team's win-loss record or Victory Point total.

International Match Points (IMPs): the most common method of scoring Swiss Team matches. Scoring example: if Team A scores plus 620 for bidding and making 4♠ on a particular deal and Team B scores only plus 170 (they didn't bid the game), the difference is 450 — which converts to 10 IMPs. The IMP chart is shown on the inside of your convention card.

Victory Points (VPs): a method of scoring Swiss Team matches. After the scores are compared and converted to IMPs, the IMP total is converted to Victory Points. A team's VP total may be used to determine its next opponents and its final standing.

Side Game Series: a series of single-session pair games that pay red points. These series include at least three sessions and may have as many as six. You may play in as many sessions as you like, but only pairs who play in at least two sessions are eligible for overall gold points. Your best two sessions are used for determining overall winners.

Flighted pairs: When flighting is used, the field is divided by expertise or experience or both into several separate games. Flight A — “unlimited masterpoints” — will be open to all players while the remaining flights will be limited. Flight B might be 0—500 MPs or 0—1000 MPs while Flight C might be 0—300 or 0—500.

Each flight is scored individually, and masterpoint awards are made for each flight.

The masterpoint holdings of the players determine their flight. If one player is quite expert while his partner is new to the game, the pair must compete in Flight A.

In flighted events, you may play up but not down. That means you may play in Flight A or Flight B even if your masterpoint holding qualifies you for Flight C. Conversely, you may not play in Flight B or Flight C if you are a Flight A player.



Workshop for Teachers of Youth Players



Currently teaching young students or interested in starting a youth class? Meet with Patty Tucker, Julie Greenberg and a School Bridge League official to exchange ideas and brainstorm about youth bridge.

Date: Sunday, March 15 **Location:** Hilton Americas — Meeting Room 343 **Time:** 10:00 a.m. — Noon

Houston 2002: A look back

There were many well-played deals the last time an NABC was held in Houston in 2002. Here are some that were reported in the Daily Bulletin. (some hands rotated for convenience):

Put on the pressure

By Barry Rigal

Lyle Poe found a nice play to make his slam on this deal from the North American Open Pairs.

Dlr: South ♠ A
 Vul: None ♥ A 9 8 6 3
 ♦ A 8 7 4
 ♣ Q J 2

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

♠ J 10
 ♥ J 4
 ♦ K Q J 5 2
 ♣ A 9 6 4

West	North <i>Shaw</i>	East	South <i>Poe</i>
3♠	Dbl	Pass	4♣
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

On a spade lead, Poe took dummy's ace and immediately led a low heart. Be honest — would you have been able to duck this as East? East took his king and played back a spade, but the damage had been done.

Poe ruffed the spade, drew two rounds of trumps with the king and queen, then led the ♥J to the queen and ace. Next he passed the ♥9 when East ducked. He ruffed the next heart, drew the last trump with the ace and cashed the 13th heart. Then he took the club finesse for his contract and 23.5 out the possible 25 matchpoints.

A 27-point slam

JoAnna and Lew Stansby won the Flight A North American Pairs. They found their way to a fine slam on this board in the final session:

Dlr: South ♠ 10 5
 Vul: Both ♥ 3
 ♦ A 7 6 4
 ♣ A Q 10 8 5 2

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

♠ A K J 3
 ♥ Q 7 5 4
 ♦ K 2
 ♣ K J 3

West	North <i>Lew</i>	East	South <i>JoAnna</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♣
Pass	3♥	Dbl	2NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	Pass
Pass	4NT	Pass	4♠
All Pass			6♣

2♣ was a forcing raise, and 2NT showed a non-slammish hand with points for a strong notrump and probably only three clubs. 3♥ showed shortness and both 4♦ and 4♠ were control bids. Lew's 4NT bid offered JoAnna a choice — pass or 6♣. Opposite good clubs and short hearts, she went for the slam and earned a fine matchpoint result.

No cover? They don't have it.

By Barry Rigal

Lew Stansby found the right pressure play to get the most out of his 3NT contract.

Dlr: West ♠ J
 Vul: N-S ♥ 8
 ♦ A K J 8 7 6
 ♣ A Q 6 5 4

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

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

West	North <i>JoAnna</i>	East	South <i>Lew</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
2♥	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

He won the opening heart lead with the jack and immediately led the ♣J — he felt sure West would find himself unable to resist covering. West played low, so Stansby went up with the ace, cashed the ♦A and overtook the ♠J with the ace. He cashed the ♠K and led his second diamond and finessed the jack. When the suit behaved, he had his 10 tricks and a fine score because 11 tricks were the limit in either clubs or diamonds. Lew collected 23 out of the 25 matchpoints available for his effort.

Good play backs up aggressive bidding

Larry Cohen and his partner Alice Leicht both bid aggressively on this deal:

Dlr: South ♠ A K J 8
 Vul: None ♥ 10 8 4 3
 ♦ J 9 8 2
 ♣ 4

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

♠ 9 6
 ♥ A K J 6 5
 ♦ A Q
 ♣ A 8 6 5

West	North <i>Leicht</i>	East	South <i>Cohen</i>
2♥	4♥	Pass	1♥
All Pass			6♥

West's 2♥ bid showed spades and a minor, which helped guide Cohen in the play. West led the ♣K, taken by Cohen with the ace. He cashed the ♥A, ruffed a club, played a heart to the jack and ruffed another club. A diamond to the ace put Cohen back in hand, and he ran trumps, squeezing West in the black suits. West could not hold his high club and four spades, so he discarded a spade. When Cohen took the more-or-less marked spade finesse, dummy's ♠8 took the 13th trick.

Quiz #2

By Eddie Kantar

Dlr: East ♠ J
 Vul: None ♥ A Q 8 7 6
 ♦ 7 6
 ♣ Q 9 8 3 2

♠ 10 8
 ♥ J 2
 ♦ K J 10
 ♣ A K J 10 5 4

West	North	East	South
4♠	5♣	1♠	2♣
		All Pass	

West leads the ♠3. East wins the king and shifts to a low diamond. Which diamond should you play and why?

Kantar's Answer:

♠ J
 ♥ A Q 8 7 6
 ♦ 7 6
 ♣ Q 9 8 3 2

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

♠ 10 8
 ♥ J 2
 ♦ K J 10
 ♣ A K J 10 5 4

You should play the ♦K. Why? Because you can see East has the ace, silly. No, that's not the reason! In order to make the contract, you must assume the ♥K is inside. If that is the case, then East needs the ♦A to justify his opening bid.

There's quite a lesson to be learned from this deal. When you absolutely need one particular card (the ♥K in the case) to be in one particular hand to make a contract, assume it is, and then try to place the other important cards from the bidding.

A leading question

By Barry Rigal

How you fancy yourself on opening leads? Just look at the bidding and the West cards and play your opening salvo.

Dlr: North ♠ K 6 3
 Vul: E-W ♥ —
 ♦ A 8 7 5 2
 ♣ A 8 6 3 2

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

♠ J 9 8 7 5 4
 ♥ 9 7 5
 ♦ J
 ♣ K 9 5

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

What do you think of the choice of the ♣J? Well, a trump lead holds declarer to seven tricks for minus 500. A club lead worked out considerably worse. Lew Stansby, playing with his wife JoAnna, won the king and ruffed a heart, cashed the ♦A and ruffed a diamond. Then he ruffed a heart, cashed the ♣A and ruffed a third diamond with West unable to overruff. He ruffed a third heart and a fourth diamond. That was nine tricks in the bag with this ending:

♠ —
 ♥ —
 ♦ 2
 ♣ 8 6 3

♠ 2 ♠ A Q 10
 ♥ Q J 8 ♥ —
 ♦ — ♦ K
 ♣ — ♣ —

♠ J 9 8
 ♥ —
 ♦ —
 ♣ 9

Stansby exited with the ♣9 and collected a trump trick in the ending for plus 590 and 22.5 matchpoints out of 25.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY MORNING SIDE SERIES - IST FRIDAY AM SESSION

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTIONS XX YY, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Tim White, Niel Waletzky, John Russell, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

FRIDAY AM 299ER PAIRS - ONLY SESSION

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION WW, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Joan Kalinousky, Joyce Eveld, Janice Vernia, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

IST FRIDAY SENIOR PAIRS - FRIDAY AFTERNOON - 2 OF 2 SESSIONS

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION V, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Julian Hecklen, Richard Wilson, V Abercrombie, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION W, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Mimi Hagedorn, Mary Pat Gentry, John Link, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

JO DENE BOND I 0-5 - FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION N, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Sharon Green, Dianne Wolchik, Janice Kruse, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

JO DENE BOND 1 20/50 PAIRS - FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION O, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like James Lawrence, Mary Dodson, Richard Langland, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

JO DENE BOND 1 299ER PAIRS - FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION P, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Kim O'Hara, Jim McCormick, Johnell McKee, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION Q, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Arlene Rawitscher, Margot Leonard, Ann Marie Ross, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

BOB GERBERICH STRATIFIED OPEN AFTERNOON - 1 OF 2 SESSIONS

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION TT, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Arnold Fisher, Eurydice Nours, Ken Monzingo, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

FRIDAY AFT SIDE PAIRS - 1 OF 6 SESSIONS

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION UU, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Paul Stereff, Donna Compton, Petra Hamman, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION VV, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Jerry Thorpe, Fred Wang, Jess Stuart, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION YY, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Alfredo Ringel, Greg Johnson, Layne Onufer, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

SILODOR OPEN PAIRS - ONE OF FOUR SESSIONS

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTIONS FG, and EAST-WEST. Rows include names like Mark Itabashi, Melvin Marcus, Michael Golden, etc., with associated percentages and session numbers.

TODAY'S BRIDGE EVENTS

See page 2 for other events

Rose Black Day, Junior Day, Dress-Up Night

Event	Session	Sold	Entry/player/session	
			ACBL members**	Other
Saturday, March 14, 9 a.m.				
Saturday-Sunday Morning Compact Bracketed KO Teams	1-2	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
Friday-Sunday Morning Side Game Series	2nd single session	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
ACBL Educational Foundation Bracketed KO Teams	3rd	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
Stratified 299er Swiss Teams	single	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$15	\$17
299er, 199er, 99er, 49er Pairs	single	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$15	\$17
0-20 & 0-5 Pairs	single	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$15	\$15
Saturday, March 14, 10 & 3 p.m.				
Dib McGee Stratified Senior Pairs	1-2	4th Floor Ballrooms JKL	\$16	\$18
Saturday, March 14, 1 p.m.				
Friday-Saturday Side Game Series	3rd single session	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
Jo Dene Bond Memorial 299er, 199er, 99er, 49er Pairs	single	4th Floor Ballrooms GHI	\$15	\$17
Jo Dene Bond Memorial 0-20 & 0-5 Pairs	single	4th Floor Ballrooms GHI	\$15	\$17
\$15	\$15			
Saturday, March 14, 1 & 7:30 p.m.				
Silodor Open Pairs	1-2 F	4th Floor Ballrooms A—F	\$20	
Rose Black Strati-Flighted Pairs	1-2	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
Jim Shortt Memorial Compact Bracketed KO Teams	1-4	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
Ed Hoffing Memorial Friday-Saturday Bracketed KO Teams	3-4	3rd Floor Room 335	\$16	\$18
Saturday, March 14, 7:30 p.m.				
One-session Stratified Swiss Teams	single	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$15	\$17
Friday-Saturday Side Game Series	4th single session	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
Stratified 299er Swiss Teams	single	4th Floor Ballroom GHI	\$15	\$17
299er, 199er, 99er, 49er Pairs	single	4th Floor Ballroom GHI	\$15	\$17
0-20 & 0-5 Pairs	single	4th Floor Ballroom GHI	\$15	\$15
Saturday, March 14, 11:30 p.m.				
Jeanette Magid Memorial Zip KO Teams	single	4th Floor Ballroom GHI	\$12/team/match	

Note: Entry for the Vanderbilt Knockout Teams required by 8 p.m. Saturday, March 14.

Unless otherwise noted, Strati-Flighted and Strati-Flighted Senior events are divided: A/X (3000+, 0-3000); separate from B/C/D (1000-2000, 500-1000, 0-500). Strata breaks for Stratified and Stratified Senior events are: A (2000+), B (750-2000), C (0-750).

*Members whose dues payment is current and Life Masters whose service fee payment is current.

Thanks to our sponsors

ROSE BLACK DAY ROSE BLACK APPRECIATION STRATI-FLIGHTED PAIRS

Rose Black, a Diamond Life Master from El Paso, Texas, combines great skill at the bridge table with being a wonderful person as well. She is renowned for being a great partner and never has a negative word to say about anything. She refuses any honors and is willing to take on any task, however menial, to make bridge a better game.

From her son, Bob Black of Beaumont, Texas.



HELEN LEVY APPRECIATION SIDE GAME

Central Texas Unit 233 is proud to sponsor this game for Helen. She has been the Unit's Secretary-Treasurer, Membership Chairman and Tournament Coordinator since March 1989. She also writes the bi-monthly SCORECARD column for the unit. All of her work is volunteered and we appreciate all she has done over the years.

ED HOFFING MEMORIAL BRACKETED KO

Edgar Hoffing passed away on March 8th, 2008. He was 84 years old.

Born in Chicago, he received his undergraduate degree in chemical engineering from the University of Illinois. Moving on to the Univ. of Southern California he received his doctorate. After an illustrious career with M.W. Kellogg, he retired as V.P. of Latin American sales.



Being the consummate bridge player, his contributions to the bridge world are many. In 1990, he volunteered and gave bridge lessons at Spring Branch Community Center. After 2 years of teaching, he wrote a booklet for beginners titled, "Competitive Bidding." At the same time he directed a nonsanctioned game once a week.

Being the visionary he was, in 1992 he founded the ACBL sanctioned duplicate games at the community center, directing twice a week. This affected hundreds of bridge players and the games grew to other community centers. Many new players were added to the Houston membership. Again, volunteering his time at the community center, he taught advanced players the system of Max Hardy's "Two Over One Game Force."

In August 2007, he achieved the rank of Gold Life Master. Edgar is survived by Judith Hoffing, his wife of 26 years, son Glen, and four beautiful grandchildren.

DIB MCGEE APPRECIATION STRATIFIED SENIORS PAIRS

The members of the Pasadena Bridge Club wish to honor Elizabeth "Dib" McGee for her countless contributions to the Houston Bridge community. Dib is a Gold Life Master with over 3,700 masterpoints. She has always been an outstanding player and her strong competitive spirit has enabled her to be a winning partner and a formidable opponent. We want her to know how much we appreciate the many years she served as Treasurer and Partnership Chairman for the Pasadena Bridge Club. She has been an inspiration to us through the years and we all love her.



JIM SHORTT MEMORIAL COMPACT KO

Jim Shortt, a long-time member of the Houston bridge community, was most active in the bridge world in the Seventies and Eighties. He traveled to all the local tournaments and won a number of regional and sectional titles. He was from Beaumont originally and frequently played with Ed Allen and Pigeon Davis. In Houston, his regular partners were Charlie Tupper and Mike Davis. He used to say that his favorite partners were all named Davis. Following his retirement, he became active in bridge again and played regularly at the Clear Lake Bridge Club. He also passed on his love of the game to the students in his bridge classes at College of the Mainland in Texas City. He is missed.

JEANETTE MAGID MEMORIAL ZIP KO

Three years ago, the bridge community in Houston lost a dear friend when Jeanette lost her battle with cancer. An imaginative and aggressive bidder, Jeanette had an uncanny ability to bring home her "optimistic" game and slam contracts. She was always a good sport who never failed to compliment an opponent who made a good bid or play. Jeanette, we miss you and are sure you are at the big bridge game in the sky saying, "Whatevah".

JO DENE BOND MEMORIAL STRATIFIED 299er PAIRS II

How do I describe Jo Dene Bond? Mother, friend, bridge player, club owner, director, board member, teacher. Her greatest love of all was I/N Director. She worked long and hard all year long for them. She really loved her novices. She always decorated the non-Life Masters' area at tournaments. When you walked into the area it always stood out.

She was a tiger at the bridge table and a kitten when she was teaching. She was my mentor and my friend. I will miss her beautiful smile, red hair and her love of bridge. She's one of the brightest leaves in my memory book and I miss her dearly.

Submitted by Sherry Gerdes