

# Daily



# Bulletin

Houston, Texas

52nd Spring North American Bridge Championships

Editors: Brent Manley and Dave Smith

## Experienced workers key to NABC success

“It was a lot easier this time,” said NABC Co-chair Toni Snow. She was referring to 2002, the last time the North American Bridge Championships were held in Houston. Snow was joined by her husband, Eric Snow, and Betty Starzec as co-chairs.

“The workers had been through it before and knew what to expect this time,” said Eric. “They were terrific. We appreciate and want to thank all of them.”

“The committee chairs and the volunteers worked like a well-oiled machine,” added Starzec. “We had an amazing crew of volunteers, and all of them did their job. It was one great team.”

The success involved a lot of planning. “We were on the phone every day,” said Toni. “One day, Betty called me nine times in one hour.”

The co-chairs also kept involved on the committee level as well. “One

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*Tournament Chairs Betty Starzec, Eric and Toni Snow.*

## Ivatury leads Swiss teams

The squad captained by Uday Ivatury takes a lead of less than 1 victory point into today’s two final sessions of the Jacoby Open Swiss Teams. They will start play today with a carryover of 29.25 VPs, just ahead of the 28.50 for the Aubrey Strul squad.

Ivatury is playing with Christal Henner-Welland and Dutch players Bas Drijver, Vincent Ramondt, Sjoert Brink and Berry Westra.

Strul’s squad is Mike Becker, Larry Cohen, David Berkowitz, Chip Martel and Lew Stansby.

## Fireman ahead in Women’s Swiss

The team captained by Phyllis Fireman enters play today in the Machlin Women’s Swiss Teams with a slim lead over the Renee Mancuso squad. The two final sessions are today.

Fireman is playing with Shannon Cappelletti, Jill Meyers, Jill Levin, Tobi Sokolow and Janice Seamon-Molson. Their carryover of 22.5 victory points puts them just ahead of the 18.28 amassed by Mancusco, Shawn Quinn, Pam Wittes and Peggy Sutherland.

Less than 1 VP behind Mancuso are Valerie Westheimer, Hjordis Eythorsdottir, Betty Ann Kennedy and Georgiana Gates.

## Katz dominates second half to take Vanderbilt



*Vanderbilt winners with the official trophy: seated, Steve Weinstein, Walid Elahmady and Tarek Sadek; standing, George Jacobs, Robert Levin and Ralph Katz.*

The team captained by Ralph Katz broke open a tight match in the third quarter and played nearly flawless bridge the rest of the way to win the Vanderbilt Knockout Teams 124-86 over the tough squad led by John Diamond.

Katz played with George Jacobs, Robert Levin, Steve Weinstein and Egyptian stars Walid Elahmady and Tarek Sadek.

Diamond, fielding one of the youngest teams ever in the Vanderbilt final, played with Brian Platnick, Fred Gitelman (at 44 the oldest member of the squad), Brad Moss, Geoff Hampson and Eric Greco.

The Diamond team proved their mettle on Friday by pounding the No. 1 seed, Nick Nickell, to get to the final.

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## New Englanders lead NAP-B

Two players from Massachusetts hold a slim lead in the President’s Cup North American Pairs, Flight B, entering the two final sessions today.

Robert McCaw of Sudbury MA and Lewis Gamerman of Brookline MA will start play today with a carryover of 32.87. Right behind them are Californians Matt Klimesh, Pasadena, and David Kempe, Los Angeles.

## District 6 pair leads NAP Flight C

Margaret and Robert Matheson, of Glen Allen VA, lead the qualifiers in the President’s Cup North American Pairs Flight C. The District 6 pair has a carryover of 24.02 They are narrowly ahead of the District 16 pair Brian Stevens and Melanie Dunn of Montgomery TX who has 22.06. Steve Ramos and Kevin Lane, of District 23 are in third with a carryover of 21.08.

The NAP Flight C is a grassroots event limited to players who have not yet become Life Masters. It began last summer at the local club level and qualifiers then advanced to unit and then district competition.

### Attendance

Table count through the Saturday evening sessions: 9084

### Goodwill message

As we prepare to leave this terrific Houston NABC, let’s all take an extra moment to say “thank you” to our hosts. The hospitality and entertainment have been spectacular.

I look forward to see you at the Summer NABC in Washington DC.

*Aileen Osofsky, Chairman  
National Goodwill Committee*



## European Championships open to all comers in 2009



A fourth edition of the European Open Bridge Championships is scheduled for Sanremo, Italy, June 12-27 next year. Sanremo is a resort community on the Italian Riviera not far from Monaco.

The European championships were first opened to all

players in 2003, in Menton,

France, not far from the Sanremo venue. Two other tournaments – in Tenerife, Canary

Islands, and Antalya, Turkey – attracted many stars from around the world.

The tournament will be run on a typical European schedule: Most events are played in a longer, single session starting about 10:30 a.m., leaving evenings free for dining and other activities. All events are transnational and there are no restrictions on the number of entries per national bridge organization.

The scheduled events are Mixed Teams; Mixed Pairs; Open, Women's and Senior

Teams, and Open, Women's and Senior Pairs, with cash prizes for overall finishers. Players entering four events receive a 25% discount on the entry fees.

The hotels, including one five-star and two four-star properties, will offer a special bridge rate for tournament participants.

The Palafiore Convention Center, a converted flower market, is a modern facility that is fully air conditioned, as are the host hotels.

Sanremo is a half hour's drive from Monaco, where one of the world's most famous casinos is located. Also within easy driving distance is Genova (Genoa), and Milano is relatively close.

For more information, including registration, you can e-mail [ebl@federbridge.it](mailto:ebl@federbridge.it).

## Register for the USWBC

The 2009 United States Women's Bridge Championship will select the two U.S. teams for the 2009 Venice Cup. The 2009 USWBC will be held in Sacramento CA.

If no more than 10 teams enter, it will start on May 23 and end on May 28. The Venice Cup will be held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, starting Aug. 29 and ending Sept. 12.

The USWBC will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento, the site of the Sacramento Regional, which starts on May 25. More information is available at the USBF website ([www.usbf.org](http://www.usbf.org)).

Entries for the 2009 USWBC are now open and close, for teams requesting byes, on April 1, and for teams not requesting byes on April 15. Please refer to the USBF website for more information.

## Notice to players

Each player must have an ACBL convention card filled out and on the table. Please note that other types of convention cards, such as the WBF convention card or homemade cards that do not sufficiently resemble the ACBL convention card, are not acceptable substitutes.



## Bob's favorite contract

By Barry Rigal

Bob Hamman always says that when you have to make a decision in bidding, if 3NT is in the picture – bid it.

On this deal from the Vanderbilt Knockout Teams, Hamman found himself in a decidedly dicey contract of 3NT. You don't get a reputation like Hamman has, however, by giving up.

Dlr: South ♠ Q 10 7 4  
 Vul: None ♥ 9 4 2  
 ♦ J 6 4  
 ♣ K 8 4

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

West	North	East	South
	Zia		Hamman
			1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led a heart to the queen, ducked by Hamman. He inserted the jack on the heart continuation, losing to West's king. Another heart cleared the suit as East discarded a club.

Things looked bleak with the clubs blocked, but Hamman cashed the ♦A. No luck. Soldiering on, Hamman cashed the ♣A and ♣Q, then played a spade to dummy's 10. East won the ♠K and started thinking – good news! Eventually, East returned a low spade to the jack and queen.

Hamman cashed the ♣K as East pitched a spade. Now the ♦J was covered all around as West pitched a club.

Hamman then played a spade to East, who was forced to lead a diamond from the 9-7 into Hamman's 10-8.

This was the full deal:

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

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

East had more than once chance to set the contract, but his easiest was to win the ♠K and play the ♦Q. Declarer is now blocked off from his own hand. Had he pitched a spade instead of a club at trick three, the defenders would still have prevailed.

## Know thy system

By Jeff Miller

Here is a hand from the top flight of a bracketed knockout. After three passes, you must decide what to bid with the following:

♠ A K Q 10 8 7 6 4 ♥ A K Q ♦ 6 ♣ 5.

When aces are the question, Blackwood is the answer. You could open 2♣, set spades, and then bid Blackwood, but the opponents might well get more active on the second round of bidding (they would have). You open all big balanced hands with 2♣ and use Kokish, so you elect to open 4NT. In fact, the international experts at the other table also opened 4NT. We're not going to use any names in this one. Just use the information for your regular partnerships.

At one table, where there was no agreement, the responder thought that this was a case for 1430 responses, while the opening bidder did not. Responder bid 5♣, opener signed off at 5♠, and responder let it play – plus 480.

At the other table, the regular partnership played the popular method of showing specific aces. This normally means 5♣ = 0, 5♦ = ♦A, etc., and here the paths diverged. Some play that 5NT shows two aces and 6♣ the ♣A, while others play that 5NT is the ♣A. After some thought, the responder bid 5NT and the opener jumped to 7♠. The players properly explained the issue before the opening lead. The ♦A was cashed for minus 50.

So that is the story of how two expert partnerships failed to bid a laydown slam by messing up Blackwood. Even the simplest conventions require explicit agreements.

You might not see this hand for a while, but variations come up fairly often. You and your partner should agree on when 4NT is not Key Card Blackwood. An example is 1♠ – 4NT. This should be straight Blackwood because you could easily set trump before using RKC.

## 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.



Myra Pruet of Houston made it a family affair in the Intermediate/Newcomer game, inviting her two sons, two grandsons and a family friend to play bridge. "I made them all come to play," Pruet said. The group: Hailie Durrett, Andrew Pruet, Richard Taylor Pruet, Myra, Taylor Pruet and Ronald B. Pruet Jr.



# JUST FOR NEW PLAYERS

## Dear New Players:

By Marti Ronemus

So your suitcases are all packed, ready for your departure, but you've got to squeeze in one more game before you leave. I once missed a plane that way, so be careful about time! (It was a great game, and worth the \$75 rebooking fee!)



I got a cheerful, triumphant e-mail last night that I'm going to share. It will reflect back on my theme of "Don't bite your partner's head off" from earlier this week. Remember the story of the Great Dane and the gerbil? (If you missed it, go to [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org) and search through the archives.)

"Dear Marti. I think I've finally grasped the flexibility of the opening 2♣ bid. I've been struggling with it, so I felt pretty good. In last night's side game, I picked up this hand... what a freak!

♠AKQJ98742 ♥— ♦A♣876

I never had a hand with a nine-card suit before and wasn't sure what to do. Then I remember my teacher saying that the 2♣ opener isn't just for high point hands, but for when you've got 8-1/2 tricks in your hand. Aha! I count actually 10 tricks, so I opened 2♣. Cindy and I play step responses, so her 3♣ bid showed 13-15 points. Well, I wasn't sure what to do then, so I asked for aces, and she showed one. I was stuck. I had to figure – and pray – that since she had no points in spades, she had some in clubs. So I held my breath and bid 6♠.

"My RHO then doubled. He did, after all, have the missing ace and all the points. It was a lock for the slam and we got the only top board on the hand! Others were in the slam, but no one else was doubled.

"My gosh, you should have heard the wife berating her poor husband for the double! She started on him the minute the dummy came down and she was still carrying on two tables away! I shouldn't laugh, but it was funny.

"So, Cindy and I would like to know how the experts would handle this hand? There was a lot of discussion in the bar last night, especially from the people who opened 4♠. Signed, Happy in Houston."

Dear Happy,

I rarely offer advice to the guy who gets the

top on the board! Your story, after all the sad, pathetic e-mails I've gotten this week, gives me hope. I'm certainly not going to give you advice, but I am going to offer a few thoughts.

You are so right about the flexibility of the bid. 2♣ is the perfect opening when you can see 8-1/2 tricks in hand, OR (and this is perfectly legitimate!) you would die if your partner passed. Now, don't misuse that as an excuse for bad bids! You aren't going to see another nine-card suit this decade (I've never had one!), but you are going to see a lot of hands that aren't chock-full of points, but are real trick-takers. Go for it!

Now, about the step response bids. Personally, I don't like them. They take up too much room, and often have the big hand unnecessarily on the table rather than hidden. Usually, step responses are used by less experienced players. It sounds as though you've got a good partnership going, so sit down with your partner and study the 2♦ waiting scenarios. Once you understand them, you'll see that you're not going to miss your slams, and will actually find the right spot easier and faster...or be able to bail out earlier!

The other thing I want you and Cindy to study, and that's using cuebids rather than Blackwood/Gerber when you've got a void and are searching for slam. It isn't as easy as B/G, but you asked what the Big Dogs would do, and they would use cuebids.

The important thing, Happy, is you got to the right contract. Sometimes it doesn't matter if you got there on the wings of an angel, just that you get there!

The other important thing is that you and Cindy have a partnership where you want to



learn together, and never place the blame for a bad board on each other. The Bickersons you played against are going to have a terrible game, both in percentage and the "emotional content" we talked about earlier in the week.

You are more of a winner than you even know! You have learned the important Life Lesson of careful treatment of partners. Go forth and conquer.

Well, y'all, I'm going to miss these little daily chats, but please don't forget me when you get home. I want to hear from you, and no question is too dumb, no story is too weird. By now you know I have an answer for everything! E-mail me at [mronemus@comcast.net](mailto:mronemus@comcast.net). You'll see yourself in print eventually.

## Thinking bridge

By Eddie Kantar

Dlr: North ♠ A 10 4 3  
 Vul: Both ♥ 8 6 4  
 ♦ A K 7 2  
 ♣ K 2

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

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

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1NT

All Pass

Opening lead: ♠Q.

**Bidding commentary:** South is not strong enough to bid clubs and North is not strong enough to bid again after South responds 1NT.

**Lead commentary:** Clear-cut. The queen is led from suits headed by the Q-J-10 or Q-J-9. If the third card is lower than the 9, fourth-highest is led. As an aside, when the response to 1♦ is 1NT, responder frequently has long clubs.

**Play commentary:** As declarer, looking only at spades (a big mistake), the proper spade play is to win the first trick with the king and later lead low to the 10 to garner three spade tricks. But at what price? By going for three spade tricks, you have put the club suit to rest! If East wins the second club, taking dummy's last club with the ace, you cannot get back to your hand to cash your three winning clubs. You wind up with one club trick instead of

four! Best is to win the ♠A and lead the ♣K. Even if East expertly wins the second club, you still have the ♠K to get back to your precious clubs. Playing properly, you score four clubs, two spades and the ♦A K for 8 tricks. If you win the ♠K at trick one and East wins the second club, you have only six tricks!

**Defensive commentary:** When declarer tries to set up a suit in the closed hand (clubs), and dummy has two cards in that suit, a strong defender holding the ace or king, does best to win the second round. This may make it difficult for declarer to return to the closed hand to take winning tricks.

See IN Top masterpoint winners on page 9.

## Friday the Rabbi used judgment

By Mark Horton

In 1965 Harry Kemelman won an Edgar Award for Best First Novel, *Friday the Rabbi Slept Late*, featuring the Rabbi David Small, which became a huge bestseller. If the Rabbi Small had been a bridge player, the title might have been different.

Rabbi Leonard Helman, a mere 82 years young, suffers from Parkinson's disease, but still engages his mind at the bridge table, trying to solve problems that can be just as taxing as your average murder mystery.

Here are a few interesting deals from the final of the Lebhar IMP Pairs on most of which some judgment was required:

Dlr: North	♠ K 8 4		
Vul: None	♥ 5 4 3 2		
	♦ J 5		
	♣ A K 7 6		
♠ 10 6		♠ J 5 3	
♥ A 6		♥ K Q J 10 9 8 7	
♦ Q 10 9 8 7 6		♦ K	
♣ 9 4 3		♣ 8 5	
	♠ A Q 9 7 2		
	♥ —		
	♦ A 4 3 2		
	♣ Q J 10 2		
West	North	East	South
	<i>Horton</i>		<i>Helman</i>
	1♣	3♥	3♠
4♥	4♠	All Pass	

With a big fit for a club suit that the bidding has suggested is likely to be natural and spades having being supported, there is a strong case for South moving in search of a slam.

However, in an auction where bad breaks could be expected the Rabbi decided to take the conservative route. Plus 420 was worth 2.10 IMPs.

Dlr: East	♠ K Q J 9 5		
Vul: Both	♥ 9 5 2		
	♦ Q J		
	♣ J 7 3		
♠ 2		♠ 7 3	
♥ Q 10 7 6 4 3		♥ K 8	
♦ A 9 6 5 3		♦ K 10 7 4 2	
♣ Q		♣ A 9 4 2	
	♠ A 10 8 6 4		
	♥ A J		
	♦ 8		
	♣ K 10 9 6 5		
West	North	East	South
	<i>Horton</i>		<i>Helman</i>
		Pass	1♠
3♥	3♠	4♥	4♠
5♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

West's overcall facing a passed partner reminds me of a line from Horace's Odes: "Oak and triple bronze encompassed the breast of him who first entrusted his frail craft to the wild sea."

With such a defenseless hand I might have done better to bid a direct four spades, which at least emphasizes the powerful trump support.

As an aside, this deal is much easier for North-South if the opening bid is one club. If East-West bid in analogous style the auction might go:

1♣ - (2♥) - 2♠ - (3♥); 4♠ - (5♥), and now, knowing of the secondary fit in clubs, it is easier for North to go on to five spades.	
Losing 850 cost a whopping 11.70 IMPs.	
Dlr: North	♠ 9 7 6 5
Vul: Both	♥ 7
	♦ J 10 7
	♣ A 8 7 6 4
♠ A Q 3 2	♠ K J 8 4
♥ Q J 4 3	♥ 6 2
♦ Q 9 4 2	♦ 9 6
♣ J	♣ K 10 5 3 2
	♠ 10
	♥ A K 10 9 8 5
	♦ A K 5 3
	♣ Q 9

West	North	East	South
	<i>Horton</i>		<i>Helman</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	4♥
Dbl	All Pass		

Let's put the Rabbi's rebid down to the enthusiasm of youth. I doubt West would have doubled three hearts, but he was happy enough to take a shot at four. This misadventure cost 9.06 IMPs.

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Horton</i>		<i>Helman</i>
Pass	1♦	1♥	All Pass

Everyone had some sort of decision to make on this deal.

Should West open two spades?

Should North open?

If North does open, what should East bid?

After East overcalls one heart, what should South do?

After East overcalls one heart, what should West do if South passes or bids INT?

Here are my suggestions:

Unless I had some strict rules about suit quality, I would open two spades with the West hand. (Better still I would open with a

Multicoloured Two Diamonds, but that is not allowed in any type of pairs game.)

The absence of majors from the North hand is a major concern, even when one player has passed. That argues in favor of bidding on the North hand (a few players might be able to open 2NT to show the minors).

Once North opens, East is awkwardly placed. You have to choose between one heart and 1NT - I would prefer the latter, which at least gets across the high-card values.

After East bids one heart, South should bid 1NT. Passing suggests that you are willing to defend one heart doubled if partner reopens - and this is not the right sort of hand for that.

Finally, if South passes, West should bid one spade, and might consider bidding two spades over 1NT.

Failing to reach the spade game cost East-West 8.58 IMPs.

I'll sign off with an illustration of how easy it is to make a mistake at this demanding game:

Dlr: East	♠ K 5 4		
Vul: N-S	♥ —		
	♦ A 10 4 3 2		
	♣ K J 9 7 5		
♠ Q J 6		♠ 10 8 7	
♥ 9 6 4		♥ A J 10 7	
♦ K Q 8 7 6		♦ J 9	
♣ 4 2		♣ A 8 6 3	
	♠ A 9 3 2		
	♥ K Q 8 5 3 2		
	♦ 5		
	♣ Q 10		

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

East led the ten of spades, and when that held he continued the suit. Declarer won in hand and attacked clubs, playing one to dummy's queen and then overtaking the ten with the jack. East won and played a third spade, so declarer won in dummy, cashed the long spade and played a diamond to the ace. Declarer cashed his clubs and this was the four-card ending:

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

On the seven of clubs East made the fatal mistake of retaining the jack of diamonds. Now when declarer exited with a diamond, one defender or the other had to surrender the ninth trick.

## Vanderbilt

Continued from page 1

Katz took a 43-33 lead against Diamond after the first quarter, but Diamond won the second set 30-19 to lead by 1 IMP at the break. Katz was very stingy with the IMPs from then on, and only a 14-IMP slam swing to Diamond near the end of the third quarter kept the match within reach. On the other 31 boards of the second half, Diamond scored only 9 IMPs.

The win gives Katz, Jacobs and Levin three Vanderbilt victories. Levin won his first in 1980 and his second 20 years ago. Katz and Jacobs won in 1999 and 2004. The win was the first for the Egyptians and Weinstein.



They were second in the Vanderbilt: Brad Moss, Brian Platnick, Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco, John Diamond and Fred Gitelman.

## Aggression pays off

Lisa Berkowitz and Joann Glasson won the Whitehead Women's Pairs going away. These two deals show how aggressive bidding pays off at matchpoints. The following deals were played in the first final session.

Dlr: West	♠ A Q 10		
Vul: None	♥ K 9 8 6 3		
	♦ 9 7		
	♣ 10 5 4		
	♠ K J 7 5 4	♠ 9 8 6 3	
	♥ 10 7	♥ A 4	
	♦ A K Q	♦ 10 5 4 3	
	♣ K Q 7	♣ J 8 6	
	♠ 2		
	♥ Q J 5 2		
	♦ J 8 6 2		
	♣ A 9 3 2		
West	North	East	South
	Glasson		Berkowitz
1♠	Pass	3♦ (1)	Dbl
4♠	Dbl	All Pass	

(1) Single raise with four or more trumps.

Glasson and Berkowitz play that a double of a 3♦ Bergen raise is for takeout, so Berkowitz showed her pattern, making it easier for Glasson to double the final contract. On the lead of the ♥3, declarer played the ace. Berkowitz followed with the ♥2, suit preference for clubs. The defense came to a heart, a club and three trump tricks for plus 300 and all the matchpoints.

On the next deal, Glasson judged well to jam the auction rather than bidding a major.

Dlr: South	♠ Q 9 7 4		
Vul: None	♥ 7 4		
	♦ 10 9 6 5 3 2		
	♣ 9		
	♠ 8 5 2	♠ K J 6	
	♥ A 10 8	♥ Q J 6 2	
	♦ Q 4	♦ K 8 7	
	♣ K Q 10 6 5	♣ A J 2	
	♠ A 10 3		
	♥ K 9 5 3		
	♦ A J		
	♣ 8 7 4 3		
West	North	East	South
	Glasson		Berkowitz
Pass	3♦	Dbl	1♦ (1)
4♣	All Pass		Pass

Glasson and Berkowitz play Precision, so Glasson knew her partner's hand was limited. Looking at her own hand, Glasson guessed correctly that the opponents had a game (3NT by East-West is trivial), so she jammed the auction with a weak raise in diamonds. It's tough for West in the given auction to bid 3NT on a doubleton ♦Q, so she bid 4♣. Minus 130 was good for 24 out of 25 matchpoints for the winners.

## Thank you

Thank you to Baron Barclay Bridge Supply for sponsoring the Win a Bridge Library contest in the IntermediateNewcomer area

Thank you to Kronberg's Flags and Flagpoles for supplying and delivering the Texas State flag displayed on the 2nd floor.

## Winners of bridge libraries announced

Five players won bridge libraries – bridge books that were donated by the sponsor Baron Barclay Bridge Supply. The contest winners were determined by a random drawing in the Intermediate-Newcomer area. The winners are: Jean Moritz of Houston, Dianne Wolchik of Georgetown TX, Dianne Watkins of Houston, Kay Kennedy of Houston and Renee Wetherhold of Emmaus PA.

## Desperate measures

Californians Michael Bodell of Santa Clara and Martha Hawley of Carmel Valley found themselves trailing by 20 IMPs in their knockout match when the following deal came along. Aggressive bidding and skillful play earned a 13-IMP swing in a match they eventually won by 1 IMP.

Dlr: South	♠ 9 8 6		
Vul: Both	♥ A 6		
	♦ A K Q 10 6 2		
	♣ 7 4		
	♠ Q J 10 7 3 2	♠ K 4	
	♥ J 8 2	♥ Q 10 5 4 3	
	♦ 8	♦ 9 5 3	
	♣ J 5 3	♣ K 10 2	
	♠ A 5		
	♥ K 9 7		
	♦ J 7 4		
	♣ A Q 9 8 6		
West	North	East	South
	Hawley		Bodell
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♥
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

Bodell's decision to upgrade his 14-point hand to a 15-17 1NT paid off when Hawley took control by bidding Gerber, first checking for aces then kings before signing off in 6NT. All Bodell had to do was make it.

West started with the ♠Q, ducked all around. The ♠10 went to the king and ace, and Bodell entered dummy with a diamond to take the club finesse. So far, so good, but there was still a lot of work to do.

Bodell played accurately, however, running his diamonds to reach this ending:

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

When Bodell played the ♦2, East had to discard a club to keep his heart guard. Bodell pitched the ♥9, and now it was West's turn to squirm. A spade pitch would make North's 9 good, so West had to let go of a club. Now the ♣A 9 were good for two tricks. Well done!

## Co-chairs

*Continued from page 1*

of us went to each meeting they held," said Toni.

The co-chairs felt that the hospitality added to the success of the tournament. "We tried to go with Texas-sized give-aways," said Toni. "We felt hospitality was important. We're proud of Houston and wanted players to have a good time."

"We have a regional each February," said Eric, "It's a wonderful tournament and we want people to come back."

The co-chairs also thanked the Hotel and the ACBL staff. "Jeff and Wendy were wonderful," said Starzec, referring to the ACBL meeting planners. "They were incredibly responsive to our needs. Also, the hotel was amazing to deal with. We got along great with them."

There is great expense to host an NABC. How did Houston raise the money?

"We added a \$1 surcharge to events at our Unit 174 tournaments," said Toni. "Then, District 16 collects \$1 per person for each Saturday event

## Poster child for upside-down signals

Steve Goldstein, of Anaheim CA, found himself with an interesting problem on this deal from a Bracketed Knockout Team Game.

<i>Dummy</i>	
♠ A K J 10	
♥ 4 3	
♦ 2	
♣ A K J 10 3 2	
	<i>Goldstein</i>
	♠ 6 4
	♥ A 7 6 5
	♦ A J 4 3
	♣ 9 8 7

<i>North</i>	<i>South</i>
1♣	1NT
2♠	2NT
3NT	Pass

Goldstein's partner, Gary Brown of San Francisco, led the ♥2. Goldstein won the ♥A and paused to consider how to proceed. He could see that it was important to cash out as declarer surely had nine tricks when he gained the lead.

To give himself an extra chance he cashed the ♦A. If partner discouraged, he could revert to hearts. Playing upside-down attitude, partner played the ♦5, so Goldstein continued with the ♦J. The defenders took the first five tricks. Here are all four hands:

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

Notice what would happen if you are playing standard signals. If West plays the ♦5, East would shift back to a heart. If West encourages with the ♦10, when West leads the jack, South can cover and his 8 will set up as a stopper.

This was a game swing as 3NT made at the other table.

## Lost and found

There is a lost and found in the Daily Bulletin office — Room 339. A pin, a pair of glasses and a coat have been turned in. The hotel also has a lost and found.

at our Regionals. They keep the money in escrow and they gave us a subsidy."

"Marsha Bernstein was able to help us get money," said Starzec. "She knows how to find people and get them to say 'yes.'"

The fund-raising committee sold people on the idea of memorials and appreciation days. "We sent a ton of letters to the units in our district," said Toni. "Folks bought into the idea."

The tournament publicity was also successful.

"Jane Armstrong was able to get us publicity on television, newspapers and the Internet," said Toni.

"I don't think any NABC has ever done a better job getting us into the media," said Starzec.

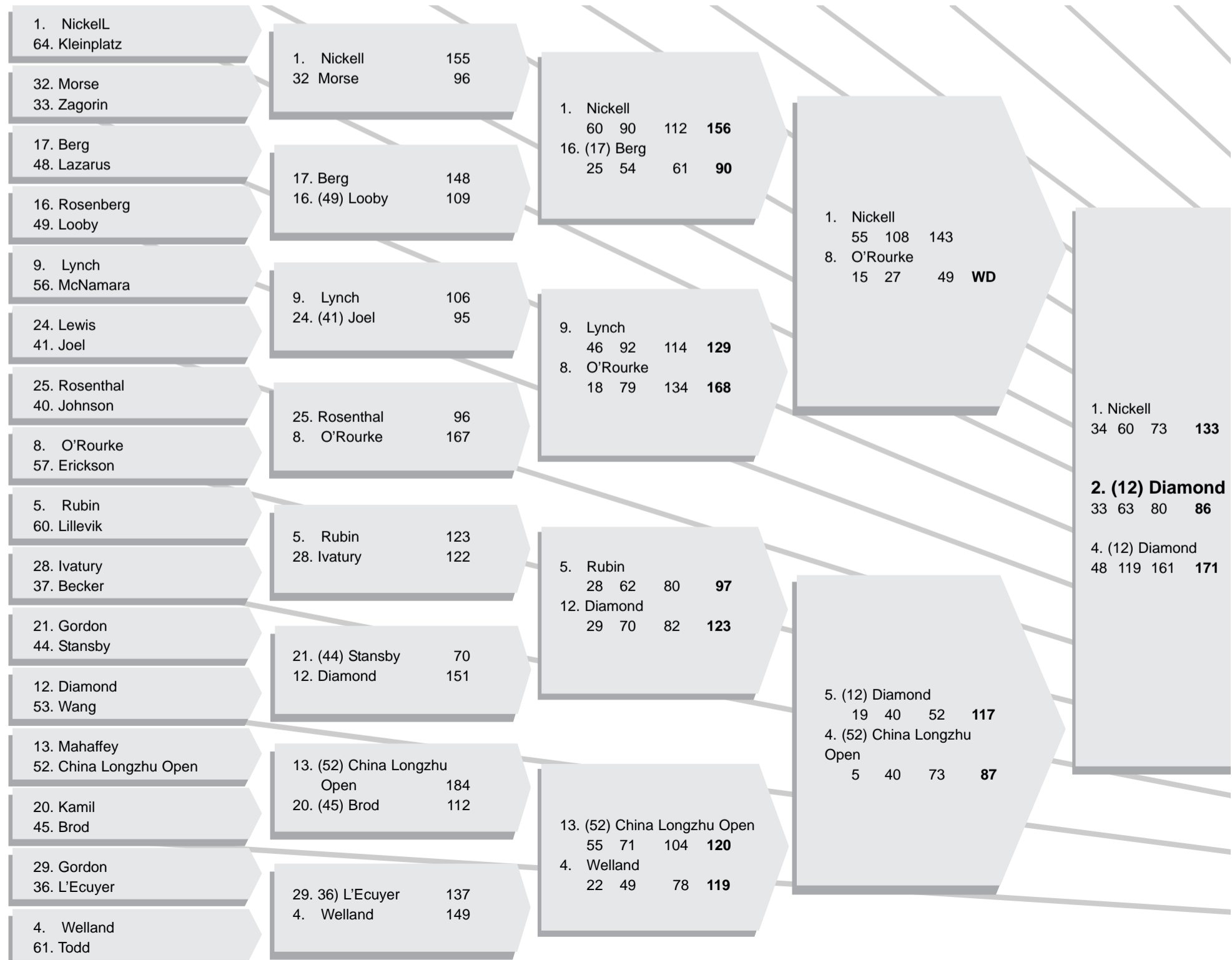
There were many hours of volunteer work done — it takes that to make an NABC work. Why do they do it?

"Pride in Houston," said Toni, in answer to the question. "Our Unit wants to show that it is a first-class place to play bridge. We want to promote Houston and bridge in Houston."

# VANDERBILT

71 Tables  
 250.00 1 Ralph Katz - George Jacobs, Hinsdale IL; Walid Elahmady - Tarek Sadek, Cairo Egypt; Robert Levin, Bronx NY; Steve Weinstein, Andes NY  
 180.00 2 John Diamond, Boca Raton FL; Brian Platnick, Evanston IL; Eric Greco, Philadelphia PA; Geoff Hampson - Fred Gitelman, Las Vegas NV; Brad Moss, Mill Valley CA  
 125.00 3/4 Nick Nickell - Zia Mahmood, New York NY; Richard Freeman, Atlanta GA; Jeff Meckstroth, Tampa FL; Eric Rodwell, Clearwater Bch FL; Bob Hamman, Dallas TX  
 125.00 3/4 James Cayne, New York NY; Michael Seamon, Hollywood FL; Alfredo Versace - Lorenzo Lauria - Fulvio Fantoni, Rome Italy; Claudio Nunes, Roma Italy  
 80.00 5/8 Lou Ann O'Rourke, Scottsdale AZ; Espen Lindquist, Trondheim Norway; Giorgio Duboin, Torino Italy; Antonio Sementa, Parma PR 43100 Italy; Marc Jacobus, Las Vegas NV; Boye Brogeland, Norway  
 80.00 5/8 Jacek Pszczola, Chapel Hill NC; Reese Milner, Los Angeles CA; Sam Lev, New York NY; Gary Cohler, Miami FL; Grzegorz Narkiewicz, Bielsk Poland; Krzysztof Buras, Warszawa Poland  
 80.00 5/8 John Sutherlin, Dallas TX; Dan Gerstman, Buffalo NY; Ron Gerard, White Plains NY; Mark Feldman, Hoboken NJ  
 80.00 5/8 Ze Jun Zhuang, Shanghai People's Republic of China; Wei Min Wang, Shanghai People's Republic of China; Jian Ming Dai - Lixin Yang, Beijing People's Republic of China  
 50.00 9/16 Roy Welland, New York NY;

Norberto Bocchi, Barcelona Spain; Steve Garner, Chicago IL; Howard Weinstein, Sarasota FL; Billy Cohen, Sherman Oaks CA; Ron Smith, San Francisco CA  
 50.00 9/16 Ron Rubin, Miami FL; Russell Ekeblad, Providence RI; Peter Weichsel, Encinitas CA; Matt Granovetter, Cincinnati OH; Louk Verhees, 2215 SH Voorhou Netherlands; Jan Jansma, Malden Netherlands  
 50.00 9/16 Rose Meltzer, Los Gatos CA; Kyle Larsen, San Francisco CA; Alan Sontag, Gaithersburg MD; Roger Bates, Mesa AZ; Geir Helgemo, Trondheim Ca Norway; Tor Helness, Oslo Norway  
 50.00 9/16 Carolyn Lynch, Scottsdale AZ; Mike Passell - Curtis Cheek, Las Vegas NV; Joe Grue, New York NY; Eddie Wold, Houston TX; Bart Bramley, Dallas TX  
 50.00 9/16 Mary Ann Berg, Atherton CA; John Mohan, Huixquilucan Mexico; Huub Bertens, Tilburg Netherlands; Ton Bakkeren, Oisterwijk Netherlands; Simon De Wijs, Doorn Netherlands; Bauke Muller, Hoorn Netherlands  
 50.00 9/16 Frederic Wrang, Stockholm Sweden; Martin De Knijff, Las Vegas NV; Johan Sylvan, Stockholm Sweden; Marten Gustawsson, Stockholm Sweden  
 50.00 9/16 Seymon Deutsch, Laredo TX; John Kranyak, Bay Village OH; Win Allegaert - Jaggy Shivdasani, New York NY; Hemant Lall, Dallas TX; Kenneth Schutze, Austin TX  
 50.00 9/16 Franck Multon, Nice France; Pierre Zimmerman, Geneva Switzerland; Thomas Bessis, Paris 750 France; Frederic Volcker, Issy Les Mouline France; Lionel Sebbane, Clichy France  
 25.00 17/32 Aubrey Strul, Delray Beach FL;

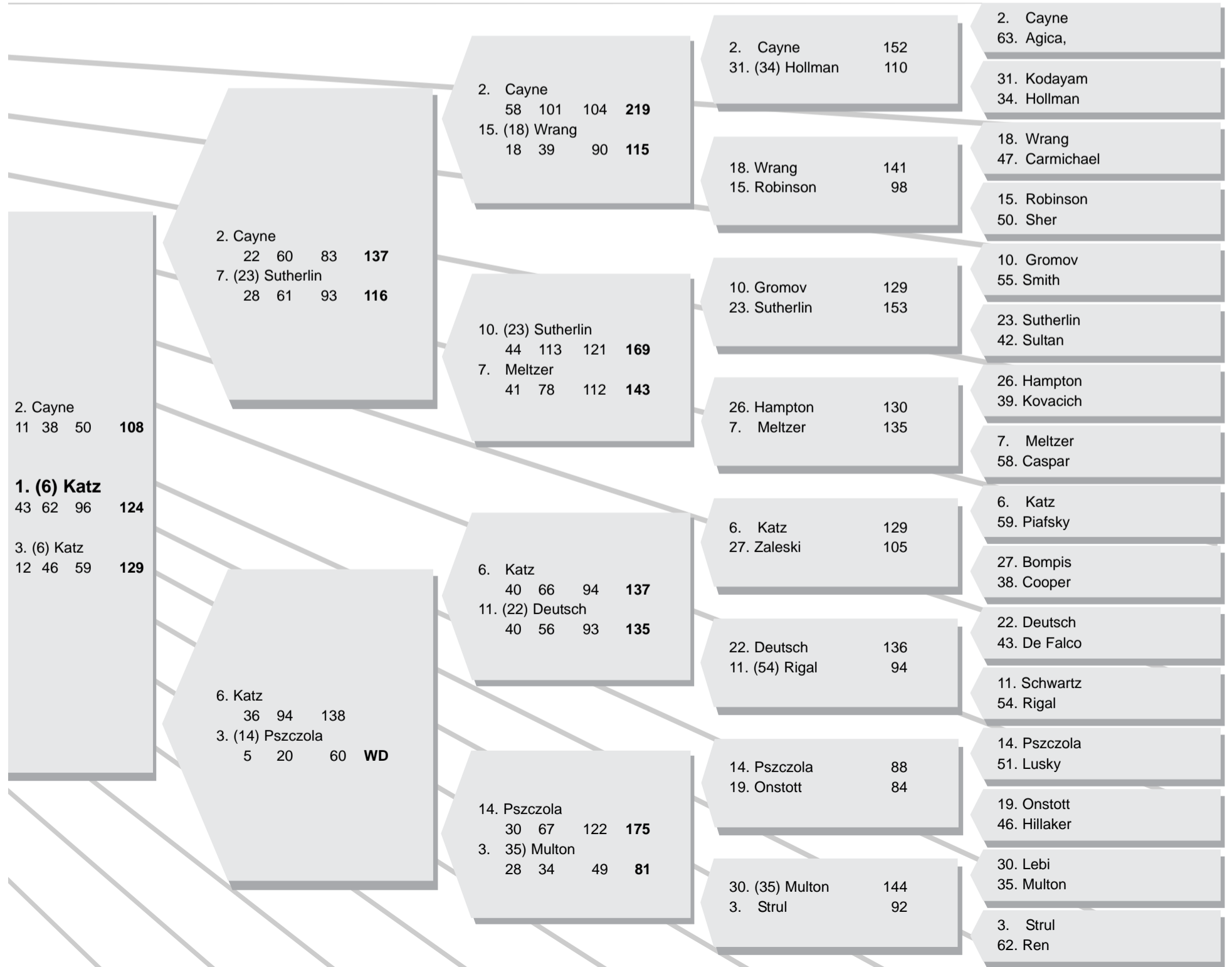


# T KO TEAMS



Michael Becker - Larry Cohen - David Berkowitz, Boca Raton FL; Chip Martel, Davis CA; Lew Stansby, Dublin CA  
 25.00 17/32 Andrew Gromov - Victoria Gromova - Tatiana Ponomareva - Aleksander Dubinin, Moscow Russia; Cezary Balicki, Smolec Poland; Adam Zmudzinski, Katowice Poland  
 25.00 17/32 Steve Robinson, Arlington VA; Peter Boyd, Darnestown MD; Kit Woolsey, Kensington CA; Fred Stewart, Bloomington NY; Adam Wildavsky, New York NY; Doug Doub, W Hartford CT  
 25.00 17/32 John Onstott, New Orleans LA; Jim Krekorian - Chris Willenken - Migry Zur Campanile, New York NY; Chris Compton, Dallas TX; Garey Hayden, Tucson AZ  
 25.00 17/32 Andrew Rosenthal - Brian Glubok - Aaron Silverstein, New York NY; Tom Townsend, London W9 1st England; David Gold, Reading R Great Britain; Hjordis Eythorsdottir, Huntsville AL  
 25.00 17/32 Robert Hampton, Blythewood SC; Gavin Wolpert, Singer Island FL; John Hurd, New York NY; Joel Wooldridge, Williamsville NY; Eldad Ginossar, Moshav Zofit Israel; Ron Pachtmann, Kfar Saba Israel  
 25.00 17/32 Marc Bompis, Bourg La Reine France; Albert Faigenbaum - Dominique Pilon - Jean Quantin, Paris France  
 25.00 17/32 Uday Ivatury - Christal Henner-Welland, New York NY; Sjoert Brink, Rotterdam Netherlands; Bas Drijver, Capelle Aan Den Netherlands; Vincent Ramondt, Alphen Aan Den Netherlands; Berry Westra, Krmibn Rrn Den Netherlands

25.00 17/32 Dan Morse - John Zilic, Houston TX; Ira Hessel - Greg Hinze, San Antonio TX; Thomas Peters, Grapeland TX; Nagy Kamel, Plano TX  
 25.00 17/32 Robert Hollman, Santa Barbara CA; Bruce Ferguson, Boise ID; Johan Upmark, Stockholm Sweden; Per-Ola Cullin, Stockholm Sweden; Ulf Nilsson, Dalby Sweden; Bengt-G Ran Olofsson, Ume Sweden  
 25.00 17/32 Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Montreal QC; Nikolay Demirev, Arlington Hts IL; Tadashi Teramoto, Tokyo Japan; Kazuo K. Furuta, Kanagawa-Ken 21 Japan  
 25.00 17/32 Geeske Joel, Palo Alto CA; Tobi Sokolow, Austin TX; Janice Seamon-Molson, Hollywood FL; Jill Meyers, Santa Monica CA; Jill Levin, Bronx NY  
 25.00 17/32 JoAnna Stansby, Dublin CA; Pamela Granovetter, Cincinnati OH; Allan Falk, Okemos MI; Peter Friedland, Cupertino CA; Mark Dahl, Richmond VA; Jeffrey Miller, Naperville IL  
 25.00 17/32 Geoffrey Brod, Naples FL; Richard DeMartino, Riverside CT; Glenn Eisenstein, New York NY; Allan Rothenberg, W Hartford CT; Stephen Earl, Avon CT; John Stiefel, Wethersfield CT  
 25.00 17/32 Jim Looby, Burbank CA; Mark Perlmutter, San Diego CA; Ed Ulman - Ed Freeman - Craig Huston, Portland OR; Mitch Dunitz, Sherman Oaks CA  
 25.00 17/32 Barry Rigal - Shane Blanchard - Robert Blanchard, New York NY; Alex Ornstein, Roslyn Heights NY; Glenn Milgrim, Forest Hills NY; Jeff Aker, Briarcliff NY



# TOURNAMENT APPEALS

In order to keep the bridge public informed of appeals results in a timely fashion, the NABC Daily Bulletin staff publishes write-ups. Every effort is made to ensure that these reports are accurate and complete. Before they are published in the NABC Appeals Casebook, however, revisions may be made.

## APPEAL CASE 8

*Event:* Lebhar IMP Pairs

*Session:* First Qualifying

*Dennis Heller*

Board #17 ♠ J 2  
 Vul: None ♥ A K J 10 3  
 Dlr: North ♦ A Q 5  
 ♣ Q J 4

*McKenzie Myers*

♠ K Q  
 ♥ 7  
 ♦ K J 10 9 8 3  
 ♣ K 10 9 7

*Robert Todd*

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

*Harold Antonson*

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

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

All Pass

(1) Strong, artificial.

(2) Weak, artificial.

(3) Not alerted – agreement is diamonds or black suits.

**Facts:** The contract was 4♥ played by North down two for a score of North–South minus 100. East led the ♠3.

The director was called at the conclusion of the play. 2♠ was, by agreement, either diamonds or the black suits. North said that he would not have bid 3♥ if he had been given the correct explanation.

**Director's Ruling:** Five players were polled and asked whether they would bid 3♥ over 2♠ given both explanations. One player said the correct information made 3♥ less attractive; two said the difference in explanation didn't matter and two players said the correct explanation made it more attractive to bid 3♥. Based upon the polling responses, the director concluded that the misinformation had no affect on the table result, and the table result of 4♥ by North, down two, North–South minus 100 was allowed to stand.

**The Appeal:** North–South appealed the director's decision. All four players attended the hearing.

North said he would have passed if he had the correct information. He upgraded his hand because of his doubleton in West's presumed suit.

East explained that he didn't bid 3♠ because he didn't want to push the opponents into 4♥. He could count only three defensive tricks opposite a

typical West hand including, say, six spades to the A–K.

**The Decision:** The committee's judgment matched that of those polled. The correct information would not have made pass more attractive. Thus East–West gained no advantage from their irregularity per Law 21B3. Accordingly the committee allowed the table result of 4♥ by North, down two, North–South minus 100 to stand.

The committee considered a procedural penalty (PP) against East–West, who ought to know their methods on a straightforward first-round auction. The committee consulted with the director who explained that such penalties are usually assessed only for repeated violations. Thus, the committee did not assess a PP.

The appeal was judged to have merit.

**DIC:** Henry Cukoff

**Committee Members:** Adam Wildavsky (chair), Tom Brady, Migry Zur-Campanile (scribe), Ellen Kent and Chris Willenken.

## APPEAL CASE 9

*Event:* Lebhar IMP Pairs

*Session:* First Qualifying

*Gary MacGregor*

Board #26 ♠ A J 7 4 2  
 Vul: Both ♥ 10 5  
 Dlr: East ♦ —  
 ♣ Q 9 7 5 3 2

*Bill Arlinghaus*

♠ K Q 9 8 6 3  
 ♥ 4  
 ♦ K Q 9 8  
 ♣ K 4

*Dave Swarhout*

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

*Frank Lowenthal*

♠ 10 5  
 ♥ A J 3  
 ♦ A 10 4 2  
 ♣ A J 10 6

West	North	East	South
		4♥	Dbl
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass (1)
Dbl	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		

(1) Break in tempo (BIT).

**Facts:** The contract was 5♣ doubled down one for a score of North–South minus 200. North was the declarer and East led the ♥K.

The director was called at the conclusion of the deal. East–West thought South's BIT at his second turn to call was eight to 10 seconds. North–South thought it was brief.

**Director's ruling:** The director judged that the BIT demonstrably suggested bidding and that pass was a logical alternative. The director adjusted the score to 4♠ doubled by North, therefore, down three, for a score of North–South minus 800.

**The appeal:** North–South appealed the director's decision. East was the only player who did not attend the hearing.

The double of 4♥ was described as takeout. Partnership agreement is double is takeout through 4. South felt his hand was too good to pass.

South knew that 4NT over 4♠ would have been Key Card Blackwood. North–South contended that West should have known that North–South would remove the double. South said he intended to redouble for rescue, not bid 4NT. North thought the double based on spades was a poor call.

West said he thought 4♥ was making; therefore, he needed to double to protect his side's equity.

The committee discovered that 5♣ went down when declarer tried to ruff a spade before playing a round of trumps.

**The decision:** The sequence of reasoning reserved for the committee was to examine the slow pass of 4♠. Did it convey information? The answer was yes. South was either too good or too bad to pass. After the double, North possessed unauthorized information that South was unsuitable for 4♠. While a minority of the committee agreed with North's decision to remove to 5♣, there was unanimity that passing as North was a logical alternative.

Because the committee judged that North had taken advantage of the UI, an assigned adjusted score had to be awarded. The question was what South would have done had 4♠ doubled been passed back to him. The committee was required to use Law 12C1(e) to give the offenders the most unfavorable score that was at all probable had the irregularity not occurred. The non-offenders would get the most favorable score that was likely.

The committee had been presented with the South hand as a blind preview. Two out of five members would have sat for 4♠ doubled and three would have pulled to 4NT.

Using the ACBL Laws Commission's criteria that an action would be deemed likely if more than one-third of a player's peers would take it, the committee determined that the contract should be 4♠ doubled for both sides. The play in 4♠ doubled would see declarer score four trump tricks and three aces. Therefore, the committee ruled as the director had, assigning a score of 4♠ doubled by North, down three, and a score of North–South minus 800 and East–West plus 800.

The appeal was determined to have merit.

**DIC:** Henry Cukoff.

**Committee members:** Barry Rigal (Chair), Shannon Cappelletti, Tom Carmichael, Jim Thurtell and Bob White.

## 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.



## Down-to-earth bridge

Astronaut Greg Johnson scored a big hit with the ACBL earlier in the tournament by presenting an ace of spades that had he taken into orbit last year on the Shuttle Endeavor.

With feet planted firmly on Houston soil at the NABC, Johnson showed that he knows his way around the bridge table as well. Johnson was North.

Dlr: North	♠ A 5 2		
Vul: E-W	♥ A K J 9		
	♦ A Q 9 6		
	♣ K 3		
	♠ J 8 6 4		♠ K Q 9 7 3
	♥ —		♥ Q 10 6 5
	♦ K 5 3		♦ 8 2
	♣ A 9 8 7 6 4		♣ J 10
		♠ 10	
		♥ 8 7 4 3 2	
		♦ J 10 7 4	
		♣ Q 5 2	
West	North	East	South
	2NT	Pass	3♦ (1)
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

(1) Transfer.

Johnson likely would have played 3♥ had he not super-accepted the transfer to hearts. East started with the ♠K to Johnson's ace. He ruffed a spade in dummy and played a heart, getting the bad news.

He didn't want to finesse in diamonds unless he had to, so he played the ♣K to West's ace, ruffed the spade return in dummy, cashed the ♣Q and played a heart to the 9. East won and could have offered a useless ruff-sluff with a spade out, but he switched to a diamond, solving that problem. Johnson simply cashed winners from that point. He lost a club and two hearts for plus 420 and six of eight matchpoints.

Johnson got all the matchpoints on this deal.

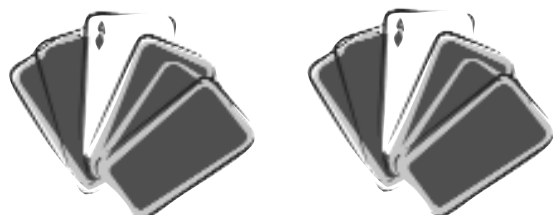
Dlr: East	♠ A J 8		
Vul: None	♥ K 7		
	♦ 9 6 4 3		
	♣ 10 7 6 5		
	♠ K 6 5		♠ Q 10 3 2
	♥ J 8 6 5 4 2		♥ A 10
	♦ J 10 2		♦ Q 8 7 5
	♣ A		♣ J 9 2
		♠ 9 7 4	
		♥ Q 9 3	
		♦ A K	
		♣ K Q 8 4 3	
West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♣
2♥ (1)	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

(1) Ostensibly weak.

West's jump overcall with a moth-eaten suit and a trick and a half on defense outside the suit would not be the choice of many experienced players. Johnson probably should have simply raised clubs at his first or second turn, but it's easier looking at all four hands than in real life – partner might have opened on three low clubs (not likely, of course, but bridge players are trained to fear the worst).

Also dubious was South's balancing double with length in hearts.

At any rate, East started with the ♥A and a heart to Johnson's king. He played a club to the king and West's ace, won the heart continuation in dummy, cleared clubs and claimed eight tricks for plus 120 and a cold top.



## NABC Insider

As another NABC winds down, the Insider would like to thank all of you who came to Houston. The local committee showered us with Texas hospitality. The hotel was outstanding in their cooperation. The ACBL staff did their usual excellent job getting the games going on time, keeping them moving, making rulings when needed, reporting results and getting it all written up in the Daily Bulletin. Heartfelt appreciation goes to the Services Crew for their incredible contributions setting up, running and tearing down the whole thing. The HQ staff was supportive both while some of them were here and from a distance as the tournament progressed. The Insider is proud to work with such hard-working, dedicated people. Thanks to all of them. When it comes to the Insider's musings, he sends special thanks to the Bulletin Boys for their continued tolerance, to Boss Baum for looking the other way and to all of you for the inspirations. The contributions of the S.C. hardly needs mentioning, so we won't. Really, really special thanks to Ask Me Girl – remember to send notes to Memphis in support of the Insider's campaign to have her named ACBL's customer service employee of the year.

We hope all of you will join Ask Me Girl and the Insider at one or both of the other NABCs this year. As written over the last couple of days, they both promise great things. It is obvious they are being held in great cities. The local committees, the host hotels and the ACBL family will all do their parts, be sure to come and do yours. Watch the ACBL web site for Insider tips on all future NABCs - and maybe some news about a WBF tournament in 2010. (Also, watch the web site itself for some changes throughout the year. We've got some ideas that will improve the site, make it easier to navigate, provide more and fresher information and, all in all, make the site better for both members and future members. The Insider only hopes the web-powers-that-be don't try to evict his notes and tips.)

Our biggest thanks, of course, go to you, our members, our players and our friends. It was a pleasure to see all of you. Thanks for coming. Congratulations to the winners, the new Life Masters and the other achievers of new ranks. We hope you all enjoyed the Houston NABC as much as we did. See you in Washington in July.

## Top masterpoint winners in IN section:

1	19.14	Kailash Sachdev, The Woodlands TX	25	11.21	Jack Rawitscher, Houston TX
2	18.11	Ronald Montague, La Porte TX	26	11.21	Arlene Rawitscher, Houston TX
3	18.07	Ronald Antinori, Atlanta GA	27	11.02	Joyce Eveld, Houston TX
4	18.07	Susan Antinori, Atlanta GA	28	10.93	Johnell McKee, Friendswood TX
5	16.07	Rani Sachdev, The Woodlands TX	29	10.66	Gaylene Jewell, Houston TX
6	15.79	James Ochsner, Houston TX	30	10.47	Allison Ochsner, Houston TX
7	14.71	James Smock, Santa Fe NM	31	10.27	Steven Brown, Wichita KS
8	14.62	Arjune Bose, Houston TX	32	10.13	Pamela Thaut, Tucson AZ
9	14.33	Stephen Apodaca, Santa Fe NM	33	10.13	Joan Merrill, Tucson AZ
10	14.14	Ranjit Bose, Albuquerque NM	34	10.12	Sue Bailey, Stockport
11	14.02	Janice Vernia, Carmel IN	35	10.04	Helen Hollis, Houston TX
12	14.02	Robert Vernia, Carmel IN	36	9.71	Joan Maxwell, Davidson NC
13	13.39	Maureen Viaclovsky, Friendswood TX	37	9.71	William Taylor, Mooresville NC
14	12.79	Nancy Montague, La Porte TX	38	9.29	Yvonne Pierce, Houston TX
15	12.60	O Bunn, Cypress TX	39	9.22	H Ray Atchley, Shreveport LA
16	12.60	Patricia Bunn, Cypress TX	40	9.22	Jerry Bigner, Shreveport LA
17	12.53	H Patricia Leavitt, Friendswood TX	41	9.02	Kathleen McCool, Castle Rock CO
18	12.23	Mary Anderson, Rochester MN	42	9.02	Jane Hendrix, Breckenridge CO
19	12.23	Keith Anderson, Rochester MN	43	8.90	Elenalani Lam, Sunnyvale CA
20	11.91	Janet Williams, Houston TX	44	8.47	Claire Ridgley, Tehachapi CA
21	11.83	Marilyn Hughes, La Porte TX	45	8.21	Pauline Mitchell, Houston TX
22	11.57	Thomas Hamilton, Montgomery TX	46	8.19	Evelyn James, Houston TX
23	11.48	Jean Foltz, Pearland TX	47	8.02	Bobbie Benson, Houston TX
24	11.48	Jo Ann Pierce, Pearland TX	48	8.00	Marj Frederiksen, Dallas TX
			49	8.00	Louise O'Brien, Dallas TX
			50	7.99	Bill Orth, Sugarloaf PA

### \\MACHLIN WOMENS SWISS QUALIFIERS

1	Phyllis Fireman, Chestnut Hill MA; Shannon Cappelletti - Janice Seamon-Molson, Hollywood FL; Jill Meyers, Santa Monica CA; Jill Levin, Bronx NY; Tobi Sokolow, Austin TX	111.00
2	Renee Mancuso, Los Angeles CA; Shawn Quinn, 30-218 Krakow Poland; Pam Wittes, Venice CA; Peggy Sutherlin, Dallas TX	105.00
3	Valerie Westheimer, New York NY; Hjordis Eythorsdottir, Huntsville AL; Betty Ann Kennedy, Shreveport LA; Georgiana Gates, Houston TX	104.00
4	Linda Perlman, Lake Park FL; Nancy Passell, Plano TX; Petra Hamman - Joan Jackson, Dallas TX; Sylvia Moss - Susan Picus, New York NY	102.00
5	Ru Yan - Yong Ling Dong - Ming Sun, Beijing People's Republic of China; Wen Fei Wang - Yi Qian Liu, Shanghai People's Republic of China; Wang Hongli, People's Republic of China	98.00
6	Linda Marshall, Bethesda MD; Monique Smith, Arlington VA; Allison Howard, Cookeville TN; Tammy Pepper, Raleigh NC	93.00
7	Ljudmila Kamenova, Stony Brook NY; Sylvia Caley, Montreal QC; Diana Schuld, Glen Head NY; Marjorie Michelin, Los Angeles CA; K Fung - Susan Culham, Edmonton AB	92.00
8	Charlotte Blaiss - Carol Schoenhals, Lubbock TX; Linda Spangler, Duncanville TX; Ellen Hessel, San Antonio TX; Ann Brinker Schwall, Houston TX; Carolyn Peters, Grapeland TX	91.00
9	Joan Eaton, North York ON; Candace Griffey, Vero Beach FL; Cynthia Balderson, Eden Prairie MN; Carole Miner, Rochester MN; Kathy Baum, Germantown TN; Nadia Koch, Copenhagen Denmark	90.00
10	Sally Woolsey, Kensington CA; Jan Martel, Davis CA; Judy Randel, Albuquerque NM; Suzanne Jones, Boulder CO; Susan Miller - Sharon Jabbour, Boca Raton FL	85.00
11	Hansa Narasimhan, Los Altos Hills CA; Cecilia Rimstedt, Halmstad Sweden; Sandra Rimstedt, Haverdal Sweden; Emma Sjoberg, Linkoping Sweden	83.00
11	Ora Lourie, Hypoluxo FL; Lori Jacobs, Boca Raton FL; Cathy Strauch, San Diego CA; G. Margie Gwozdzinsky, New York NY	83.00
13	Judi Radin, New York NY; Stacy Jacobs, Hinsdale IL; Jo Anna Stansby, Dublin CA; Pamela Granovetter, Cincinnati OH; Mildred Breed, Austin TX; Marinesa Letizia, Las Vegas NV	80.00
14	Dinkin,NPC, Lynn Baker, Austin TX; Karen McCallum, Exeter NH; Lynn Deas, Schenectady NY; Beth Palmer, Silver Spring MD; Kerri Sanborn, Stony Point NY; Irina Levitina, Hackensack NJ	79.00

## The road to victory

Nikolay Demirev and Nicolas L'Ecuyer had never played as partners before signing up for the Vanderbilt Knockout Teams. They didn't last long in the big event, but the practice they got helped them to victory in the Lebar IMP Pairs.

One of the gadgets they agreed to play is an opening bid of 2♥ showing both majors in a weak hand.

This deal from the first final session shows the system in action, although the North hand hardly qualifies as weak.

Dlr: North ♠ K Q 9 8 5  
Vul: None ♥ K J 7 5 3  
♦ K 10  
♣ 9

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

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	2♥	Pass	Pass
3♦	Dbl (1)	All Pass	

(1) Showing extras.

South had an easy pass and the winners collected plus 800.

The next one was from the second final session.

Dlr: South ♠ J  
Vul: N-S ♥ 4 3  
♦ Q J 9 6  
♣ A 10 9 6 5 4

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

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

West was able to open 2♥ and 4♥ was easily reached for a good score, as many other East-West pairs missed game.

On this deal from the first final session, the winners showed that they are adept defenders.

Dlr: East ♠ K 6 2  
Vul: None ♥ K 10 8 4  
♦ K 2  
♣ J 6 5 3

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

♠ J 5 4  
♥ Q 5 2  
♦ Q J 9 5  
♣ K 9 2

Against 2♠ by East, L'Ecuyer led the ♦Q. Declarer won the ace in dummy and played the ♠Q, covered by the king and ace. A low spade from hand went to dummy's 8. Declarer then played a club to his ace and a low club. L'Ecuyer ducked smoothly and declarer misguessed, putting in the 10. Demirev, in with the ♣J, found the "surrounding" play of the ♥10, killing the contract for a good score.

Finally, here's L'Ecuyer as declarer.

Dlr: East ♠ 9 8 3 2  
Vul: E-W ♥ J 9  
♦ A 10 9 8 6 5 4  
♣ —

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

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	1♥
2♣	2♠ (1)	Dbl	3♦
3♠	4♦	4♠	5♦
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

(1) Diamonds.

West led a spade, taken by East, who switched to a diamond. L'Ecuyer won the ♦K, cashed a club to discard a heart, ruffed a club, then played the ♥J to West's ace (East did not cover). West did not have a diamond to return, so L'Ecuyer could ruff two spades in hand and discard one on the ♥K. That was 11 tricks for plus 550 and a big score.

## Life Master News

**Dan Rosenblatt**, of Winston-Salem NC, advanced to Bronze Life Friday playing in the Single Sesssion Swiss Teams. He was playing with partner Eric Heinrich and teammates Gladys Ulrich and Donna Venn.

## Masterpoint disclaimer

Scores as reported in the Daily Bulletin are subject to change because of score changes or corrections.

The masterpoint awards as shown are, therefore, also subject to change.

## JACOBY OPEN SWISS QUALIFIERS

1	Uday Ivatury - Christal Henner-Welland, New York NY; Bas Drijver, Capelle Aan Den Netherlands; Vincent Ramondt, Alphen Aan Den Netherlands; Sjoert Brink, Rotterdam 3 Netherlands; Berry Westra, Krmibn Rrn Den Netherlands	121.00
2	Aubrey Strul, Delray Beach FL; Michael Becker - Larry Cohen - David Berkowitz, Boca Raton FL; Lew Stansby, Dublin CA; Chip Martel, Davis CA	120.00
3	Robert Hollman, Santa Barbara CA; Bruce Ferguson, Boise ID; Per-Ola Cullin, Stockholm Sweden; Bengt-G Ran Olofsson, Ume Sweden; Ulf Nilsson, Dalby Sweden; Johan Upmark, Stockholm Sweden	109.00
4	Philip Gordon, Henderson NV; Jason Feldman, San Diego CA; Joergen Molberg, Trondheim Norway; Terje Aa, Heimdal Norway	107.00
5	Ze Jun Zhuang, Shanghai People's Republic of China; Wei Min Wang, Shanghai People's Republic of China; Jian Ming Dai - Lixin Yang, Beijing People's Republic of China	106.00
5	Andrew Gromov - Victoria Gromova - Tatiana Ponomareva - Aleksander Dubinin, Moscow Russia; Cezary Balicki, Smolec Poland; Adam Zmudzinski, Katowice Poland	106.00
7	Dan Jacob, Vancouver BC; Waldemar Frukacz, Gloucester ON; Bryan Maksymetz, Garibaldi High BC; Zygmunt Marcinski, Westmount QC	105.00
8	Lou Ann O'Rourke, Scottsdale AZ; Marc Jacobus, Las Vegas NV; Espen Lindqvist, Trondheim Norway; Boye Brogeland, Norway; Giorgio Duboin, Torino Italy; Antonio Sementa, Parma PR Italy	103.00
8	Sheila Ekeblad - Russell Ekeblad, Providence RI; Michael Seamon, Hollywood FL; Louk Verhees, 2215 SH Voorhou Netherlands; Jan Jansma, Malden Netherlands; Matt Granovetter, Cincinnati OH	103.00
10	Jeff Meckstroth, Tampa FL; Eric Rodwell, Clearwater Bch FL; Bob Hamman, Dallas TX; Zia Mahmood, New York NY	102.00
10	Melih Ozdil, Astoria NY; Ali Koray Selcuk, Istanbul Turkey; Erez Hendelman, New York NY; Robert Heitzman Jr, Suffern NY	102.00
10	Fulvio Fantoni, Rome Italy; Claudio Nunes, Roma Italy; Thomas Bessis, Paris France; Frederic Volcker, Issy Les Moulins France; Franck Multon, Nice France; Pierre Zimmerman, Geneva Switzerland	102.00
10	Daniel Zagorin, Skokie IL; Jacob Morgan, Madison WI; Michael Lawrence, Brentwood TN; Michael Polowan - Kevin Bathurst, New York NY; Vincent Demuy, Laval QC	102.00
14	John Onstott, New Orleans LA; Jim Krekorian - Migry Zur Campanile - Chris Willenken, New York NY; Chris Compton, Dallas TX; Garey Hayden, Tucson AZ	99.00
15	John Schermer, Seattle WA; Neil Chambers, Schenectady NY; Linda Lewis - Paul Lewis, Sioux Falls SD; Krzysztof Martens, Rzeszow Poland; Krzysztof Jassem, Puszczykoud Poland	97.00
15	David Maidman - Marin Marinov, New York NY; Rumen Trendafilov - Kalin Karaivanov, Varna Bulgaria	97.00
15	Mark Gordon, Purchase NY; Pratap Rajadhyaksha, Venice FL; Boris Baran, Cote Saint-Luc QC; Richard Zucker, Dobbs Ferry NY; Chuck Burger, West Bloomfield MI; Stephen Landen, Ellicott City MD	97.00
15	Rose Meltzer, Los Gatos CA; Kyle Larsen, San Francisco CA; Alan Sontag, Gaithersburg MD; Roger Bates, Mesa AZ; Geir Helgemo, Trondheim Ca Norway; Tor Helness, Oslo Norway	97.00
15	Norberto Bocchi, Barcelona Spain; Roy Welland, New York NY; Steve Garner, Chicago IL; Howard Weinstein, Sarasota FL	97.00
20	Frederic Wrang, Stockholm Sweden; Martin De Knijff, Las Vegas NV; Johan Sylvan, Stockholm Sweden; Marten Gustawsson, Stockholm Sweden	96.00
21	Jim Mahaffey, Winter Park FL; Gunnar Hallberg, Brighton United Kingdom; Peter Bertheau, Taby Sweden; Fredrik Nystrom, Stockholm Sweden; Fu Zhong, Beijing People's Republic of China; Jie Zhao, Tianjin People's Republic of China	95.00
22	Richard Schwartz, East Elmhurst NY; Bob Jones, Hypoluxo FL; Bjorn Fallenius, New York NY; Piotr Gawrys, Warsaw Poland; Marcin Lesniewski, Zakopane Poland; Peter Fredin, Malmo Sweden	94.00
22	Steve Robinson, Arlington VA; Peter Boyd, Darnestown MD; Kit Woolsey, Kensington CA; Fred Stewart, Bloomington NY; Douglas Doub, W Hartford CT; Adam Wildavsky, New York NY	94.00
24	Carolyn Lynch, Scottsdale AZ; Mike Passell - Curtis Cheek, Las Vegas NV; Eddie Wold, Houston TX; Joe Grue, New York NY; Bart Bramley, Dallas TX	93.00
25	Steve Beatty, Mill Creek WA; William Pollack, Basking Ridge NJ; Martin Fleisher, New York NY; Michael Kamil, Holmdel NJ; Lorenzo Lauria - Alfredo Versace, Rome Italy	92.00
25	Jacek Pszczola - Josef Blass, Chapel Hill NC; Sam Lev, New York NY; Grzegorz Narkiewicz, Bielsk Poland; Krzysztof Buras, Warszawa Poland; Gary Cohler, Miami FL	92.00
25	Bruce Rogoff, Tenafly NJ; Ricco Van Prooijen, Nieuw Vennep Netherlands; Walter Johnson, Columbus OH; Dennis Dawson, Santa Fe NM	92.00
28	Mike Cappelletti, Hixson TN; Hemant Lall, Dallas TX; David Grainger, Etobicoke ON; Thomas Carmichael, Kennesaw GA; Kenneth Schutze, Austin TX	91.00
29	David Yang, Chicago IL; Jeff Fang, Arcadia CA; Jiang Gu, Mountain Lakes NJ; David Chechelashvili, San Diego CA	90.00
29	Dan Morse, Houston TX; Thomas Peters, Grapeland TX; Greg Hinze, San Antonio TX; Nagy Kamel, Plano TX	90.00
29	Pat McDevitt, Brookline MA; Richard DeMartino, Riverside CT; John Stiefel, Wethersfield CT; Geoffrey Brod, Naples FL; Glenn Eisenstein, New York NY; Lloyd Arvedon, Bedford MA	90.00
32	Kimmel Jones, Euless TX; Mark Bumgardner, Carrollton TX; Bill Staats, Southlake TX; Hugh Hillaker, Grand Prairie TX	89.00
32	Betty Bloom - Steve Bloom, Duaneburg NY; Kitty Cooper, Fort Collins CO; Steven Cooper, Ft Collins CO	89.00
32	Shirley Blum - Richard Meffley, Fresno CA; Stephen McConnell, Evanston IL; Mark Ralph, San Francisco CA; Bruce Noda, Corte Madera CA	89.00
32	Jeffrey Miller, Naperville IL; Alan Popkin, St Louis MO; Nancy Popkin - Jack Bryant, Saint Louis MO; David Becher, Peabody MA; Alan Watson, Lexington MA	89.00

36	Geeske Joel, Palo Alto CA; Daniela von Arnim, Hockenh Germany; Sabine Auken, Charlottenlund Denmark; Debbie Rosenberg - Michael Rosenberg, New Rochelle NY	88.00
36	Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA; Meyer Kotkin, Cherry Hill NJ; Lyle Poe Jr, Ellicott City MD; Thomas Weik, Reading PA	88.00
38	Ari Greenberg, San Francisco CA; Kazuo K. Furuta, Kanagawa-Japan; Tadashi Teramoto - Hiroki Yokoi, Tokyo Japan; Yasuko Shrenzel, Honolulu HI	87.00
38	Hamish Bennett, Menlo Park CA; Gene Simpson, San Rafael CA; Robert Kent, Marina Del Rey CA; Ellen Kent, Marina Del Rey CA	87.00
40	Mary Ann Berg, Atherton CA; John Mohan, Huixquilucan Mexico; Simon De Wijs, Doorn 304G Netherlands; Bauke Muller, Hoorn Netherlands; Ton Bakkeren, Oisterwijk Netherlands; Huub Bertens, Tilburg Netherlands	86.00
40	David Siebert, Little Rock AR; R Jay Becker, New York NY; Don Caton, Pensacola FL; Jim Barrow, Lake Charles LA; Colby Vernay, Lacon IL; Barry Schaffer, Frisco TX	86.00
40	Andrew Rosenthal - Aaron Silverstein - Brian Glubok, New York NY; Tom Townsend, London W9 1sd England; David Gold, Reading R Great Britain	86.00
43	Simon Kantor, Agawam MA; Stephen Goldstein, Anaheim CA; Gary Brown, San Francisco CA; Bob Feller, Guilderland NY	85.00
43	G S Jade Barrett, Elk Point SD; Robert Todd, Tallahassee FL; Chris Moll - Bruce Reeve, Raleigh NC; Jim Looby, Burbank CA; Ed Ulman, Portland OR	85.00
43	Robert Madalena, San Jose CA; Jim O'Neil, Palo Alto CA; Franklin Lowenthal, Pleasanton CA; Gary Macgregor, Portola Valley CA	85.00
46	Dewayne Kimbell, Amarillo TX; Chuck Germeyer III, Houston TX; Bonn Tanner, Humble TX; Ernie Young Jr, Highlands Ranch CO	84.00
47	Patrick McCammon, Springfield MO; Chad Fisher, Kansas City MO; Gary Roberts, Leawood KS; Jesse Bowe, Easton MO	83.00
47	Kelley Hwang - Glenn Robbins, New York NY; Sylwia McNamara - Michael McNamara, White Plains NY	83.00
47	Maurice De La Salle, Edmonton AB; Michael Yuen, Vancouver BC; Polly Dunn - Pat Dunn, Bellevue WA; Cam Doner, Richmond BC; Brenda Jacobus, Las Vegas NV	83.00
47	Mike Marlin - Sandra Marlin, Versailles KY; Eric Sieg, Oklahoma City OK; Atul Rai, Wichita KS	83.00
51	Gavin Wolpert - Jenny Wolpert, Singer Island FL; John Hurd, New York NY; Joel Wooldridge, Williamsville NY; Ron Pachtmann, Kfar Saba 44 Israel; Eldad Ginossar, Moshav Zofit Israel	82.00
51	Albert Faigenbaum - Dominique Pilon - Jean Quantin, Paris France; Marc Bompis, Bourg La Reine France	82.00
51	Veronica McMurdie - John McMurdie, Sacramento CA; Ed Lazarus - Diane Lazarus, Baltimore MD	82.00
51	Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON; John Valliant - David Sabourin, Ottawa ON; Ron Zambonini, Nepean ON	82.00

**PRESIDENTS CUP NA PAIRS FLIGHT B QUALIFYERS**

14.0 Tables		Carryover
1	Robert McCaw, Sudbury MA; Lewis Gamera, Brookline MA	32.87
2	Matt Klimesh, Pasadena CA; David Kempe, Los Angeles CA	30.13
3	Melinda Foos, Campbell CA; Michael Fleisher, Sunnyvale CA	22.42
4	Larry Kahn, Vienna VA; H John Edmonds, Gaithersburg MD	16.72
5	Donald McCullough Jr, Lambertville MI; Bill Huepenbecker, Huron OH	13.55
6	Dennis Cerkvenik, Minnetonka MN; William Voedisch, Marine MN	13.05
7	Wieslaw Kalita, Woodridge IL; Marian Krasowski, Prospect Hts IL	12.91
8	Gordon Humphrys, ON; Irfan Ashraf, Ajax ON	12.56
9	M Topper, Minneapolis MN; Wayne Pinsonneault, Saint Paul MN	12.45
10	John Clark - Henjin Chi, Terre Haute IN	12.08
11	F Kellstrom, Chesterton IN; Louis Nimmicht, Crown Point IN	9.89
12	Lorna Davis, West Chester OH; Cliff Pleatman, Cincinnati OH	9.83
13	Eddie Bass, Austin TX; James Breihan, Houston TX	8.77
14	Marielle Brentnall - Jerry Cohen, Winnipeg MB	8.42
15	William Curtis, Colorado Spgs CO; James Black, Manitou Springs CO	7.45
16	Philip Hiestand, Irvine CA; Weidong Pei, Brea CA	7.24
17	James Bloom - Cheryl Bloom, Orchard Lake MI	6.33
18	Donald Lough, Markham ON; Ambrose Ng, Thornhill ON	5.55
19	Jonathan Shute - L. Anne Posch, Sackville NB	5.07
20	Tom McCrackin, Carpinteria CA; Kalon Kelley, Santa Barbara CA	4.62
21	Kevin Casey - Bill Begert, New York NY	4.23
22	Francis Tseng, Erie PA; Marc Sylvester, Edinboro PA	4.15
23	Patrick Moos - Fei Dong, Peoria IL	3.11
24	Collis James Jackson, Brookline NH; Shekhar Sengupta, Marlborough MA	2.69
25	Jon Brandon, Denver CO; Harley Bress, Golden CO	2.03
26	Jerry Barker, Newport News VA; Dale Fiebelkorn, Norfolk VA	0.89
27	Guss Ginsburg, Houston TX; Melody Euler, Temple TX	0.66
28	Robert Stearns, Chevy Chase MD; William Goldman, Bethesda MD	0.00

**PRESIDENTS CUP NA PAIRS FLIGHT C QUALIFYERS**

14.0 Tables		Carryover
1	Margaret Matheson - Robert Matheson, Glen Allen VA	24.02
2	Brian Stevens - Melanie Dunn, Montgomery TX	22.06
3	Steve Ramos, Seal Beach CA; Kevin Lane, Long Beach CA	21.08
4	Alya Asarina - Michael Lieberman, Cambridge MA	20.10
5	Dennis Moll - Ann Schuyler, Bloomington IL	18.58
6	Hsi-Chun Liu - Zheng Zhang, Pasadena CA	18.47
7	Michael Shaw - Ken Goodridge, Winnipeg MB	12.71
8	Argenta Price, San Francisco CA; Alex Lovejoy, Stanford CA	12.06
9	Kevin Fay - Brian Wyman, Ann Arbor MI	11.41
10	Pawel Hanus, Carrollton TX; Andrzej Kudlicki, Tiki Island TX	8.58
11	April Uhlenburg, King of Prussia PA; Ethan Kotkin, Cherry Hill NJ	7.61
12	Michael Bodell, Santa Clara CA; Elenalani Lam, Sunnyvale CA	7.06
13	Gregory Gorshkov, Somerville NJ; Neil Jaffe, Belle Mead NJ	6.95
14	Robert Dailey - Glen Hadaway, Emporia KS	6.52
15	Lois Sherwood - John Sherwood, Norton NB	5.43
16	Richard Hill - Alice Hill, Haslett MI	5.00
17	Alex Hudson, Raleigh NC; John Marriott III, Cary NC	4.89
18	John Krueger, Estes Park CO; Bill Dorin, Fort Collins CO	4.13
19	Virginia Swift - Joseph Barbary, New York NY	4.02
20	Herbert Kalman, Bellaire TX; Robert Reichel, Houston TX	3.59
21	Thomas Reeves, Lehi UT; Lee Sporleder, North Salt Lake UT	3.37
22	David Taylor, Seattle WA; Christine Ding, Redmond WA	3.15
23	Diane Henson - Larry Henson, Minnetonka MN	2.39
24	Edwin Elton, Ridgewood NJ; Brian Kruse, North Haledon NJ	2.28
25	Chongmin Zhang, Getzville NY; Fred Yellen, Buffalo NY	2.06
26	Barbara Sallee - Betty Elrod, McAlester OK	1.74
27	Mary Ellen Nevin - Robert Nevin, Sun City Center FL	0.11
28	Edith Olson, Lac Du Bonnet MB; Leon Clegg, 7 Sisters Falls MB	0.00

**NABC Diary**



**Dream come true (sort of)**

It has always been Jeff Miller's dream to sit down in the Vanderbilt or Spingold as the top seeded team in the room. It happened to the Chicago player at the Spring NABC in Houston on the first day. Of course, it required 43 first-day byes. Miller's team was seeded 44th.

**Sense of humor**

Barry Rigal thought this note from the Internet was amusing:

A woman once said that a man is like a deck of playing cards.

- A heart to love him.
- A diamond to marry him.
- A club to bash his (bleeping) head in.
- A spade to bury the (bleep).

He didn't say whether his beloved Sue shares his view of the comparison.

**Lighter on their feet**

Egyptians Tarek Sadek and Walid Elahmady signed on to play on the George Jacobs team in the Vanderbilt months ago. After winning the event Saturday night, Sadek said he and his partner, both rather large men, had two reasons to thank Jacobs for inviting them to play.

First was the chance to win, which they did. Second, the invitation gave them an incentive to get in better physical condition to be able to stand the rigors of the tough bridge competition. "We went to the gym for three months," Sadek said. "I lost 45 pounds and Walid lost 15. We thank George for the chance to win but also because we are now healthier."

**At the crossroad**

Steve Goldstein found a way to bring home his pushy game in first qualifying session of the Jacoby Swiss Teams yesterday. His partner was Gary Brown and he was playing against Jim Krekorian and John Onstott:

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

North	South
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Goldstein</i>
1NT (1)	2♥ (2)
2♠	3♥
4♥	Pass

- (1) 10—12 high-card points.
- (2) Transfer.

West led the ♥A against 4♥ and continued with another taken in dummy with the jack. Goldstein played the ♠A, the ♠K and another, ruffing in dummy with the ♥Q as East discarded a low diamond. Declarer led the ♦3 and ruffed it and played the ♥K to draw the last trump.

At this point, Goldstein was at the crossroad. One path is to concede a spade and play for the ♣A to be onside (and discard a low club on the ♦A). He decided to take a different road. He led the ♣10 to the jack, king and ace. East exited with a diamond which he ruffed with his last trump. He continued with the ♣8, ducked. Declarer led another club, and when East won his ♣Q, he had to play a diamond to dummy which was good.

At the other table, declarer was in 3♥ making three for a 7 IMP pickup for Goldstein's team.

**MILTON FREEDMAN KOS BRACKET I**

13 Teams  
James Melville, Springfield IL; Will Engel, Freeport IL; Donald Croysdale, Elm Grove WI; William McFall, New Berlin WI  
vs  
Chuck Said - Elaine Said, Nashville TN; David Caprera, Denver CO; Gary Kessler, Springfield IL; Carolyn Jackson, Sugar Land TX; Jay Cohodes, Sunrise FL  
  
David Rogers, Southern Pines NC; Molly O'Neill - Bella Ionis-Sorren, Ft Lauderdale FL; Larry Rich, Cumming GA  
vs  
Yas Takeda, Hacienda Hgts CA; B Horiguchi, Gardena CA; Yoon Kim, San Diego CA; Lucy Tredennick, San Pedro CA

**MILTON FREEDMAN KOS BRACKET II**

12 Teams  
Chris Curran - Jonathan Holmes - Elton Lipnick - Sadhana Dalal, Houston TX  
vs  
Bob Wilkin, Highland Villag TX; Kevin Podsiadlik, Dallas TX; Randy Okubo, Saint Paul MN; Charlotte Anderson, Madison WI  
  
Linda Harrison, Calgary AB; Nongyu Li, Sunnyvale CA; Hui Lin Zhu, Chongqing 401147 People's Republic of China; Warren Foss, Omaha NE; Hao Ge, Bay Village OH  
vs  
Dell Berg - Fan Zhang - Min Zheng, Redmond WA; David Binney, Seattle WA

**MILTON FREEDMAN KOS BRACKET III**

12 Teams  
Fred Wang - Amy Wang - Joseph Wald - Edwin Zwald Jr, Houston TX  
vs  
Don Morgan - Daad Rodgers - John Heath - George Keiller, Houston TX  
  
Janelle Frusha, Conroe TX; Ulla Skovdal - Mavis Warren - Gerry Earnest, Montgomery TX  
vs  
William Griffith - David Dyer - John Lindsey - Ralph Herz, Houston TX

**MILTON FREEDMAN KOS BRACKET 4**

12 Teams  
Terry Brown - Belinda Brown - Robert Watkins - Charles Lanni, Houston TX  
vs  
Fredi Weinbaum, Sugar Land TX; Harry Elliott - Brett Elliott - Carol Noble, Houston TX  
  
Charles Burke - Caron Peck, Arlington TX; Byron Taylor, Fort Worth TX; Karen Caton, McKinney TX  
vs  
Kenyon Daniel, San Antonio TX; Susan Hernandez, Fair Oaks Ranch TX; Benjamin Klein - Ann Mc Dougal, Houston TX; William Golush, Denville NJ

**MILTON FREEDMAN KOS BRACKET 5**

16 Teams  
Gordon Yee, Stafford TX; John Lai - Shou Chao - Shih-Ming Yang, Houston TX  
vs  
Susan Flick - Leah McCarthy, Mc Kinney TX; Carla Guthrie, McKinney TX; Jackie Hertweck, Edmond OK  
  
Peter Hanson, Houston TX; Nancy Carlin - Helen Watts, Spring TX; Mary Thatcher, The Woodlands TX  
vs  
Eric Watson - Garold Adamson, Houston TX; Yin Choo, Sugar Land TX; Cathy Chen, Sugarland TX

**Kamel now a Grand LM**

Nagy  
Kamel's second-place finish in the Lebhar IMP Pairs on Friday pushed his masterpoint total past 10,000 and making him a Grand Life Master. The rank requires 10,000 MPs and a win

in a North American championship.

Kamel, a construction engineer who lives in Plano TX, was on the winning squad in the North American Swiss Teams in 2003, and he and Nader Hanna won the Wernher Open Pairs at the 2005 Summer NABC in Atlanta. He played with Greg Hinze in the IMP Pairs at this tournament.

Besides his engineering work, Kamel is a part-time bridge pro.

**SECOND SATURDAY EVENING 299ER SWISS**

8 Tables			
	A	B	C
2.23	1/2	1/2	1
2.23	1/2	1/2	
1.43	3		

Eleanor Cherryholmes, Denton TX; Nancy Caldwell, The Woodlands TX; Gene Lindner - Darlene Lindner, Belle Chasse LA 83.00  
Vicky Renzulli, Irving TX; Erica Walker, Dallas TX; Ronald Antinori - Susan Antinori, Atlanta GA 83.00  
Edward Parken - Judith Parken - Bobbie Gruhlkey - Wanda Kuehler, Austin TX 78.00

**SECOND SATURDAY EVENING 299ER PAIRS**

12.5 Tables			
	A	B	C
3.25	1	1	
2.44	2	2	
1.83	3		
1.37	4		
1.34	5	3	
0.77	6		
1.00		4	
1.58		5	1
0.56		6	
1.19			2
0.89			3
0.67			4

Gloria Melton - Phyllis Ogden, Houston TX 62.54%  
J Scott Etchison - Judy Etchison, Plano TX 62.03%  
Terry Sucher - Thomas Hamilton, Montgomery TX 59.86%  
Robert Ellison, Katy TX; Judith Arbus, Toronto ON 59.02%  
Phyllis Kuchta, Pearland TX; H Patricia Leavitt, Friendswood TX 58.80%  
Robert Leedom - Jacqueline Leedom, Glenwood MD 55.49%  
O Bunn - Patricia Bunn, Cypress TX 54.32%  
Azam Khan, Houston TX; Penelope Hilton, Park City KS 53.20%  
John Smith - Diane Smith, Georgetown TX 52.48%  
Jean Foltz - Jo Ann Pierce, Pearland TX 50.26%  
David Lueders, Housotn TX; Kyle Lueders, Houston TX 50.23%  
Norma Callender - Yvonne Pierce, Houston TX 46.30%

**DAVID HURD MEMORIAL A/X PAIRS**

18.0 Tables			
	A	X	
25.00	1		
18.75	2		
14.06	3		
10.55	4		
8.33	5		
7.14	6		
6.25	7		
5.56	8		
5.00	9		
4.55	10		
4.17	11		
3.85	12		
13.64	13	1	
10.23		2	
7.67		3	
5.75		4	
4.55		5	

James Stokes, Grand Rapids MI; Sean Ganness, Miami FL 59.27%  
Richard Wieland, Falls Church VA; Harold Feldheim, Hamden CT 59.23%  
Ernesto Muzzio, Buenos Aires Argentina; Ricardo Angeleri, Mar Del Plata Argentina 58.52%  
Suzanne La Brecque - Larry La Brecque, Victoria TX 57.27%  
Nathan Glasser, Somerville MA; Buddhadeb Biswas, Lexington MA 56.32%  
John Russell, North Barrington IL; Valentin Kovachev, Stony Brook NY 55.61%  
En Xie, Saint Louis MO; Alice Brown, Midlothian VA 55.19%  
Shirley Stanton, The Woodlands TX; Brenda Solovitz, Houston TX 54.49%  
Bonnie Smith, Littleton CO; Patricia Norman, Houston TX 54.14%  
Gregory Nowak, Las Vegas NV; Merle Stetser, Honolulu HI 53.78%  
John Schwartz, Plano TX; Phillip Grothus, San Antonio TX 53.70%  
Leon Lowe, Fountain Hills AZ; Kenneth Badertscher, Tucson AZ 53.60%  
Matthew Dyer, Chicago IL; Lorraine Cable, New York NY 52.81%  
William Smith, Houston TX; Marty Hoover, Pasadena TX 50.55%  
Laima Gaizutis - Ervie Freeman, Houston TX 49.27%  
Douglas Hensley - Pamela Hensley, College Station TX 49.16%  
Susan Grauer - Alice Kinningham, Aurora CO 48.85%

**DAVID HURD MEMORIAL B/C/D PAIRS**

34.0 Tables			
	B	C	D
12.99	1		
9.74	2		
7.31	3		
5.48	4		
4.33	5		
7.58	6	1	1
3.25	7		
2.89	8		
3.10	9		
2.36	10		
5.69		2	
4.26		3	
3.20		4	
2.53		5	
2.04		6/7	
3.41		6/7	2
2.56			3
1.92			4
1.95			5
1.30			6

Gordon Tanner - Grace Tanner, Bakersfield CA 63.86%  
Dale Allen, Temple TX; Carol Hall, Horseshoe Bay TX 58.41%  
Linda Rensi, Katy TX; Tiger King, Houston TX 58.33%  
Sanford Lobliner, Houston TX; Youssef Youssef, Katy TX 58.25%  
Stephen Jackson - Susan Jackson, Roseville MN 56.57%  
Gail Pirodsky - Lloyd Hankinson, Sarasota FL 56.09%  
Renee Alpert, Orange CA; Lorrie Schramm, Anaheim CA 55.85%  
Sandra Clark - Michael Tannery, Houston TX 55.45%  
Ann Blackman - Paula Hradecky, Houston TX 55.37%  
Cheryl Jackson, Kansas City MO; William Northrop, Schoolcraft MI 54.17%  
Scott Nelson, Encinitas CA; Gene Katz, Carlsbad CA 53.93%  
Douglas Ogren, St Paul MN; William Cummings, Monticello MN 53.85%  
Jane Clipson - James Clipson Jr, Eagle Lake TX 53.69%  
Susan Hermans, West Chester OH; Phyllis Bishop, Loveland OH 53.45%  
Jack Mayer - Fran Mayer, Shawnee Mission KS 52.72%  
Sally Craig, Port Moody BC; Jason Daming, Austin TX 52.72%  
Mary Jane Kinnebrew - Muriel Gilmour, Houston TX 52.24%  
Charles Lawson, Huntsville TX; Marvin Raines, Fort Washington MD 52.08%  
Herbert Warner - Marcia Warner, Montgomery TX 50.88%  
Douglas Moore - Michael Fagan, Houston TX 50.16%

**SECOND FRIDAY-SUNDAY A/E SIDE SERIES**

10.0 Tables			
	A	B	C
3.03	1		
2.27	2		
1.70	3		
1.31	4		
2.12	5	1	
1.59	6	2	
1.19		3	

Darlene Shirey - Steve Shirey, Fort Worth TX 60.88%  
Jolie Hess, Houston TX; Jill Wooldridge, Buffalo NY 58.10%  
Herbert Fallin Jr, Alexandria VA; La Quitta Talbot, Keller TX 57.18%  
Kenneth Smith, Hialeah FL; H Robert Gerberich Jr, Corpus Christi TX 56.48%  
James Woodard, League City TX; Vijay Shirsat, Lake Jackson TX 55.32%  
Steven Towner, Salt Lake Cty UT; Mitch Towner, Salt Lake City UT 54.63%  
Bridgett Pitt, Media PA; David Russell, Houston TX 49.07%

**M. LEVIT-A. LEIBOVITZ SIDE SERIES 7**

49.50 Tables			
8.58	1/2	Cetin Okcuoglu, Moorestown NJ	122.03%
8.58	1/2	Roy Perry, St Johns NL	122.03%
5.83	3/4	Jeff Ford, Redmond WA	119.56%
5.83	3/4	Adam Ruprecht, Seattle WA	119.56%
3.54	5/6	Nathan Glasser, Somerville MA	119.51%
3.54	5/6	Buddhadeb Biswas, Lexington MA	119.51%
2.83	7/8	John Herrmann, Chattanooga TN	115.15%
2.83	7/8	Sara Parks M.D., Owensboro KY	115.15%







## TODAY'S BRIDGE EVENTS

Event	Session	Sold	Entry/player/session ACBL members**	Other
<b>Sunday, March 22, 10 a.m.</b>				
Rebecca Hyzer Memorial Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams	1-2	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
Stratified Senior Swiss Teams	1-2	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
<i>All: 7 rounds, 7 boards, play-through</i>				
Friday-Sunday Side Game Series	5th single session	3rd Floor Room 335	\$16	\$18
Stratified 299er Swiss Teams	single	3rd Floor Room 335	\$15	\$17
299er, 199er, 99er, 49er Pairs	single	3rd Floor Room 335	\$15	\$17
<b>Sunday, March 22, 10 a.m.p.m.</b>				
Stratified Fast Pairs	1-2	3rd Floor Room 336	\$16	\$18
<b>Sunday, March 22, 10 a.m. &amp; 2:30 p.m.</b>				
Milton Freedman Memorial Saturday-Sunday Bracketed KO Teams	3-4	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
<b>Sunday, March 22, 10 a.m. &amp; 3 p.m.</b>				
<b>Golder North American Pairs, Flight B</b>	1-2 F	4thFloor Ballroom GHI	No fee	
<b>President's Cup North American Pairs, Flight C</b>	1-2 F	4thFloor Ballroom GHI	No fee	
<b>Sunday, March 22, 11 a.m. &amp; 5 p.m.</b>				
<b>Jacoby Open Swiss Teams</b>	1-2 F	4th Floor Ballroom DEF	\$20	
<b>Sunday, March 22, 11 a.m. &amp; 5:30 p.m.</b>				
<b>Machlin Women's Swiss Teams</b>	1-2 F	4th Floor Ballroom ABC	\$20	
<b>Sunday, March 22, 2:30 p.m.</b>				
Friday-Sunday Side Game Series	6th single session	3rd Floor Room 335	\$16	\$18
Stratified 299er Swiss Teams	single	3rd Floor Room 335	\$15	\$17
299er, 199er, 99er, 49er Pairs	single	3rd Floor Room 335	\$15	\$17

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.

# See you at the Summer NABC July 23-Aug. 2 in Washington DC!

## Thank you to today's sponsors

### REBECCA HYSER MEMORIAL STRATIFIED SWISS

Rebecca Hyzer was a rising bridge star in many ways. Not only was she an up-and-coming player but she was very gracious at the table with a friendly smile or word for everyone. She was dedicated to the game,



achieving the rank of Life Master in a short amount of time. Throughout her courageous battle with cancer Rebecca still made time for bridge. Knowing that, it's likely she will be smiling when she sees that her friends are paying tribute to her by naming an event at the NABC in her honor.

### MILTON FREEDMAN MEMORIAL BRACKETED KO

In the In Memoriam section of the December Bridge Bulletin there was a list of deceased bridge players. A number of them have an asterisk by their name denoting Life Master and Milton was one.

But he was not your ordinary Life Master. He was an excellent bridge player, poker player and entrepreneur who backed his unit financially, as well as playing with all comers. He loved people and would play with "the good, the bad, and the horrible".

When you think of Milton Life Master, remember that in real life and as a person he would have had over a million master points.

### SATURDAY MORNING 299ER SWISS TEAMS

6 Teams		A	B		
2.26	1	1		Allison Ochsner - James Ochsner, Houston TX; Ronald Montague - Nancy Montague, La Porte TX	80.00
1.70	2			Don Greer, Ft Worth TX; Linda Williams, Arlington TX; Mike Schattner, Ruidoso NM; Russell Joyner, Houston TX	74.00

### M. LEVIT-A. LEIBOVITZ SIDE SERIES 7

25.0 Tables		A	B	C		
5.31	1				Toby Bassett, Lafayette LA; K Boagni Jr, Opelousas LA	72.11%
3.98	2				Gene Simpson, San Rafael CA; Nancy Ferguson, Greenbrae CA	68.45%
3.03	3		1		Steve Clark - Louise Clark, Glencoe IL	63.95%
2.24	4				Nathan Glasser, Somerville MA; Buddhadeb Biswas, Lexington MA	62.50%
2.33	5				Les Bart - Gloria Silverman Bart, Bradenton FL	61.66%
2.27	6		2		Fan Zhang - Min Zheng, Redmond WA	59.85%
2.43			3	1	Douglas Ogren, St Paul MN; William Cummings, Monticello MN	58.54%
1.77			4		Shirley Eide, Bakersfield CA; Neal McKinney, Vienna VA	53.38%
1.82			5	2	Paula Warren - Mary Rita de Hoyos, New Braunfels TX	53.31%
0.89			6		Peter Boyd-Bowman, Greensboro NC; Sandra Hlustik, Darien IL	51.48%
1.37				3	Kristy Garrison - David Garrison, Spring TX	48.45%
1.03				4	James Utter - Eileen Utter, Sun Lakes AZ	48.13%

### STRATIFIED 299ER

14.0 Tables		A	B	C		
3.39	1	1	1		Diane Smith - John Smith, Georgetown TX	61.50%
2.54	2	2	2		James Andrew Pruet - Ronald Pruet Jr, Houston TX	60.24%
1.91	3	3	3		Bobbie Benson - Joyce Davis, Houston TX	58.03%
1.43	4	4			Angela Hester - V Kitchen, Houston TX	57.47%
1.07	5	5	4		Elise Homer - Gary Homer, Lincoln CA	57.31%
1.19	6	6			Ronald Antinori - Susan Antinori, Atlanta GA	57.27%
0.88				5	Edward Parken - Judith Parken, Austin TX	56.87%
0.63				6	Juanita Kelley - Buz Kelley, Pineville LA	52.89%

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