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BRIDGE FEDERATION

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Y DEL CARIBE DE BRIDGE

# C.A.C. BRIDGE

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## TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

6-15 MAY: C.A.C.B.F. Zonal Championships, Aruba.

Friday May 6.....Gala Opening Ceremony.

Saturday May 7..... Qualifying rounds, pair event.

Sunday May 8.....Finals and consolation.

Monday May 9.....National and Open teams begin.

Friday May 13.....National teams semifinals...Two-day Swiss teams begin.

Saturday May 14.....National teams finals.

Sunday May 15.....Victory Banquet.

16-17 MAY: Exhibition matches (U.S., Italy, Argentina, Brazil), Aruba.

19-22 MAY: First Venezuelan Invitational Bridge Tournament. Hotel Melia Sheraton, Caracas. Calcutta Auction. Inf: Alberto J. Dhers; Club de Bridge de Caracas; Edif. Torreón - 5o. piso, Calle Veracruz, Las Mercedes; Caracas, Venezuela.

15-24 JUNE: ACBL Summer Nationals, Palmer House, Chicago.

31 JULY - 12 AUGUST: EBL Zonal Championships, Elsinore Denmark. Inf: Danish Bridge League, 62 Korsgade, 2,200 Copenhagen.

SEPTEMBER or OCTOBER: Pan American Pairs, Mexico City.

20-28 OCTOBER: 23rd Bermuda Bowl, Manila.

29 OCTOBER: Far Eastern Zonal Championships begin, Manila.

17-30 JUNE, 1978: World Pairs Olympiad, New Orleans.

## ZONAL STATUS REPORT

We are in. The C.A.C.B.F. now has full zonal status in the World Bridge Federation. We are zone No. 5.

But we are barely in. Every zone has to have a *minimum* of 5,000 members - we have 6,100. And the WBF is requesting verification of that 6,100, so we can't let up.

And we're not qualified for Bermuda Bowl play either. Any team from our zone could've qualified the CACBF for BB play by finishing in the top half of the Team Olympiad. We sent seven teams but none of them made it.

But we do seat a member on the WBF Executive Council. We will periodically choose a venue for the Bermuda Bowl. And our zonal championships award WBF master points. So we have progressed, but we still have long way to go.

## THE CARACAS INVITATIONAL

The Bridge Academy of Caracas is sponsoring the First Venezuelan Invitational Bridge Tourney and Calcutta from May 19-22. The Hotel Melia Caribe, a luxury beach hotel will be inaugurated for the tournament. There will be a one session Pro-Am with a calcutta auction and a four session invitational IMP pairs tournament with a calcutta auction. There will also be side games for visitors and an exhibition match between the U.S., Brazil, Argentina, and Italy. In the Invitational tournament there is a \$200 entry fee. First prize is \$4,000, 2nd \$2,000, 3rd \$1,300, 4th \$1,000, 5th \$700, plus \$250 session top - all in addition to the calcutta auction! The director will be Bill Schoder and the auctioneer Mike Moss.



On the Cover: A proposed logo for the CACBF.

## PANAMA RECORDS ITS FIRST WIN

6th Central American and Caribbean  
Bridge Federation Tournament  
St. Kitts-25th April to 2nd May, 1976

by Fitzroy Bryant (St. Kitts)



Fitzroy Bryant is a tremendous wit and an excellent bridge player. He is the Minister of Education, Health and Social Affairs for St. Kitts, Nevis, Anguilla.

It was expected to be even bigger than the inaugural, unofficial tournament in Barbados in November 1971 when fourteen teams took part. With travel costs down to the minimum for Eastern Caribbean countries we felt sure that a larger number of island countries would turn up for the 1976 Championship in St. Kitts. But, at the final count, only eleven countries were represented in the National Teams event, the same number as in 1975 in Venezuela.

The venue of the Tournament was the Royal St. Kitts Hotel and Golf Club, a recently completed luxury hotel of 100 rooms on the Frigate Bay peninsula. First to sign the guest register was Jeff Hand of Panama, who arrived two days early, and was immediately followed by Teddy Phocas and Roger Rossignol. By Saturday evening, most of the visitors had arrived, including Bill Schoder and his charming wife, Margaret, who were to direct the Tournament, and the assistant directors, Blyden Callender of Barbados and Darnley Bascus of Antigua.

The Official Opening of the hotel and the Welcome Reception for the bridge visitors was on Saturday evening, April 24th. There were speeches by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Milton Allen; Deputy Premier, the Hon. C.A. Paul Southwell; and the Executive Secretary of the C.A.C. Bridge Federation, Dr. Alberto Calvo of Panama. And, not to mention, there was lots of liquor!

The next morning, a meeting of the Federation took place. Examining decisions made, one has to assume that the delegates from the various member associations were quite sober by that time:

- (a) Mexico was admitted as a member of the Federation,
- (b) the 1978 and 1979 Tournaments would be held in Barbados and Mexico,
- (c) Dates for C.A.B.F. tournaments would be re-scheduled to avoid clashing with Bermuda Bowl and World Olympiad fixtures,
- (d) member associations not yet members of the World Bridge Federation would all apply for membership in the W.B.F.

On Sunday night, fifty pairs launched into the first session of the Open Pairs event. Trinidadians, Venezuelans, Kittitians (that's what people from St. Kitts are called), Guadeloupeans, and Colombians dominated the session. The next evening the Finals and Consolation were keenly contested but experience won the day. The results:

1. David Berah & Roger Rossignol (Venezuela) 434 pts.
2. Alberto Calvo & Jeff Hand (Panama) 425 1/2 pts.
3. Fitzroy Bryant & Ian Slack (St. Kitts) 407 pts.
4. Sydney Didier & G. de Verteuil (Trinidad & Tobago) 403 1/2 pts.
5. Joaquín & Marina de Prieto (Colombia) 401 pts.
6. Cyril Sancho & Richard David (Trinidad & Tobago) 394 1/2 pts.
7. Marge Wilson & Barbara Johnson (Trinidad & Tobago) 384 pts.
8. Agnes Stern & Annie Bachrich (Venezuela) 375 1/2 pts.
9. German Otero & Christian Blohm (Venezuela) 371 pts.
10. Vernon Brown & Paulus J. Van Gijn (Neth. Ant.) 365 1/2 pts.

### Consolation

1. Sydney Christian & Errol James (Antigua) 253 pts.
2. Marcel Lamothe & Claude Laplace (Guadeloupe) 245 pts.
3. Letson Dublin & Horatio Versailles (St. Kitts) 235 1/2 pts.
4. Louis & Denise Arnal (Colombia) 231 pts.
5. Mireja de Berah & Teddy Phocas (Venezuela) 230 pts.

The Mexicans arrived during the final sessions of the Open Pairs event—Hurray! They were Laura Mariscal, Miguel Reygadas, Elias Konstantinowsky, and Gonzalo Herrera. But the powerful Jamaican quartet of Ralph St. Luce, Larry Wong, Sam Mahfood and Don Da Costa couldn't make both Monte Carlo and St. Kitts, and,

astonishingly, picked Monte Carlo. Jamaica was represented by a makeshift team.

Trinidad and Tobago, St. Kitts, and Panama were the early leaders. Trinidad and Tobago beat Guadeloupe, Netherland Antilles, Antigua, Colombia and Jamaica by wide margins. St. Kitts defeated Mexico (20/-1), Barbados, Netherland Antilles and Guadeloupe and drew with Panama. Panama downed Barbados, Venezuela, Colombia, and Guadeloupe but lost to Mexico. The victory points table at the end of the second day read:

Trinidad and Tobago	102
St. Kitts	88
Panama	79
Venezuela	70
Mexico	70

The next day, St. Kitts defeated Antigua and Jamaica but lost to Trinidad and Tobago. Panama beat Jamaica and Netherland Antilles, and Venezuela triumphed over Colombia and Antigua, but lost to Trinidad and Tobago. Mexico dominated Guadeloupe and Netherland Antilles, and Trinidad and Tobago beat St. Kitts, Barbados, and Venezuela. The scoreboard now showed:

Trinidad and Tobago	146
Panama	122
St. Kitts	119
Mexico	115
Venezuela	114

On Friday, the 30th of April, Trinidad and Tobago collapsed, losing to Mexico and Panama. Panama also defeated Antigua. St. Kitts mastered Colombia but was swamped (0/20) by Venezuela. Mexico beat Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica. Venezuela defeated St. Kitts and drew with Barbados. At the end of the round-robin, in which each team played ten matches, the final scorecard read:

	W	T	L	VP
1. Trinidad & Tobago	8	—	2	157
2. Mexico	8	—	2	152
3. Panama	8	1	1	147
4. Venezuela	6	1	3	144
5. St. Kitts	7	1	2	134
6. Colombia	3	1	6	100
7. Guadeloupe	3	—	7	87
8. Barbados	3	1	6	84
9. Antigua	2	1	7	73
10. Jamaica	2	1	7	64
11. Netherland Antilles	1	1	8	57

Trinidad and Tobago chose Venezuela over Panama as a semifinal opponent, leaving Mexico to battle Panama. Venezuela won handily when Trinidad and Tobago did not muster their full spirit, and Panama just barely defeated Mexico.\*

\* The playoffs were delayed by a committee meeting requested by David Berah of Venezuela concerning psyching by a T & T partnership. Unfortunately, the tenor of the meeting got carried away. Ed.

The finals proved to be a one-sided affair, with Panama winning all the way. During the first twenty boards, Panama bid and made two slams and a game not bid by Venezuela. They also made a game Venezuela bid but failed to make. On Board #8, Panama was in 6♠, Venezuela was in 5♠:

Dealer West

North  
 ♠ Q 7 6  
 ♥ A 6  
 ♦ A K Q 7 5  
 ♣ 7 5 4

West

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

East

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

South

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

During the next 20 boards, Venezuela fought back strongly, bidding and making two slams not bid Panama. But they failed to make two games made by Panama. On Board #34 Panama bid 7♠ with three aces missing, including the ace of trumps!

The last 20 boards saw some wild bidding and wild swings. Venezuela bid two slams and couldn't land them. Panama bid and made four games not bid by Venezuela. And then came Board #59. Fasten your safety belts, please!

Dealer South

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

West

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

East

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

South

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

At one table Venezuela bid 7♣ doubled, down 5, with the North/South cards. At the next table Venezuela bid 7♠, down 1, with the East/West cards.

The final score was Panama 213 1/2 points, Venezuela 81. Panama had won its first C.A.C.B.F. Tournament, after having placed second to Jamaica in

1972 (venue Jamaica) and 1974 (venue Trinidad)! Mexico defeated Trinidad and Tobago in the play-off for third position. Panama was represented by: Alberto Calvo, Richard Brady, Jeff Hand, John Maduro.

The Open Teams contest was far less hectic. Only eight teams took part—two from Trinidad and Tobago, two from Barbados and one each from Venezuela, Colombia, Guadeloupe, and St. Kitts. At the end of the round-robin and play-off, the final position was:

1. Sean Hamel-Smith's Team (Trinidad & Tobago) 99 points.
2. Elaine Millet's Team (Trinidad & Tobago) 90 points.
3. Keith Roach's Team (Barbados) 90 points.
4. Yolanda de Nedler's Team (Venezuela) 82 points.
5. Louis Arnal's Team (Colombia) 67 points.
6. Andre Rimbaud's Team (Guadeloupe) 56 points.
7. Eric Amory's Team (Barbados) 47 points.
8. Oriel Hector's Team (St. Kitts) 20 points.

At the conclusion of the Open Teams event, but with the National Teams still locked in battle, a special pairs contest sponsored by the Netherlands Antilles team took place. Twenty-two pairs entered and the top placings were:

1. Yolanda de Nadler & Carmen Rosa de Hernandez (Venezuela) 173 points.
2. Keith Roach & Leroy Miller (Barbados) 169 1/2 points.
3. Joseph Bass & Bichara Kassab (St. Kitts) 153 points.
4. Sean Hamel-Smith & Peter Martinez (Trinidad & Tobago) 147 1/2 points.
5. Mireja de Berah & Elizabeth Tyler (Venezuela) 147 points.

While the semi-finals in the National Teams was taking place, the Swiss Teams Event was also progress. Twelve teams participated and, after five matches each, the results were:

1. Ian Slack, Joseph Bass, Horatio Versailles, Letson Dublin (St. Kitts) Sydney Christian, Henson Barnes (Antigua), won 4, lost 1.
2. Joaquin & Marina de Prieto (Colombia), German Otero, Helga de Robles (Venezuela), won 4, lost 1.
3. Michael Gill, Brigitte Mavromichalis, Terry Somersall, Mireja de Berah, Elizabeth Tyler (Venezuela), won 3 3/4, lost 1 1/4.

5. Reggie O'Loughlin, Ronald Buchanan, Vincent Morton, Mac Hodge (St. Kitts), won 3, lost 2.

On the 30th of April, another meeting of the Federation was held. It was agreed,

- (a) that the Federation would introduce its own Master Points system (Bill Schoder would look into it),
- (b) that the winner of the Federation's National Teams Tournament would represent the C.A.C. Zone in the Bermuda Bowl Championships and would select a third pair from another member country,
- (c) that the players representing the Zone and/or their countries would meet the expenses of participating in the Bermuda Bowl Championships.
- (d) that a regional tournament would be held twice a year to raise funds for the Federations.

The customary Victory Banquet was held at the Fort Thomas Hotel on Sunday, the 2nd of May, and was attended by the Premier, the Hon. Robert L. Bradshaw, and other Government Ministers. This prize-giving ceremony was locally televised.

Mexico was acclaimed as the most cordial team, Joaquin and Marina de Prieto of Colombia as the top mixed pair, and Marge Wilson and Barbara Johnson of Trinidad and Tobago as the top female pair.

One hundred and five bridge players attended the tournament in St. Kitts. The last to leave were the victorious Panama players, who were enroute to Monte Carlo to play in the World Olympiad.

## 1976 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

There were four different World titles at stake last May in Monte Carlo — The Bermuda Bowl, The Venice Cup, The Team Olympiad, and the Ladies Team Olympiad.

## BERMUDA BOWL

Just before the 22nd Bermuda Bowl began, there was news of another cheating scandal involving the world champion Italians. This charge was different - it was leveled by another Italian. The details are reported elsewhere in this magazine (Current Scandals Burgay-Bianchi), but the whole affair seemed to affect the performance of the Blue Team. Italy did not play up to the standards it has set over the past two decades.

There were six teams competing - Italy, Israel, Brazil, Hong Kong, Australia, and North America. In the qualifying rounds each team met every other team in two separate 32 board matches. The most any team could win in any single match was 20 victory

points, but a badly beaten team could suffer a minus score.

Bidding boxes and screens (which bisected the table right through to the floor and were raised only a couple of inches during the play) were used throughout the tournament.

It was the most highly contested qualifying race in the history of the Bermuda Bowl. After nine rounds (out of ten) four teams were still in contention: North America 114, Brazil 107, Italy 106, Israel 96, Australia 76 1/2, Hong Kong 29 1/2. Never before had Italy entered the last qualifying round of the Bermuda Bowl with their finalist berth uncertain. But in the last round Israel whalloped Brazil 18-2, Italy beat Australia 13-7, and North America defeated Hong Kong 16-4, so once again it was North America vs. Italy in the final. The final round robin standings:

North America	131
Italy	119
Israel	114
Brazil	109
Australia	83 1/2
Hong Kong	32 1/2

A most exciting hand from the qualifying rounds occurred when Italy wrapped up a vulnerable game against Australia with only a 3-2 major fit.

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

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

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

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Franco	Smilde	Garozzo	Seres
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Dbf.
Pass	Pass	Rdbl	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: Heart two

The auction began normally enough. Then Garozzo bid two hearts to show his heart feature and Franco figured three-card support was good enough to pass the redouble. Eight tricks made exactly, which produced a 5 IMP swing for Italy.

During the qualifying rounds the WBF appeals committee demonstrated a new get-tough posture toward slow play. Australia and Hong Kong were

each penalized two and a half IMPs in a match, and North American was penalized 16 IMPs or 3 victory points in a match with Italy.

Those 16 IMPs were the cause for a protest by the North American captain. He could understand the three victory point penalty in the qualifying race, but, after a carryover conversion, it also cost North America six IMPs in the final. This seemed to penalize them twice for the same offense, but the protest was rejected.

Italy entered the final with an 18 IMP carryover and picked up another 19 in the first 16 boards to increase their lead to 37 IMPs. But North America proceeded to hammer away at that lead and on board 64, when they made a grand slam on a finesse, they took the lead: 146 IMPs to 139. North America continued to gain slowly and, with only the final 16 boards to go, had a 19 IMP lead.

At that point North America blew the match wide open. On board 81 a psychic bid by Forquet (perhaps his first ever in world competition) helped North America avoid a 5-3 heart fit, while an aggressive preempt by Eisenberg over an ambiguous one diamond opening pushed Italy to the disastrous heart game. Then, on board 82 Italy floundered after Soloway opened with a systemic two hearts. They reached game on 4-3 fit, were doubled, and proceeded to butcher the play for 800 down.

Italy made a comeback and reduced the lead to 19 IMPs with eight boards to go, but Hamilton-Eisenberg bid a good game on board 89 and the rest of the boards were flat. So North America won handily: 232 IMPs to 198.

	c/o	1-16	17-32	33-48	49-64	65-80	81-96	total
N. A.		15	31	58	42	34	52	232
Italy		18	34	20	41	26	37	198

Billy Eisenberg - Fred Hamilton were the anchor pair for North America. They played throughout the final and produced excellent results. Most observers considered Eisenberg the top player of the tournament. Eric Paulson - Hugh Ross played steadily throughout. Paul Soloway - Ira Rubin were the number two pair for North America. They were beset by partnership disharmony, but came on very strongly at the end of the final. Rubin is highly regarded as a brilliant player, but he often irritates his partners.

Benito Garozzo - Arturo Franco were the anchor pair for Italy. Garozzo's play was outstanding. However, the few mistakes he did make

were very costly. At the close of the competition he stated that he personally was responsible for Italy's loss—certainly very much of an oversimplification but definitely an indication of how badly he felt about his errors. Franco's play was also of high caliber. Vito Pittala - Antonio Vivaldi played steadily throughout. The surprise of the tournament was the performance of Giorgio Belladonna - Pietro Forquet. These two top-ranked players in the world were supposed to spearhead the Italian drive, but, although they won a lot of IMPs by putting their opponents under pressure at key moments, they continually got to bad slams, failed to bid games, and allowed contracts to be made that should have been set. Apparently the Burgay-Bianchi scandal upset their play. It was the first-ever Bermuda Bowl defeat for Belladonna and Garozzo.

### THE VENICE CUP

The Venice Cup began as a challenge match between the ladies champions of Europe and North America. The first match was in Venice, Italy in 1974 - the United States defeated Italy. Last year was the second match - the United States defeated Great Britain over 140 deals: 395 IMPs to 211. Now the Venice Cup has become the official ladies zonal team championship. Qualification procedures are outlined in "WBF Executive Council Meetings" in this magazine.

Representing the United States were four members of the team that won in 1974: Dorothy Hayden Truscott, Emma Jean Hawes, Carol Sanders, and Betty Ann Kennedy. The rest of the team: Gail Moss, Jacqui Mitchell, Ruth McConnell (npc) and Peter Pender (coach).

Representing Great Britain, 1975 European Ladies champions, were grandmasters Rixi Markus and Fritzi Gordon, Charley Esterson, Nicola Gardener, Sandra Landy, Rita Oldroyd, and Graham Cooke (npc).

This was one of the most interesting hands of the match:

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

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

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

♠ A 9 7 5 4  
♥ 10  
♦ J 9 7 5  
♣ Q 9 7

North had a difficult rebid after a one heart opening and a one spade response. Mrs. Kennedy rebid four spades, fortified by the knowledge that she and Mrs. Sanders use Flannery and tend not to respond one spade to one heart with a weak four-card suit. She made the contract. In the replay West overcalled three clubs and North rebid four hearts, which, playing Acol 2-bids, promises a spade tolerance. Four hearts rates to go set two, except that West revoked. Mrs. Mitchell failed to follow the first round of hearts, but she recouped. She later ruffed the third round of spades and changed the timing of the hand to set declarer four. The revoke penalty of two tricks restored the status quo.

### THE OPEN AND LADIES TEAM OLYMPIADS

The fifth quadrennial World Team Olympiad began right after the Bermuda Bowl. Forty-five nations competed, and it wasn't until the final round (round 45) that the title was decided. The young relentless Brazilians overtook the famed Italian Blue Team to win the championship. Never before had a South American nation won a world title, and the Team Olympiad itself had never been won by a nation from the Western Hemisphere. The magnificent champions: Pedro-Paulo Assumpcao, Sergio Barbosa, Pedro Branco, Gabriel Chagas, Gabino Cintra and Christiano Fonseca. They are all from Rio de Janeiro except for Assumpcao who is from Sao Paulo.

Seven nations from our zone competed (only Europe had more competing nations), and although no one managed to finish in the top half, numerous outstanding results were recorded. (Sixteen board matches, maximum win 20 victory points, a badly beaten team could suffer a minus score):

**JAMAICA:** Italy (12-8), Sweden (15-5), Israel (17-3), Belgium (20 to -5), Ireland (20 to -3), Australia (20-0), Morocco (16-4), Netherlands (20 to -5), Austria (20 to -1), Yugoslavia (18-2), Hungary (16-4), Netherlands Antilles (19-1), Bahamas (17-3), Mexico (20 to -1).

**PANAMA:** USA (10-10), Norway (20-0), Iceland (20-0), Yugoslavia (18-2), South Africa (20 to -5), New Zealand (20 to -2), Spain (20 to -5), Monaco (20-0), Colombia (17-3), Bermuda (20 to -1), New Guinea (19-1), Phillipines (20 to -4).

**COLOMBIA:** Poland (14-6), USA (17-3), Switzerland (16-4), Iceland (18-2), Greece (17-3), Hungary (20 to -1), Bahamas (20 to -1), Mexico (20 to -1), New Guinea (20 to -3).

**NETHERLANDS ANTILLES:** Israel (11-9), Switzerland (13-7), Germany (13-7), Turkey (18-2), Venezuela (20 to -4), Mexico (20 to -1), New Guinea (18-2).

**VENEZUELA:** Morocco (20-0), Monaco (18-2), Phillipines (20 to -5).

**BAHAMAS:** Italy (9-11), Panamá (20 to -5), Venezuela (20 to -2), New Guinea (20-0), Phillipines (20 to -1).

**MEXICO:** Denmark (13-7), Thailand (17-3), Venezuela (17-3), New Guinea (20-0), Phillipines (19-1).

The Olympiad was not without its political problems.

Taiwan at first withdrew because the team couldn't get a visa from the French government because France does not recognize Taiwan diplomatically.

However, the members of the team entered the country on individual visas and called themselves the R.O.C. (Republic of China) Club during the competition.

Two members of the Indonesian team became too ill to play and a third was unavailable because he was searching for rice - just when Indonesia was supposed to play South Africa.

Members of the Moroccan team were involved in an automobile accident in Italy on the day they were supposed to play against Israel. They couldn't make it back for their match. Morocco was the only Arab country entered.

Members of both Mexican teams took a trip to Italy one morning, then had trouble getting back into France because of passport difficulties. They missed their matches with South Africa.

Every team in the Olympiad had to sign a statement saying it would play against every other team in the competition. The World Bridge Federation appeals committee heard all three cases and each time decided to accept the flimsy excuse offered. This may have made things easier for all concerned, but it must have seemed like a slap in the face to those countries which didn't come because they couldn't comply with this regulation.

The World Title was almost decided by a director's error when Brazil played Italy in the 10th round. The Brazilians had tremendous results - a certain blitz against the defending champions. But there was no match! Both Brazilian pairs sat East-West and the Italians North-South. For some unknown reason the match was not played, each team received 12 victory points - a decision that pleased neither team. This hand shows how one-sided the match was:

[See top of next column]

Cintra and Fonseca were playing Precision. Two diamonds was the first natural bid, double was for penalties, and redouble showed values. After a trump lead, eight tricks made exactly.

♠ Q 10 2  
♥ J 10 8 5 2  
♦ 2  
♣ 10 9 4 2

♠ 9 7 6 5  
♥ A 9 7 4  
♦ 7 5 4  
♣ 5 3

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

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

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
Fonseca	Garozzo	Cintra	Franco
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♦	Dbf.	Rdbl.	All Pass

Great Britain beat Israel due to this hand:

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

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

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

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

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
Romik	Rose	Lev	Flint
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♦(1)
Pass	2NT(2)	Pass	4♦(3)
Pass	6♥(4)	All Pass	

(1) Multi: either a major-suit weak-2, 19-20 balanced, or a strong 4-4-4-1 - minor singleton.

(2) Interest in game even opposite a weak two.

(3) 4-4-4-1, singleton club.

(4) What he thinks he can make.

The spade ace and a spade to the king were followed by the diamond ace and a diamond ruff. The heart queen was a cashed, a club to the king and another diamond was ruffed. The club ace was led and when West discarded a diamond, Rose felt certain he had a potential trump trick. Dummy discarded its last diamond and a trump finesse secured 12 tricks.

Jamaica had an elegant auction to get to grand slam against the U.S.A.

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

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

- Pass 1♣ (1)  
 1♠ (2) 2NT (3)  
 3♦ (4) 3♣ (5)  
 5♦ (6) 5NT (7)  
 7♦ (8) 7NT
1. Forcing
  2. Three controls
  3. 22-24 HCP
  4. Jacoby transfer
  5. Advance Cue Bid
  6. 5-cd. ♦ suit
  7. Diamond GSF
  8. Two top honors

The Italians, who have almost no practice at being gracious losers, were among the first to congratulate the Americans for winning the Bermuda Bowl and the Brazilians for winning the Olympiad. They led the resounding applause at both victory banquets.

The Ladies Team Olympiad was won handily by Italy. They were almost a match and half ahead of runner-up Great Britain. The United States, which had earlier won the Venice Cup, placed third. The winners: Anna Valenti, Rina Jabes, Maria Robaudo, Lucianna Capodanno, Marisa D' Andrea, and Marisa Bianchi.



The Jamaican team: (standing) Lucien Chen, Larry Wong, Morty Nelson, Dr. Ralph St. Luce, (sitting) Dhiru Tanna, Calvin Wong, Trevor Jones, Sam Mahfood.

#### JAMAICA

Lucien Chen  
 Sam Mahfood  
 Morton Nelson  
 Dr. Ralph St. Luce  
 Dhiru Tanna  
 Larry Wong  
 Calvin Wong (npc)

#### PANAMA

Issac Abadi  
 Richard Brady  
 Alberto Calvo  
 Carlos Cortina  
 Jeff Hand  
 John Maduro

#### COLOMBIA

Anton Cahn-Speyer  
 Tania de Mandowsky  
 Juan Manuel Nuñez  
 Jaime Roitman  
 Raymond Savdie  
 Hernando Murrillo (captain)

#### NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Ervin T. Alderlieste  
 Ewald H.M. Berend  
 Alphoncine H.M.G. Bongers  
 Theodore M. Van Leeuwen  
 Lora Volmer  
 Gerald Volmer (captain)

#### VENEZUELA

Mariagrazia Bettini  
 Dore Fleishman  
 Giulia Fornari  
 Morella Pietri  
 Juana Lawner  
 Esther Sasson  
 Georgette Sans (npc)

#### BAHAMAS

Richard Crawford  
 Eva Dugdale  
 William Morgan  
 Michael Roberts  
 John Willis  
 Fred Rubbra (captain)

#### MEXICO

Odon Duran  
 Mauricio Epelbaum  
 Elias Fischer  
 Russell Fischer  
 Johnny Humui  
 Henri Gerard  
 Alicia Duran (npc)

#### OVERALL STANDINGS

1. Brazil	654
2. Italy	648
3. Great Britain	646
4. Poland	621
5. Sweden	615
6. France	594
7. U.S.A.	584
8. Israel	566
9. Denmark	547
10. Switzerland	543
11. Germany	541
12. Belgium	530
13. Canada	529
14. Indonesia	522
15. Taiwan	511
16. Ireland	502
17. Argentina	493
18. Norway	488
19. Australia	484
20. Iceland	474
21. Morocco	470
22. Netherlands	469
23. Greece	467
24. Japan	460
24. Austria	460
26. Yugoslavia	450
27. Jamaica	427
28. Hungary	423
29. Turkey	421
30. South Africa	416
31. New Zealand	403
32. Spain	395
33. Finland	390
34. Thailand	358
35. Panama	349
36. Monaco	332
37. Colombia	331
38. Iran	280
39. Bermuda	224
40. Netherlands Antilles	174
41. Venezuela	140
42. Bahamas	138
43. Mexico	124
44. New Guinea	122
45. Philippines	35

#### MEXICO LADIES

Janine Gerard  
 Reiko Render  
 Cecilia Rosenblum  
 Edith Rosenkranz  
 Lucrecia Williams  
 Maruca Cespedes (captain)

#### LADIES SERIES

1. Italy	317
2. Great Britain	289
3. U.S.A.	284
4. Canada	261
5. France	248
6. Spain	241
7. Australia	240
8. Denmark	237
9. Brazil	236
10. Switzerland	235
11. Ireland	214
12. South Africa	210
13. Netherlands	195
14. Germany	192
15. Belgium	191
16. Sweden	179
17. Greece	164
18. Israel	156
19. Mexico	147
20. Monaco	82
21. Finland	43

#### A BRIEF HISTORY OF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND THE W.B.F.

Although Ely Culbertson promoted an annual World Bridge Olympic back in the early 1930's, there wasn't a world team championship until 1950 in Bermuda. The Bermuda Bowl was largely the brainchild of the late Norman Bach, a man who represented Britain in bridge before becoming a Bermuda resident. The first Bowl was a three-cornered contest between the United States, Britain, and Europe. It captured the imagination of the bridge public and won immediate recognition as the world's supreme test of bridge skill. It continued to be an annual contest until recently when it was decided that it will be held only in non-Olympiad years.

The success of the Bermuda Bowl led directly to the establishment of the World Bridge Federation. At the annual Juan-les-Pins tournament in 1958, a conference, consisting of Baron Robert de Nexon, Geoffrey Butler,



Charles Goren and Michael J. Sullivan, decided to found the World Bridge Federation. After notifying their national bodies accordingly, they "baptized the baby" in proper formal fashion three months later in Oslo. There it was agreed to divide the globe into seven zones, the representatives of which were, collectively, to administer the W.B.F. The inaugural Team Olympiad was slated for Turin, Italy in 1960, subsequent team Olympiads to be repeated every four years, and Pair Olympiads held every four years beginning in 1962.

The W.B.F. operated on an ad hoc basis until two events occurred which dramatized the need for a constitution. These were the Israel-Lebanon confrontation at the 1964 New York Olympiad and the Reese-Schapiro cheating scandal in Buenos Aires in 1965. A complete constitution and set of by-laws was drafted and adopted and has subsequently been amended several times.

The growth of the W.B.F. was greatest during the presidency of Julius Rosenblum (1970-1976). Among the many accomplishments he headed during his tenure were: the launching of the "World Bridge News", a newsletter edited by Albert Dormer of England; placing the Federation on a firm financial basis for the first time; the creation and implementation of the master point plan; the update of the official laws of bridge; the increased importance of zonal competitions; and increased member country participation. Accompanied by his wife, Natalie, he visited 45 countries and was particularly helpful in the development of our zone. They came to the Barbados tournament in 1971, to Panama in 1972, and to Caracas in 1975 where Julius rendered invaluable organizational support to our zone. Our rapid development is, in large degree, a tribute to Julius Rosenblum.

Indeed, we gained formal zonal status last year in Monte Carlo, but will not qualify to compete in the Bermuda Bowl until one of our countries finishes in the top half of a team Olympiad.

Last year Jaime Ortiz-Patiño of Switzerland was elected W.B.F. president. "Jimmy" is young and aggressive and has a number of ambitious plans for the W.B.F. He visited our tournament in Caracas in 1975 and plans on being present at the opening ceremonies this year in Aruba.

Here is a list of all the World Championship winners:

1950 — USA  
1951 — USA  
1953 — USA  
1954 — USA

1955 — Gt. Britain  
1956 — France  
1957 — Italy  
1958 — Italy  
1959 — Italy  
1960 (Olympiad) — France  
1961 — Italy  
1962 — Italy  
1963 — Italy  
1964 (Olympiad) — Italy  
1965 — Italy  
1966 — Italy  
1967 — Italy  
1968 (Olympiad) — Italy  
1969 — Italy  
1970 — USA  
1971 — USA  
1972 (Olympiad) — Italy  
1973 — Italy  
1974 — Italy  
1975 — Italy  
1976 — USA  
1976 (Olympiad) — Brazil

#### W.B.F. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS

The World Bridge Federation Executive Council met last May in Monte Carlo-site of both the Bermuda Bowl and World Team Olympiad. This article summarizes the more noteworthy actions.

Julius Rosenblum, outgoing President, opened the meetings with a report on the Burgay-Bianchi scandal. It was decided to defer further consideration of the affair pending a final decision and report from the Italian Bridge Federation.

Julius Rosenblum, who had been the W.B.F. President since 1970, was stricken ill. He was forced to leave the meetings and return to his home in New Orleans.

A resolution honored the memory of the late Charles J. Solomon, former W.B.F. President.

Elections were held with these results:

President: Jaime Ortiz-Patiño, Switzerland

1st Vice-President: Johannes Hammerich, Venezuela

2nd Vice-President: Jerome Silverman, U.S.A.

3rd Vice-President: Ed Theus, U.S.A.

Secretary: Andre L. Lemaitre, Belgium

Assistant Secretary: Nils E. Jensen, Sweden

Treasurer: William Baldwin, U.S.A.

Assistant Treasurer: Richard Goldberg, U.S.A.

Counsel: Ben Johnson, U.S.A.

The team from Taiwan arrived for the Olympiad after experiencing visa difficulty (France does not maintain diplomatic relations with Taiwan), and were accepted to play under the name "Rock Club".

It was reported that the total number of Grand, World, and International Masters was now 33, 94, and 247, respectively.

The following dues structure was passed, effective January 1, 1977:

Up to 500 members:	\$75.
501-1,500:	150.
1,501-3,000:	225.
3,001-6,000:	300.
6,001+	15. per 1,000.

The following requirements for zonal representation on the Executive Council were passed, effective January 1, 1978. The effect of the change was to reduce South America's representation from 2 to 1 voting member.

- (1) a zone having over 135,000 members shall be entitled to four voting members.
- (2) a zone having between 90,000 and 135,000 members shall be entitled to three voting members.
- (3) a zone having between 60,000 and 90,000 members and 5 or more NCBOs shall be entitled to two voting members.
- (4) a zone having at least 30,000 members and 3 or 4 NCBOs shall be entitled to one voting member.
- (5) a zone having between 5,000 and 60,000 members and 5 or more NCBOs shall be entitled to one voting member.
- (6) zones having over 5,000 members but lacking NCBO qualification shall be entitled to an official observer on the Council.

A new zone, known as zone 5, was established and included the territory of all the NCBOs under the jurisdiction of the Federación Centroamericana y del Caribe de Bridge, effective June 1, 1976. A list of countries had been submitted which showed a total member ship of 6,100 in the Federation.

In order for a zone to qualify for participation in the Bermuda Bowl the following requirements must be met:



Jaime Ortiz-Patiño WBF President

(1) It must have the ability and willingness to stage the Bermuda Bowl as its turn comes up in the normal rotation of zones.

(2) Any member country of a zone must have achieved a position in the upper one-half of the last team Olympiad. An amendment that the zone must place one team in the upper one-third of the last Olympiad was defeated by seven votes against six.

A ladies zonal championship (Venice Cup) is to be played concurrently with the Open Teams (Bermuda Bowl). Each zone can send one team so long as it holds a zonal championship & one of its NCBO's ladies teams placed in the top half of the preceding Ladies Teams Olympiad. Any zone that does not hold a zonal championship or has less than five teams in its zonal championship, can send one team, provided that one of its NCBO's ladies teams placed in the top third of the preceding Ladies Team Olympiad.

On May 20th, the Moroccan open team failed to appear for matches with Israel and Great Britain, the Mexican open team failed to appear for matches with Australia and South Africa, and the Mexican Ladies team failed to appear for matches with Netherlands and South Africa. The Captains explained that the Moroccans had been involved in a car accident in Italy, while the Mexicans has been unable to return from Italy as some of their passports were in the safe-keeping of one of the wives who had remained in San Remo. The Executive Council accepted their explanations and ruled the matches forfeited.

It was voted that the Management Committee be empowered to grant W.B.F. sanction to interzonal competitions, that W.B.F. master points be awarded in these events, and that fees would be charged to the competing zones (payable to the W.B.F.).

### 1977 BERMUDA BOWL PREVIEW

The 23rd Bermuda Bowl will be held in the Phillipines next October 20-28. The defending champions are from North America: Ira Rubin, Fred Hamilton, Erik Paulson & Hugh Ross. Paul Soloway and Billy Eisenberg are not returning as defenders, but as North America zonal champions.

The North American team trials were held last January 5-9 in Houston, Texas. But the final match was never completed. With 32 boards to go in the 128 board final, Dick Katz and Larry Cohen, both of Los Angeles, withdrew from the competition and

resigned as members of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL). They cited personal reasons. This left their team, which was 40 IMPs ahead at the time, with only three players, one below the legal minimum. Therefore, their opponents, winners of the 1976 Grand National teams, were declared winners. This team included Paul Soloway, Billy Eisenberg, Eddie Kantar, and John Swanson, all of Los Angeles, Bob Hamman and Robert Wolff of Dallas, Texas, and non-playing captain Roger Stern of New York. It is the same team that barely failed to dethrone the Italian Blue Team in the 1975 Bermuda Bowl.

The Grand National team had reached the final by defeating the 1975 Reisinger Team champions over 128 boards by 269 IMPs to 235.

The following hand from the finals demonstrates the value of not lulling into routine play.

#### Nobody Vul.

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

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Eisenberg	Katz	Kantar	Cohen
1♦	4♣	5♦	5♠
6♦	6♠	Dbl	All Pass
Mohan	Wolff	Bates	Hamman
1♦	3♠	Dbl	4♠
5♥	5♣	6♥	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Katz made the standard four spade preempt with his 8-card suit. It was subsequently natural to take the 300 point save against the slam, as it was impossible to know that the slam was doomed because of the North-South mirror distribution.

Wolff, however, preempted with just three spades so as to allow the opponents to find a heart fit via a negative double sequence. He knew that a heart contract might be in for a disastrous trump split. Six hearts doubled was set 300 points, a net swing of 12 IMPs.

Taiwan easily won the 12-team Far Eastern Championships held in Auckland, New Zealand last November

27 - December 9. The winners are the same team that started off very poorly in the Team Olympiad in Monte Carlo due to lack of sleep and visa problems, but came on very strongly and ended up fifteenth: Min Fan Tai, Harry Shein-Chu Lin, Patrick Kuang-Hui Huang, Che Hung Kuo and Conrad Cheng. Australia came in second, and since this encounter between Australia and New Zealand had been officially designated as the South Pacific Zonal Playoffs, Australia will also be going to the Bermuda Bowl. The nine-team ladies event was won by New Zealand. Patrick Huang-C.H. Kuo also won the Pairs Championship.

The European zonal representative will not be determined until August when the EBL zonal championship is being held in Denmark.

Argentina is the South America representative. A report on the South American Championship appears elsewhere in this magazine.

### 1978 WORLD PAIR OLYMPIAD TO BE HELD IN NEW ORLEANS

The fifth quadrennial World Pair Olympiad will be held in exciting New Orleans June 17-30, 1978. The championships will be at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, next to the Super Dome. This will be the first Pair Olympiad to be held outside of Europe, so it will be a great opportunity for players from our zone to compete.

The entry quotas for the World Pairs (if they haven't changed since 1974) are:

0- 500 NCBO members	4 pairs
500- 1,500 "	6 pairs
1,501- 5,000 "	8 pairs
5,001-50,000 "	10 pairs
50,001 or more "	12 pairs

### THE BRIDGE TRIATHLON

A new event, the "Bridge Triathlon", turned out to be a great success when held in Athens last January. The basic idea of the Triathlon is to have players compete in a three day tournament—first as teams of four, then as pairs and finally, as individuals, while a unified scoring system produces the triathlon winner. An intricate scoring system was worked out so that a good performance in any one session could compensate for a poor one in another. What follows is an abbreviated explanation of the scoring. The rationale is available in greater detail from your Secretariat.

One of the problems occurred in comparing team play with match-points. This was solved by reducing the scores in all three contests to percentage results. It was found, how-

ever, that extreme scores are more easily obtainable in team matches than match points. Therefore, an appropriate correlation coefficient was used to reduce team percentage results.

The team results were reduced to percentages by use of a victory point system. Sixty percent of the victory points were awarded on the basis of board-a-match and the remaining forty percent were awarded on a total IMP basis, either by means of a standard conversion table or by comparing the aggregate to the total number of absolute swings created over all the boards (Patton scoring).

It was also felt that it wouldn't be fair to consider the three events meritorily equivalent. The luck factor is largely eliminated in teams but is very present in an individual. The following weights were assigned to the events: Teams-150, Pairs-120, Individual-100.

This then was the final formula:  $Score = 4164 + 66.72(P_1) + 120(P_2) + 100(P_3)$ , where  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$ , and  $P_3$  are the percentages obtained by each contestant during the teams, pairs, and individual sessions, respectively.

## CURRENT SCANDALS

### BURGAY-BIANCHI

Leandre Burgay, a wealthy Italian businessman, recorded a telephone conversation where Benito Bianchi, 1973 and 1974 Bermuda Bowl champion, discussed the use of cigarette signals. The tapes became public knowledge just before the beginning of the 1976 Bermuda Bowl in Monte Carlo. They were particularly damaging to Pietro Forquet, 3rd ranked player in the world, who partnered Bianchi in the 1973 and 1974 Bermuda Bowls. The resulting emotional disarray led to a relatively poor Italian performance in the Bermuda Bowl and Team Olympiad.

The tape, a lengthy 25 minute affair, apparently contains no specific details of who cheated and how. Only the last minutes of the tape deal with Burgay's accusations, in such terms as: "Well, you know what they do....Of course, it's with the cigarettes.... four positions....that's what they were doing then....let me watch them for 15 minutes and I'll tell you what they're doing....of course, that's what they were doing then. Now I would have to watch them...." Eventually, Burgay got to the point. "Surely when you played with Forquet you must have had something going for you", and Bianchi replied "We tried, but we got so confused we had to give it up. I said you use your methods and I'll use mine...."

When Bianchi heard the tape he admitted it was his voice, but he denied having made the incriminating statements. Later, in a hearing, he was told that, if he had made the statements under pressure of any sort and admitted that, he would be dealt with leniently. He steadfastly maintained that the conversation as it was on the tape never took place.

Burgay has had an intense desire to represent Italy in international bridge. He played in the 1974 World Pairs with Abate and came in second. However, he has never been a member of the Blue Team, and they have been, in part, responsible for this. At least one of the players has stated that they will refuse to play on any team of which Burgay is a member. Belladonna has rejected monetary offers to play on an Italian team that includes Burgay.

Burgay pressured players and officials in an attempt to make the team. He waged a newspaper and magazine war to try to reach his Holy Grail. His efforts resulted in Burgay-De Falco competing with Sbarigia-Mosca in a team match (Belladonna-Forquet, Garozzo-Franco, respective teammates), to see who would be the third pair for the 1976 Italian Olympiad team. When he lost by a few IMPs, he accused the Blue Team of conspiring to keep him off the team. More specifically, he alleged that Belladonna-Forquet deliberately dumped points to make sure he would lose. He backed these allegations with detailed hand analyses whose accuracy was highly questionable.

About the middle of February, Burgay called Luigi Firpo, President of the Italian Bridge Federation (FIB), and played the tape for him. He told Firpo that he did not want to create a scandal and that it was obviously in the best interests of all concerned to keep the matter quiet. Naturally, there was a small price for his silence—a place on the Olympiad team. He made it clear that this was an approach to Firpo alone and not to the Italian Bridge Federation.

The Blue Team did not yield to these tactics.

On March 27th a copy of the tape, together with Burgay's charges, was received by Jaime Ortiz-Patino, the leading World Bridge official in Europe. Two days later Burgay requested that the Milan Bridge Federation hear the tape, but they forwarded the material to the Proviviri, the 'Wise Men' of Italian bridge who act as an arbitration and disciplinary body for the FIB.

Prof. Costaris, president of the Proviviri, had the tape tested for possible tampering. However, he did

not send it to an organization capable of testing it. Instead, it was sent to a small place in Trieste where someone listened to it with earphones and said that he thought it was O.K.

There are conflicting reports about an expert (a second one?) finding two places where the tape had been (could have been?) altered.

The Proviviri suspended Burgay indefinitely for his pressure tactics and threats of blackmail. The Italian Federation provisionally cleared the parties involved pending a final report from the Proviviri. And there the matter rested until a few days before the Bermuda Bowl was due to begin, at which time the story broke in Italian newspapers, was picked up by the French dailies, and was soon on the wire services.

The day before the Bermuda Bowl was to begin, Burgay requested and was granted a hearing by the World Bridge Federation. There were long meetings. Prof. Firpo, FIB president, testified as follows:

"To continue energetically the inquiry into the Burgay-Bianchi affair and to report in detail its findings and decisions together with full documentation including a certified copy of the tape to the European Bridge League and to the World Bridge Federation. Should the inquiry determine that the tape was authentic and, furthermore, that the declaration by Bianchi of his cheating with Forquet was confirmed, then the Italian Bridge Federation would renounce all European and World titles won with either Bianchi or Forquet on the team."

The W.B.F. Executive Council then agreed to defer further consideration of the matter pending the final decision and report of the FIB.

The more recent findings and judgments of the Proviviri go into great detail and cover over a hundred pages. Sentences were handed down to both Burgay and Bianchi, but they appealed them on separate grounds on matters of law to the "Commissione di Revisione". This committee broke the legal grounds of the findings of the Proviviri. No one has been acquitted, however. The case must be retired. A new investigation is in progress.

(Large segments of the above story are directly quoted from Popular Bridge Monthly).

### THE MANOPPO BROTHERS

The Far Eastern Bridge Federation has asked the World Bridge Federation to help in its inquiry into incidents which have occurred over the past four

years concerning the Manoppo brothers of Indonesia. In an attempt to find evidence of unethical behavior, all hands played in a recent Far Eastern championship have been submitted to the W.B.F. for study. A panel consisting of Edgar Kaplan, Harold Franklin, and Jaime Ortiz-Patiño is examining the hands.

For years there have been innuendos published in Australian Bridge. In the Monte Carlo Olympiad, Panama lost an appeal based on unusual occurrences. On the other hand, an observer from the Far East, having watched them playing with screens, has commented about eerie movements, which looked like possible E.S.P.

#### KATZ-COHEN

Last January, when their team was winning the North American championships, Dick Katz and Larry Cohen of Los Angeles suddenly withdrew from the tournament and resigned their membership in the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL), leaving their team with only three players and forcing them to concede the championship. What promulgated this action and what really occurred behind the scenes has been hushed up. The reason for the blanket of secrecy is unclear, but it is suspected that Katz and Cohen were caught doing something highly unethical.

Mr. Mathe, a top ACBL official, has leaked some information about what went on. He said that there had been a committee composed of "heavyweight" bridge players checking on possible cheating at Houston, and that the committee members had tried to act in a casual manner so as not to alert anyone. It was, he said, "a team effort." He also said that the decision to stop play had been based on information from a man who was not a member of the tournament committee. He would not identify him.

It was apparently Roger Stern, non-playing captain of the winning team, who worked out the agreement that no statements about what had happened would be made if Katz and Cohen voluntarily resigned from the tournament and the ACBL. Mr. Stern neither confirmed nor denied this, but, according to Mathe, Stern did talk privately with the two players and apparently succeeded in "working something out that was palatable to Katz and Cohen." "I don't say they relished it," he continued, "but they did have the opportunity to do what they wanted to do, and they decided they did not want to continue the event." Mathe summed it up, "We

were not out for blood. All we wanted to do was get the thing settled in as clean a way as possible."

And that's how the matter rested until March when Katz and Cohen filed suit against the ACBL and three of its officials for slightly more than 48 million dollars. They allege that they were coerced into resigning from the Trials and that they have suffered professional damage and emotional distress as a result of the cheating accusations that they deny.

#### PAN AMERICAN PAIRS

The Tenozcalli Bridge Club of Mexico City staged its third annual Pan American invitational pairs tournament last September 15th-17th. Fourteen pairs entered. The winners were Bob Hamman and Bob Wolff, world champions of the 1970 and 1971 Bermuda Bowl and the 1974 World Pairs. Second place was taken by Garey Hayden and Gaylor Kasle, who are consistently top master point winners in the United States. In third place were World Team Olympiad champion Pedro Pablo Assumpcao and Siniscalco Ferreira of Brazil. Then came Eric Kokish-Peter Nagy of Canada, world champions Billy Eisenberg-Eddie Kantar, Caribbean champs Alberto Calvo-Jeff Hand, Michael Moss-Kenny Cohen of the United States, Colombians Segovia-Savdie, Gail Moss-Helen Smith of the United States, Mexicans Luis Sneider-Miguel Reygadas, Colombians Roitman-Cahn Speyer, Joseph Boulogne-J.P. Bouveresse of Guadeloupe-Martinique, and the Duran partnerships of Mexico. Each pair played a 10-board match against every other pair with 20 victory points available in each match.

Thanks go out to Luis Sneider for again sponsoring such a wonderful tournament, and also to lovely Sarita Reygadas who once again headed the gracious Mexican hospitality. And mention must be made of Bill Schoder, who once again directed a—how would you say it Bill? — BEAUTIFUL tournament.

#### SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Brazil has dominated the South American championships since 1967 and defeated 44 other nations in the World Team Olympiad held last May in Monte Carlo, but they were upset by Argentina in the South American Championships held last August in Buenos Aires. Argentina has thus won the right to represent South America in the 1977 Bermuda Bowl. Its members were Egisto Rocchi, Jaime Braceras, Eduardo Scanavino, Carlos Caballero, Agustin Santamarina, Luis Attaguile and Alberto Berisso (npc).

South America has the unique custom of having the host country pay for the lodging of the visiting players. Thus the expenses the players incur are minimal. Although the national bridge organizations aren't rich, all of the countries do their best to organize excellent championships when it is their turn to be host. And the organization is usually outstanding.

The 1976 Championship was held in the Alvear Palace Hotel in Buenos Aires. A bridge-o-rama was set up on the roof garden. However, these premises turned out to be too small for the more than one thousand spectators that turned out, so vu-graphs were installed in other rooms for the semifinals and finals. A closed circuit color TV was also used in the finals.

Eight countries were represented in both the open and ladies series. The teams competed in a triple round robin, 16 board matches, and there were semifinals and finals with carry-over. The results:

#### ROUND ROBIN

##### OPEN

1. Brazil 310
2. Argentina 273
3. Venezuela 263
4. Peru 246
5. Uruguay 234
6. Chile 151
7. Colombia 128
8. Bolivia 107

##### LADIES

1. Colombia 285
2. Peru 262
3. Argentina 249
4. Uruguay 226
5. Chile 187
6. Venezuela 169
7. Brazil 167
8. Bolivia 107

#### SEMIFINALS

OPEN	c/o	1-20	21-40	41-60	total
Brazil	20	92	61-61	29	202
Venezuela		39	37	84	160
Argentina		61	54	118	233
Peru	3	38	39	26	106

LADIES	c/o	1-20	21-40	total
Colombia	19	57	29	105
Uruguay		17	43	60
Argentina	20	64	33	117
Peru		26	68	94

#### FINALS

OPEN	c/o	1-20	21-40	41-55	56-70	total
Argentina		75	38	14	50	177
Brazil	12	26	61	35	15	149

LADIES	c/o	1-20	21-40	41-60	total
Colombia		7	89	43	139
Argentina	3	50	55	11	119

The winning Colombian ladies were Josefina de Bennet, Angela Echeverry, Martha de Ferrer, Blanca de Jaramillo, Silvia de Vasquez.

#### GUYANA TO JOIN C.A.C.B.F.

Correspondence has been received from F.A. Vaughn-Cooke, the Secretary of the Guyana Bridge League, indicating a desire to join our Federation and an interest in sending a National team to Aruba. This contact was made through efforts of Jimmy Cozier of Barbados. The League address is 382 Lanaha Gardens, Georgetown, Guyana.

1977 SUNDAY TIMES PAIRS

The highly prestigious invitational Sunday Times Pairs was held at the Churchill Hotel in London last January 28-30. This tournament is unique because it attracts the greatest players throughout the world while there is absolutely no monetary compensation. Players compete for the prestige and sheet joy of competition. This year 16 pairs from 10 different countries contested, The top finishers:

1. Boulenger - Svarc (France) 182
2. Werdelin - Moller (Denmark) 180
3. Chagas - Assumpcao (Brazil) 178
4. Sundelin - Flodqvist (Sweden) 162
5. Morath - Gothe (Sweden) 162
6. Shenkin - Rosenberg (G.B.) 158
7. Lev - Romik (Israel) 153
8. Priday - Rodrigue (G.B.) 145
9. Rose - Flint (G.B.) 142
10. Sharif - Sussel (France) 141

The Brazilians began with a 20-0 blitz and continued with an 18-2 victory over Britains Nicola Gardner and Sandra Landy (European Women Champions). Here is an example of their sparkling defense:

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

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

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Gardener	Chagas	Landy	Assumpcao
Pass	1♥	Dble	Pass
INT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Chagas led the seven of clubs and Assumpcao played the three, giving count. Nicola immediately attacked diamonds, Chagas winning the first round. He cashed the heart ace and led

the nine of clubs, South again playing low. With this timing, it was impossible for declarer to take more than six tricks.

On the last round the Brazilians, who were leading the field at the time, came up against a young European pair, who were in next to last place:

North-South Vulnerable

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

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

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Chagas		Assumpcao
3♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Four clubs had to go down one, a disaster since the fairly normal 3NT makes. The swing cost the Brazilians 5 Victory Points and the tournament. Clearly, Assumpcao, South, might have saved the situation by bidding three notrump instead of doubling, but he had a tough problem, a problem no one else had to face. Was it acceptable for West, who didn't even have a chance to finish in the top ten, to take an abnormal action that could easily - and actually did - affect the winner of the tournament? The general consensus of bridge authorities is that West should not have preempted, that in his situation he had the responsibility to make the bids and plays that he thought were correct.

The defense of Henri Svarc and Jean-Michel Boulenger contributed greatly to their eventual victory:

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

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

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

Per-Olov Sundelin became declarer in 3NT with the East cards. Svarc led the club jack and Boulenger languidly played the jack. Sundelin looked suspicious - but he had to win the trick. When the diamond finesse lost, Boulenger pounced with the ace of clubs and followed with the three. If the ace of clubs had been played on

the first round, Sundelin, of course, would have easily made the contract by holding up the king.

NEWS BITS

Sales of "The Official Encyclopedia of Bridge" soared above 12,500 copies by December 1, 1976. That's quite a success for a book that lists at \$15.95.

Julius Rosenblum retired as WBF president after an unprecedented 6-year spell of service when he was stricken ill in Monte Carlo. He was subsequently elected the WBF's first President Emeritus by a unanimous vote. He now receives medical treatment 3 days a week and is very busy during his free time.

Lillian Morganti ("The Daily Journal", Caracas) writes: "The Caracas bridge scene was deeply saddened when Roger Rossignol died at 48 early in January. A man of wit, good humor, and gentlemanly fairness, he was our top player, with several S. American championship wins and two Bermuda Bowl appearances." He was a true gentleman and a staunch competitor. In the last C.A.C.B.F. championships he won the pairs playing with David Berah and came in second in the national teams.

Johannes Hammerich of Caracas, WBF 1st vice President, has figured that there are 416,475 WBF affiliates in 65 national contract bridge organizations.

The European Junior Team Championships held in August were won by Austria. Sweden and Holland were second and third, respectively.

The European Bridge League's first European Pairs Championship was held in Cannes, France from December 10-18. Winners were: Open—Chemla, Lebel (France); Ladies—Mrs. de Gailhard, Mrs. Zuccarelli (France); Juniors—Gawrys, Moszczyński (Poland); Mixed—Ms. Morenas, Mr. Aujaleu (France).

A Pan-American Development Committee was appointed by WBF President Jaime Ortiz-Patiño at the Team Olympiad in Monte Carlo. Headed by Johannes Hammerich, Don Oakie, and Alberto Calvo, it is responsible for organizing inter-zonal competitions between the Confederación Sud Americana de Bridge, the ACBL, and the CACBF.

The ACBL Vanderbilt Team Championship held in the Spring Nationals in Pasadena, California was won by: Mark Blumenthal, Mike Lawrence, Fred Hamilton. John Swanson, Mike Becker and Ron Rubin. They beat a team headed by Mexican George Rosenkranz in the semifinals and a Precision team headed by Kathy Wei in the finals.

Jaime Ortiz-Patino, president of the WBF, can be written at: 56 Route de Vandoeuvres, 1253 Geneva, Switzerland.

David Berah has been elected President of the Venezuelan Bridge Federation.

Nigeria, the fast developing federal republic in West Africa with a population of over 70 million, may decide to apply for WBF membership.

A Pan-American Development Committee was appointed by WBF President Jaime Ortiz-Patiño at the Team Olympiad in Monte Carlo. Headed by Johannes Hammerich, Don Oakie and Alberto Calvo, it is responsible for organizing inter-zonal competitions between the Confederacion Sud Americana de Bridge, the ACBL, and the CACBF.

A tournament will be held next July 9-16 at the tourist complex, "GREGOLIMANO" in North Euboea, Greece inf: ELPA, 2-4 Messogion St., Athens (610), Greece.

## HOW IS YOUR LUCKY STAR?

by D. A. Berah - Caracas

David Berah is one of Venezuela's leading players. Last year he won the pairs championship in St. Kitts and came in second in the teams.

During the whole of my bridge career I have steadfastly refused to believe in "lucky" or "unlucky" players. As far as I am concerned, there are good and bad players! Good players know how to bid, how to handle dummy and how to defend. Bad players, more often than not, make a mess out of their bidding, underplay their cards by a couple of tricks, and, as a rule, give away to the opponents at least one trick through their faulty defense. That's all there is to it, right?

Wrong! Only the other day I became convinced that some people are truly unlucky. Take Mr. "U" (for unlucky). He lives in Brazil and is visiting our country, apparently on business. He has been coming regularly to our club during the last three weeks, and I have played at his table six or seven times. He is not a brilliant player, yet well above average, — and not once did I see him win! In fact, the only vulnerable grand slam I have bid in recent times, I bid and made against Mr. "U"...

Last Sunday he managed to loose, between the afternoon and evening session, an almost incredible total of 128 points. Sure enough, there were certain deals where he was at fault, — then again, who plays perfectly? Still, two deals stand out vividly in my mind as perfect demonstration of bad luck stories.

Nobody vulnerable, South dealer, Mr. "U" sitting in the North's chair.

North, Mr. "U"

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

West  
♠ 10 9 8 2  
♥ —  
♦ Q 10 9 5  
♣ K 8 5 4 3

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

South opened with one heart and Mr. "U" jumped to three hearts — a strong raise, not a limit bid. South, an aggressive player, continued with a relatively cheap-cue bid of three spades, to which North responded with a cue-bid in diamonds. South could have signed off in four hearts, considering the weak texture of his trumps, but optimistic by nature, he resorted to a further cue-bid: "Five clubs." North could do no less than bid to six hearts.

I was West, and after three passes I led the ten of spades. Declarer won in his hand, tackled the trumps and, with a 4:0 break, he quickly went three down. Table and the kibitzers laughed when I commented, almost casually: "You didn't loose much, because the way the cards lay, you could not make four hearts..." North added, as an afterthought: "That's no surprise to me, just my usual luck..." I granted that the hand was rather extraordinary. As with seven and a half quick tricks plus nine trumps, a simple game could not be made, not even in notrumps providing West chooses to lead spades rather than clubs.

A while later it was my turn to cut Mr. "U" as my partner. We became quickly vulnerable, then as a dealer, I picked up the following:

♠ A J 10  
♥ K J 9 8  
♦ A 8 6  
♣ K 10 9

Playing strong notrump, I had only one bid available: 1 NT. Mr. "U" jumped to four notrump, and the ball was back in my court. He was telling me that he also held an equivalent of 1 NT opening and was inviting me to bid six if I held the maximum. Well, I was nowhere near a maximum, yet my

hand was far from a dirt minimum. I held 16 heavy points and a lot of good controls. Trying to prove that "bad luck" stories are a lot of rubbish, and willing to challenge Mr. "U"'s tragic reputation, I invited slam by bidding 5 NT. I did not anticipate any danger at that level. Mr. "U" gave one more good look at his hand and then accepted the invitation: "Six notrump!"

West led the nine of spades, and here are the four hands:

North, Mr. "U"

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

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

East  
♠ 4 3  
♥ 3 2  
♦ Q 10 7  
♣ 8 7 5 4 2

South  
♠ A J 10  
♥ K J 9 8  
♦ A 8 6  
♣ K 10 9

There was absolutely nothing wrong with North's leap to 4NT holding sound 16 h.c.pts. Observing our two hands, I could quickly detect some dreadful duplication of values, yet is it such a horrible crime to reach 6NT on combined 32 h.c.pts? Maybe it is when neither partner holds a five card suit.

Did I just say that I couldn't possibly jeopardize our safety when I bid a mere 5NT? Well, I better eat my words... On the spade lead, all my efforts to set up the heart suit in order to come to the necessary twelve tricks, finished in utter disaster. West just sat there and calmly collected three heart tricks and two spades for a four trick debacle. A kibitzer commented: "David, with your double dummy skill you were way overboard at the 4 NT level. Just don't bid so much..."

And he was right at that, because the way the cards were dealt, I still do not know whether I could have scrambled plain nine tricks even if seeing all the hands. All I could do was to apologize to my unfortunate partner.

That same night I had a dream. I was playing team-of-four, an important final, when it was my turn to open with:

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

I opened one heart, what else? Partner made a strong raise: "Three hearts". I proceeded with the nearest cue-bid: "Three spades". North encouraged with four diamonds. Having a double club control and rather poor hearts, I made a trump enquiry: "Five hearts", meaning: "Partner, bid six if your trumps are good". And that is precisely what North did. The cards were:

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

West  
 ♠ 10 9 8 2  
 ♥ Q 5  
 ♦ Q 9  
 ♣ 8 6 5 4 2

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

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

I played the hand the way Paganini played his concertos: fast and flawlessly, and in no time at all, I gathered all the tricks. In a post-mortem, partner and I concluded grave-facedly that it would have been irresponsible to have bid a grand slam. — Yes, our opponents stopped in four hearts, cowards! !

I turned around in my bed and continued dreaming. Now I was engaged in a high stakes rubber bridge game, and things were running pretty smoothly for me. I held good cards and the opponents went several times for hard penalties. The game was nearing the end when I picked up:

♠ A J 10  
 ♥ K J 9 8  
 ♦ A 8 6  
 ♣ K 10 9

The hand was vaguely familiar, but after you have played for so many years, aren't they all? We were vulnerable and playing strong no-trump, I had obviously only one bid available: "1NT". North, who has not passed (I was the dealer), went through Stayman: — "Two clubs?" I showed my heart suit. North leaped to "4NT"—obviously a Blackwood inquiry. When I showed my two aces, we landed in six hearts. This was the complete deal:

North  
 ♠ K Q 5  
 ♥ 7 6 5 4  
 ♦ K J 9  
 ♣ A Q J

West  
 ♠ 4 3  
 ♥ 3 2  
 ♦ Q 10 7  
 ♣ 8 7 5 4 2

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

South  
 ♠ A J 10  
 ♥ K J 9 8  
 ♦ A 8 6  
 ♣ K 10 9

West led seven of diamonds and dummy's nine won. I played small heart towards my hand, East played ten spot and my jack won. The rest was easy, even I managed to get twelve tricks.

When we scored our game and rubber, North inquired, very seriously: "I could not bid any less, could I, David?"

I deadpanned: "Of course not! Didn't you see it was a laydown..." and I continued with my happy dreams...



## TEST YOUR PLAY

(Answers on pages 14 & 15)

### # 1 NORTH (dummy)

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

### SOUTH (you)

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

### SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

4 ♣ Pass Pass Pass

OPENING LEAD: Diamond King. The defense starts off with three rounds of diamonds, you trumping the third round. How do you continue?

### # 2 NORTH (dummy)

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

### SOUTH (you)

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

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

OPENING LEAD: Diamond Queen. Plan the play.

### # 3 MATCHPOINTS E/W VULNERABLE

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

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

SOUTH	NORTH
1♥	4♥

OPENING LEAD: Spade Queen. You win the ace & lead the heart jack on which West plays the 9. What do you play from dummy?

### # 4 NORTH (dummy)

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

### SOUTH (you)

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

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

OPENING LEAD: Spade Six. Partner's reverse is a slight overbid, but there isn't a good way to bid his hand. Some players would prefer to open one heart. Anyway, you're playing 3NT. East wins the first two tricks with the queen and king of spades, West following with the three of spades, dummy shedding a small diamond. At trick three East shifts to the two of diamonds. How do you continue?

# THE MULTI-COLORED TWO DIAMOND CONVENTION

by Gerald Cooklin

Gerald Cooklin is a prominent British table tennis, squash, bridge, and poker player. A mathematics professor, he plans on playing in the 1978 World Pairs.

Bidding systems and conventions used by top players around the world tend to be familiar to most international level players. We find that a convention coming from, say, the United States will be understood and used by players from all over the world, if they think it fits in well with their basic system. An exception to this is the British Multi-Colored Two Diamond Convention, known in Britain as the "Multi". This is used by virtually all of the best British pairs and by no one else. In fact, it is a tremendously effective convention which is very difficult and dangerous to defend against, but which does not seem to have been written up in any detail before.

The basis of the convention is that an opening bid of 2♦ means one of 3 things.

- (a) a balanced hand of 21-22 HCP,
- (b) a weak 2-bid in a major suit,
- (c) a strong 4-4-4-1 type hand with 17-24 HCP.

Before I describe the method of developing the three types of hands above, you can see that we have released the 2♥ and 2♠ openings to be used as you wish. In Britain, we usually reserve them for strong hands worth 8 or more playing tricks in the majors. Also, we can now open 2NT on a balanced hand of 19-20 points so that strong, balanced hands can be restricted to 2 point ranges for better bidding definition.

A negative response of two hearts is given to the two diamond opening if the responder does not wish to go to game opposite a weak major 2-bid (has less than 16 HCP).

### AFTER A NEGATIVE:

- (a) 2NT shows 21-22 HCP, balanced hand. Bidding proceeds as if opener has opened 2NT.
- (b) Pass and two spades show weak 2-bids.
- (c) For the 4-4-4-1 types, different pairs use systems of varying complexity, based on the Roman two diamond idea. I bid three of the singleton with 17-20 HCP and four of the singleton with 21-24 HCP. (We cannot show 21-24 HCP with a singleton spade).

The only positive response is 2NT (Game Force)

### AFTER A POSITIVE:

- (a) 3NT shows 21-22 balanced (obviously this is forcing to at least the six level).
- (b) Three of a major shows a weak 2-bid of minimum type. Three clubs shows a good weak two heart bid and three diamonds shows a good weak two spade bid.
- (c) I bid four of the singleton with 17-20 HCP and five of the singleton with 21-24 HCP.

### SEMI-POSITIVE RESPONSES:

All pairs use a variety of semi-positive bids to cope with the hands which either wish to investigate the possibility of game opposite a weak 2-bid or to pre-empt if there is a good major fit. The bid that all pairs use is two spades.

This shows a hand that wants to play in at least three hearts opposite a weak two heart bid, but otherwise will be content with a two spade contract. This is the most difficult bidding sequence to play against because

2♦ 2♠ or 2♦ 2♠  
3♥ 4♥ 4♥

may be pre-emptive or based on good hands. A semi-positive in spades is given by

2♦ 2♥  
2♠ 3♠

This is just an outline of the system. Most top pairs add their own cue-bids and semi-positives as they get used to playing the system.

The tactical problems presented to the opposition by this system are considerable, and I will discuss the use of the system and some counter-measures in the next CAC Bulletin.

### TEST YOUR PLAY ANSWERS

# 1 ♠ 7  
♥ A 9 8 4 3  
♦ 10 7 4  
♣ K Q 5 2

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

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

You must lead a club towards dummy. You've lost two tricks already and can't afford to lose a club and a heart. Your only chance is to hope that the club ace is onside. You can then set up a discard for your losing heart. The catch is that you must lead a club before pulling any trumps. You need the trump entry to your hand so that you can lead towards dummy's clubs a second time. If you pulled trump before leading clubs, the defense would beat you by letting the club queen win. With the lead stuck in dummy, there would be no way to avoid losing a club trick and a heart trick. By leading the club immediately, you'll make the hand whenever West has the club ace: Win the club queen, draw trump and lead another club. One of your losers is going away.

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

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

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

You have seven top tricks: 2 spades, 1 diamond, & 4 clubs. In order to make the hand you need two heart tricks - you don't have time to establish a spade for that would certainly give the defense 5 top tricks: 1 spade, 1 heart, & 3 diamonds. So you must assume that the ace of hearts is onside.

Now, if diamonds are divided 4-3, the most you will lose is 3 diamonds and 1 heart. And if diamonds are divided 5-2, you'll create blockage for the opponents by winning the first diamond. West presumably has led from a queen-jack sequence. That leaves East with the king doubleton. If he drops the king under dummy's ace, your 9-8-6 becomes a stopper, & if he holds onto the king, the suit will be blocked. You'll make the contract whenever West has the ace of hearts.

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

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

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



It appears that eleven tricks are safe & the question is how to give yourself the best chance of one or two more tricks. It's tempting to play dummy's heart ace: If the king falls you rate to make 13 tricks discarding dummy's diamonds on the clubs. If the king doesn't fall you may still make 12 tricks if the heart king is in the same defender's hand as four clubs, as this hand will have to follow as you run off the clubs.

As the cards lie, however, playing the heart ace and then rattling off the clubs holds you to 11 tricks, as East ruffs the third club and cashes a diamond.

The key factor is that East, on this bidding, knows nothing about declarer's fine club suit. At trick 2, therefore South should finesse in hearts. East will win the king of hearts but may very reasonably decide that cashing the ace of diamonds is more likely to cost a trick than save one. Any other return allows you to make 12 tricks.

This hand occurred in the Phillip Morris Cup tournament in Ostend.

# 4

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

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

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

You have eight top tricks: 2 hearts, 2 diamonds, & 4 clubs. There are two chances for developing another trick: 1) hearts may break 3-3 — you'll establish dummy's fourth heart, or 2) you might somehow be able to force West into leading a spade towards your jack. You don't have to commit yourself to either line of play yet, so win the diamond king & cash four rounds of clubs, discarding a heart and a diamond. (East discards a diamond on the fourth club). Since West is marked for five spades, has shown up with four clubs, & must have at least two diamonds — for East shifted to the diamond deuce, marking himself for either 3 to an honor or a 4-card suit, West can't have 3 hearts. So play him for 2 hearts and 2 diamonds, cash the top hearts and diamond ace to reach this position:

NORTH  
immaterial

WEST  
♠ A 10 7

EAST  
immaterial

SOUTH  
♠ J 8 5

Now the lead of any spade from your hand will endplay West. He must give you your ninth trick.

### INTRODUCING THE "SLIVER"



by  
Dr. George Rosenkranz

George Rosenkranz is the inventor of the Dynamic Notrump, the Mexican Two Diamonds, and the birth control pill. He authored The Romex System of Bidding and is generally considered to be Mexico's top player, having headed winning teams of numerous major North American championships.

Experienced tournament players today use splinter bids to uncover both the perfect fits of which slams are born and also the misfits that murder slams. But splinter bids usually require that responder have a good hand. In Romex, we require at least 10 plus HCP (in Precision, the requirement is 11). For example:

♠ K J x x x    ♥ K J x    ♦ x    ♣ Q J x x

If partner opens 1♠ the splinter response is 4♦. A weaker hand would be expressed by jumping directly to 4♠ — the principle of fast arrival.

♠ K 10 x x x	♠ A Q x x x
♥ x x x	♥ —
♦ —	♦ x x x x x
♣ A K Q 10 x	♣ x x x x

Here's the story of how a new bidding tool for such weaker hands came to be fashioned. Roger Bates and I were practicing for the playoff when along came this hand: Roger opened 1♠ and I bid 4♠, ending the auction. Making seven!

Roger moaned, "The must be a way to show a weak splinter bid". The wheels started turning and the Romex "silver" was the result. With a weak hand, but one including four or preferably five — card support, a singleton or void and at least one king, bid 3NT! This is the equivalent of a

preemptive jump to game, but it leaves a little room for exploration, as you will see.

What have we sacrificed? Like most sophisticated partnerships, we had a conventional use for the sequence, 1 of a major—3NT: a limited but strong forcing raise with four trumps and 12-14 HCP. We decided to squeeze this hand into our 2NT response to a major and thus clear 3NT for the Romex minisplinter raise — the "sliver."

Partnerships using other methods may be able to assign this "silver" meaning to this otherwise rare 3NT response and find that it gets them to many slams makeable with a low HCP total. In addition to four or (preferably) more trumps, the requirements are:

1. Fewer than 10 HCP, but at least one king.
2. A singleton or void.
3. Minimum of three controls, counting distribution and high card controls thus:
  - Ace or void: 2 controls.
  - King or singleton: 1 control.
4. A holding not completely unsuitable for slam purposes.

If any of these requirements is not fulfilled, give the customary jump to four of partner's major. For example, raise to 4♠ with:

♠ Q x x x x x    ♥ Q x    ♦ x x x    ♣ Q x

These requirements, particularly No. 3, are geared for systems like Romex, Precision or other forcing 1 systems, where the opening one-bid in a major is limited. For use with Standard American, the controls may be shaded to two instead of three minimum.

#### Opener's rebid:

Minimum hand: more than 5 losers, and poor in both high-card points and controls, sign off with game in the major.

Good hand: At least 6 controls, or 5 controls and a singleton, about 15 HCP (more in Standard American) and fewer than six losers, explore to discover whether responder's "sliver" will duplicate values in opener's hand or will eliminate losers. Opener bids the suit where duplication will do the greatest harm.

Responder's rebids: Sign off in game if singleton or void is opposite the suit where partner's rebid warns this will represent duplication. Otherwise, use step responses:

- 1st step: singleton in lower of the two remaining side suits.
- 2nd step: singleton in higher or remaining suits.

- 3rd step: void in lower of remaining side suits.
- 4th step: void in higher of other side suits.

In counting steps, omit the game bid in the trump suit, which is the signoff.

A few examples:

Opener (A)	Responder
♠ K 10	♠ A x x
♥ K J x x x	♥ Q 10 x x x
♦ J x x	♦ - -
♣ K Q x	♣ x x x x x

Opener (B)

♠ K 10
♥ A K x x x
♦ x x x x
♣ A J

With hand (A) after responder bids 3NT (good fit and void: only 6 HCP, but 4 controls: ace; void), opener signs off, having no first - round control and no slam interest.

With hand (B):

Opener	Responder
1♥	3 NT (a)
4♣ (b)	4 NT (c)
5♣ (d)	5♠ (e)
5NT (f)	6♥ (g)
Pass	

- (a) Sliver: good fit and 4 controls: Ace and void.
- (b) Clarify sliver unless it is in clubs.
- (c) 3rd step: void in lower of two remaining suits. (4♥, the signoff, is not counted).
- (d) Cue bid: ♣ A.
- (e) Cue bid: ♠ A.
- (f) Cue bid showing A - K of trumps. (This Romex gadget allows you to show A-K of agreed suit by bidding notrump during a cue-bidding sequence).
- (g) Nothing more to show. But note that responder would cue bid 6♣ (♣K) holding: ♠ Axx ♥ J10xxx ♦ - - ♣ Kxxxx, thus reaching a good grand slam.

(A) uses the sliver; opener asks if it is other than hearts; responder says no.

With hand (B), responder's third step rebid of 5♦ shows void in clubs, and opener cue bids ♥A. Responder announces no ace to cue and opener bids the slam, knowing that responder has at least one king and that at worst the contract will depend on a successful finesse if responder's king is not in hearts.

Sometimes opener will have a problem excluding the suit in which he wishes to avoid duplication, as for example when the agreed suit is hearts and opener wishes to exclude spades. Romex has a rather complex solution, but let's keep it simple. Use your judgment. There are still two other suits to exclude, and at worst you may give up the chance to bid a slam which is doubtful or one that will not be bid at other tables.

Now let's get back to the hand that led off this article and observe how sliver bidding would get us to the grand slam:

1♠	3NT (a)
4♣ (b)	5♣ (c)
5 NT (d)	7♠ (e)
Pass	

- (a) Sliver: good trumps, singleton or void; fewer than 10 plus HCP, with which I would have used a splinter bid of 4♦.
- (b) Excluding clubs, in which shortage would be a duplication.
- (c) 4th step (the trump suit is not counted); void in higher ranking suit, hearts.
- (d) Grand slam force.
- (e) 5 including two of the three top honors.

**Opponent's interference:** With considerable strength outstanding, you may encounter interference. If there is a pass after partner's opening, 3NT will shut out fourth as effectively as a jump to game or a splinter response - - perhaps even more effectively since fourth hand cannot be sure which is responder's short suit.

After an overcall, responder must give up the sliver and return to usual methods, but this is not the case after an intervening double. You can use step responses exactly as if doubler had passed, but discuss this with partner before it comes up. And if the double comes after partner's exclusion bid, it can add economy to your step responses. For example:

Opener	Responder (A)	Responder (B)
♠ K J x x x	♠ Q 10 x x x	♠ Q 10 x x x
♥ A Q J x	♥ x	♥ K x x x
♦ A	♦ K x x x	♦ x x x x
♣ x x x	♣ K x x	♣ -

A	1♠	3 NT	B	1♠	3 NT
	4♥	4♠		4♥	5♦
	Pass			5♥	5♠
				6♣	Pass

Opener	Responder
1♥	3 NT
4♣ D'ble	?

Redouble and pass now become the 1st and 2nd steps and cheapest bid other than the agreed suit is the third step, etc. Any method you work out with partner is acceptable, but the R, P, B (redouble, pass, bid) sequence is my preference.

One further reminder: the sliver bid does not replace the splinter bid. You will continue to use the splinter on stronger hands.

Since the sliver will work with any system, I can only add a quote from the well known commercial: "Try it; you'll like it".

### ACCURATE BIDDING OVER 2NT

Almost all bidding systems use an opening bid of 2NT to show a very strong balanced hand. It is a highly descriptive bid, but it takes up a lot of bidding space and leaves very little room to explore carefully for the right contract. The following system is designed for rapid agreement on a trump suit so as to leave as much room as possible to cue bid. Here is the general system of responses to 2NT:

3♣	Stayvar (Stayman variation)
3♦	Modified Flint
3♥, 3♠	Natural, 5+ cd. suits, game forcing.
3NT	Natural
4NT	Quantitative, invitational to 6NT.
5NT	Quantitative, invitational to 7NT.
4♣, 4♦	Natural, generally 6+ cd. suits, game forcing.

anything else natural and to play.

**3♣: Stayvar** (guaranteeing at least one 4-cd. major). Rebids are as follows: Opener rebids:

3♦: no major, only one minor. Now 3♥ by the responder asks which minor. 3♠ shows clubs, 3NT shows diamonds. For example:

2NT	3♣
3♦	3♥
3♠	4♣

The 4♣ bid confirms a club fit and signals the start of cuebidding. Note that if the responder holds 4 spades and 5 hearts he cannot bid 3♣ and then 3♥, since in that sequence 3♥ is artificial. Instead he must bid 3♥ directly over 2NT. And if the opening 2NT bidder has two hearts and four spades, he must rebid 3♠ over a direct 3♥ response.

After a 3♦ rebid by the opening 2NT bidder, all other rebids by the responder are natural. 3♠ would tend to imply five spades and four hearts.

3♥ shows 4 hearts, may also have 4 spades. Responder rebids:

3♠ cue bid in support of hearts.

4♣ or 4♦: usually are cue bids with support but may be long suits with 4 cards in the other major. (same meaning over 3♠ response to 3♣.)

4NT: quantitative. The opener may pass, bid 5 of a minor if he is interested in a potential 4-4 minor fit, or bid slam in Notrump. Over a bid of 5 of a minor, the responder can bid 6 of the minor or sign off in 5NT.

3♠ shows 4 spades, denies 4 hearts. 3NT denies a major, and guarantees both minors.

3♦ Modified Flint. Ostensibly, this is used as the way to sign off in 3 of a major. It can also uncover a good fitting hand in order to reach a close game. 3♦ is a transfer to 3♥. If responder has a long heart suit and a weak hand, he passes 3♥. If he has a long spade suit and a weak hand, he now bids 3♠ to play.

If the opening 2NT bidder wants to raise hearts to game, he bids 3♠ over 3♦. If the responder has a long heart suit and a weak hand, he must go to game. He bids 4♦ which is a transfer to 4♥. If he is weak in spades, he passes. If the opener wants to raise both hearts and spades to game, he bids 3NT over 3♦.

The 3♦ bid is a multipurpose bid. Responders special rebids are:

3NT: minor suit Stayman. This is forcing and guarantees at least one 4-card minor. Opener bids a 4 or 5-cd. minor suit. Otherwise he cue bids a strong major suit with a maximum and bids 4NT with a minimum.

4♣ shows 5-5 or better in the minors, game forcing. Opener bids 4♦ with good diamonds, cue bids with a good hand, and bids 4NT with a lot of duplicated values.

4♦ 4♥: Delayed Texas transfer. Responder may have intended to sign off in 3 of a major or he may have intended to play in 4 of a major all along. For example:

2NT	3♦
3NT	4♥
4♠	Pass

4NT: Blackwood, the only way to ask for aces over 2NT.

3♥ & 3♠: Show at least a 5-cd. suit. Responder may only be interested in getting to four of a major or 3NT, or

he may have a slam exploratory hand. The opener rebids:

3NT: Doubleton in partner's major. If the responder bids a new suit over 3NT it is either a cue bid with a very good original suit or it is a second suit. A careful auction is needed to define the hand. Opener cue bids back, but not in the major. A bid in the major would deny slam interest. 4NT over 3NT is quantitative.

4 of the major: Shows 3+ cd. support but a junky minimum.

4♣ & 4♦: Cue bids in support of the major.

3♣ Shows a doubleton heart and 4 spades. Remember, responder could be 4-5 in spades and hearts.

4NT: Quantitative to 6NT. Opener passes with a minimum, bids 6NT with a balanced maximum, bids 6♣ or 6♦ with a maximum and a good 5-cd. suit and a hand geared for suit play, or passes the buck by bidding 5♣ or 5♦ with good 5-cd. suit or 5NT on in between hands.

5NT: Quantitative to 7NT. Opener rebids 6NT with a minimum, 7NT with a maximum, and 7 of a minor with a maximum, a good 5-cd. suit and a hand geared toward suit play.

4♣ & 4♦: Natural. generally showing at least a 6-cd. suit. Responder is setting the trump suit. Opener cue bids or bids 4NT with poor support and a junky minimum.

## THINK BEFORE YOU RUFF

by Jean Besse

Jean Besse has been the mainstay of the Swiss team that has been a strong force in international bridge in the postwar era. This article is a follow-up to his winning tip in the 2nd Bols Bridge Tips Competition. The Bols company is a long-established Dutch company which manufactures a wide range of liquors.

IN my winning Bols tip I advised: "Beware of your trump tricks. When you see a chance for an easy overruff, don't be in too much of a hurry to take it. You may gain still more tricks by holding back".

When a principle is truly sound, it may turn out to have a very wide application indeed. Thus, not only may you promote extra tricks by declining to overruff the declarer: you may also gain, on occasion, by refusing to take even an ordinary simple ruff.

In the following situation you hold the West cards:

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

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

N  
W E  
S

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

North's 1NT opening is strong. After the 2♥ overcall South's 2♠ bid was encouraging, but not forcing.

You, West, lead your singleton heart. Partner wins with the ace and returns ♥Q, covered by declarer's king. You ruff, and then.....?

And then what?

East holds something like A-Q-J-10-x-x. As he passed originally, the ace of clubs is marked with South, who therefore must hold ♥K, ♣A, and five spades to the jack. Why not Q-J? Because ♠Q-J-x-x would give South gamegoing values; and moreover, in this case there would be no hope of beating the hand.

As it is, you are in a poor position, for whatever you lead now, South will get in with ♣A and lead trumps towards dummy's king. Why the king? Because South, too, has noticed East's original pass, and besides, he has no better chance. A second round of trumps will crash the ace and queen, and declarer's losing heart will be discarded on North's long diamond, the full hand being:

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

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

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

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

Did you, in fact, allow yourself to fall into this difficulty? Or did you, perhaps, follow my advice. If yes, you worked out all this before ruffing the heart return at trick 2. Whereupon you came to the only logical conclusion: West must not ruff. East then keeps control with ♠Q-3, preventing the diamonds from being run, and he

eventually scores his third heart as the setting trick.

So, remember: Don't take a ruff until you've decided what to do next. Here, you can see that you are not going to beat the contract unless East can somehow be enabled to cash the third heart. Once you start thinking along those lines, you can soon spot the best chance. (Note that West can also beat the contract by ruffing with ♠A, but this is beside the point).

**"NEVER FINESSE AGAINST YOUR PARTNER — UNLESS IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO BEAT THE CONTRACT"**

by Schmucl Lev

Schmucl Lev of Tel Aviv is a member of the Israel national team. They finished 2nd in the 1975 European championships, 3rd in the 1976 Bermuda Bowl, and 8th in the Team Olympiad. This is Lev's tip in the Bols Bridge Tips Competition. The Bols Company manufactures a wide range of liquors.

ONE of the maxims (writes Schmucl Lev) which Bridge took over from Whist in its early days was, 'Third hand plays high.' Another slogan that expressed exactly the same idea was, 'Never finesse against your partner'.

Since then, of course, a great deal has been discovered. My Bols tip refers to some quite frequent situations where it can be very good play for third hand to 'finesse' against his partner — that is, to play the lower of non-touching honours even though dummy has a worthless holding in the suit led.

A common situation occurs in notrumps. It is often vital to winkle out declarer's stopper on the first round, so that the suit can be cashed when defenders regain the lead:

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

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

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

West leads the 4 of clubs against South's contract of 3NT. If East puts up the ace ("Third hand plays high!"), South will duck the next round of clubs and West's suit will be

dead. South will be able to develop his ninth trick by taking a heart finesse into the safe hand.

But if East plays the jack of clubs on the first round, it will appear to South that West may have the ace and he will not know that it is safe to duck. South may therefore win with the king and take the heart finesse. Now East continues clubs and beats the contract.

Of course, there is sometimes an element of risk when you finesse against your partner. Here, East may give declarer an unnecessary trick if he holds ♠Q-x. But East can afford to take this risk, for he has control of the major suits and can see that the contract will be defeated if West's club suit can be brought in. East also knows that West cannot possibly have a side entry, and that the play of the jack of clubs is therefore vital.

Against a suit contract, a 'finesse' may create an entry for a vital switch:

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

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

♠ K 10 8  
♥ 10 9 6 5 2  
♦ 10 8  
♣ A 10 5

South reaches 4♥ after North has opened with a Precision 1♣ and South has subsequently shown three controls — in this case, an ace and a king. West leads ♠4. If East makes the normal play of the ace, the contract will be made, declarer losing a spade, a heart and a diamond.

East can see that a diamond from partner is vital, and he should therefore play ♠J at the first trick, driving out South's known ♠K. When East comes in with ♥K, he leads a small spade to his partner's queen. The obvious diamond switch then defeats the contract.

A DEFENDER who has bid a suit may often have the opportunity to finesse against partner when this suit is led:

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

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

East opens with 1♥ but South becomes declarer in 4♣. West leads ♥2, which suggests that he has an honour in the suit. East therefore finessses the queen, forcing the king. When East comes in with ♠A, it is quite safe to underlead ♥A, as West is expected to have the jack. Now West can find the vital club switch before ♦A is dislodged.

If East makes the routine play of ♥A at the first trick, the defenders can never make more than their three aces.

MY BOLLS TIP is this: When you have a holding such as A-Q or A-J in the suit led by partner, do not automatically play 'Third hand high'. By finessing the lower honour, you may sometimes succeed in creating a vital entry to your partner's hand.

**TRY THIS DEFENSIVE SIGNAL**

By Dorothy Hayden Truscott

Dorothy Hayden Truscott, wife of Alan Truscott, the New York Times bridge columnist, is one of the most successful women players. She has represented the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) in the Bermuda Bowl, Pair Olympiad, Women's Team Olympiad, Women's Pair Olympiad, and Venice Cup. In addition, she has won a dozen major ACBL championships. The Truscotts attended our zonal championships in Panama (1972) and Jamaica (1973), and plan on being in Aruba this year. This is Dorothy's entry in the third annual Bols Bridge Tips Competition. The Bols company is a long established Dutch liquor company.

The last major innovation in signaling came some 40 years ago when suit preference signals were introduced. But in all that time there has been a serious gap in the signaling methods available to the defenders. My Bols Tip, a modification of a suggestion by T.R.H. Lyons of England, is an attempt to fill that gap.

Suppose West leads the ♠4 against a contract of 3 NT and sees this:

	Dummy	
	♠ 9 7	
West	♠ A 10 8 4 2	East
		♠ J
	Declarer	
	♠ K	

Dummy plays the 7, East plays the jack and declarer wins with the king. Who has the queen? West can't tell. If he gets the lead in some other suit, should he try to cash his spades or should he wait for partner to lead the suit?

MY BOLs TIP is this: Against notrump, defenders' first spot card, unless it is essential to give count, should indicate attitude toward the opening leader's suit.

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

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

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

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West leads the ♠4 against 3 NT and declarer wins East's jack with the king. Declarer leads a club to dummy. East should play the ♣10 on this trick, meaning: "I love your lead, partner. Please continue". (Notice that it would be useless for East to give his partner the count in the club suit here). Declarer takes a diamond finesse and when West wins the king he cashes four spade tricks for down one.

Now suppose the East and South cards had been slightly different:

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

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

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

The bidding is the same and West, who has the same hand as before, makes the same opening lead and sees the same dummy. Again declarer wins the ♠J with the king and leads a club to dummy. This time, however, East can't stand a spade continuation from his partner so he contributes the ♣2. Declarer takes a diamond finesse which loses to the king. West now knows he can't afford to continue spades from his side of the table, so he exits with the ♥9. East grabs the trick, returns

the ♠6, and the contract fails by two tricks.

Note that in both these cases West would have been on a complete guess without the "attitude" signal. If he guessed wrong, declarer would have made both games.

The opening leader should also use the same attitude signal. In the situations already given he should play the ♣9 at the second trick to emphasize that he wants his suit continued. But sometimes, West will want to discourage his own suit:

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

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

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

West elects to lead the ♥4 against 3 NT. Declarer takes East's queen with the king and tries a diamond finesse. If West wanted hearts returned he would play the ♦9 on this trick. If he were lukewarm about the matter he might play the six. But with his actual hand he is most anxious for a shift and should play the ♦2. East wins with the king and can beat the contract with a spade shift. If he blindly continues hearts, declarer will make 11 tricks.

### "PLAY LOW FROM DUMMY", SAYS WORLD CHAMPION BILLY EISENBERG

Billy Eisenberg of California is considered to be one of the very finest players in the world. He has been a Bermuda Bowl champion more often than any other American in the past two decades. He is one of nine players of world renown who are competing for prize money of \$1,750 in the Bols Bridge Tips Competition.

MOST declarers (writes Billy Eisenberg) realize the advantage of playing low from dummy when the queen is led through a king. The ace is almost certainly residing over the king and by playing low once or twice from dummy the ace may fall on the right, establishing the king as a trick.

However, there are also many other holdings where declarer can gain a full trick by playing low from dummy in situations that are not as well known.

For my first example I would like to show you a hand that I played in the Houston Playoffs determining the U.S. team for the 1977 World Championships.

North dealer      ♠ K J 8 5  
Both vulnerable   ♥ Q 4  
                         ♦ K J 4 2  
                         ♣ A Q 7

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

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

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1NT	Pass	2♦(1)	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣(2)	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣(3)	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♣(4)	All pass

(1) Jacoby transfer; (2) Game force; (3) Slam try; (4) We were behind at the time.

Opening lead: 5 of diamonds (3rd or 5th best).

When West led a low diamond I immediately played low from dummy. Why? Why not play the jack, hoping that West had underled the queen?

Well, if West really had led away from the queen, East was going to have to make a pretty good play of the 10 from A-10 if he happened to hold that card. Most players would play the ace. Besides, there was a strong possibility that East held both the ace and the queen, in which case playing the jack from dummy would be no use at all.

All in all, I felt the percentages were strongly in my favour to play low from dummy as the best way to build up a diamond trick for a spade discard.

As it happened East, fearing his partner might have led from 5-3 doubleton, played the queen. I ruffed, entered dummy with a club and played the king of diamonds, covered by the ace and ruffed.

Dummy was re-entered with a club, the spade discarded on the jack of diamonds and a heart conceded to make the slam. Had I played the jack from dummy, I would have lost the slam.

Here are other examples where you can put tons of pressure on your right-hand opponent by playing a low card from dummy. In this deal you are playing duplicate:

North dealer  
Neither side  
vulnerable

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

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

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

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	4♣	All pass

Opening lead: 4 of diamonds

Breathes there a declarer among us who would not put up a diamond honour from dummy at trick one? The result of this play is that if East wins and does not return the suit (allowing South to discard and then discard again upon the established diamond honour) South will lose a trick in each suit outside of the trump suit and make only four-odd.

Now let's see what happens if South plays low from dummy at trick one. It is going to take a pretty brave East player to insert the 9 and run the risk of losing to a singleton 10 in the declarer's hand, or possibly a doubleton 10 if West's lead was from K-8-4 originally.

Most East players will surely play the ace. This will enable South to make a routine loser-on-loser play in diamonds for the precious overtrick. (South runs the queen, discarding a club, and later discards a heart on the jack of diamonds.

The play also picks up a trick when East started with both the ace and the king but not the 10. Surely nobody (unless he has read this Bols tip!) would insert an 8 or 9 from A-K-9-x or A-K-8-x when dummy played low. Right?

Here is another example where declarer picked up an overtrick for a top score by making an 'unusual' play from dummy at trick one.

West dealer  
Both sides  
vulnerable

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

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

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

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH  
1♣ INT Pass 4♠  
All pass  
Opening lead: 2 of diamonds

South played low from dummy, knowing full well that even if East won the trick cheaply the ace would always furnish a quick heart or club discard.

What was East to do? Play the 8? Would you? Maybe partner's lead was a singleton. Maybe partner had led from Q-x-x and declarer had 10-x, in which case the trick might not come back. In any event, East was not up to the play of the 8. He rose with the king and made a strong shift to a heart. Declarer won in dummy, discarded a heart on the ace of diamonds, ruffed a heart and led the queen of spades which was covered. He then proceeded to run off seven spades, squeezing West between clubs and diamonds, with the jack of diamonds the threat card. That threat card would never have been a threat card had South not played low from dummy at trick one.

Perhaps the advantages of playing low from dummy when a low card is being led through a king can be most clearly seen by taking a look at the difficulties that are created for the defender sitting over dummy.

North dealer  
Both sides  
vulnerable

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

N      ♠ A J 5 4 3  
      ♥ 9  
W E    ♦ 7 6 5  
      ♣ J 8 5 3

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All pass

Opening lead: 2 of spades

Declarer plays low from dummy. As East, what do you play at trick one?

Let's say you play the jack because declarer may have:

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

Too bad. Your partner has led a singleton and declarer actually held:

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

And partner is still wondering why you didn't give him an early ruff to defeat the contract easily.

Now let's say you did play the ace in order to give your partner a ruff. This time your partner thinks that you have lost your mind, because he has underled ♠ Q-10-x and holds the A-Q of hearts, and the hand was beaten off

the top if you had just cashed your two spade tricks.

Obviously, the answer to both drive the opponents crazy and gain extra tricks by the cartload is to play low from dummy when it can't cost you a trick and is likely to cause third hand to make a grievous error. And that is my BOLS tip for 1977!

## PRACTICE THE ART OF CAMOUFLAGE

by Tony Friday

Tony Friday is the bridge columnist for the Sunday Telegraph. He has played for Britain in two Bermuda Bowls, three Olympiads and eight European championships. This is his entry in the Bols Bridge Tips Competition. The Bols company is a long-established Dutch liquor company.

When you are defending, practice the art of camouflage...

Military men give much thought to camouflage. Thus a general, when planning a defensive battle, will pretend to be strong in a part of the line where he is weak. He will also try to appear vulnerable where he is strong.

Defenders at bridge have many opportunities to do the same. When you are strong in a suit, you aim to conceal the fact. There is then a good chance that declarer will misread your strength in another — and perhaps vital — suit.

This hand was played in the "home" international series between England and Northern Ireland:

Dir: East    ♠ 7  
Vul: Both    ♥ J 10  
              ♦ A K Q J 10 6  
              ♣ A K Q 5

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

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

When England was East-West, the bidding went:

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
1♠	Pass	2♠	Dbl
Pass	3♣	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

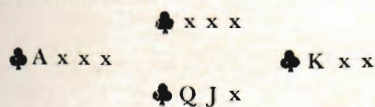
North jumped to 4 NT because he thought there would be a good chance of making 6♣ if South showed an

ace. If South held the ♠A, the slam should be easy; while if South held the ♣A instead, it was still possible that West would lead a spade.

As it was, West led the ♠2 against 5♣. East quickly saw that the defenders had to try to take two heart tricks. East had opened the bidding, so South would place him with most of the strength. But declarer would still expect West to have a high card, because of his raise to 2♣.

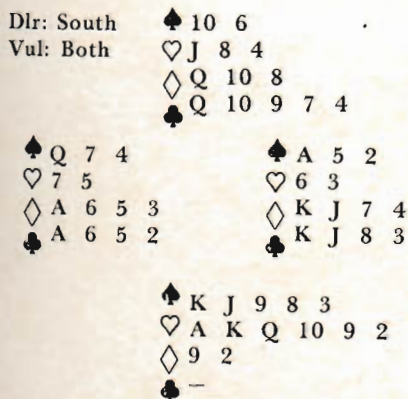
If East had won the first trick with the ♠J, declarer would have had little difficulty in placing the vital cards. To camouflage the position, East won the ace of spades, switching to a low heart. Placing West with the ♠K — and East therefore with the ♠A — declarer rose with the ♥K and was defeated.

In that example, camouflage took the form of concealing the strength in a vital suit. Equally effective is to pretend to more strength than you actually possess. In the next diagram you are East and declarer leads low from dummy:



Of course you cannot prevent declarer from establishing a trick in this suit. But if you make the bold play of putting up the king when a low card is led from dummy, you may be able to attack to good purpose in another suit, as declarer will tend to misplace the cards, expecting you to have the A-K.

The next deal shows how you can easily recognize that type of situation when it occurs:



SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♥	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

You may not approve of North's bidding, but that is the way the auction went in the final stages of Britain's Gold Cup some years ago.

West led the ♦A and, when his partner encouraged with the 7, continued with the ♦3. East took the second trick with the jack and realized that South's shape was almost certainly 5-6-2-0. In that case declarer might well have to take a vital guess in spades. East therefore set out to camouflage his spade holding.

At the third trick East laid down the ♣K! Declarer ruffed with a high trump and entered dummy with a heart to lead the ♠10. Convinced that East must hold the ♣A, declarer placed West with the ♠A and so ran the 10. West therefore won with the Q, East's ace in due course providing the setting trick.

My BOLS TIP is this: When you are defending, remember the art of camouflage. If you can mislead declarer in one suit, he may well jump to a wrong conclusion in another suit.

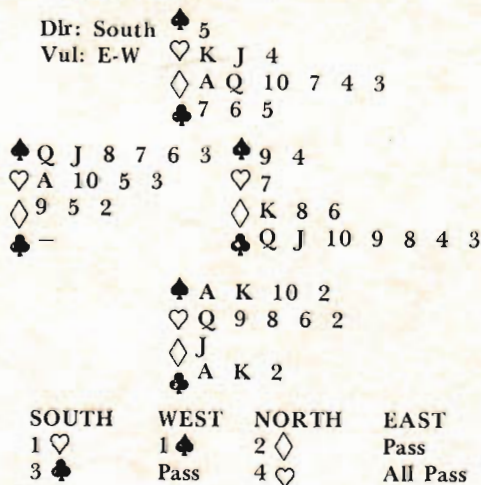
### BE BOLD WHEN YOU DEFEND

by Per-Olov Sundelin

Per-Olov Sundelin's Bols Bridge tip occurred when he played for Sweden in Monte Carlo.

If You Can't See Yourself Beating the Contract by Winning the Trick — DUCK IT.

This type of play is exclusively for the bold and courageous. In this diagram you are East:



Opening lead: ♠Q

South's problem is to take care of his losers in the black suits. West's spade bid makes ruffing look a trifle risky, so South naturally thinks about the diamond finesse. If the jack loses to the king, it should still be possible to hold the trump losers to two.

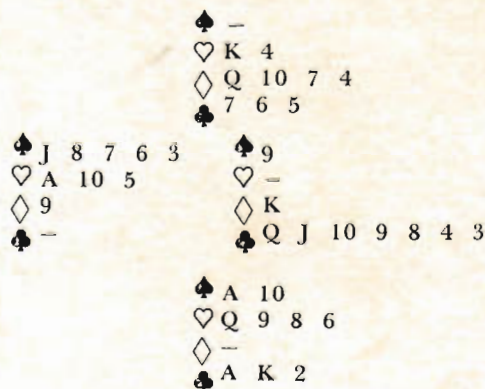
As East you ought to have a perfect picture of the hands. South surely has

the three missing clubs — think of his bidding. Your partner's lead of the ♠Q marks South with the A-K, and South surely has one or two small spades in addition — after all, West did not preempt. Finally, you should assume that South has ♥Q-x-x-x. With the ♥A-Q he would have bid more strongly. With the ♥A the contract is unbeatable. With no honor, West's bidding is impossible. (Note that the declarer himself seldom has the privilege of working out the unseen hands as accurately as this).

To resume: South wins the first trick and leads the ♦J. West plays the 2, showing three cards or one, and dummy the 3. Your count is confirmed. You rightly decide, quickly and without a flicker, that declarer will wrap up his ten tricks if you take the ♦K and give your partner a club ruff. The defense will then score the trump ace only.

So you duck! You don't know what will happen next — but you do know that with normal defense the declarer would make his contract.

South now plays a trump to the jack and cashes the ♦A, shedding a spade. The position is:



South now wants to enter his hand for a spade ruff. As the cards lie, he can play a diamond — but this could be risky. South "knows" West has the ♦K, and he doesn't want to give East a possible spade discard. South therefore tries a club. This turns out to be fatal when West ruffs and continues with ace and another trump. As the diamonds are not established, South is left with two black losers.

In this fascinating game of bridge, true daring can sometimes triumph against apparently hopeless odds. Be willing, therefore, to provide declarer with a rope — even if there is no visible tree from which he can hang himself.

My BOLS BRIDGE TIP is this: Be bold when you are defending. If you can't see yourself beating the contract by winning the trick, DUCK IT — even at the cost of a trick. By deceiving declarer, you may yet cause his house of cards to collapse.



Director Bill Schoder in St. Kitts



Exhausted Fitzroy?



The Colombian team in Monte Carlo



Bahamas vs. Netherlands Antilles in Monte Carlo



The Venezuela delegation at the victory banquet in Monte Carlo



The Bahamas team in Monte Carlo