

The End of the Semi-Finals ...

#	TEAM	TOTAL	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4	SET #5	SET #6	SET #7	SET #8
1	Fireman NPC	210	34	40	7	23	33	36	20	17
4	Lall	225	19	47	34	31	42	29	4	19
2	Nickell	345	4	57	36	41	47	55	39	66
3	Juster	234	32	25	59	17	2	13	56	30

Howie Doing...

Bathurst's tempo may LALL me to sleep.
While he's counting tricks, I'm counting sheep!

Zia gets older but he can still play,
As long as they let him do it "his way!"

Reese's pieces will take some dives
While Katz survives with his nine lives.

It's Nick's Six who will reach their goal:
USA1 Bermuda Bowl!

Limey Jack ...

Cheerio Colonials:

Yet again you have put on a fine event this past week. This will be the final mis-
sive from Limey Jack as the Royal Nuptials await. Limey Jack will be resplen-
dent in his top hat and tails with a few bits and bobs to be attended prior to
the start. Oh what a show this will be.

Howie Dung may be barmy, but his namesake has been banished along with all
the toddlers. They put on a fine display in losing but lose they must. Well
smote, Juster and Fireman. In the grand finale you have one more oppo to
make a few quid with your favourite punter.

Nickell-Lall: Nickell had the collywobbles all the way to the end while Limey
Jack's protégé was never in the path of the crows. Zia has assured Limey Jack
that he is in the zone, and fully capable of carrying his teammates from the fen
to the shore.

Nickell; as is his wont, starts in arrearage and cannot climb from the bog.
Howie Dung will, of course, have his fetters tied, but alas, not his tongue as he
blathers enough to off-key the trumpets at the Royal Procession.

Limey Jack will return when the next great event makes known.

Cheers, LJ

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Teams Entered... listed in seeding order

Fleisher	Martin Fleisher, Capt Eric Greco	Chip Martel Geoff Hampson Brad Moss
Bye to Rnd of 8	Joe Grue	
Nickell	Nick Nickell, Capt Bobby Levin	Ralph Katz Steve Weinstein Eric Rodwell
Bye to Rnd of 8	Jeff Meckstroth	
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Robert Hamman	Aaron Silverstein David Berkowitz Chris Willenken
Bye to Rnd of 16	Eldad Ginossar	
Petra Hamman, NPC	Reese Milner Justin Lall Zia Mahmood	Hemant Lall Kevin Bathurst Jacek Pszczola
Borker	Jay Borker, Capt Roger Lee	Michael Rosenberg Daniel Korbel
Morris	Michael Levine Mike Passell Greg Hinze	Eddie Wold Marc Jacobus David Grainger
Mahaffey	Jim Mahaffey, Capt John Schermer Billy Cohen	Sam Lev Neil Chambers Gary Cohler
Gupta	Vinita Gupta, Capt Huub Bertens Oren Kriegel	Billy Miller Ron Smith
Fireman	Paul Fireman, Capt John Kranyak Joel Wooldridge	Gavin Wolpert Vincent Demuy John Hurd
Robinson	Steve Robinson, Capt Bart Bramley Mark Feldman	Peter Boyd Kit Woolsey Ross Grabel
Meltzer	Rose Meltzer, Capt Steve Garner Kevin Dwyer	Nik Demirev Owen Lien Shan Huang
Harris	Martin Harris, Capt Matthew Granovetter Miriam Harris-Botzum	Jacob Morgan Pam Granovetter John Botzum
Ozdil	Melih Ozdil, Capt Drew Casen	Brian Glubok Jim Krekorian
Lo	Ai-Tai Lo, Capt Alex Kolesnik Ira Hessel	William Pettis Bob Etter Dan Morse
Juster	Jeffrey Juster Adam Grossack Howard Weinstein	Franklin Merblum Zachary Grossack Adam Wildavsky
Doub	Doug Doub, Capt Karen McCallum Vic King	John Stiefel Geoffrey Brod
Molson	Janice Seamon-Molson, Capt Kerri Sanborn Beth Palmer	Tobi Sokolow Stephen Sanborn Sylvia Shi
Lewis	Paul Lewis, Capt Danny Sprung Robert Cappelli	Linda Lewis JoAnn Sprung Robert Bitterman
Schireson	Max Schireson, Capt Geeske Joel	Debbie Rosenberg William Watson
Sam Dinkin, NPC	Tom Reynolds David Pelka	Lance Kerr William Hall
Cohen	Seth Cohen, Capt James Glickman	Howard Einberg Bill St Clair

Hospitality Information...

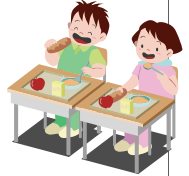
"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS

The hospitality suite is in room 1068-70. Lisa Berkowitz and Martha Katz welcome you to the Suite. They are joined by Nancy Strohmer, Betty Starzec, and Shawn Quinn.

Breakfast is served each day from 8:00-10:30 and lunch from 1:00-4:00.

The hospitality suite will be open for Vugraph, casual chit chat, drinks & snacks during the rest of the playing hours and for a short time after the end of the day.

The "Players' Break Room" (aka Jan's office) will be in the playing area (room 862, around the corner from most of the playing rooms, all of which are on the 8th floor.). It will be available for the entire tournament. We will have coffee, soft drinks and snacks available while you wait for your slow teammates to finish playing.



<i>SEMI-FINAL</i>			
THURSDAY	MAY 17	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
FRIDAY	MAY 18	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
<i>FINAL</i>			
SATURDAY	MAY 19	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
SUNDAY	MAY 20	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30

Tournament Schedule

Competing at the highest level is not about winning. It's about preparation, courage, understanding and nurturing your people, and heart. Winning is the result.
Joe Torre

Board 2
Segment 5
Dealer: E
N/S Vul.

♠ AKQ5
♥ AK92
♦ Q5
♣ J62

♠ T7642
♥ 4
♦ J64
♣ T974



♠ J983
♥ Q87
♦ AK
♣ AKQ8

♠ JT653
♦ T98732
♣ 53

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Milner	Hurd	H Lall
		3D	3NT
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

Zia	Demuy	Pepsi	Kranyak
		2D (bad maj w 2)	Double
Pass	3C (transfer Q of D)	Pass	3S
Pass	4H	Pass	4NT
Pass	5C (0 or 3)	Pass	5D
Pass	6C	Pass	6H
Pass	7S	All Pass	

Fireman/Lall

In the Nickell/Juster match, both tables reached the 100% 7NT North/South on their combined 38 HCP. It looked like a simple push board! However, what makes this game so interesting...

In Fireman/Lall, Hurd opened 3D. Hemant overcalled 3NT on his 19 count and Milner made a super sound raise to 6NT on HIS 19 count. There are four spades, three hearts, two diamonds, and four clubs without a finesse. Lall collected 13 tricks, probably expecting to lose 13 IMPs having missed the Vulnerable grand.

In the other room, it was science in action... Pepsi did his part to put on the pressure! He opened 2D, mult, a bad weak two in a major. Kranyak doubled. Demuy bid 3C, artificial and forcing. Kranyak responded 3S showing spades and Demuy bid the "other" major agreeing on spades. Keycard followed and Demuy jumped to the major suit grand. Unfortunately for Fireman, spades broke 5-0 and the contract failed one trick.

It must have been frustrating to be in Demuy and Kranyak's shoes on this one... but that's why conventions like Multi can be so successful. 17 IMPs to Lall

Board 23
Segment 8
Dealer: S
All Vul.

♠ AQ43
♥ T742
♦ AJ854
♣

♠ 962
♥ KJ8
♦ T962
♣ 862



♠ J85
♥ AQ65
♦ K7
♣ AKT7

♠ KT7
♥ 93
♦ Q3
♣ QJ9543

Wooldridge	J Lall	Hurd	Bathurst
			1C
Pass	1H	Pass	1NT
Pass	2C	Double	Redouble
All Pass			

Zia	Demuy	Pepsi	Kranyak
			1NT
Pass	2C	Double	Pass
Pass	3C	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Coming into this board, the match was only 5 IMP's for Lall. 3NT is always cold and it made for +400 in the Closed Room. In the Open Room, one must sympathize with Hurd. Look at those clubs! He could have held the hand to making

two, but he couldn't defeat it. As it was, Wooldridge led a club to the J and A. Bathurst took the losing spade finesse. A heart to the ace was followed by the DK and a diamond to the ace. The DJ was ruffed with the 9 and overruffed. The S8 went to the ace and a diamond was played off dummy. Hurd pitched a heart but he should have pitched a spade. When Hurd pitched the heart, Bathurst ruffed and cashed his good SJ. Making 3 for +1160 ... 11 IMPs to Lall

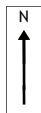
Board 6
 Segment 5
 Dealer: E
 E/W Vul

♠ Q8
 ♥ QT5
 ♦ Q532
 ♣ KT94

♠ J762
 ♥ J9764
 ♦ 987
 ♣ 3

♠ AT95
 ♥
 ♦ K4
 ♣ AQJ8652

♠ K43
 ♥ AK832
 ♦ AJT6
 ♣ 7



West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Milner	Hurd	H Lall
Pass	2H	1C	1H
Pass	3H	3C	3D
Pass	3H	All Pass	
Zia	Demuy	Pepsi	Kranyak
Pass	2H	1C	1H
Pass	3H	2S	3D
4S	Double	4C	Pass
4S	Double	All Pass	
S Weinstein	A Grossack	Levin	Z Grossack
Pass	1NT	1C	Double
All Pass		3C	Double
H Weinstein	Rodwell	Wildavsky	Meckstroth
Pass	2H	1C	1H
Pass	3NT	3C	3D

Fireman/Lall
Nickell/Juster

This hand is interesting because it was played four times in four different contracts.

In Fireman/Lall, Milner and Lall landed in a simple 3H contract. Milner had an opportunity to bid 3NT over 3D, but not vulnerable, he chose the conservative route. Nine tricks were easy despite the 5-0 trump break.

In the other room of this match, Pepsi brought his spades into play. When he bid 4C after Demuy had signed off in 3H, he was three levels too high! Presumably, Demuy and Kranyak would have doubled 4C and defeated it handily. Zia corrected to 4S. Demuy doubled and Pepsi played it there. The ace of hearts was led. Pepsi ruffed in hand. He played the CA followed by the CQ. Kranyak discarded a heart and Pepsi discarded rather than trumping. A diamond was played to the king and the ace and Kranyak exited with a heart. He ended down three for -800. Pepsi could have saved a trick by trumping rather than passing the CQ. 12 IMPs to Fireman

In Nickell/Juster, Meckstroth, like Lall and Kranyak, overcalled 1H with the South hand, then showed his diamond suit. Rodwell judged well and bid the cold 3NT game.

In the other room of this match, Zach Grossack chose to make a takeout double with his 3-5-4-1 distribution and his sound opener. Adam responded 1NT. Levin jumped to 3C. Zach doubled again and Adam had a fielder's choice... he could bid 3NT or pass. Either bid would work well.

He chose to pass. 3C could be defeated two tricks but there was a defensive slip and Levin escaped for -200. Zach led the HA. Levin trumped and played ace and a spade. Zach rose king crashing his partner's queen!!

6 IMPs to Nickell

Where's the hand you held in the bidding?



Board 19 ♠ KQ8
 Segment 6 ♥ 6532
 Dealer: S ♦ QJ43
 E/W Vul. ♣ 74

♠ 7642 ♠ AJ95
 ♥ KJ97 ♥ AQ
 ♦ A ♦ KT6
 ♣ AKQ9 ♣ JT52

♠ T3
 ♥ T84
 ♦ 98752
 ♣ 863



West	North	East	South
Katz	Merblum	Nickell	Juster
			Pass
1C	Pass	1S	Pass
4S	Pass	4NT	Pass
5H (2 w/o)	Pass	6NT	All Pass
H Weinstein	S Weinstein	Wildavsky	Levin
			Pass
1C	Pass	1S	Pass
4D (shortness)	Double	Pass	Pass
4S	Pass	4NT	5H
Pass	Pass	5S	All Pass

Nickell/Juster

At both tables in the Lall/Fireman match, East/West played in 5S making five by taking the normal play of a spade to the nine, losing to South's Tx. Push board.

It was far more exciting in Nickell/Juster. Wildavsky declared 5S. He won the opening diamond, and since he could afford two spade losers, he played a spade off dummy to his jack. He was rewarded by taking 12 tricks.

In the other room where Nickell/Katz were playing, the contract was 6NT from East. Katz's 4S bid made bidding slam easy. Nickell knew his side held 32+ high cards so he bid the slam in NT in case the key card he was off was the SK.

Juster led the D9. Nickell won in dummy. He took the percentage play of a spade to the nine, losing to the ten. It looked like he was sunk. Juster needed to return his other spade to break up the squeeze. Unaware, looking at his Yarborough, he chose the "safe" exit of a club through the AKQ9.

♠ KQ
 ♥
 ♦ QJ
 ♣

♠ 76 ♠ AJ5
 ♥ KJ ♥
 ♦ ♦ T
 ♣ ♣

♠
 ♥ T
 ♦ 872
 ♣



Now it was up to Nickell to execute the play... Nick won the CJ, played the HA, HQ, DK, and three rounds of clubs., coming down to this 4-card end position:

He played the HK. Poor North! He could see what was happening and he was helpless...

He pitched the DJ while declarer pitched the S5.

Now on the HJ, Merblum either had to discard a spade or a diamond and Nickell emerged with 12 tricks.

Making 6!

Well done for a well earned 13 IMPs to Nickell.

Barnyard Bonanza

Hidden in each of the sentences below is the name of an animal that can be found in a barnyard. Can you find them all?

(Hint: The letters of the name may be separated by spaces.)

NOTE! Puzzle #5 and #7 both have TWO animals hidden in them - can you find them both?

1. Doggedly determined to succeed, Tom grit his teeth and tried again.
2. Peter called Davy a coward because he wouldn't fight.
3. "The boys win every time we play!" groaned Lisa.
4. To start the road race, all the contestants were told to go at the green light.
5. "You know I abhor secrets!" exclaimed John's mother when she caught the two boys whispering.
6. Jim lunged for the ball, catching it just in time to make the final out.
7. The Arab bit his lip when he got angry.
8. I walked up the neat pathway and knocked on the door.
9. "Look at this bedlam, boy! See what you caused?" cried the outraged shop owner.
10. "Elmo used up all the paint!" complained his little brother.

Answers to Puzzle:

Solution to "Barnyard Bonanza"

1. DOG - Doggedly determined to succeed, Tom grit his teeth and tried again.
2. COW - Peter called Davy a coward because he wouldn't fight.
3. SWINE or EWE - "The boys win every time we play!" groaned Lisa.
4. GOAT - To start the road race, all the contestants were told to go at the green light.
5. HORSE or HEN - "You know I abhor secrets!" exclaimed John's mother when she caught the two kids whispering.
6. CAT - Jim lunged for the ball, catching it just in time to make the final out.
7. RABBIT or HEN - The Arab bit his lip when he got angry.
8. HEN - I walked up the neat pathway and knocked on the door.
9. LAMB - "Look at this bedlam, boy! See what you caused?" cried the outraged shop owner.
10. MOUSE - "Elmo used up all the paint!" complained his little brother.

No Electronic Devices are Permitted in the Playing Area.

This applies to players AND kibitzers.

Severe penalties will be assessed for violation of this rule.

Please turn off all cell phones and check them at the door. The USBF reserves the right to wand anyone (excepting those with pace makers or like equipment) entering the playing field.



I thought IMPs were something generally to be avoided, but since playing teams, I want them!

Evil Sudoku

9								1
		2	7		5	6		
	6			3			7	
	9		4				6	
		6	8		2	9		
	8			7				1
	4			2				3
		9	4		6	5		
8								6



Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

6	2	4	7	9	3	1	5	8
7	8	5	6	1	4	9	2	3
9	3	1	8	2	5	7	4	6
5	1	2	9	6	7	3	8	4
3	6	2	9	5	8	6	1	7
8	9	7	3	4	1	5	6	2
2	6	8	1	4	3	7	9	5
4	3	9	5	2	6	8	7	1
1	4	9	3	1	8	7	2	5
4	9	6	5	8	7	2	3	1
1	4	3	5	1	9	8	7	6

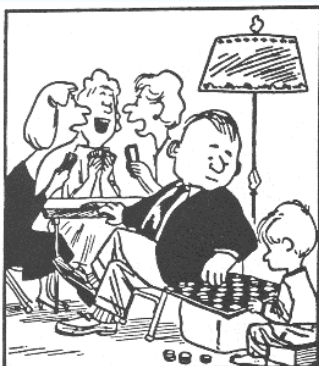
Puzzle Page ...

A woman took her four kids shopping one afternoon. To keep peace, she said she'd buy one item each of their choice. As she shopped, she discovered that there were four extra items in her shopping cart that she hadn't added or approved. After leaving the store, they stopped at an ice cream stand for a snack. She bought each child got an ice cream cone and a drink. From the clues, determine the item each child got, the extra item each child snuck into the cart, the flavor of ice cream each got, and the type of drink.

1. Amanda, who had maple walnut ice cream, didn't get the fruit juice or the coloring book.
2. Sara didn't get the comic book or the doll but she did slip the board game into the cart.
3. The boy who got the toy car didn't add the action figure and didn't have strawberry ice cream.
4. Each child is represented by the following: the girl who got the doll, the boy who got chocolate chip ice cream, Chris, and the girl who got milk.
5. Sara didn't have vanilla ice cream. The boy who added the baseball cards got water to drink.
6. The child who got the computer game got iced tea. Larry didn't get water.

	coloring book	comic book	doll	toy car	action figure	baseball cards	board game	computer game	chocolate chip	maple walnut	strawberry	vanilla	fruit juice	iced tea	milk	water
Amanda																
Chris																
Larry																
Sara																
fruit juice																
iced tea																
milk																
water																
chocolate chip																
maple walnut																
strawberry																
vanilla																
action figure																
baseball cards																
board game																
computer game																

Child's name	Item approved	Item snuck in	Ice cream flavor	Drink
Amanda	coloring book	action figure	chocolate chip	fruit juice
Chris	comic book	baseball cards	maple walnut	iced tea
Larry	doll	board game	strawberry	milk
Sara	toy car	computer game	vanilla	water



I might as well multitask with you. Mom and her friends gossip more than they play!

Answer to Puzzle

Child's name	Item approved	Item snuck in	Ice cream flavor	Drink
Amanda	doll	computer game	maple walnut	iced tea
Chris	toy car	baseball cards	vanilla	water
Larry	comic book	action figure	chocolate chip	fruit juice
Sara	coloring book	board game	strawberry	milk

Meet the Players



Originally from Raleigh, North Carolina, Frank T "Nick" Nickell now lives in New York most of the time. Nick is the driving force behind the composition of one of the strongest ever bridge teams. An investment banker and entrepreneur, Nick wanted to put together a very good team in the early nineties. His partner, Dick Freeman, suggested that Bob Hamman/Bobby Wolff and Jeff Meckstroth/Eric Rodwell were the two pairs needed. How right he was!

This group (with Paul Soloway replacing Wolff in 1998, Zia replacing Soloway in 2008, and most recently Ralph Katz replacing Dick Freeman after his death) proceeded to reel off an amazing run of results. From 1995 to 2009, they reached the final of five of six Bermuda Bowls - beating Canada in the 1995 final in Beijing, Brazil in Bermuda in January, 2000, and Italy in Monte Carlo in 2003 and Sao Paulo in 2009, losing to the French in Hammamet in 1997 and to Italy in Estoril in 2005. They have also won too many US titles to list. Playing with Hamman, Nick won the Cavendish Invitational Pairs in 1998. He is a WBF Grand Master, ranking 10th in the current standings.

Business and family commitments leave Nick very little time to play between major tournaments, but he and Ralph Katz have been working on their partnership online between tournaments.



Ralph was born in 1957 in Pittsburgh, PA and raised in Steubenville, OH. He was 22 when he won his first National Championship, the Life Master Pairs, and 24 when he won both the Spingold and Master Mixed Teams at the Summer Nationals. Not long after graduating college he moved to Chicago to trade options, but his loyalty to the Pittsburgh Pirates and Steelers has never waned.

His wife Martha won the World Junior Championship in 1991 and their son Sam was King of Bridge in 2006, so there is a family tradition of Bridge success.

Ralph's partnership with Nick began in 2009, a win in the Trials leading a few months later to victory over Italy in the 2009 Bermuda Bowl final in Sao Paulo. In addition to that gold medal, Ralph has won three silver medals at the world level: 1990 World Open Pairs; 2007 Bermuda Bowl; 2010 Rosenblum Teams.

With 21 North American titles with many different colleagues, Ralph has earned a reputation as a great partner and teammate, perhaps the ultimate compliment attainable from peers.

Ralph is being inducted into the Hall of Fame in July along with his teammates, Eric Rodwell and Bobby Levin.

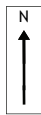
It takes a village to pick this discard!



Board 16
Dealer: W
E/W Vul.

♠ T763
♥ JT84
♦ J5
♣ JT3

♠ AKQJ42
♥ 5
♦ 7642
♣ Q7



♠ AKQ962
♥ AKQ962
♦ AT9
♣ 8542

♠ 985
♥ 73
♦ KQ83
♣ AK96

West	North	East	South
Merblum	Levin	Juster	S Weinstein
1S	Pass	2H	Pass
2S	Pass	3H	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Katz	A Grossack	Nickell	Z Grossack
2S	Pass	3H	Pass
3S	All Pass		

Milner	Wolpert	H Lall	Kranyak
1S	Pass	2H	Pass
3S	Pass	4D	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Wooldridge	J Lall	Hurd	Bathurst
1S	Pass	2H	Pass
2S	Pass	3H	Pass
3S	Pass	3NT	All Pass

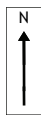
This hand appeared on page 10 of yesterday's bulletin. David Berkowitz pointed out that a diamond shift at trick two defeats the contract easily, stranding dummy's good hearts.

While certainly not an impossible play to find, it cannot be routine since none of the all star defenders in the event caught it. Thanks David for making us aware.

Board 21
Segment 8
Dealer: N
N/S Vul.

♠ AQ952
♥ 865
♦
♣ JT873

♠ 876
♥ T97
♦ QJ8654
♣ 4



♠ JT3
♥ Q432
♦ KT9
♣ Q96

♠ K4
♥ AKJ
♦ A732
♣ AK52

Merblum	S Weinstein	Juster	Levin
	Pass	Pass	2C
Pass	2D	Pass	2NT
Pass	3H	Pass	3S
Pass	4D	Pass	4NT
Pass	6C	Pass	7C
All Pass			

Things were pretty wild in the final two sets of the Nickell/Juster match... fraught with redoubles and "take no prisoners" style bidding. Most the swings were adverse for the Juster squad, more like shots in the dark that failed. Then along came Board 21.

Levin opened a strong 2C and showed a balanced 22-24. Weinstein transferred to spades and presumably showed short diamonds. Levin bid 4NT... choice of contracts? Weinstein bid 6C showing spades and clubs. With AKxx of clubs, Levin bid the grand.

Merblum led the HT. Levin won the jack. He cashed the CA. When the CQ didn't fall, he had to decide between the drop and the finesse. The drop was favorable and Levin goes with the percentages... most the time they're right. This time they were not.

16 IMPs to Juster.