

Volume 18, Issue 11

May 10, 2024

USBC OPEN CHAMPIONS



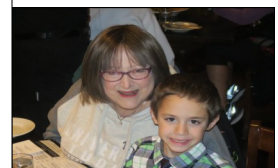
**Congrats Team Fleisher
Marty Fleisher, Brad Moss,
John Hurd, Joe Grue,
Chip Martel,
Kevin Bathurst**

Ed. Note: With delayed broadcasting, it is challenging to watch every hand for write ups. If anyone has a particularly interesting hand, please send me the board # & match # with any important details. I will do my best to review and include it. Email to stansubeck@prodigy.net. Thank you!

- USBF President**
Aaron Silverstein
- USBF Vice President**
Steve Garner
- USBF COO & Secretary**
Jan Martel
- USBF CFO & Treasurer**
Max Schireson
- USBF Recorder**
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Josh Stark
Adam Wildavsky
- Bulletin Editor**
Suzi Subeck
- Hospitality**
Julie Arbit
Marie-France Benoit

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

“Trials” and Tribulations



Mixed Teams Entered

Carmichael	Tom Carmichael, Capt Adam Parrish	Jenni Carmichael Julie Arbit
Derman	Ethan Derman, Capt George Klemic	Avery Silverstein Maya Jonas-Silver
Ding	Donna Compton, Capt Hong Ding	Chris Compton Adam Wildavsky
Dinkin	Sam Dinkin, Capt Harrison Luba Jeff Ferro	Yoko Sobel Cynthia Huang Jean Barry
Ivatury	Uday Ivatury, Capt Shawn Quinn Lapt Chan	Allan Graves Irina Kislitsyna Christal Henner
Lewis	Paul Lewis, Capt Mark Itabashi Cheri Bjerkan	Linda Lewis Disa Eythorsdottir Larry Robbins
Millens	Shan Huang, Capt Kevin Dwyer Sandra Rimstedt	Joan Millens Cecilia Dwyer Rimstedt
Pollack	Rozanne Pollack, Capt Dave Caprera	Bill Pollack Anne Brenner
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken Michael Rosenberg	Migry Campanile Jenny Wolpert Debbie Rosenberg
Rubenstein	Stewart Rubenstein, Capt Zach Grossack Adam Grossack	Anam Tebha Giorgia Botta Emma Kolesnik
Zhang	Susan Zhang, Capt Eddie Wold Janice Molson	Sylvia Shi Daniel Korbel



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.

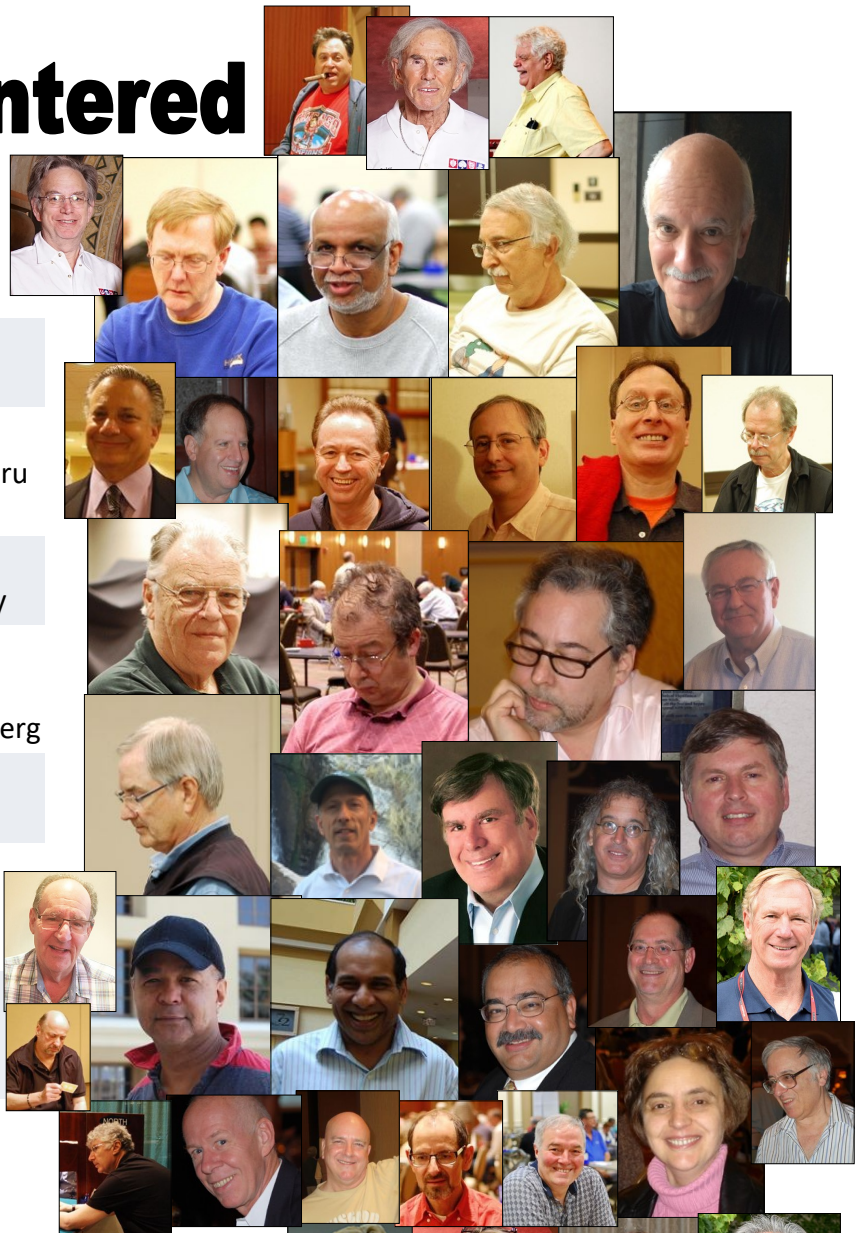
Please turn off all cell phones and check them at the door.

The USBF reserves the right to wand anyone entering the playing field.



Senior Teams Entered

Aker	Jeff Aker, Capt John Lusky Barry Rigal	Allan Falk Glenn Milgrim Ron Rubin
Cappelli	Bob Cappelli, Capt Bob Bitterman	Mark Aquino Mark Bendure
Goodman	Andy Goodman, Capt Pratap Rajadhyaksha Ron Smith	Mike Passell Venkatrao Koneru Billy Cohen
Hamman	Bob Hamman, Capt Doug Doub	Neil Chambers Adam Wildavsky
Lall	Hemant Lall, Capt Eric Rodwell Zia Mahmood	Reese Milner Eddie Wold Michael Rosenberg
Reynolds	Tom Reynolds, Capt Bernie Greenspan	Lance Kerr Fred Schenker
Simson	Doug Simson, Capt Jim Krekorian Steve Beatty	Curtis Cheek Peter Weichsel Fred Stewart
Tulin	Gary Cohler, Capt Alan Sontag Kit Woolsey	Stanley Tulin Ralph Katz Bart Bramley
Wolfson	Jeff Wolfson, Capt David Berkowitz	Steve Garner Jeff Meckstroth



Women's Teams Entered

Baker	Lynn Baker, Capt Kerri Sanborn Cecilia Dwyer Rimstedt [alternate] Debbie Rosenberg	Olivia Schireson Jill Meyers Sandra Rimstedt [alternate] Migry Campanile
Cooper	Kitty Cooper, Capt Linda Lewis Rozanne Pollack	Lynne Feldman Hjordis Eythorsdottir Cheri Bjerkan
Zhang	Susan Zhang, Capt Janice Molson	Sylvia Shi Irina Levitina



Location: TBD

Lovebridge practice sessions			
Day	Date	Time (CDT)	
Tuesday	April 30	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	
Thursday	May 9	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	
Saturday	May 18	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	
Wednesday	May 22	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	

PRE-TOURNAMENT CAPTAINS & PLAYERS MEETINGS			
On Zoom			
Event	Day	Date	Time (CDT)
Open	Tuesday	April 30	9:00 PM
Mixed	Thursday	May 9	9:00 PM
Senior	Saturday	May 18	9:00 PM
Women's	Monday or Wednesday	May 20 or 22	9:00 PM

Mixed Team Tournament Schedule

Mixed Schedule			
Round Robin or KO - Schedule will depend on number of teams			
Day	Date	Time	Boards
Friday	May 10		
Saturday	May 11		
Quarterfinal			
Sunday	May 12	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15 Segment 2 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Monday	May 13	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 5 Boards 1-15 Segment 6 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 7 Boards 31-45 Segment 8 Boards 46-60
Semifinal			
Tuesday	May 14	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15 Segment 2 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Wednesday	May 15	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 5 Boards 1-15 Segment 6 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 7 Boards 31-45 Segment 8 Boards 46-60
Final			
Thursday	May 16	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60 75 minute Break Segment 5 Boards 61-75 Segment 6 Boards 76-90
Friday	May 17	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 5 Boards 1-15 Segment 6 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 7 Boards 31-45 Segment 8 Boards 46-60

A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent victories. After about an hour, the annoyed manager came out and asked them to disperse. As they moved on, they queried, "Why? We were just talking..."



The manager responded, "Because I can't stand chess nuts boasting in an open foyer!"

I drive a different car today. I traded in the Skoda. The Czech engine light was always on!

Just spent \$300 on a limousine and discovered that the fee does not include the driver. Can't believe I spent all that money & have nothing to chauffeur it.

HOME CARDS SPLIT

W N E S

1♣

PASS 2♣ PASS 2♣

PASS 2NT PASS 3♣

PASS 4NT PASS 5♣

PASS 6♣ PASS PASS

PASS

N-S: Fleisher 214 IMP
E-W: Nickell 194 IMP

LoveBridge

♠ A65
♥ 9
♦ 43
♣ AKQJ854

N Joe Grue

♠ 973
♥ AQJ63
♦ T5
♣ T32

W Steve Weinstein

♠ JT
♥ K852
♦ KJ962
♣ 97

E Bobby Levin

♠ KQ842
♥ T74
♦ AQ87
♣ 6

SOUTH

- 2C=art GF
- 2S=4 D less than 16
- 2NT=relay
- 3S=5-3-4-1
- 4NT=RKC spades
- 5S=2 with SQ

From the last segment of the USBF Final: Moss/Grue had a great auction to reach the 6S slam on Board 47. Weinstein led the HA; Moss tested trump and claimed!

At the other table, Hampson and Greco stopped short of the slam.

Bathurst Hampson Hurd Greco

W	N	E	S
			1♠
PASS	2♣	PASS	2♦
PASS	2♠	PASS	3♥
PASS	3♠	PASS	4♦
PASS	4♠	PASS	PASS
PASS			

2C=art GF
3H=shape bid
4D=non serious

They had less information and the non-serious 4D did not make the proposition of slam seem any better. Had they felt totally comfortable at the 5-level, they might have ventured an ace asking bid and that would likely have landed them in either 6C or 6S. The good news is that bidding and making slam would not have changed the match result!

Senior Schedule

SENIOR SCHEDULE			
Round Robin or KO - Schedule will depend on number of teams			
Day	Date	Time	Boards
Sunday	May 19		
Monday	May 20		
Quarterfinal			
Tuesday	May 21	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15 Segment 2 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Wednesday	May 22	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 5 Boards 1-15 Segment 6 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 7 Boards 31-45 Segment 8 Boards 46-60
Semifinal			
Thursday	May 23	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15 Segment 2 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Friday	May 24	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 5 Boards 1-15 Segment 6 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 7 Boards 31-45 Segment 8 Boards 46-60
Final			
Saturday	May 25	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15 Segment 2 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Sunday	May 26	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 5 Boards 1-15 Segment 6 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 7 Boards 31-45 Segment 8 Boards 46-60

We welcome the Mixed Teams to Schaumburg!

Note that the Carmichael Team had a roster change. Christian Jolly has Covid and is unable to be here at this time. Adam Parrish is replacing him on the team.

We wish Christian a speedy, easy recovery and hope to have him join us once he is non-contagious and on the mend!

**What do you get
when you mix alcohol
and literature??**

Tequila mockingbird



Beth Palmer WOMEN'S SCHEDULE

Round Robin or Quarterfinal if 5-8 teams enter - schedule will depend on number of teams

Tuesday	May 21		
Wednesday	May 22		
Semifinal			
Thursday	May 23	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15 Segment 2 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Friday	May 24	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 5 Boards 1-15 Segment 6 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 7 Boards 31-45 Segment 8 Boards 46-60
Final			
Saturday	May 25	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15 Segment 2 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Sunday	May 26	10:00 - 12:00 12:15 - 2:15 3:30 - 5:30 5:45 - 7:45	Segment 5 Boards 1-15 Segment 6 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 7 Boards 31-45 Segment 8 Boards 46-60

Beth Palmer Women's Schedule

Me: I'm running the Scandinavian marathon. It starts in Norway.
Them: Oh... where does it end?
Me: At the Finnish line of course!

My cowboy friend writes great haikus. He's hoping to become a poet lariat.

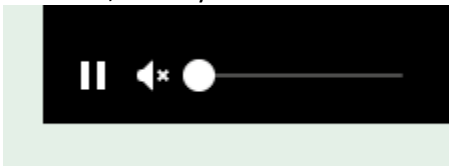
Humans these days are prisoners to their phones. That's why they're called "cell phones!"

When comforting a grammar snob, I always go, "Their, they're, there!"

If you are being chased by a pack of taxidermists, do NOT play dead!

2024 USBCs Kibitzing - There will be delayed kibitzing for all of the 2024 USBCs on LoveBridge

You can follow the USBC on the <https://vugraph.lovebridge.com/> website. If you get to the voice commentary and there is no sound, you need to "unmute." When you first get to the page, there is a small icon of a speaker in the middle of your screen with an x on it. Click there to unmute. If you miss that icon, move your cursor to the bottom left of the screen and you should see a something like this:



Click on the speaker to unmute.

Vugraph is delayed for 30 minutes or until all tables have completed play on a board, whichever is later.

Kibitzing Schedule (EDT)

For all KO days of the 2024 USBCs, kibitzing times will be :

Segment 1: 11:30 am EDT; Segment 2: 1:45 pm EDT

BREAK

Segment 3: 5:00 pm EDT; Segment 4: 7:15 pm EDT

For Round Robin days, each kibitzing segment will start 30 minutes after play starts. No voice for RR's.

To listen to commentary, search for the TV icon! It will send you to the page where you can choose from the available live commentators. If it doesn't do anything, no one is commenting.

Deep Involvement: Choose the "Match view" at the starting page of your event. Your screen will be divided into 4 small screens – 2 of them showing the 2 tables of the match you choose, the other 2 having the scoresheet for your match and the current scores of the other matches. In the 2x2 view you can personalize the content in all your windows. (The 2x2 view is not available on mobiles.)

Think together!

When watching a table, click on a name and choose "Kibitz". Instead of seeing all 4 hands, you will see what the player sees, and you can decide what you would do.

More Information:

Be well informed and tell your friends: while following the play, you can click many items. The image of the sticker with the number of the board (upper right) takes you to the results of the board, in the bottom right corner, the arrow takes you to the scoresheet, the DDS shows the double dummy analyses, beside that there is a button for the other table of the same match, at the top left corner you can see the bidding with alerts and the explanations (mouse over), the tricks already played, and the double dummy analysis for the available number of tricks with the par score.

Navigation icons:

While surfing here and there in the vugraph, or amongst the archive sessions, there are icons to help you. You can always go back to the main page with the "house" or to the standings with the "scores". If you cannot see the icons, move your mouse, or touch your screen and they pop up immediately. There is a built-in back button because the back button of your browser will always take you to the starting page. If this is not what you wanted, push next in your browser and you can continue where you were.

Replay:

After the event you can find every board from every table easily. While replaying the hands, the only surprise can be the way "next board" button works. If you have arrived from a scoresheet, it navigates through the scoresheet. If you have arrived from a screen where the results were shown for a given board, the same buttons move you through the list.



When at first
You play a card,
You hope it will
Impress your pard!



Kibitzing...

2024 USBCs Hospitality

We are returning to our pre-pandemic hospitality, with the hospitality suite (room 2321) open most of the day for socializing, Vugraph, and snacks. We will be providing breakfast and lunch each **day of play**. Marie-France Benoit will be our lead hostess, with help from Jacob Morgan and Julie Arbit, who makes the best guacamole. If you're at the tournament and can volunteer to help with hospitality (pick up items at Costco or nearby stores or restaurants, preparing food) please let Jan or Marie-France know.

Breakfast: From 8-10 am. There will be the usual breakfast food: cereal, bagels, toast, salmon, fruit, juice, coffee and tea. For those who prefer Keurig coffee, that will be available. So long as the suite doesn't become too crowded, you are welcome to eat there. No masking requirement.

Lunch: On the first four days of each event we will be serving a buffet lunch in a hotel banquet room, usually the Slate and Cyan rooms at the front of the hotel; we will have signs in the Player Break Room and Hospitality Suite with daily location. The hotel will be supplying what they do best: salads and chips. We will be bringing in 2 or 3 hot dishes from a local restaurant each day. There should be enough room for you to eat in the hotel banquet room, but you are welcome to take food from there to an outside table or to your hotel room. Lunch will be served from about half an hour before the morning session is supposed to end until about half an hour after the afternoon session starts.

After the first 4 days of each event, lunch will be available in the hospitality suite at the break. There will be a main dish (sandwiches, chicken, main dish salads, pizza) as well as tuna salad, green salad, cheese, fruit, berries, cookies or other desserts. Water and soft drinks will be available in refrigerators. As with breakfast, you are welcome to eat in the hospitality suite unless it is too crowded.

Let us know if you have specific needs. Our hosts will do their very best to accommodate you.

Playing Rooms & Player's Break Room

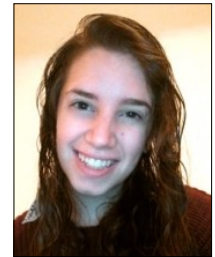
We will have bottled water in the playing rooms and if there is a refrigerator in a playing room we'll stock it with soft drinks.

We will have bottled water in the Player's Break Room (1321), as well as soft drinks, Nespresso, some packaged snacks, and some fruit. Please keep your voices down in the Break Room where we are working.

Masks will be required in playing rooms **only if your screenmate asks you to wear one**. You do not have to put on a mask when you summon a director or ask for coffee, water or an escort outside to smoke.



Marie-France



Julie Arbit

Spell "muffins" backwards and it's what you do when you remove them from the oven... "Sniff Um!"

Had to retake my drivers test for DMV. Scored an 80%... Two of them jumped out of the way!

Millicent is a perfect 10!

A priest, a rabbit and a minister walk into a bar. The bartender asks the rabbit, "What'll you all have?" The rabbit retorts, "I don't know. I'm only here because of autocorrect!"

So a neighbor knocked on my front door at 3AM!!! Really, 3AM! Lucky for him, I was already up playing the bagpipes!



What did one tomato say to the other tomato during a race? "Ketchup!"

Customer: I'd like to buy a bagel with cream cheese please.
Counter Man: Sorry we only take cash and credit cards here.

Ellis Costello and ABBA are touring together this summer but they haven't decided who the headliner will be. Watch for ABBA and Costello to out who's on first!

Did anyone ever find out what the knights in white sat in?

I was lonely until I glued a coffee cup to the top of my car. Now everyone waves to me!

Hard Sudoku

Sudoku Solutions on Page 8

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

Sudoku 1

Why do plants hate math? Because it gives them square roots.

Why won't Goldilocks drink a glass of water with 8 pieces of ice in it? It's too cubed.

Why wasn't the geometry teacher at school? Because she sprained her angle!

Where do math teachers go on vacation? To Times Square!

How do you keep warm in a cold room? You go to the corner because it's always 90 degrees.

What did the calculator say to the student? You can always count on me.

What do you call a teapot of boiling water on top of Mount Everest? A high-pot-in-use.

What do you call friends who love math? Alge-BROS.

I met a math teacher who had 12 children. She really knows how to multiply!

What do you call people who like tractors? Protractors.

Sudoku 2

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



Please be "scent" sitive! Many players have allergies and have trouble breathing when perfumed aromas are present! Thank you!!



Puzzle Page ...

Physics 1

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining 30 letters spell an Albert Einstein quotation.

Y D O A C O U S T I C S Q T U C S V N E
V A N B D O P P L E R K N U E W I D F E
R F C U U A I A C G E I E N A S L I A E
C D E C O O C U R O O C T L C R S S R L
O E I N E S Y A T P N R N O V C K P A O
L N N M A L V A G N I V S A I I Y L D H
D S S P U I E N N P E I E N D R N A A K
F I T T T T I R E C T M A C O E Y C Y C
U T E Y S Z N T A Y Y H I T T P P E G A
S Y I R E S A E I T C A C R O I G M N L
I L N E L L A E M E I E L R E D O E I B
O Y R V P O L M M O J O T S E P U N K S
N F T E I E V A W A M N N W E O X T W E
O F U L C R U M R V E C T O R T P E A P
T A T T N R S T R I N G T H E O R Y H O
W T R Y I P O W E R E T E M O M R E H T
E O Y G R E N E R E F R A C T I O N I O
N M N G P M U L U D N E P L E N G T H S
S C I T P O E D U T I L P M A K R O W I

ACCELERATION	ELECTRON	LAWS	QUARK
ACOUSTICS	ENERGY	LENGTH	REFRACTION
AMPLITUDE	ENTROPY	LEVER	SOUND
ATOM	EXPERIMENT	MASS	STRING THEORY
BLACK HOLE	FARADAY	MECHANICS	TESLA
BUOYANCY	FREEZING POINT	MOMENTUM	THERMOMETER
CENTRIPETAL	FULCRUM	NEWTON	TRAJECTORY
COLD FUSION	GRAVITY	OPTICS	VECTOR
CONVECTION	HAWKING	PASCAL	VISCOSITY
DENSITY	IMPEDANCE	PENDULUM	WAVE
DISPLACEMENT	ISOTOPE	POWER	WEDGE
DOPPLER	KELVIN	PRINCIPLES	WORK
EINSTEIN			



I'm a king.
I count as 3.
Hope that you
Get all of me!

Then you all
Can worry less.
And you won't
need
To take
finesse!



In a world where you can be anything, be the person who ends the meeting early!

I saw a man standing on one leg at the ATM. I said, "What are you doing?"
He replied, "If it's any of your business, I'm checking my balance!"

World Bridge News ...

Article by Al Levy ... continued from the past 2 Daily Bulletins... World Computer Challenge 2016
The Final...

The final

It was WBRIDGE5 versus MICRO BRIDGE for the title.

With just two boards to go, WBRIDGE5 overcame a 17 Imps deficit. At one table, MICRO BRIDGE went down one in 3♣-N, for -100.

At the other table, as in Figure 4a, after the opening bid ♣10, E-W cashed their three outside winners, ♣A, ♦A, ♦K. While this was not the best order of winning the three outside winners, it appeared that there was still a trump loser for down one, and the end of any chance of WBRIDGE5 coming back. However, appearances are deceiving as WBRIDGE5 perfectly executed the rarely seen Devil's coup, or the disappearing trump trick, to make the contract: winning the club return; pitching the ♦Q on the remaining high club; ruffing a club; ruffing a spade; ruffing a diamond; cashing the ♠A, pitching a club; ruffing a spade; returning the ♦9 and overruffing East's ♥J with the ♥K; and finessing West's ♥Q. +620 and 12 Imps.

Board 63				Board 64			
Dlr: S		North		Dlr: West		North	
Vul: N-S		♠ —		Vul: E-W		♠ QJT9763	
		♥ AT62				♥ Q5	
		♦ 9542				♦ Q4	
		♣ KQ863				♣ J5	
West		East		West		East	
♠ J64		♠ KT9852		♠ K		♠ A852	
♥ Q8		♥ J53		♥ K2		♥ JT87	
♦ AT76		♦ K3		♦ A762		♦ 985	
♣ AJ94		♣ T2		♣ K97642		♣ A8	
		South				South	
		♠ AQ73				♠ 4	
		♥ K974				♥ A9643	
		♦ QJ8				♦ KJT3	
		♣ 75				♣ QT3	
West	North	East	South	West	North	East	South
Micro Bridge	Wbridge5	Micro Bridge	Wbridge5	Wbridge5	Micro Bridge	Wbridge5	Micro Bridge
Pass	1♥	2♠	1♦	1♣	3♠	3NT	All Pass
3♠	4♥	All Pass	3♥				

Fig. 4. The WBRIDGE5 – MICRO BRIDGE final, hands and bidding: a) Board 63 and b) Board 64.

On the last board, with MICRO BRIDGE up by 5 Imps, WBRIDGE5 needed to make its 3NT contract to take the title.

Opening lead ♠4, see Figure 4(b). A diamond opening lead or return when N-S first gets in is needed to defeat 3NT. The spade lead was won by the king and a club was ducked to South. This sets up the club suit, assuming a 3-2 break, and retains an entry to cash the spade ace. South, in with the club ten, had one last chance to return a diamond, but returned a low heart, which would be right if declarer had the diamond queen and mis-guessed the heart position. WBRIDGE5 went up with the king and now had nine tricks and 10 Imps, overtaking MICRO BRIDGE at the last to take the title.



Board 3, Dlr S
7NT= E

W geoffrey

N fnickell

eric greco E

Ralph Katz S

♠ 73
♥ 107643
♦ J10
♣ J974

♠ AKJ65
♥ A
♦ Q9542
♣ AK

♠ Q10
♥ Q2
♦ AK73
♣ Q10862

♠ 9842
♥ KJ985
♦ 86
♣ 53

1♣* P 2♣ P
2♠ P 2NT P
3♦ P 4♦ P
4♥ P 5♣ P
5♠ P 5NT P
7♠ P 7NT P
P P

As the USBC approached, the Nickell team made a conscious decision to play within their regular partnerships as often as possible for practice.

On Saturday night, only days before the start of the Championship, Nickell, Katz, Hampson and Greco picked up Board 3. Hampson/Greco (who my daughter calls Hansel and Gretel) had a Precision auction to reach the grand slam in the highest scoring and safest strain: NT!

Greco/Hampson relayed their controls and it was just a matter of which grand was best. When Hampson bid 7C, he told Greco... Pick the Slam!

Eric thought for a long time and emerged with 7NT. He announced as he bid it, "It has to be the best spot."

Katz led the C3 and Greco claimed 13 tricks!

Board 3
Dealer S
EW Vul

♠ 73
♥ 107643
♦ J10
♣ J974

♠ AKJ65
♥ A
♦ Q9542
♣ AK

♠ Q10
♥ Q2
♦ AK73
♣ Q10862

NT

	♠	♥	♦	♣
N	0	0	5	0
S	0	0	5	0
E	13	13	8	13
W	13	13	8	13

♠ 9842
♥ KJ985
♦ 86
♣ 53

Par -2220 7NT= EW

NS: 2 + 4 = 6 HCP
EW: 13 + 21 = 34 HCP

NS	EW	Contract	Lead	Score
fnickell & Ralph Katz	eric greco & geoffrey	7NT= E	♣3	2220

Notice from the screenshot above, East/West can make FOUR different grand slams... only hearts fails.

There is always a lot of lively discussion with this group about "card racking!" Usually it is all in jest and the cards run pretty much both ways... but this evening, it was amazing how many hands belonged to E/W. They weren't all grand slams but it was nonetheless very impressive.

Logic Puzzle Page

	Burns	Daley	Holt	Locke	Palm	game shows	history channel	religious channel	soap operas	talk shows	glasses	soaps	stationary	toilet paper	towels	504	512	531	607	622	
Betty																					
Doris																					
Holly																					
Lois																					
Patty																					
504																					
512																					
531																					
607																					
622																					
glasses																					
soaps																					
stationary																					
toilet paper																					
towels																					
game shows																					
history channel																					
religious channel																					
soap operas																					
talk shows																					

Answer on page 15

Five maids were busy cleaning hotel rooms for the next night's guests. Each maid watched TV in the rooms while she worked and each room needed items replaced from the guests who stayed the night before. From the clues, determine the full name of each maid, what kind of TV shows each watched, what item each had to replace, and what room number each cleaned.

- Betty, who didn't clean room #607, doesn't like the soap operas but did replace the soaps. The maid who liked watching the religious channel replaced the used glasses but she wasn't Mrs. Daley or Patty.
- Lois, whose last name isn't Holt, cleaned room #622.
- The maid who replaced the glasses, the maid who watches game shows, and Doris didn't clean on the 6th floor.
- Each room number, from the lowest to the highest, is represented by the following list: the maid who watches talk shows, Mrs. Locke, Holly, the maid who watches the history channels, the woman who replaced the towels.
- Mrs. Daley, whose first name is not Lois, didn't replace the toilet paper.
- Patty's last name is Burns.

First Name	Last Name	TV Show	Replaced Item	Room #

Meet the Players

From Eddie's time "In the Well" 2016



Eddie Wold can do it all. He is one of the few to have won a gold medal for an open event (the World Transnational Teams in Paris), a seniors' event (World Championships in Bali), and a women's event (non-playing captain of the US Olympiad team in 1996). Eddie has also won 15 national championships, many with George Rosenkranz, who will be celebrating his 100th birthday later this year, but his favorite national championship is winning the Silodor with his life partner, Bob Morris.

Eddie is one of the top professional players, frequently playing with sponsors, as his easy-going temperament makes him a great partner. When he does play with pros, he's had enriching partnerships with Mark Lair, Mike Passell, Geoff Hampson, and Marc Jacobus. Although he has been very fortunate to have so many great partners in his life, Eddie acknowledges Paul Soloway for helping him understand the deeper parts of the game.

Eddie was also involved in two of the most unbelievable events in bridge history. In July, 1984, while he was playing in the Spingold with George, George's wife (and Eddie's bridge parent) Edith was kidnapped and held for \$1 million ransom by another bridge player. Even though his team won the Spingold and came in second in the national mixed teams, it was one of the worst weeks of his life. Fortunately, she was recovered unharmed and

the perpetrators were caught. Then, in 2013, Eddie identified that the "German Doctors" were coughing at unusual times in the Senior World Championships. Further investigation led to the cracking of their code, and their banishment from top-level play.

For his many achievements at the bridge table, Eddie was elected to the Hall of Fame.

Eddie grew up in Houston, Texas, and went to Rice University for college. He learned bridge by total chance when asked to be a fourth as he was walking into the mess hall there. He told them he didn't play, and they didn't care. He was so totally taken by the game, he took a 3-year sabbatical before finally getting his degree in mathematics. Later in life, Eddie returned to Rice as a professor ... of bridge! He was responsible for getting accreditation for a course on bridge, and taught there for two years. His wonderful experiences teaching novices at Rice spurred him to take on a mentoring role in the ACBL Junior program. Under his tutelage, many juniors have gone on to represent the US in international competitions and participate in the ACBL Junior Bridge Camp.

Outside of bridge, Eddie is also talented at table tennis -- he played seriously for four years before he got bitten by the bridge bug. Other hobbies include tennis, skiing, piano, and movies.

Eddie is playing in this event as a member of the Simson team.

Playing Procedures Reviewed For Those Arriving for the Mixed, Seniors, Womens

You will be playing on Chromebooks using LoveBridge software. The Chromebooks all have wired mice, which you may choose to use or not. They also have touch screens if you prefer that, and of course integrated keyboards. You will not be able to go to any websites other than the LoveBridge playing site from the playing room Chromebooks.

There will be 2 players in each room, one from each team in the match - North & East together and South & West together. All of the NE rooms are on the first floor; all of the SW rooms are on the second floor.

Because some of you have said that you prefer the opponents' system information on paper in addition to being available on the Chromebooks, we are asking each player to bring a copy of their SSF, convention card, and if relevant the ACBL Multi defense to the table for their opponent. If you need help printing anything, come to room 1321 before you play and one of us will print for you.

After you have finished a segment and scored with your teammates, please check the score on LoveBridge and if you disagree with it, come to room 1321 and so we can sort it out.

Captains:

Your lineup sheet been shared with you. If you can't open it, or don't understand something about it, please let us know.

For the first segment of play each day, the Away team (the team that does not have seating rights for the segment) should tell the Home team their lineup (by email, text, or an entry on the lineup sheet) no later than 8:50 am (70 minutes before play starts), and enter the lineup on their lineup sheet no later than 9:00 am. If you enter your lineup on the lineup sheet before 8:50 am, that will satisfy both requirements. The Home team should give the Away team its lineup by 8:55 am, and should also enter it on the lineup sheet no later than 9:00 am. Of course, if the Away team doesn't communicate its lineup on time, the Home team has more time.

We ask you to enter the lineup on your lineup sheet because that may be the easiest way to give your lineup to your opponent. If you leave your lineup page open on your computer or other device, it will automatically update with the opponent's lineup when they enter it. Also, especially for the first segment of the day, there are often players who come to the office asking where they're supposed to sit and if the lineup is on the lineup sheet, we can direct them.

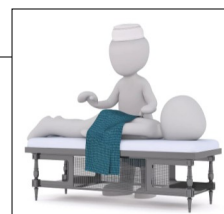
For subsequent segments, you need only notify each other of your lineups (10 minutes before the start of the segment for the Away team, 5 minutes for the Home team), although you are welcome to enter the lineup on the lineup sheet in case one of your players doesn't know where they are supposed to sit and comes to ask us.

Line-Up Procedures

For those of you who are interested, Ela has agreed to come to the Hyatt to provide massages any day that we have 3 or more people who want her. So if you want a massage, please let me know a day or two in advance, including what your timing is, and I'll try to make things work.

For now, Ela said she could come on April 30th for anyone who wants a post-flight, pre-tournament massage. So if you want one, please let me know and tell me what time(s) would work for you.

I think Ela still charges \$100 for an hour. She'll be setting her table up in my room (5117) and will have a key so she can get in and can the let you in when it's your turn. Any questions, let Jan know!



**Massage Therapist
message from Jan**

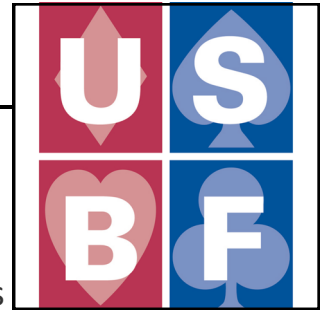
3	1	2	5	4	8	9	6	7
9	8	4	7	1	6	5	3	2
5	6	7	3	9	2	8	1	4
4	2	9	8	6	3	1	7	5
8	7	3	2	5	1	4	9	6
1	5	6	9	7	4	3	2	8
7	9	1	4	2	5	6	8	3
6	4	8	1	3	7	2	5	9
2	3	5	6	8	9	7	4	1

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

Sudoku Answers Puzzles on Page 8

Answer to Sudoku 1

Answer to Sudoku 2



USBF Supporting Membership

If you don't want to play in the USBF Championships that choose teams to represent the USA in the World Bridge Federation Championships, but do want to aid our events, a **Supporting Membership** can be the perfect way for you to be involved.

A Supporting Membership is \$25 for one year (\$75 for 3 years) and your donation will be used to cover inevitable expenses: attorney fees, accounting fees, website support services, tournament directors, insurance, WBF dues, and vugraph operators.

The USBF is an **all-volunteer** organization.

Our meetings are by conference call and at NABCS. Board members and the organization's officers are not compensated for meetings, travel, or hotel expenses.

You should never start a conversation with Pi.

It'll just go on forever.

Why is it sad that parallel lines have so much in common?

Because they'll never meet.

What is a bird's favorite type of math? OWL-gebra.

Why was the fraction worried about marrying the decimal?

Because he would have to convert.

You know what seems odd to me? Numbers that can't be

divided by two.

Answer to Logic Puzzle On Page 12

607	toilet paper	history channel	Burns	Patty
622	towels	soap operas	Palm	Lois
531	glasses	religious channel	Holt	Holly
504	stationary	talk shows	Daley	Doris
512	soaps	game shows	Locke	Betty
Room #	Replaced item	TV Show	Last Name	First Name

Limey Jack...

Hallo Yanks:

Limey Jack hardly had time for a proper kip and now must guide you through the mixed teams, a thankless task. But at least that dunderhead, Howie Dung, will not be able to put you into a stupor as Limey Jack is here to make sure the punter is writing a cheque in your direction.

In this strange event, a gaggle of teams play a round robin with 8 moving on the Premier League.

The survivors will be Carmichael, Dinkin, Ivatury, Lewis, Millens, Rosenthal, Rubenstein, Zhang.

Limey Jack notes the resurrection of three different lasses who have not been seen in high level bridge since before the uprising; Compton, Quinn, and Shi. At least two of them survive, with the third one on the bubble.

Howie Dung, indeed,

Ta



Howie Doing...

A two day round robin with 8 remaining,
Mixed Teams is always the most entertaining.

While none of the players is really a slouch...
In the words of Dave C, you can still get the couch!

Carmichael's team had a last minute scratch,
Jolly won't be here in time for the match.

Who will go home and who will survive?
All will depend on how well the pairs jive!

The teams who survive are the best in the fray.
Lewis and Pollack and Rosenthal stay.

Rubenstein stays. Carmichael too.
Millens, Zhang, Ding completing the crew.

Departing on Sunday ... here's what I'm thinkin'.
Teams Derman and Uday will exit with Dinkin.

All want to stay, but if it's the other,
At least they get Sunday to spend with their mother!

Good luck and have fun, it's only a game.
Winning is great but losing's no shame!

Till Mother's Day...
I remain Howie Doing!

BOARD: 51
DEALER: SOUTH
VULNERABLE: E-W

♠ K72
♥ 2
♦ AT2
♣ AKJT86

♠ AQ6
♥ 53
♦ K543
♣ Q973

♠ JT8
♥ AJT984
♦ J76
♣ 2

♠ 9543
♥ KQ76
♦ Q98
♣ 54

Par: 400

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	9	7	7	9	9
E	4	5	6	4	4
W	:	6	:	:	:

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	★	IMP	
					NS	EW	
						Home	Visiting
Nickell	Fleisher	Open	3♥	E	♣5	-3	300
		Closed	3N	S	♥5	-2	100
							9

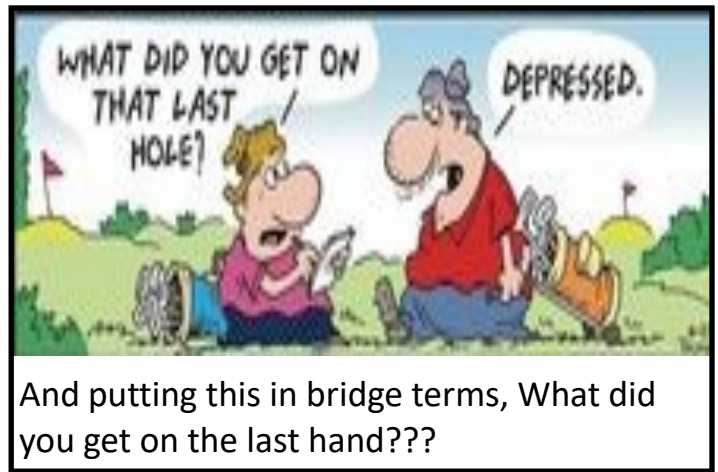
On Board 51 of the last segment of the USBC Finals, Hurd/Bathurst played in 3H in the Open Room. Hampson overcalled 2C after Bathurst's opening 1D. N/S never took another call. 3NT is cold N/S but it takes inspired, careful play. N/S is not vulnerable so declaring or defending would not have been enough to swing the match. Hampson/Greco collected 300 defending 3H.

Greco led the C5 to Hampson's 8 and Hampson tried the CA which Hurd ruffed. Hurd played a spade to the queen and king and won the spade return with the ace. He played the H3 to the jack and queen and won the spade return with the jack. The D7 went to the king and ace and the D2 went to the jack and queen. Another diamond to the ten followed. At this point, N/S had six tricks in. The CK was ruffed and declarer claimed 6 total tricks... down 3!

In the Closed Room, Weinstein passed the West hand which made it much easier for N/S to bid their game. Grue opened a strong club and Moss set up a game force. 3NT is makeable on any lead. Weinstein led the H5. Levin won the ace and continued hearts. Moss won his king. He finessed the CQ. At this point, there is only one successful card that can be played from dummy: the DT!! If Levin covers, Moss could play the queen and if Weinstein won it, all N/S diamonds would be good. If Levin ducks, Moss would duck too and once Weinstein took his DK, Moss could repeat the finesse against the DJ. It's a tough play even for the pros!! At the table, Moss led the D2 to the 6, Q, K and it was over. Contract down 2. 9 IMPs to Nickell

1C=Precision
1NT=GF

The funeral of the man who invented Tupperware has been postponed while they try to find the right lid for his coffin.



And putting this in bridge terms, What did you get on the last hand???

This janitor just asked if I wanted to smoke some weed with him. I politely declined, I can't deal with high maintenance people.

