## "Trials" and Tribulations

## UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Results:

| Roundof16 (120 boards) |  |  | SET \#1 | SET \#2 | SET \#3 | SET \#4 | SET \#5 | SET \#6 | SET \#7 | SET \#8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \# | TEAM | IMPs Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | Lebowitz | 352 | 29 | 26 | 58 | 34 | 36 | 63 | 73 | 33 |
| 15 | Han | 220 | 40 | 41 | 21 | 33 | 23 | 17 | 10 | 35 |
| 3 | Fleisher | 422 | 60 | 80 | 52 | 31 | 60 | 45 | 68 | 26 |
| 14 | Petrov | 181 | 22 | 17 | 24 | 27 | 20 | 41 | 15 | 15 |
| 4 | Rosenthal | 343 | 54 | 27 | 40 | 50 | 53 | 55 | 36 | 28 |
| 13 | Balleisen | 222 | 18 | 45 | 33 | 33 | 22 | 14 | 36 | 21 |
| 5 | Bramley | 330.25 | 50 | 11 | 51 | 26 | 68.25 | 38 | 66 | 20 |
| 12 | Schireson | 208 | 11 | 42 | 17 | 19 | 40 | 48 | 26 | 5 |
| 6 | Robinson | 246 | 42 | 8 | 20 | 11 | 44 | 41 | 51 | 29 |
| 11 | Bailey | 247 | 15 | 67 | 14 | 19 | 26 | 37 | 36 | 33 |
| 7 | Simson | 278 | 29 | 25 | 19 | 13 | 52 | 33 | 59 | 48 |
| 10 | Hamman | 194 | 17 | 19 | 62 | 18 | 32 | 29 | 12 | 5 |
| 8 | Juster | 308 | 35 | 47 | 35 | 39 | 52 | 23 | 51 | 26 |
| 9 | Gu | 258 | 34 | 32 | 30 | 29 | 18 | 68 | 37 | 10 |

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!


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May 3, 2024
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Max Schireson USBF Recorder Jack Oest
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Gary Cohler
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Mitch Dunitz
Marty Fleisher Ron Gerard
Marty Hirschman George Jacobs Ralph Katz Bobby Levin Chip Martel Eric Rodwell Danny Sprung Josh Stark Adam Wildavsky

## Bulletin Editor

 Suzi Subeck
## Hospitality

 Julie ArbitMarie-France Benoit

## Open Teams Entered



## Mixed Teams Entered



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

Jeff Aker, Capt John Lusky Barry Rigal

Cappelli Bob Cappelli, Capt Bob Bitterman

Allan Falk Glenn Milgrim Ron Rubin Mark Aquino Mark Bendure

Goodman Andy Goodman, Capt Mike Passell Pratap Rajadhyaksha Ron Smith

解katrao Koneru Billy Cohen
Hamman Bob Hamman, Capt Doug Doub

Lall Hemant Lall, Capt Eric Rodwell Zia Mahmood

Neil Chambers Adam Wildavsky

Reese Milner Eddie Wold Michael Rosenberg

Reynolds Tom Reynolds, Capt Bernie Greenspan

Simson Doug Simson, Capt Jim Krekorian Steve Beatty

Tulin Gary Cohler, Capt Alan Sontag Kit Woolsey
Wolfson Jeff Wolfson, Capt David Berkowitz

Lance Kerr Fred Schenker Curtis Cheek Peter Weichsel Fred Stewart

Stanley Tulin Ralph Katz Bart Bramley
Steve Garner Jeff Meckstroth

## Women's Teams Entered

Baker
Lynn Baker, Capt Kerri Sanborn Cecilia Dwyer Rimstedt [alternate] Debbie Rosenberg

Cooper Kitty Cooper, Capt Linda Lewis Rozanne Pollack
Zhang Susan Zhang, Capt Janice Molson

Olivia Schireson Jill Meyers Sandra Rimstedt Lynne Feldman Hjordis Eythorsdottir Cheri Bjerkan

Sylvia Shi Irina Levitina


## Open Team Tournament Schedule

| OPEN SCHEDULE |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Day | Date | Time (CDT) | Boards |
| Round of 16 (if 14-16 teams enter; fewer than 14 will be rr with different schedule) |  |  |  |
| Wednesday | May 1 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:00-12:00 } \\ & \text { 12:15-2:15 } \\ & \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & \text { 5:45-7:45 } \end{aligned}$ | Segment 1 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 2 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Lunch Break <br> Segment 3 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 4 Boards 46-60 |
| Thursday | May 2 | $\begin{aligned} & 10: 00-12: 00 \\ & \text { 12:15-2:15 } \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & \text { 5:45-7:45 } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Segment 5 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 6 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Lunch Break <br> Segment 7 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |
| Quarterfinal |  |  |  |
| Friday | May 3 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:00-12:00 } \\ & \text { 12:15-2:15 } \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & \text { 5:45-7:45 } \end{aligned}$ | Segment 1 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 2 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Lunch Break <br> Segment 3 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 4 Boards 46-60 |
| Saturday | May 4 | $\begin{aligned} & 10: 00-12: 00 \\ & 12: 15-2: 15 \\ & \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & 5: 45-7: 45 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Segment 5 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 6 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Lunch Break <br> Segment 7 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |
| Semifinal |  |  |  |
| Sunday | May 5 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:00-12:00 } \\ & 12: 15-2: 15 \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & 5: 45-7: 45 \end{aligned}$ | Segment 1 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 2 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Break <br> Segment 3 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 4 Boards 46-60 |
| Monday | May 6 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:00-12:00 } \\ & \text { 12:15-2:15 } \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & \text { 5:45-7:45 } \end{aligned}$ | Segment 5 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 6 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Break <br> Segment 7 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |
| Final |  |  |  |
| Tuesday | May 7 | $\begin{aligned} & 10: 00-12: 00 \\ & 12: 15-2: 15 \\ & \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & 5: 45-7: 45 \end{aligned}$ | Segment 1 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 2 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Break <br> Segment 3 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 4 Boards 46-60 |
| Wednesday | May 8 | $\begin{aligned} & 10: 00-12: 00 \\ & 12: 15-2: 15 \\ & \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & 5: 45-7: 45 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Segment 5 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 6 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Break <br> Segment 7 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |

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 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:00-12:00 } \\ & \text { 12:15-2:15 } \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & \text { 5:45-7:45 } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Segment 1 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 2 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Break <br> Segment 3 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 4 Boards 46-60 |
| Monday | May 13 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:00-12:00 } \\ & \text { 12:15-2:15 } \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & \text { 5:45-7:45 } \end{aligned}$ | Segment 5 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 6 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Break <br> Segment 7 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |
| Semifinal |  |  |  |
| Tuesday | May 14 | $\begin{aligned} & 10: 00-12: 00 \\ & 12: 15-2: 15 \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & \text { 5:45-7:45 } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Segment 1 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 2 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Break <br> Segment 3 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 4 Boards 46-60 |
| Wednesday | May 15 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:00-12:00 } \\ & \text { 12:15-2:15 } \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & \text { 5:45-7:45 } \end{aligned}$ | Segment 5 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 6 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Break <br> Segment 7 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 8 Boards 46-60\| |
| Final |  |  |  |
| Thursday | May 16 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:00-12:00 } \\ & \text { 12:15-2:15 } \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & \text { 5:45-7:45 } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Segment 3 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 4 Boards 46-60 <br> 75 minute Break <br> Segment 5 Boards 61-75 <br> Segment 6 Boards 76-90 |
| Friday | May 17 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10:00-12:00 } \\ & \text { 12:15-2:15 } \\ & \text { 3:30-5:30 } \\ & \text { 5:45-7:45 } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Segment 5 Boards 1-15 <br> Segment 6 Boards 16-30 <br> 75 minute Break <br> Segment 7 Boards 31-45 <br> Segment 8 Boards 46-60 |



I'm searching for a singing partner, but so far, no luck. Looks like another duet yourself project for me.


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:

## II $4 \times{ }^{-}$

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 $2 \times 2$ view you can personalize the content in all your windows. (The $2 \times 2$ 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


I'd have finessed
But Zia played played ace.
The stiff king off side Fell with great grace!

I'd have made less. Zia made more. That clearly explains
How he gets a big score!

## 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: 8:30-10:30 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




Sudoku 2


Guy 1: Security is what most women are looking for in a relationship.
Guy 2: How do you know that?
Guy1: Because that's what they yell when I start flirting with them!

I bought a wig today... only \$1.
It was a small price toupee!

How do you get down from an elephant?
You don't! You get down from a goose!!

How many ears does Captain Kirk have?
Three: The right ear, the left ear, and the Final Front-ear!


I lost my job as a stage designer. I left without making a scene!

There was a fire drill at IKEA today... everyone assembled in the car park!

Adult peer pressure is seeing your neighbor mow his lawn.

I like to use "defenestrate" in casual conversation whenever a window of opportunity presents itself!

I had a happy childhood. My dad used to put me in tires and roll me down hills. Those were Goodyears!

## Puzzle Page ...

## Beatles Songs 1

Find and circle all of the songs by The Beatles that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell the name of an additional Beatles song.


| ANOTHER GIRL | FLYING | IN MY LIFE | SOMETHING |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| ASK ME WHY | GET BACK | JULIA | SUN KING |
| BIRTHDAY | GETIING BETTER | LADY MADONNA | TAXMAN |
| BLACCBIRD | HELO GOODBYE | LOVELY RITA | TEL ME WHY |
| CRY BABY CRY | HEY BULLDOG | MICHELLE | THE END |
| DAYTRIPER | HEY JUDE | NO REPLY | TICKET TO RIDE |
| DEAR PRUDENCE | HONEY PIE | OH DARLING | TWO OF US |
| DIG A PONY | I ME MINE | PLEASE PLEASE ME | WAIT |
| ELEANOR RIGBY | I WILL | POLYTHENE PAM | YER BLUES |
| FIXING A HOLE | IF I FELL | SEXY SADIE | YESTERDAY |




Following Louisville ... an update to yesterday's story... The leaders between Louisville and Cali!

As predicted, the three Tour events at the NABC in Louisville altered the standings quite dramatically. Giovanni Donati \& Giacomo Percario leapt directly into first place thanks to winning the Jacoby Swiss Teams and making it to the semifinals in the Vanderbilt. They take the outright lead in spite of playing with the same teammates in both events, by virtue of having played enough boards in both events to qualify for the full TRP awards.

They are followed very closely by Sabine Auken \& Roy Welland after coming in second in the Jacoby and reaching the quarterfinals in the Vanderbilt. They were teammates in both with father and son Jerome \& Leo Rombaut, now in sixth place, but had scored good TRPs also earlier this year in Reykjavik.

Sharing third place is Eric Greco \& Geoff Hampson and Bobby Levin \& Steve Weinstein thanks to their win in the Vanderbilt.

Rounding out the top six are Simon de Wijs \& Bauke Muller in fifth place and, as mentioned above, the Rombauts in sixth.

Overall, the top of the rankings already looks like a "who's who" of international bridge, with only 8 of the Tour's 29 events being played.

This should have preceded the news about Cali but it was unavailable at the time... therefore, we update you today and include the missing piece!

| $\times$ ¢ m \% | -105 | N frickell |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \begin{array}{l} \operatorname{Bd} 32, ~ D \operatorname{lr} \text { W } \\ 4 v=S \end{array} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | -A432 <br> - A1085 |  |
| $\mathrm{W}_{\text {Stere }}$ Weinsian | -K64 |  |
| - J94 |  | - AQ87 |
| - Q105 |  | - 8 |
| - J763 |  | - K92 |
| - J105 |  | * A9732 |
|  | - K632 | \% |
| $\square 0$ | -KJ976 | $p$ p p |
| 75 | - Q4 |  |
| Raph Kals | *Q8 |  |

## Tough Decsision on RealBridge

Practicing against his teammates before this USBC, Levin faced a difficult decision on Board 32.

Weinstein led the CJ against 4 H . Katz ducked in dummy ... to win or not to win the ace... that is the question. Unfortunately for him, the lead of the club honor gave Levin no count on the suit.

He knew he'd collect a trick in spades, a trick in diamonds and a trick in clubs, but where was the 4th trick he needed to defeat the game.

It was possible for Katz to hold the singleton CQ in which case, Levin's club trick could evaporate if he ducked. Fearing the position, he rose with the ace.

Sadly for Bobby, this was an all or nothing decision! Rising let Katz win the club return, play a diamond to dummy's ace, and cash the CK discarding his diamond loser. Katz still needed to have the SA onside (likely from Levin's delayed takeout double) or to pick up the trump queen. He led a small spade from dummy, Levin ducked and when the king won, Ralph was home free. Sometimes bridge is not an easy game even for the experts!

I want to open a restaurant that fuses Chinese and Middle Eastern cuisine. I will call it Wok like an Egyptian!
I ate a kid's meal at McDonalds today. His parents weren't too happy about it!
I told the doctor that I thought I was a pair of curtains. He told me to pull myself together!
I am trying out a new recipe of ground beef and Yorkshire Pepperment Patties. It's called mintsmeat!
Someone threw a bottle of Omega-3 at me. Luckily, my injuries are only super fish oil!
My friend was a struggling artist until he decided to create sculptures. He made six figures last year!
Which nut is the angriest? The pissed achio!
My wife said, "That's the 9th time you've gone back for more dessert. Doesn't it embarrass you?"
 Me: "No way. I keep telling them it's for you!"

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

# Logic Puzzle Page 

|  |  | Diplomats |  |  |  |  | Durations |  |  |  |  | Capitals |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{\otimes} \\ & \text { © } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \infty \\ & \stackrel{\infty}{0} \\ & \sum_{0}^{2} \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & \frac{0}{0} \\ & 0 \\ & \hline 工 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { त्ढ } \\ & \text { 응 } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { त्ত } \\ & \text { N } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \vec{\pi} \\ & \underset{\sigma}{\prime} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { त } \\ & \text { त } \\ & \infty \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ते } \\ & \text { ते } \\ & \text { on } \end{aligned}$ | $n$ 0 0 0 0 0 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 음 } \\ & \text { N } \\ & \text { N } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{0}{0} \\ & \frac{0}{0} \\ & \frac{0}{\omega} \end{aligned}$ | O O N N |  |
|  | March |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | April |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\stackrel{\infty}{⿻ 上 丨}$ | May |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | June |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | July |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Brussels <br> Helsinki |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\frac{0}{\# N}$ | Madrid |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ¢ | Skopje |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Zagreb |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 10 day |  |  |  |  |  |  | M | onth |  |  |  | pom |  |  | Durations | Capitals |
| 0 | 2 day |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | March |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ¢ | 4 day |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | April |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 比 | 4 day |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | May |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ロ | 8 day |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | June |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 9 day |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | July |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1．The diplomat going to Brussels will leave for the 8 day visit．．
2．Pickett will leave 2 months after the diplomat going to Skopje．
3．The ambassador with the 9 day visit will leave sometime after Ingram．．
4．Owens will leave 3 months before the person going to Brussels．．
5．Underwood will go to Zagreb．．
6．The diplomat leaving in June will leave for the 2 day visit．．
7．Of the ambassador with the 10 day visit and the person going to Madrid，one is Mr．Pickett and the other will leave in May．．

## 

Adam Grossack, aka NeverEast, has a Twitch page (excerpted) where he says:
There is more to me than just bridge - Family: I am very lucky to have a close family. I have 2 brothers, one older, one younger. Sam, my older brother is a lawyer and Zach, my younger brother is a pro bridge player like me. We live in the greater Boston area. My mom, Jori, is a bridge teacher and used to practice law. She is the one who got me into bridge... I still love playing bridge with my mom and our last win was at the NYC Regional a few years ago. My dad, Rocky, is a lawyer and die-hard Red Sox fan. He took me to many games growing up including game 4 of the ALCS vs the Yankees in 2004 when David Ortiz hit a walk off HR in the 13th inning to turn around a 3-0 series and eventually break the curse of the Bambino to win the first World Series since 1918.

Hobbies: 1. Mountain Biking: About 2 years ago, my long-time friends convinced me to buy a mountain bike and it was a great decision. I am not particularly athletic but I went from a low level to now going to 4 -different bike parks this year and owning 3 different mountain bikes. Biking was a saving grace during covid times. 2. Chess: I learned chess at a very young age from my dad. I have always had an affinity for games and playing rather than, let's say, reading. I was co-captain of my chess team in high school and went to college at Brandeis University where I had the privilege of meeting many excellent chess players. One of them was my friend Sam Shankland, who in 2018 won the US Closed Chess Championship (beating Hikaru Nakamura, Wesley So, Gata Kamsky and others). I studied chess from Sam and he improved my game. Ilove to play chess on chess.com and occasionally will stream myself playing! My current USCF rating is 1692 3. Barbu. Barbu is a trick-taking card-game comprised of 7 different mini-games. I first learned barbu from one of my teenage bridge mentors and now good friend, Lew Gamerman. My first barbu game was at the Cromwell Connecticut regional when I was 16 years old. It featured, Lew, Bob McCaw, my brother and myself. You might call it beginner's luck... I still play the global card game, now mostly online.

My Bridge Accomplishments:

1) 3-Time NABC+ Champion -Fast Pairs 2014 (with Zachary Grossack) -Grand National Teams 2016 (with Zachary Grossack, Doug Doub, Frank Merblum) -North American Pairs 2018 (with Zachary Grossack)
2) 4-Time International Junior Gold-Medalist (Lyon $2017 \times 2$ \& Atlanta-2013 \& Philadelphia-2010)
3) 2-Time International Junior Silver-Medalist (TaiCang- 2012 \& Opatija -2011)
4) (ACBL) Teen King of Bridge - 2010

Adam has continued winning major events following the time this was written and posted. He has also become engaged to an excellent bridge player in her own right: Emma Kolesnik, daughter of Alex Kolesnik.

Adam is playing in this tournament as a member of the Lebowitz squad.

"I know what herb would taste nice with this," said Tom sagely.
"You resemble a goat," said Tom satirically.
"The seesaw is upside down," said Tom saucily.
"So only one person arrived at the party before I did?" Tom second-guessed.
"I won't tell you anything about my salivary glands," said Tom secretively.
"Would you like to buy some cod?" asked Tom selfishly.
"Boy, that's a bright star," said Tom seriously.
"I just bought a woollen sweater," said Tom sheepishly.
"Ought I to do this?" asked Tom with a shudder.
"This looks like the fruit of the blackthorn," said Tom slowly.
"I can take photographs if I want to!" Tom snapped.
"Angel dust? Me? Never touch it!" Tom snorted.
"Yes, I'm amazingly strongly built," said Tom soberly.
"My bicycle wheel is melting," Tom spoke softly.
"Some day, people will be able to file lawsuits against computers," said Tom soothingly.
"The optician probably doesn't have my glasses ready yet," Tom speculated.
"You don't see the point, do you?" asked Tom, stabbing in the dark.
"Hey, you're on my foot!" said Tom standoffishly.
"Boy, I wish the elevator were working," said Tom, staring up to the top.
"Monaural and quadraphonic systems are exceptions," said Tom stereotypically.
"I can see through the window," said Tom stiltedly.
"Consult an investment broker," was Tom's stock answer.
"I'm putting on my T-shirt, shorts, and sunglasses," Tom summarised.
"That's especially stupid!" said Tom superciliouly.
"This salmon is excellent," said Tom superficially.
"Don't you know my name?" asked Tom swiftly. - T -
"I work at a bank," said Tom tellingly.
"I shall see to it well in advance," said Tom tenderly.
"I have no idea," said Tom thoughtlessly.
"Parsley, sage, rosemary," said Tom thymelessly.
"I was adopted," said Tom transparently.
"I'm testing this boomerang," said Tom triflingly.
"I punched him in the stomach three times," said Tom triumphantly.
"The bank doesn't want me as a customer," said Tom unaccountably.
"It's homemade soup," said Tom uncannily.

## What's it called when you have

 Grandma on speed dial?

Instagram.
"I don't know any shanties," said Tom unceasingly.
"Have some shampoo," was Tom's unconditional offer.
"I won't stand for painting," said Tom uneasily.
"Don't nobody go teasin' he momma's momma with feather," said Tom ungrammatically.
"Your trousers have come apart!" was Tom's unseemly comment.
"I want to date other women," said Tom unsteadily.
"Henry the Eighth!" said Tom unthinkingly.

"No, I won't give you a note saying you're excused," said Tom unwaveringly.
"I'm going to be intestate," said Tom unwillingly.
"If I let go of the ceiling it will collapse," Tom upheld.
"The lion has its head caught in the skylight," said Tom uproariously.

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## Sudoku Answers Puzzles on Page 9

 Answer fo Sudokw il Answer fo sudokw 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．

## How often do I tell chemistry jokes？



Periodically．
why did the turtle
cross the road？

to get to the shell station

## Answer to Logic Puzzle On Page 13

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As a brain wave technologist, I often ask postoperative patients to smile to make sure their facial nerves are intact. It always struck me as odd to be asking this question right after brain surgery, so a colleague suggested I ask patients to show me their teeth. Armed with this new phrase, I said to my next patient, "Mr. Smith, show me your teeth." He shook his head. "I can't... The nurse has them."

If you are not familiar with Samantha (Sam) Punch, you really should be. Sam is a remarkable women working to insure the preservation of bridge! She has done incredible studies on relevant bridge statistics and uses her expertise to analyze and evaluate the data. Her new book rates to be great reading. It is on sale now at Amazon. Buy one before you next see her at an NABC or at a European tournament and maybe she will autograph it for you!!

Sam is Scottish. She plays in international competition. You will really appreciate her insights!

## New Release

## The Art of Becoming a Top Bridge Player

## Samantha Punch with Tim Rees



What an interesting read - the inner story of the challenges of being a top bridge player. Whether you are one yourself, or an aspiring bridge player near the start of your journey, you will find Sam and Tim's insights absolutely fascinating.

- Andrew Robson

This book is a treasure chest of information that can improve anyone's bridge game, regardless of their skill level. Reading how so many great players approach different aspects of the game is not only interesting, but bighly educational. - Roy Welland

You know your system notes, all the suit combinations and the opening lead theories. Still you don't feel like a winner? Read on and let Samantha show you how to be considered a true winner by both your partners, teammates and even your opponents. - Sabine Auken

Dr Samantha Punch has interviewed many of the world's top bridge players. In this book they reveal their views of the non-technical aspects of the game, including coping with mistakes and emotions, how to become a good partner, dealing with pressure and coping with loss.

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> $978-1-77140-264-4$

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cashed. A heart was led and again, declarer claimed down one!

Where 3NT was played by West, North led either the C7 or C8 into the KJ3. In Lebowitz/Han, Zhang won the CJ, played a diamond to the king, a diamond to the ten, and a third diamond on which A Grossack took his ace. Adam played a heart to the J, K, A. Zhang led the ST to the king, continued with the S 6 to the queen and ace followed by a small heart to the queen. The diamonds were cashed and declarer claimed 9 tricks. It was similarly played at the other 5 tables in this contract from this side.

In an outlier in the Robinson/Bailey match, Bailey/Donn found the moysian spade game and went light 3 tricks for an 11 IMP swing to Robinson when the other table played 3NT scoring it up from West.

In Juster/Gu, Passell/Goodman played in the making 3NT from West while Dwyer/Huang found 3CX. The auction:
Dwyer didn't know how lucky he was that his opponents hadn't reached their NT game or he might have passed out 2 S ... He'd have won IMPs by passing but he won more by bidding! Kevin balanced with 3C. Alex K doubled.

Smith led a spade to Alex's ace and the C3 was won by the 7. The H6 went to the $2, K, A$; a diamond to the ace and a spade to Smith's king; HQ ruffed; diamond ruffed; heart ruffed; diamond ruffed; club to the jack and queen; CA felling the CK; spade to the queen and Smith took last with the HJ. +670 ... 14 IMPs to Juster

| Alex | Dwyer | Smith | Huang |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{W}$ | $\boldsymbol{N}$ | $\mathbf{E}$ | $\mathbf{S}$ |
|  |  | $\mathbf{1}$ | PASS |
| $\mathbf{1 4}$ | PASS | $\mathbf{2 4}$ | PASS |
| PASS | $\mathbf{3 0}$ | PASS | PASS |
| DBL | PASS | PASS | PASS |



Board 6 looks like a not-too-tough to bid 6 S and 9 out of the 14 tables bid it and made it. One table found 6 H on the 5-2 fit and with the hearts $3-3$, that was successful even with the HK offside. Two tables disdained slam creating 13 IMP swings for Hamman and Gu. And two tables got frisky and bid grands... one in spades and one in NT creating 17 IMP swings for Fleisher and Bramley. In both of those matches, the side bidding the grand was down a lot in the match and taking an aggressive shot for a big gain could have paid off... Had diamonds split 3-3, the gamble would have worked.

This was an amusing segment, pitting Debbie Rosenberg ,of the Schireson team, against her son, Kevin, of the Bramley team. Playing against one's children is never easy. There is one good thing, though: Debbie can be proud whichever way it works out in the end!


Here is an example of a complete failure of a board! Look at the scores!
Not one of the experts could make a contract... no matter how low they stayed. No one got over the 3-level.
The best score was +800 North/South achieved by Watson/McAllister when McAllister passed out 2DX on this auction against Woolsey/Bramley:

Woolsey Watson Bramley McAllister



Board 49 from the 4th segment of play produced some strange results. According to the DoubleDummy analysis, 1NT by North fares the same as 1NT by East or West... it should always go down 2! However, in practice, looking at the above, it scored anywhere between and including making 4 to down 4!

When Petrov played it from North, Grue led the S 6 and his side came to 4 spades, 1 heart, and 5 diamonds. Moss won the 1st spade and continued the suit. Petrov won in hand and led a heart. Moss won the ace and cashed 3 rounds of spades followed by a diamond through the KT to Grue who cashed five rounds of diamonds. Down 4!!

In Rosenthal/Belleisen, when Demuy played it from North, Wang led the DQ. Vince won and played a heart to the king and Qian's ace. Qian shifted to the SJ. Demuy won the SQ and cashed four rounds of hearts. He played a club to the ace and a club to the king and cashed two more clubs... He conceded the rest. Contract making +3!

No one did anything unreasonable... Just an example of how much opening leads matter!

| 1. | Chip Martel - Marty Fleisher | Fleisher | 2.12 | 127.00 | 60 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2. | Michael Rosenberg - Zach Grossack | Lebowitz | 1.72 | 154.53 | 90 |
| 3. | John Hurd - Kevin Bathurst | Fleisher | 1.13 | 101.47 | 90 |
| 4. | John Kranyak - Vince Demuy | Rosenthal | 1.01 | 90.45 | 90 |
| 5. | Chris Willenken - Gavin Wolpert | Rosenthal | 0.92 | 82.38 | 90 |
| 6. | Brian Platnick - Kevin Rosenberg | Bramley | 0.79 | 94.57 | 119 |
| 7. | Doug Simson - Eric Rodwell | Simson | 0.78 | 69.35 | 89 |
| 8. | Kevin Dwyer - Shan Huang | Juster | 0.75 | 89.76 | 120 |
| 9. | Brad Moss - Joe Grue | Fleisher | 0.63 | 47.57 | 75 |
| 10. | David Grainger - Joel Wooldridge | Simson | 0.55 | 49.72 | 90 |
| 11. | Daniel Korbel - Zia Mahmood | Lebowitz | 0.53 | 48.12 | 90 |
| 12. | Bart Bramley - Kit Woolsey | Bramley | 0.48 | 57.08 | 120 |
| 13. | David Berkowitz - Steve Garner | Robinson | 0.40 | 35.20 | 89 |
| 14. | Olivia Schireson - Will Watson | Schireson | 0.34 | 15.08 | 45 |
| 15. | Josh Donn - William Bailey | Bailey | 0.30 | 18.19 | 60 |
| 16. | Joe Grue - Marty Fleisher | Fleisher | 0.28 | 4.20 | 15 |
| 17. | Eric Robinson - Michael Kamil | Robinson | 0.25 | 14.89 | 60 |
| 18. | Aaron Jones - Owen Lien | Bailey | 0.23 | 27.14 | 120 |
| 19. | Ming Sheng - Yanong Han | Han | 0.22 | 26.00 | 120 |
| 20. | Debbie Rosenberg - John McAllister | Schireson | 0.06 | 0.97 | 15 |
| 21. | Alex Kolesnik - Ron Smith | Gu | 0.02 | 2.24 | 90 |
| 22. | Adam Wildavsky - Doug Doub | Hamman | 0.01 | 0.85 | 75 |
| 23. | Aaron Balleisen - Zhiyu Cheng | Balleisen | -0.10 | -11.99 | 120 |
| 24. | Ai-Tai Lo - Joshua Sher | Gu | -0.18 | -13.62 | 75 |
| 25. | Andy Goodman - Mike Passell | Juster | -0.27 | -16.47 | 60 |
| 26. | Eddie Wold - Venkatrao Koneru | Simson | -0.39 | -23.57 | 60 |
| 27. | Jiang Gu - Walter Lee | Gu | -0.43 | -32.10 | 75 |
| 28. | Jacob Morgan - Jeff Juster | Juster | -0.50 | -29.82 | 60 |
| 29. | Greg Hinze - John Schermer | Hamman | -0.53 | -39.69 | 75 |
| 30. | Finn Kolesnik - Ish DelMonte | Robinson | -0.59 | -52.73 | 90 |
| 31. | Bob Hamman - Neil Chambers | Hamman | -0.64 | -56.66 | 89 |
| 32. | Aaron Silverstein - Andrew Rosenthal | Rosenthal | -0.67 | -39.92 | 60 |
| 33. | Debbie Rosenberg - Olivia Schireson | Schireson | -0.70 | -20.23 | 29 |
| 34. | Arti Bhargava - Josh Donn | Bailey | -0.72 | -42.69 | 59 |
| 35. | Debbie Rosenberg - Max Schireson | Schireson | -0.72 | -54.08 | 75 |
| 36. | Matthew Haag - Valentin Kovachev | Petrov | -0.77 | -92.93 | 120 |
| 37. | John McAllister - Will Watson | Schireson | -0.92 | -41.35 | 45 |
| 38. | Nicole Qian - Philip Wang | Balleisen | -1.01 | -120.92 | 120 |
| 39. | Max Schireson - Olivia Schireson | Schireson | -1.13 | -16.89 | 15 |
| 40. | Adam Grossack - Larry Lebowitz | Lebowitz | -1.14 | -68.34 | 60 |
| 41. | Brian Zhang - Qiang Zhang | Han | -1.34 | -160.31 | 120 |
| 42. | Dian Petrov - Rumen Dimitrov | Petrov | -1.56 | -187.32 | 120 |
| 43. | John McAllister - Olivia Schireson | Schireson | -2.34 | -35.15 | 15 |



## 

Hallo Yanks:

Limey Jack here from the other side of the pond. Helping you to make a shilling or two off your favourite punter, whilst Howie Dung nauseates us all with his ill rhyming blather.

In the round of 16 Bailey pulled a rather large upset of Robinson by a cat's whiskers at the $16^{\text {th }}$ pole. Enjoy it for now lads.

Nickell-Juster: As long as Nickell-Katz stay away from their down 50 set coming in cold, they should be able to see under Juster's kilts in short order.

Lebowitz-Simson: Lebowitz is oft the bridesmaid, but Limey Jack is getting them to the Semis as sure as the Parson's Wife has designs on the chap who fixes their telly on the regular.

Fleisher-Bailey: Fleisher has no sympathy for the Cinderella team of Bailey. A fine try gone for naught.

Rosenthal-Bramley: This match could easily go the distance. Two fine teams. Rosenthal has tasted blood recently and blood begets blood, but Bramley is squad of experienced brawlers. As Bramley has finally shagged the Boyd-Robinson anchor, they have the likelihood of moving into the Premier League.

Limey Jack will return on the morrow. Beware of listening to the buffoonery of M. Dung.

Ta

## Howie Doing...

Nickell's had rest and they're clearly the best, But they've missed the practice on site. Is Juster lack luster or up to the muster, He's gonna need strength in this fight!

Things are on track now that Eric is back And he's anxious to prove he's in form.
He'll get lots of flack from the brothers Grossack So he best be prepared for a storm!

Team Marty is ready and feeling quite heady, They pounded their opps yesterday. But Bailey is mean and they've got Owen Lien, And he's rarin' and darin' to stay!

If Andrew plays smart, he just may beat Bart, Woolsey's preempts may get them in trouble. He prempts whenever and thinks that it's clever, Remember those RED cards say double!


## What do you call a Frenchman in sandals?

 Phillipe Floppe.

## Math

What did the zero say to the eight?
Nice belt!

## Humor!

Which king loved fractions?
Henry the $1 / 8$.
What's a math teacher's favorite season?
SUM-mer.

Why can't a nose be 12 inches long?
Because then it would be a foot.

How are a dollar and the moon similar?
They both have four quarters.
Why can you never trust a math teacher holding graph paper?
They must be plotting something!
What did the triangle say when he got mad at the circle?
You're pointless!

