



NOT NEWS

1999

Editor: Peter Jamieson

Assistant Editors: Amy Scudder and Sheena Larsen-Jury

FATAL MISTAKE!

By Ian Moses (WA)

Here is another story about Session 7 Board 20 that was written up by Stephen Lester yesterday.

Dealer West, All Vul

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

I was West and my mother, Sethi was East.

West	North	East	South
2♠ (1)	X	2NT (2)	Pass
3♥ (3)	Pass	4NT (4)	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♣	X
All Pass			

(1) Tartan Two – a three way bid showing (a) spades and another – weak or (b) spades and another – strong or (c) 8 playing tricks in spades.

(2) Relay seeking clarification

(3) Specifically the weak variety ♠ & ♥

(4) Simple Blackwood (*Ed Michael Courtney will be pleased!*) If I had bid 5♣ (no ace) Sethi would have passed.

1. South led ♥J which Sethi won with the ace in dummy.

2. ♥10, ♥Q, ♠6, ♥2

3. ♦A

4. ♦6 ruffed with ♣Q

5. ♥9 and North, knowing that South was going to ruff (or overuff) made the fatal mistake of not covering with the ♥K so Sethi was able to discard her ♠7.

South ruffed with ♣2 and played a spade but it was too late! Sethi ruffed and laid down the Club ace and South's king came down, drew North's two clubs and claimed her contract for +1540.

At the other table, our team captain Hilda Moldrich and Stan Pundyk both of WA defended a club partscore and managed to take 3 tricks for –130 so that was 16 imps to the MOLDRICH team.

		NOT	Top	Ten	
		after	12	rounds	
National Convention Centre					
1st	2	J. Rothfield, C. Rothfield, S. Browne, R. Bagchi, B. Richman, I. Del'Monte			233
2nd	4	J. Haffer, P. Markey, G. Smolanko, D. Middleton			231
3rd	3	B. Neill, M. Hughes, P. Fordham, A Walsh, B. McDonald, S. Lusk			228
4th	10	G. Sargent, P. Popp, P. Hudson, R. Januszke			222
5th	6	S. Burgess, T. Lloyd, T. Taylor, T. McVeigh, A Wilsmore G. Kozakos			222
6th	12	A. Mill, D. McLeish, H. Sawicki, M. Doran, R. Kaplan R. Frenkel			221
7th	8	R. Dalley, P. Lavings, B. Bedkober, R. Krochmalik			221
8th	9	J. Newman, B. Evans, P. Buchen, P. Wyer, Z. Nagy W. Malaczynski			216
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10th	18	G. Finikiotis, J. Chan, K. Hocking, J. Hewitt			214
Rydges Canberra					
1st	2	A. Braithwaite, M. Ware, S. Lester, M. McManus, K. Dyke, R. Klinger			240
2nd	3	J. Roberts, B. Glubok, P. Newman, M. Thomson			231
3rd	10	P. Sherman, E. Urbach, P. Christie, G. Pocock			224
4th	11	T. Antoff, A. Delivera, G. Jesner, L. Bornecrantz, B. Waters			220
5th	7	I. McCance, F. Beale, D. Hoffman, J. Hoffman, G. Kilvington, R. van Riel			217
6th	17	W. Westwood, P. Wood, L. Goorevich, T. Goodyer			216
7th	15	K. Clark, S. Bird, C. Quail, R. Brightling, D. McKinnon			215
8th	19	D. Weston, J. Harkness, R. Milward, H. Milward			214
9th	4	E. Chadwick, D. Beauchamp, B. Jacobs, B. Thompson			212
10th	35	M. Parfait, P. McGrath, L. Woo, C. Dibley			212

NICE DEFENCE PARTNER

by John Bailey

The hand: *Brd 12, Session 9*

♠ A J 8
♥ K 10 4
♦ K Q 7
♣ J 8 4 2

♠ -
♥ 7 2
♦ J 10 9 8 6 4 3
♣ Q 10 5 3

♠ 10 5 4 3
♥ J 9 8 6 3
♦ A
♣ A K 9

♠ K Q 9 7 6 2
♥ A Q 5
♦ 5 2
♣ 7 6

Brian O'Rourke, sitting East, gets a thoughtful defence award for finding the killing defence against this good 4♠ contract. I led the ♦J to Brian's A. His ♣K gets an encouraging signal and Brian tables the ♣9 to my queen for the diamond ruff. Ace of clubs now sets the contract. The datum of +550 suggests very few found this nice play.

BRIDGE BUFFS

The Bridge Buffs teams was held for the first time this year, and like many of the festival events has begun small. For those who are not competing in the Womens or Seniors events it offers the opportunity for teams to practise before the SWPT. Come and play next year and perhaps you can join the inaugural place getters (listed below) in what should become another illustrious Summer Festival event.

1st - R. Hills, C. Snashall. H. Ali, A. Delivera

2nd - A. Goldstein, T. Mangos, J. Gertner, M. Gertner

3rd - P. Khu, M. Jenkins, J. MacMahon, A. Clark

CHEERFUL DEFENDER

At Rydges the following unlikely circumstances occurred:

Dealer's LHO opens 1♥ out of turn. After dealer's partner rejects the bid dealer opens 1♣ with ♠ K xxx, ♥ x, ♦ Q xxx, ♣ K Q J x. LHO bids 4♥ (since RHO is obliged to pass 1♥), and after consideration partner doubles. Partner

leads the ♠Q and dummy faces (only) ♠ xx, ♥ A K, ♦ K 9 7, ♣ A 10 x x x. Thirteen tricks later dealer inscribes - +1390 (4♥X making 7) on his score. What is unusual?? The dealer grins when dummy tracks, and as each trick is played his grin grows broader and broader, and he is still grinning as he begins the next board. What a delightful partner dealer must be!

THAT'S NOT A TRUMP CARD!!

by U.N. Known

South West Pacific Teams Round 7 Board 6

♠ J 8 7 2
♥ A 6 5 4 2
♦ A 7 6 2
♣ -

♠ A K 10 6
♥ 9 8 7 3
♦ 9 5
♣ A K 8

♠ 9 4
♥ Q J 10
♦ K 10 8
♣ Q J 9 6 5

♠ Q 5 3
♥ K
♦ Q J 4 3
♣ 10 7 4 3 2

West leads the ♣8.

Who won this trick and why?

Answer: West with the ♣8. The contract was in fact 3♣. Declarer (South) "trumped" with the 2 diamonds and East and West played low. This was the bidding:

West	North	East	South
1NT	2♥ (1)	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

(1) Showing hearts and minor. South thought the contract was 3♦!! Bridge is an unkind game. There are no rewards if there's a glitch. Happens to us all.

IF ONLY THEY HAD DOUBLED

By Sethi Moses (WA)

Way back in round 2, I had the unusual experience of going down EIGHT tricks, undoubled and vulnerable for -800.

It was board 13, Dealer N, All Vul

♠ 6 4
♥ 6 2
♦ A K 10 8 5 4
♣ 6 3 2

♠ 7
♥ K 8 7 4
♦ 6 3
♣ K Q J 9 8 5

♠ 9 8 2
♥ A Q 10 9
♦ J 7 2
♣ A 7 4

♠ A K Q J 10 5 3
♥ J 5 3
♦ Q 9
♣ 10

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1NT (1)	2♣ (2)
3♣ (3)	Pass	3NT (4)	All Pass

(1) Acol (12-14)well "good" 11's are allowed
(2) gadget showing a single suited hand (any suit)
(3) intended as natural, non forcing
(4) I thought 3♣ was asking for a club stopper

South did not have a lead problem and the defence should have made all 13 tricks but had an accident and so I was only down eight !! If only they had doubled....then we run (but they probably bid 4♠).

SYSTEM CARDS NOTICE

The ABF is seeking feedback from players in respect of the new STANDARD and SIMPLE system cards that were printed and released recently. Only a small print run was done pending final confirmation and checking.

YOUR COMMENTS ARE REQUESTED

Substantial quantities of new cards will be printed in the near future but you still have chance to influence the final version.

Please send you comments in writing (*soon*) to Chairman ABF System Committee at
PO Box 344 Kingston TAS 7051
Or via Email at this address :
soundconnex@peg.apc.org

A HARD WAY TO GET AN EXTRA V.P.

by H. de Jong

Round 6, Board 17

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

Afer North and East passed, South (Moppie) opened 1♣, West bid 1NT which was doubled by North (Henri de Jong). East forgot to redouble and E/W duly racked up 9 tricks for +380. Teammates got to the normal contract of 4♥ making 10 tricks for +420. Net gain 1 precious IMP, which also gained us one extra VP.

ON RESCUING AT THE 6 LEVEL

by Val Holbrook

Playing in only my 2nd NOT, in the 0-149 event, my team was off to a good start: two 25 VP wins. At the score up of Session 3, played against the eventual overall winners, teammates Richard and Andrew returned to the table very dejected. On Board 15 one had "rescued" the other out of 6♦ into 6♠ for 1 off and as a consequence the team had a small loss. Wishing to end the day on a brighter note, I suggested a team 'rule' of never rescuing partner at the 6 level... the 'rule' was readily agreed to.

This week I found myself substituting for the MOSS team in Session 7, in a new partnership, playing very basic standard. On our second board (Board 2), partner opened 1♠, I bid 2♥, partner bid 3♣, I bid 4NT and partner bid 5♦. Without Roman Keycard Blackwood at my disposal to check on ♠K, I bid 6♥ on the basis of 4 top hearts and partners values in clubs. Partner, not being party to the HOLBROOK team

rule, stared at his hand for ages and eventually passed. I found out later that this was the only makeable 6 level contract.

Later that day I bumped into Richard and Andrew and extolled the virtues of the team 'rule'. Andrew then gleefully recounted the result of Board 5 playing in a one-table walk-in in Session 5. Andrew had 'rescued' partner from 6♣ into 6NT. Faced with no entries to dummy, Andrew put himself out of his misery by playing ♠A and dropping ♠K. The rest was easy. "What happened to the HOLBROOK team rule?" I queried. "Oh we only agreed with that to humour you, Val." said Andrew with a smile.

MCKENNET TO THE RESCUE

by Lilli Allgood

Session 8 Brd. 16
Dir. West. E/W Vul

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

Here is a hand with some pushy bidding and sharp defence.

West	North	East	South
2♦ (1)	Pass	2NT (2)	Pass
3♦ (3)	Pass	4♠ (4)	4NT!! (5)
Pass	5♦	5♠ (6)	All Pass

- (1) Multi
- (2) Strong ask
- (3) Good weak ♠
- (4) To play
- (5) Bid a minor
- (6) East muttered "I suppose we'll go one down"

The Play:

6♥ led, Q, 3 (partner - play a low suit), 2
 ♠J, ♠2 (a VERY low suit), 7, Q
 7♣ (I only had one heart), 9, ruff. 4
 ♦A (To make sure there was only 1 heart), 2, ♦J (definitely only one heart), 7
 ♥4 (Partner and I still have another trump, ruff with ♠K), 7
 2♣..... and the hapless East declarer was 3 down.

The contributor will not specify in which direction she played!!

GREAT SIGNAL

This famous hand was played by Howard Schenken at New York's Cavendish Club.

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

South played in 4♥ after East had opened 1♠. Schenken, West, decided to lead ♣9, East winning with the jack and continuing with the king and ace. A fourth round of clubs would defeat South whether or not South held a fourth club. To make sure that East would not shift to a spade, Schenken discarded the ace of spades at trick three!

ABF Committee of Honour

Yesterday, plaques were presented to Richard Grenside and Roger Penny to recognise their election in 1998 to the Committee. Their profiles appeared in yesterday's NOT NEWS. Today, President Keith McDonald will present plaques to Ivy Dahler, Neville Moses and John Scudder who were similarly honoured in 1996/7. Their profiles will be published in an upcoming issue of the ABF Newsletter.

WALKING ON WATER

by Ron Klinger

SWPT Round 8, Board 16:

Dealer West : E-W vulnerable

NORTH

Len Dixon

♠ 9 6 2
♥ J 10 5 4 3
♦ A 9 5 4 3
♣ -

WEST

♠ J 10 8 5 4 3
♥ K Q 7
♦ 7
♣ A 9 6

EAST

♠ A 7
♥ A 9 8 2
♦ K Q 2
♣ K J 8 4

SOUTH

Curly Del'Monte

♠ K Q
♥ 6
♦ J 10 8 6
♣ Q 10 7 5 3 2

Many stories circulated about this deal but it would be difficult to top the Dixon-Del'Monte saga. The contract reached was 6♠ doubled. The result was one down.

'Big deal,' you say. 'It's an obvious one down.' Yet the method of achieving this result was far from obvious. You might care to consider how 6♠ went off in a non-obvious manner. This was the auction:

West	North	East	South
1♠	2♠ (1)	X	2NT
Pass	3♦	3NT	5♦
4♠ (2) . . .			

(1) Michaels

(2) Insufficient and now forced to choose between Pass, barring partner, or 5♠

West	North	East	South
1♠	2♠ (1)	X	2NT
Pass	3♦	3NT	5♦
4♠/5♠	Pass	6♠	X
All Pass			

After pondering for some time about the ramifications of partner's double, Len Dixon produced the expert lead of the *three* of diamonds. Hopefully partner would win this and give Len a club ruff.

Dummy's diamonds were no joy to the

defence and the ♦K won trick 1. Declarer continued with ♠A and a spade out, South winning the second ruff.

'Ah, now I'll get my club ruff,' thought Len.

Curly Del'Monte recognised the possibility of a club ruff with North but as this was a new partnership, he was not sure that Len had a third trump. 'If partner can ruff this club,' he thought, 'Declarer has A-x-x and I will score a club trick anyway.'

He therefore returned a diamond which declarer ruffed. In the fullness of time, declarer did lose a club trick to South. One off, the hard way.

(Discerning readers will note that after a diamond return at trick 4, declarer can ruff and draw the last trump. North's shape is now known and after a club to the king, club to ace and run the spades, declarer will squeeze North in the red suits.)

FINE DEFENCE BETTER DECLARER PLAY

by David Stern

Our team has been very fortunate to have Espen Erichsen, one of the leading Norwegian players join our team for this year's NOT. His fine technique on the following hand countered best defence by his opponents.

Round 9 Board 5
Dealer North: N/S Vulnerable

♠ A K Q 2
♥ 7 5
♦ A 9 8
♣ 9 8 6 5

♠ 9 8 6 5 3
♥ A J 10 8 4
♦ Q
♣ A J

♠ 10 7
♥ K Q 3
♦ 10 7 4
♣ Q 10 7 4 2

♠ J 4
♥ 9 6 2
♦ K J 6 5 3 2
♣ K 3

Although E/W can make hearts, they elected to defend 3♦. after bidding and raising hearts.

It is not clear why West felt the need to

lead the ♥J but it worked out extremely well when the defence went ♥J overtaken by the ♥Q, a club to the king and ace, a heart to the king, ♣Q leaving this position with declarer requiring the rest of the tricks:

♠ A K Q 2
♥ -
♦ A 9 8
♣ 9 8

♠ 9 8 6 5 3
♥ A 8 4
♦ Q
♣ -

♠ 10 7
♥ 3
♦ 10 7 4
♣ Q 10 7

♠ J 4
♥ 9
♦ K J 6 5 3 2
♣ -

Espen reasoned that East had only made a simple raise in hearts and shown ♥KQ and ♣Q making it unlikely that he also held the ♦Q. On this basis he "knew" to ruff with the ♦K and then try and divine the diamond layout.

At this stage a 2-2 diamond break would lead to declarer's defeat, so he followed his original plan for West to hold the ♦Q but it now had to be singleton to succeed and therefore a diamond to the Ace and a finesse against the ten led to nine tricks.

Declarer's reasoning is an excellent example of digesting the opponents bidding and defence and planning the declarer play accordingly – something which many players fail to do. Peter Buchen commented the other day that most bridge errors occur at trick one. While this is true, declarer must be flexible as more information becomes available.

Happy bridging.

MORE INTERNET STUFF

Peter Newman advises that the New South Wales Bridge Association Web Site is right up to date with information including action in the 1999 Summer Festival of Bridge. The address is <http://www.nswba.com.au>

Peter Newman in his role as Webmaster for NSWBA is the person to approach if you have any problems or suggestions.

GOODBYE PART ONE

Many competitors are leaving Canberra this afternoon bearing bridge memories both painful (to be forgotten as soon as you sit down for your next bridge game next week?) and pleasant e.g. if you managed to "Do the right thing" on Session 9 Board 18.

NOT NEWS 99 will be "publishing" on Saturday and Sunday but today's issue seems to be an appropriate spot to say a few things.

After a slow start on January 13, the flow of contributions increased from a trickle to a steady flow, allowing us to keep you entertained. A Daily Bulletin can be a very dull affair (except for results and a hand or two) without the participation of the players, officials and other participants. THANK YOU!

Thanks to:

* Marcia Scudder, Stephen Lester and Inez Glander for carrying out some much valued proof reading late at night (2am for Marcia on one occasion !)

* Martin Willcox and Nathan Scudder for all those late night scoring efforts to make sure that we have results, placings and scores to publish each day

We are sure some of the contributions were stimulated by the atmosphere in the Cahoots Bar at Rydges. So thanks to the Bar staff, Todd and Phil, for being so hospitable and friendly. If you haven't done so yet, why not drop in for a glass of your favourite tippie.

And of course thanks to Brynn of Mario's Bar (Rydges) who always carried a smile even when the bridge hordes descend on him. His capucinno boosted the NOT NEWS staff and Rydges Scoring Team on many occasions.

Finally thanks for the very positive comments that we received for our efforts in bringing you NOT NEWS at the 1999 Summer Festival of Bridge. Such feedback is always a tonic.

Don't forget NOT NEWS 11 and 12 will be published on the Internet so if you miss out on an original Coloured copy, just go to the. A small NOT NEWS will be posted on that site after the NOT concludes Monday evening January 25.

A DICK CUMMINGS HAND FROM THE PAST

NOT NEWS has printed a quantity of "Great hands from the past". Two fine Tim Seres hands "opened" the SWPT and we "close" the week with a famous Dick Cummings hand.

The Scene: Open Teams Championship of Australia, 1975. Dick Cummings, partnered by Tim Seres won the prize for the best-played hand of the event on this deal.

DEALER: WEST East-West vulnerable

♠ J 6 5 4
♥ J 6 2
♦ 3
♣ A J 10 7 5



♠ K Q 9 8 7
♥ -
♦ J 9 7 6 5
♣ K Q 3

South	West	North	East
	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♥	3♠	4♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♥
Pass	Pass	5♠	X
All Pass			

The ♥7 was led.

Dick Cummings ruffed and played the ♠K which was allowed to win. At this point Cummings realised that a contract intended as a cheap sacrifice at favourable vulnerability might be a make and he acted on that assumption.

How did he play?

Answer Page 6

TOP AWARD

Ed: This marvelous hand is one of my all time favourites. If you don't know it... enjoy!!

"The best and most pleasant hand of 1973"

This article by Jose le Dentu was originally published in "Le Figaro" loses a little in the translation, but the stilted

style cannot detract from the beauty of the hand -

Beware of Old Crocodiles

Cannes - August '73.

"I was playing my last rubber at the Gallia Club when Addo Eichel, a 70-year old champion, sat close to me in a significant way. I had the feeling he had something important to tell me.

As soon as the game was over he led me to another table where two hands were laid out.

'You are defending with the East hand. The deal occurred yesterday in a pairs tournament... At trick three what do you play?'

'The ten of diamonds.'

'Thank you!'

'Did I make a mistake?'

'Not exactly - you played correctly. But... I was right to think the killing defence could not be found, and I had to test it. Thank you.'

So, I had been a guinea pig, and I felt quite content to have been the means of proving that this was a good hand.

Dealer North: Nil Vulnerable

♠ A 8 7
♥ Q 5 3
♦ A 6 4 3
♣ A Q 4

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

♠ Q J 10 9 3
♥ A 10
♦ K 9 5 2
♣ 6 5

West	North	East	South
	S. Bergon		Eichel
	1♦	3♥	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West led ♥J.

How did Eichel play to make his unmakeable game?

Eichel realised that the ♥J was a singleton and that a heart ruff would be fatal if the spade finesse went wrong. Thus, to protect himself, he had to convince East that his partner had the

MORE PHOTOS FROM THE SUMMER FESTIVAL 1999



Walk In Results

Wednesday 20/1/99 Session 7

1st F. Taglietti - S. Potts
2nd S. Thillaivanan - G. Greenwood

Wednesday 20/1/99 Session 8

1st E. Hardy - K. Brook
2nd F. Taglietti - S. Potts

Thursday 21/1/99 Session 9

1st W. Smith - G. Cowen
2nd V. Holbrook - M. Smith
3rd A. Allan - K. Allan

Thursday 21/1/99 Session 10

1st D. McRae - F. Kovacs
2nd M. Kanaley - AJ. Kanaley
3rd J. Taylor - G. Haggerty

Thursday 21/1/99 Session 11

1st M. Kanaley - AJ. Kanaley
2nd F. Taglietti - S. Potts

NOT Rydges Datums

BD	Rnd 10	Rnd 11	Rnd 12
1	-430	+120	+100
2	+70	-390	-20
3	+250	+400	-110
4	-640	-1840	-650
5	+260	+10	-360
6	+140	+400	-20
7	-640	+380	-30
8	+30	-230	+310
9	+440	+840	+60
10	+40	+500	+190
11	+70	+40	-90
12	-170	-100	+610
13	+530	-220	+160
14	-450	-460	+270
15	+80	-350	-430
16	+420	+280	+140
17	-330	+340	+680
18	-270	+330	-390
19	+90	+370	-410
20	-60	-10	+380

NOT NCC Datums

BD	Rnd 10	Rnd 11	Rnd 12
1	-340	+180	+30
2	-20	-470	-50
3	+240	+420	-90
4	-650	-1920	-640
5	+640	-40	-340
6	+70	+420	+10
7	-630	+490	+10
8	-30	-160	+430
9	+440	+890	+10
10	-40	+620	+250
11	+10	+50	-120
12	+10	-80	+600
13	+610	-330	+150
14	-450	-430	+320
15	+130	-440	-440
16	+430	+370	+130
17	-370	+440	+620
18	-100	+440	-450
19	+140	+420	-650
20	+80	-120	+460



.....AND A COUPLE OF PHOTOS OF SOME OF THE WINNERS.....



Winners of the National Seniors Teams, Neville Moses, John Ashworth, John Mottram and John Brockwell



Winners of the National Swiss Pairs Championships, David Weston and Justine Harkness

THAT NINE CLUB HAND.....

SWPT, Session 9, Brd 18, Dir East, Vul N/S

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
♠ AK Q 7	♠ 10 8 6 2	♠ J 5 4 3	♠ 9
♥ AK J 7 5 2	♥ 10 4 3	♥ -	♥ Q 9 8 6
♦ 10 9 7	♦ A 6 4 3 2	♦ -	♦ K Q J 8 5
♣ -	♣ 3	♣ AK Q J 10 9 8 5 4	♣ 7 6 2

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ # 1

"THE INVERTED HOFFMEISTER FIVE NO TRUMP"

by Hilda Lirsch

The Hoffmeister five no-trump is a convention where a 5NT opening promises nine-four in the red suits. However, it is better to play inverted Hoffmeister, since nine - four in the black suits is more likely.

At one table, East chose the highly scientific route of showing both his suits:

West	East
	1♣
1♥	1♠
2♦ (1)	5♣
7♠	Pass

(1) Fourth suit forcing

However, South's diamond lead punched the East hand, and the 4-1 trump break resulted in four off.

Charlie Snashall holds the Neanderthal view that highly scientific bidding should not apply to 9 card suits. He opened a "real man" 6♣. Brad Wein sitting West thought that his multiple controls were worth a raise to 7♣. North doubled for a diamond lead, got his wish, but still wrote down - 1630.

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ # 2

by G. Coales

Our teammates Paul Collins and Heather Cusworth had a good ? or at least successful auction on board 18 in match 9. Paul (East) not a fan of light openings elected to pass his 11 count and got a pleasant surprise when partner opened 2♣ - Benjamin. He bid

2♠ (3 controls), Heather bid 3♥, 4♣ natural, and Heather bid 4♠ second suit.

What now? Needing good spades for any slam he bis 5♠ and partner bid 6♠. He now judged well to bid 7♣ which should survive and bad break or possible hole in the spade suit. Heather passed with some trepidation at the prospect of playing a grand in her void. The was 17 in when our opponents were 3 off in the unlucky 6♠ at the other table.

Unfortunately this was not enough to salvage the match.

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ # 3

East surprised!
East opens 2♣ (multi 3 way)
West: 2♦ (relay)
East: 3♣ (9 playing tricks in clubs)
West: Wow! 9 + 5 that's 14 tricks! 4NT (RKC)
East: 5♥ (2 of 5 keycards and ♠Q)
West: Wow! Must have ♠A and ♦A: 7♣
North: X for a diamond lead

South duly leads KQ, ruffed by East. The three others surprised and declarer claimed, but had a little word with West afterwards.

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ # 4

West	North	East	South
		1♠ (1)	Pass
R	Pass	A	Pass
etc	etc	etc	etc
6♠ (2)	Pass	Pass	7♣ (3)

(1) 10-14 pts 4♠ & longer side suit (never ♥)
R = relay
A = answer
(2) scientifically terminating the bidding NB the relays can't handle a 9-4 so West thought East had a 4 - 0 - 2 - 7
(3) stuff the relays partner!

These successful grandslammers have both represented Australia in recent years. East was Matthew Thompson; West was Peter Newman.

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ # 5

West	North	East	South
		2♣ (1)	2♦
2♥	3♦	4♣	Pass
6♥!	Pass	7♠!!	All Pass

(1) artificial & strong
West was Barbara Jones
East was Betty Desmond both of the Gold Coast

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ # 6

West	North	East	South
		Pass!!!	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣ (1)	2♦
2♠ (2)	Pass(3)	5♣	All Pass

(1) Drury!
(2) Normal Reverse
(3) Somewhat timid?

Amazingly, all four players are members of the same family (ie descended from Adam Anonymous)

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ # 7

West	North	East	South
		1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	5♣	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

+ 1020 !!!

NOT NEWS has been threatened with grievous bodily harm if any names are disclosed from this affair. Oh by the way when asked why no ♦A lead, North said "I was convinced West was protecting ♦K. Besides, the experts always seem To criticize leading aces against slams"

One reliable source informed NOT

NEWS strictly on Hush Hush , on the QT basis. . . at both tables in a match with low numbered table numbers BOTH East's opened 5♣ – no swing.

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ # 8

The Festival produced its mandatory freak hand on Wednesday night, the 4-9 in the blacks. If your team was clever enough to reach 7♣, then no doubt you picked up a few imps. We had an amusing auction, with spades being mentioned for the first time at the 7 level. At my table, E-W were playing Forcing Pass, so East's (Dinu Raducanu) first call was Pass.

I held thirteen cards (not points) so stuck in a compulsory 1♦ interpose and West (Nick Hughes) bid 1♥ (spades). My partner, Judith Tobin upped the ante with 3♦ but this didn't discourage Dinu – he causally wheeled out Josephine, the Grand Slam Force. Nick thought for a few moments, shrugged his shoulders and bid 7♠. Lead: ♦A, -250. Nick later said he considered bidding 7♣ along the way.

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ # 9

THE MYSTERY OF THE KIWI MIND

Here's a bidding quiz from another table.

1♣ – 1♦ – 1♥ – 3♦ - ? .

You have five chances to guess which call was next made by one of our visiting New Zealand friends.

(Clue: work backwards from the most unlikely possible call)

Answer at the end of this article.

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ # 10

THE RUEFUL RABBIT (WITH APOLOGIES TO VICTOR MOLLO)

Those of you who know Sydney's Judy Mott and David Currie know they're no bunnies. But Rabbit, as she is known in the bridge community has had to put up with Currie's whining all week. "I'm the unluckiest player in the world" he's

been complaining all week, sounding much like Karapet the Free Armenian. So Judy got her own back ion the 4-9. She opened 2♣ (strong), David bid 2♥, Judy rebid 4♣ and David bid his spades. Judy went off Blackwooding and signed off in 6♣.

For reasons unknown to Karapet, David bid one for the road (7♣), on his void. At the end of the auction the opponents asked what 4NT meant and David and Judy has disagreement about whether or not it was Keycard. David called the Director on himself and eventually tabled his dummy when the ♦K was led.

Judy looked livid "You raised me to seven on a void and three rag diamonds!!". David, the unlucky expert, didn't expect six to make anyway. All his slams had been failing all week. After this severe scolding, Judy winked at David showed the opponents her cards and said "Drawing trumps".

Postscript to above: David Currie has a great philosophy when it comes to slam bidding at teams. He says it's better to be in 7 making five than 5 making seven. Think about it.

Answer to bidding quiz above:

Are you thinking like a Kiwi? In New Zealand, like other parts of the world, you need a good four card suit to reverse at the 3 level. Sounds fair. Did you find the takeout double?

contributed by Nick Fahrer

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ # 11

PLAYING WITH VICTORIANS

by Matthew McManus

Everyone has a story about board 18 from Wednesday night. This is mine:

It was the first hand of our set and when I first looked at it, it appeared very much like a hand from last year's NOT - no, not the VCC hands - but one of the hands which had not been dealt at all and everyone had 13 cards of the one suit.

However my initial inspection had been incomplete and there were a few spades in with the clubs. So I had to deal with the problem.

I sat there and thought about the correct systematic bid, the correct technical bid, the correct strategic bid, the correct tactical bid - but they were all too hard. Then I thought, what would my counterpart at the other table do?

On very random hand like this I think it's best to try to duplicate the result at the other table and then get on with some real bridge on the next hand. So who was it and what was he likely to do?

We were playing against the Chadwick team with Ted and David Beauchamp at our table.

Those of you who subscribe to Australian Bridge (highly recommended at \$37.50 per year - a must for those who want to succeed at the Summer Festival - just look at how well the editor, Stephen Lester, is doing and he even reads the articles sometimes; - of course this is being written on Thursday morning and I make no guarantees as to how his team will be doing when this goes to print) will know that he has written several articles quite critical of the insipid bidding habits of Victorians. Yet here he was, playing a pair of them.

Has the man no scruples??

So I thought, what was the most cowardly, mealy-mouth, yellow-livered, milk-sop, cruise control bid I could think of? 5♣ of course; so that's what I bid and have suffered the slings and arrows of insults and abuse and questions about my possession of sufficient amounts of testosterone ever since.

And the result? Flat board.

NOT NEWS RESEARCH LAB DATA ON THIS BOARD

Scores from top 28 Matches (14 each venue)

7♣ doubled x 1

7♣ x 7

6♣ x 9

5♣ x 8

7♠ (failing) x 1

7NT doubled (failing) x 1

6♠ (making) x 1

♥10. Here is how he baited his hook: he did not cover ♥J with the queen, but played low from dummy just as if he had the bare ace!

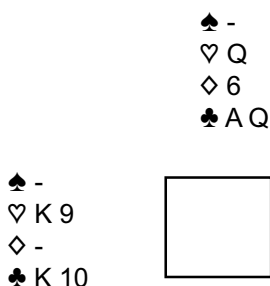
At the second trick he led ♠Q. East won and - sure that South had no more hearts - shifted (as I had done!) to the ♦10. Eichel won with the king, drew J-A of trumps, and came off the table with ♥5! Of course, East ducked, 'No problem', he said to himself. 'I did not play the ♥K at trick three, and if declarer hopes that I'm going to send the monarch to the scaffold he is dreaming'.

When Eichel's ♥10 appeared on the table to take the trick, East was more surprised than disappointed, ('It might not matter' he thought, 'as I still have dummy's ♥Q under control'.)

Even so, it is still no easy to see how Eichel was now in a position to make his contract against any defence. This was his reasoning:

East would not have risked a pre-empt with so many club losers unless he had the ♠K, and certainly the switch to the ♦10, without the nine, looked like a singleton. So the club finesse was doomed to fail, and there was no hope of establishing a third diamond trick.

However, the ♥Q was destined to play a still further part: two rounds of trumps were followed by the ♦A, and the lonely ♥Q was offered to Charles the Great:



East won with the king and cashed another heart but then had to lead clubs and surrender.

In a defender's crocodile coup you open your jaws wide so as to swallow partner's bare high card. But who would imagine that, as declarer, the first trick of an old crocodile is to open his mouth and swallow.... time?"



ANSWER TO DICK CUMMINGS' HAND FROM THE PAST

Tim Seres

♠ J 6 5 4
♥ J 6 2
♦ 3
♣ A J 10 7 5

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

Dick Cummings

♠ K Q 9 8 7
♥ -
♦ J 9 7 6 5
♣ K Q 3

CONTRACT: 5♠X
LEAD: ♥7

Cummings led the ♣Q to dummy's ♣A and ruffed another heart. The ♣3 to the jack provided an entry to dummy for a third heart ruff.

It was now time to tackle trumps again so the ♠Q was led, taken by East's ace. A top diamond was followed by another, ruffed in dummy.

The ♠J drew East's last trump and allowed Cummings to jettison his ♣K, unblocking. Dummy's ♣10 7 5 won the last three tricks.

East might have underled his ♦ A K Q in a desperate effort to get his partner on lead for a club ruff. Many a declarer has been caught napping this way. It would have cost an overtrick had Cummings, with nothing to lose, risen with ♦J. In the event, East didn't try.



FROM THE NOT NEWS RESEARCH DESK

The 1999 Australian National Womens Teams Winners were Deborah Moir - Jillian Hay playing with Rita Nailand - Helene Pitt.

Some readers may want to know some background on these players. NOT NEWS asked Jillian and Deborah a few questions.



Jillian Hay is aged 21 and is studying electrical engineering at Canterbury University in her home town of Christchurch, New Zealand. Her parents play bridge but they only allowed Jillian to play bridge in school vacations up until she finished 6th form. She has been playing tournament bridge at least weekly for the past 5 years.

Deborah Moir is aged 25. She began playing bridge when she was 18 and picked up some early bridge knowledge from her grandparents. She is half way through a Bachelor of Business degree and lives in Sydney.

As many readers will recall, Jillian and Deborah made their first appearance at the Summer Festival of Bridge last year. That visit came out of winning a trip to attend the Festival awarded to the highest placed youth pair in the New Zealand Open Pairs Championship.

NOT NEWS doesn't have exact details but knows that both Jillian and Deborah have had tournament successes in Youth Bridge events. Deborah was a member of the winning NSW Youth Team (ANC Adelaide, July 1998). She captained the winning team in the 1998 NSWBA "Teams of Three".

They are going to play in the huge Gold Coat Congress next month. Their team mates for the Teams will be Elizabeth Cornell and Elizabeth Blackham. Jillian and Deborah play ACOL.

Rita and Helene returned to Sydney soon after the NWT and NOT NEWS missed getting an interview. However some diligent research reveals that they have been working hard on their partnership for the last 2 years or so under the tutelage of Sydney expert, Paul Lavings.

Their training with Paul included going through hand records and analysing every deal. Rita won the NSW Mixed pairs a couple of years ago. It is good to see all that hard work and application has paid off for Rita and Helene with this breakthrough win. Rita and Helene play a Standard strong NT style system.



TOP FIVE IN SOUTH WEST PACIFIC TEAMS CATEGORIES

These scores are from after *Round 12*.

NOT NEWS wishes all competitors the best of luck on this, the last day of SWPT.

Zone 7

1st R18 P. Wannop,	192
P. McCaskill, P. McTaggart, C. Currie	
2nd C142 B. Hoffeins,	187
P. Hoffeins, J. Waldvogel W. Wighout	
3rd R26 S. Henry,	180
A. Henry, D. Apperley S. Solomon	
4th R123 D. Ferraris,	174
J. Kennedy, A. Struik, N. Riszko, B. Schaafsma, M. Akhyani	

Mixed

1st C3 B. Neill	228
M. Hughes, P. Fordham, A. Walsh, B. McDonald, S. Lusk	
2nd R10 P. Sherman	224
E. Urbach, H. Christie, G. Pocock	
3rd C6 S. Burgess,	222
T. Lloyd, T. Taylor, T. McVeigh A. Wilsmore, G. Kozakos	
4th R7 I. McCance	217
F. Beale, D. Hoffman, J. Hoffman, G. Kilvington, R. Van Riel	
5th R15 K. Clark	215
S. Bird, C. Quail, R Brightling D. McKinnon	

Womens

1st C39 K. Luiker	197
J. Harris, M. Sato, P. Matheson, S. Young	
2nd R56 N. McManamny	194
M. Kertes, K. Yang, L. Gold	
3rd R73 W. Andrews	193
C. Kain, H. Motteram, J. Roberts, P. Wagner	
4th C96 P. Dewhurst	191
J. Larsen, R. Lucas, K. Radcliffe, J. Date	
5th R27 J. Eddie	190
J. Nicholson, J. Pettitt M. Harnett	

Seniors

1st C19 H. Geldens	201
J. Rocks, E. Cobleby M. Sawyer	
2nd C39 K. Luiker	197
J. Harris, M. Sato, P. Matheson, S. Young	
3rd C26 B. Colpitts	196
Z. Dreher, A. Covasseur N. Everingham	
4th R37 B. Prince	190
J. Prince, V. Biltoft, V. Janney M. Myburgh	
5th R27 J. Eddie	190
J. Nicholson, J. Pettitt M. Harnett	

Country

1st R35 M. Parfait	212
P. McGrath, L. Woo C. Dibley	
2nd C61 J. Turnell	205
P. Butcher, A. Eastaugh A. Thompson	
3rd C21 R. Slobom	203
K. Johnson, E. Berger T. Berger	
4th R53 E. Shaw	197
S. Mabin, A. Kelly, K. Dawson	
5th C23 J. Brown	193
E. Hurley, M. Askew W. Powell	

Novice

1st C147 H. Sharwood	178
J. Warren, A. Marshall R. Neville, L. Gunson G. Hutchins	
2nd C144 C Wehner	155
G. Gray, A. Scerri, S. Scerri	
3rd C148 B. Goss	155
S. Birrer, P. Waight, R. Turner M. Larkey, S. Doyle	
4th R131 D. Blomley	146
B. Engel, H. Engel C. Metcalfe, G. Hinchliffe Y. McCafferty	
5th C149 M. Hume	145
P. Campbell, K. Lemon D. Collis	

Local

1st R15 K. Clark	215
S. Bird, C. Quail, R Brightling D. McKinnon	
2nd R16 E. Dudley	203
A. Powell, H. Ali, R. Hills R. Nixon, S. Hurley	
3rd C51 J. Nicholson	197
S. Carter, K. Kalejs, G. Henderson, T. Marinos	
4th C24 R. Crichton	192
P. Crichton, T. Hancock A. Hancock, P Grant, R. Curnow	
5th R87 K. Ogborn	183
T. Kershaw, D. Randles, P. Pattinson, P. Sullivan	

Youth

1st C145 C. Bridgland	162
G. Ware, R. Plush, D Toakley H. Greenwell	

There were no further contenders
for the youth category

**Table Tally
as at 21st January**

5936

E

O

U

F

COLUMN 8 (NOT)

Bridge Places Visited by Nona and Peter Willis

(possibly familiar to other players)

A loney place: "Phonely" (I had lead a diamond / dropped the singleton King)

Aggressive twin Cities: "Yacooda" and "Yashooda" (ruffed your losers; drawn trumps; not drawn trumps)

A depressed area: "Ydinnya" (return my lead?)

and finally the delightful but all to infrequently visited "Goodonnya"!

Getting Tired??

The afternoon session was pleasant and both myself and opposition were waiting for partner to play his 3rd card after "excessive" hesitation. We saw his head drop and found him to be asleep. Much embarrassment!!!

Overheard in Cahoots

A beginner is sitting South takes his cards out of the board and begins arranging his hand then stops and turning to RHO, his bridge teacher, asks "What do I open the bidding with if I have all 13 spades?"

RHO says "If you have all 13 spades in your hand you can sleep with my wife", pointing to the other side of the room. South "Oh, where is she sitting?"....RHO " That is her sitting West at Table 1"

Without completing the sorting of his hand South picks up his pen and writes the well known right sloping diagonal line in the first box on the bidding pad!

GETTING MORE TIRED?

Here is proof that everyone is getting tired. At 5:15 p.m. yesterday, a NOT NEWS reporter got in the lift at Rydges to go up to NNHQ. Several people were in the lift. NN recognized one sombre looking lady (SLL) NN naturally asked SLL Q "How did you go in that match?" SLL "Dreadful. . . I forgot the system" . NN was curious – perhaps this was some new exotic system . As a good reporter should NN then asked "What system are you playing?" The answer came back "Standard".

QUEANBEYAN ALGEBRA

The item about slow Johns (bottom page 12 NN#9) was mentioned at dinner 21Sept at a steakhouse in Queanbeyan by some of the lead characters. Several bottles of red wine were consumed which loosened tongues and triggered someone's Math Skills (?). This prompted some writings on a table napkin which was given to NN99 and is reproduced here: "Playing speed can be assessed on a scale of 1-10

(1 = slow, 10= fast). Brockwell claimed that the accusation of slow play aimed at him in NN#9 could be mathematically disputed as follows:

If K Moses- N Moses = fast (total 20):

Assign K Moses=18 , N Moses=2"

Now: if JAshworth -JBrockwell = slow (total 8)

Assign J Ashworth = 1 , J Brockwell = 7

Then N Moses - J Brockwell = 2 + 7 = 9 (slow)

ANGUISHED?

Following Round 11 a well known player was asked if her team was amongst the distinguished. No, *extinguished* she replied.

QUALIFYING GUESSTIMATE

NOT NEWS's research department ran some numbers through its Cray Supercomputer to determine what VP total will be get your team into the NOT (aka SWPT Round of 16) and the magic number is 252.

Field research in the Cahoots bar and a focus group in the Burley Griffin Restaurant indicated that there was a widely held view that 249, 250 or 251 might squeak in. But if you can only rack up 248 VPS then you need to keep your fingers and toes crossed as the Round 14 scores are posted.

BE NERVOUS.....BE VERY NERVOUS

♠♥♦♣ ♠♥♦♣ ♠♥♦♣ ♠♥♦♣ ♠♥♦♣ ♠♥♦♣ ♠♥♦♣ ♠♥♦♣

To: NOT NEWS HQ amy_sheena@bigpond.com

From: Roy Nixon

Subject: Doing a great job as usual

Msg: Once again your team is doing a terrific job getting the NOT NEWS out quickly and with such very good content. My sister in England likes to follow the progress and has asked me to pass on her compliments for the great format and content. Your publication ranks up there with the best, compared to what is being produced at other comparable National Championships.

Cheers, Roy Nixon