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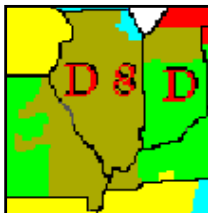
**February
2003**

Published bi-monthly by District 8 of the American Contract Bridge League

Editor: [Karen Walker](#), Champaign IL

Welcome ...

to the first issue of the *Advocate on the Web*, a newsletter published by District 8 of the American Contract Bridge League. District 8 has 3600 members and covers portions of four states -- downstate Illinois, eastern Missouri, western Kentucky and northern Indiana.



No matter where you live, if you're a bridge player, we hope you'll become one of our readers. In addition to District 8 news, each issue offers the Solvers Forum quiz and column, feature stories and other items of general interest to all players. We invite you to check out the tournament ads and join us at our sectionals and regionals.

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Get your team together for the

DISTRICT 8 GRAND

NATIONAL TEAMS

APRIL 5 & 6, 2003



IDOT BUILDING, SPRINGFIELD IL

♣ **Saturday, April 5 -- 1:30 & TBA -- 2-Session Qualifying**

♣ **Sunday, April 6 ---- 11:00 a.m. & TBA -- Knockout finals**

Trips to Long Beach CA - and regional-rated gold points - are featured in the 2003 District 8 finals of this national team event. Any team of four, five or six District members can enter in one of four separate flights:

Championship: Open

Flight A: 0-5000 masterpoints

Flight B: 0-2000

Flight C: 0-500 (non-LMs)

The winning team in each flight will receive a travel award from the District Board to play in the national finals in Long Beach CA in July.

Directions: The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Building is at 2300 South Dirksen Parkway. From I-55, take South Grand or Stevenson Drive exit.

Sunday side game: The Bridge Center of Springfield is hosting an Open Pairs game on Sunday at 1:00 p.m. The club is located at 1305 West Wabash (phone: 217-726-9456).

Local info: Liz & Chuck Zalar -- (217) 793-8066 zalar@insightbb.com

Pre-registration is not required but is appreciated if you are entering Flight A or the Championship event. To pre-register, send the names and point totals of your team members to:

Colby Vernay, 215 N. Prairie, Lacon IL 61540

(309) 246-4285 cvernay@lacon.net

District Pairs Advance to Philadelphia NAP

District 8 North American Pair finals
November 9 & 10, 2002
Interstate Center, Bloomington-Normal, IL

Congratulations to the winners and runners-up in District 8's annual North American Pairs. The two-day event, conducted in three separate flights, was open to all District 8 members who qualified in club-level NAP games earlier this summer.

The top two pairs in each flight won trips to Philadelphia in March to represent District 8 in the national finals of their respective flights. The third-place pair in each flight also qualified for the national finals, but receives no ACBL travel award.

Flight A (Open Championship):

- 1 - **Tom Kniest**, St. Louis - **Karen Walker**, Champaign IL
- 2 - **Max Banan** - **Jim Davis**, Kokomo IN
- 3 - **Tod Moses**, St. Louis - **James Ward**, Champaign IL
- 4 - **Jacque Sincoff** - **Roger Lord**, St. Louis
- 5 - **Larry Matheny** - **Richard Blumenthal**, Bloomington IL



A1 - Karen Walker & Tom Kniest



A2 - Jim Davis & Max Banan



B1 - Meyer Abarbanel & Jim Hudson



B2 - Larry Richardson & Tim Cull



B3 - David Jenkins & Ed Stoyanoff

Flight B (0-2000 masterpts.):

- 1 - **Meyer Abarbanel**, Belvidere IL - **Jim Hudson**, DeKalb IL
- 2 - **Tim Cull** - **Larry Richardson**, Springfield IL
- 3 - **Ed Stoyanoff** - **David Jenkins**, Rockford IL

- 4 - **Jim Scott**, Rantoul IL - **Eunice Patton**, Bloomington IL
- 5 - **Bob Shair**, Champaign IL - **Fred Crockett**, Danville IL
- 6 - **Margaret & Gordon Ferguson**, Peoria IL
- 7 - **Martha Leary**, Urbana IL - **Debbie Avery**, Champaign IL

- 8 - **John Kessinger** - **Marci O'Brien**, Decatur IL
- 9 - **Michelle & Dave Wetzel**, Rantoul IL
- 10 - **Ron & Carole Sholes**, Springfield IL
- 11 - **Jim & Gail Moon**, Bloomington IL



C1 - Jeroen Swinkels & Percy Wu



C2 - E. Gozdowski & Jason Clevenger



C3 - Pat Moos & Mike Waters

Flight C (Non LM -- 0-500):

- 1 - **Jeroen Swinkels**, Clarkson Valley MO
- **Percy Wu**, Chesterfield MO
- 2 - **Jason Clevenger** - **Eryk Gozdowski**, St. Louis
- 3 - **Pat Moos**, Peoria IL - **Mike Waters**, Dunlap IL

- 4 - **Ross & Daniel Richardson**, Springfield IL
- 5 - **C. & Bev Harrison**, Charleston IL
- 6 - **Larry Wilcox**, Springfield IL - **Gene Wheeler**, Chatham IL
- 7 - **Don Chase**, Lake St. Louis - **Sanford Becker**, Chesterfield MO

- 8 - **Jean Barnett**, Bloomington IL - **John Ferrell**, Normal IL
- 9 - **Oyvind Tafjord** - **Bill Lindemann**, Champaign IL
- 10 - **Jonell & Leo Comerford**, Charleston IL
- 11 - **Thomas Hardy**, Huntley IL - **Farlin Caufield**, Woodstock IL

Sunday consolation:

- A1 - **Josh Stark**, Grayslake IL - **Suzanne Dunn**, Crystal Lake IL
 A2/B1 - **John Novak**, Algonquin IL - **Paul Stunkel**, Crystal Lake IL
 A3 - **Howard Schmid**, Merrillville IN - **Steve Watson**, Munster IN
 B2 - **Jean Huber** - **Joan Bailey-Murray**, Rockford IL

Photos by Mike Tomitanovich

Christmas in Zimbabwe

A bridge player makes a difference for Harare's homeless children

Scott Merritt (right), a bridge player from Champaign IL, and his friends from the local club joined forces to create a special Christmas for a group of African street children.

Scott got married in August and moved to Harare, Zimbabwe, where his wife, Heather, works for the U.S. Embassy. Scott was stunned by the conditions there. The unemployment rate is over 50 percent, inflation approaches 150 percent a month and HIV/AIDS affects about 35 percent of the adult population. Almost half of the country's 13.8 million people are on the verge of starvation.

Scott and Heather were especially concerned about the street children they saw daily in downtown Harare. School is an expensive luxury in Zimbabwe, so the children spend their days begging. "That would bother me in any country," said Scott, "but in a place where right down the street there's a man with a wheelbarrow full of bananas selling for 20 Zim (.01 USD) each, it's heartbreaking to see these kids are still starving."

Scott and Heather wanted to do something for the children for Christmas, and they called on players at the Bridge at Ginger Creek club in Champaign for help. The club raised \$475 for Christmas bags, which Scott and Heather assembled and distributed to about 20 children. Each bag weighed 15+ pounds and included:

- Bread rolls and 12 slices of salami, baloney and ham. "Meat was always a luxury item here," said Scott, "but the price has doubled in the last month, and it's now simply out of reach for everyone."
- Several bags of fruit (mangos, carrots, apples, oranges, strawberries and gooseberries).
- 1 pair pata-patas (what we would call flip-flops or shower shoes). Scott says the streets are full of broken bottles, and none of the children had ever had shoes before.
- A canvas backpack. "We thought it was important for them to have a 'real' possession - and a place to store future possessions on the long path off the street," said Scott. "We're probably naive fools, but if we weren't, I doubt we would have undertaken this project."
- Chocolate, hard candies, cookies, Christmas cards and stickers. "U.S. holiday spirit; we couldn't resist," said Scott.

The Merritts distributed the bags on Unity Day, December 22, which is a national holiday. They parked



near the corner where the children usually begged and were mobbed by more than 20 kids under the age of 12. "We became a major spectacle, which we were trying to avoid, but several local security guards and a random stranger helped create a little order," Scott said.

The bags were handed out quickly, but afterwards, one little boy and his brother remained. The passerby had broken up a minor skirmish between the boy and another child who had made it to the front of the line and gotten a bag. The boy had lost and he was sobbing. "Luckily, Heather, the brains of this operation, had stashed away one last bag, which we gave to the boy," Scott said.

Total cost for all the gifts and food was just \$4 for each child. Scott and Heather are planning to use the remainder of the club's donation to fund the Andy Cole Children's Charities or to create a trust to pay school fees for deserving children.

Here are excerpts from the Merritts' thank-you letter to the club:

"I feel we really did manage to help these kids. We think every family got at least one bag, but the need and hunger and pain were so intense on all the little faces, we simply don't know what to do.

"I have another 6 months here, and I will manage to make a dent on the kids on that street corner. It is just too bad that I feel like my first real foray only strengthened my understanding of how truly desperate the situation is, and how it will take a Herculean effort to really make a difference. While you guys have really given me a gigantic boost in the right direction, just know that we are going to make progress sometime, somehow.

"We wish you all the merriest of Christmases. You simply don't know how much this crazy experience has meant to us. We thank you all so much." --

Scott and Heather



District 8 Solvers Forum -- February 2003

by Scott Merritt -- Harare, Zimbabwe

1. IMPs, North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	Pass	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding: **S-AK3 H-73 D-A6 C-AKQ1074** ?

We've been given a nice hand, and the opponents have not yet ruined our masterstroke of a bidding plan. Unfortunately, all that means is that the opponents have given us free reign to make an ass of ourselves. Now, with our objective squarely in mind, what is the best means to that end? Let's start out as low as possible.

Jones: "1C. I'll stick with the 1-bid and see how the auction develops."

Dodd: "1C. No problems rebidding over any response (except perhaps 1D), so an off-shape 2NT is out of the question."

I don't share their optimism about describing this hand after opening a mere 1C. Several people feared the possibility of 1C being passed out, but this seems unlikely to me. You only have 20 high-card points, and your clubs are long enough that someone is going to be short and be tempted to get into the auction. The real dilemma for me is what DODD declared a non-issue: What adequate rebid is there over any response other than 1NT? Your upcoming rebid will have to be a distortion, and no matter what you come up with, partner will never play you for a hand this good. And since you'll be jumping levels of bidding later, the level you saved by opening only 1C will become a detriment.

The remaining bidders now seemed to have two main questions to answer:

- (1) Is this a notrump hand or a club hand? and
- (2) If you answered notrump to question 1, how good of a hand is it after all? Is it right for a 2NT opening, or 2C followed by 2NT? I will start with the first question, of which the panel was almost perfectly split.

Kniest: "2C. I think the doubleton heart is too big a flaw for 2NT or 2C followed by 2NT, so I open 2C and intend to rebid them."

I thought that the "stopper in every suit to open notrump" theory died sometime before I was born. While I certainly agree that if we have slam, the suit would most likely be clubs, the minor issue of a small doubleton in a major just doesn't strike me as a problem for opening this hand with 2NT. I would feel fairly comfortable if, after bidding this hand as a notrump hand, partner puts me in 4H.

The second possibility -- 2C followed by 2NT -- is the one that I find more interesting.

Walker: "2C, with the intention of rebidding 2NT. I'm a queen or so shy in point-count for this sequence, but this hand is better than most 23-counts, which makes it far too good for a 2NT opener."

Unfortunately for me, I haven't held enough mammoth hands to be a true connoisseur like Karen, but how would AKxx, QJx, Ax, AKQT compare? I don't know if I am in on her "better" assessment, but I would certainly say that it fits in the ballpark.

2. Matchpoints, East-West vulnerable

Call	Score	Panel	% Solvers
2C	100	9	65
2NT	90	2	11
3NT	80	1	4
1C	70	3	20

West	North	East	South
--	--	1D	Pass
1S	Pass	2S	???

2NT	100	5	13
3D	90	3	13
3C	70	4	25
Pass	50	3	50

What is your call as South holding: **S-A4 H-Void D-A109864 C-A9743** ?

I must start out by asserting that 2NT must absolutely be a hand with long diamonds. Any two-suited hand *without* diamonds could have been shown on the previous round of bidding. Further, I would suspect that 2NT should show *exactly* clubs and diamonds, because it is highly likely that if you had a hand with diamonds and a major, you would have started with a simple overcall, suppressing the super-secret diamond suit. With that being the case, what should we bid anyway?

I will start out with the club bidders, all of whom seem to know that this is the wrong bid.

Kessler: "3C. If 2NT was absolutely for the minors, I'd bid it. I just think passing at matchpoints is wrong. When I get doubled and partner saves me in 3H, it will show what I know."

Vongsvivut: "3C. Partner should be short in spades and diamonds, so he should have length in hearts and clubs."

There's just so much more to this hand than A2222 of clubs that it seems unilateral to insist on that suit. In a partnership game, 3C surely can't be the right bid. So if 3C is the wrong call, should we start by showing our length or our distribution? The distribution bidders say:

Jones: "3D, which has to be natural. I can follow up with bidding clubs to properly show my suits. With 5 diamonds and 6 clubs, I would bid 2NT, which partner would be able to read for the minors."

Kniest: "3D. I'll follow with 4C if LHO doubles or bids 3S and it's passed back to me. The fact that partner didn't preempt in hearts over 1S gives me some comfort."

While I like Tom's comment about partner not preempting in hearts, remember that you're red vs. not, and even with a 7-card heart suit, partner is going to be mute on many hands. A diamond lead probably won't hurt too much against any contract of theirs, but what if the auction comes back to you at 4S? While I am certainly a big fan of bidding your longest suit first, I think the 2NT bidders should take the top score on this hand.

Dodd: "2NT. Not exactly according to Hoyle, what with all these first-round controls and the weak suits, but this hand could easily belong to us for a partscore, or even push NS a level higher than they'd like."

Walker: "2NT, which shows any two suits. Partner should work out that my two suits have to be clubs and diamonds, so this is the best way to talk him out of bidding his ugly string of hearts. Partner is not 'marked' with clubs here, so there's no reason to assume that's our fit."

Hudson: "2NT. Clubs will usually be our suit, but showing diamonds too will help partner evaluate."

Stabell: "2NT. Any 2-suiter. Partner will hopefully not go overboard. Will double 4S and hope that partner finds the heart lead."

3. IMPs, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1C
Pass	1H	Pass	1S
Pass	2D *	Pass	2H

Call	Score	Panel	% Solvers
4C	100	6	28
5C	90	0	7

Pass 3C Pass ???

* (New-minor forcing)

What is your call as South holding: **S-10742 H-K74 D-5 C-AKQ85 ?**

We need to emphasize that 3C is a 100% forcing bid here. Partner's auction has shown a good hand with hearts and club support, and could even be the start of a slam try. Partner had to start with the temporizing bid of 2D to set up the force in clubs. And while it was in vogue in the past to make 3C directly forcing (1C-1H-1S-3C), and use the temporizing bid followed by support as invitational, Bridge World Standard and most modern pairs simply don't play that way.

3H	90	1	20
3NT	70	0	7
4D	70	5	5
3S	60	1	0
4H	60	0	11
3D	50	1	5
Pass	40	1	22

Now on to what the panel has to say, as clearly there is no right answer on this hand. I will start with the 4C bidders, and then see if any of the comments about the other calls seems to be stronger.

Stabell: "4C. Should confirm 4-3-1-5 with good clubs. With 4-3-2-4, I would have bid 3D and hoped to land in 3NT. We can hopefully still stop in 4H if partner is just looking for the best game."

Jones: "4C. I have excellent trumps and controls in two of the side suits."

Vongsvivut: "4C. Should show a very good club suit and set the trump suit."

A 4C bid here does a good job of emphasizing the club strength, but the final decision about the trump suit is pretty much up to partner, as he may just be looking for extra help for a 4H game. All of these panelists seem to feel that the simple call may indeed be the best. Another contingent chose a splinter bid to show the stiff diamond. Can they do better?

Kessler: "4D. I really think 2H the first time is correct, not 1S. However, as long as we are overbidding, let's go for the gusto and splinter."

Dodd: "4D. An easy splinter. I've shown nothing but a minimum thus far and offered little clue to my distribution (I'd have bid the same way with 4-3-2-4 or even 4-3-3-3 with xxx in diamonds). With this distribution and all working high cards, to do anything less would be cowardly."

Walker: "4D, splinter. It's not clear yet what partner is up to, but I have a great hand for him and this covers all bases. I've already limited my strength with the 2H rebid, so this should show a super maximum-minimum with good holdings in our two suits. If partner was slamming in clubs, this should get us there. If he was just making a game try for hearts, he can retreat to 4H and I'll pass."

The reason I didn't score the splinter higher is that I think it misdescribes your hand. I have to agree with Leif -- that with a 4-3-2-4 hand, I would have tried 3D after 3C, so I think the splinter should show more distributed values, while the simple raise shows more concentrated values in clubs. This may be splitting hairs, but it's my column!

My final note on this hand is that I also agree with Kessler. I would have rebid 2H right away instead of dragging out that awful spade suit.

Editor: There's no hurry to raise hearts here, as you'll always get another chance to show 3-card support. That spade suit is ugly, but you may lose a 4-4 spade fit forever if you don't bid it now. Even inveterate handhogs won't be happy about declaring 2H with a hand like QJxx, Jxxx, Kxx, xx.

4. Matchpoints, none vulnerable

Call	Score	Panel	% Solvers
2S	100	6	48

West North East South

-- -- -- 1D
Pass 1S Pass 1NT
Pass Pass 2H ???

DBL	90	5	15
2NT	80	1	13
Pass	70	3	24

What is your call as South holding: **S-Q75 H-KJ6 D-AJ84 C-K103 ?**

So you pick up your flat nothing hand, and you're ready for a flat nothing auction, but those annoying opponents go and mess up everything up. Now you are forced to guess, and knowing your luck, this is going to be a zero for the good guys. Do you go for the throat with a dubious double? Do you show partner your meager spades? Do you advance to 2NT knowing that you will be getting the most damaging lead? Or do you back down and defer to partner?

I will start with the bloodthirsty:

Stabell: "Double. A bit dangerous, but with my well-placed maximum, +50 or +100 does not seem to be enough against our +90 or +120."

Dodd: "Double, at matchpoints only. This is likely to be an all-or-nothing hand because of the balance. If we beat them one, at least we'll now beat all the 90s, and if they go for 300, we get all the marbles. And if they make it? We were headed for a bottom anyway, unless for some reason I'm supposed to chirp out 2S (or hope North will) and pray for an 8-card fit and trick-taking values opposite."

Vongsvivut: "Double, for penalty, should show heart control with a maximum 1NT rebid. If 1S was very weak, partner will run to 2S."

Kniest: "Double. A good lead, lots of defense. I've already limited my hand, and I have a maximum for the given auction. Partner isn't barred."

Doubling is certainly fraught with danger. You're a heart shy, and it's true that partner can pull, but what hand could he have for this? If he had a weak hand with long spades or diamond support, he wouldn't have passed 1NT. Give him a routine hand like KJxxx, 10x, Kxx, Jxx. He's going to pass your double, and the location of every ten will determine if this is an all-or-nothing hand.

Maybe those wimps on the opposite end of the spectrum have some better insight.

Walker: "Pass. 2S won't be right unless partner has 5, and if he does, he'll surely bid 2S himself in the pass-out seat. He's played matchpoints before. If he has only 4 spades, we should be defending, but I'd really want to have another heart for a penalty double, even at matchpoints."

Hudson: "Pass. I've described my hand -- almost (I do have a maximum in both high cards and spades). I'll hope that partner will rebid a 5-card spade suit without any input from me, and that he'll double with three hearts and a maximum in high cards."

I am really noticing a lot of 'ifs' in these answers. So are the 2S bidders any more sure of themselves?

Kessler: "2S. Gotta compete and 2S is the best available. 2NT should show a source of tricks, which we do not have."

This hand makes me wonder if Larry Cohen's "when in doubt, bid 4S over 4H" rule applies at the 2-level. The flaw in a bidding quiz is that we don't know our opponents nor our partner, and we can't pick up on the opponents' "table action". They're supposed to be "experts", but we all know that if RHO is one of those Mixed Pairs guys who simply must play the hand to enjoy his round, double is clearly best -- and we then just hope that dummy doesn't table a 19-count. If your partner is the type who pulls your penalty doubles unless he has an ace to spare, double would also be right. More people should have abstained from this question because of this lack of relevant information!

5. Matchpoints, East-West vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	1D	1S
DBL	RDBL	1NT	???

What is your call as South holding: **S-A87542 H-3 D-AJ C-KJ102 ?**

What a spirited first round of bidding! We have much to say, and I am certain that the opponents will as well. We clearly have more than our share of the high-card points, we have a pretty firm grasp on the boss suit, and from the logic of the auction, at least a fair grasp on the other major as well. So how do we start to tell our story, knowing that efficiency will be critical as the opponents are bound to continue bidding the red suits?

Kessler: "Pass. Partner must bid again after the redouble, so let's see what he has to say. It is easier to exchange information at a lower level."

Is that really the case? We are stacked, and it looks like West is bidding shape over high cards. While you are certainly likely to get a second crack at bidding, I think that pass here is too non-committal.

Hartsman: "2C. If partner can't move over this, then it's probably where we belong. Hard to tell what's going on, but I suspect 2C won't be passed out, in which case, I can then rebid 2S."

I think Jenni makes excellent points, but the problem with 2C is that you lose your shot, however small, at defending their 1NT doubled. Call me an optimist, but it certainly could happen -- at least all the doublers think so.

Kniest: "Double and lead a spade. We have at least 23 highs and partner has hearts tied up. I have clubs tied up and a diamond stopper, maybe two."

Jones: "Double. I could have a lot less for a non-vulnerable overcall. Show the strength now and bid more later if need be."

Walker: "Double. They're going for their lives. Partner's redouble doesn't promise spade support; it suggests defending, and I'm loaded."

Dodd: "Double. Automatic, as North's redouble shows strength. This could be bloody, assuming EW don't run out to 2D (likely). If so, partner can decide if that contract needs to be hammered."

The doublers seem confident they're right, so how can I argue? I like putting the pressure to the opponents as soon as possible. It looks like they might have stepped in it, and letting them off the hook would be a travesty.

6. Matchpoints, North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1S	2C	2H
5C	P	P	???

What is your call as South holding: **S-K84 H-AQ9765 D-AQ4 C-J ?**

The opponents are really pushing our buttons. To paraphrase a Grant Baze maxim, does the 5-level really belong to the opponents on this hand? I'll start

Call	Score	Panel	% Solvers
DBL	100	7	24
2C	80	4	39
2D	70	0	2
Pass	70	2	7
2S	60	1	20
3S	50	1	10

with the lone dissenter, who also happens to be my editor, so she gets special billing.

5S	60	3	27
5H	40	1	0

Walker: "Double. This seems a close decision at first, but the more I think about it, the more obvious it is that this isn't the time to be bullied into the 5-level. Even though it 'sounds like' the opponents are sacrificing, this is absolutely *not* a forcing-pass auction. Partner's pass just shows a dead minimum. If he had the cards you need to make 5S, he would have doubled 5C."

With AQ10xx, xx, KJTxx, xx, is partner is going to double 5C? We simply won't beat 5C four tricks, so double is only right when you can't make 5 of anything, and I simply can't construct that hand. The odds are raised slightly by the odds of being in the wrong strain, but even still, I think double is shooting at a very small target.

As most of the panel blasts to slam, we are unable to discuss the merits of a 5-level bid. So as we are blasting, what is the best means to that end? I will start by including partner with a 5NT call.

Hudson: "5NT. Pick a slam. I have a very good offensive hand. Even if partner had doubled, I'd be tempted to pull. With partner making a forcing pass, I'll go for it, letting him choose the strain. I won't bid 6C -- that sounds like first-round control, looking for a grand slam."

Stabell: 5NT. Partner's pass was (hopefully) forcing, so we might miss a grand slam. If they sacrifice, I can make a forcing pass and trust partner to do the right thing."

Dodd: 5NT. Impossible to get scientific after a high-level preempt, so not wanting to choose, I pass the buck, hoping North will work this out as pick a slam. Any suit call here is a blind stab in the dark, and double at this vulnerability is nuts. For those who think slam is too much (my only worry is that we'll miss a cold grand), remember that North would likely have doubled with wasted club values, so he's likely to hold the missing controls in the majors and in diamonds. Giving North the choice of suits may be critical as well if he holds something like AQxxx, Kxx, Kxx, xx, since a bad spade split is more likely given the bidding."

I can't disagree with this. If partner has three hearts, we'll certainly want to play in our 9-card fit instead of our 8-card spade fit, and 6S blocks the opportunity to find out that information.

It is certainly vital to know if the pass by partner was forcing. Bridge World Standard says:

"No force is created after an opponent's preemptive bid over our one-over-one response."

You might read this as implying that our auction *does* set up a forcing-pass situation, but we didn't really make a two-over-one response either. In competition, you would have bid 2H here with as little as 9 or 10 pts. and a decent heart suit, which is in the same range as a one-over-one response. For a forcing-pass situation to be "on", we have to have freely shown game values, and neither one of us has done that. So ... I guess the jury is still out.

Now on to the 6S bidders.

Jones: "6S. Hey, the last hand is supposed to be a lead quiz, guys! Let's bid a confident 6S and see what happens next."

Kessler: "6S. I'm gambling on good spades. We're playing with a 30-point deck, we have 15 and partner opened the bidding -- I really believe this is a high percentage bid. If we need a red finesse, it rates to be on after the overcall."

This is hard to argue with, except that I feel the 5NT choice is simply better because it gives you more options for finding the right slam.

Thanks to all who sent in answers for this interesting and very tough set. Congratulations to **Manuel Paulo** of Lisbon, Portugal and former District 8 member **Jenni Hartsman** of Atlanta GA, who were the top solvers for this issue. They're invited to join the panel for April.

Thanks to our 2002 guest panelists, **Tony Curtis** and **Bob Bernhard**, for a job well done. Top scorers for the year in the 2002 Solvers Contest were **Arbha Vongsvivut** and **Jim Hudson**, who won seats on the 2003 panel. Congratulations and welcome!

A full list of 2002 winners and runners-up is in this issue.

You can enter the monthly and yearly Solvers Contests by trying the six new problems for April (see below). Please submit your answers by March 15 on the [web form](#) or by mail or email to our April moderator:

Tom Dodd, 43265 IH 10W, Boerne TX USA
 Email: fieldtrialer@yahoo.com

How the panel voted:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score
Midge Beiger, Champaign IL	2C	P	4C	2S	P	5H	460
David Forrest, Kirkwood MO	1C	3D	P	2NT	2C	5S	420
James Hudson, DeKalb IL	2C	2NT	4D	P	DBL	5NT	530
K. C. Jones, Euless TX	1C	3D	4C	DBL	DBL	6S	550
Larry Matheny, Bloomington IL	2C	2NT	4C	2S	2C	5S	540
Mark Kessler, Springfield IL	2C	3C	4D	2S	P	6S	510
Larry Rabideau, St. Anne IL	3NT	P	4D	2S	2C	6S	480
Glenn Smith, St. Louis	2C	P	4C	2S	2C	5S	490
Leif Stabell, Harare	2C	2NT	4C	DBL	DBL	6C	580
Arbha Vongsivut, Godfrey IL	2C	3C	4C	DBL	2S	6S	520
Hugh Williams, Carbondale IL	2NT	3C	3S	2S	DBL	6S	520

How the staff voted:

Tom Dodd, Boerne TX	1C	2NT	4D	DBL	DBL	5NT	520
Tom Kniest, St. Louis	2C	3D	3D	DBL	DBL	5NT	520
Scott Merritt, Harare	2NT	3C	3H	P	3S	6S	460
Karen Walker, Champaign IL	2C	2NT	4D	P	DBL	DBL	510

Solvers Honor Roll (Average Solver score: 470)

Manuel Paulo, Lisbon, Portugal	570	Larry Wilcox, Springfield IL	530
Jenni Hartsman, Atlanta GA	570	Chuck Zalar, Springfield IL	530
Terry Goodykoontz, Champaign IL	560	David McNitt, Elkhart IN	520
J. Gosse, Hangzhou, China	560	Kathy Miller, Bloomington IL	520
Mason Myers, St. Louis	550	Dean Pokorny, Opatija, Croatia	520
Tony Jowett, Canberra, Australia	530	Alan Gengenbach, Eau Claire WI	510

Tied with 500: Uwe Gebhardt, Wiesloch, Germany; Tad Hofkin, Aurora IL; Bud Hinckley, South Bend IN; David Melin, LaCrosse WI; Allan Sheppard, St. Louis

Solvers Forum -- April Problems

Thanks for the problems below to Mike Halvorsen (#1), Scott Merritt (#2), Will Engel (#3), Donn Miller (#4) and Barry Rigal (#5 & #6).

1. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1C	Pass	1S
Pass	3NT	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:
S-AK76532 H-6 D-A82 C-97 ?

2. Matchpoints, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
3S	Pass	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:
S-Q63 H-KQ1087 D-KQJ10 C-J ?

3. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1S	Pass	1NT *
Pass	2C **	Pass	???

* (forcing NT) ** (3+ clubs)

What is your call as South holding:
S-Void H-AQ974 D-54 C-QJ9653 ?

4. Matchpoints, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1S	2H	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:
S-KJ73 H-7532 D-A7 C-J63 ?

5. IMPs, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1H
Pass	1S	Pass	2D
Pass	3D	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:
S-AQ H-K9765 D-AQ94 C-104 ?

6. Matchpoints, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1H
Pass	1S	3C	???

What is your call as South holding:
S-A H-AQ8642 D-AQ5 C-K102 ?



Pair Fare

News from Northwestern Illinois Unit 239

Editor: Dennis Ryan, 118 Glenview Court, Janesville WI 53545 drchezmoi@aol.com



MANIC DEPRESSION

During National Bridge Week in January, the Bridge Center of Rockford turned one of its regular duplicate games into a thematic costume party centered on the 1930's. Here, **Dee Witte**, left, and **Joanne Carter**, right, re-enact the Depression.

Such theme parties -- together with pro-am games, mentoring games, and monthly "birthday bashes" -- have greatly increased the table count at the Rockford club and greatly increased the interaction between limited-game and open-game players.



BOMBER, THE RED-NOSED REINDEER:

Betty Schultz of Harvard, (known as "Bomber" to her many friends on OKbridge,) enjoys a pre-Christmas party at the Bridge Center of Rockford.

The Rockford club holds monthly "birthday bashes" at which everyone born during that particular month receives a free game. Members take turns volunteering to host these parties, providing decorations and entertainment. The club helps subsidize some of the extra refreshment costs. These parties are one of many factors responsible for the enormous recent growth in Rockford's monthly table count.

Laura Donovan: Life Master



Unit 239's most recent Life Master is Laura Donovan of Harvard, who has been a recording specialist in the McHenry County Recording Office for the past 9 years.

Laura made LM in October at the Lake Geneva WI regional, playing with frequent partner Ed Stoyanoff and Dave and Lou Jenkins (all of Rockford) in the Sunday Swiss. The quartet did not just win the flight B event; they owned it, winning 122 out of a possible 140 victory points for an 87% game. This success was not quite an all-time ACBL record, but was such an amazing feat nonetheless that it was written up in the December Bulletin.

Laura "got her feet wet" with bridge back in the '60's during her years at St. Theresa's College in Winona MN. Although she learned basic bridge, she never took it seriously, and used the game primarily as an escape from study during breaks.

"During most of my adult life," she remembers regretfully, "no one I knew played bridge. So I didn't, either. Oh, people would invite me to play party bridge, but . . . How does one not play Stayman?" she asks bewilderedly, recollecting those years.

May, 1993 proved the turning point, when she was thrown into the whirlwind of duplicate by friends at the Nationals in Washington, D.C., picking up partners from the partnership desk as a novice. "I remember thinking, "These people are insane," she recalls. "Well, I've long since gotten used to all the funny little men in white coats."

On one aspect of her bridge career, however, Laura is adamant. "I earned most of my points playing with pick-up partners in tournaments, or with stronger players who were willing to play with me in club games. From the outset, everyone urged me to play above my level. I shall always be grateful to those who put up with me while I was learning, and I can offer no better advice to upcoming players than to repeat that which was so thoughtfully given to me. There is only one way to learn to play bridge well: push yourself to the limit every minute. And I will continue to keep that in mind as I go on trying to grow as a player."

Born and raised in Harvard IL, Laura moved to New York City after her college years, where she was headquartered as a stewardess for United Air Lines. She got married, then moved to Chicago to raise her family. Her son Stephen lives in River Forest now, her daughter Nicole in Chicago. Neither plays bridge, but Laura does not admit to failure as a mother on that ground. "Maybe eventually," she asserts with a set to her chin.

Her immediate plans? "Well, I'd love to retire and have fun," she declares, only half joking. "But I've learned that retirement is a two-edged sword. I'd have to have enough money to have fun with." So Laura will probably go right on recording great deeds -- in the "plus" column on pick-up score slips at tournaments.

Send your photos!

Now that the *Advocate* is online, we have more room! And that means that we have room for interesting photographs of special events at clubs from throughout our Unit. Our current installment includes two photos from special events at the Bridge Center of Rockford. I hope every club will send me pictures for this column.



CIBA Digest

News from Central Illinois Unit 208

Editor: Karen Walker, 2121 Lynwood Drive, Champaign IL 61821
(217) 359-0042 kwalker@prairienet.org

Movin' Up

Congratulations to these Unit members who recently advanced in rank:

New Junior Masters (5 pts.)

Jean Bingenheimer, Chatham
Rita Harmon, Springfield
Ann Schimelpfenig, Bloomington
Barbara Bass, Princeton
Bess Fitch, Bloomington
Irene Hammerslough, Springfield
Toni Parchmann, Lewistown
Marlene Rinehart, Springfield
Frances Whitver, Princeton
Tom Willson, Champaign
Wendy Anderson, Bloomington
Dee Belter, Springfield
Marshall Susler, Decatur

Sectional Masters (50 pts.)

Joe Franz, Springfield
Douglas Jonquet, Decatur
Frank Tirsch, Springfield

Regional Masters (100 pts.)

Jo Klingenberg, Quincy
Carolee MULLowney, Peoria
Florence Cahan, Decatur
Shirley Clark, Forest City
Ruth Killen, Springfield
Dorothy Pippy, Springfield
Barbara Suter, Champaign

NABC Masters (200 pts.)

John Bigus, Orion
Jean Barnett, Bloomington
Daniel Richardson, Springfield

Life Masters

Margery Rendfeld, Decatur
Robert Leistner, Springfield
Floyd Sherry, Eureka

Bronze Life Master (500 pts.)

Robert Leistner, Springfield

Silver Life Masters (1000 pts.)

Mary Hickman, Decatur
Liz Zalar, Springfield
Kish Devaraj, Downs
Betty Primm, Athens

Club Masters (20 pts.)

Hal Bach, Springfield
H. F. Bennett, Petersburg
Vicki Finkenstadt, Peoria
Patrick Reilly, Springfield
Edward Skoog, Springfield
Sherry Wold, Springfield
Mary Cralley, Normal
Michael Lee, Champaign
Fran Morton, Bloomington
William Wold, Springfield
Rebecca Baum, Springfield
Robert Lamb, Illiopolis
Ron Michaelson, Springfield
William Prather, Toledo
Oyvind Tafjord, Champaign
Cindy Wheeler, Chatham
Robert Yuill, Pleasant Plains

memory. She will be deeply missed.

Michael Hooper, 52, of Champaign died on January 4. Mike had played duplicate in California many years ago and had recently become a regular player at the Champaign clubs. He and partner Mary Auth won the Thursday-night club championship two weeks before his death. We'll miss Mike and the offbeat sense of humor he brought to our group.

Unit 208 Goodwill Award Winners

The Unit Goodwill pin is awarded annually to recognize a Central Illinois player who has excelled in bridge teaching, promotion and volunteerism. Here's a bit of Unit history with a look back at 35 years of Goodwill Award winners:

1967 Anne Ghiglieri & John Larue	1979 Lois McCord	1991 Georgia Heth
1968 Fran Carlson	1980 Mike Reed	1992 Laura Addison
1969 Mrs. A. W. Bree	1981 Phyllis Rahn	1993 Janice Franz
1970 Jim Roberts	1982 Bob Gieselman	1994 Gayl West
1971 Sylvia Cohen	1983 Aleda Megaw	1995 Jackie Tatting
1972 Wayland Smith	1984 Lee Brooks	1996 Karen Walker
1973 Mildred Krockner	1985 Gary Schecter	1997 Mike Tomlianovich
1974 Neal Mosley	1986 Steve Stroh	1998 (no award)
1975 Mayme Lawrence	1987 Joyce McEldowney	1999 Leah Newell
1976 Louis Becker	1988 Sharad Chitgopekar	2000 Debbie Avery
1977 Dorothy Milner	1989 Ron Sholes	2001 Ann Caparros
1978 Ron Wolf	1990 Kay Weinbeck	2002 John Brandeberry

In Memory

Champaign players lost a special friend when **Betty Fischer**, 80, died in early January. Betty was a popular, accomplished player and a frequent winner at Bridge at Ginger Creek, where she played twice a week with favorite partner Ursula Carson. Dozens of club members had helped Betty celebrate her 80th birthday at a party hosted by her family last August. Betty's many friends from the club have donated bridge books to the Champaign Public Library in her



Unit 223 Reporter

News from Southern Illinois-Paducah Unit 223
Editor: Jay Coleman, PO Box 203, Hutsonville IL 62433 (618-549-1934)
franklincoleman@hotmail.com

The New Year has come and we are now ready to start the another year of tournaments in Unit 223. Our 2003 schedule is as follows.

February 1 & 2 -- Saluki Swiss Sectional, Carbondale IL

March 7-9 -- Kentucky Dam Sectional, Gilbertsville KY

April 26 & 27 -- Pioneer Sectional, Effingham IL

June 16-22 -- CHAMPAGNE REGIONAL, Paducah KY

July 25-27 -- Edwardsville, Edwardsville IL

August 29-31 -- Irvin Cobb Sectional, Paducah KY

October 10-12 -- Robinson Sectional, Robinson IL

The members of the Unit 223 board and the sponsors of these fine tournaments hope that we will see you this year and for many years to come at some of these events.

Southern Illinois-Paducah Unit web site: www.unit223.com

Any member who has a newsworthy tidbit that they feel others in the unit will enjoy, please send them to me at franklincoleman@hotmail.com



Greater St. Louis Bridge News

News from Greater St. Louis Unit 143

Editor: Julie Behrens, 662 Kirkshire Drive, St. Louis MO 63122 jbehrens@yahoo.com

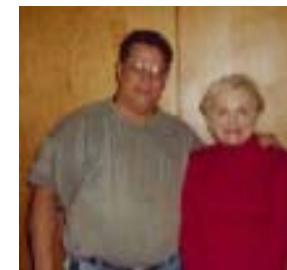
Fall Sectional Winners



Friday Evening Flt. D
Larry Nahlen & Diana Drisko



Sunday Swiss Teams Flt. C
Judy Putzel, Ann Ruwitch,
Twink Baker, Gayle McLean



Friday Evening Flt. C
Steve Hakanson & Beverly Miller

More Winners

Phoenix Fall Nationals:

Masterpoint winners from our local area included Rod Van Wyk, Tom Kniest, Karen Erlanger, R. Etzkorn, Ann Morrissey, Charles & Jane Ettelson, Roger Lord and Jacque Sincoff.

1999er Tournament -- November 9, 2002

Morning Session

NS: ABC - Alan Lemley & Gregg Lemley
EW: A - Hal & Rosie Corbett
B - Schneider & Schwabacher
C - Simeon Prager & Michael Sherberg

Evening Session

NS: A - David & Kitty Polk
B - Charles & J. Jackie Elliott
EW: A - Alan Lemley & S. Martin
B - Beth & Allan Curtis

Don't forget our next 1999er tournament, coming up **Saturday, March 15** at Garden Villas West Retirement Residence. Contact Linda Powers for more information at 636-432-2210 or Patti Shine at 636-537-3103. If you need a partner, please be sure and call early so we can try to accommodate you.

Bloomington IL Sectional -- January 10-12

Saturday Pairs: A3 - Susan Perez & John Samsel
Sunday Swiss: A2/3 - Susan Perez, John Samsel, Arbha Vongsvivut, Orville Anderson

Kansas City Regional -- December 26-31

Local point winners included Sheldon Margulis, Jacqueline Sincoff, William Finkenstadt, Sheryl Finkenstadt, Tim & Andrew Finkenstadt, Ed Schultz, Tom Kniest, Jack Bryant, Tom Oppenheimer, Carol Luckey, Bonnie Couch, Susan Rechter, Susan Perez, John Samsel, Claudia Beaty, Karla Hahn, Ralph Behrens, Lee Hastings, Mark Ehret, Roger Lord, Maxine Revnes, George Jones, David Shanahan, Gayle & Don McLean, George Marvin, William Kaufman, Nancy & Allan Popkin, Jean Srenco, Karen Erlanger, John Burgener, Donald Kerry, Dorothy Sealy & Ronnie Bindbeutel. Congratulations to all!

And how do you win all these points? Practice practice, practice!
And where do you practice? Club games, club games, club games!



Oh, NO! Did I miss the ILLINI REGIONAL ?

Memorial Day weekend: May 20-26, 2003

**Chancellor Hotel & Convention Center
Neil Street (Rt. 45) & Kirby Avenue (MAP)
Champaign, Illinois**

Please join us for seven days of bridge and our special Illini hospitality:

- **Three four-session KO-team events** -- Beginning Tuesday night, Thursday morning and Saturday morning.
- **Wednesday: Seniors Day** -- \$4 off your 2-session Open Pairs entry if you're age 65+.
- **Thursday: Fighting Illini Fans Day** -- Prizes, drawing for 4 Illini football tickets, \$2 off your afternoon entry if you wear Illini orange and blue!
- **Friday: Juniors Day** -- Full-time students age 25 and under play **FREE** in the two-session Stratified Pairs!
- **Saturday: Jackpot Day** -- Cash prizes in the **299er Championship Pairs** (1:30 & 7:30) and the **Jackpot Individual** (11:30 p.m. -- fast & fun; done by 2:00 a.m.).
Barometer final in the Strata-flighted Pairs (1:30 & 7:30).
- **Monday: FAST Swiss Teams** -- playthrough with cash snack bar & free continental breakfast.
- **Novice/Intermediate Program:** 0-300 events Wednesday through Sunday.
Mini-lessons from expert speakers -- 1:00 & 7:00, Wednesday night through Sunday afternoon.
Stratified 199er Pairs (single sessions) -- Wednesday, Thursday & Friday (7:30) and Sunday (1:30).
Easybridge Pairs (0-5) -- 1:30 Saturday (one session).
299er Championship Pairs -- 1:30 & 7:30 Saturday. **\$250 in cash prizes** to winners in three flights.
Daily Bulletin, *Daily Web Bulletin*, N.E. Bridge Supply bookstand, **more** !
- **Non-stop hospitality** -- Midnight buffets, hotel hospitality suite, registration gifts, door prizes, champagne splits & glasses to section winners, *Daily Bulletin*, *Daily Web Bulletin*, N.E. Bridge Supply bookstand, **more** !
- **Discounts** for full-time students under age 30. **NO entry-fee surcharge** for non-ACBL members.
- **Bridge rate** (\$64 double) & **free parking** at the Chancellor Hotel -- 1501 S. Neil (Rt. 45), 3 blocks west of University of Illinois Memorial Stadium and 5 minutes from Willard Airport (CMD).
[\(MAP of Chancellor location\)](#) **Chancellor reservations:** 800-257-6667 or 217-352-7891 (ask for bridge rate). **Please reserve by May 9.**



Schedule of Events

Tuesday, May 20

- 7:30 --- Big Ten KO Teams (continues Wednesday at 9:30, 1:30 & 7:30)
- 7:30 --- Charity Pairs -- Play for the pets in this event for the Champaign Co. Humane Society.

Wednesday, May 21 -- Seniors Day

- **\$4 off 2-session Open Pairs entry for ages 65+**
- 9:30 a.m., 1:30 & 7:30 -- Big Ten KO Teams (2nd, 3rd & final sessions)
- 9:30 a.m. ----- **NEW:** Morning Side Game Series
(continues at 9:30 a.m. Thursday through Sunday; enter any or all sessions)
- 1:30 & 7:30 ----- Stratified Open Pairs
- 1:30 ----- **NEW:** Afternoon Side Game Series (continues at 1:30 p.m., Thursday through Sunday)
- 7:30 ----- Single-Session Stratified 199er Pairs
- 7:30 ----- Evening Charity Side Game Series
(continues at 7:30 Thursday through Sunday; enter any or all sessions).

Thursday, May 22 -- Illini Fans Day

- **\$2 off your afternoon entry if you wear Illini orange and blue!**
- 9:30 a.m. ----- Orange & Blue KO Teams (continues Friday at 9:30, 1:30 & 7:30)
- 9:30 a.m. ----- Morning Side-Game Series
- 1:30 & 7:30 ----- Strata-flighted Swiss Teams (Flight A separate; Flts. BCD stratified in one event)
- 7:30 ----- Single-Session Stratified 199er Pairs
- 7:30 ----- Evening Charity Side Game Series

Friday, May 23 -- Juniors Day

- **Full-time students age 25 and under play FREE in the Stratified Pairs.**

- 9:30 a.m., 1:30 & 7:30 --- Orange & Blue KO (2nd, 3rd & final sessions)
- 9:30 a.m. ----- Morning Side-Game Series
- 1:30 & 7:30 ----- Stratified Open Pairs
- 7:30 ----- Evening Charity Side Game Series
- 7:30 ----- Single-Session Stratified 199er Pairs

Saturday, May 24 -- Jackpot Day

- 9:30 a.m. ----- Chief Illiniwek KO Teams (continues Sunday at 9:30, 1:30 & 7:30)
• **Marianne Dornier-Myra Meyer trophies to winning team in the bottom bracket.**
- 9:30 a.m. ----- Morning Side-Game Series
- 1:30 & 7:30 ----- Strata-flighted Pairs (Flight A separate; qualifying with evening consolation and barometer-scored finals. Flights BC stratified in one two-session event.)
- 1:30 & 7:30 ----- **299er Championship Pairs** (two-session event) -- **\$250 in cash prizes** to winners & runners-up in three flights (100/200/300).
- 1:30 ----- **Easybridge Pairs** (0-50 masterpts.) Single session.
- 7:30 ----- Barometer Final (2nd session of Flt. A Strata-flighted Pairs)
- 7:30 ----- Evening Charity Side Game Series
- 11:30 p.m. ----- **Jackpot Individual** -- **\$500+ in cash prizes** to winners & runners-up in 3 flights.

Sunday, May 25

- 9:30 am, 1:30 & 7:30 -- Chief Illiniwek KO Teams (2nd, 3rd & final sessions)
- 9:30 a.m. ----- Morning Side-Game Series
- 1:30 & 7:30 ----- Stratified Open Pairs
- 1:30 ----- Single-Session Stratified 199er Pairs
- 7:30 ----- Evening Charity Side Game Series

Monday, May 26

- 9:45-10:30 a.m. ----- Free continental breakfast.
- 10:30 a.m. ----- **FAST** Stratified Swiss Teams -- playthrough (seven 7-board matches).
On the road before 6:00 p.m.
Full snack bar (hot and cold sandwiches, salads, desserts & drinks) available..

Strata & Flights: A=Unlimited A/X=3000 B=1500 C=500 D=200
Single-session entries always accommodated.
Complete results from the 2001 Illini Regional (May 22-28).



Chairman: Karen Walker (217-359-0042) -- kwalker@prairienet.org
Partners: Bill Langendorf (217-356-7468) -- billybob450@insightbb.com



Unit 239's ROCKIN' ROCKFORD REGIONAL

Split with Paducah KY

June 16-22, 2003

Indoor Sports Center, Loves Park (Rockford)

IL

8800 E. Riverside Drive -- 1 mile east of I-90 (East Riverside exit)

A great regional for players with under 200 masterpoints -- two single-session 199er events daily, Tuesday through Saturday. Special Newcomers Game for 0-20 players on Saturday.

Bracketed Knockouts

Monday -- KO #1; 1st (7:30)
Tuesday -- KO #1; 2nd, 3rd & 4th (9, 1:30, 7:30)
Wednesday -- KO #2; 1st (9:00)
Thursday -- KO #2; 2nd, 3rd & 4th (9, 1:30, 7:30)
Friday -- KO #3; 1st (9:00)
Saturday -- KO #3; 2nd, 3rd & 4th (9, 1:30, 7:30)

Monday, June 16

7:30 -- Stratified Open Charity Pairs

Tuesday, June 17

1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified Open Pairs
1:30 & 7:30 -- Side Game #1, 1st & 2nd
1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified 199er Pairs

Wednesday, June 18

1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified Swiss Teams
1:30 & 7:30 -- Side Game #1, 3rd & 4th
1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified 199er Pairs

Thursday, June 19

1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified Open Pairs
1:30 & 7:30 -- Side Game #2, 1st & 2nd
1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified 199er Pairs

Friday, June 20

1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified Swiss Teams
1:30 & 7:30 -- Side Game #2, 3rd & 4th
1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified 199er Pairs

Saturday, June 21

1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified Open Pairs
1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified 199er Pairs
10:00 AM ---- Newcomer Pairs (0-20 mps)

Sunday, June 22

11 AM ---- Stratified Swiss Teams (playthru)

Strata: A = 1500+ B = 500-1500 C = Non-LM (0-500)
199er Strata: A = 100-200 B = 20-100 C = 0-20

Host hotel: Quality Suites, 7401 Walton St., Rockford -- 5 miles south of Indoor Sports Center via I-90 (exit at State Street, then right). **Reservations:** 815-227-1300. Business king suite (\$70); dbl/dbl suite (\$85). Rates guaranteed until May 17. Free hot breakfast & evening social hour.

Chairmen: Kay & Bob Korte -- 815-337-3722 bobkorte@mindspring.com

Partners: Jan and Gene Condon -- 815-633-4979 jiggs320417@cs.com

199ers: Mary Jo Sergent -- 815-874-4157 mjosarge@aol.com



Soy City Sweetheart Sectional

February 15-16, 2003

Pride of the Prairie Center -- Decatur, Illinois

Saturday, February 15th--1:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Stratified Open Pairs
99er Pairs (if attendance warrants)

Sunday, February 16th--10:30 a.m. & TBA

Stratified Swiss Teams

The names of the winners of Saturday's Open Pairs will be engraved on the Commodore Cup and displayed at the Decatur Commodore Bridge Club.

Entry Fees: \$7.00/session Friday and Saturday; \$76.00/team on Sunday.
(Meal included with entry fee on Sunday)

Stratification: A = Open, B = 0-1500, C = Non-LM (under 500 pts.)

Host Motel: Baymont Inn -- Rt. 51 North at I-72 (next to the Cracker Barrel).
Reservations: 217-875-5800. Ask for bridge rate (\$44 + tax).

Directions: Westlawn Ave intersects Route 121 on the northwest side of the city. From all directions, take I-72 to Exit 138. Turn left 0.8 miles and then turn left onto Westlawn. The Pride of the Prairie Center is at 3700 North Westlawn, in the the Macon County Fairgrounds on your right.

Bloomington/Champaign shortcut -- Take US 51 south to Mound Road (2nd light past interstate). Turn right on Mound Road and drive 2.0 miles to Westlawn (just past Auto Auction). Turn left on Westlawn.

Chairman: Donn Miller -- 217-428-5058 [damelm@insightbb.com](mailto:damel@m Insightbb.com)

Partnerships: Jay Poling -- 217-422-0095 poling.jay@mcleodusa.net

Marciann O'Brien -- 217-429-0765

Kentucky Dam Sectional
March 7-9, 2003
Kentucky Dam Village, Gilbertsville, Kentucky

Friday March 7, 2003

1:30 & 7:30 pm -- Single Session Pair events

Saturday March 8, 2003

9:00 am – Knockout Teams (continue at 1:30 & 7:30)

1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified Open Pairs (One-session entries welcome)

Sunday March 9, 2003

10 a.m. & TBA -- Stratified Swiss Teams

Host hotel: \$39 plus tax at Kentucky Dam Village (800-325-0146)

Chairmen: Douglas Edwards (270-437-4977) & Sandra Lemon (270-247-7828)

Partners: Gayle Edwards -- 270-753-4821

Warren Tatting Memorial Sectional

March 7- 9, 2003

Hult Health Center, 5215 N. Knoxville Road, Peoria IL

Friday, March 7

1:00 & 7:00 -- Single-session Stratified Pairs

Saturday, March 8

1:00 & 7:00 -- Two-session Stratified Pairs (one-session entries welcome)

Sunday, March 9

10:30 am -- Two-session Stratified Swiss Teams

Sandwich lunch served during the break.

Strata: A-Open B- Under 1500 C- Non-LM (under 500 pts.)

HOSPITALITY AND SNACKS DURING THE TOURNAMENT

Info & partnerships:

Bernie Riley (309) 251-1151 **E-mail:** briley@grics.net

Phyllis Rahn (309) 243-5460 **E-mail:** pjrahn4@juno.com

Motels: Red Roof Inn (309-685-3911) -- \$50.99 plus tax