

# THE KIBITZER

September, 1979

Official publication of the Calgary Bridge League (Unit 390)

Send all contributions (including contest answers) to: ALLAN SIMON  
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## WELCOME ABOARD!

Beginning with this issue, the KIBITZER is now being mailed to all members of our unit, including those residing in Red Deer and in rural areas. Previously, only residents of Calgary were on our mailing list. This is the (long overdue) first step of your unit's commitment to extend all of its services (including telephone lists, election party invitations, etc.) to all of its members, regardless of their locations. We hope that out-of-towners will use the KIBITZER as a bulletin board for their bridge activities. Please send us your announcements.

What happened before: The July KIBITZER included a forgettable statement on our objectives, including the launching of the KIBITZER Bidding Contest, which is, incidentally, off to a rousing start. The August edition carried a report on the White Hat Regional, with particular praise for the incredible performance by the contingent from Red Deer (five different players placed either first or second in unlimited major championship competition!).

## INSUFFICIENT BID DEPARTMENT

Charlie Roberts and Terry Mickelson were the winners of the Flight B Open Pairs at the Regional, not the Flight B Masters' as erroneously reported. Big deal.

On page 4 of the August KIBITZER, your editor was quoted as saying he couldn't agree with somebody or other. This should, of course, have read as "couldn't argue".

## ROOKIE GRAND NATIONAL PAIRS

This is an exciting new event for all players with less than 20 master points. The Calgary qualifying rounds will be held at the Martinique on Monday, September 10th at 7:15 P.M., and Thursday, September 13th at 7:30 P.M.

One pair from each A.C.B.L. district will participate in a one-day, two-session playoff for the Rookie Grand National Championship in Cincinnati on November 17th. The trip award will include transportation, hotel and food allowances, and an Awards Brunch.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our newer members to taste the excitement of major competition, so line up a partner and get in some practice games!

## GOING TO BANFF? - MINIBUS

If you are interested in travelling to the Banff Sectional by minibus, please call Marg Gardner at 246-4284.

GRAND NATIONAL PAIRS

The club qualifying stage of this event has now been completed. Any two players who have qualified (not necessarily together) are eligible to compete in the Unit Playoffs.

Unit Playoffs:      Date: September 15, 1979  
                          Time: 1:00 and 6:30 P.M. (2 session playthrough)  
                          Place: Calgary Bridge Centre, 3505 - 14th Street S.W.  
                          Entry Fee: \$16.00 per pair for both sessions

Important Notes: - In order to allow time for seeding the field and preparing the movement, this event will be by pre-registration only. If you intend to play, call Stan Matheson or Doug Marwood at 243-2557, before September 12th. Additional entries will be accepted only if they can be accomodated without disrupting seeding or movement.

- Awards will be in red points.
- The top 30% of the field will advance to the District playoffs, scheduled for January 12th and 13th in Great Falls.
- Please remember to bring along your green "proof of qualification" certificate.

CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

This new event is the replacement for the popular Grand National Team event, but for Canadian residents only. Details are still sketchy, but it appears that competition will begin at the club level, with each club being eligible to host a game in the November-December time frame. From there, the competition will proceed along familiar lines, with a huge plum at the end of the rainbow; the honor of representing Canada in the 1980 Olympiad. Stay tuned for details in the October KIBITZER.

GOING TO BANFF? - CADDIES WANTED

The Banff Sectional is scheduled for October 26th to 28th. If you are taking your kids, and if they are experienced caddies and would like to work one or more sessions, please call Marg Gardner at 246-4284.

NEWSMAKERS

The recently held North American Championships (Las Vegas, July 27th to August 5th) were of particular interest to us because they marked the first time a Calgary player participated in the National Playoffs of the Grand National Team championship. Unfortunately, Subhash Gupta and team-mates from Edmonton lost their quarter final match to a team from San Francisco, a team which eventually went on to finish second behind the aggregation from Chicago. Still, we're proud of you, Subhash, and one of these days you'll go all the way!

The Las Vegas NAC was the biggest tournament ever held, anywhere, with over 19,000 tables in play over 10 days. Many Calgarians did well, particularly Subhash Gupta and Dale Hagen, who (in different events and with out-of-unit partners) placed high in the over-all in major pairs events.

Our unit was also well represented at the annual Lethbridge sectional, held for the first time in the sumptuous Lethbridge Lodge Hotel. The only locals to win an event were Charlie Roberts and Allan Simon, who combined with Terry Mickelson of Vancouver and George Roberts of Milk River to win the Swiss Teams, amid the applause of no one.

MINI-MCKENNEY UPDATE

The following list is a bit stale (it dates from July 6th) but makes for some interesting reading; obviously some battles will go right to the wire this year.

| <u>CATEGORY</u>           | <u>LEADERS</u>        | <u>POINTS WON IN '79</u> |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Rookie                    | 1. Bruce Niederberger | 13                       |
|                           | 2. Jackie Ross        | 11                       |
|                           | 3. Mrs. Maclean       | 10                       |
| Non-Master                | 1. Ron Trimble        | 48                       |
|                           | 2. Mrs. Affolder      | 39                       |
|                           | 3. Mrs. Vroom         | 22                       |
| Master                    | 1. Ken MacNeal        | 42                       |
|                           | 2. Pam Forsyth        | 41                       |
|                           | 3. Lynne Sims         | 34                       |
| National Master           | 1. Pat Whittaker      | 64                       |
|                           | 2. Terry Mickelson    | 43                       |
|                           | 3. Paula Sisko        | 36                       |
| Senior Master             | 1. Nancy Stewart      | 50                       |
|                           | 2. Kris Jonasson      | 48.5                     |
|                           | 3. Brenda Murchison   | 48                       |
| Advanced Senior<br>Master | 1. Alex Orlandini     | 125                      |
|                           | 2. Allan Simon        | 74                       |
|                           | 3. Dorothy Mathieson  | 49                       |
| Life Master               | 1. Bruce Ferguson     | 304                      |
|                           | 2. Helen Roche        | 131                      |
|                           | 3. Subhash Gupta      | 126                      |

LARCENY IN LETHBRIDGE

Let me come out from behind the editorial "we" and tell you about a hand I played in Lethbridge.

In the second round of the Swiss, we are playing some elderly ladies I've never seen before, and things are going badly. We have doubled them in two cold games, then they get to a lay-down 7NT. On the last board, I pick up: S: K H: K D: AQx C: KQJ9xxxx. I open one club and partner responds one spade. I try three clubs, and partner echoes, three spades. Naturally, I bid four clubs and, predictably, he trots out four spades. Since we are behind in the match, I now try 4NT. Partner passes; West leads the queen of hearts and the following dummy hits the table: S: AQJxxx H: 10xx D: Jxx C:10. After some thought, East follows with the nine of hearts, and I win my stiff king. I survey dummy and my hand with a desperate look on my face, when suddenly the playing room is plunged into darkness. Power failure! But my drooling opponents urge me to play on. They can't wait to compare scores. Suddenly, I have an inspiration. I lead the queen of clubs from hand. Small from West, ten from dummy, small diamond from East. Now, I table the king of spades. Ace of clubs from West! "No spades, partner?" asks East. West appears confused. The lights come back on. West finds a spade. I overtake in dummy, play the queen of spades. Now West really is void and must play her penalty card. Making seven. We won the match by one IMP.

SEPTEMBER, 1979

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday | Thursday   | Friday                                 | Saturday   |
|--|---|--|-----------|--|--|--|
| 2<br>Calgary<br>(cont'd)                           | 3<br>Sectional  | 4  | 5         | 6<br>CANMAR - 7:30<br>Canada-wide<br>Olympiad fund<br>game   | 7                                      | 8 MARTINIQUE -<br>8:00 - open club<br>championship<br>BIG DIAMOND CLUB<br>8:00 - opening<br>night* |
| 9  | 10<br>MARTINIQUE- 7:15<br>Rookie Grand<br>National Pairs*   | 11<br>C.B.C. - 7:30<br>open club<br>championship                     | 12        | 13<br>MARTINIQUE- 7:30<br>Rookie Grand<br>National Pairs*  | 14<br>SOUTH "Y" - 1:00<br>Opening day* | 15<br>C.B.C. - 1:00 &<br>6:30 - Grand<br>National Pairs<br>unit final*                             |
| 16   | 17<br>MARTINIQUE - 7:30<br>Lura Head trophy-<br>Swiss teams | 18<br>North "Y" - 1:00<br>(Calgary Winter<br>Club) - opening<br>day* | 19        | 20<br>MARTINIQUE- 1:00<br>Open pairs club<br>championship<br>MARTINIQUE- 7:30<br>Novice pairs<br>club championship | 21<br>HAVRE<br>SECTIONAL               | 22<br>SECTIONAL  |
| 23<br>HAVRE SECTIONAL                              | 24<br>CANMAR - 7:30<br>Open pairs club<br>championship      | 25   | 26        | 27<br>REGINA   | 28<br>SECTIONAL                        | 29<br>MARTINIQUE- 8:00<br>Anniversary party<br>(1 yr in new<br>location)<br>REGINA SECTIONAL       |
| *See special announcement elsewhere in this issue. |   |  |           |  |  |  |

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UPCOMING SECTIONALS

August 31st - September 3rd  
 September 21st - 23rd  
 September 27th - 30th  
 October 5th - 8th  
 October 26th - 28th

Jubilee Auditorium, Calgary  
 The Duck Inn, Havre, Montana  
 T.B.A., Regina  
 T.B.A., Edmonton  
 Banff Springs Hotel, Banff

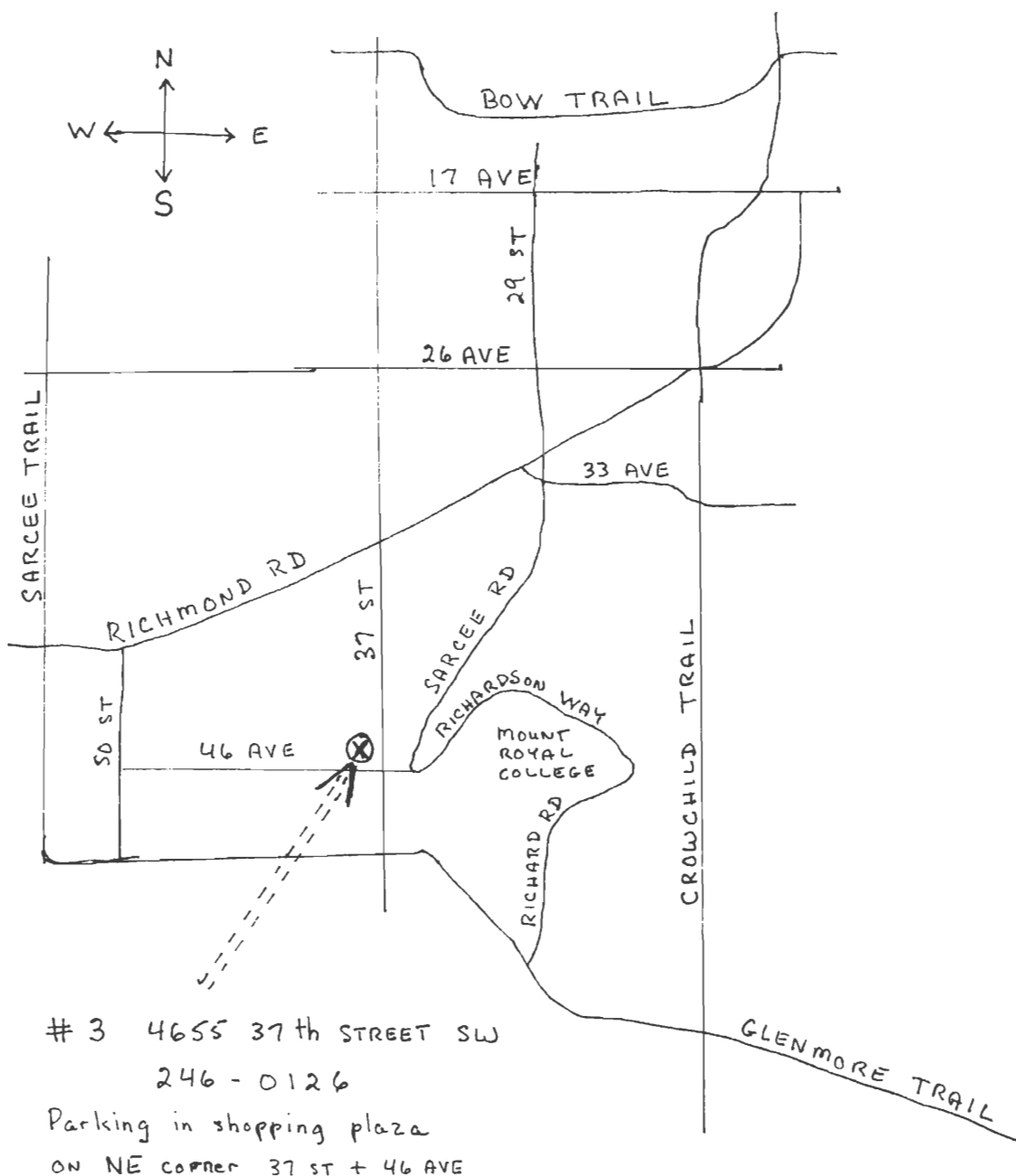
CLUB NEWSBig Diamond Bridge Club

Nancy Stewart announces the opening of the Big Diamond Bridge Club, on Saturday, September 8th.

Address: #3, 4655 - 37th Street S.W.

Phone: 246-0126

See map below for directions. Main floor location with plenty of free parking (across the street). Air conditioned all year round (it's also heated in the winter - i.e., 10 months per year!).

Schedule of games:

|           |           |                                  |
|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Monday    | 1:00 P.M. | Restricted pairs (1 over 100 MP) |
| Tuesday   | 1:00 P.M. | Open pairs                       |
| Wednesday | 7:30 P.M. | Open pairs                       |
| Thursday  | 7:30 P.M. | Restricted pairs (1 life master) |
| Friday    | 1:00 P.M. | Open pairs                       |
| Friday    | 8:00 P.M. | Restricted and Novice pairs      |
| Saturday  | 8:00 P.M. | Open pairs                       |

Big Diamond Bridge Club - Continued

Special Attractions:

- Tuesday afternoon - prize for the first pair to bid and make a grand slam - to be awarded after the game. Be careful not to be too exuberant when you win - it could cost you matchpoints.
- Wednesday night - cash prize of \$20.00 to pair that comes first overall with over 70% game.
- Friday afternoon - free play to pair that comes first overall - any future afternoon game.
- Saturday night - to be announced. Suggestions welcome.

South "Y"

The South "Y" Duplicate Bridge Club, located next to Heritage Station, starts Friday, September 14th, promptly at 1:00 P.M. Baby-sitting provided (\$1.50 for first child, 50¢ each additional child for the afternoon). All levels of players are welcome. Interested new players please contact Mae Jardine, 271-1305, or Arlis Rackham, 271-0380, for further information. Fees - \$1.75 per game.

North "Y"

The North "Y" Duplicate Bridge Club begins its new season Tuesday, September 18th, at 1:00 P.M. This year, the club has moved its activities to the luxurious facilities of the Calgary Winter Club. For more information, please contact Helen Walker at 289-3882.

Please see calendar on page 4 for additional information.

KIBITZER BIDDING CONTEST

The September Problems

A.) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds:  
S: A1065 H: 62 D: Q95 C: Q1076

| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Pass        | 1NT          | 3H          | ?            |

| The scoring: | <u>Action</u> | <u>Panel Votes</u> | <u>Score</u> |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|
|              | Double        | 6                  | 100          |
|              | Pass          | 3                  | 60           |
|              | 3NT           | 1                  | 40           |
|              | 3S            | 0                  | 20           |

- This was a tough problem. The preempt has ruled out any sensible investigation of a spade contract. This leaves three reasonable bids, ranging from the meek to the ferocious. The meek are first to speak:
- STAN MATHESON: Pass. Hopefully for a plus, and, hopefully again, spades will break badly.
- The middle-of-the-roadsers are in the majority. This is not surprising; obviously anything could be right on any given hand, but in the long run both selling out cheaply and super-aggressive behaviour are losing tactics.
- KEN PENTON: Double. Congratulate opponent for the pre-empt. 3N or 4S could well be the right spot, but a small profit appears for sure.

Finally, the lone vote for 3NT came from a distinguished guest panelist:

ERIC KOKISH: 3NT. It seems more promising to go for a big plus rather than a small one.

B.) IMP's, E-W vul., South holds:  
S: A104 H: - D: Q107653 C: KQ72

|              | <u>West</u>   | <u>North</u>       | <u>East</u>  | <u>South</u> |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
|              | Pass          | Pass               | 3H           | ?            |
| The scoring: | <u>Action</u> | <u>Panel Votes</u> | <u>Score</u> |              |
|              | 4D            | 6                  | 100          |              |
|              | Pass          | 3                  | 60           |              |
|              | Double        | 1                  | 50           |              |

An amazing parallel to the previous problem. Again we have 1 lion, 3 lambs and 6 bridge players. An interesting aside: over half of the write-in votes were for the double. Speaking for the lambs:

KRIS JONASSON: Pass. If diamond suit was stronger (KQ10xxx) would bid 4D.

Speaking for the bridge players:

GORD SHARP: 4 diamonds. It's not clear that 4 hearts won't be coming back to me. Then what do I do? At this vulnerability I'll step out now and give partner a chance. Better to be wrong non-vul then let the opponents be right vul.

DOUG DESCHNER: 4 diamonds. A good chance to get your head rung.

There might be a lesson for us in the fact that once again Eric Kokish (5000+ master points, Vanderbilt winner, Olympiad pairs runner-up) took the most aggressive action.

ERIC KOKISH: Double. I know mother wouldn't approve, but in general the "shape" should act. P.S. This is a takeout double, partner . . . partner, did you hear me?

Mrs. Kokish obviously knows more about this game than I thought.

KEN PENTON, who voted for Pass, noted that he would bid 4 diamonds on a Saturday night at Walt's.

C.) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds:  
S: KJ1072 H: KQJ84 D: 72 C: 6

|              | <u>West</u>   | <u>North</u>       | <u>East</u>  | <u>South</u> |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
|              | -             | 1D                 | Pass         | 1S           |
|              | 2S            | 4S                 | Pass         | 4NT          |
|              | Pass          | 5C                 | Pass         | ?            |
| The scoring: | <u>Action</u> | <u>Panel Votes</u> | <u>Score</u> |              |
|              | 6C            | 4                  | 100          |              |
|              | 5N            | 3                  | 90           |              |
|              | 7S            | 1                  | 80           |              |
|              | 5H            | 1                  | 60           |              |
|              | 5S            | 1                  | 60           |              |
|              | 6S            | 0                  | 40           |              |
|              | 6H            | 0                  | 10           |              |

I am disappointed in the panel. The vast majority of our local experts assume partner has 4 aces and launch into a variety of scientific convulsions to determine whether they belong in 6S, 6N, 7S or 7N. They never stopped to think why partner did not double 2S. Why can't North hold: S: Qxxx H: - D: KQJ10xx C: KQJ

JILL SAVAGE: 5 spades. If partner has the 4 aces, he will bid 6 spades, which I will then convert to 7 spades. If partner has the 4 aces and doesn't bid the small slam, I'll be heading for the partnership desk anyway.

Makes sense to me. On the other hand, the following garbage was typical for the myopic-scientist majority:

JOE KERGER: 5NT. I hope partner has only one king so I can employ 6H as a grand slam force, etc., etc.

D.) Matchpoints, E-W vul., South holds:  
S: - H: J732 D: 986543 C: 642

|                            | <u>West</u>   | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u>        | <u>South</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
|                            | -             | 2H           | Double             | ?            |
| The scoring:               |               |              |                    |              |
|                            | <u>Action</u> |              | <u>Panel Votes</u> | <u>Score</u> |
|                            | 6H            |              | 5                  | 10           |
|                            | 7H            |              | 2                  | 0            |
|                            | 7D            |              | 1                  | 0            |
|                            | 4NT           |              | 1                  | 10           |
|                            | 4H            |              | 1                  | 100          |
| Low level psychics (2S,2N) |               |              | 0                  | 80           |
|                            | Pass          |              | 0                  | 50           |
|                            | 3H            |              | 0                  | 50           |
|                            | 5H            |              | 0                  | 60           |

A regrettable error occurred on this problem, as the vulnerability was accidentally reversed in the KIBITZER (the panel's questionnaire correctly had E-W vulnerable). We were therefore forced to unilaterally assign scores for readers' votes. Please accept our apologies and listen to what the panelists have to say at favorable vulnerability.

The plurality voted for a straightforward 6 hearts. This works out well whenever West has less than 14 points (or so) and less than 6 spades.

CHARLIE LIEGEROT: 6 hearts. All I can afford. Jack Murphy will bid, in order, after successive doubles: 5S, 6C, 6D, 6H. But then Jack always gets full value for his card fees.

Actually, a psyche might work out well against mediocre opposition, while it would only serve to goad good players to the right spot. An instructive tip comes from Montreal:

ERIC KOKISH: 4 hearts. This simple ploy is often best. West will often bid only 4S and East will refuse to "hang" his partner and pass.

At adverse vulnerability, 5 hearts (for a likely -800) is about as high as we can afford to go and the scores were calculated to reflect this fact.

E.) Matchpoints, E-W vul., South holds:  
S: - H: AQ106 D: 109743 C: AKQ4

| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| -           | -            | 1S          | Db1          |
| Pass        | 1NT          | 2S          | ?            |



E.) Cont'd:

| The scoring: | <u>Action</u> | <u>Panel Votes</u> | <u>Score</u> |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|
|              | Double        | 8                  | 100          |
|              | Pass          | 2                  | 60           |
|              | 2NT           | 0                  | 30           |
|              | 3S            | 0                  | 20           |

In their comments, most panelists imply that their second double is again primarily takeout-oriented. This seems like wishful thinking. (What if South held AJx AQ10x AKJx xx? Now the panel would also double, but insist this was clearly for penalties.) However, all alternatives that I can think of are worse and therefore I turn the mike over to:

CHARLIE ROBERTS: Double. Partner can convert if his bid was based on a good spade holding.

JOE KERGER: Double. More takeout. More high cards than initial double. I hope partner, if he passes, knows what I'm doing.

And, untypically chicken:

GORD SHARP: Pass. Another toughie! We could be gin for anything (including nothing). With no tricks in my long suit, I'll take a pessimistic view.

F.) Matchpoints, neither vul., South holds:  
 S: J53 H: 1097 D: 876 C: KQ92

| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1S          | Pass         | 2H          | Pass         |
| 3S          | Pass         | 4D          | Pass         |
| 4H          | Pass         | 4NT         | Pass         |
| 5H          | Pass         | 5NT         | Pass         |
| 6D          | Db1          | 7H          | Pass         |
| Pass        | Pass         |             |              |

Which card do you lead?

| The scoring: | <u>Action</u> | <u>Panel Votes</u> | <u>Score</u> |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|
|              | Heart         | 5                  | 100          |
|              | CK            | 3                  | 80           |
|              | Diamond       | 2                  | 70           |
|              | Spade         | 0                  | 50           |

Let's listen to the arguments in order. The trump leaders reason like this:

KRIS JONASSON: 10 of hearts. Heart lead called for. Which heart likely immaterial. Need to cut down on diamond ruffs.

This is the least likely of the three ways the slam might be set. After all, dummy's spades should provide ample parking for declarer's diamonds. This brings us to the club leaders:

KEN PENTON: Do not always obey partner!! This contract is being made on dummy's spade suit. Club king will remove entry, once established. Dummy: AK109xx Qxx x Axx.

The trouble with this construction is that West would probably not rebid 3S with this sort of hand.

The diamond-leaders had little to say, other than conserving partnership harmony or praying for a miracle.

I believe the panel shortchanged the spade lead (although MATHESON and KERGER noticed the possibility). What if dummy's outside ace is in trumps and declarer holds a singleton spade? (ie., AKQxxx Ax x Jxxx opposite x KQJxxx AJxxx A) Now a spade lead kills dummy. Of all readers, only Bruce Niederberger found this lead, which was the winner when the hand was actually played.

40 readers sent in their answers. The winner, with a score of 510, was Ernie Boushy. Mr. Boushy will be invited to join the panel next month. Congratulations also go to runner-up Paul Rushton and to Doug Deschner, who topped all panelists with a perfect 600. (I want to downplay this remarkable achievement, for fear that future panelists attempt to go with the majority rather than bid what they think is right.) All readers are urged to vote on the October problems by using either the coupon or a plain sheet of paper.

OCTOBER PROBLEMS

A.) IMP's, neither vul., South holds:  
S: Q H: KQ8764 D: AJ764 C: 3

| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| -           | 1S           | Pass        | 2H           |
| Pass        | 2S           | Pass        | 3D           |
| Pass        | 3NT          | Pass        | ?            |

B.) Matchpoints, both vul., South holds:  
S: 63 H: AQJ6 D: KQ96 C: Q104

| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1S          | Pass         | Pass        | Dbl          |
| Redbl       | Pass         | Pass        | ?            |

C.) IMP's, E-W vul, South holds:  
S: AQ1062 H: K76 D: 865 C: 64

| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| -           | -            | 1S          | Pass         |
| Pass        | Dbl          | Pass        | Pass         |
| 1NT         | Pass         | 2D          | ?            |

D.) Matchpoints, neither vul., South holds:  
S: 532 H: 943 D: Q6542 C: 86

| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 3H          | Dbl          | Pass        | ?            |

E.) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds:  
S: Q1082 H: - D: KQ643 C: KJ64

| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| -           | -            | Pass        | 1D           |
| 1H          | Dbl          | 2H          | 2S           |
| 4H          | 5S           | Pass        | ?            |

F.) IMP's, neither vul., South holds:  
S: AQ1098743 H: 4 D: - C: 10964

| <u>West</u> | <u>North</u> | <u>East</u> | <u>South</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| -           | Pass         | 1NT         | 3S           |
| 4S          | Pass         | 4NT         | Pass         |
| Pass        | Pass         |             |              |

What should South lead?

Mail to: Kibitzer Bidding Contest

September solutions:

A) |

B) |

C) |

D) |

E) |

F) |

From: Name

Address

Allan Simon

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