

USA1 Final... Congrats Kaplan

#	TEAM	TOTAL	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4	SET #5	SET #6	SET #7	SET #8
1	Kaplan	228	39	26	17	56	19	24	47	
2	Wei	166	12	32	37	27	20	27	11	wd

USBF President
Marty Fleisher
USBF Vice President
Josh Parker
USBF COO & Secretary
Jan Martel
USBF CFO
Stan Subeck

Under 21 Final... Congrats Xiao

#	TEAM	TOTAL	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4
1	Xu	113	20	35	12	46
2	Xiao	187	44	42	48	53

Junior Program Director
Joe Stokes
Junior Training Director
Michael Rosenberg
Director - MSJUSBC
McKenzie Myers
Operations Manager
McKenzie Myers
Appeals Administrator
Suzi Subeck, Chairman

U26 USA2 Semi Final

#	TEAM	IMPs Total	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4
3	Kompa	112	33	24	24	31
4	Dhir	150	37	51	33	29

Rona Final... Congrats Thapa

#	TEAM	TOTAL	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4	SET #5	SET #6	SET #7	SET #8
1	Fashingbauer	149	13	11	3	36	16	24	21	25
2	Thapa	394	53	82	55	49	63	33	49	10

Appeals Panel:
Bill Arlinghaus
David Berkowitz
Huub Bertens
Bart Bramley
Tom Carmichael
Gary Cohler
Martha Katz
Ish Del Monte
Mark Feldman
Ron Gerard
Fred Gitelman
Bob Hamman
Geoff Hampson
Chip Martel
Beth Palmer
Pepsi Pszczola

U16 Final... Congrats Xiao

#	TEAM	IMPs Total	Carry Over	SET #1	SET #2	SET #3	SET #4
1	Xiao	272.25	38.25	70	47	79	38
2	Xie	101		27	35	11	28

Team Kaplan



Championship News: Stephani and Wan have opted not to play a third/fourth play off in the U21 Championship. Instead, they will share a 3/4 tie.

Risk is a part of God's game, alike for men and nations.

Warren Buffett

MICHAEL SEAMON JUNIOR UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

All Kidding Aside...

VuGraph Organizer
Jan Martel
Bulletin Editor
Suzi Subeck
Photographer
Peg Kaplan
USBF Website & Software
Al Hollander

Teams Entered...

U26:

Kompa	Benjamin Kompa, Capt Brandon Harper	David Yoon Jeffrey Schwartz
Rockoff	Kyle Rockoff, Capt Daniel Sonner	Ilan Wolff Cyrus Hettle
Kaplan	Adam Kaplan, Capt Kevin Rosenberg Oren Kriegel	Christian Jolly Benjamin Kristensen Zachary Grossack
Berk	Hakan Berk, Capt Samuel Goldberg	David Soukup Matthew Weingarten
Baumel	Jonathan Baumel, Capt Ninad More	Gianni Hsieh Alexander Frieden
Wei	Hongji Wei, Capt Nian Si Chang Liu	Yewen Fan Yichen Yin Che Shen
Dhir	Arjun Dhir Samuel Amer Burke Snowden	William Zhu Gregory Herman

U21:

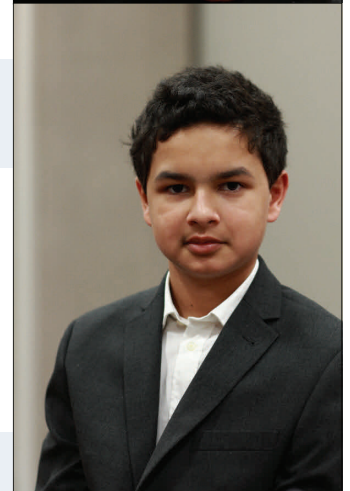
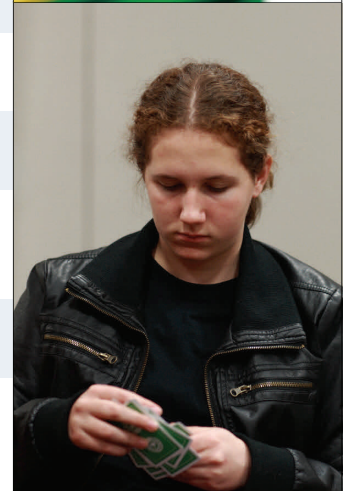
Stephani	Isaac Stephani, Capt John Taylor	Julian Kurtzman Victor Xu
Xiao	Brent Xiao, Capt Cornelius Duffie Richard Jeng	Kevin Huang Sarah Youngquist
Wan	Stella (Qinqin) Wan, Capt Jacob Williams	David Zheng Luke Williams
Chai	Eric Chai, Capt Vincent Zhu	Kyle Lui Michael Zheng
Koppel	Reese Koppel, Capt Jack Donaghue Cooper Smith	Kunal Vohra Hunter McClain Caleb Colburn
Xu	Yuchen Xu, Capt Di Wu	Dian Qi Lingyi Ma

U16:

Schireson	Olivia Schireson, Capt Jerry Xia Calix Tang	Miranda Schuyler Aman Desai
Xiao	Rory Xiao, Capt Michael Hu Harrison Luba	Jonathan Yue Arthur Zhou
Xie	Ethan Xie, Capt Marley Cedrone	Michael Xu Zacharia Posternak

RONA (GIRLS):

Fashingbauer	Ellie Fashingbauer, Capt Emma Kolesnik Helena Hsieh	Emma Miller Lauren Liu Morgan Johnstone
Thapa	Isha Thapa, Capt Lucy Zhang	Amber Lin Sophia Chang



Tournament Schedule

U26 SCHEDULE			
DAY	DATE	TIME	BOARDS
WEDNESDAY	DEC. 27	11:15 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
<i>ROUND ROBIN</i>			
WEDNESDAY	DEC. 27	11:30 - 12:40 12:50 - 2:00 2:10 - 3:20 3:30 - 4:40 6:30 - 7:40 7:50 - 9:00 9:10 - 10:20	MATCH 1 - BOARDS 1-8 MATCH 2 - BOARDS 9-16 MATCH 3 - BOARDS 17-24 MATCH 4 - BOARDS 25-32 110 MINUTE BREAK MATCH 5 - BOARDS 1-8 MATCH 6 - BOARDS 9-16 MATCH 7 - BOARDS 17-24
EACH TEAM WILL SIT OUT ONE MATCH.			
<i>USA1 SEMIFINAL & USA2 ROUND OF 16 (3-WAY)</i>			
THURSDAY	DEC. 28	11:30 - 1:40 1:50 - 4:00 5:45 - 7:55 8:05 - 10:15	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 (1-14 IN 3-WAY) SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 (15-28 IN 3-WAY) 105 MINUTE BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 (1-14 IN 3-WAY) SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30 (15-28 IN 3-WAY)
<i>USA1 FINAL & USA2 QUARTERFINAL & SEMIFINAL</i>			
FRIDAY	DEC. 29	11:30 - 1:40 1:50 - 4:00	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 105 MINUTE BREAK
AND	&	5:45 - 7:55	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15
SATURDAY	DEC. 30	8:05 - 10:15	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
<i>USA2 FINAL</i>			
SUNDAY	DEC. 31	11:30 - 1:40 1:50 - 4:00 5:45 - 7:55 8:05 - 10:15	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 105 MINUTE BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
U21 SCHEDULE			
WEDNESDAY	DEC. 27	11:15 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
<i>ROUND ROBIN</i>			
DAY	DATE	TIME	BOARDS
WEDNESDAY	DEC. 27	11:30 - 1:05 1:15 - 2:50 3:00 - 4:35	MATCH 1 - BOARDS 1-11 MATCH 2 - BOARDS 12-22 MATCH 3 - BOARDS 23-33 115 MINUTE BREAK
AND	&	6:30 - 8:05 8:15 - 9:50	MATCH 4 - BOARDS 1-11 MATCH 5 - BOARDS 12-22
THURSDAY	DEC. 28		
<i>SEMIFINAL</i>			
FRIDAY	DEC. 29	11:30 - 1:40 1:50 - 4:00 5:45 - 7:55 8:05 - 10:15	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 105 MINUTE BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30

No Electronic Devices are Permitted in the Playing Area. This applies to players AND kibitzers.

Severe penalties will be assessed for violation of this rule.

Please turn off all cell phones and check them at the door. The USBF reserves the right to wand anyone entering the playing field.



(Schedule continued on page 4)

FINAL & PLAYOFF FOR THIRD PLACE			
SATURDAY	DEC. 30	11:30 - 1:40 1:50 - 4:00 5:45 - 7:55 8:05 - 10:15	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 105 MINUTE BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
RONA SCHEDULE			
FRIDAY	DEC. 29	11:15 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
FINAL			
FRIDAY	DEC. 29	11:30 - 1:40 1:50 - 4:00 5:45 - 7:55 8:05 - 10:15	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 105 MINUTE BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
AND	&		
SATURDAY	DEC. 30		
U16 SCHEDULE			
THURSDAY	DEC. 28	11:15 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
ROUND ROBIN			
THURSDAY	DEC. 28	11:30 - 1:40 1:50 - 4:00 5:45 - 7:55 8:05 - 10:15	BOARDS 1-14 BOARDS 15-28 110 MINUTE BREAK BOARDS 1-14 BOARDS 15-28
&	&		
FRIDAY	DEC. 29		
FINAL			
SATURDAY	DEC. 30	11:30 - 1:40 1:50 - 4:00 5:45 - 7:55 8:05 - 10:15	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 105 MINUTE BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30

Swedish Junior Bridge Camp and Tournament...

March 28-April 1, 2018

The grandparents of one of our Juniors (Marley Cedrone) are going to be in Sweden in the spring and plan to take him to this event. For others who may be interested in attending, please go online to:

<http://www.eurobridge.org/events/2018-nordic-junior-pair-championship-junior-camp/>

The camp + tournament costs 3800 Swedish Kroners (about \$455), which includes room & board for 5 days as well as the cost of the camp and tournament.



Meet the Players



Reese Koppel is a high school senior from Metairie, Louisiana.

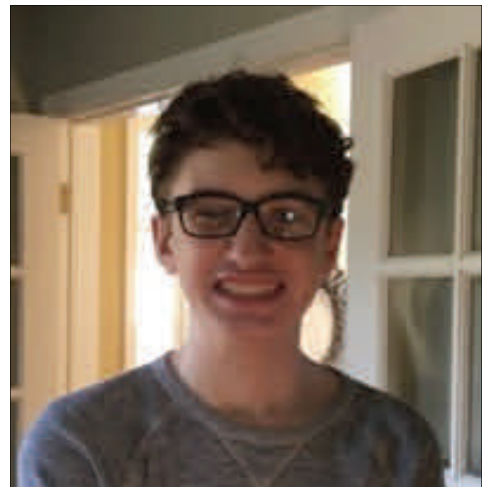
He is a member of ACBL Unit 134, and he is currently an NABC Master.

Reese is also the captain of his high school golf team.

Cooper Smith is 16 years old and currently in his Junior year at Marquette Senior High School in Marquette, MI.

He has some interest in pursuing law and unsure of college plans (except that he will be going.)

He still loves bridge and plays as often as he can. Cooper is a member of ACBL District 13, Unit 149.



D
Open Room
Board 29

Kaplan: 112 IMPs
Wei: 108 IMPs

W Yin

♠ K765
♥ J52
♦ KJ1082
♣ 6

Closed Room: 5♣x N -3 -800

All Vul.

N Z Grossack

♠ AQJ9
♥ K104
♦ 4
♣ KQ1075

S Kriegel

♠ 3
♥ 983
♦ AQ9753
♣ A84

West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

E Shen

♠ 10842
♥ AQ76
♦ 6
♣ J932

**Closed Room:
Kristensen Si Rosenberg Fan**

	2♣	Pass	2♦
Dbl	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
Pass	Pass		



Board 29 from the 4th segment of the U26 USA1 Final created a 16 IMP swing for Kaplan.

In the Open Room, Grossack and Kriegel played in 3NT making three for +600. Shen led a fourth best heart to the jack and the king. Grossack cashed the CK and crossed to the CA, Yin discarding the D2. Grossack led a spade to the queen on which Shen followed with the S4. Grossack apparently believed that Shen was giving count in the spade suit and that Yin had discarded a diamond from a five card holding. Grossack played for Shen to have 4-4-1-4 distribution. He led to the DA and exited with the H8 to Shen's queen. Shen cashed the HA and the H7 to reach this five card end position:

<p>♠ AJ</p> <p>♥</p> <p>♦</p> <p>♣ QT7</p>	<p style="font-size: small;">N</p> <p>↑</p>	<p>♠ T82</p> <p>♥</p> <p>♦</p> <p>♣ J9</p>
<p>♠ K76</p> <p>♥</p> <p>♦ KJ</p> <p>♣</p>		<p>♠</p> <p>♥</p> <p>♦ Q975</p> <p>♣ 4</p>

With no more diamonds to lead, Shen exited with a spade to Grossack's jack. Grossack could now drive out the club jack and take nine tricks: four clubs, three spades, a heart and a diamond. +600 Well played, Zach!

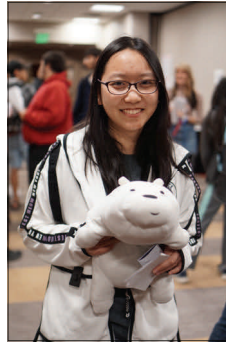
In the Closed Room, Si opened a Precision 2C showing either six or more clubs or five clubs and a four card major with 11-15 HCP. Fan bid 2D for clarification; Kristensen doubled for a diamond lead; and Si showed his four card spade holding. Perhaps Fan should have bid 3D to get Si to bid 3NT with a heart stopper. Instead, he took a preference to clubs, and looking at a max, Si bid the club game.

Rosenberg led his singleton diamond. Si rose with the ace and played a spade to the ace followed by a ruffing finesse for the SK. The finesse lost, Si discarding a small heart from dummy. Kristensen returned his singleton club to the ace in dummy and Si tried a heart to the king, losing to Rosenberg's ace. Rosenberg cashed the HQ and played a third heart, ruffed in dummy.

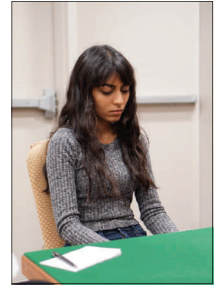
Si led the D3, ruffed with the C7 and overruffed with the CJ. Rosenberg played a club. Si played off his trumps, cashed his SJ, and was left with a losing spade. North/South collected 8 tricks... down 3 for -800. 16 IMPs to Kaplan

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

Sudoku 1



Sudoku



Sudoku 2

Puns...

The science teachers broke up because there was no chemistry between them.
 The girls swim team has a new coach who acts like she knows everything. Her name is Claire Buoyant.
 The calculus teacher tried to keep his students on task, but the class discussion kept going off on tangents.
 The poor speller tried to express his reluctance to repeat sixth grade, but words failed him.
 As long as the imperial system is in place a ruler will be afoot.
 In equations with square numbers I can never find the root of the problem.
 I told a pun in civics class. It went down in history.
 I need to do my philosophy homework but I just Kant.
 Teaching history is old news.

Answers to Puzzles

Sudoku 2 Solution

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



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

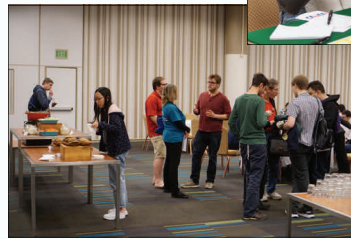
Sudoku 1 Solution

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



Puzzle Page

	17	18	19	20	22	Beauty	Dynamite	Fireball	Sassy	Sunny	black	palomino	pinto	sorrel	white
Cindy															
Linda															
Tom															
Tony															
Tracy															
black															
palomino															
pinto															
sorrel															
white															
Beauty															
Dynamite															
Fireball															
Sassy															
Sunny															



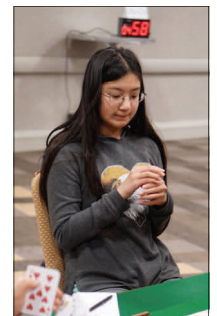
Cindy had horseback riding lessons twice a week and she loved them. Her riding instructor told her that she had a natural talent for riding. She'd been riding for several years now and had graduated to a smaller, more advanced class. The students in her class all had their own horses and by some strange coincidence, all of the horses had different coloring. Determine the first name and age of each student in Cindy's class (the students were between 17 and 22 years old), and the name and coloring of each student's horse.

1. Cindy didn't ride a white horse but she was 17 years old. Tracy didn't ride Fireball.
2. Tony was older than the student riding Fireball but he was also two years younger than the student riding the pinto.
3. Sunny was a white horse but he wasn't ridden by Tracy. The 19-year-old student rode Dynamite, who wasn't a palomino.
4. Linda didn't ride Sassy, whose coloring wasn't sorrel.
5. The palomino was ridden by Tom, who was two years older than the student riding Beauty.
6. The student, who wasn't Linda, riding the black horse, was two years older than Fireball's rider.

Student's Name	Student's Age	Horse's Name	Horse's Color
Cindy			
Linda			
Tom			
Tony			
Tracy			

17	Beauty	black
18	Dynamite	palomino
19	Fireball	pinto
20	Sassy	sorrel
22	Sunny	white


A guy said, "Hey do You play bridge?"
I said "if there's HAY, I do."
An E or an A, if it's hey, it's still hay!



Answer to Puzzle

Student's Name	Student's Age	Horse's Name	Horse's Color
Cindy	17	Fireball	sorrel
Linda	20	Beauty	pinto
Tom	22	Sassy	palomino
Tony	18	Sunny	white
Tracy	19	Dynamite	black

The Story of Board Three ...

Open Room Board 3  Kompa: 0 IMPs Dhir: 5 IMPs	E/W Vul.	N Yoon ♠ 1072 ♥ Q109832 ♦ J9 ♣ Q8	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>West</th> <th>North</th> <th>East</th> <th>South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>6♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	West	North	East	South	1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass	6♦	Pass	Pass	Pass		
		West	North	East	South																						
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass																								
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass																								
2♠	Pass	4♥	Pass																								
4NT	Pass	6♦	Pass																								
Pass	Pass																										
W Herman ♠ AQ65 ♥ KJ4 ♦ 65 ♣ K742	E Snowden ♠ KJ83 ♥ ♦ AKQ74 ♣ J963																										
Closed Room: 6♠ W = +1430	S Kompa ♠ 94 ♥ A765 ♦ 10832 ♣ A105	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Harper</th> <th>Dhir</th> <th>Schwartz</th> <th>Amer</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♣</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>5♥</td> <td>Dbl</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5NT</td> <td>6♥</td> <td>6♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Harper	Dhir	Schwartz	Amer	1♣	3♥	4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass	5♥	Dbl	5NT	6♥	6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass							
Harper	Dhir	Schwartz	Amer																								
1♣	3♥	4♥	Pass																								
4♠	Pass	5♥	Dbl																								
5NT	6♥	6♠	Pass																								
Pass	Pass																										

A total of 55 IMPs were swung on this board in four of the Junior matches yesterday. The largest swing came in the Kompa/Dhir U26 USA2 Semi-final.

Harper and Schwartz reached 6S on a reasonable competitive auction. They could have collected 1100 defending 6H. In 6S, a heart was led. Harper ruffed in dummy and led a small club toward his hand. Amer made the fatal play when he rose with the CA. Because of the favorable club position, Harper was able to take 12 tricks.

Amer returned the HA. Harper ruffed in dummy, drew trumps and claimed 12 tricks when the CQ fell.

At the other table in this match, Herman and Snowden reached 6D. A spade was led. Snowden played three rounds of trumps and led a club. Kompa took no chances. He won the CA and eventually collected a diamond trick for down one.

Kompa could have ducked the CA and defeated 6D an extra trick, but why take a chance when you never know what happened to your partners... In fact, beating the contract an extra trick would not have gained even one IMP. 17 IMPs to Kompa

In the Zie/Xiao U16 Final, things went quite differently. The auctions:

Open Room:


Yue	Xie	Xiao	Xu
			Pass
1♦	2♥	Dbl	4♥
Pass	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Closed Room:

Cedrone	Zhou	Posternak	Hu
			Pass
1♣	2♥	3♣	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In the Open Room, Yue opened a Precision diamond and settled in the par 5S contract. Xie led the HT. Yue discarded a club from Dummy. Xu won the HA. A small club at this point would give declarer a chance to go wrong, but Xu was unaware and cashed the CA and switched to a diamond. With the favorable club lie, declarer collected 11 tricks, making 5S.

In the Closed Room, Cedrone and Posternak sold out to 4H. They defeated this two tricks but lost 11 IMPs. It could have been defeated three, but a ruff and sluff allowed declarer to take 8 tricks.

Open Room Board 3  Fashingbauer: 65 IMPs Thapa: 244 IMPs	E/W Vul.	N Johnstone ♠ 1072 ♥ Q109832 ♦ J9 ♣ Q8	<table border="1"> <tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr> <tr><td>1♣</td><td>2♥</td><td>Dbl</td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Dbl</td><td>4♥</td></tr> <tr><td>4♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr> </table>	West	North	East	South	1♣	2♥	Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass	Dbl	4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass	Rona Match Closed Room
	West	North	East	South																
	1♣	2♥	Dbl	Pass																
	Pass	Pass	Dbl	4♥																
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass																	
W Thapa ♠ AQ65 ♥ KJ4 ♦ 65 ♣ K742	E Lin ♠ KJ83 ♥ ♦ AKQ74 ♣ J963																			
Closed Room: 4♠ W -1 -100	S Kolesnik ♠ 94 ♥ A765 ♦ 10832 ♣ A105	<table border="1"> <tr><th>Hseih</th><th>Zhang</th><th>Liu</th><th>Chang</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>1♣</td><td>3♥</td><td>Dbl</td><td>4♥</td></tr> <tr><td>4♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr> </table>	Hseih	Zhang	Liu	Chang				Pass	1♣	3♥	Dbl	4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass		
Hseih	Zhang	Liu	Chang																	
			Pass																	
1♣	3♥	Dbl	4♥																	
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass																	

(Continued from page 8)

In the Rona Match, both tables reached a comfortable 4S contract. In the Open Room, a fourth best heart was led. Thapa discarded a club from dummy and Kolesnik won her HA. A diamond was returned. Thapa won in dummy, played two rounds of spades followed by the king and queen of diamonds discarding a club from her hand. Johnstone could have ruffed the third diamond and held the contract to four, however, she discarded a heart and eventually, Declarer took 11 tricks.

In the Closed Room, Zhang made an aggressive 3H overcall on her six card suit. Liu made a negative double; Chang raised to 4H and Hseih bid 4S. The opening lead was the DJ. Hseih won it in dummy and played a club; Chang ducked and Hseih won the king in her hand. Hseih played the HK pitching a club from dummy and allowing Chang to win the HA. A diamond was returned, Hseih winning in dummy. Hseih led a small diamond from dummy and ruffed in hand with the five. Zhang overruffed, played the CQ, creating an interesting position... Chang needs to overtake the club and give her partner a club ruff to defeat the hand. Down one was worth 13 IMPs to Thapa

Open Room

Wei	Kaplan	C Liu	Jolly
			Pass
1♣	2♥	Dbl	5♥
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

Kaplan vs Wei

Closed Room

Kristens	Yin	KRosent	C Shen
			Pass
1♣	2♥	Dbl	4♥
Pass	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

In the Open Room of the U26 Final, Jolly attempted to put maximum pressure on his opponents by jumping to 5H. Wei chose the simple solution of doubling 5H with his good defensive hand. Wei and Liu took all their tricks and collected 800 on the board.

In the Closed Room, Kristensen and Rosenberg bid to 5S when Rosenberg tried for slam with his fine three-suiter. Yin led a fifth best heart. Kristensen discarded a club from dummy and Shen won his ace. Shen made the key play: He returned a small club. Kristensen ducked, losing to Yin's CQ. Yin returned a club to the ace and scored a ruff to defeat the contract two tricks. Nice play by Shen.

14 IMPs to Wei

Today's Trivia...

What Broadway musical broke the record for Tony nominations in 2016?
Hamilton (16 nominations)

What is the main ingredient in thousand island dressing?
Mayonnaise

What island state was formerly known by the name Formosa?
Taiwan (Republic of China)

When found on a vehicle's speedometer, what do the letters MPH stand for?
Miles Per Hour

Which snake, whose untreated bite is almost 100 percent fatal, is the fastest snake on land?
Black Mamba

What is the three letter airport code for the Los Angeles International Airport?
LAX

Including Rudolph, how many reindeer is Santa Claus said to have?
Nine (Rudolph, Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, and Blitzen)

Who produced & directed the American epic aviation war film "Hell's Angels", released in 1930?
Howard Hughes

What type of animal is Looney Tunes' fictional character Foghorn J. Leghorn?
Rooster (Leghorn rooster)

According to the popular Christmas song, "Frosty the Snowman", what are the snowman's eyes made out of?
Coal

What was John Candy's character's name in the 1987 comedy movie, "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles"?
Del Griffith

What does the acronym USB stand for when referring to a computer port?
Universal Serial Bus

In the United States, what holiday is celebrated every year on the 4th Thursday of November?
Thanksgiving

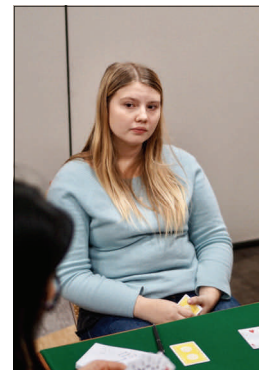
"Mare Tranquillitatis" is the Latin name for what feature found on Earth's moon?
Sea of Tranquility

Who is the former drummer for Nirvana who became the front man for the Foo Fighters?
David Grohl

In the United States and Canada, 1 ton is a unit of measure that contains how many pounds?
2000

The men's magazine GQ was formerly known by what longer name?
Gentlemen's Quarterly

Who were the first two astronauts to land on the moon in 1969?
Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin



<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Closed Room Board 23 D </div> <div style="margin-top: 5px;"> Fashingbauer: 89 IMPs Thapa: 312 IMPs </div>	All Vul.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> N Zhang ♠ A96 ♥ A98632 ♦ J72 ♣ K </div>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♠</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♥</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td></td></tr> </table>	West	North	East	South				1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass	
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<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> W Johnstone ♠ K10 ♥ J74 ♦ A864 ♣ QJ84 </div> <div style="margin-top: 5px; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> Open Room: 4♣ E = +130 </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> S Chang ♠ QJ542 ♥ KQ5 ♦ Q1095 ♣ 7 </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> E Kolesnik ♠ 873 ♥ 10 ♦ K3 ♣ A1096532 </div>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><th>Thapa</th><th>Miller</th><th>Lin</th><th>Fashinbauer</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td><td>3♣</td><td>Dbl</td></tr> <tr><td>4♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr> </table>	Thapa	Miller	Lin	Fashinbauer				Pass	Pass	1♥	3♣	Dbl	4♣	Pass	Pass	Pass				
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Open Room

In the Open Room of the Rona Final, Thapa and Lin bid to 4C on their 11 card fit. Clubs split 1-1 as is marginally percentage and Lin brought home the contract, losing the expected two spades and one heart for +130.

In the Closed Room, Johnstone and Kolesnik had an opportunity to defeat 4S without finding the exotic underlead of the DA. Johnstone led the CQ. Kolesnik won her ace. During the auction, both North and South bid or raised both hearts and spades making the chance of a heart ruff really remote. Kolesnik should have considered that in a vacuum, it was equally likely for her partner to hold the DA as the HA... and the opponents' auction made it even more likely since the opponents were known to hold more hearts than her side held. Had she shifted to the DK and a diamond to her partner's ace, she would have been able to ruff the third round of diamonds to defeat the hand. As it was, she led her HT and declarer collected eleven tricks. 13 IMPs to Thapa

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Open Room Board 23 D </div> <div style="margin-top: 5px;"> Xiao: 149 IMPs Xie: 32 IMPs </div>	All Vul.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> N Zhou ♠ A96 ♥ A98632 ♦ J7 ♣ K </div>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td><td>3♣</td><td>4♥</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td></td></tr> </table>	West	North	East	South				Pass	Pass	1♥	3♣	4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass	
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Closed Room

In the Closed Room of the U16 Final, Cedrone and Posternak stopped in an easy heart partial and made three on the lead of DK followed by a diamond to the ace and a ruff after West opened 1D.

The defense was identical in the Open Room, however, Zhou and Hu had bid the game, and Xu, West, had passed in second seat. Without the diamond opening, it was far tougher to find the diamond lead. Xie did well by leading it, defeating the game and gaining 6 IMPs for his team.

D Open Room Board 24 Fashingbauer: 89 IMPs Thapa: 325 IMPs	None Vul.	N Miller ♠ J108 ♥ A ♦ 98432 ♣ 7643	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>West</th> <th>North</th> <th>East</th> <th>South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Dbl</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>2♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>5♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	West	North	East	South	1♠	Pass	2♣	Dbl	Pass	2♦	2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
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W Thapa ♠ KQ974 ♥ KJ2 ♦ A7 ♣ 952	S Fashingbauer ♠ 62 ♥ 987543 ♦ KJ106 ♣ K	E Lin ♠ A53 ♥ Q106 ♦ Q5 ♣ AQJ108																													

West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	2♣	Dbl
Pass	2♦	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Closed Room: 4♠ W = +420

On Board 25 of the Fashingbauer/ Thapa Rona match, Thapa/Lin bid to an aggressive 6S contract.

It looks like this slam will require trumps to behave with the CK inside. Miller led the HA and shifted to a low club.

Declarer is at the crossroads. Her next play will make a five trick and 23 IMP difference.

If declarer makes the decidedly against-the-odds play of rising with the CA, the CK will fall and declarer will take 12 tricks.

As it was, Thapa finessed the club and the opponents took that trick and the next four tricks on a crossruff for -250.

At the other table Johnstone/Kolesnik settled in a simple 4S contract.

The HA was led and this was followed by a diamond shift. Eventually, declarer took the losing club finesse and made four spades for +420.

12 IMPs to Fashingbauer.