

Past Play Problem No. 6 Solution

How should West play 7♣? North leads a trump.

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

Franck Multon of France was still a junior when he played this grand slam at the 1988 World Team Olympiad. (He made a grand slam on the next board too, which you can see tomorrow.)

Multon won the trump lead in hand, ruffed a diamond, cashed ♥A, ruffed a heart low, ruffed another diamond, ruffed a heart high, ruffed the last diamond, and a fourth heart, the suit dividing 4-3. He then drew the last trump and claimed. Ruffing out the hearts was necessary as the spade finesse was losing. If the hearts are 5-2 you must rely on a squeeze or the spade finesse. Where North has the five hearts there may be a show-up squeeze.

South held:

♠ Q 4 3
♥ K 10 7 4
♦ A 9 7 6 5
♣ 8

These problems are taken from a new book published this month by Masterpoint Press with selections from Bridge Magazine's Problem Corner by Patrick Jourdain.

Sport News

Cycling



Mark Cavendish produced another superb sprint finish to hold off Norway's Thor Hushovd and clinch his third stage win of this year's Tour de France. The Manxman attacked in the last 200m, and was accelerating away from Hushovd, his main rival for the green jersey, when he

crossed the line in Issoudun.

Italy's Rinaldo Nocentini keeps the yellow jersey, with a six-second lead.

But Britain's Bradley Wiggins was caught up in a crash near the finish and drops out of the top five overall. Seven-time champion Lance Armstrong and 2007 winner Alberto Contador both finished safely near the front of the peloton. But, like Wiggins, their Astana team-mate Levi Leipheimer was affected by a split in the main group and lost 15 seconds on the other contenders in the General Classification.

Football



Manchester City have completed the signing of ex-Manchester United striker Carlos Tevez for a fee believed to be £25.5m and on a five-year deal. The Argentine, 25, left Old Trafford last month after rejecting their offer of

turning his loan spell with them into a permanent switch.

What a Dummy

There was a curious happening when Netherlands met Czech Republic during the Girls Championship. The Spangenberg sisters, Sigrid and Jamilla, for Netherlands, were playing against Katerina Ticha and Anna Marie Cerna, for the Czech Republic.

On one deal, Sigrid became dummy and duly put her hand down, but Anna Marie also started to put her hand on the table as though she were the dummy. As Jamilla (declarer) could not see what was happening, Sigrid called the director. He told her that dummy could not call the director but, as he was walking away, asked what happened. When told about the situation he came back, saying that this was the one time dummy could call for help.

Only Anna Marie's clubs had been exposed and the ruling was that they were all major penalty cards, to be played at the first legal opportunity but, of course, with lead penalties against Katerina. The director explained, for example, that if someone led the ace of hearts and Anna Marie did not have any hearts, declarer could ask her to throw any club away, even the ace. Understandably, the atmosphere at the table was a little tense at this point.

Anyway, the director made everything clear and Katerina promptly led the ace of hearts, which brought laughter from everyone and suddenly the atmosphere was friendly and relaxed once more.

Monday 13th July 2009

(Glad it is not Friday)

*The roof has been repaired
The Dutch girls at breakfast are nervous
As are the Danes at the next table
Cold contracts are going down
The Polish team recovers
Netherlands makes mistakes
But so does Denmark
Scores more and more important
Elegance of play ignored
Outburst of joy
As well for Polish and Netherlands
French girls gracious losers
Freddy sings about Champions
We all know the Polish anthem.*

*Taxi to Brasov hard to find
In centre all sorts of familiar faces
Girls in cosmetics store
Nice prices, lots of offers
Brasov on the mountain
Reflections of Hollywood
Time to go back
Prepare for Round 12
System Cards, Conventions
Nothing like a bridge tournament
Expectations, actions, wishes
Players, coaches, captains
They all go to sleep
Wake up and fight
In our so precious game.*

Calcio