

Volume 19, Issue 14
April 25, 2026

“Trials” and Tribulations MUSBC

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

USBF President
Geoff Hampson
USBF Vice President
Christal Henner
USBF COO & Secretary
Jan Martel
USBF CFO & Treasurer
Max Schireson
USBF Recorder
Jack Oest
jost@rcn.com
773-387-9378
USBF Chief

Communications Officer
Suzi Subeck
Directors
McKenzie Myers, DIC
Ken Horwedel
Chris Wiegand

Tournament Organizer
Jan Martel
Software Expert
Al Hollander
VuGraph Organizers
Rob Barrington
Jan Martel
Chris Wiegand

Appeals Administrator
Suzi Subeck, Chairman
Appeals Panel:
Wafik Abdou
David Berkowitz
Cheri Bjerkan

Tommy Carmichael
Rich DeMartino
Marty Fleisher
Ron Gerard
Geoff Hampson
Marty Hirschman
George Jacobs
Ralph Katz
Chip Martel
Jeff Meckstroth
Kerri Sanborn
Danny Sprung
Adam Wildavsky

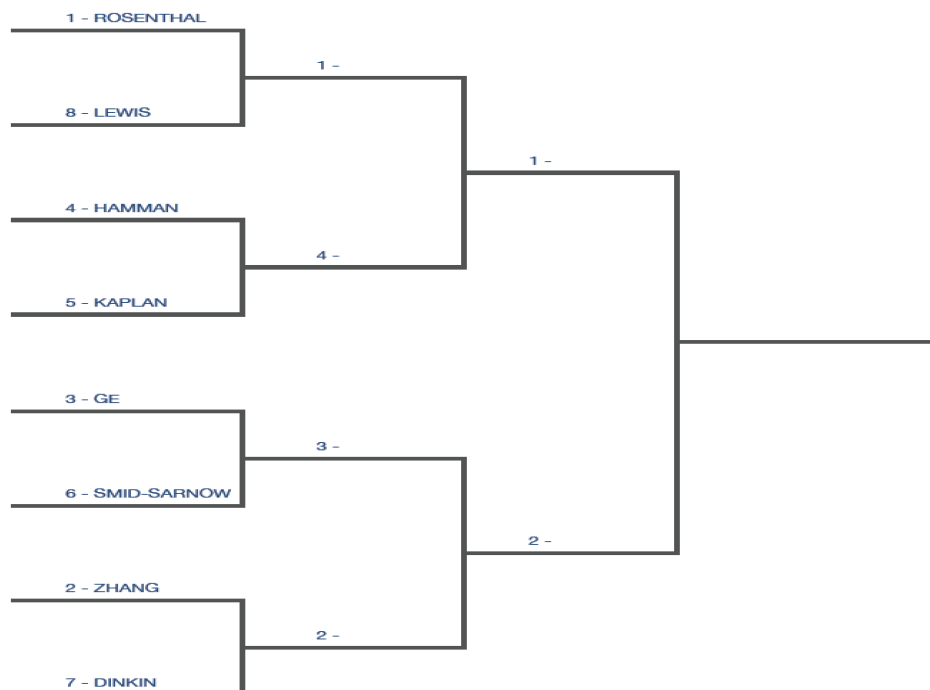
Bulletin Editor
Suzi Subeck

Hospitality
Marie-France Benoit
Marge Morgan

2026 USBC Mixed — Round Robin Cross Table

After Round 15 · Top 8 qualify to next stage

Team	Total	5	6	15	12	14	9	8	4	11	13	7	3	1	2	10	Bye	Corr.	Pos.
5 Ge	190.81		9.63	9.63	14.86	17.92	18.99	15.10	8.57	12.71	2.39	16.93	9.63	16.75	13.58	14.62	10.00	-0.50	1.
6 Hamman	189.42	10.37		3.43	16.18	9.26	13.30	11.43	17.28	17.61	14.62	16.18	14.62	3.43	12.71	20.00	10.00	-1.00	2.
15 Zhang	171.74	10.37	16.57		8.57	17.45	14.11	11.77	5.14	5.89	12.41	9.63	11.77	10.37	13.58	14.11	10.00	0.00	3.
12 Rosenthal	170.47	5.14	3.82	11.43		7.59	8.57	1.25	10.00	18.62	16.57	15.33	17.77	12.09	17.92	14.37	10.00	0.00	4.
14 Smid-Sarnow	164.20	2.08	10.74	2.55	12.41		6.15	13.30	17.61	9.26	8.91	14.86	9.63	15.33	16.75	14.62	10.00	0.00	5.
9 Lewis	162.33	1.01	6.70	5.89	11.43	13.85		17.45	7.29	9.63	11.77	15.55	15.33	0.46	20.00	15.97	10.00	0.00	6.
8 Kaplan	159.67	4.90	8.57	8.23	18.75	6.70	2.55		18.07	4.03	11.09	7.59	14.11	19.74	8.23	17.11	10.00	0.00	7.
4 Dinkin	159.30	11.43	2.72	14.86	10.00	2.39	12.71	1.93		7.91	6.15	17.45	7.29	18.49	15.97	20.00	10.00	0.00	8.
11 Millens	155.34	7.29	2.39	14.11	1.38	10.74	10.37	15.97	12.09		15.10	3.07	14.62	13.01	11.09	14.11	10.00	0.00	9.
13 Rubenstein	154.69	17.61	5.38	7.59	3.43	11.09	8.23	8.91	13.85	4.90		1.25	7.91	16.93	19.54	18.07	10.00	0.00	10.
7 Henner	138.14	3.07	3.82	10.37	4.67	5.14	4.45	12.41	2.55	16.93	18.75		1.65	13.30	17.45	13.58	10.00	0.00	11.
3 Ding	137.67	10.37	5.38	8.23	2.23	10.37	4.67	5.89	12.71	5.38	12.09	18.35		3.43	8.57	20.00	10.00	0.00	12.
1 Bramley	137.30	3.25	16.57	9.63	7.91	4.67	19.54	0.26	1.51	6.99	3.07	6.70	16.57		14.86	17.77	10.00	-2.00	13.
2 Compton	89.01	6.42	7.29	6.42	2.08	3.25	0.00	11.77	4.03	8.91	0.46	2.55	11.43	5.14		9.26	10.00	0.00	14.
10 Li	66.41	5.38	0.00	5.89	5.63	5.38	4.03	2.89	0.00	5.89	1.93	6.42	0.00	2.23	10.74		10.00	0.00	15.



Today's Matchups!

Mixed Schedule:

Mixed Schedule			
Round Robin (15 or 16 TEAMS - with 15, each team has a sit out)			
Day	Date	Time	Boards
Wednesday	April 22	10:00 - 11:25	Round 1 Boards 1-11
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 2 Boards 12-22
		2:30 - 3:55	80 minute Lunch Break
Thursday	April 23	4:15 - 5:40	Round 3 Boards 23-33
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 4 Boards 34-44
			Round 5, Boards 45-55
Friday	April 24	10:00 - 11:25	Round 6 Boards 1-11
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 7 Boards 12-22
		2:30 - 3:55	80 minute Lunch Break
Saturday	April 25	4:15 - 5:40	Round 8 Boards 23-33
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 9 Boards 34-44
			Round 10, Boards 45-55
Sunday	April 26	10:00 - 11:25	Round 11 Boards 1-11
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 12 Boards 12-22
		2:30 - 3:55	80 minute Lunch Break
Monday	April 27	4:15 - 5:40	Round 13 Boards 23-33
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 14 Boards 34-44
			Round 15, Boards 45-55
Quarterfinal			
Tuesday	April 28	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Break
Wednesday	April 29	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
			Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Thursday	April 30	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Break
Friday	April 30	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
			Segment 8 Boards 46-60
Semifinal			
Saturday	April 25	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Break
Sunday	April 26	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
			Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Final			
Monday	April 27	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Break
Tuesday	April 28	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
			Segment 8 Boards 46-60

Mixed Entries:

Bramley	Bart Bramley, Capt Kit Woolsey	Kitty Cooper JoAnna Stansby
Compton	Chris Compton, Capt Gigi Simpson Jeff Meckstroth	Donna Compton Gary Cohler Candyce Pfluger
Ding	Hong Ding, Capt Lin-huan Chen	Ming Sheng Ding-hwa Hsieh
Dinkin	Sam Dinkin, Capt Cenk Tuncok Adam Grossack	Avery Silverstein Lynn Baker Emma Kolesnik
Ge	Xin Ge, Capt Michael Rosenberg Kevin Rosenberg	Disa Eythorsdottir Debbie Rosenberg Amber Lin
Hamman	Kristen Onsgard, Capt Bob Hamman Kerri Sanborn	Mike Passell Jill Meyers Steve Sanborn
Henner	Christal Henner, Capt Steve Garner Adam Wildavsky	Uday Ivatury Shawn Quinn Pam Wittes
Kaplan	Adam Kaplan, Capt Harrison Luba Garth Yettick	Jenni Carmichael Allison Howard
Lewis	Linda Lewis, Capt Raluca Nistor Max Rotaru	Finn Kolesnik Radu Nistor Ljudmila Kamenova
Li	Music Li, Capt Genie Thai-May	Qinqin Zhang Leyi Chen
Millens	Shan Huang, Capt Sandra Rimstedt Kevin Dwyer-Rimstedt	Joan Millens Cecilia Dwyer-Rimstedt
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken Eldad Ginossar	Migry Campanile Olivia Schireson Dana Berkowitz
Rubenstein	Stewart Rubenstein, Capt Joe Grue Zach Grossack	Anam Tebha Jenny Wolpert Giorgia Botta
Smid_Sarnow	Ariel Smid-Sarnow, Capt Philip Wang	Julie Arbit Nicole Qian
Zhang	Sylvia Shi, Capt Susan Zhang Janice Molson	Daniel Korbel Eddie Wold Geoff Hampson



BOARD: 4
 DEALER: WEST
 VULNERABLE: ALL

♠ AK75432
 ♥ 3
 ♦ 97
 ♣ KJ4

♠
 ♥ AQ964
 ♦ AKJ843
 ♣ 63

♠ QJ8
 ♥ J82
 ♦ QT52
 ♣ A72

Par: -1100

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	7	0	1	9	1
S	:	:	2	:	:
E	5	13	11	4	11
W	6	:	:	:	:

♠ T96
 ♥ KT75
 ♦ 6
 ♣ QT985

The 2026 Mixed Teams Championship has produced an inordinate number of double game swings in the last two days. Seeing 16 and 17 IMP swings is normally rare.

On Board 4 from the final day of the RoundRobin, we see two 16 IMP swings: one in Compton/Ge where the Open Room played in 5D E/W and the Closed Room played in 4SX N/S. The other is in Li/Zhang where the Open Room played in 4H E/W and the Closed Room played in 3SX N/S.

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	Contract	Result	Score	IMP
						NS	EW Home Visiting
Bramley	Smid_Sarnow	Open	5♦	W ♠K	=	600	3
		Closed	4♠x	N ♥2	-2	500	
Compton	Ge	Open	5♦	W ♠K	+1	620	16
		Closed	4♠x	N ♦2	=	790	
Ding	Dinkin	Open	5♦	W ♠K	+1	620	1
		Closed	5♦	W ♠K	=	600	
Hamman	Kaplan	Open	5♦	W ♠K	=	600	1
		Closed	5♦	W ♣4	+2	640	
Henner	Rubenstein	Open	5♦	W ♣K	=	600	3
		Closed	5♠x	N ♥2	-2	500	
Li	Zhang	Open	4♥	W ♠K	+1	650	16
		Closed	3♠x	N ♥2	=	730	
Millens	Rosenthal	Open	6♦	W ♠A	=	1370	13
		Closed	5♦	W ♠K	+1	620	

There are an easy 12 tricks in diamonds, 13 tricks double-dummy. The North player opened a high spade unless their partner doubled a club cue in which case they led a club. Declarer ruffs, pulls trump and finishes the HK.

In spades, N/S, there is one loser in each suit: Three aces in the side suits and a trump loser because of the 3-0 split.

Only Michael Rosenberg took 10 tricks in spades and he was in 4SX.

Pfluger, East, led a diamond to partner, Chris Compton. Compton won the king and could have saved the day by cashing his HA before shifting to clubs to collect partner's CA. Then the defense could sit back and wait for its trump trick. Instead, Chris shifted to clubs directly. Pfluger won the CA but was unsure whether Compton held the CK or the HA. Likely thinking that he might have cashed the HA if he held it, she continued clubs. This was devastating to the defense. Rosenberg won the CK, pulled trump, played the CJ to the CQ, played the CT, discarded his heart loser and claimed 10 tricks!

16 IMPs to Ge

Delayed Kibitzing Throughout the USBCs on the LoveBridge site!

There will be delayed kibitzing for both of the 2026 USBCs on the LoveBridge website. Live Vugraph is delayed 30 minutes or until all tables have completed play on a board, whichever is later.

Live video commentary of Finals

In addition to your opportunity to watch the 2026 USBC play on LoveBridge Vugraph, Rob Barrington, Ewan McNay, and Adam Parrish will be hosting full day video commentary of the 2nd day of both Finals on the USBF YouTube channel at 11:30 AM and 5:00 PM EDT, on the following dates:

- April 21, Open Final, April 30, Mixed Final.

Highlights after each stage of each event

Teams of experts, including some of the players in the USBCs, will join Rob, Ewan, and Adam for round ups of each stage of play. These BridgeCasts will be posted on the USBF YouTube channel the morning after each segment airs:

- 4/16 - Open Round Robin;
- 4/18 - Open Quarterfinal;
- 4/20 - Open Semifinal;
- 4/25 - Mixed Round Robin;
- 4/27 - Mixed Quarterfinal;
- 4/29 - Mixed Semifinal.



Heading for a
Big disaster!
Wish that they would
Just play faster!

Kibitzing Schedule (EDT) For all KO days of the 2026 USBCs, kibitzing times will be :

Segment 1: 11:30 am EDT

Segment 2: 1:45 pm EDT

Segment 3: 5:00 pm EDT

Segment 4: 7:15 pm EDT

For Round Robin days, each kibitzing segment will start 30 minutes after play starts.

To view a Single Table, click on the blue arrow on the scores page. It provides the largest view of one table, with buttons to get to other information.

Match View will show the two tables of a match side by side on your screen;

Split View will give you 4 panes of your window and you can put whatever you want in each of them to watch 2 side-by-side matches at once, or one match and the scores of others.

Click on Buttons to get interesting information:

- The image of the sticker with the number of the board (upper right) takes you to the results of the board;
- the arrow in the bottom right corner takes you to the scoresheet
- the DDS shows the double dummy analyses. Besides that there is a button for the other table of the same match,
- at the top left corner you can see the bidding with alerts and the explanations (mouse over), the tricks already played, and the double dummy analysis for the available number of tricks with the par score.
- **NEW THIS YEAR:** Written commentary will show in a large area on the left of the screen in Single Table view and at the top of the screen in Match View. If you are interesting in providing written commentary, please email Jan and she will get you authorized.

Navigation icons:

While surfing here and there in the vugraph, or amongst the archive sessions, there are icons to help you. You can always go back to the main page with the “house” or to the standings with the “scores”. There is also a built-in back button because the back button of your browser will always take you to the starting page. If this is not what you wanted, push next in your browser and you can continue where you were.

Helpful Information for Players On Site!

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.



MASSAGES

Our wonderful massage therapist, Ela, will come to the hotel whenever there are enough people who want a massage. Hopefully, she will be coming on Sunday, April 12.

Please let Jan Martel (on site) know if you want a massage that Sunday or on any other day and Jan will arrange it.

HOSPITALITY

The hospitality suite (room 2321) will be open most of the day. You may watch Vugraph or get a snack when there. We are providing breakfast and lunch each day of play. **Marie France Benoit** will be our lead hostess, with help from **Jacob** and **Marge Morgan**. If you can volunteer to help with hospitality (mainly picking up last-minute things at Costco and other local stores) please let Jan Martel or Marie France know and they will put you to work!!

Breakfast: From 8:00-10:00 am. There will be the usual breakfast food: cereal, bagels, toast, salmon, fruit, juice, coffee and tea. Keurig coffee will be available in the hospitality suite. So long as the suite doesn't become too crowded, you are welcome to eat there.

Lunch: On the first three days of the Open and Mixed USBCs we will be serving a buffet lunch in the hotel restaurant. The hotel is unwilling to have people take food out of the restaurant to eat someplace else. Lunch will be served from 12:30-2:30. The second Round Robin match each day is scheduled to end at 1:10 and the third match starts at 2:30.

After the first 3 days of each event, lunch will be available in the hospitality suite from 1:45-3:45. There will be a main dish (sandwiches, chicken, main dish salads, pizza) as well as tuna salad, green salad, cheese, fruit, berries, cookies or other desserts.

There is a water dispenser in the hospitality suite. Please bring a water bottle to use. Soft drinks will be available in refrigerators. As with breakfast, you are welcome to eat in the hospitality suite unless it is too crowded.

Let us know if you have specific needs: please make our hosts aware of your needs and they will do their best to accommodate you.

Playing Rooms & Player's Break Room

We have a water dispenser in the Office/Player's Break Room (1321), as well as soft drinks, Nespresso, some packaged snacks, and some fruit. We ask that you recognize that we are working in that room, and others are playing in the rooms next door and across the hall, so please try to keep voices low.

NEW: The hotel has requested we use coupons for the in restaurant lunches we are providing. Please see your team captain to get a coupon on days when meals are being provided in the hotel dining room.

Puzzle Page ...

Through the Looking Glass

Find and circle all of the Through the Looking Glass words that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell a quote by Humpty Dumpty from the book.

W H E H F A W N S R E T S Y O F R O G
A L I C E S S A L G G N I K O O L N I
U P S O T R D R A U G D A I S I E S E
A O W O W E O R T D R E D Q U E E N G
I E L R E T K I T T Y H S T M H E N A
N T I B E N N W A N A R S U U T A J T
W R O E D E Y U H I R P A M R T A H S
O Y N L L P T K G I O O P T S L G O G
R D W E E R H H C R T T C O T I A N G
C I H P D A A I D O Y E L I N L I W A
N N T H U C S W L D W D Q K N K E R I
E A E A M G O N U L I R E U D U E C H
D H S N S N N M W E U T E E E D O S O
L S O T S H P I R A I M R B K E E E I
O T R T O T A S K H P M B N B T N R E
G A N N Y E I W W E T T I R E A C A H
N E D R A G E R L M T G R L E H J U O
T W E E D L E D E E H I O A E L R Q E
Y L I L R E G I T T N I H S I O L S R
T A O B B E E T L E V L S W E N S A S

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| ALICE | GNAT | OYSTERS | TIGER-LILY |
| BEETLE | GOAT | PAWNS | TRAIN |
| BOAT | GOLDEN CROWN | POETRY | TWEEDLEDEE |
| BROOCH | GUARD | RATTLE | TWEEDLEDUM |
| CARPENTER | HAIGHA | RED KING | UMBRELLA |
| CHESS | HATTA | RED KNIGHT | UNICORN |
| DAISIES | HILL | RED QUEEN | VIOLET |
| DINAH | HUMPTY DUMPTY | ROSE | WALRUS |
| ELEPHANT | JABBERWOCKY | SHAWL | WHITE KING |
| FAWN | KITTY | SNOWDROP | WHITE KNIGHT |
| FROG | LION | SOLDIERS | WHITE QUEEN |
| GARDEN | LOOKING GLASS | SQUARES | |



I've a heart...
So what the
heck!
I'm the coolest
In the deck!

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

Sudoku 1

Tom Swiftie: "Look at that laser!" Tom beamed.

Tom Swiftie: "I leave all my earthly possessions to the Scouts," Tom said willingly.

Tom Swiftie: "I'm dehydrated," Tom said dryly.

Tom Swiftie: "Hawaii is the best place to get married," Tom proposed.

Tom Swiftie: "You're going to freeze," Tom said coldly.

Tom Swiftie: "Pass the crustaceans, please," Tom said crabbily.

Tom Swiftie: "Home, home on the range ..." Tom sang plainly.

Tom Swiftie: "Where's my bacon?" Tom snorted.

Tom Swiftie: "I'd like some more blackberry pie!" Tom crowed.

Tom Swiftie: "I don't want a shot," Tom said in vain.

Tom Swiftie: "I can't think of anything for my paper," Tom said blankly.

(Continued on page 11)

Hard Sudoku

Sudoku Solutions on Page 12

Sudoku 2

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



Please be "scent" sitive! Many players have allergies and have trouble breathing when perfumed aromas are present! Thank you!!



World Bridge News...

Bridge Starter Pack on the WBF website, worldbridge.org linked to videos... Take a loot

Discovering bridge means stepping into a world where everyone finds their own kind of enjoyment: the thrill of play, the intellectual challenge, the desire to improve, or simply the joy of sharing a great moment together.

These ten short videos open the door to a fascinating game, accessible to all, where thoughtfulness and sociability go hand in hand. No prior experience is needed: follow the step-by-step guidance, try your first deals, and see why millions of players around the world never get tired of it.

Whether you're looking for a stimulating hobby, a demanding mind sport, or a new way to meet wonderful people, bridge has something to offer you.

Welcome to the adventure!

LESSON 1

Bridge Starter Pack

Discover the fundamentals: the deck, the players, and the basic flow of the game.

LESSON 2

Get ready to play Bridge

Taking your seat at the table, dealing and sorting the cards, a handy tip to stay organized

LESSON 3

Understanding Tricks: The Heart of Card Play

Understanding Tricks: The Heart of Card Play

LESSON 4

A "Super suit": Trumps

Discovering the idea of a trump, Ruffing: winning the trick without the led suit, When there are no trumps... or no trumps left

LESSON 5

Declarer, dummy, defense: Who does what in Bridge?

Attack, defense, and new roles, The dummy and the opening lead: Beginning the play, Planning a strategy to win

LESSON 6

Bidding in Bridge: Finding the Right Contract

What is the purpose of the auction, How does a bid work, Order of suits, majors, minors, and a full example

LESSON 7

Counting Your Points and Choosing Your Best Suit

Why evaluate your hand before you bid, The high-card point system, Choosing the trump suit... or No-Trump

LESSON 8

Game, Slam, Double: Reaching Higher in the Auction!

Game contracts: your first major objectives, Which game to choose: majors, No-Trump... and minors as a last resort, Slams, doubles, and redoubles: maximum bonuses... and maximum challenges

LESSON 9

Opening or passing: the 12-point rule, Priorities for opening... then for responding, Overcalling and a complete auction sequence

Game contracts: your first major objectives, Which game to choose: majors, No-Trump... and minors as a last resort, Slams, doubles, and redoubles: maximum bonuses... and maximum challenges

LESSON 10

Scoring basics: tricks and the trump suit, Games, slams, and undertricks, Scoring examples... and a lifetime to enjoy the game

Game contracts: your first major objectives, Which game to choose: majors, No-Trump... and minors as a last resort, Slams, doubles, and redoubles: maximum bonuses... and maximum challenges



Interactive on the Site

(Continued from page 12)

Tom Swiftie: "My walking stick broke," Tom snapped.
"Good. Now you won't complain about splinters," Bob said sharply.

Tom Swiftie: "I smell gas," Tom fumed.

Tom Swiftie: "Time for a snack," Tom snickered.

Tom Swiftie: "You're not working for my business anymore," Tom fired.

Tom Swiftie: "She tore my valentine in half!" said Tom half-heartedly.

Tom Swiftie: "We have too many quizzes in school!" Tom said testily.

Tom Swiftie: Tom piped up: "I need to fix that drain!"

Tom Swiftie: "Help me reel in this fish!" Tom wailed.

Tom Swiftie: "Wanna go bowling tonight?" Tom asked strikingly.

Tom Swiftie: "I love the Hokey Pokey!" Tom put in.

Tom Swiftie: "This is a good book," Tom said readily.

Tom Swiftie: "I love to try exotic spices," Tom said gingerly.

Tom Swiftie: "I'm tired of writing thank you cards," Tom noted sincerely.

Tom Swiftie: "I like sports!" Tom said gamely.

Tom Swiftie: "My willow is dead!" Tom said, weeping.

Tom Swiftie: "Stop eating like a pig!" Tom snorted.

Tom Swiftie: "May I have a spaniel for my birthday?" Tom asked doggedly.

Tom Swiftie: "May I say the prayer before dinner?" Tom asked gracefully.

Tom Swiftie: "Do you like goldfish?" Tom asked coyly.

Tom Swiftie: "Stop cracking your knuckles!" Tom popped off.

Tom Swiftie: "Watch out for skunks!" Tom said instinctively.

Tom Swiftie: "I'm not afraid to walk through that poison ivy," Tom said rashly.

Tom Swiftie: "My pet frog just died!" Tom croaked.

Tom Swiftie: "I only like white bread," Tom said wryly.

Tom Swiftie: "Hand me my winch," Tom said crankily.

Tom Swiftie: "Wool makes me itchy," Tom said sheepishly.

Tom Swiftie: "Did anyone catch the license plate number on that steamroller?" Tom asked flatly.



A Little Humor!

	Chisum	Delaney	Guard	March	White	16	19	24	27	32	beaver	blue heron	Canadian goose	red fox	red-tailed hawk
Arnold															
Derek															
Matt															
Randy															
Spencer															
beaver															
blue heron															
Canadian goose															
red fox															
red-tailed hawk															
16															
19															
24															
27															
32															

**Answer to Puzzle
on page 12
Bottom of Page**

First Name	Last Name	# of Babies	Report Topic

Mr. Tate’s science class went on a nature walk last Saturday at the local bird sanctuary, where they spent the day exploring the residents of the sanctuary and learning about the different creatures that lived there. At the end of the day, each student had to choose an animal or bird species that they had observed during the day and then write a report about it, which was due the following week. During their day of exploration, the students saw, not only a number of different varieties of nesting birds and ducks, but also a large variety of local wildlife that shared the sanctuary with the migrating birds. With the arrival of spring, many of the creatures at the sanctuary were caring for young and it quickly became a contest among the students to see who could spot the young babies first as they watched the wildlife go about their daily habits. Five boys in particular were very good at spotting the baby creatures, even when they were hidden away or camouflaged by their surroundings. Determine the full name of each of the best baby-spotters, the total number of babies that each has been the first to spot, and the animal or bird that each chose to write their assigned report

on at the end of the day.

1. Derek, who didn’t write about the beaver, found 32 babies, the most that one student found. Arnold’s last name wasn’t Guard. Matt’s last name wasn’t Chisum.
2. Arnold didn’t find as many babies as the boy who wrote about the red fox, but he found more than the boy whose last name was Delaney.
3. The boy whose last name was Chisum didn’t write about the beaver. The boy whose last name was Guard didn’t write about the blue heron.
4. The five boys, in no particular order, were the boy whose last name was White, the boy who wrote his report on beaver, the boy who saw 16 babies, Randy, and the boy who wrote about the blue heron.
5. Randy’s last name wasn’t March. The boy who found 19 babies wrote his report on the Canadian goose.
6. Spencer didn’t write about the red-tailed hawk, but he found three more babies than the boy who did.

Meet the Players



From the Stanford Splash:

Adam Kaplan writes:

I am interested in psychology, classics, and physics (in small doses). More importantly, I love bridge. I have been playing since I was 5, and have had both national and international success.

I play and teach bridge professionally, and I was a member of the US under-26 national bridge team. I won a gold medal in international competition last year, and have won multiple silver and bronze medals. I was on a Youth Bridge panel with Bill Gates, and have also beaten him a couple times at the bridge table (and that's the amazing thing about bridge -- I could never dream of beating him anywhere else!)

I love bridge because it provides an awesome challenge and a constant opportunity to learn and improve. No other game offers such a variety of challenges, and certainly no other game has as many cool people who play it!

(Continued from page 7)

Tom Swiftie: "I'm a genius," Tom said smartly.

Tom Swiftie: "May I borrow your drill?" Tom asked boringly.

Tom Swiftie: "There's a storm coming!" Tom thundered.

Tom Swiftie: "Get that dog off my lawn," Tom barked.

Tom Swiftie: "Don't rush me!" Tom said hastily.

Tom Swiftie: "Oil prices sure are high," Tom said crudely.

Tom Swiftie: "I like catsup," Tom mustered.

Tom Swiftie: "I need a pencil sharpener," Tom said bluntly.

Tom Swiftie: "Don't push that button," Tom exploded.

Tom Swiftie: "Colorado joined the Union in 1876," Tom stated

Tom Swiftie: "I might as well be dead," Tom croaked.

Tom Swiftie: "Can I go looking for the Grail again?" Tom requested.

Tom Swiftie: "I wish I could get a part in the play," Tom said dramatically.

Tom Swiftie: "You have the right to remain silent," Tom said arrestingly.

Tom Swiftie: "I love meat and potatoes," Tom said heartily.

Tom Swiftie: "Don't burn the bacon!" Tom said crisply.

Adam loves to travel. His travelogues complete with amazing pictures of exotic places can be found and enjoyed on FaceBook

Years ago, Adam played some with Peggy Kaplan. They were affectionately known as "Big Kaplan" and "Little Kaplan."

Here in Schaumburg, Adam is playing the Mixed USBC as a member of the Kaplan team with teammates Harrison Luba, Jenni Carmichael, Allison Howard and Garth Yet-tick.

Last year, Adam won the 2025 Bermuda Bowl, playing with Eddie Wold, Finn Kolesnik, Adam Grossack, John Hurd and Kevin Bathurst.

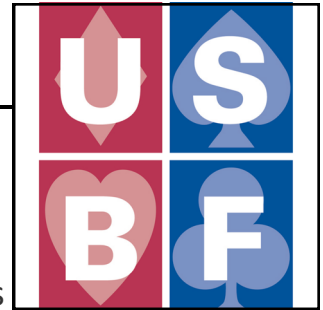


6	3	8	9	7	1	5	2	4
4	9	2	5	3	8	7	1	6
5	7	1	6	4	2	3	9	8
3	2	4	8	9	5	6	7	1
8	1	5	7	2	6	9	4	3
9	6	7	4	1	3	2	8	5
7	8	9	3	6	4	1	5	2
2	5	3	1	8	9	4	6	7
1	4	6	2	5	7	8	3	9

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

Sudoku Answers Puzzles on Page 7

Answer to Sudoku 1 Answer to Sudoku 2



USBF Supporting Membership

If you don't want to play in the USBF Championships that choose teams to represent the USA in the World Bridge Federation Championships, but do want to aid our events, a **Supporting Membership** can be the perfect way for you to be involved.

A Supporting Membership is \$25 for one year (\$75 for 3 years) and your donation will be used to cover inevitable expenses: attorney fees, accounting fees, website support services, tournament directors, insurance, WBF dues, and vugraph operators.

The USBF is an **all-volunteer** organization.

Our meetings are by conference call and at NABCS. Board members and the organization's officers are not compensated for meetings, travel, or hotel expenses.

(Continued from page 11)

Tom Swiftie: "Take a right and then a left at the cemetery," Tom said gravely.

Tom Swiftie: "I'll go feed the horses now," Tom said balefully.

Tom Swiftie: "Let's make our own Valentines," Tom said craft-ily.

Tom Swiftie: "I can't find my pet snake!" Tom hissed.



(Continued on page 9)

Answer to Logic Puzzle On Page 10

Spencer	White	19	Canadian goose
Randy	Guard	27	red fox
Matt	Delaney	16	red-tailed hawk
Derek	Chisum	32	blue heron
Arnold	March	24	beaver
First Name	Last Name	# of Babies	Report Topic

BOARD: 6
 DEALER: EAST
 VULNERABLE: E-W

♠ 7654
 ♥ T85
 ♦ Q875
 ♣ 76

♠ K8
 ♥ K74
 ♦ AK4
 ♣ AT542

♠ AQJT32
 ♥ A6
 ♦ J9
 ♣ KJ3

Par: -2220

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	0	4	4	0	0
EW	13	9	9	13	13

♠ 9
 ♥ QJ932
 ♦ T632
 ♣ Q98

We see more 16 and 17 IMP swings on Board 6.

Six pairs bid the makable grand slam in spades.

One pair bid the makeable grand in NT.

Six pairs stopped in the small slam... not an all bad decision since the success of the grand depends on guessing the CQ correctly.

One pair played in game!

With a 2-way finesse for the 13th trick, this hand made was exciting to watch on VuGraph... especially if you split the screen and watched both tables of a match play it simultaneously.

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	IMP		
					NS	EW Home Visiting	
Bramley	Smid_Sarnow	Open	7♠	E	♥J =	2210	12
		Closed	6N	W	♦5 +1	1470	
Compton	Ge	Open	7♠	E	♦2 -1	100	17
		Closed	6♠	E	♥J +1	1460	
Ding	Dinkin	Open	7♠	E	♥J -1	100	17
		Closed	6♠	E	♥Q =	1430	
Hamman	Kaplan	Open	7♠	E	♥Q =	2210	16
		Closed	3N	W	♥T +4	720	
Henner	Rubenstein	Open	6♣	W	♥5 =	1370	13
		Closed	7♠	E	♦3 =	2210	
Li	Zhang	Open	7♠	E	♥Q =	2210	-
		Closed	7N	E	♥J =	2220	
Millens	Rosenthal	Open	6♣	W	♦5 =	1370	3
		Closed	6♠	E	♥Q +1	1460	

Only Passell/Onsgard missed slam entirely, playing in 3NT. Onsgard opened the East hand 1S. Passell responded 2C showing a game force which could be short in clubs. Onsgard rebid 2S ... perhaps an understatement with 16 HCP and a six-card major headed by 100 honors? Passell bid 2NT and Onsgard raised to game.

16 IMPs to Kaplan when Howard and Yettick bid and made 7S in the other room.

W N E PASS

1♣ 1♦ 3♦ PASS

3NT PASS 4♣ PASS

4♥ PASS 4♠ PASS

6♣ PASS PASS PASS

1C=2+

3D=splinter for clubs

4S=cue bid

DDS

♠ QJ6
♥ T982
♦ KQ876
♣ J

N Shan Huang

♠ 9843
♥ KJ
♦ AJ53
♣ K92

W Chris Willenken

♠ AK5
♥ 54
♦ 2
♣ AQT7643

E Olivia Schireso

♠ T72
♥ AQ763
♦ T94
♣ 85

S Ioan Millens

OTHE W 3N

WEST 6♣

On Board 7, Chris Willenken brought home a pseudo squeeze to collect 12 tricks in the club slam.

Huang led the HT. Millens won her ace. Millens switched to the DT and Willenken won his ace.

Willenken started on a run of the clubs. Everyone followed to the CA. Huang pitched a diamond on the CK. Both opponents pitched hearts on the CQ. The CT drew the D4 from South, the S4 from West and the

H8 from North. North and South discarded diamonds on the C7 while Willenken shed a spade. Millens tossed a heart on the C6 while Willenken tossed the D5 and Huang the DK. On the last club, this was the position:

Millens could afford to discard hearts, but she may have lost count. She tossed the S7, Willenken played his D3 and Huang threw the H9. Willenken played the H5 off dummy to his king and Huang was pickled!

♠ QJ6
♥ T982
♦ KQ876
♣ J

N Shan Huang

♠ 9843
♥ KJ
♦ AJ53
♣ K92

W Chris Willenken

♠ AK5
♥ 54
♦ 2
♣ AQT7643

E Olivia Schireso

♠ T72
♥ AQ763
♦ T94
♣ 85

S Ioan Millens

OTHE W 3N

WEST 6♣

♣ 4

The 4-card end position.

♠ QJ6
♥ T982
♦ KQ876
♣ J

N Shan Huang

♠ 9843
♥ KJ
♦ AJ53
♣ K92

W Chris Willenken

♠ AK5
♥ 54
♦ 2
♣ AQT7643

E Olivia Schireso

♠ T72
♥ AQ763
♦ T94
♣ 85

S Ioan Millens

♥ K

♥ 5

♥ 7

If he pitches the diamond, Willenken's DJ turns good and if he pitches a spade the 5 of spades turns good.

Chris made the best of an impossible situation. Well done! 12 IMPs to Rosenthal

Bramley	Smid_Sarnow	Open 6♣ W ♥T -1 100	-	-
		Closed 6♣ E ♦9 -1 100		
Compton	Ge	Open 3N W ♥9 +2 660	13	
		Closed 6♣ W ♥T -1 100		
Ding	Dinkin	Open 6♣ W ♦Q -1 100	13	
		Closed 3N W ♥9 +2 660		
Hamman	Kaplan	Open 3N W ♠Q +1 630	1	
		Closed 3N W ♥9 +2 660		
Henner	Rubenstein	Open 3N W ♥T +2 660	2	
		Closed 5♣ W ♥T = 600		
Li	Zhang	Open 3N W ♥T +3 690	3	
		Closed 5♣ E ♠2 = 600		
Millens	Rosenthal	Open 6♣ W ♥T = 1370		
		Closed 3N W ♥T +2 660		

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	1	=	★	IMP		
							NS	EW	Home
Bramley	Zhang	Open	3N	E	♥5	-1	100		
		Closed	5♦	E	♥A	-1	100		
Compton	Rubenstein	Open	4♦	E	♥A	-1	100		
		Closed	3N	W	♥Q	-1	100		
Ding	Kaplan	Open	3N	W	♥K	-1	100		
		Closed	3N	E	♥5	-1	100		
Dinkin	Millens	Open	3N	W	♥Q	=	600		12
		Closed	3N	W	♥Q	-1	100		
Ge	Rosenthal	Open	5♦	E	♥5	-2	200		
		Closed	5♦	E	♥A	-2	200		
Hamman	Smid_Sarnow	Open	3N	W	♥K	-1	100		
		Closed	3N	E	♥5	-1	100		
Lewis	Li	Open	5♦	E	♥A	-2	200		3
		Closed	3N	E	♥5	-1	100		

Board 16, no game is make-able.

There are two hearts and a spade to lose off the top in 5D and four hearts and a spade to lose off the top in 3NT.

One pair only out of the 14 in play achieved a + score E/W.

W	N	E	S
1♣	PASS	2♣	PASS
2♦	PASS	2♠	PASS
3♦	PASS	3♠	PASS
3NT	PASS	PASS	PASS

1C=2+

2C=Inv+, 5+D

2S=natural GF

3S=short club

♠ 943

♥ KQ87

♦ JT73

♣ J5

N Cenk Tunçok

Open Room

♠ JT

♥ J3

♦ 865

♣ AKQ863

W Kevin Dwyer-Rimstedt

♠ KQ52

♥ 942

♦ AKQ92

♣ T

E Cecilia D

♠ A876

♥ AT65

♦ 4

♣ 9742

S Lvnn Baker

In the Open Room of Dinkin/Millens, Kevin Dwyer-Rimstedt declared 3NT.

Cenk Tuncok led the HQ. Baker overtook the trick with her ace and played back the H5. Kevin played his jack and Tuncok DUCKED!

Suddenly the offense had nine cashers. Dwyer played the ace and king of diamonds and played a spade off the dummy. Baker won her ace and continued hearts. Tuncok won the king and cashed the H8.

Dwyer-Rimstedt claimed his game. 12 IMPs to Millens

BOARD: 23
 DEALER: SOUTH
 VULNERABLE: ALL

♠ Q742
 ♥ J74
 ♦ Q5
 ♣ KT64

♠ AKT85
 ♥ Q
 ♦ AJT4
 ♣ AQ7

♠ 63
 ♥ AKT986
 ♦ 8632
 ♣ 2

Par: -1430

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	6	2	1	2	2
E	7	11	12	11	8
W	:	:	:	:	10

♠ J9
 ♥ 532
 ♦ K97
 ♣ J9853

More 17 IMP swings on Board 23 of the 13th round.

East/West can bid slam in either red suit given their fits. Five pairs bid 6D while two pairs bid 6H.

6H will produce 12 tricks on any lead while 6D is unsuccessful on the lead of a heart.

In Kaplan/Rubenstein, in the Closed Room, Stewart Rubenstein found the heart lead to defeat the slam. (Ed Note: the final bid of 6D was alerted and explained: SDAM! Slams in Diamonds Always Make... Hmmm!)

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	IMP
				NS	EW Home Visiting
Compton	Rosenthal	Open	4♥ E	♣3 +2	680
		Closed	3N E	♣3 =	600
Ding	Lewis	Open	6♦ W	♣4 =	1370
		Closed	4♥ E	♦7 +2	680
Dinkin	Henner	Open	6♦ W	♥4 -1	100
		Closed	6♥ E	♦7 =	1430
Ge	Smid_Sarnow	Open	6♠ W	♥4 -2	200
		Closed	6♠ W	♣6 -2	200
Hamman	Li	Open	4♠ W	♥4 -1	100
		Closed	4♥ E	♣3 +2	680
Kaplan	Rubenstein	Open	6♥ E	♣8 =	1430
		Closed	6♦ W	♥4 -3	300
Millens	Zhang	Open	6♦ W	♠4 -1	100
		Closed	6♦ W	♥4 -1	100

2 Rubenstein led the H4. Kaplan won the ace in dummy, wanting to take the double diamond finesse. He played a diamond to the jack and North's queen. Rubenstein played a small spade and Kaplan won the jack with the ace. He cashed the CA producing this wish trick:



The C7 was ruffed and the diamond finesse was repeated successfully.

The SK cashed and the ST was ruffed in dummy and overruffed by Tebha. A club was won with Rubenstein's king.

The SQ was cashed and the contract failed by 3 tricks for -300 E/W.

In the Open Room, 6H was successful. Luba led the C8. Z Grossack won the ace in dummy, cashed the HQ, SA, SK and ruffed a spade. He pulled trump and played the D2 to the jack and North's queen. The CK was ruffed and the diamond finesse repeated.

Grossack was home with 12 tricks. He claimed his slam and 17 IMPs to Rubenstein.

Limey Jack...

Egads, Yanks:

Naturally Howie Dung made porridge of his picks, but even Limey Jack was strayed by the carnage of those who failed. The fine Millens team, Rubenstein, with one of the Grossack twins. Limey Jac did not expect Henner to qualify, but they were left far out in the fen. Bramley Limey Jack said had no chance, but more than a match out. And Compton, with M. Meckstroth, finishing 3 and a half matches out. Well, no time for spilt milk. On to the round of eight.

Rosenthal-Lewis: Two squads that went hither and yon as to qualifying and finally both made it just to play one another. Rosenthal is the one-seed but did not play like it. Limey Jack senses an upset in the offing.

Hamman-Kaplan: Hamman led much of the way and with M. Hamman himself only needing to play half, They should throttle Kaplan. That Kerry lass has been taking no prisoners for nigh on 45 years.

Ge-Smid-Sarnow: Limey Jack must first salute the hyphenated team for making it across the narrows, but Ge is very strong and will end this dream run.

Zhang-Dinkin: Dinkin never fell out of qualifying, but form prevails here with Zhang collecting an early victory.

Remember to put a few bob on Limey Jack's pick as they are not guessing, while Howie Dung plays pin the tail on himself.

Ta

I might look confused.
Or maybe betwixt.
But of all competition,
The toughest is Mixed!
The Broad's always right.
The Gent's always dense.
Nothing he says to her
Ever makes sense!
If he says, "Played it well."
She says, "I'm not stupid."
He says to himself,
"Why'd I listen to Cupid??"
So here are my picks.
Now you've got my back.
If I get something wrong,
Please cut me some slack.

Howie Doing...

Rosenthal/Lewis...
Never a doubt.
Rosenthal stays,
Leading throughout!
Hamman and Kaplan,
It's Hamman for certain.
Say "good night Kaplan."
For you it is curtains."
Ge versus Smid...
Who are we kidding?
Ge's teams the best
At play and at bidding!
About the last match...
Here's what I'm thinkin'
Zhang won't recover
From "System Sam Dinkin!"

Cross IMPs

1.	Debbie Rosenberg - Michael Rosenberg	Ge	1.18	182.41	154
2.	Kristen Onsgard - Mike Passell	Hamman	0.93	122.47	132
3.	Chris Willenken - Olivia Schireson	Rosenthal	0.85	93.21	110
4.	Adam Grossack - Emma Kolesnik	Dinkin	0.81	123.46	153
5.	Allison Howard - Garth Yettick	Kaplan	0.68	52.24	77
6.	Daniel Korbel - Sylvia Shi	Zhang	0.57	75.13	132
7.	Dana Berkowitz - Eldad Ginossar	Rosenthal	0.55	66.46	121
8.	Bob Hamman - Jill Meyers	Hamman	0.50	44.15	88
9.	Sandra Rimstedt - Shan Huang	Millens	0.49	37.85	77
10.	Giorgia Botta - Zach Grossack	Rubenstein	0.45	54.38	121
11.	Ariel Smid Sarnow - Julie Arbit	Smid_Sarnow	0.44	67.54	154
12.	Geoff Hampson - Janice Molson	Zhang	0.42	41.92	99
13.	Finn Kolesnik - Linda Lewis	Lewis	0.38	33.08	88
14.	Kerri Sanborn - Steve Sanborn	Hamman	0.36	31.54	88
15.	JoAnna Stansby - Kit Woolsey	Bramley	0.28	42.99	154
16.	Disa Eythorsdottir - Xin Ge	Ge	0.20	15.62	77
17.	Hong Ding - Ming Sheng	Ding	0.19	28.54	154
18.	Ljudmila Kamenova - Max Rotaru	Lewis	0.18	19.38	110
19.	Adam Kaplan - Jenni Carmichael	Kaplan	0.16	24.22	154
20.	Anam Tebha - Stewart Rubenstein	Rubenstein	0.15	11.63	77
21.	Cecilia Dwyer-Rimstedt - Kevin Dwyer-Rimstedt	Millens	0.09	14.25	154
22.	Radu Nistor - Raluca Nistor	Lewis	-0.03	-2.92	110
23.	Allison Howard - Harrison Luba	Kaplan	-0.03	-2.62	77
24.	Christal Henner - Uday Ivatury	Henner	-0.05	-5.35	99
25.	Nicole Qian - Philip Wang	Smid_Sarnow	-0.11	-16.24	154
26.	Adam Wildavsky - Pam Wittes	Henner	-0.17	-17.15	99
27.	Shawn Quinn - Steve Garner	Henner	-0.19	-20.63	110
28.	Avery Silverstein - Sam Dinkin	Dinkin	-0.20	-15.54	77
29.	Jenny Wolpert - Joe Grue	Rubenstein	-0.32	-35.65	110
30.	Ding-Hwa Hsieh - Lin-Huan Chen	Ding	-0.33	-50.08	153
31.	Bart Bramley - Kitty Cooper	Bramley	-0.41	-63.84	154
32.	Donna Compton - Jeff Meckstroth	Compton	-0.46	-56.16	121
33.	Cenk Tunçok - Lynn Baker	Dinkin	-0.57	-44.23	77
34.	Amber Lin - Kevin Rosenberg	Ge	-0.59	-45.77	77
35.	Joan Millens - Shan Huang	Millens	-0.61	-46.83	77
36.	Eddie Wold - Susan Zhang	Zhang	-0.73	-56.27	77
37.	Gary Cohler - Gigi Simpson	Compton	-0.91	-80.08	88
38.	Andrew Rosenthal - Migry Campanile	Rosenthal	-0.94	-72.48	77
39.	Candyce Pfluger - Chris Compton	Compton	-1.31	-129.72	99
40.	Music Li - Qinqin Zhang	Li	-1.31	-201.96	154
41.	Genie Jiang - Leyi Chen	Li	-1.42	-218.97	154