CONGRESS 2018

PLAY of the DAY

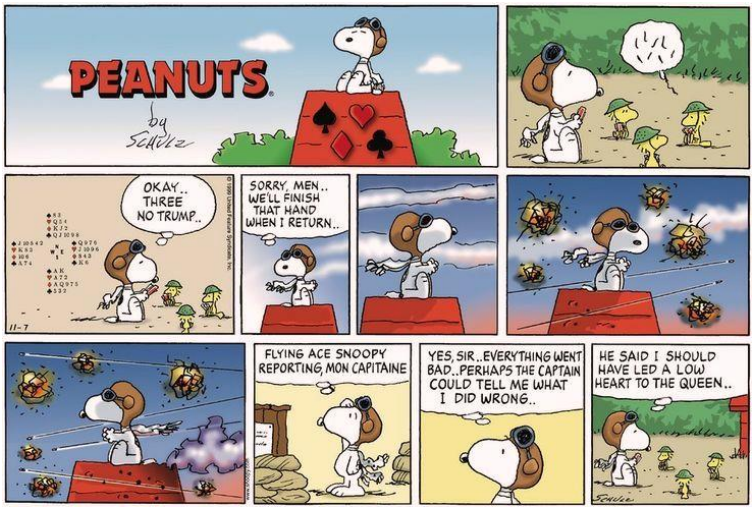
WHAT TO LEAD? WHAT TO LEAD?

We all know how important a lead can be, but when you're having to choose a lead that could give a par score, or bring declarer down one or down two, that's a conundrum. This one, from the Pairs Final Session 1, was brought to my attention by James Grant, *pictured here*.

Here's the hand in question:

Dlr: N Vul: EW	96432 KQ54 Q4 AJ	
K J72 K865 K9754		A5 A863 JT72 Q32
	QJT87 T9 A93 T86	

The bidding was short and sharp: 1S – P – 4S – ALL PASS
And yeas, of the thirteen leads that East can make, one will hold declarer to 2 (-100), one will let him make 3 (-50) and eleven will give him the contract (+420). So, what is that magic lead? First, smile at this, and then, all will be revealed!



You must lead the 5 of spades! Try it; try all the other leads. Only the five of trumps! Did anyone find it?

DAILY BULLETIN
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THE SIDE BAR

The Pairs event is over, now for the Teams tournament. It started with a full Swiss session. Here is the

after Tuesday evening, showing the top twelve contending teams with their accumulated Victory Points.

1	Patrick Hamel & Patrice Dordhain & Catherine Aouate & Regine Wan Hoi	**82.8**
2	Bernard Donde & Noah Apteker & Robert Stephens & Hennie Fick	**82.7**
3	Alon Apteker & Craig Gower & Michael Cornell & Ashley Bach	**80.4**
4	Andrew Cruise & Andrew Brooke & Robert Sulcas & Malcolm Siegel & Johan Muller	**79.5**
5	Bev Hewitt & Trish Crosse & Peta Balderson & Jennifer Gautschi	**77.8**
6	Diniar Minwalla & Nancy Minwalla & Maureen Narunsky & Imtiaz Kaprey	**77.6**
7	James Grant & Larry Chemaly & Nicola Bateman & Merle Modlin	**73.3**
8	Anton Der Kinderen & Sven-Ake Bierregaard & Michael Alexander & Simon Stocken	**69.6**
9	Desiree Pieters & Chris Child & Errol Pieters & Jack Dorfan & Lloyd Murison	**68.7**
10	Neville Eber & Chris Bosenberg & Val Bloom & Tas Nestoridis	**67.6**
11	Leif-Erik Stabell & Tolle Stabell & Sverre Johnsen & Olve Gravrak	**67.0**
12	Brian Thomas & Graham Burrows & Di Adrain & Roger Wilson	**65.6**

And it really could not be closer at the top, with only 0.07 of a Victory Point separating Reunion's Hamel Team from South Africa's Donde Team. Who'd place any bets now?!

PICTURE GALLERY

TEAMS – TUESDAY 1st MAY

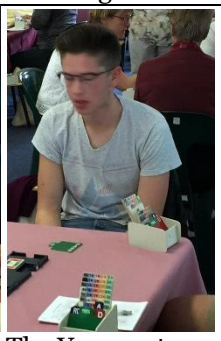
Sverre Johnsen and Olve Gravrak of Norway take on the Pairs' Champions Merle Modlin and Nicola Bateman

Rakesh Sharma of Kenya with his partner, former Kenyan Carol Stanton, now of Cape Town against KZN's Tanya Rawson and Vanessa Armstrong

Hennie Fick and Noah Apteker in a struggle with Swedish-born Sven-Ake Bjerregaard and his Capetonian partner Anton der Kinderen

Keeping it Coastal – Vernon Rice and Peter Ward of Knysna versus Imtiaz Kaprey and Maureen Narunsky of Cape Town

The Oldest - Mudi Deen of Kenya at 94!



The Youngest - Noah Apteker of Johannesburg is 16!

Ian Holdsworth (Cape Town and Yorkshire) partners Johannesburg's Avril Kotzen against former Botswanans, now Capetonians Diniar and Nancy Minwalla

AND JUST AT RANDOM