

his side overboard after South's 2♣ raise.

Both Wildavsky and Weinstein chose 3♣ (after passing initially) to show an invitational heart raise. Cuebidding the opponents' suit is a common tactic to show invitational hands. In this case, however, East's poor hearts and concentration in the opponents' suit force East-West to 3♥, which is in real danger of failing.

Are there any options? Not really. If, instead of 3♣, West decides to try a responsive double (showing the other two suits), he may have a hard time persuading his partner later in the auction that he actually has three-card heart support. It does, however, give East the opportunity to convert the double to penalty.

Bridge Bulletin auction: As above.

Scores: 2♥ 10; 3♥ 9; (2♣) doubled 7; (2♣) 6; 2NT 4; 2♠ 3
Wildavsky-Doub 34, Weinstein-Garner 38

Problem 5

North deals. None vulnerable.

West	East
♠ A J 8 7	♠ 3
♥ 10 9 7	♥ A
♦ A K 6	♦ Q 9 5 4 3
♣ J 10 9	♣ A Q 8 7 6 3

Wildavsky	Doub
1♣	1♣
1♠	2♣
2♦	3♦
3♥	5♦
6♣	Pass

There are various schools of thought on how to open minimum 6-5 hands in which the six-card suit is lower-ranking than the five-bagger. Some prefer bidding the long suit first and not worrying about the rebid, while others prefer to open the shorter suit intending to rebid the longer.

Doub chose 1♣ and simply rebid the suit after the 1♠ response. Wildavsky rebid 2♦ to create a forcing auction. Doub's choice of 3♦ created a problem for him, however, since it sounded as if his partner was 6-4 in clubs and diamonds. 3NT was looking less and less attractive because of the heart situation. How to

continue? 3♥ was a probe (or grope or whatever the term *du jour* is) to get more information. Doub's blast to 5♦ painted a picture of an extremely distributional hand with slam ambitions opposite a fit, which is likely since West had not chosen the simple 3NT earlier in the auction.

Wildavsky, knowing that Doub's clubs were longer than his diamonds, selected 6♣.

Weinstein	Garner
1♠	1♦
2♥	2♣
3♦	3♣
5♣	4♣
	Pass

Garner began with 1♦ and rebid clubs. 2♥ was fourth-suit forcing to game, and 3♣ promised a fifth club. In their methods, it was possible that East had four diamonds and five clubs, so the exact pattern was unclear: 3-1-4-5, 1-3-4-5, or 5-5 hands were all possibilities. 3♦ was ostensibly natural, but also asked for more information. 4♣ showed great club length, but Weinstein was still unsure where to go. He eventually settled on 5♣, conceding, "I'm not sure what this means." Garner passed, noting, "This isn't a good hand for our methods."

Bridge Bulletin auction: 1♦-1♠; 2♣-2♥ (fourth-suit forcing to game); 3♣-3♦ (agreeing diamonds); 3♥-3♠; 4♣ (control-showing bids)-4♦; 4NT (Roman Key Card Blackwood)-5♣ (0 or 3 key cards); 5NT ("We have all the key cards. Which kings do you have?")-6♦ (no kings); Pass

Scores: 6♣ 12; 6♦ 9; 7♣ 8; 7♦ 7; 5♣ 6; 5♦ 5; 7NT 4; 4♣, 4♦ 2
Wildavsky-Doub 46, Weinstein-Garner 44

Problem 6

East deals. E-W vulnerable.

West	East
♠ A Q 10	♠ 8 4
♥ K 8 6 5 4	♥ 10 7 2
♦ A 5	♦ K Q 6
♣ K 10 8	♣ Q J 7 4 2

Wildavsky	Doub
1♥	Pass
2NT	2♥
Pass	4♥

Should West open 1♥ or 1NT? For Wildavsky, the choice was systemically forced (1♥), but after the 2♥ raise he tried to show a hand in the strong 1NT range with his 2NT rebid. This was somewhat risky since he knew that Doub had not used Drury on the previous round.

Doub, who had a "maximum minimum" raise, jumped to game.

Weinstein	Garner
1♥	2♥
Pass	

Weinstein, knowing that his passed partner did not invoke Drury, was leery of getting higher, and so he gave up after the single raise.

Bridge Bulletin auction: Pass-1NT; Pass

Scores: 3NT (W) 11; 3NT (E) 10; 2NT 8; 2♥ 7; 3♥ 6; 4♥ 5; 3♣ 3
Wildavsky-Doub 51, Weinstein-Garner 51

Problem 7

South deals. N-S vulnerable.

West	East
♠ A K 10 9 6	♠ J 8 7
♥ K 8 7	♥ Q J 2
♦ 6	♦ 9 7 4
♣ A J 9 4	♣ K 10 7 6

Wildavsky	Doub
1♠	2♠
3♦	3♥
4♠	Pass

Wildavsky's 3♦ was a short-suit game try. While this was good news for East, Doub didn't jump immediately to game, but instead tried 3♥, a counter game-try (sometimes called "last train"), which Wildavsky readily accepted.

Weinstein	Garner
1♠	2♠
3♣	4♠
Pass	