

### Problem 6

East deals. E-W vulnerable.

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
♠ A 8 5 3	♠ K Q J 7
♥ K 8 7 2	♥ A 10 6 5 3
♦ A K Q J	♦ 6
♣ 4	♣ A Q 7
<i>Jerry</i>	<i>Dennis</i>
	1♣
3♣	3♦
3♥	4♣
4♦	4♠
4NT	5♣
6♠	Pass

After the strong 1♣ opening, 3♣ shows a game-forcing three-suited hand with shortness in one of the black suits. 3♦ asks responder to name the suit, and 3♥ shows a singleton club (the lowest response for the lowest suit). 4♣ announces a slam-try in a yet-to-be-named suit: Responder bids a temporizing 4♦ to discover what it is. 4♠ was the answer. (A 4-4 spade fit offers the possibility of an extra trick versus the 5-4 heart fit.)

A key-card sequence (5♣ shows three) completes the auction.

<i>Falk</i>	<i>Friedland</i>
	1♥
2NT	3♦
3♥	3NT
4NT	5♥
6♥	Pass

2NT is a game-forcing heart raise. 3♦ shows a non-minimum with unspecified shortness. 3♥ asks; 3NT pinpoints a singleton diamond.

Falk and Friedland reached the heart slam (where there may be a trump loser), but were unable to find the superior spade slam (13 tricks are likely most of the time).

**Bridge Bulletin** auction: 1♥-4♣ (splinter); 4♦ (control bid)-4NT (RKCB); 5♥ (two without the ♥Q)-6♥; Pass

**Scores:** 7♠ 10; 6♠ 8; 6NT (E) 7; 6♥ 6; 7♥ 5; 7NT 4; 6NT (W) 3; games 2

Clerkins 45, Falk-Friedland 35

### Problem 7

South deals. N-S vulnerable.

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
♠ A	♠ K 8 6 5 4
♥ K Q J 9 8 2	♥ 7
♦ K Q 10 3	♦ A J 9 7 5
♣ A Q	♣ 6 4
<i>Jerry</i>	<i>Dennis</i>
1♣	1♠
2♥	3♦
3♥	4♥
Pass	

More big-club action. The 1♠ response is natural and positive (8-plus HCP). 2♥ and 3♦ are natural. Jerry rebids his heart suit. Why not 4♦? Because the Clerkins play that as Roman Key Card for diamonds, which Jerry didn't wish to invoke. He hoped that his partner would make a noise such as 3♠ or 3NT, whereupon he could then show diamond support with 4♦. When Dennis raised hearts, however, the plan unraveled. Jerry gave up even though he suspected he was in an inferior spot, rather than pursue the diamond slam and risk a high-level accident.

<i>Falk</i>	<i>Friedland</i>
2♣	2♦
2♥	2♠
3♦	4♦
4♥	4♠
4NT	5♦
6♦	Pass

After a strong 2♣ and a waiting 2♦, 2♥ shows either primary hearts or a very strong balanced hand ("Kokish"). This forces 2♠ (a relay), and Falk continues his description with the natural 3♦. Friedman raises with 4♦, making the rest of the auction easy. After a round of cuebids and a key-card sequence (5♦ shows one), 6♦ is reached. A nice auction.

**Bridge Bulletin** auction: 2♣-2♦ (waiting); 2♥-2♠; 3♦-4♦; 4NT (RKCB)-5♦ (one key card); 6♦-Pass

**Scores:** 6♦ 10; 6♥, 6NT (E) 8; 5♦ 7; 4NT (E) 6; 5NT 5; 5♥ 4

Clerkins 49, Falk-Friedland 45

### Problem 8

West deals. Both vulnerable.

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
♠ A Q 10 6 2	♠ 7
♥ A 9 8 2	♥ Q 6
♦ A K	♦ 7 5 2
♣ A K	♣ Q J 10 8 7 3 2
<i>Jerry</i>	<i>Dennis</i>
1♣	1♦
1♠	2♣
2♥	3♣
3NT	5♣
Pass	

The strong 1♣ can be an advantage in describing monster hands such as this one, but Jerry took a very pessimistic view of the West cards and slam was not reached.

2♣ is artificial, denying a spade fit, but showing some high-card values (5 to 7 HCP). Over 3♣, Jerry chose 3NT. Dennis rejected notrump, however, with his jump to 5♣, showing a very long suit and a hand with limited (or no) entries.

<i>Falk</i>	<i>Friedland</i>
2♣	2♦
2♠	3♣
3♥	4♣
5♣	Pass

2♣ is a clumsy tool for this West hand. Despite the massive high-card total, the long suits are poor. Falk had no choice, however, and after the waiting 2♦ response, Friedland bid 3♣, a second negative that shows a poor hand. Falk bid his second suit, and Friedland continued with 4♣ to show a long suit, but not much else.

At this point in the auction, Falk knows less than his strong-club counterpart where responder has already shown a few values. Friedland could well have a Yarborough with seven clubs. Even though Falk might still be able to take 12 tricks in a club contract opposite such a hand, he chose the "keep-it-on-the-fairway" 5♣.

**Bridge Bulletin** auction: 2♣-2♦ (waiting); 2NT-5♣; 6♣-Pass

**Scores:** 6♣ 10; 7♣ 7; 5♣ 4; 3NT 3; 6NT 2

**Final score:** Clerkins 53, Falk-Friedland 49

