

already been forced to game.

BWS Auction: 1♥ - 1♠ - 2♣(?) - 2♠ - Pass. It would not be criminal for East to plan to bid out his shape regardless, but we think that that approach is slightly against the odds at matchpoints.

Awards: 2♠, 2♣, 2♦ 10;
3♠, 2NT, 3♣, 3♦ 6; 4♠, 3NT 3.

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Sadek & Elahmady 74
Rodwell & Meckstroth 54

East dealer; both sides vulnerable

WEST	EAST
♠ J	♠ 9 3 2
♥ K 7	♥ A Q
♦ A K J 10 5 3	♦ Q 6
♣ J 9 5 4	♣ K Q 10 8 7 2
Sadek	Elahmady
—	1 ♣
1 ♦	2 ♣
3 ♠	4 ♥
6 ♣	Pass
Rodwell	Meckstroth
—	2 ♣
4 ♦	5 ♣
Pass	

It looks to us as if Sadek bid the same values twice. The splinter was straightforward, even with weak trumps, after East's long-club rebid improved the West hand. (What was the alternative?) However, he still had those same weak trumps on the next round.

After the natural two-club opening, Rodwell was able to ask for key cards for clubs at a convenient level. Without this sort of advance preparation, minor-suit auctions can be difficult.

BWS Auction: 1♣ - 1♦ - 2♣ - 3♠ - 4♥ - 5♣ - Pass.

Awards: 5♣ 10; 4♣, 5♦ 7; 4♦ 5;
3NT(E), 6♣, 6♦ 2; 3NT(W) 1.

FINAL SCORE
Sadek & Elahmady 76
Rodwell & Meckstroth 64

Until the last deal, both pairs avoided any serious missteps. The Americans had somewhat the worse of the system luck. The Egyptians will move on to the semifinals. Next month's deals are on pages 4 and 7.



KANTAR FOR THE DEFENSE

BY EDWIN B. KANTAR

When you pick up a decent hand, you expect to reach a game or slam. This time, you wind up defending against one.

IMPs; West dealer; North-South vulnerable

	NORTH (dummy)
	♠ 10 9 6 2
	♥ 10 8 6
	♦ K Q 10
	♣ 7 4 2
WEST (you)	
	♠ K Q J 8 5
	♥ K J 7 2
	♦ 7
	♣ K J 6

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
—	1 ♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Spade king

Declarer wins with the spade ace (three from East), crosses to dummy's diamond king (six from partner), and discards the heart three on the spade ten as East follows with the four. You win with the spade jack.

What now?

(Solution overleaf.)