

# BRIDGE

By Paul Thurston

**NORTH**  
 ♠ KJ84  
 ♥ A10752  
 ♦ A642  
 ♣ -----

**WEST**  
 ♠ 1097  
 ♥ Q643  
 ♦ J109873  
 ♣

**EAST**  
 ♠ AQ532  
 ♥ K8  
 ♦ Q  
 ♣ J9765

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ 6  
 ♥ J9  
 ♦ K5  
 ♣ AKQ108432

Vulnerable: East-West

Dealer: North

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
	2♦	Pass	3NT

All Pass

Opening lead: ♦ J

Gatlinburg, Tenn., may host North America's largest American Contract Bridge League Regional, but for warmth of reception and lavishness of hospitality it would be nigh unto impossible to top the Summer Solstice event staged by the fine folks in Anchorage, Ala.

Starting with the first night's Alaska-style barbecue (mouth-watering salmon and halibut that never seemed to stop coming) and running through Walt's closing night Margarita's and Nacho's

fiesta, Chair Brenda Glaze and her corps of enthusiastic volunteers made sure all participants were well-fed, well-feted and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

And along the way, there was some very fine bridge played — watch Anchorage's Linton Moustakis skillfully overcome the communications problems and bad club split that doomed many who declared this difficult deal.

By the way, Linton is a former Chicago resident who has only recently returned to competitive bridge after a 30-year absence, but there's not a whole lot of rust on his game!

After North's Flannery opening (two diamonds artificially showed four spades, five hearts and 11-15 high-card points), South went straight to the nine-trick game. On West's top-of-a-sequence lead, dummy followed low and Linton let East hold the trick with the Queen.

Why? So that East would do what any player in this circumstance would do — he shifted to a low club and South made a great safety play by covering with the 10, as West and North discarded diamonds while contributing raised eyebrows!

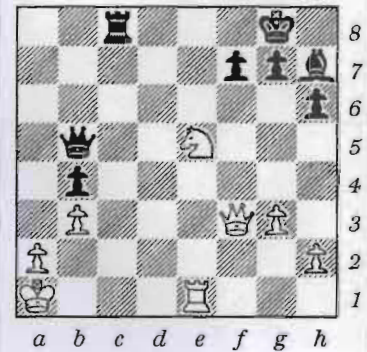
South continued with a low club to give East his inescapable winner and, unwilling to break

either major, the defender volleyed with another club to allow declarer to sort out 10 tricks on a deal which produced mostly minus scores for North-South.

■ Feedback always welcome at [thurston@computan.on.ca](mailto:thurston@computan.on.ca)

# CHESS

By Shelby Lyman



**BLACK FORCES MATE**

Hint: Sacrifice and mate.

**Solution:**  
 1... Qxe5ch! 2. Rxe5 Re1ch  
 3. Kb2 Rb1 mate