

Number 7

Saturday, February 24, 2007

Editors: Rich Colker, Dianne Brinkworth

2007 GCC A Big Success: See You All Next Year

As the 2007 GCC comes to a close and we go to press (it is Friday morning, and play has not even begun yet today) we are thinking that we would love to be able to bring you coverage of the final and semi-final matches in the team events, or the current standings in the Ivy Dahler pairs. Unfortunately, the company that prints our bulletins is closed on weekends. (Maybe we can figure out how to bring you more coverage next year.)

This year's GCC, with its new venue and happenings, is only possible because of the collective labor of scores of people, without whom a congress like this would not be possible. From the planners and organizers, to the directing and scoring staff, to the caddies and runners, to the people behind the registration desk, to the shuttle bus drivers, to the people who are keep the supplies and other materials within arm's reach, to the players and bridge experts who volunteer their time to keep us informed and entertained (like the "You Ask, We Answer" panels, the ABTA people, the Directors' Workshop group), to those who volunteer for the many thankless little jobs that often go unnoticed and unappreciated (like our appeals committee people). From the behind-the-scenes people who do the myriad of things that you never see, such as setting up tables, keeping the equipment (computers and such) running, contacting restaurants and stores to bring you the information on where to eat and the money saving deals and coupons that we have all enjoyed so much. Like the people who recruit the sponsors and prizes that we all enjoy so much, and on, and on, and on... If I've forgotten anyone, it is not for lack of appreciation but due only to my own limited memory—and possibly a slight lack of sleep. In any case, our thanks go out to all of you who made this tournament such a resounding success. Please know that your efforts are not unappreciated and that we will be thinking of you on our ways home...or to the next bridge tournament down the road.



PAIRS:	COMMENCE FINISH	7:30 pm Evening	Saturday 23rd February Monday 25th February
TEAMS:	COMMENCE FINISH	1:00 pm Early evening	Tuesday 26th February Thursday 28th February as per 2007
SWISS PAIRS:	COMMENCE FINISH	1:00 pm Approx. 2:00 pm	Friday 29th February Saturday 1st March



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The Ultimate Graphic Artist
Tom Rumsey is the graphic artist who did the logo, the flyer, and all of the graphic art work for this year's "new look" Gold Coast Congress.

If you are in need of graphic art work, either personally, for a business, or for a bridge club or organization, please give Tom a call. His rates are very competitive.

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GCC Open Teams: Match 8

Our Match 8 report pits **Nixon** (R Nixon, S Hurley, N Francis, M Moren, C Snashall, A De Livera) against **Mullumphy** (M Mullamphy, V Cummings, P Gumby, W Lazer). Moren-Frances play a system similar to Mosquito in which most opening bids are artificial (for example, a 1♠ opening shows 10-14 with no four-card or longer major). Cummings-Mullumphy play a more-or-less standard card.

The first board started out with a bang.

Bd: 15	♠ KJ65432		
Dlr: South	♥ 9		
Vul: N/S	♦ 9532		
	♣ K		
	♠ 1098	♠ 7	
	♥ AQ10542	♥ KJ6	
	♦ A	♦ Q76	
	♣ Q6	♣ AJ8542	
	♠ AQ		
	♥ 87		
	♦ KJ1084		
	♣ 10973		

West	North	East	South
<i>Mullamphy</i>	<i>Moren</i>	<i>Cummings</i>	<i>Frances</i>
2♥	2♠*	4♣	1♠*
4♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass

1♠ showed 10-14 with no four-card major and 2♠ was natural and constructive, but non-forcing. It is not difficult to understand why South chose to pass, especially at the four level, being at the lower end of his range and having only two-card support (but what two-card support). Moren led the ♦5 and Mullamphy set played a spade, planning to ruff his two losers there. The defenders shifted to a trump but nothing mattered (even a trump lead won't stop 6♥—declarer simply sets up clubs using his trumps as entries); +480.

At the other table N/S were allowed to play 4♠ and made it when E/W failed to obtain a diamond ruff; +620 and 15 imps to Mullamphy.



"Whadda ya mean I was doubled, mate? I make it minus 250."

Bd: 16	♠ KQ5		
Dlr: West	♥ J7		
Vul: E/W	♦ 1042		
	♣ Q10864		
	♠ 8742	♠ AJ10	
	♥ 1085	♥ K642	
	♦ J7653	♦ K98	
	♣ K	♣ J95	
	♠ 963		
	♥ AQ93		
	♦ AQ		
	♣ A732		

West	North	East	South
<i>Mullamphy</i>	<i>Moren</i>	<i>Cummings</i>	<i>Frances</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led his side's best suit but they could only take two tricks there and Frances eventually came home with ten tricks losing only a club and two spades; +430. At the other table E/W stopped in 1NT and made three for +150. 7 more imps to Mullamphy, who now led Nixon 22-0.

Board 17 was a push at 4♠ making, and Board 18 saw Mullamphy pick up 1 more imp to make the score 23-0 when he and Cummings chose to play 4♥ and made six while at the other table Nixon's E/W pair played 3NT and on a spade lead chose to take their 11 tricks. Board 19 saw no swing when both N/S pairs bid to a pushy 4♠ and went down one when there were simply too many losers.

Bd: 20	♠ AK8		
Dlr: West	♥ 1093		
Vul: Both	♦ 10965		
	♣ J109		
	♠ Q104	♠ J52	
	♥ 62	♥ AK8743	
	♦ KJ7432	♦ A8	
	♣ Q7	♣ A862	
	♠ 9763		
	♥ QJ54		
	♦ Q		
	♣ K543		

West	North	East	South
<i>Mullamphy</i>	<i>Moren</i>	<i>Cummings</i>	<i>Frances</i>
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

With some luck in the diamond suit and none at all in hearts 3NT is doomed to fail. Mullamphy went two down when he lost two hearts, two spades, and one trick each in diamonds and clubs. At the other table

3NT went down only one and Nixon was on the score card, trailing now 23-3.

Bd: 21 ♠ K1052
 Dlr: North ♥ 65
 Vul: N/S ♦ A7642
 ♣ J2

♠ A874	♠ J9
♥ J83	♥ AQ102
♦ KQJ3	♦ 108
♣ 105	♣ Q8764

♠ Q63
 ♥ K974
 ♦ 95
 ♣ AK93

West	North	East	South
<i>Mullamphy</i>	<i>Moren</i>	<i>Cummings</i>	<i>Frances</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦*
Pass	1NT	All Pass	

Against 1NT Cummings led the ♣6 and Moren got off to a good start by ducking this to his jack. He ducked a diamond to the ten and Cummings confidently switched to a heart, perhaps trying for a surrounding play. But her effort succeeded even beyond what she might have expected when Moren ducked, and now Cummings—no stranger to the game—pressed her advantage and continued with a low heart, ducked to Mullamphy's jack. Mullamphy now switched back to diamonds and when Moren cashed out his top clubs Cummings had the unexpected heart entry to her clubs and 1NT was down two, -200.

At the other table N/S played in 2♠ and made it for +110. 7 more imps for Mullamphy, now leading 30-3.

On the next deal Nixon picked up 1 imp when Moren-Frances failed by one trick in 3♠ while at the other table N/S for Mullamphy failed by two tricks—in 2♠. The lead was now "down" to 30-4. On Board 23 Mullamphy got it back with interest, picking up 2 overtrick imps in a spade partial. Mullamphy, 32-4.

Bd: 24 ♠ 10
 Dlr: West ♥ J742
 Vul: None ♦ KQ76
 ♣ AJ76

♠ J76	♠ AK542
♥ K9	♥ AQ5
♦ J108	♦ 43
♣ KQ1032	♣ 854

♠ Q983
 ♥ 10863
 ♦ A952
 ♣ 9

West	North	East	South
<i>Mullamphy</i>	<i>Moren</i>	<i>Cummings</i>	<i>Frances</i>
Pass	1♦*	1♠	2♥
2♠	All Pass		

Moren's 1♦ showed four-plus hearts. Frances raised to two and showed good judgment when he refused to be pushed to the three level. Frances led a heart to the jack and ace and Cummings cashed the ♠A, noting the fall of the ten, then the ♠K hoping for something good to happen. It didn't. She tried a club to the king, Moren winning to play king and another diamond to Frances's ace. A third diamond tapped declarer and she tried another club, but when South pitched a heart that was it. She took three hearts, three spades and a club for down one, -50.

At the other table N/S were left to play 2♦ and when that proved to be unbreakable (+110) Mullamphy had another 4 imps to increase his lead to 36-4.

On Board 25 Nixon picked up 1 imp for an overtrick to bring the score to 36-5, and on Board 26 he found another imp when he scored +120 in 1NT at one table and -100 in 2♣ at the other; 36-6. But two 1-imp gains in a row was not cause celebration. Nixon, who was leading the event going in, was losing badly and there were only two boards left to play.

The next board, however, was cause for joyous celebration in the Nixon camp.

Bd: 27 ♠ AK
 Dlr: South ♥ K43
 Vul: None ♦ AKQ85
 ♣ J52

♠ 3	♠ Q109652
♥ QJ975	♥ 6
♦ J732	♦ 10
♣ Q64	♣ K10987

♠ J874
 ♥ A1082
 ♦ 964
 ♣ A3

West	North	East	South
<i>Mullamphy</i>	<i>Moren</i>	<i>Cummings</i>	<i>Frances</i>
Pass	2NT*	Pass	2♣*
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♠

2♣ showed either a weak two-bid in a major, a weak hand with both majors, a strong balanced hand, or a 4-4-4-1 pattern. Moren knew it wasn't the third and bid 2NT to learn which of the others it was. Looking at the South hand you and I might be hard pressed to answer his question for him, but Frances knew he

was looking at a three-suiter—well, sort of—and that’s what he showed. It is not entirely clear whether Moren knew that Frances’s short suit was clubs but he parked the jalopy in 3NT anyhow, a fine contract on the actual cards. Cummings led the ♣10, ducked to the queen, and back came a club knocking out the ace. But while things were not going as well as they might have, 3NT was still makeable. Moren played a diamond to the ace and the ♦K, Cummings showing out by pitching a spade. Now all Moren had to do was to unblock the ♦9, cross to the ♥K, take the marked diamond finesse, and cash out his ten tricks for +430. But a cow must have flown by because

Moren next cashed the ♦Q and now the contract could not longer be made. He tried the ♠AK hoping the queen would come down but when that failed he gave up a diamond and watched as the defense cashed three more clubs for one down, -100.

At the other table N/S for Nixon played 4♥x in the Moysian. This was cold and the resulting +590 gave Nixon a 12-imp boost, cutting his deficit to 36-18.

One board was left in the match, but when at both tables the contract was 2♠ by West making, the final score remained 36 for Mullamphy, 18 for Nixon.



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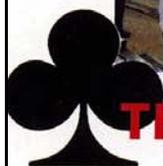
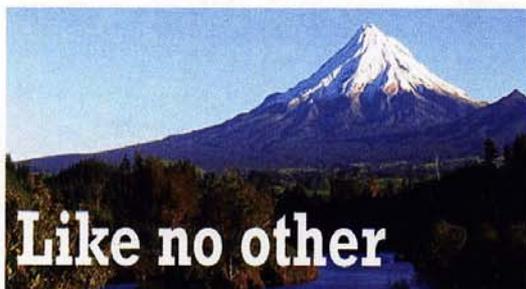
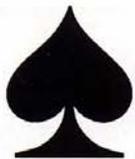
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2007 Gold Coast Congress: Program

Day/Date	Time(s)	Event(s)
Saturday 24 Feb.	10:00 am - 1:30 pm 9:30 am/to be agreed 8:00 pm	Ivy Dahler Open/Restricted Swiss Butler Pairs (3 rd) Open Teams Final Dinner/Dance



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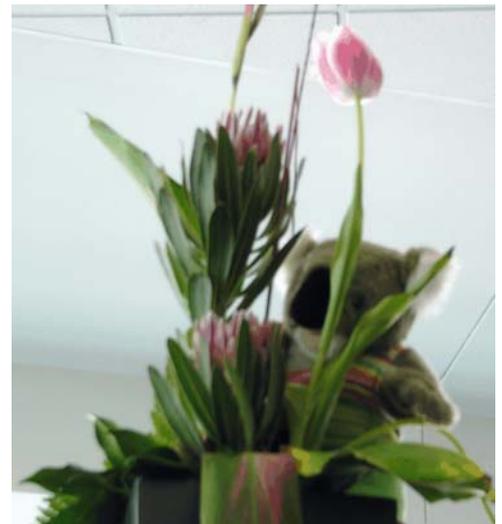
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