

FROBOZZ

Issue #29

May 31, 1986

Congratulations go to Doug Baker, the winner of 1984CC, which ends in this issue. I'm opening another game to take its place. As usual, I will give first priority to placing players who have never started a game in this zine. After that, players will be served on a first-come, first-served basis. Don't forget to submit a country preference list.

Frobozz welcomes another trader on board, namely Conrad von Metzke, P.O. Box 17602, San Diego, CA 92117-3813. Conrad publishes *Costaguana*, a big zine featuring letters, news, games, weirdness, and more. The first issue of *Frobozz* I sent Conrad was #27. Perhaps you remember that was the issue I complained bitterly about the quality of service provided by the USPS. I went on to say that I wasn't about to complain about the problem to a postal authority, because it wouldn't help matters any. That little diatribe elicited this response from Conrad in *Costaguana* vol. ten, #19:

Hogwash! I mean, I know you're new to *Costa*, Jeff, but it's time you learned the truth — I am an 'authority' for the USPS! Mail carriers are people, and people screw up. And there is only one way that anybody will ever solve the problem, and that's to discuss it with an 'authority.'

Approach it politely and humanely, but do not be deferential. I am amazed, almost every day, at the people who will settle for poor service merely because it's too much trouble, or "it won't do any good" to complain. My job is to correct mail carrier errors. There is no way in the world I can do this unless somebody tells me that there's an error being made!

On the other hand, those people who stomp into the office screaming that their carrier is an idiot, and unless I fix it yesterday they're going to have my ass, and his, and write their congressman, and it's all the union's fault, and besides we hire too many spics and niggers — well, hell, their mail can go to Antarctica for all I care. For the rational ones, I work my butt off, and I demand that my carriers do so as well. For the loonies, I but chortle.

Oh dear. Conrad's right, of course. Little did I realize two issues ago that I was exposing one of my great personality faults for all of Dipdom to see. It is typical behavior for me to avoid head-on confrontations. I would rather live with a problem or circumvent it than speak directly to the person responsible for it. In other words, I'm a coward. So, has Conrad enlightened me, providing me the insight to better myself? Not really. I've known I'm craven all along, I just didn't notice it applies in this case. And am I going to run right down to the post office and lodge my complaint about the local postal service? Are you kidding? I've spent much too long developing my yellow streak to give it all up at the drop of a hat. It's much more comfortable following the old, familiar patterns. Oh dear...

So much for today's episode of General Mental Hospital. Tune in tomorrow when we'll find out if Jeff dies of fright when he spies his reflection coming at him in the window. And now, for something completely different, it's the *Zine Register*, now being published by Simon Billenness, 61A Park Avenue, Albany, NY 12202. The ZR contains information about most of the zines published in North America and a few European zines, too. At \$1.50 an issue, this is a bargain. Simon also maintains the Zine Bank. If you send him a large envelope and \$2.00 to cover postage, he'll send you as many zines as the USPS and the envelope will allow. A good way to get acquainted with several zines at once.

I'm sure many of you are aware that Daf Langley has been hospitalized for what can only be classified as major surgery. Steve tells me that Daf is home now, and has been recovering very well. I'd like to add my voice to everyone else's in the hobby who has expressed relief at hearing this news. Get well soon, Daf.

Russ Rusnak, 900 N. Rohlwing Rd. #333, Addison, IL 60101 is looking for players to participate in regular Diplomacy, Cosmic Diplomacy, and WWIIb. He plans to start the games in August. To those of you who have asked me to start another section of WWIIb: This is your golden opportunity. If you wait for me to start another WWIIb game, you'll be waiting forever. Do the sensible thing and drop Russ a line. For those unfamiliar with Cosmic Dip, Russ describes it as "a variant that has the basic rules of Diplomacy. However, every participant has a special power that allows him a certain advantage. Examples are the Terrorist that can mine provinces, the Chameleon whose Spring moves are hidden, the Clone that can split one unit into two, and an assortment of others."

FROBOZZ is published at four week intervals by Jeff Richmond, P.O. Box 3288, Ann Arbor, MI 48106; phone number 313-971-7793. Subscription rate is \$3.50 for ten issues. Game openings available. Game fee is \$4.00 plus a continuing subscription to *Frobozz*.

Puzzle Challenge

Here is the solution to the previous puzzle:

M	A	N	U	S	C	R	I	P	T
A			N			E			H
S			I			C			I
S	P	E	C	I	A	L	I	Z	E
E			O			U			V
U			R			S			E
R	H	I	N	O	C	E	R	O	S

Ordinarily, a new puzzle would've appeared here. But although I do have a couple of puzzles on file, neither the Puzzle Fairy nor the Secretary Fairy came to type one up for me. Since, I've been pressed for time lately, I find myself with no choice but to ramble on aimlessly in order to avoid having a big patch of white space here. I'm sure you'll forgive me for this, as I imagine you're used to seeing amateur publishers pulling this cheap trick...

Bridge Challenge

A few weeks ago, I played in a bridge tournament for the first time in several years. I came up against quite a few interesting problems. Here are three of them. You are sitting in the South position. IMP scoring is being used (I assume everyone interested knows what that means). There are no absolutely correct answers to these problems; your score will be based on how well you justify whatever action you select. Deadline for answers is June 27, 1986.

1. With both sides vulnerable, West deals and opens one notrump (showing 15-17 high card points). Partner overcalls two notrump (promising at least five cards in each minor), and East passes. What do you call holding:

♠ K J 8 5 ♥ A K Q 8 7 5 4 ♦ 5 ♣ 2

2. North-South vulnerable. You are the dealer and open one spade. Partner responds one notrump, and you rebid two diamonds. Partner says three spades (showing 10-12 points and exactly three spades). You cuebid four diamonds. Partner cues four hearts. You mark time with four spades, and partner produces a five club cuebid. What now? Your hand is:

♠ A K 8 7 6 ♥ 9 2 ♦ A K 9 7 6 ♣ 7

3. Both sides vulnerable. East deals and bids one notrump (15-18 points). West responds two clubs (Stayman, asking for a four-card major). East shows one, bidding two spades. West raises to three spades and East carries on to four. What do you lead from:

♠ K 10 5 ♥ K 5 4 ♦ Q J 2 ♣ A 10 6 5

Puzzle Champions

No one solved the last puzzle, unsurprisingly. Steve Langley thinks it would've been better had I filled in the box in the top left corner. I actually considered filling in all four corners, but decided against it in a fit of orneriness. Or maybe it was laziness; can't remember which. Two issues ago, I had a problem with the puzzle rules. So, last issue, I carefully listed all the types of words which were not allowed. In particular, capitalized words were disallowed, so naturally, Melinda Holley took the opportunity to use the word "capitalize". That was cute, Melinda, but not enough so to earn bonus points. Better luck next time.

Bruce Linsey was the only other solver to submit an answer. He scored 78 points, Melinda got 70, and Steve racked up a big 92 to take the lead:

1. Steve Langley - 492 points
2. Bruce Linsey - 478 points
3. Matt Chen - 400 points

4. Jim Lawniczak - 325 points
5. Chuff Afflerbach - 210 points
6. Pete Kurucz - 180 points

7. Joel Peacher - 100 points
8. Paul Milewski - 90 points
9. Melinda Holley - 70 points

Now, let's get down to the games. Standby pool for regular Dip: Holley, Townsend, Fleming, Drane, Peters, Henry, Frueh, Hugh Christie, Gonsalves. For WWIIb: Frueh. Does anyone want to be added to or removed from either list? I really could use some more WWIIb standbys.

1982Hgp03

WWIIIb

Spring, 2006

AUSTRALIA (*Rusnak*) F guyana-CARIBBEAN SEA, F panama-HONDURAS(WC), F GULF OF MEXICO S F panama-HONDURAS(WC), F gulf of panama-GULF OF CALIFORNIA, F east pacific-CENTRAL PACIFIC, F ecuador-GULF OF PANAMA, F galapagos sea-EAST PACIFIC, F SOUTH PACIFIC C A western australia-CHILE, F GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT C A western australia-CHILE, F south indian-drake passage(d, r timor sea, western australia, otb), A northern territory-SOUTH AUSTRALIA, F EAST INDIAN C A burma-MADRAS, F BAY OF BENGAL C A burma-MADRAS, A pradesh-MAHARASHTRA, A assam-BANGLADESH, A NEPAL S USSR A KASHMIR, A tibet-ASSAM, A kamchatka-MANCHURIA, A western australia-CHILE, F SUMATRA S F EAST INDIAN, A burma-MADRAS.

BRAZIL (*Langley*) F caribbean sea-VENEZUELA, F CUBA S F BERMUDA TRIANGLE, F mouth of the amazon-SURINAM, A HAITI H, F BERMUDA TRIANGLE S F CUBA, A paraguay-CORDOBA, A venezuela-COLOMBIA, A colombia-NAPO, A napo-INCA, A LA PAMPA S A paraguay-CORDOBA, A rio negro-BUENOS AIRES, A bahia-PORTO ALEGRE, F libya h(d, a).

CANADA (*Petersen*) F labrador sea-ICELAND, F north atlantic-PORTUGAL, F NW ATLANTIC-mid atlantic, A CALIFORNIA-mexico, A TEXAS S A CALIFORNIA-mexico, A MEXICO-honduras, A NEW ENGLAND S A DIXIE, A DIXIE H, F iceland-NORTH ATLANTIC, F GREENLAND SEA S F iceland-NORTH ATLANTIC.

UofSA (*Springer*) A pakistan-iran(d, r rajasthan, otb), A maharashtra-IRAQ, F PERSIAN GULF C A maharashtra-IRAQ, F SAUDI ARABIA(EC) S A maharashtra-IRAQ, F madras-ARABIAN SEA, F GULF OF ADEN S F WEST INDIAN, F WEST INDIAN S F mozambique-MOZAMBIQUE CHANNEL, F mozambique-MOZAMBIQUE CHANNEL, F transvaal-SOUTH INDIAN, F GABON S F SE ATLANTIC, F EGYPT S WAF A tunisia-LIBYA, F SE ATLANTIC S F transvaal-SOUTH INDIAN, F EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN S F EGYPT, A angola-ZAIRE, F falkland sound-DRAKE PASSAGE, F buenos aires-FALKLAND SOUND, A SANTA CRUZ H.

USSR (*Peters*) A RUSSIA S A UKRAINA, A UKRAINA S Warsaw Pact A czechoslovakia-hungary(nso), F georgia-BLACK SEA, A iraq-TURKEY, A afghanistan-PAKISTAN, A IRAN S A afghanistan-PAKISTAN, A KASHMIR S Australia A pradesh-MAHARASHTRA, A SIBERIA H.

WARSAW PACT (*Jensen*) A poland-EAST GERMANY, A austria-ITALY, A czechoslovakia-AUSTRIA, A byelorussia-CZECHOSLOVAKIA, F UNITED KINGDOM-france(nc).

WAF (*Hyatt*) A HUNGARY H, A YUGOSLAVIA S A HUNGARY, A RUMANIA S A HUNGARY, A tunisia-LIBYA, F WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN S A tunisia-LIBYA, F SYRIA S UofSA F EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN, F FRANCE(SC) S F WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN, F SPAIN(SC) S F FRANCE(SC), A CAMEROON H, F GULF OF GUINEA S A CAMEROON, A MID ATLANTIC S F CENTRAL ATLANTIC, F CENTRAL ATLANTIC S F MID ATLANTIC, A cordoba h(d, r uruguay, otb), F SW ATLANTIC S UofSA F falkland sound-DRAKE PASSAGE.

Deadline for Fall, 2006 is 9PM EDT Friday, June 27, 1986. Steve Langley takes over as Brazil, leaving only Russ Rusnak as an original player in this game. The proposed draw was defeated. There are now proposals for a concession to Australia and an A/B/UofSA/USSR/WAF draw. Abstention counts as a "no" vote.

1985CX

Isengard

Winter, 1903

Aus: Declines to build, plays two short. Fra: Builds A MAR. Ger: Builds A KIE.

Ita: NRR. GM removes F por, F Iyo. Rus: Builds A SEV.

Spring, 1904

AUSTRIA (*Langley*) A rom-VEN, F nap-TYN, A ven-TRI, A TYO S Russian A SIL-mun, F tri-ADR, A gal-BOH, A GRE H, A con-BUL.

ENGLAND (*Hugh Christie*) F bar-STP(NC), A NWY S F bar-STP(NC), F bal-DEN, F bel-HOL, F eng-MID, F BRE S F eng-MID, F PIC S F BRE.

FRANCE (*Jensen*) A MAR S A par-BUR, F tun-WES, A spa-POR, A par-BUR.

GERMANY (*Ross*) A KIE S A MUN, A MUN S A GAS-bur, A GAS-bur, A pru-BER, F LVN-pru, F stp(sc)-lvn(d, r fin, bot, otb).

ITALY (*Springer*) NMR. A PIE H.

RUSSIA (*Kurucz*) A MOS-stp, A SIL-mun, A WAR-pru, A sev-UKR, F ank-CON, A smy-ARM.

Deadline for Fall, 1904 is 9PM EDT Friday, June 27, 1986. No standby will be called for Italy.

PRESS — London to Berlin: Confucius say, "Man who does not diplomacize loses centers."

1984CC

Silverball

Fall, 1912

ENGLAND (Peacher) A lvp-YOR, A EDI S A lvp-YOR.

FRANCE (Petersen) A bre S A par(d), A par S F PIC(d), F PIC H, A spa-mar(d).

RUSSIA (Baker) A mos-SEV, F BLA S A mos-SEV, A rum-SER, A BUD S A rum-SER, A sev-RUM, A LON H, F nth-NWG, F mid-BRE, F ENG S F mid-BRE, A gas-PAR, A BUR S A gas-PAR, A BEL-pic, A MAR S F por-SPA(SC), F por-SPA(SC), A tyo-TRI, A VIE S A tyo-TRI.

TURKEY (Howard Christie) NMR. A ARM H, A tri h(d), F ADR H, A VEN H, A ROM H, F LYO H, F WES H, F CON H, F SMY H, A ANK H, A ser h(d), F AEG H.

Deadline for endgame statements is 9PM EDT Friday, June 27, 1986.

1984CC supply center chart - 1912

ENGLAND	lvp,edi.....	2, even
FRANCE	par , bre , spa , pic	0, out
RUSSIA	stp,mos,sev,swe,nwy,war,kie,rum,vie,hol,ber,mun,den,por, mar, bel, BUD, SER, LON, BRE, PAR, SPA, TRI.....	23, +7
TURKEY	con,ank,smy,bul,gre, ser , par , pic , tyo ,tun,ven,nap,rom.....	9, -3

1984CC Final

Zine: Frobozz. GM: Jeff Richmond. Aus: Kurt Schulz (drop F01), Pat Jensen (out F06). Eng: Joel Peacher. Fra: Aaron Waters (drop S02), Owen Riley (res F07), Jim Petersen (out F12). Ger: Robert Wood (drop S05), Lu Henry (out F08). Ita: Neil Kiersz (drop F08), Paul Rauterberg (out F11). Rus: Doug Baker (wins F12). Tur: Mark Harris (res F10), Howard Christie.

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
AUSTRIA	4	5	4	2	2	0						
ENGLAND	4	3	3	4	3	2	1	1	2	2	2	2
FRANCE	5	5	5	5	6	8	9	7	7	6	4	0
GERMANY	6	6	6	5	3	2	1	0				
ITALY	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	4	3	1	0	
RUSSIA	6	7	7	7	8	10	11	14	13	14	16	23
TURKEY	5	4	5	6	7	7	8	8	9	11	12	9

1985V

The Ruby Yacht

Winter, 1907

Eng: Builds F LVP. Fra: F eng r otb, Builds A PAR.

Ger: F nwy r BAR, removes F bar. Rus: NBR, plays one short. Tur: Builds F SMY.

Spring, 1908

ENGLAND (Paul Milewski, Box 256, Batavia, OH 45103) A lon-SPA, F ENG C A lon-SPA, F MID C A lon-SPA, F lvp-WAL, F MAR H.

FRANCE (Mark Frueh, 4320 Wallace St., St. Louis, MO 63116) A bre-GAS, A par-PIC.

GERMANY (Fred Townsend, 1715 N. Mohawk, Chicago, IL 60614) A bur-MUN, F hel-KIE, F bel-HOL.

ITALY (Pat Jensen, 712 Minnesota Ave., Albert Lea, MN 56007) F TYN S F nap-ION, F nap-ION.

RUSSIA (Howard Christie) NMR. Has A VIE, A GAL, F BLA, F NWY, F NWG, F EDI, A DEN, F BAL, A SWE, A BER, A STP.

TURKEY (Stan Plummer, HHC — FMMC, LSU/MFO, APO, NY 09677) F smy-CON, F ANK S F smy-CON, F bul(sc)-AEG, F GRE S A con-BUL, F ion-TUN, A con-BUL, A SER S A BUD, A BUD S A tyo-TRI, A tyo-TRI.

Deadline for Fall, 1908 is 9PM EDT Friday, June 27, 1986. Will Melinda Holley, P.O. Box 2793, Huntington, WV 25727 please standby for Russia.

PRESS — France to England: It is fortunate for you that Russia is not a good tactical player. I guess my fate is sealed. I help you more by my disappearance from this game.

1986D

Flying Carpet

Fall, 1902

AUSTRIA (*Springer*) NMR. A tri h(d,r alb,bud,otb), A VIE H, A SER H, F gre h(d,r alb,otb), A GAL H.ENGLAND (*Holley*) A PIC-bre, F eng-MID, F NAT S F eng-MID, F nth-BEL, F STP(NC) H.FRANCE (*Geryk*) F BRE S F mid, F mid S F BRE(d, r iri, naf, wes, spa(sc), por, spa(nc), otb), A GAS S F BRE, A PAR S F BRE, A bur S Italian A TYO-mun(nso)(d,r mar,otb).GERMANY (*Plummer*) F SWE S F bal-DEN, F bal-DEN, A kie-BER, A ruh-BUR, A MUN S A ruh-BUR.ITALY (*Petersen*) F ion-GRE, F nap-APU, A TYO S A ven-TRI, A ven-TRI.RUSSIA (*Early*) NMR. F BOT H, A UKR H, A sev h(d,r mos,otb), A SIL H.TURKEY (*Baker*) F BLA S A arm-SEV, A BUL-ser, A RUM S A arm-SEV, A arm-SEV, F AEG S Italian F ion-GRE.

Deadline for Spring, 1903 is 9PM EDT Friday, June 27, 1986. No standby will be called for Austria or Russia. I hope, though, that the current players will play out their positions.

1986D supply center chart - 1902

AUSTRIA	vie, xxx , bud, ser, gry	3, -2
ENGLAND	lon, lvp, edi, nwy, bel, STP.....	6, +1
FRANCE	par, bre, mar, spa, por.....	5, even
GERMANY	ber, kie, mun, swe, hol, DEN.....	6, +1
ITALY	rom, ven, nap, tun, TRI, GRE.....	6, +2
RUSSIA	stp , mos, war, sev	2, -2
TURKEY	con, ank, smy, bul, rum, SEV.....	6, +1

PRESS — England to Russia: You should have written.

London to Paris: Now it becomes a guessing game. Do you believe in sheer dumb luck?

Constantinople to Budapest: I hate to confirm Russia's prophecy. Actually, I do not think that a Turkish attack on Austria is always inevitable. Italy just had a much better sounding offer.

Constantinople to Moscow: Do you like this set of moves any better? (Probably not.)

1985AC

Saint Cleve

Fall, 1905

AUSTRIA (*Peacher*) A SER H, A ALB S A SER, A GRE S A SER, F ion-ADR, A ROM H.ENGLAND (*cd*) A EDI H.FRANCE (*Peters*) A bur-PIC, A MAR-bur, A VEN H, A PIE S A VEN, F WES-mid, F eng S F WES-mid(d,r bre,otb), F lon-WAL.GERMANY (*Chen*) F yor-LON, F NTH S F yor-LON, F bel-ENG, A hol-BEL, A MUN-bur, A TYO-ven, A VIE S A TRI, A TRI S A BUD-ser, A BUD-ser.RUSSIA (*Geryk*) F bar-NWG, F NAT-mid, F IRI S German F bel-ENG, A sev-ARM, A arm-SYR, F BLA S A BUL, F RUM S A BUL, A BUL S German A BUD-ser.TURKEY (*Kendter*) A ANK S F CON, A SMY S A ANK, F CON S A ANK.

Deadline for Spring, 1906 is 9PM EDT Friday, June 27, 1986.

1985AC supply center chart - 1905

AUSTRIA	xxx , ser, gre, gry , nap, rom.....	4, -1
ENGLAND	edi.....	1, even
FRANCE	par, bre, mar, spa, por, tun, gry , VEN.....	7, even
GERMANY	ber, kie, mun, den, hol, bel, swe, vie, bud, LON, TRI.....	11, +2
RUSSIA	stp, mos, war, sev, rum, nwy, lvp, bul.....	8, even
TURKEY	con, ank, smy.....	3, even

PRESS — Berlin to Paris: You've played excellently in turning France's position around, Marc. That's why I'm attacking — you are too dangerous as a neighbor. Next time, don't move into Burgundy!

Berlin to German citizens in Alsace-Lorraine: The kaiser has heard your pleas and will make all efforts to lift the French oppression.

The Giant and the Beanstalk

Many years ago, there was a young giant who lived with his mother in a castle high among the clouds. Though the castle was huge, the giant and his mother lived in abject poverty. One day, things had gotten so bad for the giants that the mother had no choice but to send her son to town to sell their last possession, a Tibetan yak. The young giant had barely gotten underway when he met a traveling merchant. The merchant was not above taking advantage of the gullible lad, and quickly talked him into trading the valuable yak for a jar of brightly colored beans.

When the giant returned home and told his mother what had happened, she was so angry that she knocked the jar out of the boy's hands. Beans went flying in every direction. A few landed in the garden outside the front gate.

The giant and his mother went to bed hungry that night. At dawn the next day, the giant was awakened by a strange rustling outside his window. He went outside and was amazed to discover that a huge beanstalk had sprouted in the garden. Stranger yet, this beanstalk extended *downward* through the clouds farther than he could see. Following a sudden compulsion, he clambered down the beanstalk. When he reached the bottom, he found that he was in a strange land, dotted with tiny houses.

Suddenly, an apparition appeared before the giant. It was a spirit who announced, "I am your fairy godmother. It was I who arranged for you to come here. Now it is time for you to find out why. You are here to avenge the death of your father, who was brutally murdered by a thief named Jack. Jack stole from your father a hen that lays gold eggs and a priceless singing harp. When your father attempted to pursue Jack, he shot him with an elephant gun. Jack has enjoyed the fruit of his ill-gotten gains for too long. It is time you reclaimed what is rightfully yours."

Following the fairy's directions, the young giant soon arrived at Jack's house. He reached in the window with his huge arm and collected the hen, the harp, the elephant gun, and all the gold eggs he could grab. Jack was too shocked by the sudden intrusion to react, and merely watched as the giant ran off and climbed up the beanstalk leading home.

Jack vowed to get revenge. Without his elephant gun, he didn't dare follow the giant. And a new gun ordinance prevented him from buying another. So he went down to the local occult book store and bought every book on black magic he could find. After months of intense study, he decided he had become powerful enough to take on the giant in battle.

Jack found the beanstalk and started to climb. But the giant heard him coming and cut the beanstalk at its roots. Down tumbled the enormous plant, and so too would've Jack, had he not taken the precaution of wearing a magical cloak of flying. But Jack had not mastered sorcery as well as he thought. For though the cloak saved him from falling, he found that he was unable to change altitude. All Jack could do was orbit the earth endlessly, which he still does to this very day. And that explains why so many people have reported seeing a flying sorcerer.

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_____ Please standby in

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