Letters to the Tech

To the Editor:

In your editorial of October 14, concerning the ‘full major’ vs. humanities issue, you say that the MIT system aggravates the situation. However, before castigating the library system for all its inadequacies, it might be wise to note that some members of the academic system aggravate the situation by forgetting that a large number of people depend on the libraries’ resources.

One of the worst groups of offenders are members of the faculty and staff who use the privileges of their position to remove books and journals from the libraries for indefinite periods of time. While it is true that these books are subject to recall after a short time if someone else requests them, the extended periods of time often intervene before the professor in possession of the book finally decides to relinquish it.

Salary and research grants at MIT are generally sufficient enough to allow a professor to either purchase or Xerox any printed material he will be using extensively, and the publication of others dictates that the removal of resources from the library for long periods of time be held to an absolute minimum.

[Signatures]
George F. Koster
Chairman
Graduate Committee

and

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Kibitzer

By Mark Boston

North
A 9 7 6 5 4 3 2
J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4
Q 10 9 8 7 6 5 4
K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4

South
A 9 7 6 5 4 3
J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4
Q 10 9 8 7 6 5 4
K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4

West
A 9 7 6 5 4 3
J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4
Q 10 9 8 7 6 5 4
K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4

East
A 9 7 6 5 4 3
J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4
Q 10 9 8 7 6 5 4
K 10 9 8 7 6 5 4

North vulnerable

West South East
Pass 2 Pass 2 Double
Pass Double Pass Double
Opening lead: 4 4

Today's hand dealt West a lesson in the hard way. He learned that it is seldom wise to double slam contracts, especially when someone of the defensive values are based on a trump stack.

When West's opening lead of a low diamond was covered by dummy's King and won by East's Ace, it was clear that West's double was based primarily on four or five trumps plus most of the missing values in hearts or spades.

At trick two, West refused to take the diamond with his King and won on the board. declarer's plan to establish some spade tricks is now complete and at the four contract, he is led in with a heart diamond, so he returns it to club with a singleton. The declarer tries to force West to a club trick, but West refuses to cover, let the Jack miss and dummy's King and a small spade as he discarded a diamond and ruffed a spade.

The entire position was now made complete: the declarer's King of clubs gave the club suit a singleton and West's club singleton was exposed. The spade suit was also an in-between suit and if West had not ruffed the King, South could have continued in spades and had not ruffed the King. South could have continued in hearts and had not ruffed the King. Now, he is ruffed in hearts to dummy's Ace for a ruff and a discard ruff to win the trick. In his hand in order to lead a heart which was not ruffed out, so East, as well as West, could continue. Finally, ruffs were taken square with the Ace and King.

The foil of West's double is now clear: dummy's King was not in the hand. The first suit was played in no hurry and it was even to close being able to get the Ace in dummy. The second suit was played in no hurry and West had no choice but to play the King of hearts. So dummy’s King must have been in West’s hand, and East, who was left with a heart, was ruffed out and the Ace taken.

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