

THEODORE Lightner (1893-1981) was a major figure in the early days of bridge. His legacy is the Lightner double, which requests an unusual lead against a slam — often the lead of the first suit dummy bid. The aim is not to score more points, but to beat the slam by inducing a lead the opening leader would normally avoid.

Lightner doubles are often major gainers or spectacular losers. In a team event at the Summer NABC, both North-Souths got to six hearts. North's 3NT promised a strong, balanced hand with heart support. South's leap to slam was optimistic: North's minor-suit holdings might have been reversed.

At both tables, East produced a Lightner double.

One West led a spade, correctly diagnosing his partner's void. East ruffed, but the defense took no more tricks. East tried to cash a club, but South ruffed and drew trumps. He later threw a diamond from dummy on the ace of spades and ruffed his diamond loser in dummy.

At the other table, West was Valio Kovachev of Bulgaria, one of many foreign experts attending the NABC. He suspected East

NORTH			
♠	K Q 5	♥	9 6 4
♦	A K 3	♣	J 9 4 2
WEST			
♠	J 9 8 7 3 2	♥	2
♦	7 5	♣	10 8 6 3
EAST			
♠	None	♥	J 5 3
♦	Q J 10 9 2	♣	A K Q 7 5
SOUTH			
♠	A 10 6 4	♥	A K Q 10 8 7
♦	8 6 4	♣	None

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
6♥	All Pass	Pass	Db1

Opening lead — Choose it

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had a spade void; still, the defense needed two tricks, and South's failure to ask for aces suggested a void suit, probably clubs. So instead of leading from the jack of spades, Kovachev tried a diamond.

East was no doubt disappointed, but I can't find a way to make the slam after West's remarkable lead, and neither could South. If West led a club or a trump, South could succeed with a complex squeeze.

Chess

Look who's cheating now

NOW even 8-year-olds are being accused of cheating — by adults.

The first European Union championship for boys and girls 8 or under ended last Wednesday in Batumi, Georgia, with a bizarre charge from the Azerbaijan delegation of parents and trainers.

They said that the boys' division winner, Nikita Ayvazyan of Moscow, was being fed moves by a secret informer.

But they couldn't back up their claim and "tournament organizers judged the conduct of the Azerbaijani delegation as unethical," according to the newspaper *Vremya Novstei*.

It was an odd echo of last year's world championship unification match when Vladimir Kramnik of Russia was accused of receiving advice from a computer.

Andy Soltis

Chess Grandmaster



Young Nikita first gained attention two years ago when he drew with Kramnik in a simultaneous exhibition. In Batumi, he finished with a score of 8-1, a point and a half ahead of 37 players. He is a student of chess teacher Konstantin Kosteniuk, best known as the father of Alexandra Kosteniuk, the women's grandmaster and sometime fashion model.

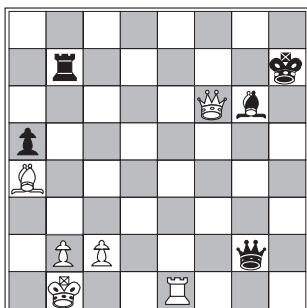
And in tragic news, another of Moscow's best teachers, International Master Sergei Nikolaev, 46, was beaten to death by a mob of skinheads a week ago, allegedly because of his Asian facial features.

SICILIAN DEFENSE

Blindfold World Cup 2007

V. Topalov vs **J. Polgar**

1 e4 c5	13 g3 Qe5
2 Nc3 Nc6	14 0-0-0 Ke7?
3 Nf3 e6	15 Qf3! Nf6
4 d4 cxd4	16 Qa3+ c5
5 Nxd4 a6	17 Nxc5 Nd5
6 Nxc6 bxc6	18 Bg2 Nb4
7 e5 Qc7	19 Nd3 Qe3+
8 Qe2 a5!?	20 Kb1 Rb8
9 f4 d5	21 Rhe1 Qb6
10 exd6 Bxd6	22 c3 Ba6
11 Ne4! Bxf4	23 Ne5 Rhd8
12 Bxf4 Qxf4	24 cxb4 ... Resigns



White to play and win.

Amonatov-Malakhov
Krasnoyark 2007

Last week: 1... f1(N)+! 2 Kf4 Rh4+ 3 Kg5 Be3+! 4 Kxh4 g5+ 5 Kh5 Ng3+. Not 1... f1(Q)? 2 Qxc7+ with perpetual check.

Pets

Departed dogs

Spend Halloween at the first pet cemetery

ANY Tim Burton fan knows there's more to Halloween than candy and costumes. In search of the holiday's deeper meaning, I recently paid a long-overdue visit to a New York landmark: Hartsdale Canine Cemetery (petcem.com). It's the country's oldest pet cemetery, founded in 1896 when a vet named Dr. Samuel Johnson generously offered

Julia Szabo



his apple orchard to serve as a burial plot for a bereaved friend's dog.

Hartsdale has since evolved into the final resting-place for nearly 70,000 animals. Some were any-

mous, but others, like Mariah Carey's dog, Clarence, knew fame. Others became symbols of national pride, namely the dogs that fought bravely alongside our soldiers. These courageous canines are honored with a monument that occupies pride of place at Hartsdale. You can't miss the War Dog Memorial as you walk up the steps; it's breathtaking.

While touring these peaceful grounds, you'll be moved by the simple, sincere ways people have found to express strong feelings for their beloved pets. I was most impressed by the monuments marking plots shared by dogs and their people.

During her lifetime, Sandra Rindner was an influential force in New York's canine community. Her nonprofit organization, Miss Rumples' Orphanage, rescued and found homes for many miniature dogs who had fallen on hard times. When Rindner died last year, she chose to be interred at Hartsdale, inches away from the plot marking the seven dogs who had predeceased her. The inscription on the dogs' grave reads, in part, "The orphans — always safe & loved." It's hard to imagine life without a beloved pet; harder still to cope when the inevitable separation comes. For me, this corner of Hartsdale is profoundly reassuring.

Consider paying your respects by bringing flowers and staking them to the ground (plastic vessels are provided). Some visitors bring pumpkins in honor of the holiday; I brought orange gerbera daisies. Happy Halloween.

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GHOST DOG: Beloved Blackie's headstone at the Hartsdale Canine Cemetery, founded in 1896.

TREATING TABBIES

By **BETH ADELMAN**

WEDNESDAY is Halloween, the cool cat holiday. Images of cats are everywhere, and we recognize the supernatural powers of felines. Therefore, my cat Yin Yin has declared Halloween to be a major feast in our family. While my husband and I have ideas about how to celebrate Halloween based on our childhood experiences, Yin Yin has her own agenda:

1. Never dress a cat in a costume. We cats were born with a fabulous fur coat, and that is all the clothing we will ever need. Have you ever seen a photo with a cat in a costume where the cat looked anything other than annoyed?

2. Candy is not a treat for cats; sugar makes us sick. By all means give us treats, but make sure it's something we really enjoy, like meat or butter or tuna.

3. Don't let people ring the doorbell all night. Its sound is stressful to us kitties. Cover up the bell and

The Cat Lady

put a sign on your front door that tells people to knock instead.

4. Don't hold the door open while kids stand outside waiting for their candy. Either step outside or set up a fabulous palace for us in another room and close that door. Sometimes we think we want to slip out the front door on Halloween night, but in fact, it ends up not being such a fun experience. Plus, there are very creepy people about on Halloween who think it's a good time to hurt cats — especially if we've got black fur. (How such a thing is possible, I don't know!)

5. It's OK to hold a séance to contact cats in the Great Beyond, but be careful with the candles. If we knock one over, don't blame us if the house burns down.

6. Remember to worship us. Actually, that rule applies every day.

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Adopt me



Three-year-old Callie is a true blue lap cat. This lovely Calico is calm and sweet. She's just perfectly happy when snuggling. Meet her from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Humane Society of New York, 306 E. 59th St.; (212) 752-4840 or visit humane-societyny.org.

Humane Society of New York