



# MSN Gaming Zone Cavendish<sup>wbp</sup>



## Invitational

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## Passell-Lair Lead MSN Gaming Zone Cavendish Pairs

The leaders after the second qualifying session of the 1999 MSN Gaming Zone Cavendish Invitational Pairs are Texans Mike Passell and Mark Lair. Their 2244 imps places them less than a partscore swing ahead of Billy Cohen and Ron Smith, with a second-place total of 2201. Some distance back in third place are "Broadway" Billy Eisenberg and "Freeway" Freddy Hamilton with 1708. The complete day one standings along with the award pool amounts for all stages of the event can be found on page 3. The auction results from yesterday's Daily Bulletin are repeated on page 4.

### **"Power Dinner" Spurs Blanchard-Gawrys Comeback**

To say that Bob Blanchard and Piotr Gawrys were depressed at the end of yesterday's first qualifying session of the Cavendish Invitational Pairs is like saying that the Atlanta Falcons were miffed at being beaten by the Denver Broncos in last January's Superbowl or that John Stockton and Karl Malone of the Utah Jazz were unhappy with last year's second straight loss to the Chicago Bulls in the NBA finals. Blanchard-Gawrys' score of -2120 was 469 imps behind the next-to-last place pair and a whopping 3885 imps behind (then) first-place Baze-Whitman. Still, what can one do under such circumstances except have a good dinner and hope things get better in the evening.

If you can find out where they ate and what they had for dinner you might do yourself a favor by going there and ordering yourself a plate of the same, because when they returned from their repast they found they had picked up almost 900 imps (896 to be exact) due to a scoring error. It seems they sat the wrong direction one round that afternoon and two huge pickups they thought they had won were actually scored against them. When the error was found and later corrected, Blanchard-Gawrys soared from last place all the way to 63rd (next to last) place – they were only -1224 imps.

Fortified by their meteoric rise (which they attribute to their flawless play at dinner), the dynamic duo set about to see what (and who) else they could conquer (the operative syllable is "con") that evening. When the smoke had cleared, they had made a bona fide run at Berkowitz-Cohen's record-setting comeback not so many years ago, finishing the evening session at +1749 (almost as big as Baze-Whitman's afternoon score), for a day-ending total of +525. That vaulted them into 17th place.

Hmm. I make them presently only 1719 imps behind the leaders. If I were you, Mike and Eddie, I'd see where Bob and Piotr are eating breakfast and order whatever they're having myself.

# Some Expansions and Clarifications of Conditions of Contest

## Systems – General:

- It is our intent to allow methods with which contestants are (or we deem them to be) familiar.
- It is also our intent to allow a reasonable degree of artificiality in auctions where the opening bid has guaranteed considerable extras over opening bid value or where the response guarantees game invitational values or better (23 HCP).

## Systems – Some clarifying points in Condition 11:

- 11-a) Swedish and Polish Club systems are permitted.
- 11-d) A gambling 3NT is permitted; 3NT as a preempt in a minor is not permitted.
- 11-l) Transfer opening bids and transfer responses other than to an opening bid of 1NT and 2NT are not permitted. But:  
Rubensohl is permitted and transfer responses to an overcall are permitted so long as the transfer guarantees length in the implied suit.  
Transfer responses to an opponent's T/O double are permitted if the bid guarantees length in the implied suit.  
Transfer responses to an opening 1♣ bid are allowed so long as the partnership has guaranteed game invitational values in HCP.

## Cavendish Pairs:

- Carryover from Qualifying to Final:  
There will be a 33% carryover from each pair's qualifying score into the final two sessions. To adjust the score to fit a field of 20 qualifying pairs, the raw score resulting from 31 comparisons will be divided by that number of comparisons and then multiplied by 9, the number of comparisons in the finals and this result will then be divided by 3. In no case shall the spread between the highest and lowest qualifying scores be greater than 40 realimps (realimps are the totalimps divided by the number of comparisons) or a total of  $40 \times 9 = 360$  adjustedimps. If the leading qualifier has a qualifying score greater than 40 realimps or 360 adjustedimps the lead score will be reduced to the maximum carryover of 40 realimps, with the other qualifying scores being prorated.
- Carryover from the Qualifying into the Secondary Final:  
There will be a 20% carryover of each pair's final non-qualifying score. To adjust the score to fit a field of 44 non-qualifying pairs, the raw score resulting from 31 comparisons will be divided by that number of comparisons and then multiplied by 21, the number of comparisons in the secondary final. This product will be divided by 5. It is expected that there will be minus scores carried over. In no event will the lowest score be minus more than 10 realimps or 210 totalimps.
- Format for the Qualifying Rounds:  
The field will be seeded solely by auction prices. The field will be arrayed and divided into 8 brackets (ties if any for the bottom of any bracket and the top of the next lower bracket will be broken by chance). All pairs will play four of the seven other pairs in its bracket and five of the eight pairs in each of the other brackets. All pair numbers will be assigned randomly.
- In the Event of a Tie for the Last Qualifying Position:  
A tie shall be any group of pairs who have the exact same qualifying score. If tied pairs have played each other, the head-to-head winner of that round(s) of tied pairs will be declared the first tie-breaking winner. If there is no head-to-head winner, the second tie-breaker will be the pair which has won the most rounds. (A winning round is net plusimps on the two boards played.) The third tie-breaker shall be the pair who was plus netimps on the most number of boards.

# MSN Cavendish Pairs: Leaders After Second Qualifying Session

Rank	IMPs	Pair #	Pair	Rank	IMPs	Pair #	Pair
1	2244.00	6	Mike Passell - Eddie Wold	33	-157.00	49	Enza Rossano - Antonio Vivaldi
2	2201.00	21	Billy Cohen - Ron Smith	34	-225.00	17	Steve Garner - Howard Weinstein
3	1708.00	60	Bill Eisenberg - Frederick Hamilton	35	-234.00	26	Billy Miller - Curtis Cheek
4	1663.00	5	Paul Chemla - Christian Mari	36	-239.00	61	Wayne Chu - Tim Cope
5	1565.00	28	Roger Bates - Daniel Mordecai	37	-288.00	36	Ishmael Del'Monte - Lionel Wright
6	1554.00	35	Grant Baze - Michael Whitman	38	-304.00	38	Adam Wildavsky - Dan Morse
7	1175.00	1	Andrea Buratti - Massimo Lanzarotti	39	-306.00	53	Fabio Rosati - Amadeo Comella
8	1115.00	62	Shawn Quinn - Mildred Breed	40	-307.00	39	George Mittelman - Henry Mansell
9	946.00	22	Russell Ekeblad - John Sutherland	41	-324.00	42	Gerhard Schiesser - Roland Rohowsky
10	940.00	16	Eric Greco - Geoff Hampson	42	-331.00	8	Larry Cohen - David Berkowitz
11	917.00	3	Lorenzo Lauria - Alfredo Versace	43	-342.00	18	Fred Gitelman - Brad Moss
12	831.00	30	Brian Glubok - John Roberts	44	-367.00	59	Bobby Wolff - Seymon Deutsch
13	802.00	58	Gunnar Halberg - William Whittaker	45	-402.00	2	Alan Sontag - Peter Weichsel
14	731.00	48	Joseph Jabon - Aidan Ballantyne	46	-470.00	13	Krzysztof Martens - Marek Szymanowski
15	636.00	52	Harry Tudor - Gary Cohler	47	-498.00	14	Sam Lev - Barnet Shenkin
16	564.00	51	Paul Lewis - Linda Lewis	48	-748.00	27	Gaylor Kastle - George Steiner
17	525.00	19	Robert Blanchard - Piotr Gawrys	49	-763.00	63	Eric Rodwell - Robin Klar
18	495.00	7	Chip Martel - Lew Stansby	50/51	-769.00	41	Markland Molson - Michel Abecassis
19	484.00	11	Bob Hamman - Nick Nickell	50/51	-769.00	44	Veronel Lungu - Florin Rometti
20	446.00	4	Robert Levin - Steve Weinstein	52	-818.00	9	Fred Stewart - Kit Woolsey
21	388.00	31	Bjorn Fallenius - Michael Moss	53	-825.00	32	Richard Schwartz - Marc Jacobus
22	354.00	40	Mike Cornell - Ashley Bach	54	-869.00	47	Paul Soloway - Malcolm Brachman
23	279.00	37	John Mohan - Kay Schulle	55	-1017.00	45	Ralph Katz - George Jacobs
24	277.00	56	Chris Convery - Craig Gower	56	-1065.00	43	Andrew Robson - Rita Shugart
25	148.00	12	Zia Mahmood - Gabriel Chagas	57	-1107.00	54	Amos Kaminski - James Rosenbloom
26	102.00	24	Bart Bramley - Sidney Lazard Sr	58	-1130.00	50	Wojciech Kurkowski - Roger Lord
27	-8.00	29	Franco Pietri - Mario Di Maio	59	-1162.00	10	Peter Boyd - Steve Robinson
28	-10.00	25	Hector Camberos - Pablo Lambardi	60	-1208.00	33	Drew Casen - Lee Rautenberg
29	-18.00	23	John Schermer - Neil Chambers	61	-1366.00	20	Espen Erichsen - Boye Brogeland
30	-40.00	15	Perry Johnson - Jeff Meckstroth	62	-1406.00	46	Chris Compton - Andrzej Zakzewski
31	-78.00	34	Mark Lair - John Onstott	63	-1429.00	64	Sheila Ekeblad - Michael Seamon
32	-97.00	57	Kerri Sanborn - Stephen Sanborn	64	-1687.00	55	Maria Joao Lara - Manuel Capucho

## MSN Gaming Zone Cavendish Pairs Award Pools

### Primary

Place	Auction	Players
1st	\$261,240	\$17,408
2nd	167,940	13,056
3rd	111,960	10,880
4th	83,970	9,792
5th	74,640	8,704
6th	65,310	7,616
7th	55,980	6,528
8th	46,650	5,440
9th	37,320	4,352
10th	27,990	3,264
11-20th		2,176 each

### Secondary

Place	Auction
1st	\$44,800
2nd	28,800
3rd	19,200
4th	14,400
5th	12,800
6th	11,200
7th	9,600
8th	8,000
9th	6,400
10th	4,800

### Session Awards

#### Qualifying

3rd session: \$10,000 to highest session score among non-qualifiers

#### Final

2nd session: \$15,000 to best session score for pair not finishing in overalls

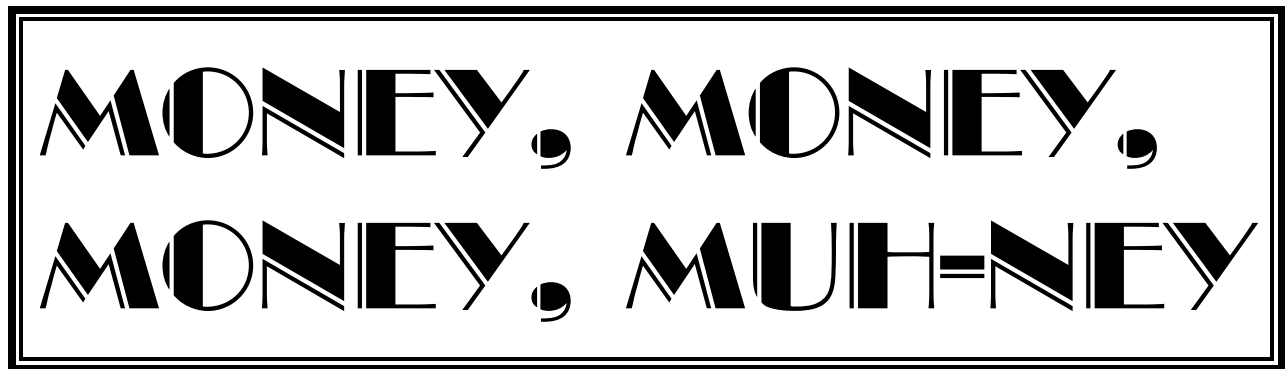
\$5,000 to 2nd best

\$2,500 to 3rd best

no session awards in secondary event

## Auction Results of the 1999 MSN Gaming Zone Cavendish Pairs

Rank		Selling Price	Rank		Selling Price
1	Lorenzo Lauria – Alfredo Versace	\$56,000	34	Ishmael Delmonte – Lionel Wright	\$13,000
2	Andrea Buratti – Massimo Lanzarotti	\$54,000	35	Drew Casen – Lee Rautenberg	\$12,500
3	Paul Chemla – Christian Mari	\$50,000	36/37	Adam Wildavsky – Dan Morse	\$12,000
4	Chip Martel – Lew Stansby	\$48,000	36/37	Grant Baze – Mike Whitman	
5/6	Larry Cohen – David Berkowitz	\$41,000	38	John Mohan – Kay Schulle	\$11,000
5/6	Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein		39/64	George Mittelman – Henry Mansell	\$10,000
7	Mike Passell – Eddie Wold	\$36,500	39/64	Harry Tudor – Gary Cohler	
8	Alan Sontag – Peter Weichsel	\$34,000	39/64	Paul Lewis – Linda Lewis	
9/10	Bob Hamman – Nick Nickell	\$33,000	39/64	Chris Convery – Craig Gower	
9/10	Krzysztof Martens – Marek Szymanowski		39/64	Maria Joao Lara – Manuel Capucho	
11/12	Zia Mahmood – Gabriel Chagas	\$31,000	39/64	Wayne Chu – Tim Cope	
11/12	Sam Lev – Barnet Shenkin		39/64	Gunnar Hallberg – Willie Whittaker	
13	Eric Greco – Geoff Hampson	\$30,000	39/64	Mark Molson – Michel Abecassis	
14	Peter Boyd – Steve Robinson	\$28,500	39/64	Shawn Quinn – Mildred Breed	
15/16	Perry Johnson – Jeff Meckstroth	\$28,000	39/64	Veronel Lungu – Florin Rometti	
15/16	Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey		39/64	Billy Eisenberg – Fred Hamilton	
17/18	Steve Garner – Howard Weinstein	\$25,000	39/64	Enza Rossano – Antonio Vivaldi	
17/18	Bart Bramley – Sidney Lazard		39/64	Bobby Wolff – Seymon Deutsch	
19	Fred Gitelman – Brad Moss	\$22,000	39/64	Chris Compton – Andrej Zakrezewski	
20/22	John Schermer – Neil Chambers	\$20,000	39/64	Sheila Ekeblad – Michael Seamon	
20/22	Bob Blanchard – Piotr Gawrys		39/64	Ralph Katz – George Jacobs	
20/22	Espen Erichsen – Boye Brogeland		39/64	Eric Rodwell – Robin Klar	
23	Russell Ekeblad – John Sutherland	\$19,000	39/64	Amos Kaminski – James Rosenbloom	
24	Billy Cohen – Ron Smith	\$18,000	39/64	Gerhard Schiesser – Roland Rohowsky	
25	Franco Pietri – Mario di Maio	\$17,000	39/64	Paul Soloway – Malcolm Brachman	
26	Gaylor Kastle – George Steiner	\$16,000	39/64	Wojciek Kurkowski – Roger Lord	
27/28	Brian Glubok – John Roberts	\$15,500	39/64	Fabio Rosati – Amedeo Comello	
27/28	Billy Miller – Curtis Cheek		39/64	Michael Cornell – Ashley Bach	
29	Bjorn Fallenius – Mike Moss	\$15,000	39/64	Joe Jabon – Aiden Ballentyne	
30	Roger Bates – Dan Mordecai	\$14,500	39/64	Andrew Robson – Rita Shugart	
31	Hector Camberos – Pablo Lambardi	\$14,000	39/64	Kerri Sanborn – Steve Sanborn	
32/33	Mark Lair – John Onstott	\$13,500			
32/33	Richie Schwartz – Marc Jacobus				
				Total Auction Pool:	\$1,227,000



## WBP Pairs Begins Today

World Bridge Productions invites you to join us for the WBP Pairs, a special three-session event beginning today at 12:30 PM. Brunch will be served (all are invited) on the 3rd floor of the Convention Center, Room 315, at 11:00 AM. Following that the WBP Pairs auction will be held in Rooms 318-319, beginning at 12:00 noon. Come and bid for your favorite pairs. The field (see below) is studded with outstanding players, so join us on Saturday and help to make this a truly memorable event.

### The Field for the 1999 WBP Pairs

Pair #		Pair #	
1	Dan Jacobs – Rob Crawford	12	John Gowdy – Bill Curtis
2	Colby Vernay – Barry Schaefer	13	Leonard Ernst – Richard Halperin
3	Jan Martel – Joanna Stansby	14	Charlton Buckley – Bruce Ferguson
4	Reese Milner – Disa Cheeks	15	Joe Ellsbury – Peggy Sutherlin
5	Michael Elienescu – Sorin Pleacoff	16	John Jeffrey – Jeff Gargrave
6	Lorne Russell – Si Dombu	17	Joel Woolridge – Darren Wolpert
7	Roberta Epstein – Mark Epstein	18	Allen Hawkins – Steve Goldberg
8	Michael Friedman – Larry Cohen	19	John Solodar – Judith Weisman
9	Kishore Anand – Ghassan Menachi	20	John Lowenthal – Gail Stanhope
10	David Yates – Michael McNamara	21	Brenda Harris – Dennis Clerkin
11	Rose Johnson – Jo Morse	22	Gerald Sosler – Antonio Sementa

In the  Zone



Are you in the “Zone”? Not just any zone, the MSN Gaming Zone. Join MSN’s Lorne Russell at his table outside the playing area (3rd floor Convention Center) where he’ll be happy to demonstrate “Bridge on the Zone” and to answer your questions about MSN (but not about how you should have bid or played that hand that cost you 13 imps). He plans to set up shop about an hour before each session and again at session’s end. We’re delighted to have him here. Your assignment, kids, is to keep him busy. Ask him some questions (he’s such a nice, lonely man), tell him some jokes, make him (and MSN) feel needed.

### Alert – Kibitzers!

Due to reported problems with kibitzers interfering with the play in neighboring cubicles, we are limiting the number of kibitzers on either side of a screen to two for the remainder of the tournament. We thank you for respecting this new policy.

# Lost Manuscript Found: The MSN Cavendish Teams Revisited

by Henry Bethe

*“Dr. Livingston, I presume?”*

*With emotions which we imagine reminiscent of Mr. Stanley’s when he uttered those famous words so many years ago, we were both relieved and heartened to discover our faithful correspondent, Henry Bethe, crawling out of the dense, Las Vegas underbrush with a crumpled piece of paper clutched in his hand, begging for a sip of cool water and muttering something about “...harrowing ordeal,” “I couldn’t find my bread crumbs to get back from the Convention Center...what happened to my bread crumbs?” and “Did I make the deadline?”*

*Henry, indefatigable trooper that he is, set out on assignment yesterday to observe some of the late-round matches from the opening team event and report any interesting hands. Sure enough, when the sandy, crumpled piece of paper was pried from his twitching hands, there, barely discernable, were a bunch of faintly scrawled symbols reminiscent of Egyptian hieroglyphics. When we called in a group of experts on local desert cultures and languages what emerged was the following account of two matches from Thursday’s team event. – Ed.*

## Match 7:

I sat down to watch the rubber match between the two chalk teams, kibitzing Versace-Lauria vs. Weinstein-Levin. Board 1 featured a complex auction by Weinstein-Levin on the following cards:

West	East
Weinstein	Levin
♠ J643	♠ Q108
♥ AQ3	♥ 109
♦ AKJ932	♦ Q87
♣ —	♣ AKJ109

After 1♣-1♦-1NT Weinstein bid 2♥, artificial, saying he was too good to just bid 3NT. Levin bid 3♦ and Weinstein 4♣, showing his void. Levin bid 4♦ and over a 4♥ cue-bid retreated to 5♦. Having pinpointed the spade lead they were lucky to find the suit three-three and came home with plus 400. At the other table the Italians started with 1♦, which could be three cards in the Blue Team Club style they play. When the auction continued 1♠-1NT, responder bid a forcing 3♦ and opener leapt to 4♠. Responder, not unreasonably, tried 6♦ which was doubled for

the spade lead and ended one down. 11 imps to Weinstein after 20 minutes.

Bd: 2	♠ KJ	
Vul: N/S	♥ Q9742	
Dlr: East	♦ 65	
	♣ Q632	
♠ 852		♠ AQ9764
♥ 108653		♥ —
♦ J3		♦ K10842
♣ 954		♣ 108
	♠ 103	
	♥ AKJ	
	♦ AQ97	
	♣ AKJ7	

On Board 2 Levin opened his shapely hand 1♠. Lauria doubled and Versace jumped to 3♥. Lauria bid 3♠ and Versace tried 3NT, then over 4♣ retreated to 4♥. Lauria pushed on, perhaps suspecting a psychic opener, and wound up in 6♥ which was doomed to down 2. At the other table the Italian East opened a constructive 2♠. Stansby doubled and cue-bid over Martel's constructive 3♥ response. When Martel retreated to 4♥ he acquiesced. Another 13 imps to Weinstein who held on to win by 14 imps, opening a useful lead over the Italians.

## Match 9:

For the final match I watched the leaders, Miller and Cheek, play against Boyd and Robinson. Miller was 6 VPs ahead of Boyd, with Weinstein between them, one behind Miller. On Board 19 (reported in Friday’s Bulletin) Cheek and Miller played 6♥ with 7♠ cold. Then Cheek elected to bid a forcing 1NT over Miller's 1♠

holding ♠3 ♥J94 ♦J942 ♣109652. This got 4♠ from Miller and minus 200.

Bd: 21	♠ AQ7532
Vul: N/S	♥ Q73
Dlr: North	♦ —
	♣ KQJ4
♠ 6	♠ J8
♥ A984	♥ KJ2
♦ KJ54	♦ Q98632
♣ A1073	♣ 96
	♠ K1094
	♥ 1065
	♦ A107
	♣ 852

On Board 21 Miller and Cheek took a semi-phantom save over 4♠, which could be beaten on the best lead but might not be. 5♦ was doubled and set one for a push. Boyd-Robinson had two more useful results (one reported yesterday) and then came this layout:

Robinson's 1♦ opener with the North hand was overcalled with 1♥ and Boyd bid a non-forcing 2♣. Miller passed and Robinson raised to 3♣. Cheek doubled and Boyd re-raised to 4♣, ending

Bd: 25	♠ KJ3
Vul: E/W	♥ A4
Dlr: North	♦ J1063
	♣ A1096
♠ 984	♠ AQ7
♥ 109762	♥ KQ853
♦ Q2	♦ AK854
♣ QJ3	♣ —
	♠ 10652
	♥ J
	♦ 97
	♣ K87542

the auction. 4♣ was quietly down 2 for a gain of 11 imps when teammates Woolsey-Stewart bid 4♥ and made five.

All of this translated into a win by 19 imps, 26-4 in VPs. Not quite enough as Weinstein won by 10 imps to take the event by 1 VP, with O'Rourke holding on to third place.

## There's good, and then there's...

by Sam Leckie, Scotland

Most of the players in the Cavendish are experts, but only a few are super-duper ones. What's the difference? Let's look at a hand from the Teams.

West	East
♠ QJ10983	♠ A65
♥ A9	♥ Q10874
♦ 32	♥ AK
♣ AK8	♣ Q107

Our s-d experts bid as follows:

In fact, the slam is slightly against the odds: 50% (for the trump finesse) + 2.4% (for the bare ♥K) – 4.7% (for four-zero trumps with North). In practice the trump finesse would be taken and then the long shot in hearts tried.

West	East
1♠	2♥
3♣	4♠
4NT	5♥
6♠	Pass

Our s-d expert looked at the hand quite differently. He reckoned the bare ♥K just didn't happen in real life and tried a different ploy. At trick 2 he led the ♥9! There are many holdings where North, holding the king and length, will duck if he assumes the nine is singleton. In fact, he did duck and with the spade finesse on, thirteen tricks were made.

As it turned out, North in fact held ♥KJ532 and could have beaten the contract by giving South a ruff, a fact which dummy was only too happy to point out.

"So what?" came the reply. "There's no other way to play the hand." Now that's what I call a *real* super-duper expert.

# MSN Gaming Zone Cavendish Pairs: Sessions One and Two

## Qualifying Session One:

Bd: 1	♠ 82		
Vul: None	♥ 5		
Dlr: North	♦ Q72		
	♣ AK96432		
♠ AQ763		♠ —	
♥ KJ104		♥ 9872	
♦ 853		♦ AK1096	
♣ Q		♣ J875	
	♠ KJ10954		
	♥ AQ63		
	♦ J4		
	♣ 10		
West	North	East	South
Woolsey	Buratti	Stewart	Lanzarotti
	2♣	2♦	Dbl
2♠	3♣	Pass	Pass
3♦	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	Pass
4♦	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

Board 1. The set got off to a flying start when penalties were recorded both ways on a deal where virtually no one made a contract. At my table (for example, where Hampson-Greco were E/W) a 3♣ opening was doubled for take-out by West and left in by East. The pass was at least partly predicted on the assumption that West had a good hand with spades. That led to an easy plus 300. On the auction set out here, it seems in retrospect that either East or West erred by not doubling 4♣, so plus 500 turned into minus 300 as the Italians took two heart ruffs and a club overruff. Mind you, Chagas and Zia did even better than the Italians. Against Weinstein and Levin, Zia heard a 3♣ opening and a 3♠ response from Weinstein, raised to game. Zia hit it and led his club. Declarer cashed the ♣AK pitching a heart. Zia ruffed and led ♠A and a spade, and the defense could collect four red-suit winners and another trump for plus 800!

doubled looks likely to be set at least a trick, but the low diamond

Board 3. Robin Klar, playing with Eric Rodwell, scored a coup here against Ekeblad-Sutherland. 4♠

Bd: 8	♠ AQ642		
Vul: None	♥ 87		
Dlr: West	♦ QJ93		
	♣ J4		
♠ KJ109		♠ 8753	
♥ Q5		♥ KJ963	
♦ K75		♦ 86	
♣ A752		♣ K10	
	♠ —		
	♥ A1042		
	♦ A1042		
	♣ Q9863		
West	North	East	South
Stansby	Robinson	Martel	Boyd
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

lead was tough to read (is there a case to try the ♦Q at trick one?) South put up the ♦A and returned the suit, letting Klar pitch her club on the ♦K. She ducked a heart and could then ruff the ♥A and finesse in spades for ten tricks. Fred Hamilton handled the South cards more tactfully. He passed and over 1♠-Dbl-2♠ he bid 3♦ – his spade void told him that there would be more bidding. When 3♠ came back to him, he bid 4♥ and got doubled there for plus 690 on a diamond lead.

Bd: 3	♠ AJ4		
Vul: E/W	♥ KQ76		
Dlr: South	♦ Q54		
	♣ K63		
♠ Q1098752		♠ K63	
♥ A94		♥ 83	
♦ 10		♦ K82	
♣ A7		♣ QJ942	
	♠ —		
	♥ J1052		
	♦ AJ9763		
	♣ 1085		
West	North	East	South
			3♦
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dbl	All Pass	

Board 8. Sometimes a five-zero trump break can be better news for declarer than a four-one break. That was certainly true here. On Robinson's ♦Q lead (he might well have bid 3♦ rather than sit for 2♠ doubled; the absence of trump



intermediates turned out to be vital). Boyd put up the ace and returned the suit – having no trump to lead, of course. Stansby won to establish his heart trick. Boyd ducked his ♥A, so Stansby ruffed a diamond and played three rounds of clubs. Robinson pitched his fourth diamond so Stansby ruffed in dummy and with two trump winners in hand that was plus 470. Since 3♦ would probably have made, there were a lot ofimps at stake in the auction.

Board 12. Fred Gitelman found a great extra chance in his 5♦ game, giving Alan Sontag the chance for an equally fine defense, which he did not take. Weichsel led a helpful heart and Gitelman won in hand, crossed to dummy with a trump to ruff a club, drew a second trump, and then cashed the ♥A to get the bad news. Now he found the next maneuver of leading the ♣K to pitch a low spade. Sontag won his ♣A (ducking does not beat the hand) and could not give a ruff-sluff. In fact, he took the ♠A and led another spade and Fred had a home for his heart loser. But Sontag had to underlead his ♠AQ to beat the hand.

Bd: 20	♠ K83		
Vul: Both	♥ 654		
Dir: West	♦ 108		
	♣ 108743		
♠ J1076		♠ AQ52	
♥ J72		♥ 103	
♦ 64		♦ QJ532	
♣ Q952		♣ J6	
	♠ 94		
	♥ AKQ98		
	♦ AK97		
	♣ AK		

Board 20. On perhaps the most technically interesting deal of the set the room reached 4♥ by South and were faced with a variety of problems. On opening lead all four suits were not only possible, but found. Lazard received a trump lead which strongly suggested they were splitting. He tackled diamonds at once and went down when the defense could ruff in, cash two spades, and play a fourth diamond. Sontag did

the same on the ♣A lead with more excuse (he could not play on trumps confidently since he had no guaranteed reentry to his hand). Both players could have made by taking two rounds of trumps and then attacking diamonds. On the ♦6 lead to the jack Sheila Ekeblad played two more rounds of diamonds. Wright ruffed in as Del Monte followed with a suit-preference ♦5 and ♦3. Alas, Wright had missed the fact that the ♦2 was out and played a club, so it was back to plus 620. On a spade lead, as found against Fallenius-Moss, the play is simpler. It's easy to give up the spade tricks early and then to take one trump and play on diamonds. The fact that the defense's communications are gone reduces the chances of uppercuts and the like.

Board 23. Back-to-back slams on Boards 23 and 24 provided trouble for the field. Most pairs handled 24 satisfactorily, but on 23 many pairs played 5♦ doubled (for

Bd: 12	♠ J82		
Vul: N/S	♥ KJ104		
Dir: West	♦ AQ10963		
	♣ —		
♠ AQ3		♠ 7654	
♥ 9		♥ Q872	
♦ 84		♦ J	
♣ AQ108654		♣ J973	
	♠ K109		
	♥ A653		
	♦ K752		
	♣ K2		
West	North	East	South
Weichsel	Gitelman	Sontag	Moss
2♣	2♦	4♣	5♦
All Pass			

Bd: 23	♠ —		
Vul: Both	♥ Q4		
Dir: South	♦ AK1093		
Vul: Both	♣ K108652		
Dir: East	♠ AK1087632	♠ 54	
Vul: Both	♥ J	♣ —	♥ K87652
Dir: South	♠ J106543		♠ AK82
Vul: Both	♣ Q7		♣ K3
Dir: East	♦ 5	♠ QJ9	♦ 10872
Vul: Both	♣ A975	♥ A1093	♣ Q42
		♠ AQ8765	
		♣ K942	
		♦ Q4	
West	North	East	South
Chemla	Glubok	Mari	Roberts
West	North	East	South
Choi	Pa(hf)	Cope	Brida
4♠	4NT	Pass	Pass
5♠	Pass	2♣ Pass	Dbf
4♠	5♥	Dbf	All Pass

750 or 950) and quite a few went down in 6♦. On a top spade lead for instance, Zia at some point led a heart to the queen before touching trumps. Against Breed and Quinn declarer drew trumps, then led a fatal ♥9 from hand. I watched John Roberts on a spade lead ruff, ruff a club low, then err by leading the ♦A (the ♦Q is far better to cater for this specific holding) and another diamond. Now the clubs ruff out but Roberts thought that Chemla was more likely to have ♣Ax or to find the ♥K onside. He ruffed a club, then led a low heart. When the jack appeared he was home on the ruffing finesse in spades.

Board 26. The first qualifying set finished with a spectacular deal on which game might make either way. Paul Lewis played 5♥ doubled on a top spade lead. Should West signal for a diamond or for a club? Chu played the ♠3 and Lewis ruffed the club shift to run the ♥J; one down. Since Cope was known not to hold five diamonds, the issue was whether East was 4-3-4-2 or his actual shape. Shenkin-Lev bought the hand in 4♠. Shenkin had heard South bid clubs, so when the defense tried to cash two top diamonds Lev ruffed and drew trumps while eliminating diamonds. Then he cashed the ♣A and played the ♥A and another heart to endplay whoever won the king.

Second Qualifying Session:

Bd: 2	♠ A92	
Vul: N/S	♥ QJ	
Dlr: East	♦ A10852	
	♣ Q107	
♠ K543		♠ Q1076
♥ K5		♥ 87432
♦ J97		♦ 3
♣ AKJ4		♣ 982
	♠ J8	
	♥ A1096	
	♦ KQ64	
	♣ 653	

Board 2. If you push your opponents into game and double it, you'd better beat it. This board was a quiet partscore in a major for most E/W pairs after a strong NT; hearts generally went down, spades generally made nine tricks. But Del Monte and Wright play a weak NT, so when West opened 1♣ it let North overcall 1♦ and then N/S had the option to stay low or try for game. This was the auction:

Wright	North	Del Monte	South
1♣	1♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	2♥	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Dbl	All Pass		

Del Monte was trying to show limited values and both majors by his delayed action, but perhaps Wright did not care what he had when he made his final double! Now it was up to Del Monte and he duly led a spade, making it easy to collect 500 when the heart finesse lost. By contrast, Cornell and Bach let through 3NT when Cornell led a heart at trick one, setting up the suit for declarer.

Bd: 9	♠ K1065		
Vul: E/W	♥ K9875		
Dlr: North	♦ A104		
	♣ 5		
♠ 842		♠ QJ93	
♥ Q102		♥ A4	
♦ Q6		♦ K98732	
♣ A10873		♣ K	
	♠ A7		
	♥ J63		
	♦ J5		
	♣ QJ9642		
West	North	East	South
Chu	Meck	Cope	Johnson
	1♥	2♦	2♥
Pass	Pass	2♠	3♣
Dbl	3♥	All Pass	

Board 9. Jeff Meckstroth put in an entry for the best played hand of the year (he is the current holder of the title). The defense logically led the ♥A and a second heart to the queen and king. Meckstroth led a club and East won the king and played the ♠Q. Meckstroth won the ace and led the ♣Q, covered and roughed, and then had to make his next move in the following position:

He played the ♠10!! (The king and then the ten does not work.) East's best defense is to win and return a spade. Meckstroth can ditch a diamond from dummy, play ace and a diamond, ruff a club, then endplay West with the master heart to lead clubs. East actually ducked the ♠10

	♠ K106		
	♥ 98		
	♦ A104		
	♣ —		
♠ xx		♠ J9X	
♥ Q		♥ —	
♦ Q6		♦ K9873	
♣ 1087		♣ —	
	♠ X		
	♥ J		
	♦ J5		
	♣ J9XX		

so Jeff cashed his top tricks and ruffed a diamond in dummy for nine tricks.

Bd: 12	♠ K87		
Vul: N/S	♥ J765		
Dlr: West	♦ AKJ32		
	♣ 3		
♠ 96543		♠ J10	
♥ AK4		♥ 3	
♦ Q109		♦ 54	
♣ K10		♣ AQJ97654	
	♠ AQ2		
	♥ Q10982		
	♦ 876		
	♣ 82		

Board 12. A simple defensive problem against 3NT – just the six tricks hinge on the play to trick two. Zia reached 3NT against the Sanborns having bid spades twice. Steve led the ♦K (an unblock request) and shifted to hearts – eleven tricks made. Larry Cohen, after the auction (1♠-2♣-2NT-3♣-3NT) decided that his RHO was bound to have the guarded ♦Q. He led the ♦A (not an unblock request) and Berkowitz's eight was suit preference for a spade – a great hand for the methods. Cohen shifted to a spade and the defense cashed out for down four.

Due to time limitations, the report on the second qualifying session will conclude tomorrow.



# Random Dorbitzing

by Henry Bethe

Many years ago I heard about the various ranks of watchers. Kibitzers are highest and since I rank highest in little, I have presumed to rise to the second rank, that of Dorbitzer. So during the first session of the Cavendish pairs, I arrived somewhat late and found my way to Table 10, to watch the glorious part of bridge, Hall of Famer Broadway Billy and Fred Hamilton, play the probable future, Brad Moss and Fred Gitelman.

Bd: 5	♠ K108643	
Vul: N/S	♥ KQ7	
Dlr: North	♦ J53	
	♣ 3	
♠ Q7		♠ 52
♥ A109		♥ J863
♦ AQ1076		♦ K94
♣ 854		♣ J976
	♠ AJ9	
	♥ 542	
	♦ 82	
	♣ AKQ102	

Board 5. Gitelman (North) elected to pass and Moss opening 1NT brought Texas from partner to arrive in 4♠. Hamilton didn't fancy a lead from (or of) either red ace with the notrump opener on his right, so he tried a club. Moss won the jack with the king, then led the ♠J to the queen and king. A spade came back and when clubs broke he claimed six. Lucky for Hamilton that South had two diamonds and three clubs; otherwise, many pairs would go down in 4♠ by North after a weak two-bid. As it was it was only overtricks.

rather saw) it go Pass-1♠-Dbl. He passed and the auction continued 2♦ on his left, 2♠ by partner, pass. Now he passed again which brought 3♦ followed by 3♥ by partner. He decided to bid 3♠ – wrong – as partner held ♠AJ9842 ♥Q42 ♦J2 ♣J9 and 3♥ makes but 3♠ went down when Hamilton finessed on the first round of spades, eventually losing two spades, two diamonds, and a club. The complete hand:

Board 6. On the companion board Eisenberg had a critical decision holding: ♠103 ♥AKJ93 ♦97 ♣A1084. He opened 1♥ and heard (or

Bd: 6	♠ K	
Vul: E/W	♥ 1085	
Dlr: East	♦ AK103	
	♣ Q6532	
♠ AJ9842		♠ 103
♥ Q42		♥ AKJ93
♦ J2		♦ 97
♣ J9		♣ A1084
	♠ Q765	
	♥ 76	
	♦ Q8654	
	♣ K7	

Bd: 8	♠ AQ642	
Vul: None	♥ 87	
Dlr: West	♦ QJ93	
	♣ J4	
♠ KJ109		♠ 8753
♥ Q5		♥ KJ963
♦ K75		♦ 86
♣ A752		♣ K10
	♠ —	
	♥ A1042	
	♦ A1042	
	♣ Q9863	

Looking around for the next round, I tried Kit Woolsey playing with Fred Stewart against Wold-Passell. Stewart and Woolsey had an interesting problem on the second board (Board 8). The auction went quickly 1♣-1♠-Dbl-Pass-1NT. Woolsey led the ♦J (Rusinow) eliciting an encouraging six from partner. Now he tried the ♥Q, ducked, and a heart to the jack and ace. Frank thought for a while before leading the ♦10. Knowing the opponents to be trustworthy, when declarer played low, I would have dropped the nine, which can hardly cost. Kit, however, played low so now when Fred continued the ♦A the suit was blocked and declarer wound up making 1NT.

Dorbitzers are actually the second rank of bridge watchers. The lowest group are Tsetzers, who are only allowed to stand in the background and mutter ts-ts when they see something of which they disapprove. Dorbitzers are actually allowed to sit, but not for long at one stretch. So after watching the third and fourth round I was forced to relinquish my seat for a round. For

round six I found a seat between the (to me) young Steve Weinstein and the (to anyone) very young Eric Erichsen. Now young players are eternally optimistic, particularly about game bonuses. They figure, I guess, if we let this one get away we may never see another one. That, at least, is my explanation for the auction on Board 11.

Bd: 11	♠ K982	
Vul: None	♥ Q643	
Dlr: South	♦ K10	
	♣ A42	
♠ AQ10		♠ J753
♥ AK		♥ J98
♦ 98762		♦ AQ
♣ J75		♣ K1093
	♠ 64	
	♥ 10752	
	♦ J543	
	♣ Q86	

Erichsen opened 1♦ and the auction proceeded: Dbl-Rdbl-1♥. He passed, then over partner's 1♠ he tried 2NT and partner raised to three. 3NT has some play. If the ♣Q and one of the pointed kings is onside or if both kings are onside, it might make if hearts are four-four as well. Anyway, the losing club finesse meant that declarer was doomed to down one, minus 50.

I had now watched my quota but fortunately, as I headed back to the hotel (with a guide), Bart Bramley stopped to tell us about Board 26. (Actually, he said this was his one bright spot

in an otherwise dull afternoon.) East opened 1♦ and South passed. West bid 1♠ and Bramley bid 2♦ (natural). East raised spades and so did Sidney Lazard. West re-raised to 4♠ and after two passes Lazard bid 5♦ (note: only a trump lead beats this). East, after two more passes, bid 5♠, doubled by South. Bramley led the ♦3 to Sidney's queen and ruffed the club return. The ♥5 was now led, at which point declarer could still get out for down one by winning, ruffing a diamond, playing a spade to the king, and exiting with the ♥Q. Now the second club loser goes away. But declarer ducked to South's king and a second club ruff meant minus 500.

Bd: 26	♠ 97	
Vul: Both	♥ J10865	
Dlr: East	♦ AKJ963	
	♣ —	
♠ J106543		♠ AK82
♥ Q7		♥ A3
♦ 5		♦ 10872
♣ A975		♣ Q42
	♠ Q	
	♥ K942	
	♦ Q4	
	♣ KJ10863	

## Slamming Through to the Lead

by Henry Bethe

Bd: 23	♠ —	
Vul: Both	♥ Q4	
Dlr: South	♦ K1093	
	♣ KQ109652	
♠ AK1087632		♠ 54
♥ J		♥ K87652
♦ J		♦ 42
♣ AJ7		♣ 843
	♠ QJ9	
	♥ A1093	
	♦ AQ8765	
	♣ —	

I stopped Grant Baze in the hall to ask the secret of his success – a mammoth +1750 imps in the first session. He said he and partner Mike Whitman were a little plus going into Boards 21-24, then everything went their way for four boards. On Board 21 they bid a very lucky slam: a finesse and a successful trump guess brought home 370 imps. Then the opponents missed a lay down 6♣ for 350 more imps. Then Whitman opened 1♦ on Board 23 and West overcalled 4♠. Grant bid a quiet 5♦, passed around to West, who bid 5♠. He should have left well enough alone but Grant bid 6♣, Pass-6♦ by Whitman-Pass-Pass-6♠ – which went for 1100 and another 250 imps. And a final, very good 6♣ on Board 24 brought their gain to 1000 imps for the four boards. A healthy chunk: those four alone would have placed them in the top five in the field.

## Schedule

Day	Time	Activity	Location
Saturday, May 8th	11:00 AM	WBP Brunch (all invited)	3rd floor Convention Center, 315
	11:30 AM	WBP Auction	3rd floor Convention Center, 318-319
	12:30 PM	3rd Qual. Session, Pairs	3rd floor Convention Center, 318-319
	12:30 PM	1st Session, WBP Pairs	3rd floor Convention Center, 318-319
	7:30 PM	1st Final Session, Pairs	3rd floor Convention Center, 318-319
	7:30 PM	Non-Qual. 1st Session	3rd floor Convention Center, 318-319
	7:30 PM	2nd Session, WBP Pairs	3rd floor Convention Center, 318-319
	TBA	Vu-Graph	3rd floor Convention Center, 302
Sunday, May 9th	12:00 PM	2nd Final Session, Pairs	3rd floor Convention Center, 318-319
	12:00 PM	Non- Qual. Final Session	3rd floor Convention Center, 318-319
	12:00 PM	Final Session, WBP Pairs	3rd floor Convention Center,
			318-319
	TBA	Vu-Graph	3rd floor Convention Center, 302
	6:00 PM	Awards Ceremony and Closing Cocktail Party	2nd floor Convention Center Vista Ballroom 206-10