World Bridge Productions



Invitational

Bulletin Number 5 Sunday, May 8, 2005 Editor: Rich Colker
Contributing Editor: Barry Rigal

Buratti-Lanzarotti Lead the 2005 Cavendish Pairs

With two big sessions yesterday (+1007 and +758) Andrea Buratti and Massimo Lanzarotti soared into the lead of the 2005 Cavendish Pairs. With 2667 cross-imps they are 369 ahead of Pablo Lambardi and Juan Ventin, with 2298. The latter pair had a monster Day Two, scoring +1184 and +862, climbing all the way from 19th at the end of Day One place to 2nd place at the end of Day Two. In third place with 2020 cross-imps are Day One leaders Bobby Levin and Steve Weinstein, who added only about 800 points to their Day One score. Hamman-Zia and Balicki-Zmudzinski, with 1950 and 1827 respectively, round out the top five pairs. Sam Lev and Jacek Pszczola, last year's winners, are still struggling with –301 and are effectively out of the money. Last year's runners up, the always-dangerous Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes, are also out of it at this point with –807. Auction favorites Norberto Bocchi and Giorgio Duboin, with 691, fell from 2nd to 12th place but are still in the running for a place in the overalls. The complete Day Two standings may be found on p 3.

Seidler-Wilson Lead WBP Pairs

The winners of the National IMP Pairs held at the Spring NABC in Pittsburgh this past March and are playing in their first Cavendish Invitational have a healthy but not insurmountable lead in the WBP Pairs. Blair Seidler and Kevin Wilson amassed 968 cross-imps yesterday to take a 296-point lead over 2nd-place father-and-son combination Hemant and Justin Lall, with 672 cross-imps. Wafik Abdou and Connie Goldberg are in 3rd place with 625. Top money getters in yesterday's WPB Pairs auction Bob Morris and Eddie Wold ((\$4,000) and Chris Compton and Gaylor Kasle (\$3,200) are in 14th and 20th places with 70 and –289 cross-imps, respectively. The complete Day One standings may be found on p 2.







Good Luck today, have a safe trip home, and we hope to see you all again next year.

Conditions of Contest: Expansions and Clarifications

In general, it is our intent to allow methods with which other contestants are expected to be familiar. It is also our intent to allow reasonable artificiality in auctions where the bidding side has guaranteed sufficient (high-card) values to invite game. Along with the current "prize-pool only" team format there will be no minimum play requirement for individuals; however, teams should make certain that all team members are listed on the entry before play commences. If you have any questions about your own or your opponents' methods, the person to see is Barry Rigal.

Schedule					
Day/Date	Time	Activity	Location		
Sunday, May 8	10:30 AM	5 th Session, Pairs	Pavilion 1 & 5		
	10:30 AM	3 rd Session, WBP Pairs	Pavilion 8		
	2:30 PM	Closing Party	Pavilion 3 & 4 (or outside)		

2005 WBP Pairs: Standings After Session Two

Rar	ık	Score	Pair	Auction Price	Rank	Score	9	Auction Price
1	968	Blaii	r Seidler – Kevin Wilson	\$1,500	15	32	Roger Lord – Jacqueline Sincoff	\$1,000
2	672	Hen	nant Lall – Justin Lall	\$2,400	16	-3	Espen Erichsen – David Stern	\$1,800
3	625	Waf	ik Abdou – Connie Goldbe	rg \$1,400	17	– 5	Mark Bartusek – Marshall Miles	\$1,200
4	468	Leo	Bell – John Jones	\$1,000	18	-187	Dan Jacob – Bryan Maksymetz	\$1,700
5	448	Sim	on Kantor – Murry Melton	\$1,100	19	-216	Fared Assemi – Ed Wojewoda	\$1,300
6	429	Mike	e Cappelletti, Jr. – Doug Le	vene \$1,000	20	-289	Chris Compton – Gaylor Kasle	\$3,200
7	426	Mar	c Jacobus – Lou Ann O'Ro	urke \$1,000	21	-318	Kent Mignocchi – Beverly Perry	\$1,000
8	330	Kerr	ry Sanborn – Steve Sanbor	n \$1,700	22	-396	Barry Schaffer – Colby Vernay	\$2,000
9	310	Terr	i Casen – Larry Cohen	\$1,000	23	-430	Bill Doroshow – Nate Ward	\$1,000
10	300	Rob	Crawford – Joe Kivel	\$1,800	24	-524	Wojcieh Kurkowski - Greg Noval	¢ \$1,000
11	269	Jim	Mahafey - Barnett Shenkii	n \$1,500	25	-552	Lynn Baker – Kay Schulle	\$1,000
12	150	Leo	nard Ernst – Mike Shuman	\$1,000	26	-813	Cindy Goatz – Phil Goatz	\$1,000
13	135	Rob	b Gordon - Haig Tchamitc	h \$1,200	27	-878	Marinesa Letizia – Carlyn Steine	r \$1,000
14	70	Bob	Morris – Eddie Wold	\$4,000	28	-1021	Sheila Ekeblad – Michael Seamo	n \$1,200

Auction Total: \$40,000



Overall and Session Awards WBP Pairs



	Session			Overalls		
Place	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Auction	Players	
1 st			\$1,500	\$11,204	\$4,850	
2 nd			\$750	\$ 7,470	\$3,234	
3 rd				\$ 5,432	\$2,352	
4 th				\$ 4,074	\$1,764	
5 th				\$ 3,395	\$1,470	
6 th				\$ 2,375	\$1,030	

2005 Cavendish Pairs: Standings After Day Two

Rai	nk/Scor	e/Pai	ir# Pair Aucti	on Price	Ra	nk/Score	e/Pa	ir# Pair A	uction Price
1	2667	41	Andrea Buratti – Massimo Lanzaro	tti \$45K	23	70	14	Linda Lewis – Paul Lewis	\$12.5K
2	2298	22	Pablo Lambardi – Juan Ventin	\$12.5K	24	- 67	23	Russ Ekeblad – Ron Rubin	\$13K
3	2020	37	Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein	\$43K	25	-104	19	Perry Johnson - Jeff Meckstroth	n \$17K
4	1950	6	Bob Hamman – Zia Mahmood	\$39K	26	-301	1	Sam Lev – Jacek Pszczola	\$37.5K
5	1827	42	Cezary Balicki – Adam Zmudzinski	\$42K	27	-314	28	Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey	\$15K
6	1349	24	Gary Cohler – Chris Willenken	\$16K	28	-422	30	Krystoff Lasocki – Eric Wielema	n \$12.5K
7	1259	25	Eric Greco – Geoff Hampson	\$34K	29	-437	36	Neil Chambers – John Scherme	r \$15K
8	1225	10	David Berkowitz – Billy Pollack	\$14K	30	-669	20	Alex Dubinin – Andrei Gromov	\$20K
9	1146	31	Franck Multon – J C Quantin	\$24K	31	-728	34	Amos Kaminski – Shaya Levit	\$12.5K
10	1067	12	Barry Goren – Gavin Wolpert	\$12.5K	32	-765	5	Bjorn Fallenius – Roy Welland	\$29K
11	701	29	Steve Garner – Howard Weinstein	\$23K	33	-807	35	Fulvio Fantoni – Claudio Nunes	\$45K
12	691	33		\$58K	34	-925	8	Drew Casen – Jim Krekorian	\$21K
13	618	15	Garey Hayden – Mark Lair	\$18K	35	-1092	16	George Jacobs – Ralph Katz	\$12.5K
14	467	13	Peter Fredin – Magnus Lindkvist	\$29K	36	-1167	32	Alejandro Bianchedi – Hector Cambero	s \$12.5K
15	462	39	Walid Elahmady – Tarek Sadek	\$31K	37	-1172	43	Curtis Cheek – Joe Grue	\$19K
16	411	11	Gilad Altschuler – David Birman	\$17K	38	-1199	18	Gene Freed – Chris Larsen	\$12.5K
17	300	2	Bart Bramley – Sidney Lazard	\$15K	39	-1421	36	Gunnar Hallberg – Charles Wigode	r \$12.5K
18	261	9	Piotr Bizon – Michael Kwiecien	\$23K	40	-1721	7	Christal Henner-Welland – Mike Ka	mil \$12.5K
19	211	44	Seymon Deutsch – Paul Soloway	\$13K	41	-1751	40	Pierre Saporta – Pierre Zimmerman	n \$12.5K
20	102	17	Fred Gitleman – Brad Moss	\$28K		-1974	26	Dennis Dawson – Eric Rodwell	\$12.5K
21	101	21	Billy Cohen – Ron Smith	\$21K		-2181	27	Ross Grabel – Jon Wittes	\$20K
22	97	4	Michael Cornell – Michael Rosenberg	\$13K	44	-2275	3	Michael Moss – Antonio Semen	ta \$16K

Auction Total: \$963,500



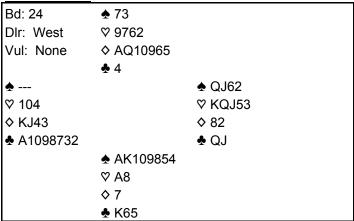
Overall and Session Awards Cavendish Pairs



			Ses	sion		(From Players' Pool	Ove	eralls
Place	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	5 th Session)	Auction	Players
1 st	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$12,000	(\$5,000)	\$230,152	\$23,240
2 nd			\$2,500	\$2,500	\$ 8,000	(\$3,000)	\$147,954	\$14,940
3 rd			\$1,000	\$1,000	\$ 5,000	(\$2,500)	\$ 98,636	\$ 9,960
4 th					\$ 3,000		\$ 73,976	\$ 7,470
5 th							\$ 65,758	\$ 6,640
6 th							\$ 57,540	\$ 5,810
7 th							\$ 49,318	\$ 4,980
8 th							\$ 44,098	\$ 4,150
9 th							\$ 32,878	\$ 3,320
10 th							\$ 24,660	\$ 2,500

The Cavendish Pairs: Two More From Day One

Session Two:



Most of the field played 4♠ down here. Antonio Sementa, facing Mike Moss, heard:

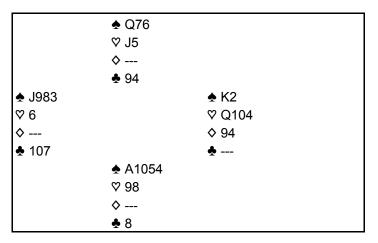
West	North	East	South	
Pass	2\$	Pass	4♠	
5♣	5♠	All Pass		

On the lead of the \triangle A and another club Antonio ruffed and led a spade to the eight! Then all he needed was the diamond finesse for +450. Easy game bridge.

At some other tables N/S got even higher. Don't ask how one pair we know of got to 6NT doubled (reminder: we do look favorably upon serious bribe money)—or indeed how another pair got to $5\heartsuit$ doubled.

Bd: 26	♠ Q76	
Dlr: East	♥ AJ5	
Vul: Both	♦ 1083	
	♣ KQ94	
♦ J983	4	K2
♥ K62	8	² Q1043
♦ 72	♦	AKQ94
♣ 10752	4	AJ
	♠ A1054	
	♥ 987	
	♦ J65	
	♣ 863	

Barry Goren and Gavin Wolpert defended 3NT here (after East opened 2NT) and led a diamond. Declarer cashed three diamonds, then led a heart to the king and ace, won the ♣K return with the ace and played back the ♣J. If the defense ducks, declarer can cash two more diamonds to squeeze the North hand. In fact, North (Wolpert) won and played back a spade. Goren took the ace when declarer ducked in the following ending...



... and returned a spade. Declarer was now endplayed to concede the last two tricks. One down. Note that if East "misguesses" by playing the ♠K Goren has to duck! If he wins and returns a spade—best—the defense can take their ♠Q but must give declarer and entry to dummy to take the rest



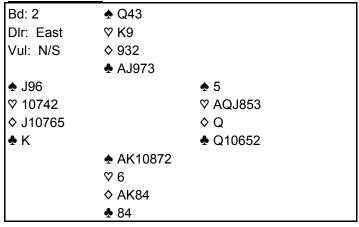
"Hi-dee, hi-dee, ho..."

Gamblers Non-Anonymous

Those players intending to gamble at the Rio during their stay are implored to register at the Total Awards desk, located in the casino area. It will be in your own best interest and that of the WBP if you do so.

The 2005 Cavendish Pairs: Day Two

Session Three:



"Last bidder gets the zero," as Bobby Wolff likes to say, on deals where no one can make anything. On this hand there were 22 results, only two of which were making contracts. At virtually every table but those two E/W took a 5♥ save over 4♠. Some tables went on to 5♠, and some saved in 6♥ over that. Best defense to 5♥ doubled has South cash his heart and diamond winners and shift to a trump, letting North lead a second trump when he comes in with the ♣A for +300.

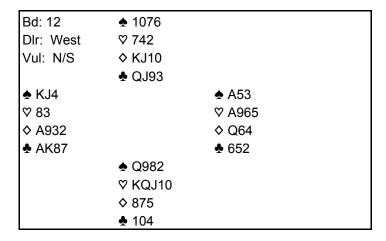
In $4 \triangleq$ the \clubsuit K lead forces declarer to play along very specific lines. He must win the \clubsuit A and lead a heart (the king being the card of choice). Now when the \heartsuit Q come back he ruffs, draws one round of trumps with the \clubsuit Q, and plays diamonds from the top—hardly an obvious line.

Bd: 4	♠ Q953
Dlr: West	♥ K108
Vul: Both	♦ K82
	♣ Q64
♠ AK842	◆ J106
♥ 6	♥ A54
♦ AQ1073	♦ J54
♣ 82	♣ A1075
	♠ 7
	♥ QJ9732
	♦ 96
	♣ KJ93

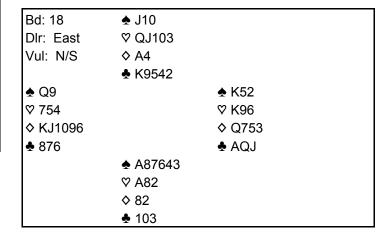
Sam Lev played 4♠ (1♠-1NT; 2♦-2NT; 3♦-4♠) against Walid Elahmady's lead of a low heart. He won the ace, passed the ♠J to the queen, ruffed the ♥K continuation, led a trump to the ten, finding the bad news, and took the losing diamond finesse. When the defense led a third heart he pitched a club, and was now exceedingly unlucky to run into a trump promotion on the fourth round of hearts when that suit split six-three.

Could Sam have improved upon this line? We think so. Though the improvement is minuscule, it happens to matter

today. Instead of ruffing the *second* heart, discard the club at that point. Then there is no trump promotion possible. As far as we can tell, only Alex Dubinin managed to find this line when confronted with the problem on a heart lead.



Welland-Fallenius had not been having a sparkling set thus far. Here Fallenius (against a 1NT-3NT auction) led the ♣J and Welland discouraged as Tarek Sadek followed with the eight. Afraid to continue to the suit in case declarer had ♣AK108 Fallenius shifted to the ♦J. Not unreasonably (we think) declarer ducked. Out of jacks now, Fallenius shifted once more, this time to the ♣10 which rode around to the jack. Now declarer had only eight tricks. Even without this defense declarer does not have nine top tricks if North takes his ♦K at once. (The restricted choice position means that declarer will likely have to guess on the third round of the suit.) However, quite a few defenders *ducked* the first diamond (a little learning is a dangerous thing) and now declarer took the ♦Q, then the ♦A, and could not misguess any more.



This hand proved to be considerably more difficult to defend played in 1NT than you might imagine.

Some tables had it easy; on a spade lead at one table we know of declarer played low from dummy, hoping that this would force the ace. But when he won North's intermediate with the king and drove out the $\Diamond A$, the defense shifted to the $\Diamond Q$ and cashed out for down four.

Easy game bridge? Well, when declarer won the ♠Q at trick one, the defense was much harder. Against Gary Cohler the defense took the ♦A and played the ♠10. Cohler wisely covered and it was only the six-two spade break that defeated him as the defense took five spades and two aces.

Against Bart Bramley the defense shifted to the ♥Q at trick four. Bramley covered, and now though the defense had four hearts and the ♦A, they could only take one spade trick.

Against Ralph Katz the defense took the ♦A and played clubs. Ralph finessed and now had eight tricks.

Bd: 21	♠ Q54	
DIr: North	♥ J762	
Vul: N/S	♦ 109	
	♣ A964	
♠		♠ 109862
♥ K10543		♥ AQ8
♦ Q532		♦ KJ4
♣ J753		♣ 82
	♠ AKJ73	
	♥ 9	
	♦ A876	
	♣ KQ10	

Declaring 4♠ here Gary Cohler won the diamond lead with his ace and returned a diamond. The defense actually played ♥A and a heart, so Cohler ruffed, carefully cashed the ♠A and found out the bad news, then ruffed a diamond, ruffed a heart, cashed two clubs, ruffed his last diamond with the ♠Q, and had three top trumps left for ten tricks. In the same position a declarer (who shall remain nameless) ruffed the heart at trick four and led a low trump from hand. Now he was dead: He could not single in his trumps any more.

Paul Lewis played 4♠ on a diamond lead to the jack and ace and a diamond back to the ten and king. Here the defense shifted to a club so Paul could establish the ♦87 for a natural trick, ending up with four spades, three diamonds, and three clubs.

There are some pivotal deals that will decide the Cavendish this year; if you get on the wrong side of too many of them you will be doomed to a low finish. Board 24 here was one of them.



Bd: 24	♠	
Dlr: West	♥ K109732	
Vul: None	♦ J8652	
	♣ 65	
★ K984		♠ QJ10752
♥ AJ8		♥ 654
♦ 7		♦ A10
♣ KJ982		♣ 107
	♠ A63	
	♥ Q	
	♦ KQ943	
	♣ AQ43	

Bob Hamman played 4♠ after the auction:

West	North	East	South
1♣	3♡	3♠	Pass
4♡	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Mike Moss's ♥Q lead may not be best in theory (you can always get the ruff later). Hamman set up clubs and emerged with ten tricks. Meckstroth played 4♠ after his opponents had not bid. He won the trump lead in hand and led a club up. The defense took the ♣A and shifted to the ♥Q. Can you blame him for expecting hearts to be five-two? He ducked and lost the heart ruff—down one. Meanwhile, David Birman passed the North cards after Buratti opened a natural (10-14) 2♣. The auction went more smoothly for the Israelis as a result.

West	North	East	South	
2♣	Pass	2♠	3♦	
4♠	5♦	Dbl	All Pass	

Birman took eleven easy tricks when the defense could only collect their two red aces. Lev and Pszczola sacrificed in 6♦ over 5♠—technically the par result, we suppose, but one which got even better when their opponents bid on to 6♠.

Session Four:

Bd: 3	♠ A105	
Dlr: South	♥ A972	
Vul: E/W	♦ 753	
	\$ 987	
♠ Q9643		♠ K87
♥ 1064		♥ Q5
♦ A98		♦ KQJ2
♣ 104		♣ AKQJ
	♠ J2	
	♦ 1064	
	♣ 6532	

The opening lead here would tax a Master Solvers' Panel.

After 2NT-3 \heartsuit ; 3 \spadesuit -3NT; 4 \spadesuit my (B.R.) belief is that a heart lead is called for because even if declarer has the \heartsuit AQ dummy will be able to pitch its major-suit losers on one of the minors. Very few people agree with me (not unusual when it comes to opening leads). But of course even on a minor-suit opening lead game is not cold. On the \clubsuit 6 lead, which looked rather like shortage, Bramley won to play four rounds of clubs. That brought home ten tricks easily enough. By contrast, quite a few declarers led a spade to the queen, and now went down.

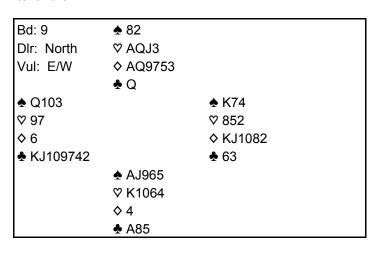
Bobby Levin found a superior play, technically and maybe practically. He won the opening club lead, crossed to the $\diamond A$ and led a spade to the king. If it had lost, a heart back was unlikely since the heart lead had not been found initially.

Barry Goren found the devastating ♠J lead. Jacek Pszczola "knew" this had to be from the ♠J10 so he ran it to his hand and played a spade back…whoops! Down two when the defense drew trumps and cashed out the hearts.

Gary Cohler's low trump lead to the first trick was considerably less successful.

Bd: 5	★ 103	
Dlr: North	♥ Q964	
Vul: N/S	♦ K762	
	4 1053	
♠ KQ2		◆ J98764
♥ 108732		♡ KJ
♦ 1085		♦ 9
♣ J2		♣ AK87
	♠ A5	
	♥ A5	
	♦ AQJ43	
	♣ Q964	

Ventin overreached to 4♠ doubled here, but made up for it in the play. On the lead of ♡A, ♠A and another spade he crossed to the ♡K and led a low club from hand! When South (perhaps still digesting his dinner) ducked, Ventin had his tenth trick.



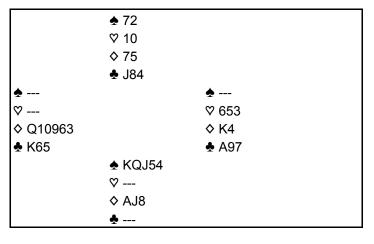
Where would you like to play the N/S cards today? Even 4% might be a struggle on a bad day (yes, we know Cornell-Rosenberg beat it two tricks). Welland played 6% on a spade lead to the king and ace. A favorable diamond break would have been enough—but not today.

Bd: 11	♠ A72		
Dlr: South	♥ A1094		
Vul: None	♦ 75		
	♣ J842		
◆ 863		♠	
♥ Q		♥ KJ6532	
♦ Q10963		♦ K42	
♣ K653		♣ AQ97	
	★ KQJ10954		
	♥ 87		
	♦ AJ8		
	♣ 10		

Sidney Lazard declared 5♦ doubled after the auction:

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♠	3♡	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
5♦	Dbl	All Pass	

Another tough opening lead position. I (B.R.) like a trump myself but clearly a club gets an easy set (and even repeated spade leads work fine). North actually led the Δ A. Lazard ruffed, led a heart to the queen and ace, took the club shift with the ace and cashed the ∇ KJ pitching spades as South discarded a spade on this trick. Inferring in this position...



...that South's failure to ruff in on the ♥K suggested a vulnerable trump holding, Lazard led a diamond to the ten and a diamond back and claimed +550. A huge result, of course, since 4♠ was making.

Bd: 13	★ 10974	
Dlr: North	♥ 754	
Vul: Both	♦ 1065	
	♣ Q72	
♠ KQJ5		♠ A832
♥ QJ8		♥ K92
♦ 9		♦ AK874
♣ AJ1065		♣ K
	♠ 6	
	♥ A1063	
	\$ 9843	

Someone will no doubt be confident about the best line in $6 \clubsuit$. Bramley played that contract as East and received the lead of ace and another heart. He unblocked the $\heartsuit K$, cashed the $\clubsuit KQ$ and discovered the bad news. Then he took the $\clubsuit K$, $\diamondsuit AK$, ruffed a diamond, and cashed the $\clubsuit A$ pitching his $\heartsuit 2$. When no $\clubsuit Q$ fell he needed North to be precisely 4=3=3=3 so he could take the $\heartsuit Q$, ruff a club low, and crossruff the last two tricks.

Massimo Lanzarotti won the second heart in hand, cashed the ♣K, led a low trump to dummy, cashed the ♣A, then ruffed a club and claimed when the ♣Q appeared. We prefer this line—a priori.

Bd: 17	♠ J5	
Dlr: North	♥ AKQJ987	
Vul: None	♦ 10	
	♣ 762	
♠ Q108	♠ 963	3
♥ 42	♡ 100	63
♦ AJ863	♦ Q9	752
♣ AQ10	♣ 43	
	♠ AK742	
	♥ 5	
	♦ K4	
	♣ KJ985	

Brad Moss played this hand well. After 1♥-P-1♠-Dbl; 3♥ he bid 3NT and made ten tricks on the diamond lead. 4♥ is certainly an acceptable contract, but with the ♣AQ10 offside it has no real play.

No? Well, consider that on a diamond lead and continuation declarer *could* draw trumps and pass the ♠J to West. Yes, but not if, as both Michael Rosenberg and Roy Welland demonstrated, the defense shifts to the ♠Q at trick two! Very nicely done, gentlemen.

Bd: 18	♠ AK432		
Dlr: East	♥ KJ2		
Vul: N/S	♦ AK		
	♣ J85		
♠ 65		♠ QJ7	
♥ AQ853		♥ 107	
♦ Q85		♦ 10764	
♣ 1097		♣ AK62	
	1 098		
	♥ 964		
	♦ J932		
	♣ Q43		

On this hand Zia had his chances. After:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
2♡	Dbl	2NT(1)	Pass
3♣	3♠	All Pass	
(1) Clubs			

Zia led the \P K and could read that his partner had three-plus of the suit. The winning defense is to cash the second top club and *not* play a heart, which gives declarer the extra entry to dummy to lead hearts up. Zia did shift to a heart at trick two so declarer had nine tricks.

Bd: 20	★ 1096	
Dir: West	♥ 107	
Vul: Both	♦ A1063	
	♣ Q763	
♠ KQ32		♠ 84
γQ		♥ KJ8543
♦ Q9754		♦ K2
♣ K54		♣ 982
	♠ AJ75	
	♥ A962	
	♦ J8	
	♣ AJ10	

Although it did not matter, there were some nice points in the play in 2% here by East. On the $\diamondsuit J$ lead to the king one declarer led a spade to the queen, then the $\heartsuit Q$, both of which held. So he tried a low diamond to the ten and back came a club to the ten and king. Now he led a low diamond from dummy and North alertly put up the ace as East pitched a club and South a spade. When North shifted to his lowest spade to the ace it was up to South to underlead his $\clubsuit AJ$, letting North overtake with the queen to lead his last diamond through. South needs to do that if North does not have the $\heartsuit 10$. And indeed this was exactly how David Berkowitz, North, and Billy Pollack, South, defended.