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Rosenberg Wins Par Contest

The winners are all smiles after being awarded their prizes in the Par Contest. Front, left to right: **Eric Rodwell**, third place; **Michael Rosenberg**, the winner, and **Bart Bramley**, runner-up. Back: **Pietro Bernasconi**, author of the problems; **Jaime Ortiz-Patino**, president of the Jean Besse Foundation, and **José Damiani**, WBF president.



Michael Rosenberg (USA) won the Par Contest, overtaking the leader, Cenary Balicki of Poland in the final session and holding off a strong challenge from fellow Americans Bart Bramley and Eric Rodwell.

The Jean Besse Trophy was presented to Rosenberg by WBF President, José Damiani, along with the first prize of \$35,000, at an awards ceremony attended by all the participants. Besse's widow Rachel was also present at the ceremony. Awards were made to the top ten finishers by Damiani, Jaime Ortiz-Patino and Pietro Bernasconi. The other major prizes were \$17,500 to second (Bramley), \$10,000 to third (Rodwell) and \$6,500 to fourth (Balicki). The prize fund of 100,000 Swiss francs was provided by the Jean Besse Foundation, which is chaired by Ortiz-Patino.

This was only the second par contest of the modern era. Ely Culbertson organised the first such event as long ago as 1932. Thereafter, the event was staged every year by the USA until 1941 when it was abandoned. Australian experts Michael Sullivan and Robert Williams revived the contest in 1961, but the last time it was held using traditional methods was in 1963.

The advent of the personal computer made it possible to use a new improved format, inaugurated at the 1990 World Championships in Geneva and won by Benito Garozzo.

Each player sits at a personal computer terminal, provided by Compaq Computers. This allows for ideal conditions, with no outside disturbance or influence of any kind and without the need for live opponents or tournament directors. The computer displays the details of the problem. As the players type in their plays, the computer makes the defensive plays, tells the contestants when they have made an error, keeps a record of the time taken, and keeps the competitors' score.

The 34-strong field (plus Matt Ginsberg's GIB computer program) played 12 tough deals set by Swiss maestro, Pietro Bernasconi.

(continued on page 2)

Register your systems

IMPORTANT!

Would players in the Rosenblum and McConnell Teams please register their systems at the Convention Card Desk as early as possible.

Italians top Mixed

Pairs qualifiers

E. Rossano and A. Vivaldi of Italy finished in first place among the qualifiers for today's two-session Mixed Pairs final. They averaged just under 62% in the three qualifying sessions. Second was another Italian pair - M. Cuzzi and M. Lanzarotti. Europeans held the top seven qualifying places. The leading American qualifiers were Karen and G.S. Jade Barrett with an average of 59.5%.

Of the original entry of 598 pairs, 233 qualified for today's final. The other 27 pairs in the 260-pair final consist of Par Contest contestants and their partners. Interesting note: the 233rd pair is none other than D. Hochecker and Apolinary Kowalski of Poland, the defending champions. However, late appeals could change this.

The top 77 finalists will have a small carryover; the top CO being approximately equivalent to one board. How to figure your carryover: your score minus the score of the 78th pair divided by the difference of the top score and that of the 78th pair; the quotient then multiplied by four. There will be no carryover for pairs who finished 78th or lower in the qualifying.



Ville de Lille



CCI DE LILLE METROPOLE



In a Par Contest, declarer has to play in the theoretically correct manner - he cannot make a lucky guess to land his contract just because the cards happen to lie favourably for his chosen line. The competitors were allowed three 'lives' on each problem. They started each problem with 2000 points in the bank and each incorrect play cost them points. The third wrong play on any problem meant zero points would be scored on it. Also, the competitors were charged points for the amount of time they took to solve the problem. So the points listed in the final ranking table are what the competitors were left with after paying for their time and errors. A perfect score would have been 6000 per session and 24000 in all - assuming all correct answers in zero time.

Rosenberg was, of course, delighted to have won the competition, but commented that he understood Bramley to have made one less error than himself over the 12 deals so that he had only won because he solved the problems more quickly than the runner-up. Rosenberg felt it was wrong that the competition should be decided on time.

Matt Ginsberg's Goren In a Box program performed very well and was actually leading the event at the halfway point. It struggled a little in the third and fourth sessions, largely due to having problems using inferences available from the bidding given. Nonetheless, Ginsberg was delighted that GIB had performed better than he had expected. He was so sufficiently confident that he was heard asking Zia after the competition, how long he thought it would be before GIB would be the best player in the world. It seems that the main improvement required for this to be achieved is in the bidding data base; its declarer play technique is already top class.

The Par Contest has been named the Jean

Besse Trophy Par Contest to commemorate one of the best minds the game has known. "And the link between the man and the contest is strong," says Jaime Ortiz-Patino, president emeritus of the World Bridge Federation. "The word 'algorithm' is now an accepted part of computer technology. But long before the computer age Jean was recognised as having an unusually algorithmic cast of mind."

Patino further stated that Besse solved bridge problems by means of an orderly sequence of logical steps, making less use of intuition, as distinct from table presence, than any of his peers. However, Besse also was an expert at interpreting table presence as well, according to Patino.

WBF President José Damiani said the WBF is particularly pleased to have organised this contest once again, with the cooperation of the Jean Besse Foundation and Pietro Bernasconi. "The generosity of Mrs. Rachel Besse has been met with great enthusiasm by the champions, apparently unfazed by the difficulty of the hands prepared by Pietro Bernasconi," said Damiani. It is a state of mind that does them credit and that will enable bridge to remain in the forefront of modern technology."

Other contestants: **Sabine Auken**, Denmark; **Veronique Bessis**, France; **Marcelo Branco**, Brazil; **Michael Courtney**, Australia; **Pierre Ghestem**, France; **Alain Lévy**, France; **Morten Lund-Madsen**, Denmark; **Zia Mahmood**, Pakistan; **Christian Mari**, France; **Robert Richman**, Australia; **Jean-Marc Roudinesco**, France; **Kerri Sanborn**, United States; **P.O. Sundelin**, Sweden; **Henri Szwarc**, France; **Steve Weinstein**, United States; **Zejun Zhuang**, China.

Schedule of events

(Today)

- 11:00 **Mixed Pairs Finals**
(1st Session)
- 11:00 **Zonal Mixed Pairs**
(1st Session)
- 16:00 **Mixed Pairs Finals**
(2nd Session)
- 16:00 **Zonal Mixed Pairs**
(2nd Session)

(Tomorrow)

- 10:45 **Rosenblum Cup**
(Round-Robin)
- 10:45 **McConnell Cup**
(Round-Robin)
- 10:45 **Junior Teams**
(Triathlon)
- 10:45 **Continuous Pairs**

JEAN BESSE TROPHY 1998

Final Ranking



Compaq sponsors the Par Contest.

		Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Total	
1	Michael Rosenberg	USA	3940	4040	4550	4320	16850
2	Bart Bramley	USA	3780	3540	2740	4000	16530
3	Eric Rodwell	USA	2970	4630	4180	4420	16200
4	Cezary Balicki	POL	5380	2740	4750	2930	15800
5	Tony Forrester	GBR	3440	3780	4720	3270	15210
6	Bob Hamman	USA	1950	3980	3270	5440	14640
7	Geir Helgemo	NOR	4140	3320	3990	2330	13780
8	Andrew Robson	GBR	2960	4350	2280	3310	12900
9	Jeff Meckstroth	USA	3670	3410	860	4870	12810
10	J.C. Quantin	FRA	1970	4140	2590	3180	11880
11	Philippe Cronier	FRA	2780	4820	3020	1090	11710
12	Frank Multon	FRA	1210	5060	2040	2800	11110
13	Krzysztof Martens	POL	4310	3190	2620	500	10620
14	Irina Levitina	USA	4610	2200	680	2550	10040
15	Charles Martel	USA	760	3650	2360	3240	10010
16	Roald Ramer	NLD	2070	4440	830	2420	9760
17	Benito Garozzo	USA	4340	2920	790	1370	9420
18	Hervé Mouiel	FRA	1480	3850	1390	2640	9360

Computer connections galore

Internet connections, more than 300K of bandwidth (that's a big number, we are told), are available for use at this tournament, thanks to France Telecom and Videospace.

The Daily Bulletins and all results will be posted on the Web by the World Bridge Federation and by Bridge Plaza. The French Bridge Federation also has its own Web server.

In addition, there is a special Communications Room on the seventh floor that is open to the public. It is possible to send and receive both e-mail and faxes there. The Press Room and Bulletin Room are not available to the public for this type of service. A special e-mail address has been set up for persons to use if they wish - press@lenel.fr

Thanks to Mark Newton, an excellent network has been set up internally. Included are the Daily Bulletin, the Internet Room (Bridge Plaza and tournament administration), the Press Room, the Communications Room and the Results Room.



Watching the 1982 champions

George Mittelman and Dianna Gordon, World Mixed Pairs champions at Biarritz in 1982, usually put on a good show, and they lived up to their billing during the first half of the second session yesterday. The most exciting was Board 8.

Board 8. Vul None. Dealer West.

♠ 9 8 7 4 ♥ A K 7 6 ♦ 3 ♣ K Q 10 5	♠ J 5 2 ♥ 10 9 ♦ A 7 4 ♣ A 9 8 7 6	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K Q ♥ Q J 8 4 ♦ 9 8 5 2 ♣ 4 3 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
	Mittelman		Gordon
1♣	Pass	1♥	Dble
2♥	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♥	Dble	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

Mittelman's double of 3♥ showed some values - it was not a penalty double, although Gordon was at liberty to pass if she wished.

The prospects of making were not bright, but it was clear that East-West could make quite a few hearts, probably even four. The defence started with two heart tricks, then West shifted to a diamond. Mittelman won with the ace and pushed the ♠J through East. He won the queen with the ace and ruffed his last heart. Another spade lead brought forth the king. West ruffed the diamond return and led the ♣K, but Mittelman could claim after drawing the last trump.

This was a superb result even though 3♥ can be beaten - club to ace, club ruff, diamond to ace and a second club ruff, and the ♠A.

His was a good round for Mittelman and Gordon for this is what happened on Board 7.

Board 7. Vul Both. Dealer South.

♠ 9 5 ♥ A Q 5 ♦ K J 10 9 7 5 4 ♣ 8	♠ 8 3 ♥ J 9 6 ♦ A 8 6 ♣ K Q 10 9 5	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q J 6 ♥ K 8 7 3 ♦ Q 3 2 ♣ J 7 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
	Mittelman		Gordon
2♦	Dble	3♦	1♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	3♠

It's clear that this contract can be set - three losers in hearts plus a trump. It is equally clear that the opening lead must be a heart - otherwise a heart will be ditched on the ♦A. But can there be a more unattractive lead than West's hearts? After considerable soul-searching West decided to lead his singleton club. Gordon won this in dummy and quickly disposed of one of her heart losers to score up her game.

Strangely enough, 5♦ is a reasonable save, even though it's a phantom. Once North-South get to the spade game, chances are they're going to make it, so minus 200 or 500 is an improvement on the likely result.

Board 5 had an interesting point.

Board 5. Vul North-South.

♠ Q 9 6 5 ♥ 9 7 3 ♦ K 8 7 2 ♣ 5 2	♠ K 10 4 ♥ 5 4 ♦ A J 6 ♣ A K J 6 3	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A J 8 ♥ J 10 6 ♦ Q 9 5 3 ♣ 10 8 4
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
	Mittelman		Gordon
Pass	INT	Pass	2♦ ⁽¹⁾
All Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT

⁽¹⁾ Transfer to hearts.

The opening diamond lead went to the king and ace, and Mittelman immediately set up his second diamond trick by leading the 6. East went in with the queen and shifted to the ♥J. When the hearts split 3-3, Mittelman had no problem taking 12 tricks.

Easts who cashed their ♠A after winning their diamond trick scored very well here. But the play is marked. East knows the hearts will run - North opened INT so should have two hearts. The clubs also look good, even if partner has the queen. So cashing the ♠A seems marked, but many defenders failed to find the play.

Board 13 was another Canadian success.

Board 13. Vul Both. Dealer North.

♠ 10 9 7 2 ♥ A ♦ K J 8 6 4 2 ♣ K 5	♠ A J 8 6 ♥ K Q J 6 3 ♦ 7 ♣ 10 8 4	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K Q 4 3 ♥ 9 8 ♦ 10 5 3 ♣ A J 7 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
	Mittelman		Gordon
All Pass	1♥	Pass	4♥

The key of course is to avoid three club losers. One way is to take the diamond finesse - if it works one of declarer's clubs can go on the ♦A.

Mittelman won the ♠K opening lead and knocked out the trump ace. He covered the ♠10 return and ruffed the queen in dummy. After drawing the last trump with the jack, he led the ♣8 and let it ride. When this forced the king he let out a sigh of relief - making game. Once again East-West have a good save in diamonds. North-South can get the ♠A and a ruff plus the ace of trumps, but that's all unless West misguesses the trump situation.

Bizarre is the best way to describe what happened on Board 10.

Board 10. Vul both. Dealer East.

♠ A K 9 8 4 ♥ 10 8 7 6 5 2 ♦ Q 2 ♣ -	♠ 6 5 2 ♥ Q ♦ A 8 6 ♣ A 10 8 4 3 2	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q ♥ K J 9 ♦ K J 10 5 4 ♣ K Q 6 5
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
	Mittelman		Gordon
1♥	2♣	1♦	Pass
5♥ !!!	Pass	Dble	3♣
		6♥	All Pass

Mittelman was understandably upset with himself after leading the ♣A and seeing it ruffed with two top clubs now set up in dummy. He felt no better when declarer crossed to the ♠Q and quickly got rid of his two diamonds on the good clubs. Declarer than passed a high diamond, and Mittelman had his diamond trick after all. He led another club, ruffed by declarer. Next came a trump and Mittelman wasn't happy as he contributed his queen. Declarer covered with the king - and Dianna was thinking! Could she have the ace? No, that didn't seem possible. Finally she followed low. But when declarer started leading good diamonds, she showed declarer her ace of trumps. Down went the slam.

What happened? Apparently West liked his hand and bid 5♥, asking partner how good her heart support was. Not having any idea how much she needed to have good support, under the circumstances, naturally she went to slam. One thing's for sure - West was NOT a pessimist.

Did you notice that declarer actually can make his slam after the lead of the ♣A? At the point where declarer passed the ♦K, let's assume he ruffed a club. Next ruff a spade, ruff a diamond and ruff a spade. Now the lead of the trump king smothers the queen, and

declarer has the rest.

Not everything went the Canadian way.

Board 12. Vul North-South. Dealer West.

♠ Q 10 8 5 3 2 ♥ A 10 ♦ K 5 3 ♣ A K	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A K 6 4 ♥ J 7 3 ♦ A J 9 6 ♣ 9 7	♠ J 7 ♥ 8 4 2 ♦ 10 8 4 2 ♣ Q 6 5 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ 9 ♥ K Q 9 6 5 ♦ Q 7 ♣ J 10 8 4 2												
West	North	East	South									
	<i>Mittelman</i>		<i>Gordon</i>									
1♠	All Pass											

Mittelman eventually got his club ruff, so declarer was held to seven tricks, just making his contract. But this was small solace for missing their heart contract. Ten tricks are there for the taking, but getting to game wasn't all that easy.

They were fixed on Board 14.

Board 14. Vul none. Dealer East.

♠ K Q ♥ K 8 7 5 ♦ A K 8 5 ♣ Q 6 4	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 5 2 ♥ J ♦ J 10 9 3 ♣ A K 9 8 5 2	♠ J 9 7 ♥ A Q 9 4 3 ♦ 4 2 ♣ 10 7 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ A 10 8 6 4 3 ♥ 10 6 2 ♦ Q 7 6 ♣ J												
West	North	East	South									
	<i>Mittelman</i>		<i>Gordon</i>									
2NT	3♣	Pass	2♠									
		3♥	All Pass									

West had a maximum for his notrump overcall and four-card support for his partner - but he passed 3♥! The vast majority of the field got to the heart game and went down on the obvious defence - singleton club lead for two clubs and a ruff, plus the ♠A.

Better than a gold medal

Kathie Wei-Sender of the United States was appalled as she approached her hotel - she didn't have her purse! She had just alighted from a taxi, but the taxi was gone - and so was the purse.

She contacted the Comité Département du Tourisme du Nord, and they set about contacting every taxi company in town. No luck!

Kathie had shared the cab with a couple of Swedish players, including P.O. Sundelin. P.O. remembered the pizza restaurant where they had called the taxi. Some of the tourism people helped Kathie find the restaurant, and the manager indeed recalled calling a taxi for "some tall Swedes". He remembered whom he called, and minutes later the driver was located. He returned to the restaurant and presented Kathie with her purse. Everything was there - her money, credit cards, jewellery and airline tickets. The driver accepted a reward but did not give his name - he wanted no publicity.

Kathie is very thankful to this taxi driver. She also wishes to thank the following persons from the tourist bureau: Delphine Bartier, Judith Richard, Dominique Lemoine and Stephanie Topin.

Kathie's comment: "The honesty of the driver and the people of Lille - this is better than winning a gold medal!"

Down only 6 - a good save

The action was fast and furious on this board from the second qualifying session of the Mixed Pairs.

Board 25. Vul East-West. Dealer North.

♠ A Q 3 ♥ A Q ♦ J 7 4 ♣ A J 7 4 2	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J 10 8 6 4 ♥ K 8 6 2 ♦ 9 ♣ 10 5 3	♠ - ♥ J 10 7 5 4 3 ♦ A K Q 2 ♣ Q 9 8
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ K 9 7 5 2 ♥ 9 ♦ 10 8 6 5 3 ♣ K 6												
West	North	East	South									
<i>D. Morse</i>	<i>Stewart</i>	<i>J. Morse</i>	<i>Letizia</i>									
	2♠	3♥	4♠									
6NT	Pass	Pass	7♠									
Dble	All Pass											

Fred Stewart decided to open with a weak two-bid in his anemic spade suit. Joan Morse naturally overcalled, and Marinesa Letizia of course leaped directly to game. That left it up to Dan Morse, a member of the WBF Executive Committee. He decided there must be a slam considering his partner's vulnerable overcall.

But Letizia decided to believe him - she

went on to the seven level. Of course she was doubled, but she saved a large gob of match-points with her action - the Morses could beat them only six tricks for 1400. Stewart lost two trumps, two clubs and one trick in each red suit. That meant a gain against every pair that bid and made 6NT. However, it still lost to those who got to a minor suit slam or who escaped for a smaller penalty.

Service de baby sitting!

Chers bridgeurs et bridgeuses:

Des personnes de confiance sont a votre disposition la journee, mais egalement le soir pour garder vos enfants. Pour les contacter veuillez vous adresser a Dominique Grenthe.

L'accueil sera aussi capable de vous renseigner. N'hésitez pas a faire appel a eux.

All contestants, take notice!

It is highly recommended that everyone take all precautions when walking through the tunnel on the approach to the Grand Palais. In general, it's a good idea to have a companion so that the chance of an unwelcome approach by anyone will be considerably lessened.

Session One

Mixed Pairs

For the first session of the Mixed Pairs we concentrate on two pairs. The first is the dangerous looking pairing of Gabriel Chagas of Brazil and China's Sun Ming, from whom we might expect plenty of action. The next World Championship after Lille is in Bermuda at the beginning of the year 2000, and we also take a look at Bermuda's only representatives at these championships, Roman Smolski and Vera Petty.

Board 3. E/W Vul. Dealer South.

♠ Q 9 8	♠ A J 10 6	♠ 7 4
♥ 8 4	♥ Q J 3 2	♥ A 10 9 7 6 5
♦ K 6 4 2	♦ J 5	♦ A Q 3
♣ Q 9 5 2	♣ A 7 6	♣ K 8

♠ K 5 3 2	♠ 7 4
♥ K	♥ A 10 9 7 6 5
♦ 10 9 8 7	♦ A Q 3
♣ J 10 4 3	♣ K 8

West	North	East	South
Hamaoui	Chagas	Zigelboim	Sun Ming
Pass	1♣	2♥	Pass
Pass	2♠	Pass	Dble
3♥	All Pass		Pass

2♠ would, of course, have been an easy make for North/South. Facing an intermediate jump overcall, Steve Hamaoui decided to compete with 3♥. Had Gabriel Chagas managed to double that, Hamaoui's gamble would have failed, but when 3♥ slipped past undoubled there was a chance for the Venezuelans to get a good score. Sun Ming led the jack of clubs, which ran to declarer's king. Zigelboim ducked a heart next, losing to the bare king. Now came a diamond switch. The winning play would have been to win on table to lead a heart, covering North's card, which would have resulted in one down and a good score, but declarer chose to win in hand and lay down the ♥A, hoping to make her contract if both red suits divided evenly. On the actual lie, that meant three trump losers and six in all; down two for -200 and a very bad result for East/West.

and another heart to the first two tricks. Not easy, but partner is known to be very short in the majors and if he has no trumps it is likely to be an uphill struggle to beat the contract, so perhaps it is not an impossible defence to find.

Board 5. N/S Vul. Dealer North.

♠ K 6	♠ A Q 10	♠ 7 4 2
♥ A J 7 3	♥ 6 5 4 2	♥ K 10 8
♦ A 9 2	♦ J 5 4	♦ 8 7 6 3
♣ K 8 4 2	♣ A 5 3	♣ 10 7 6

♠ J 9 8 5 3	♠ 7 4 2
♥ Q 9	♥ K 10 8
♦ K Q 10	♦ 8 7 6 3
♣ Q J 9	♣ 10 7 6

West	North	East	South
Gaude	Smolski	Erhart	Petty
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Dble	Pass	2♦	Pass
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♦	3♠	All Pass	

Smolski/Petty play negative redoubles, that is, a redouble would have shown a singleton or void spade, hence Smolski's strange looking pass. When 2♦ came round to him he competed with a simple 2♠. When West competed with 3♦, I would have thought that a double would have expressed his maximum with defence quite well. However, he preferred to take the push to 3♠.

The defence began with ace and another diamond. Vera Petty won in hand and ran the ♠J then played two more rounds of spades, ending in hand. Next the ♣Q was covered by the king and ace, allowing declarer to take a finesse against the ten on the way back; +170. Obviously, an overtrick might have been saved had West not covered the ♣Q.

West	North	East	South
Kaku	Chagas	Fukuda	Sun Ming
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Dble	Rdbl	Pass	Pass
2♣	2♠	All Pass	

Chagas was able to start with a redouble and that was enough to allow his side to buy the contract in 2♠. Here West led a low club so the tenth trick was given immediately; +170.

Board 4. All Vul. Dealer West.

♠ Q	♠ Q
♥ Q	♥ Q
♦ K J 9 7 3 2	♦ K J 10 6 5 4 2
♣ J 9 8 7 6	♣ K J 10 9 5

♠ 8	♠ K J 10 6 5 4 2
♥ 7 6 4	♥ K J 10 9 5
♦ A Q 8 5	♦ 6
♣ Q 10 5 4 2	♣ -

♠ A 9 7 3	♠ K J 10 6 5 4 2
♥ A 8 3 2	♥ K J 10 9 5
♦ 10 4	♦ 6
♣ A K 3	♣ -

West	North	East	South
Hamaoui	Chagas	Zigelboim	Sun Ming
Pass	2♦	3♦	3NT
Dble	4♣	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

The points came back straight away for the Venezuelan pair. Chagas opened a weak 2♦ and Zigelboim overcalled 3♦, showing both majors. I don't like Sun Ming's 3NT call very much and Hamaoui also expressed a negative opinion, a little more forcefully. When Chagas ran to 4♣ and Zigelboim bid 4♠, Hamaoui didn't look very impressed with the proceedings, and even less so when Sun Ming added a double.

The opening lead was a top club, ruffed. Zigelboim crossed to the ace of diamonds and led a spade to the queen, king and ace. She ruffed the diamond return, cashed two trumps and slapped the king of hearts on the table. When the queen duly obliged, that was +790.

To beat 4♠ doubled, South must lead ace

Suicide failure, sort of

In France, Jacques LeFevrier left nothing to chance when he decided to commit suicide. He stood at the top of a tall cliff and tied a noose around his neck. He tied the other end of the rope to a large rock. He drank some poison and set fire to his clothes. He even tried to shoot himself at the last moment. He jumped and fired the pistol. The bullet missed him completely and cut through the rope above him. Free of the threat of hanging, he plunged into the sea.

The sudden dunking extinguished the flames and made him vomit the poison. He was dragged out of the water by a kind fisherman and was taken to a hospital, where he died of hypothermia.

Board 6. E/W Vul. Dealer East.

♠ A K J 10 4
♥ A 7 6
♦ Q 10 9
♣ Q 3

♠ 6 3 2
♥ 10 4
♦ K 7 5 3
♣ A 7 5 2

♠ 8 7
♥ 9 8 5
♦ J 8 6 4 2
♣ 10 8 4



West <i>Gaude</i>	North <i>Smolski</i>	East <i>Erhart</i>	South <i>Petty</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	Dble	Pass
2♣	2♠	Pass	Pass
2NT	Dble	3♣	All Pass

West <i>Kaku</i>	North <i>Chagas</i>	East <i>Fukuda</i>	South <i>Sun Ming</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	Dble	Pass
3♣	All Pass		

Both tables arrived in the same final contract and both Norths led a top spade. The defence has little option but to take the second spade and their ruff. If they do not take their tricks, dummy's spades will eventually go on the hearts. The trouble is that, after South has ruffed a spade, it is normal for declarer to play clubs from the top, dropping North's queen. There seems no way round this for the defence.

Petty took her ruff and switched to a diamond and Gaude (SWI) duly won and dropped the club. Sun Ming switched to a heart after taking her ruff. Chagas won the ace and played a fourth spade, hoping for a trump promotion. No such luck. Sun Ming ruffed in with the ♣10, but all that did was to guarantee that declarer would get the trumps right.

+110 for East/West at both tables.

Board 7. All Vul. Dealer South.

♠ 8 7 4 3
♥ A Q 7 6 2
♦ A 3
♣ 10 8

♠ K 5 2
♥ K 8 4
♦ Q 10 8 6 2
♣ 9 4

♠ 10 6
♥ 10 9 5 3
♦ 9 5
♣ A Q J 5 2



West <i>Mould</i>	North <i>Smolski</i>	East <i>Benson</i>	South <i>Petty</i>
			Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
Pass	2♥	2♠	3♥
All Pass			

The four-card major opening made it easy for East/West to compete to 2♠, pushing their opponents to the three-level. That should have led to a plus for East/West but the defence slipped badly. Joyce Benson led a spade to Alan Mould's ace and he switched to his ♥J for the queen and king. It surely cannot be correct to switch to a club now but that is what Benson did. The finesse lost and Mould cashed the ♠Q, but his diamond switch came too late. Smolski won, drew trumps and cashed clubs for +140.

West <i>Wildavsky</i>	North <i>Chagas</i>	East <i>Raymond</i>	South <i>Sun Ming</i>
			Pass
1♣	1♥	INT	2♥
2NT	All Pass		

Wildavsky (USA) had to open 1♣ because he was playing a five-card major system. Perhaps he could still have competed with 2♠ over 2♥, but he preferred 2NT, facing 8-11 balanced, to invite game. Sun Ming led the ♥10 to jack and ace and Chagas continued the suit. When Ann Raymond won the second heart she led a diamond to the jack and ace and the defence took the hearts then the ♣A for down one; -100.

Board 8. Nil Vul. Dealer West.

♠ 9 6 5
♥ A 7 6
♦ Q 10 5 3
♣ A 10 4

♠ K Q J 8 4
♥ K 10 8
♦ A 6
♣ Q J 6

♠ 10 7 3 2
♥ J 2
♦ J 9 8 2
♣ 7 5 3

♠ A
♥ Q 9 5 4 3
♦ K 7 4
♣ K 9 8 2



West <i>Mould</i>	North <i>Smolski</i>	East <i>Benson</i>	South <i>Petty</i>
			2♥
1♠	Pass	Pass	
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

Would you balance with a double or a 2♥ overcall on the south cards? Petty chose the overcall and Smolski raised her to 3♥ - they would have been pushed there anyway, of course. The ♠K went to the ace and Petty played ace and another heart, ducking when the jack came up. She ruffed the spade return and played a club to the jack and ace then a diamond for king and ace. Mould cashed the king

of hearts and forced declarer's last trump with another spade. A diamond to the ten and jack saw a club return to the king. Petty tried to split the diamonds now and when they failed to oblige had to settle for seven tricks; -100.

West <i>Wildavsky</i>	North <i>Chagas</i>	East <i>Raymond</i>	South <i>Sun Ming</i>
			Dble
1♠	Pass	Pass	
Pass	2♦	2♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

Sun Ming preferred to double 1♠. Chagas bid his diamonds then doubled 2♠ to show his maximum. That gave Sun a tough problem. Probably some sort of scrambling 2NT is best, but in a strange partnership there is a lot to be said for keeping things simple and her actual choice was 3♦, ending the auction.

Chagas won the spade lead and played ace and another heart, again ducking the jack. He ruffed the spade continuation and played a third heart to the king, East pitching a club. Another spade was ruffed and the ♦K played to the ace. Again a spade was played and again declarer ruffed. Now Chagas played the ♣A and a club to the king. With East down to nothing but diamonds, another club now would have forced her to ruff and lead into the ♦Q10 at trick twelve. However, Chagas was not sure of the distribution and led a heart instead. That allowed West to ruff in with the ♦6. Chagas discarded his club and East had to over-ruff and lead into the diamond tenace after all, so the contract just made for +110 and a lot of matchpoints. Had West held the ♦8 or ♦9 instead of the ♦6, the defence would have prevailed once declarer chose to play the fourth heart in the ending.

Board 9. E/W Vul. Dealer North.

♠ 10 6 5 3
♥ K 9 6
♦ K 6 3
♣ 9 5 3

♠ Q 8
♥ Q 8 5 4
♦ A J 9 5 4
♣ Q 8

♠ A 9 4 2
♥ J 3
♦ Q 10
♣ K J 10 7 2

♠ K J 7
♥ A 10 7 2
♦ 8 7 2
♣ A 6 4



West <i>Siwiec</i>	North <i>Smolski</i>	East <i>Pasternak</i>	South <i>Petty</i>
			Pass
1♦	Pass	2♣	All Pass

South looks to have a normal opening bid, non-vulnerable, and when Petty chose not to make one her Polish opponents had a free run to 2♣. Petty led ace and another club and

Pasternak won and drew a third round of trumps then passed the $\diamond Q$. Had Smolski ducked this declarer would have had to read the hand well but he actually won his king and switched to a low heart. Petty won the heart and returned a second one to the king. Smolski switched to a low spade now but declarer could rise with the ace and throw all her spades on the diamonds; +110.

West	North	East	South
Rebillard	Chagas	Bernard	Sun Ming
	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♦	1♠	INT	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

Sun Ming did open the South hand and a competitive auction developed. Had Rebillard (FRA) passed his partner's double of 2♠, even Gabriel Chagas would have had trouble getting out with a decent result, but Rebillard took it out to 3♦. A spade lead would have led to a swift one down but Chagas led a club. Sun Ming ducked this and declarer decided that the suit was probably breaking 4-2 so did not continue clubs to set up a spade discard. Instead, he played a heart towards dummy. Now the winning defence was for Chagas to rise with the king and switch to a spade, but he ducked and now Sun was forced to win with no particularly attractive options open to her. She actually cashed the ♣A then switched to the ♠K. Declarer won the ace and played another heart to the king. Chagas played back a heart for dummy to ruff. Had Sun held the ♠Q, that would have set up a nice defence. Chagas could have won the ♦K, put Sun in with the spade and received a heart ruff. In practice, declarer threw his last heart on a club and passed the ♦Q. That lost but he had the rest; +110.

Board 10. All Vul. Dealer East.

♠ 3	♠ Q J 8 4 2
♥ K Q 7 4 2	♥ 10 8 6 5
♦ 8 7 6 5 2	♦ Q
♣ 9 2	♣ 8 4 3
♠ A 6 5	♠ K 10 9 7
♥ A J 9 3	♥ -
♦ A 10 3	♦ K J 9 4
♣ A J 6	♣ K Q 10 7 5

West	North	East	South
Siwec	Smolski	Pasternak	Petty
		Pass	1♣
INT	2♥	2♠	Dble
All Pass			

When Smolski competed with 2♥ over the INT overcall, Petty risked a thin matchpoint

double of 2♠. She led the ♠K to dummy's ace. Pasternak played ace and another diamond, ruffing, then played the ♠J to the king and ace. She played a second spade to the queen then a heart up. Petty discarded a club so declarer won the ♥A. Now a diamond ruff back to hand and a club towards the jack. Petty won the queen, cashed two spades and led her remaining diamond. Had that diamond been the four, Smolski would have been able to win and cash two heart tricks. But Petty had not foreseen the ending and had failed to unblock on the first round of diamonds. She had to give a trick to dummy's ♣J and, though dummy in turn had to give a heart to South; that was eight tricks and +670.

Declarer could have timed the hand better to get a club established while she still had control and now the defence would have been powerless. It is surely correct to play on the assumption that spades are 4-1 when you are doubled in 2♠ with 23 HCP between your two hands and, since North competed with 2♥ and not 2♦, the distributions around the table are almost marked. One winning option, then, would have been to duck the opening lead.

West	North	East	South
Rebillard	Chagas	Bernard	Sun Ming
		Pass	1♣
INT	2♦	2♠	3♦
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Chagas preferred to compete with 2♦ over INT, perhaps leaving open the option of running to 2♥ if he heard a sharp double. That allowed Sun to compete with 3♦ over 2♠ and now Rebillard bid 3♥ as a spade game try. Though Mme. Bernard signed off in 3♠, Rebillard went on to game, making an undisciplined acceptance of his own game try. Sun was on firm ground with her double.

Sun led the ♠K to dummy's ace. Bernard led ace and another spade to the queen and king and Sun switched to the ♦K. Bernard won the ♦A and ducked a spade to Sun. She played queen and another club to dummy's jack and now declarer ducked a heart, knowing that they had to be 5-0. Chagas won the heart and played back a diamond. Declarer threw a heart on that, ruffed the club return and drew the last trump. The ♦10 took care of declarer's remaining low heart; two down for -500 and a big board for Sun/Chagas.

In the nick of time

Don't park your car in the wrong place!

These players had a narrow escape yesterday when they just returned to their vehicle in time to stop it being removed by the police.

Nice Defence

Session 1. Board 27. Nil Vul. Dealer South.

♠ A 8 5 4	♠ K J 10 9 7
♥ A Q 9 2	♥ K 8 6
♦ 10 3 2	♦ J 9 7
♣ J 4	♣ K 3
♠ Q 6 2	♠ 3
♥ J 10 5	♥ 7 4 3
♦ A Q 6	♦ K 8 5 4
♣ Q 10 7 6	♣ A 9 8 5 2

West	North	East	South
Jouineau	M Smith	Garcia	C Smith
			Pass
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♠
3♠	All Pass		

South's 2♠ showed a sound three-card heart raise.

Charlotte Smith led her middle heart against 3♠. It went to the jack, queen and king. Declarer played a spade to the queen and a second spade to the king, North completing a Smith Echo to show that he wanted a heart continuation. Declarer played the ♦J to king and ace then a club to the king and ace. Back came a heart. After taking two hearts, Marc Smith cashed the ace of spades then played the thirteenth heart. Declarer ruffed this.

Had declarer now cashed the last trump, it would have squeezed dummy out of a potentially valuable minor-suit card - a club had already had to go on the fourth round of hearts. So declarer played a club to the ten without cashing the spade. That lost to the jack and North switched to a diamond, as he had to do. A trump return leaves the two minor-suit queens in dummy and the contract is only one down. Declarer guessed wrong on the diamond switch, playing small, so the eight forced the queen. Now came the queen of clubs, ruffed and over-ruffed, and declarer had to lose a diamond at the end for down two; -100.

Why Brits are superior

In a recent television show in the UK, actor and comedian John Cleese explained three reasons why the British are superior to Americans:

1. They speak English.
2. When they host a world championship they invite other countries.
3. Visitors to the head of state are expected to go down on only one knee.

SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE GROUP

International and Finance

Société Générale's International and Finance arm offers its clientele of multinational corporations, institutional investors, local authorities and financial institutions a coordinated service approach involving teams from the different business lines, all of whom are renowned for the quality of their specialist skills.

Its capital markets expertise, skills in the use of hedging techniques and advisory experience represent a valuable complement to its lending capability.

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

A regionally-focused marketing approach

In Europe, Société Générale aims to offer a full range of services in the commercial banking, investment banking and capital markets sectors.

In the United States, Société Générale significantly strengthened its investment banking capability in targeted high-potential niches, in particular through the early 1998 acquisition of Cowen & Co, complementing commercial banking services.

In Asia, especially Japan, Société Générale's capital markets and investment banking businesses have expanded rapidly. The recent deregulation of the financial services industry has also created opportunities to extend the influence of Société Générale's brokerage business, which has been Japan's leading European equities dealer for many years now.

In Southeast Asia, where all the business lines are now represented, the capital markets business achieved a breakthrough in the equities, interest rate and currency derivatives markets through positions taken to meet customers' hedging needs. Société Générale's local investment banking capability - built around SG Asia and SG Crosby which is now wholly-owned - was significantly enhanced during 1997.

■ Americas Region

Regional Chief Executive :
Jean Huet
2,800 staff,
offices in 27 cities.

■ Europe Region

Regional Chief Executive :
Jean-Pierre Lesage
3,900 staff,
offices in 61 cities.
The Europe regional division covers Western and Eastern Europe, some African countries, the Near and Middle East and Central Asia.

■ Asia / Australasia Region

Regional Chief Executive :
Gilbert Pla
2,700 staff,
offices in 31 cities.

A NEW BANNER FOR INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

From the beginning of April 1998, all of Société Générale's international operations are doing business under the SG brand.



Damiani reelected to WBF presidency

World Bridge Federation President **José Damiani** of France has been elected to a second four-year term as president.

Seven vice presidents were elected: **Jens Auken**, Denmark; **Patrick Choy**, Hong Kong; **Joan Gerard**, U.S.A.; **Panos Gerontopoulos**, Greece; **Mazhar Jafri**, Pakistan; **George Retek**, Canada, and **John Wignall**, New Zealand. **Jean Louis-Derivery**, Guadeloupe, was elected secretary, and **Retek** was reelected treasurer.



WBF Congress

The World Bridge Federation Congress meeting will be held on

Wednesday, 26 August, at 9:30 a.m.

All countries are urged to send a delegate.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting.



King of Spain honours our President Emeritus

It is well recognized that there is an affinity between bridge and golf. Both games challenge one's self-control and character, and there are other similarities. For example, it helps mightily if your concentration is good enough to block out ambient phenomena.

It is common for aficionados to play one game for stimulation, the other for relaxation, but there are some who excel at both, notably the great Arnold Palmer, the most electrifying golfer of his day.

Away from the player surface, however - in the ranks of organizers - there are few who have made much of a mark at both games. And there is none to rival Jaime Ortiz-Patiño, who served as WBF president for ten years, during which he cleaned house from top to bottom. He introduced table screens to quell innuendoes of cheating; put teeth into a new constitution and by-laws; established a sound finan-

cial base; enlarged the world championships; and made other reforms. (On the side, he played regularly on the Swiss international bridge team and was a low-handicap golfer.)

Then he switched modes. He acquired a quality golf course in Spain, renamed it Valderrama, redesigned it, steeped himself in the techniques of maintenance and improvement, and turned it into one of the world's best golf courses.

A year ago Valderrama hosted golf's greatest event, the Ryder Cup, and did it so well that it has since been chosen, along with two golf courses in the United States, to launch the new World Golf Championships, a mega-project with full official backing.

Now King Juan Carlos has bestowed on Ortiz-Patiño the highest honour Spain can give a foreigner, the Civil Order of Merit. (It entitles Valderrama's owner-president to be addressed as His Excellency, but the world of championship golf is sure to go on calling him what it does now: 'the head greenkeeper', recognizing his hands-on approach to his role.)

The award comes soon after Ortiz-Patiño was named by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America for their "Old Tom Morris" award. It is the most important honour this 17,000-strong highly professional organization can confer. Ortiz-Patiño follows the tracks of such legendary figures as Gene Sarazen, Bob Hope and Byron Nelson.

Ortiz-Patiño has come to Lille partly to contest the Seniors with Pietro Bernasconi, the world par contest expert. They first joined forces when representing Switzerland in the 1955 European Championships in Amsterdam (where, incidentally, the world's first official daily bulletin was produced for Nederlandse Bridge Bond by Alan Truscott and Holland's Herman Filarski).

From bridge to golf has not been Ortiz-Patiño's only transition: earlier, he was a workaholic who successfully reinvigorated the family's worldwide interests. Whether his still-abundant energy can find new goals in either of his favourite games could be an intriguing question.

Shuttle Service to Lille Town Centre

A shuttle Service is available for players wishing to travel into town.

Please go to the desk in the front of the main hall, to make arrangements if you wish to travel into town between sessions.

Shuttles will leave from the front of the Lille Grand Palais... go out of the main doors and to your left where you will see the shuttles

All shuttles carry the sign:

WBF Shuttle to and from the Lille Grand Palais.

European Seniors Committee and Delegates Meeting

There will be a Meeting of the European Seniors Committee and European Seniors Delegates on Wednesday 26 August starting 15 minutes after the end of play.

The room in which this Meeting is to be held will be announced in tomorrow's Bulletin, at which time the Agenda will also be published.

Brown-sticker conventions forbidden

No brown-sticker conventions may be used in the Mixed Pairs. Brown-sticker conventions are defined in the General Conditions of Contest. Penalties may be severe if use of a brown-sticker convention is found to cause a result that hurts the non-offending pair.

Special shuttles will leave from the following hotels to the Lille Grand Palais and will return in the evenings at the stated time

Hotel	August										September			
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Mercure Lesquin	10.00	10.00	09.25	10.00	10.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00
Novotel Lesquin	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00
Novotel Englos	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00
Best Western Marcq	09.45	09.45	09.45	09.45	09.45	08.45	08.45	08.45	08.45	08.45	08.45	08.45	08.45	08.45
Balladins Marcq	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00
Sofitel Marcq	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00	09.00

Return Shuttle

From Lille Grand Palais 20.30 20.30 20.30 20.30 20.30 20.30 20.30 20.45 20.45 20.50 20.50 20.45 20.45

All Shuttles from Lille Grand Palais will depart from the front of the building, to the left of the main door

Session Two

Mixed Pairs

Here are some highlights from the second half of the second qualifying session of the Mixed Pairs Championship. Our reporter took the opportunity to check out the form of some of the World Champions taking part.

Board 13. All Vul. Dealer North

♠ 10 9 7 2		♠ K Q 4 3
♥ A		♥ 9 8
♦ K J 8 6 4 2		♦ 10 5 3
♣ K 5		♣ A J 7 3

♠ A J 8 6		
♥ K Q J 6 3		
♦ 7		
♣ 10 8 4		

♠ 5		
♥ 10 7 5 4 2		
♦ A Q 9		
♣ Q 9 6 2		

West	North	East	South
Buchlev	Soroldoni	Rauscheid	Tremolada
	1♥	Pass	2♥
3♦	Pass	Pass	3♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

When South timidly raised to only 2♥ West did not hesitate to enter the auction. Venice Cup Champion Andrea Rauscheid was not going to let North-South buy the hand cheaply and not only did she reopen the bidding she also went on to game when she discovered her side had a spade fit.

North probably thought he was on to a good thing, but the cards were well placed for declarer: Nedu Buchlev took the opening lead of the king of hearts and played a spade to the queen. He knew spades must be 4-1 so he turned his attention to the diamond suit, play-

ing the ten from dummy. South went up with the ace and returned the ♦9. Declarer finessed and although North was able to ruff there was only one more defensive trick to come.

+790 was clearly a huge result for the German pair.

They did well on the companion board as well.

Board 14. Love All. Dealer East.

♠ 5 2		
♥ J		
♦ J 10 9 3		
♣ A K 9 8 5 2		

♠ K Q		♠ J 9 7
♥ K 8 7 5		♥ A Q 9 4 3
♦ A K 8 5		♦ 4 2
♣ Q 6 4		♣ 10 7 3

West	North	East	South
Buchlev	Soroldoni	Rauscheid	Tremolada
		Pass	2♦ ⁽¹⁾
2NT	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾ Multi

North led the ♣5 to the three, jack and queen.

The contract was safe, because declarer knew if North had the ♠A and the ♣AK he might have doubled 2NT. Declarer played a heart to the queen and a spade to his king. When that held he ran his winning hearts. North discarded a couple of diamonds so South was endplayed in that suit to concede a spade trick and that was +180.

A British pair found a neat defence on the same deal.

West	North	East	South
M. Smith		C. Smith	
		Pass	Pass
1♥	2♣	3♥	3♠
All Pass			

Marc Smith started with the ace and king of diamonds and then played the eight of diamonds. His wife Charlotte ruffed and returned the ♥9. Marc played his remaining diamond and when East was able to ruff with the ♠J West's trumps were promoted for down two.

The British pair were also involved in an interesting part score battle on this deal.

Board 16. E/W Vul. Dealer West

♠ K 9 2		
♥ K 6 3 2		
♦ J 6		
♣ 10 5 4 3		

♠ Q J 3		
♥ A 10 7 4		
♦ 8 7 4 3		
♣ J 7		

♠ 7 6		
♥ J 5		
♦ A K 5 2		
♣ A Q 9 6 2		

West	North	East	South
Smith	Cedolin	Smith	Canes
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	All Pass	

The defence started with three rounds of spades and declarer ruffed and played three rounds of diamonds, ruffing the third one in dummy. She now took the club finesse and West smartly dropped the jack under the queen! His idea was that if declarer now played a heart, trying to get back to dummy for another club finesse he could win with the ♥A and play a diamond, promoting partner's king of clubs. However, declarer reasoned that with a singleton club West might well have contested further with 3♠ and she laid down the ace of clubs.

Well defended and well played!

At another table Klaus Reps and Daniela von Arnim were doing battle with France's Marc & Franck. They had an identical auction except East-West unwisely went on to 3♠.

After two top diamonds and a diamond ruff North switched to a club and after two tricks in that suit there was still a heart to come. -200 did not secure the French pair many points.

The German pair's system netted them a huge result on the next deal.

Board 17. Love All. Dealer East.

♠ Q 8 6 3 2		
♥ 2		
♦ A K 8 6 5		
♣ Q 9		

♠ K 10		♠ A J 7 5
♥ Q 10 9 8 7		♥ 6 4
♦ 10 7 2		♦ Q J 3
♣ A 10 4		♣ J 8 6 3

Concerning appeals

When you decide to make an appeal, you must fill out forms and make a deposit. The Appeals Committee puts all contestants on notice that the deposit may be retained even if the appeal is withdrawn. The reasoning is that certain work has to be done in each case, so the deposit may be retained because of the extra work caused by the withdrawn appeal.

West	North	East	South
Becker	Reps	Kivel	von Arnim
	1♠	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

Two diamonds promised at least invitation-al values in hearts and it enabled North-South to stop at a low level. East led the queen of diamonds and North won and played the ♣Q. West won and it was understandably too difficult to switch to a trump. When he played a diamond declarer was able to win and cash the king of clubs followed by a club ruff. He then ruffed a diamond and could not be prevented from scoring three more trump tricks. +110 was worth a considerable share of the matchpoints.

As so often seems to be the case in a match pointed event, the next board was all about bidding.

Board 18. Vul North/South. Dealer North.

♠ 10 9 7 4	♠ A K 6 3 2
♥ K 9 7 6 5	♥ 4 2
♦ Q J 9	♦ 10 7 6 2
♣ J	♣ K 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ -
♥ A 8 3
♦ A K 4
♣ A Q 10 9 5 3 2

West	North	East	South
Becker	Reps	Kivel	von Arnim
	1♦	Pass	1♣*
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♣
3♠		Pass	4♣
All Pass			

One Club was strong and Klaus Reps soon found himself with a couple of bidding problems. Should he bid 3NT at his second turn? Then should he raise 4♣ to 5♣?

Neither contract can be defeated, so failing to bid game was quite expensive.

Both the German pairs and the British had solid sessions to leave them all well placed to qualify for the final.



Coralia sponsors the Continuous Pairs



Image Communication

Combinations

How well do you know your suit combinations?

♠	4
♠	K Q J 9 3 2

What's the best line for five tricks?
We don't have access to any textbooks, but our resident analyst gives us this table:

%		Finessing		+	-	=
8	10x	xxxx			x8	
16	xx	10xxx	x16			
18	xxx	10xx			x	
18	10xx	xxx	x18			
16	10xxx	xx			x	
8	xxxx	10x			x	
		Total		16	26	

We have omitted the 5-1 and 6-0 breaks. So it seems clear that it is better to play your cards from the top.

Help us please

The tournament (green) bag belonging to Eric Kokish and a similar green bag (Japan Contract Bridge League) disappeared from the Systems Desk night before last. The contents are of value primarily to the owners. Please return these bags to the Systems Desk if you are the person who picked them up in error. Thank you for your assistance.

Entry fee payments

When players mark 'prepaid' on their envelope, they are requested to sign their name next to it. Players who mark 'prepaid' on the envelope without a valid cause will be asked to pay double the entry fee.

Payment is accepted in cash, traveler's checks or checks in French francs drawn on a bank located in France. We thank you for your cooperation and for understanding the importance of saving an administrative cost. This will enable us to spend more funds to make your stay here more enjoyable.

At this time I would like to express my gratitude to the President of the Fédération Française Bridge, Michel Marmouget; his vice presidents, and our own assistant treasurer Christine Francin for staying up until the wee hours of the morning trying to cope with the multitude of financial problems presented by the tournament.

George Retek,
WBF treasurer

Kiss of Death

On this deal from the first qualifying session of the Mixed Pairs a pair from France collected the score that all pairs players are keen to avoid.

Board 6. E/W Vul. Dealer East.

	♠ A K J 10 4		
	♥ A 7 6		
	♦ Q 10 9		
	♣ Q 3		
♠ Q 9 5			♠ 6 3 2
♥ K Q J 3 2			♥ 10 4
♦ A			♦ K 7 5 3
♣ K J 9 6			♣ A 7 5 2

	N	
W		E
	S	


♠ 8 7
♥ 9 8 5
♦ J 8 6 4 2
♣ 10 8 4

West	North	East	South
	Beauvillain		Deguillebon
	1♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	1♠	Pass	Pass
3♣	All Pass	2♣	Pass

After a spirited auction West became declarer in Three Clubs.

East clearly didn't fancy an emaciated negative double on the second round of the auction and West reopened in such a way that a club fit might have been missed. North redoubled to tell everyone he had a good hand.

South led the ♠8 and North took the first three tricks in that suit, South discarding the ♥5. With no attractive switch, North decided to continue with the jack of spades. Dummy and South both discarded a heart while declarer ruffed in hand with the ♣6. Declarer played a club to the ace and paying no heed to the bidding, a second club to the jack and North's queen. Now the ace and another heart promoted South's ♠10 for the magic +200.



FREQUENCE NORD

94.7

LILLE 87.8

Rendez-vous with the World Bridge Championships very day at 18:40 on Radio France Frequency Nord 94.7 or in Lille 87.8

