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Issue No. 9

Sunday, 18 June 2006

The Cliff Hangers of Verona



Maddalena De Gregorio at the station provided by the tournament sponsor Lavazza.

On the day the Open and Women's Pairs got under way, there were several team matches that went down to the wire, including a near-miracle comeback in a McConnell match.

The Lynn Baker squad had a bad third set against the Swedish Katt-Bridge team and found themselves trailing 139-79 with 14 boards to go. Baker amassed numerous double-digit swings and nearly pulled it out but lost 156-155. The Levy-Westheimer McConnell match was still going at press time as the final 14 boards had to be replayed because players sat the wrong directions.

In the Rosenblum, the Lavazza team withdrew against the Danish Hecht-Johansen squad after three sets, trailing 146-31, and the strong Ekeblad team (USA) was ousted by the Nadar team from India.

In another close one the Jim Mahaffey squad from the USA defeated the Orange Team (Netherlands) 115-113 with a big rally in the fourth set.

Play resumes today in both knockouts — the round of eight for the McConnell and the round of 32 for the Rosenblum.

TODAY'S PROGRAMME

Rosenblum Cup (Round of 16) McConnell Cup (Quarter Final)

- 10.30 Boards 1-14 (Session 1)
- 13.45 Boards 15-28 (Session 2)
- 16.05 Boards 29-42 (Session 3)
- 18.25 Boards 43-56 (Session 4)

Senior Teams

- 10.30 Session 9
- 12.15 Session 10
- 15.00 Session 11
- 16.45 Session 12

Open and Women's Pairs

- 10.30 Session 3
- 15.30 Session 4



VuGraph Programme



Teatro Verdi

- | | |
|-------|-----|
| 16.05 | TBA |
| 18.25 | TBA |

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ROSENBLUM CUP*Knockout Phase of 32*

		Boards 1-14	Boards 15-28	Boards 29-42	Boards 43-56	Total
1 Nickell	Romania	62 - 23	34 - 23	32 - 14	36 - 20	164 - 80
2 Schwartz	Team PharmaService	77 - 24	30 - 23	29 - 19	26 - 25	162 - 91
3 Lavazza	Hecht-Johansen	14 - 61	11 - 27	6 - 58	0 - 0	31 - 146
4 Bridge+	Belgium I	20 - 29	0 - 47	27 - 28	27 - 18	74 - 122
5 Welland R	Herbst	33 - 17	37 - 31	55 - 23	17 - 33	142 - 104
6 China SMEG	Clair	35 - 6	44 - 17	29 - 23	29 - 29	137 - 75
7 Chagas	Iceland	37 - 13	26 - 35	32 - 42	38 - 30	133 - 120
8 Meltzer	Izisel	48 - 19	16 - 21	19 - 26	27 - 28	110 - 94
9 Ekeblad	Nadar	24 - 31	2 - 47	41 - 19	61 - 23	128 - 120
10 Henner	Villa Fabbriche	22 - 21	34 - 8	39 - 23	28 - 35	123 - 87
11 Milner	Berg	14 - 22	43 - 12	44 - 27	32 - 36	133 - 97
12 Morath	Allfrey	10 - 73	24 - 29	19 - 45	36 - 25	89 - 172
13 Gordon	Soulet	40 - 19	35 - 21	26 - 36	14 - 50	115 - 126
14 Lynch	Yadlin	21 - 50	21 - 34	35 - 7	35 - 31	112 - 122
15 Orange	Mahaffey	34 - 36	25 - 16	36 - 17	18 - 46	113 - 115
16 Russia	Gartaganis	43 - 42	27 - 10	28 - 55	13 - 19	111 - 126

McCONNELL CUP*Knockout Phase of 16*

33 Baker	Katt-Bridge	20 - 80	54 - 11	5 - 48	76 - 17	155 - 156
34 Netherlands	Venezuela	16 - 35	40 - 19	39 - 8	10 - 48	105 - 110
35 China Global	Gruppo Midi	46 - 20	23 - 30	49 - 35	48 - 12	166 - 97
36 Narasimhan	Bessis	25 - 35	66 - 6	20 - 35	28 - 38	139 - 114
37 Westheimer	Levy	12 - 23	20 - 12	26 - 44	24 - 56	82 - 135
38 Poland	Sver	49 - 18	34 - 26	37 - 46	18 - 33	138 - 123
39 Radin	Steiner	19 - 31	27 - 31	18 - 30	34 - 34	98 - 126
40 McGowan	DanGer	16 - 36	34 - 43	33 - 39	46 - 23	129 - 141

SENIOR TEAMS*After 8 Rounds*

1 Jean-Marsha	159	Finkel	128	Savelli	113
2 Markowicz	150	16 Romik	127	30 Netherlands 2	110
3 Netherlands I	145	17 Fornaciari	126	31 Sisselaar	109
4 Indonesia	141	18 Jackson	124	32 Wadia	106
Kaminsky	141	19 Gramounes	123	33 Harper	105
6 Sorvoll	140	20 Hadi	122	Naniwada	105
7 Szenberg	138	21 Wolff	119	35 Canada	104
8 Short	134	21 Rainieri	119	36 Gordon	102
9 Holt	131	23 Piganeau	118	37 Serf	100
Marino	131	24 Poland	117	38 Dalla Casapiccola	99
11 Humburg	129	25 Schneider	116	39 Belgium	93
Bigat	129	KRUGER	116	Pelletier	93
13 Mefo	128	27 Seppanen	115	41 Dix	92
Praha	128	28 Romanin	113	42 Bateman	61

OPEN PAIRS QUALIFYING

After 2nd Session

Rank	Names	Total		Total	
1	Bryan MAKSYMETZ - Lars ANDERSSON	61.52	69	Assaf LENGY - Gadi LEBOVITS	54.36
2	Julien GAVIARD - Thomas BESSIS	61.34	70	Tezcan SEN - Okay GUR	54.35
3	Jean-Jacques PALAU - Pierre-Yves GUILLAUMIN	60.15	71	Irina LADYZHENSKY - Alexander LADYZHENSKY	54.32
4	Sajid ISPAHANI - David GREENWOOD	59.94	72	Ismail KANDEMIR - Suleyman KOLATA	54.31
5	Rajendra GOKHALE - Sk IYENGAR	59.49	73	Herve VINCENT - Federico GODED	54.26
6	Desislava Borissova POPOVA - Georgi KARAKOLEV	59.14	74	Gitte HECHTJOHANSEN - Valentin Dgiassim AL-SHATI	54.26
7	Ahu ZOBU - Victor ARONOV	59.00	75	Giordano SCULLIN - Paolo BAGHETTI	54.21
8	Patrick GRENTHE - Michel DUGUET	58.56	76	Dominique GERIN - Patrick DADOUN	54.19
9	Jens AUKEN - Soren CHRISTIANSEN	58.43	77	Krzysztof MARTENS - Vytautas VAINIKONIS	54.18
10	Konrad ARASZKIEWICZ - Dariusz KOWALSKI	58.32	78	Paolo COMUNIAN - Claudio BIANCHINI	54.08
11	Enrico LONGINOTTI - Giampaolo FRANCO	58.22	79	Kamal Kumar ROY - Debashish ROY	54.04
12	Valerie GARDINER - Peter GILL	58.18	80	Geza HOMONNAY - Miklos DUMBOVICH	54.02
13	Alex KOLESNIK - Roberto SCARAMUZZI	58.17	81	Robert LEBI - Nader HANNA	53.98
14	Maxim ZHMAK - Denis DOBRIN	58.12	82	Jason FELDMAN - Ari GREENBERG	53.83
15	Badal Chandra DAS - Sibnath Dey SARKAR	57.81	83	Jacek KALITA - Krzysztof KOTOROWICZ	53.82
16	Guy LAFFINEUR - Jean-Christophe QUANTIN	57.73	84	Olivier BESSIS - Godefroy De TESSIERES	53.82
17	Jose Carlos HENRIQUES - Juliano BARBOSA	57.70	85	Vincent VIDALAT - Simon POULAT	53.78
18	Wei Dong LIU - Hong Lu ZHONG	57.69	86	Adam WILDAVSKY - Doug DOUB	53.78
19	Maris MATISONS - Andris SMILGAJS	57.55	87	Carel BERENDREGT - Bert PAPING	53.75
20	N. K. GUPTA - Sandeep THAKRAL	57.50	88	Rene HERMANS - Willem Van EIJCK	53.72
21	Tim COPE - Glen HOLMAN	57.49	89	Erik SAELENSMINDE - Ingvar ERGA	53.66
22	Moza PANAHPOUR - Ishmael DELMONTE	57.43	90	Sartaj HANS - Tony NUNN	53.63
23	Jacek CIECHOMSKI - Piotr JUREK	57.32	91	Maria Joao LARA - Manuel d' OREY CAPUCHO	53.59
24	Jean-Paul BALIAN - Philippe TOFFIER	57.18	92	Paulo Goncalves PEREIRA - Antonio PALMA	53.54
25	Lucian TACIUC - Mihai STAVRACHE	57.07	93	Arno LINDERMANN - Martin SCHIFKO	53.49
26	Serge CHEVALIER - Andre GIGNAC	56.99	94	Bernard DONDE - Alon APTEKER	53.48
27	Giulio BONGIOVANNI - Jacek ROMANSKI	56.90	95	Marcin LESNIEWSKI - Jean-Michel VOLDOIRE	53.46
28	Tomasz GOTARD - Josef PIEKAREK	56.85	96	Aubrey STRUL - Bobby JONES	53.45
29	Arnaud ANCESSY - Frederic BRUNET	56.83	97	Alain DELFOUR - Francois STRETZ	53.42
30	Jacques POTIER - Richard NAIGARD	56.72	98	Michael YUEN - Michael GAMBLE	53.35
31	Heinrich BERGER - Ulrich SPAUR	56.46	99	Wojciech OLANSKI - Wlodzimierz STARKOWSKI	53.27
32	Jon Egil FURUNES - Per Erik AUSTBERG	56.17	100	Marita MAI - Francesco Ariatta	53.24
33	Pritish KUSHARI - Sumit MUKHERJEE	56.04	101	Maija ROMANOVSKA - Karlis RUBINS	53.15
34	Zvonko PETROVIC - Zeljko PINTARIC	55.97	102	Zu Qiang TIAN - Song He ZHOU	53.09
35	Tommy GARVEY - John CARROLL	55.81	103	Arun BAPAT - Ramamurti SRIDHARAN	52.97
36	D.g. SIMEONI - Henri NICOLAI	55.73	104	Antonio SEMENTA - Giovanni DELFINO	52.95
37	Jason HACKETT - Justin HACKETT	55.68	105	Gianpaolo CENTIOLI - Angelo VIOLA	52.95
38	Alan NELSON - Kath NELSON	55.59	106	Bobby RICHMAN - Zoltan NAGY	52.94
39	Jerome ROMBAUT - Lionel SEBBANE	55.58	107	Giorgio MENINI - Mauro SALVETTI	52.88
40	Pierre SAPORTA - Jean-Louis MARLIER	55.58	108	Piero ARGANINI - Grant BAZE	52.84
41	Brigitte AUBONNET - Christophe CARDE	55.55	109	Gianni RUSPA - Luigi FERRARI	52.84
42	Stefano CATA - Giancarlo MARINI	55.54	110	Vincent KROES - Jan Van CLEEFF	52.80
43	Giovanni ALBAMONTE - Riccardo INTONTI	55.52	111	Archie SEQUERA - Ramawatar AGARWAL	52.60
44	Dipak PODDAR - Anand K S SAMANT	55.50	112	Henrik-Carl NOBERIUS - Arvid WIKNER	52.57
45	Jaanus MARIPUU - Tanel KOIVUPUU	55.44	113	Marian RADULESCU - Marina STEGAROIU	52.50
46	Rafal JAGNIEWSKI - Boguslaw PAZUR	55.44	114	Mustafa AKGUL - Toros YUKSEL	52.45
47	Marc BOMPIS - Thierry De SAINTE MARIE	55.32	115	Antonio LARDO - Francesco NATALE	52.44
48	Simon GILLIS - Boye BROGELAND	55.25	116	Roman GRZELAK - Tadeusz RALKO	52.43
49	Khawar Saeed ANSARI - Saeed Hasan ANSARI	55.10	117	Sheng Yue GUI - Xiao SHI	52.41
50	Kazuo FURUTA - Kyoko SHIMAMURA	55.09	118	Keiran DYKE - David WILTSHIRE	52.31
51	David BIRMAN - Alon BIRMAN	55.06	119	Andreas GLOYER - Wolfgang LAUSS	52.22
52	Apolinary KOWALSKI - Piotr TUSZYNSKI	55.01	120	Nick SANDQVIST - Artur MALINOWSKI	52.20
53	Ashok Kumar GOEL - Kamal MUKHERJEE	54.83	121	Justin LALL - Hemant LALL	52.15
54	Vadim KHOLOMEEV - Jouri KHIOPPENEN	54.80	122	Francesco FIORETTI - Luigi FRAZZETTO	52.09
55	Larry MORI - Venkatrao KONERU	54.77	123	Aymeric LEBATTEUX - Nicolas LHUISSIER	52.06
56	Fried WEBER - Martin LOFGREN	54.69	124	Linda LEWIS - Paul LEWIS	52.04
57	Andrzej JASZCZAK - Piotr WALCZAK	54.66	125	S. K. HOODA - Rana ROY	51.94
58	Giuseppe FABBRINI - Niccolo FOSSI	54.61	126	Alain NAHMIAS - Dominique BEAUMIER	51.93
59	Tom TOWNSEND - David GOLD	54.60	127	Maria LEBEDEVA - Igor KHAZANOV	51.91
60	Nils Kare KVANGRAVEN - Tom HOILAND	54.60	128	Steve ROBINSON - Peter BOYD	51.91
61	Eugenio ALZATI - Domenico ZUCCO	54.57	129	Adrien VINAY - P SEGUIN	51.83
62	Harriette BUCKMAN - George RETEK	54.56	130	Avi KANETKAR - Nigel ROSENDORF	51.82
63	George JACOBS - Alfredo VERSACE	54.52	131	Bo NORGREN - Jan OLSEN	51.81
64	John KRANYAK - Ron SMITH	54.50	132	Roberto MIINERO - Piercarlo MUSSO	51.79
65	Sven Olai HOYLAND - Sam Inge HOYLAND	54.48	133	Keyzad.ANKLESARIA - Vinay DESAI	51.77
66	Jorgen MOLBERG - Terje AA	54.43	134	Tor BIRKELAND - Espen LINDQVIST	51.76
67	John ARMSTRONG - John HOLLAND	54.39	135	Hans-Herman GWINNER - Andreas PAWLIK	51.75
68	David KENDRICK - Patrick COLLINS	54.36	136	Eli SOLHEIM - Ivar M.ANFINSEN	51.73
			137	Rashid JAFER - Nishat ABEDI	51.73

138	Tadashi TERAMOTO - Shunsuke MORIMURA	51.72	214	Farid ASSEMI - Edward WOJEWODA	48.61
139	Connie GOLDBERG - Wafik ABDOU	51.68	215	Mckenzie MYERS - Joel DATLOFF	48.57
140	Stanislaw GOLEBIOWSKI - Tomasz SIELICKI	51.66	216	Gene FREED - Bill WICKHAM	48.56
141	Michael CORNELL - Ashley BACH	51.65	217	Boguslaw GIERULSKI - Jerzy SKRZYPCZAK	48.56
142	Federico IAVICOLI - Giuseppe DELLE CAVE	51.62	218	Reinert AMUNDSEN - Paul BANG	48.49
143	Tadashi IMAKURA - Masayuki IINO	51.59	219	Didier PIGNOL - Frederic LACROIX	48.48
144	Larissa PANINA - Michael ROSENBLUM	51.49	220	Shireen MOHANDES - Andrew BOWLES	48.46
145	Michael ROSENBERG - Ralph KATZ	51.49	221	Themis ROUVIS - Antonis KOMODROMOS	48.43
146	Tony FORRESTER - Mike MOSS	51.47	222	Vincenzo BURGIO - Salvatore GATTO	48.43
147	Laurent THUILLEZ - Wilfried LIBRECHT	51.37	223	Michael PRESCOTT - Stephen BURGESS	48.42
148	Guillaume GRENTHE - Jerome GRENTHE	51.34	224	Gerardo DE MARCO - Francesco DE GENNARO	48.30
149	Paul CHEMLA - Philippe CRONIER	51.30	225	Raju TOLANI - Ajay KHARE	48.29
150	Patrick ALLEGRINI - Jean Michel HUC DE BAT	51.24	226	Davor BLAZENCIC - Dean POKORNY	48.19
151	Harumi SHIBANO - Yoshiyuki NAKAMURA	51.24	227	Maurizio ROSCIANO - Leandro POLITANO	48.09
152	Francois BOUCHER - Marc LACHAPELLE	51.13	228	Perla SLIMAK - Steve HAMAOU	48.03
153	Stephen BLACKSTOCK - Stephen HENRY	51.11	229	Marc SMITH - Peter CZERNIEWSKI	48.02
154	Franck MULTON - Pierre ZIMMERMANN	51.02	230	Abdelkamal RERHAYE - Said Mohamed BERRADA	47.96
155	George TORNAY - Phillip ALDER	50.99	231	Oscar NETTL - Maarten SCHOLLAARDT	47.91
156	Alexandru ELIAN - Dan ZARA	50.97	232	Hans FRERICHS - Ulrich WENNING	47.84
157	Jacques HENRI - Jean-Pierre LAFOURCADE	50.88	233	Pauline GUMBLY - Warren LAZER	47.80
158	Matilda POPLILOV - Lilo POPLILOV	50.84	234	Rossen Georgiev GUNEV - Julian STEFANOV	47.76
159	Craig GOWER - Henry MANSELL	50.78	235	Xiao HU - Jun CHEN	47.72
160	Alejandro BIANCHEDI - Ernesto MUZZIO	50.71	236	Michael ROCHE - John RAYNER	47.69
161	Yu Xiong SHEN - Ya Fu LIN	50.69	237	Himani KHANDELWAL - Rajeev KHANDELWAL	47.66
162	Rene STIENEN - Ernst WARENDORF	50.66	238	Tony WATKINS - Dave BLACKMAN	47.63
163	Patrick NAELS - Sabine BERG	50.65	239	Sam KATZ - Martha KATZ-BENSON	47.61
164	Pablo LAMBARDI - Adolfo Daniel MADALA	50.65	240	Christine BERNARD - Michel REBILLARD	47.58
165	Henri SCHWEITZER - Dominique JOEGNE	50.62	241	Ange AGNETTI - Franck MATEOS-RUIZ	47.46
166	Jan JANSMA - Louk VERHEES JR	50.60	242	Sedat PARACIK - Ayhan COSKUNOL	47.46
167	Yossi ROLL - Ilan BAREKET	50.58	243	Leonardo CIMA - Cristiano MIOZZI	47.26
168	Peter LAKATOS - Balazs SZEGEDI	50.52	244	Nikola BARANTIEV - Ivan IVANOV	47.23
169	Paolo PASQUINI - Jose Maria VALDES	50.48	245	Giuseppe MASSAROLI - Amilcare POZZI	47.20
170	Bang Xiang ZHANG - Jia Xiang SHEN	50.27	246	Jan Petter SVENDSEN - Rune HAUGE	47.19
171	Igor CURLIN - Dmitri PROKHOROV	50.24	247	Arturo SALTELLI - Clodomiro MUROLO	47.10
172	Thibault MALARME - Romain TEMBOURET	50.21	248	Alessio CECCHI - Carlo DEGLI INNOCENTI	47.08
173	Steve SIDELL - Dan ROMM	50.15	249	Victor GOLDBERG - Willie COYLE	46.98
174	Dan MANEA - Gabriel BALITA	50.05	250	Cian HOLLAND - Gay KEAVENEY	46.97
175	Louise MITCHELL - Diarmuid REDDAN	50.01	251	Peter FEHER - Csaba CZIMER	46.90
176	Furio MENEGHINI - Roberto SALTARELLI	49.91	252	Jun ZHANG - Jin Sheng BOAM	46.73
177	Cate HUGHES - Stanislav NEDKOV	49.81	253	Guido TOLETTI - Massimo FERRARI	46.70
178	Thanos KAPAYANNIDIS - Petros TRIANTAFILLIS	49.69	254	Michael ELINESCU - Stefan HAAS	46.59
179	Rui WANG - Sheng Hong CHEN	49.69	255	Hakan TABAK - Sevinc ATAY	46.59
180	Anil PADHYE - Rajesh DALAL	49.67	256	Lutz DOHNERT - Miguel FENTE	46.57
181	John DAVIDSON - Michael WHIBLEY	49.66	257	Michel BESSIS - Maurice SALAMA	46.56
182	Anna MATWIJOW - Bernard JADCZAK	49.62	258	Gila EMODI - Roy RESHEF	46.51
183	Fabio SAMPAIO - Albert HAHN	49.62	259	Philippe MARILL - Didier MASSE	46.49
184	Francesco NATALE - Marco VILLANI	49.61	260	Petros AGGELOPOULOS - Sotiris NINOS	46.36
185	Marie-Claude GOUVERITH - Alain SAMY	49.61	261	Pierre ADAD - Pascal RINGUET	46.30
186	Lia VASILEV - Ivan NANEV	49.58	262	Bojan AMBROZ - Miro NOVAK	46.29
187	Robert STOLINSKI - Adam HINTERTAN	49.56	263	Gyorgy MARJAI - Ferenc ZOLD	46.21
188	Yalcin ATABEY - Salvador ASSAEL	49.46	264	Jean-Marc BOLOMEY - Guillaume FREJACQUES	46.15
189	Martin REINERTSEN - Erik RYNNING	49.44	265	Orlando PURGATORIO - Manlio TOMASSINI	46.13
190	G_ VENKATESH - Krishna Kumar KANNINGAT	49.42	266	Valerio GIUBILO - Guido BONAVOGLIA	46.13
191	Otto RUTHENBERG - Jerzy KOZYCZKOWSKI	49.41	267	Tonno VAHK - Joel AASMAE	46.09
192	Josef OREN - Paul WEINSTOCK	49.38	268	Veronique VENTOS - David FORGE	46.04
193	Warren SPECTOR - Michael SEAMON	49.38	269	Enrico GUERRA - Massimo MORITSCH	46.03
194	Stefan CABAJ - Wlodzimierz ILNICKI	49.30	270	Husnu UYGUN - Nail YAVUZ	45.96
195	Niso ESKINAZI - Namik KOKTEN	49.29	271	Vanna MENDITTO - Mario CAJANO	45.94
196	Marios FERENTIU - Gabriel NEAMTU	49.24	272	Barry NOBLE - George BILSKI	45.94
197	Lydie TRAJMAN - Shapour MOHTASHAMI	49.19	273	Francesc MURGIA - Lelio BATTAGLIA	45.93
198	Teodorescu CORNEL - Aldo Giovanni GERLI	49.11	274	Jan MARTEL - Sally WOOLSEY	45.82
199	Jelena ALFEJEVA - Vladimir GONCA	49.11	275	Paul D HACKETT - Tony WATERLOW	45.54
200	Agnes TRIOMPHE - Isabelle MAGIS	49.07	276	Zoraida DIEBOLD - Eduardo ROSEN	45.54
201	Bernard TELTSCHER - Victor SILVERSTONE	49.05	277	Krzysztof BURAS - Grzegorz NARKIEWICZ	45.53
202	Kit WOOLSEY - Fred STEWART	48.91	278	Alvin FITZPATRICK - Joseph HOWARD	45.50
203	Maciej DOBRZYNSKI - Wojciech ARCZEWSKI	48.87	279	Mauro MASTRETTA - Vincenz LA NOVARA	45.43
204	Sven SESTER - Olavi OJA	48.85	280	Shalh MOFAHKAMI - Giorgio ODELLO	45.34
205	Danny SPRUNG - Kitty MUNSON COOPER	48.84	281	Gastone MOTTA - Tiziano BRIZIO	45.33
206	Tien-Chun YANG - Robert TODD	48.83	282	Frederic VOLCKER - Quentin ROBERT	45.32
207	Sandra FRASER - Douglas FRASER	48.81	283	Evgueni SOLNTSEV - Pavel VOROBEI	45.13
208	Christian ZACH - Alexander WERNLE	48.76	284	Andrew CRUISE - Melvin CARVALHO	45.12
209	Alexander F LEWIS - Anal SHAH	48.75	285	Cosmin MINDRUTA - Dan VOINESCU	45.12
210	Alexandra NIKITINA - Sergei SYTSEVICH	48.73	286	Jose L NADER - Guilherme JUNQUEIRA	45.03
211	Ulli JAHR - Berthold ENGEL	48.70	287	Fabienne PIGEAUD - Lewis KAPLAN	44.94
212	Erwin OTVOSI - Marek BOREWICZ	48.66	288	Abdellah LAGHRARI - Khalil BENSOUDA	44.86
213	Vassili LEVENKO - Prit HALLER	48.65	289	Eric DEBUS - Piet VANDEREET	44.82

290	Jean Francois ALLIX - Eric MAUBERQUEZ	44.79	314	Janet DE BOTTON - Gunnar HALLBERG	41.40
291	Nicky INNIS - Hugh WILLIAMS	44.76	315	Giovanni Carlo PRINCIPE - Luigi MELCHIORI	41.30
292	Marlene DUGUET - Pierre-Jean LOUCHART	44.74	316	Jp GOENKA - Alok SADHU	41.13
293	Franco CIBRARIO - Franco TROMBETTA	44.36	317	Franco GUSSO - Corrado DI FABIO	40.99
294	Per JANSSON - Niclas JOHANSSON	44.34	318	Roberto PADOVANI - Luigi MOLINAROLLI	40.88
295	Nikolas BAUSBACK - Nedju BUCHLEV	44.26	319	Tore GUNDERSEN - John Arthur FROGE	40.58
296	Jeff SAPIRE - Neville EBER	44.03	320	Albert MUGGIA - Aldo MUGGIA	40.43
297	Pierluigi IOTTI - Giancarlo GIACHETTI	44.01	321	Renate HANSEN - Fabio COLASANTE	40.37
298	Vasil BATOV - Ilko BONEV	43.99	322	Mine BABAC - Aydin UYSAL	40.24
299	Lillian MORGANTI - Ugo MORGANTI	43.91	323	Aldo CORRADO - Vincenzo CRISPO	40.19
300	Annamaria PIROVANO - Dino VIOTTI	43.83	324	Tung LI MEW - Pierre PHILOGENE	40.06
301	Alexandra BERTRAN - Paul WENS	43.13	325	Kyounghea SUNG - Iynruyng HWANG	39.72
302	Fahri GUNER - Mehmet AKKASOGLU	43.07	326	Mario D'AGOSTINO - Gaetano MASSA	39.67
303	Janice ANDERSON - Richard ANDERSON	42.94	327	Bela BENEDEK - Peter BOZZAI	39.67
304	Karl LICHTENEGGER - Konrad WINKLER	42.81	328	Catherine RITTER - Paul GOSNEY	39.39
305	Josef HARSANYI - Georg WEISZ	42.56	329	Ursula MAINI - Tanja TROJANOV	37.96
306	Jungyoon PARK - Ilsub JUNG	42.29	330	Ezio TRAGHIN - Antonio SABBATINI	37.50
307	Rita MUCHA - Alexandru PANA	42.27	331	Maria Rosa STERZA - Roberto TOLUZZO	37.43
308	Adolfo Andres MADALA - Shivam SHAH	42.26	332	Aldo MOSCA - Antonio PASQUARELLA	37.41
309	Rosetta AMMIRATA - Eduardo SCANAVINO	42.07	333	Christiane LEBRETON - Serge HENRY	36.57
310	Giorgio ZANARDI - Giuseppe De MONTIS	41.77	334	Stephane SANT - Christophe MARRO	35.94
311	Marlene WATTS - Adam SARTEN	41.75	335	Nicole SCHULMANN - Jacques GONFREVILLE	35.40
312	Jyotindra SHAH - Sandeep KARMARKAR	41.74	336	Carole VAN WIECK - Francine WINHAM	33.18
313	Antonio TOMADINI - Luciano ZANETTE	41.45			

WOMEN'S PAIRS QUALIFYING

(After 2nd Session)

Rank	Names	Total			Total
1	Luigina GENTILI - Maddalena SEVERGNINI	60.11	41	Patrizia CECCONI - Paola RONCHI	49.88
2	Yan HUANG - Yan Hong WANG	59.38	42	Gilda PENDER - Patricia KELLY	49.77
3	Carla GIANARDI - Laura ROVERA	57.62	43	Monica MAINOLDI - Rita GIBERTONI	49.60
4	Donna COMPTON - Gigi SIMPSON	56.90	44	Christine BOYLSON - Michelle BRUNNER	49.51
5	Judy BUSSELL - Stephanie KYME	56.55	45	Antonella BACOCOLI - Tiziana ROSI	49.37
6	Pascale THUILLEZ - Dominique JEANIN-NALTET	55.78	46	Stacy JACOBS - Shannon CAPPELLETTI	48.89
7	Nevena SENIOR - Janine FORD	55.59	47	Madlene GERSTEL - Elisabeth WAELCHLI	48.87
8	Ruth FARKAS - Ora DAN	55.17	48	Astrid DEKKER - Rosalien BARENDREGT	48.80
9	Nur CINAR - Sevil AKIN	54.91	49	Yasuko KOSAKA - Hideko TAKEUCHI	48.72
10	Faith MAYER - Victoria EGAN	54.64	50	Joann GLASSON - Lisa BERKOWITZ	48.71
11	Karin WENNING - Gerda HEINRICHS	54.29	51	Vera TAGLIAFERI - Monica AGHEMO	48.66
12	Anna BOZZO - Livia CIGNOLINI	54.24	52	Emanuela CAPRIATA - Cristina GOLIN	48.49
13	Pat MEEHAN - Rose O'FARRELL	54.10	53	Diana BALKIN - Peta BANDUCCI	48.32
14	Gloria COLOMBO BRUGNONI - Mietta PREVE	53.99	54	Daniela BALDASSIN - Beatrice MORGANTE	48.18
15	Katherine WEI-SENDER - Linda GREEN	53.95	55	Vanessa REESS - Nathalie FREY	48.11
16	Ora LOURIE - Sally STRUL	53.89	56	Harriet SAESSELI - Harriet SAESSELI	47.76
17	Martine ROSSARD - Johanna RACZYNSKA	53.61	57	Pony Beate NEHMERT - Ulrike MULLER	47.74
18	Annette HENRY - Pamela NISBET	53.56	58	Bodil FOSSAN - Vigdis MOEN	47.72
19	Catherine FISHPOOL - Claude BLOUQUIT	53.19	59	Mileva JOBIN - Ala SOBEL	47.54
20	Gemma MARIANO - Tina J. Del GALLEGO	53.06	60	Nadia BERTOCCHI - Elisabetta SIZZO	47.11
21	Debora CAMPAGNANO - Irene BARONI	52.82	61	Gianna ARRIGONI - Gabriella OLIVIERI	46.96
22	Yvonne HULETT - Val STEPHENSON	52.49	62	Margie GWOZDZINSKY - Cathy STRAUCH	46.76
23	Nicola SMITH - Kitty TELTSCHER	52.47	63	Estera LISKER - Amanda JEGER	46.73
24	Petra MANSELL - Merle MODLIN	52.18	64	Monica BURATTI - Darinka FORTI	46.69
25	Ruth ARAMI - Kohava SCHWARTZ	52.15	65	Silvia BOLDT - Gloria IRIBARREN	46.48
26	Ana Maria De ALONSO - Monica ANG. DE BALDASARRE	51.89	66	Jo MORSE - Susie MILLER	46.43
27	Natalija VEKSA - Liga BRIKMANE	51.67	67	Di ADRAIN - Margie HULETT	46.23
28	Rozanne POLLACK - Maggie SHENKIN	51.54	68	Belle AXELROD - Ursula HAMMERSCHLAG	46.16
29	Kotomi ASAKOSHI - Akiko MIWA	51.47	69	Lynn BAYMAN - Usha KOTHARI	46.08
30	Lila PANAHPOUR - Benedicte CRONIER	51.37	70	Meta GOODMAN - Margaret MILLAR	45.77
31	Barbara NIST - Helen ABBOTT	51.19	71	Lale GUMRUKCUOGLU - Belis ATALAY	45.50
32	Chantal HAMMERLI - Maria ERHART	51.17	72	Fethiye TAGA - Zuhai ATALAY	45.26
33	Deborah FLETCHER - Lisa DE MEILLAC	51.16	73	Luciana CANDUCCI - Lidia BOSCHI	44.91
34	Ena CLEARY - Jeannie FITZGERALD	51.15	74	Nadine WOOD - Linda MALONEY	44.83
35	Audrey SMITH - Lyn O'NEILL	50.98	75	RAJESH - Gupta RAJESH	44.15
36	Valerie BLOOM - Maureen HOLROYD	50.97	76	M. Cristina MOTTA - Silvia URBANI	43.53
37	Hilary DOWLING-LONG - Ann Marie HORAN	50.78	77	Adriana ANDRETTA - Wilma SCALCO	43.50
38	Renee LEGER - Laurence RIMBAUD	50.74	78	Di GMUR - Carol VAN RENSBURG	43.19
39	Sally BROCK - Heather DHONDY	50.47	79	Loukia TRIANTAFYLLI - Despina KANELLOPOULOU	42.82
40	Denise JOSA - Pat HOWARD	50.11	80	Angela DE BIASIO - Donatella GIGLIOTTI	42.14
			81	Vicki BENN - Gabi BENN-NISSAM	39.64

COSE DI CASA NOSTRA

Nel penultimo turno di qualificazione la squadra Villa Fabbriche incontra i primi della classe, i tritatutto di Welland che, oltre al capitano e Fallenius, schierano per l'occasione Levin/Weinstein (aperta). Gli americani si aggiudicano il match per 19 a 11, ma lo swing piu' corposo e' tinto d'azzurro:

Indovina chi viene a cena? Il Fante di fiori...

Board 22. Dich. Est. E/O in zona

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

Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud
<i>Pulga</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Rinaldi</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
4♠	Fine	4♦	Passo

L'apertura di 4♦ di Rinaldi mostra un buon 4♠ (Namyats). Passo di Sud, 4♠ di Pulga, carrello dall'altra parte e... attesa. Attesa, attesa e finalmete ritorno con due verdi. Fine. Anche senza vedere le carte si intuisce che un problemino Nord (chi altro?) deve averlo avuto. Levin attacca con il Re di quadri, per il taglio del morto. Asso e Dama di picche. Re di Weinstein che insiste nel colore d'attacco per il taglio di Est. Re di fiori per l'Asso di Sud riquadrisce. Pulga taglia al morto, intavola una fiori (2 di Sud) e si ferma a riflettere: "Nord ci ha pensato una vita prima di passare. Difficile che si presenti semilbilanciato. Pero' con il singolo di fiori avrebbe potuto pure attaccarci. Ma forse avra' voluto affacciarsi sul morto con un pezzo a quadri prima di cercare il taglio a fiori nel buio. In piu' ho gia' visto due pezzi in Sud, fattispecie che limita la ricchezza di Nord e, sempre considerando la pensata, sottolinea i suoi valori distribuzionali. Certo, se c'e' il singolo di fiori in Nord, con l'attacco nel colore sono down praticamente senza metterci le mani. Dovrei essere coerente. Dovrei essere coerente? Ho deciso...". And the winner is... Pulga ha inserito il 10. 4♠ fatte. Nell'altra sala Attanasio/Failla hanno raggiunto 5♦ dopo che la licita e' iniziata con 1♠ di Est - Passo - Passo. Qui e' scattata la convenzione Failla che, a rotolino, mostra la quarta nobile e 12/15 punti. Il 2♣ detto da Attanasio, percio', ha palesato la quarta di cuori in una mano di forza media. Inutile dire che Est ha fatto tornare la licita a Dario a livello 4. Poco male, Attanasio ha proseguito la descrizione della sua mano in corto lungo annunciando le quadri. 5♦ mi.

Tanto anche se non dovesse funzionare l'eliminazione, il Re di cuori e' abbastanza battezzato in Est.

Nella sessione successiva, **D.M.R.**, squadra italiana composta da Giovanni Albamonte, Alberto Ciccarelli, Amedeo Comella, Riccardo Intonti e Stefano Sabbatini, ha incontrato la formazione tedesca di Bausback. Tagliati fuori dalla possibilita' di accedere alla fase successiva, i due team hanno giocato per la bandiera, con il grado di carica agonistica commisurato alla situazione.

Quattro perdenti

Board 1. Dich. Nord. Tutti in prima.

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

Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud
<i>Intonti</i>		<i>Albamonte</i>	
2♠	Passo	1♦	Passo
	Passo	4♥	Fine

Il 2♠ di Intonti mostra la 5/4 picche/cuori in una mano limitata, 9/11. Albamonte ha concluso a manche e Sud ha attaccato Re di fiori. Scoccante, non c'e' che dire. Asso e Re sul vuoto e quattro perdenti evidenti, immanenti, dolenti. Sud ha proseguito Dama di fiori e fiori per il 9 del compagno ed il taglio di Albamonte. C'e' poco da fare, Asso di quadri scartando il 10 di fiori del morto (per non prendere una pro-



Bobby Levin, USA

mozione supplementare) e Fante di cuori. Sud e' stato basso e Nord e' entrato con la Dama. Tempo. Nord si e' fermato a pensare. Questi intervalli meditativi possono essere salutari o disastrosi. Nord e' rientrato nella seconda fattispecie intavolando l'Asso di fiori. Albamonte, che si era metaforicamente rannicchiato alla vista del morto, e' cresciuto di mezzo metro, intravedendo una lucina alla fine del vicolo. Via la picche di mano e taglio al morto. Picche al Re, Re di quadri e quadri taglio, Asso di picche e picche taglio (Nord non ha difesa) e gli ultimi due tagli in croce con le maggiori. 4♥ mi. Dall'altra parte un down.

Mano (quasi) pari

Board 2. Dich. Est. N/S in zona.

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

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

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

Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud
<i>Intonti</i>		<i>Albamonte</i>	
1♠	2♥	1♣	Passo
4♣	Passo	5♣	3♥
Passo	Contro	Fine	Passo

Intonti, in risposta, ha anticipato il nobile e poi ha proposto al compagno di giocare la manche nel minore. Proposta accettata da Est ma non da Nord, che ha votato rosso. Sud, reputando il contro del compagno indicazione d'attacco, ha intavolato il 9 di picche (non che cambi), per l'Asso di Nord, non così piu' sicuro, che e' tornato nel colore. Il prese, ma poco guadagno per le 5♥x - 2 dell'altra sala.

Slam?

Board 4. Dich. Ovest. Tutti in zona.

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

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

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

Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud
<i>Intonti</i>		<i>Albamonte</i>	
1♦	Passo	1♥	1♠
2♠	Passo	3SA	Passo
4♣	Contro	4♥	Fine

Ah, questa e' bella, questa e' proprio bella. In rotta verso lo slam, la coppia italiana e' stata fermata dal contro d'attacco di Nord sul 4♣ che, manifestando la posizione delle fiori, ha frenato le ambizioni orizzontali. Sembra che per fare 12 prese ci voglia l'impasse a quadri. A carte viste l'analista ha detto no. E' divertente. Attacco Fante di fiori. Asso di fiori (bella giocata...), tre colpi a cuori, Re di quadri, quadri per l'Asso e quadri...scartando una picche oppure una fiori. Siamo qui:

♠ —		♠ K Q 10 9
♥ 9		♥ 8
♦ J 8		♦ —
♣ Q 5 2		♣ 8

♠ J 6 3		♠ K Q 10 9
♥ —		♥ 8
♦ —		♦ —
♣ K 10 9		♣ 8

♠ A 8 7 5 4 2		♠ K Q 10 9
♥ —		♥ 8
♦ —		♦ —
♣ —		♣ 8

Sud e' in presa: che bella partita! Se trovate uno che ha giocato così, fatecelo sapere. Fa sempre piacere conoscere un impressionista.

Board 5. Dich. Nord. N/S in zona.

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

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

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

Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud
<i>Intonti</i>		<i>Albamonte</i>	
Passo	1♦	Passo	1♠
Fine	2♠	Passo	3SA

Contro 3SA Intonti ha attaccato dalla lunga, cuori. In presa con l'Asso della mano sul 9 di Est, Sud ha anticipato il colpo in bianco a picche. Albamonte ha preso e ha virato a fiori (Re, Asso) e cuori. Re di cuori, Fante di quadri (in presa), quadri Asso e fiori. Un down. Nell'altra sala Sabbatini, in Sud, ha mantenuto il contratto di 4♠ (stesso attacco) evitando il secondo colpo d'atout che avrebbe comportato la caduta dell'impegno.

No Salvation

by Brent Manley

Going into the final set against the French team Bridge+ in the Rosenblum round of 64, the powerful George Jacobs squad was down only 4 IMPs. With 14 boards to go and Zia Mahmood, Michael Rosenberg, Adam Zmudzinski and Cezary Balicki playing, the Jacobs team seemed well placed to overcome that small deficit and move into the round of 32.

It didn't work out that way, but the issue was not settled until the final board of the match.

The first swing went to Jacobs.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ A Q 5 3 2 ♥ 9 2 ♦ 9 7 5 2 ♣ 7 3	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <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 6 ♥ A K Q 8 6 ♦ K Q J 8 ♣ 8 6	♠ 10 9 ♥ 4 3 ♦ 3 ♣ A K Q J 10 9 5 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Queran	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
Pass	4♣	4♥	3NT All Pass

Zmudzinski's 3NT opener showed a long, sold minor suit. When Bogdan Marina bid 4♥ over Balicki's 4♣, the vulnerability deterred the Poles from taking further action. The result was plus 450. At the other table:



Gilles Queran, France

West	North	East	South
Zia	Beauvillain	Rosenberg	Jenneteau
Pass	5♣	Dble	3NT All Pass

After Yves Jenneteau started the bidding the same way, Edouard Beauvillain took a more aggressive stance and paid a 2-IMP price when Rosenberg doubled and the result was minus 500. Bridge+ struck right back on the next deal, however.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ K J 9 4 ♥ A J 8 6 ♦ 10 7 2 ♣ J 7	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <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 10 8 6 ♥ Q ♦ A 9 4 ♣ Q 10 9 8 2	♠ 2 ♥ 10 9 5 4 2 ♦ K Q 8 6 5 3 ♣ A ♠ A 7 5 3 ♥ K 7 3 ♦ J ♣ K 6 5 4 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Zia	Beauvillain	Rosenberg	Jenneteau
Pass Dble Pass Pass	Pass 1♦ Dble 3♦	Pass 2♠ Pass All Pass	1♣ Pass 3♣

Rosenberg started with the ♥Q, which went to the king and ace. The ♣J was taken by North with the ace, and a low diamond was played to dummy's jack. The defenders eventually came to one diamond and three heart tricks, and Beauvillain was plus 110.

At the other table, the Poles got too high.

West	North	East	South
Queran	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
Pass Pass All Pass	2♥ 4♦	Pass Pass	2NT 4♥

Balicki's 2♥ showed a hand of limited strength with hearts and a minor. Over the 2NT inquiry, the 4♦ rebid showed five hearts and six diamonds. The contract was not without chances but was doomed by the 4-1 trump split.

Marina led the ♣10, taken in the North hand. Balicki played a diamond immediately, taken by Queran with the ace for a spade switch. Balicki went up with the ace and ruffed a spade to hand. Now he cashed his two high diamonds, discarding spades from dummy, and played the ♥4 from hand, covering the queen with the king.

Queran won the ♠A, cashed the ♥J and gave Balicki a ruff-sluff with a spade continuation. No matter which hand Balicki ruffed in, the contract was dead. Minus 50 cost Jacobs 4 IMPs.

Balicki and Zmudzinski defended well on the next deal, but they still lost 2 IMPs.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A K Q 7 ♥ K J 8 6 5 ♦ A 2 ♣ Q 7	<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 9 8 ♥ 10 4 2 ♦ 10 9 8 6 ♣ 9 6 5
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ 10 3 2 ♥ A 7 ♦ Q J 5 4 3 ♣ 8 3 2											

West	North	East	South
Queran	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
	1♣	Pass	INT
Dble	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

Balicki started with three rounds of clubs. Queran ruffed, played a spade to dummy's jack and a heart to his jack. Balicki won the ♥Q and exited with the ♦K. Queran won the ace and played a heart to dummy's 10 and South's ace. Now the ♦J and a third diamond promoted the ♥9 in Balicki's hand for the setting trick. It was still a loss, however, because at the other table East/West never got into the auction: North opened INT and was raised to 2NT, the final contract. On the lead of the ♦10, declarer had eight tricks for plus 120.

Jacobs struck for 10 IMPs on the following deal:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A Q 9 ♥ J 4 ♦ K Q J 9 7 2 ♣ J 6	<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		♠ K 6 4 3 ♥ A K 5 ♦ 6 4 ♣ 10 5 3 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ J 8 5 ♥ 10 9 7 6 ♦ A 3 ♣ A Q 7 4											

West	North	East	South
Queran	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2♥	2NT	All Pass

Zmudzinski started with a low heart — jack, queen ace. Marina played a diamond to the king, then the ♦Q to South's ace.

Zmudzinski cashed the ♣A and ♣Q, then led a club to Balicki's king. That was it for the defense. Even if Zmudzinski had played a low club after the ace, the suit was blocked, so the defenders could never take more than three tricks in the suit unless South had another entry. That was plus 150 to Bridge+.

At the other table, Zia had a different view of the West hand.

West	North	East	South
Zia	Beauvillain	Rosenberg	Jeanneteau
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led a low heart and Zia quickly wrapped up 10 tricks for plus 630. Jacobs had taken the lead, 100-99. Bridge+ regained the lead on the next deal.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ A K Q 7 5 ♥ 6 ♦ A 10 8 5 2 ♣ 8 7	<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 9 8 3 2 ♥ A 9 ♦ K Q J 7 ♣ K 5
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ 4 ♥ Q J 8 7 3 2 ♦ 9 3 ♣ A 10 9 2		♠ 10 6 ♥ K 10 5 4 ♦ 6 4 ♣ Q J 6 4 3									

West	North	East	South
Queran	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			



Zia Mahmood, USA

Balicki reasoned that his partner was short in spades, where the North hand had almost no strength, so his other cards were more likely to be working. The result was a poor contract. Queran started with his singleton heart, ducked in dummy and also by Marina. This was necessary to defeat the hand. The $\diamond K$ was next, ducked, and the $\diamond Q$ was taken by the ace. Queran cashed the $\spadesuit A$ and tried the king, ruffed by declarer. A club went to the king, but when Zmudzinski tried to cash the $\diamond J$, Marina ruffed. Zmudzinski overruffed, cashed the $\clubsuit A$ and ruffed a club, but nine tricks was his limit. That was minus 100.

West	North	East	South
Zia	Beauvillain	Rosenberg	Jeanneteau
Pass	1 \spadesuit	Pass	INT
All Pass	2 \diamond	Pass	2 \heartsuit

Zia also led a trump, but Rosenberg won the king when declarer ducked in dummy, playing another trump at trick two. Declarer eventually emerged with nine tricks for plus 140 and 6 IMPs to Bridge+, now ahead 105-100. Bridge+ gained 3 more IMPs on the next deal.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	\spadesuit A K 8		\spadesuit 10 9 7
	\heartsuit 10 8 6 5 2		\heartsuit K 3
	\diamond A K 10 8		\diamond Q 7 6 4
	\clubsuit K		\clubsuit Q 10 7 4
\spadesuit 6 3			
\heartsuit A Q J 9 4			
\diamond J			
\clubsuit A 9 8 5 3			
	\spadesuit Q J 5 4 2		
	\heartsuit 7		
	\diamond 9 5 3 2		
	\clubsuit J 6 2		
West	North	East	South
Queran	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
1 \heartsuit	All Pass		



Yves Jeanneteau, France

There were six tricks — no more — in a heart contract and Marina's pass eliminated any chance that East-West would find their nine-card club fit unless Zmudzinski balanced. He did not, so Queran went one down for minus 100.

West	North	East	South
Zia	Beauvillain	Rosenberg	Jeanneteau
1 \heartsuit	Pass	INT	Pass
2 \clubsuit	Pass	2 \heartsuit	All Pass

Whereas Marina knew that his partner's hand was limited (they play the Polish club system), Rosenberg could not pass with 8 high-card points — game could be missed. One level higher in the same strain meant minus 200 for Zia. The Bridge+ lead had grown to 108-100. Jacobs went back in front on board 24.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

	\spadesuit K Q 8		\spadesuit J 4 3 2
	\heartsuit J 9		\heartsuit A Q 10 7 3
	\diamond 4		\diamond 8
	\clubsuit A Q J 9 8 5 3		\clubsuit 7 6 2
\spadesuit 9 7 5			
\heartsuit 8 6 2			
\diamond Q J 10 7 3			
\clubsuit K 4			
	\spadesuit A 10 6		
	\heartsuit K 5 4		
	\diamond A K 9 6 5 2		
	\clubsuit 10		
West	North	East	South
Queran	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
Pass	2 \clubsuit	Pass	2 \diamond
Pass	2 \spadesuit	Pass	2NT
Pass	3 \clubsuit	Pass	3 \diamond
Pass	3 \spadesuit	Pass	3NT
Pass	4 \clubsuit	Pass	4 \diamond
Pass	4 \spadesuit	Pass	5 \clubsuit
All Pass			

Over the natural, limited 2 \clubsuit opener, 2 \diamond asked for more information: 2 \spadesuit showed a hand with no four-card major and with shortness; 2NT asked, 3 \clubsuit showed six clubs and four diamonds or shortness in diamonds; 3 \spadesuit showed a singleton or void in diamonds with a maximum. Zmudzinski's bidding showed a very good hand, so Balicki made one more stab at slam over 3NT. With the $\clubsuit K$ doubleton onside, 12 tricks were easy. The same situation made 3NT a makeable contract, but it didn't happen.

West	North	East	South
Zia	Beauvillain	Rosenberg	Jeanneteau
Pass	1 \clubsuit	1 \heartsuit	2 \diamond
Pass	3 \clubsuit	Pass	3 \heartsuit
Pass	3 \spadesuit	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Zia led a low heart, which went to the jack, queen and king. Jeanneteau played two rounds of spades, ending in hand, and then the $\clubsuit 10$. Zia played low and, after long thought, declar-

er inexplicably went up with the ace. The result was one down and 10 IMPs to Jacobs, now ahead 110-108.

Over the next three boards, each side gained 3 IMPs, and the score stood at 113-111 in favor of Jacobs with one deal to play. Board 28 was a disaster for Jacobs.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ A 9 8 6 3 ♥ Q 5 4 ♦ 8 7 2 ♣ K 7</p>	<p>♠ K Q J 7 ♥ J 2 ♦ Q J 3 ♣ Q J 9 3</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> N </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> W E </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; width: 100%;"> S </div> </div>	<p>♠ 10 2 ♥ A K 10 7 3 ♦ 10 9 ♣ 10 8 5 2</p>	<p>♠ 5 4 ♥ 9 8 6 ♦ A K 6 5 4 ♣ A 6 4</p>
--	--	--	--

West	North	East	South
Zia	Beauvillain	Rosenberg	Jeanneteau
Pass	1♣	1♥	2♦
2♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Redbl	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

It was a routine contract, and Jeanneteau had no difficulty taking nine tricks for plus 110.

West	North	East	South
Queran	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
Pass	1♣	1♥	1♠
2♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Balicki explained Zmudzinski's 1♠ bid as a transfer to INT, usually without a stopper in hearts, or showing long clubs. Balicki had nothing to say over 2♥, but he showed his four spades when Zmudzinski doubled. Asked the meaning of 3♦, Balicki explained to his screenmate that Zmudzinski was showing four diamonds and five or more clubs.

When dummy came down, Balicki could see he was in a bad contract. With three top losers in the majors and the certainty that he was going to be tapped in hearts (he was), there was no lie of the cards that would permit him to take 10 tricks legitimately (even with 3-3 clubs, it would take a serious defensive error for Balicki to escape with no losers in trumps).

Marina started with the top two hearts and continued with a third round. Balicki ruffed and played the ♣J to Queran's king. Queran cashed the ♠A and continued with a spade. Balicki played another two rounds of trumps, but he took only two more tricks from that point. He got back to hand with the ♦Q, but when he tried to cash a high spade, Marina ruffed and cashed two more heart tricks, conceding a diamond to dummy's ace at trick 13. Four down and plus 400 to Bridge+.

That was 11 IMPs to Bridge+, winners by the score of 122-113.

Type L for Loser

by Barry Rigal

The Swiss Plate was an event held for those who had failed to make it through to the round of 64. A suggestion that the masterpoint awards be negative (you keep playing until you win a match, with negative awards being doubled for each successive loss) was resoundingly defeated.

This board threw up problems for the people who use obvious shift as well as those who use a more standard set of signals.

If you want to test yourself, you hold the South cards, and cover up the East and North cards - West is dummy.

Board 1. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ 7 ♥ Q 10 7 6 3 ♦ A 8 5 ♣ Q J 9 6</p>	<p>♠ Q 9 8 4 3 ♥ 9 8 ♦ Q 10 3 ♣ 8 7 4</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> N </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> W E </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; width: 100%;"> S </div> </div>	<p>♠ K J 5 ♥ A K 5 4 2 ♦ 7 4 2 ♣ 5 3</p>	<p>♠ A 10 6 2 ♥ J ♦ K J 9 6 ♣ A K 10 2</p>
---	---	--	--

West	North	East	South
Rdbl	Pass	1♥	Dble
4♥	1♠	Pass	2♣
	All Pass		

At our table South, a many-time world champion led a top club, and could not decide whether to play a spade or a diamond, so he compromised by shifting to a trump instead. That led to an easy 420.

In the other room (where North had never bid spades) our teammates led a top club, and North contributed the ♣7 in tempo - the partnership agreement being that the ♣4 would be encouragement and the ♣8 would request a shift to a spade. Now South had a real problem. He solved it by playing a diamond and duly defeated the contract. Another option on defence might have been to cash the ♠A (particularly on an auction where partner has shown some signs of life in spades during the auction - making the chance declarer has the ♠K Q a little smaller). Now since dummy has only one spade, attitude on the ♠A is irrelevant - this should be a suit preference position. If partner has the doubleton club he plays low, if the ♦Q he follows high.

Take home a Souvenir of the World Bridge Championships in Verona

WBF bar-coded cards are for sale at the Hospitality Desk. The cost is 1 Euro per pack, and they are sold in sets of 10 packs.

Times Past

by Mark Horton

When I first started attending World Championships (in Yokohama) the Press Room was a hive of activity and the journalists supplied a constant stream of material to the Editors of the Daily Bulletin.

As the years have flown by it seems that the number of journalists has decreased — at least the number of contributions has fallen. It cannot be the lack of interesting deals, as these two boards from the last session the Rosenblum ably demonstrate.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ — ♥ A K Q 9 ♦ A J 8 5 4 ♣ A Q 5 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		♠ K Q 10 9 ♥ 8 7 3 2 ♦ K 6 ♣ 8 4 3
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A 8 7 5 4 2 ♥ 10 6 4 ♦ Q 10 7 ♣ J										

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
4♠	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

Imagine that you reach Six Hearts from the East seat, South having overcalled One Spade? How realistic is it for you to make the contract?

Suppose South leads the jack of clubs?

Fearing a singleton you rise with the ace and test the trumps. When they break you draw a third round and play a diamond to the king.

If you now finesse in diamonds you can cash four more tricks in that suit, discarding two clubs and a spade from dummy. Then you ruff a club and advance the king of spades. If South covers you can duck, endplaying South.

If North fails to follow to the ace of diamonds you simply discard a club and once again South is endplayed.

The main point is that you need South to have the queen of diamonds — if North has it then you cannot get home if South has led a singleton club.

It may look as if things are more complicated if South leads a trump, but you draw trumps and play on diamonds as before. Eventually you will reach this ending:



♠ J 6 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ K 10 9	<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		♠ K Q 10 ♥ 8 ♦ — ♣ 8
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ — ♥ 9 ♦ — ♣ A Q 5 2	♠ A 8 7 5 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ J										

Perhaps the most elegant way to make the contract is to exit with a low club, endplaying whoever wins it. (This also caters for the cases where South started with the king of clubs.)

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ J 6 ♥ J 8 ♦ A K J 7 5 ♣ Q 9 7 6	<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		♠ 10 8 4 3 ♥ 7 5 4 2 ♦ 10 9 3 ♣ J 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ 7 5 ♥ A K Q 10 3 ♦ 4 ♣ A 8 5 3 2										

West	North	East	South
	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

If West leads a top diamond the play is relatively straightforward provided West switches to a major suit. Say he plays the jack of spades. Declarer wins in dummy, and draws trumps, discarding diamonds from dummy. He then plays on spades, ruffing the fourth round with his last trump. He crosses to the king of clubs and plays the master spade, squeezing West in the minors.

However, if West is really on the ball he might find a club switch at trick two, and that destroys declarer's communications. How reasonable is it to find that play?

Well, you know declarer has five hearts, the ace of clubs and a singleton diamond.

If dummy's spades are going to provide five tricks then that puts declarer up to twelve, so you must assume the spades are not going to run. Once you have got that far I think you have a good chance of realising that your best chance is to switch to a club.

If West happened to find the unlikely lead of a trump declarer would win in hand and be faced by a choice of plays—either playing a diamond, hoping spades break or some ending will develop, or playing for clubs 3-3.

As the cards lie you are best to go for the former, as it requires West to find the club switch.

Championship Diary

As usual we are now running behind as we get more and more material for publication.

One player offered a deal where his opponents bid poor slam which could have been defeated by a particular lead - not found. However, the player recovered when declarer played a singleton towards a KJ10 combination by smoothly ducking his ace, declarer going wrong. Clearly he did not know of the Amsbury rule which states 'when faced by a guess, always play the card that if it wins will lead to the most tricks.' If the king of clubs had won declarer would have had a chance for all thirteen tricks, while playing the jack could only produce twelve at best.

David Kendrick dropped in with a bidding problem: ♠KJ3 ♥Q10 ♦A53 ♣107653

Partner opens 1♦, next player overcalls 1♥. Rejecting the obvious double David bid INT, raised to game by partner who's hand included ♥J7. North led a heart, and David suggested we should be sympathetic towards South, who ducked from ♥AK865.

As you will readily understand our sympathies lie with David's partner who will be sitting opposite him for the next two weeks!

Dining at our local restaurant Harvey Fox remarked 'There are so many bridge players in here perhaps I should stand up and tell them to move for the next round.'

During the last round of the Mixed Pairs final Matthew Granovetter started praying. It was entirely coincidental that his partner was declarer.

Bridge Magazine uses the services of no less than five proofreaders. This month the one who checks the final proofs from the printer is on holiday, so the owner, Malcolm Pein, stepped in. The first page he looked at contained a hand with 14 cards and he found a second one a few pages further on. We have offered him a job on the Bulletin.

Missed Strip

by Matthew Granovetter

Here's a great play hand from the Mixed Pairs. So far I have not met anyone here in Verona who made this 4♥ contract, myself included.

Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 10 7 3 ♥ 9 2 ♦ 4 3 2 ♣ Q J 10 9 8	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; 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 9 5 ♥ A 7 6 5 ♦ Q J ♣ A 6 5 4	♠ J 8 6 4 ♥ K Q 10 ♦ A 10 9 6 5 ♣ 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ K Q 2 ♥ J 8 4 3 ♦ K 8 7 ♣ K 7 2												

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	1♦	Dble
Pass	4♥	Pass	2♥
		All Pass	

Opening led: ♣Q.

If you play West for length in clubs, you should play East for three trumps to the K-Q. Now you have a strip and endplay.

Win the club in dummy and lead the ♦Q followed by the ♦J if East holds up his ace. Win the diamond or spade return and cash the ♥A to see if the king or queen drops on your right. It doesn't. So now come to your hand in spades, cash the ♦K and continue with the spades.

Then lead a club toward your king, in case East holds two of them. He can't ruff in productively if you lead the suit from dummy. Finally, lead a trump.

East must give you a ruff sluff.

At one table, declarer made five! Brad Moss was East and when declarer stripped the hand and led to the ♥A, Brad desperately played the queen under the ace and then followed with the 10 on the second round, hoping his partner held the doubleton jack. Declarer won the jack and endplayed Brad for the overtrick! Brad was not upset — he had simply converted a 10% score to a complete zero.

Bridge Today Digest Daily is edited by Pamela and Matthew Granovetter.

Important Pairs Registration Information

Players who are no longer in the Rosenblum or McConnell should register for the Open and Women's pairs semifinals before noon today.

Three Kings

by Mark Horton

When a deal is played so many times, as happens in every major championship, some of the best stories only come to the surface after a while. Here are three where a king played some part in the proceedings:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ K 7 4 ♥ J 7 6 4 ♦ A 9 8 6 3 ♣ 5	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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 9 ♥ A K Q 10 9 5 3 ♦ 7 ♣ 10 6 3
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ Q 10 8 6 ♥ 8 2 ♦ Q 4 ♣ K Q J 9 8										
	♠ A 5 3 2 ♥ — ♦ K J 10 5 2 ♣ A 7 4 2										

West	North <i>Kovachev</i>	East	South <i>Isporski</i>
Pass 5♥	1♠ Dble	3♥ All Pass	1♦ 4♥

Five Hearts doubled was a popular contract and appears to be an easy make. However, appearances can be deceptive for when South led the two of spades you can't really blame declarer for playing low from dummy.

That was king number one.

There was more opening lead flair on display on this already heavily discussed deal:



Valio Kovachev, Bulgaria

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North <i>Isporski</i>	East	South <i>Kovachev</i>
Pass Pass All Pass	1♠ 4♣ 4♠	2♥ Pass Pass	3♦ 4♥ 6♣

East led the jack of diamonds and declarer naturally rejected the finesse, putting up the ace and returning a diamond. East won and switched to the king of hearts, driving out one of dummy's entries. Declarer can still get home, but perhaps unnerved by East's opening salvo, he refused the spade finesse, mistimed the play and went down.

That was king number 2.

My final offering comes from the last match of the Swiss Plate.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North <i>Isporski</i>	East	South <i>Kovachev</i>
3♦ Pass	Pass 4♥	3NT Dble	4♦! All Pass

With 3NT doomed Four Hearts was not exactly a bright spot to be in, but to use the old adage, 'The play's the thing.'

East cashed the ace of diamonds and seeing partner's two

continued with the ace of clubs and a club. West took the king and played a third club. Declarer won, unblocked the ace of spades and advanced the queen of hearts. When West covered (a fatal error — and king number 3) declarer won with dummy's ace, ruffed a spade and played a heart, covering East's five with the six. He cashed the king of spades, ruffed a spade and played the queen of clubs. East, down to ♥107 and ♦5 was helpless.



Vladi Isporski, Bulgaria

2006 WOMEN'S BRIDGE FESTIVAL

Under the Auspices of Anna Maria Torlontano
Chairman of the EBL and WBF Women's Committees

RICCIONE

ADRIATIC COAST -EMILIA ROMAGNA REGION-
ITALY

26th September — 1st October 2006

The **Women's Bridge Festival** is dedicated to women bridge players of any level and rank. We offer you five unforgettable days in one of the most attractive place in Italy: Riccione. This event is transnational, which means that the lady players from different countries can play together, and is extended to the women players from outside Europe. Riccione is known as the "Green Pearl" of the Adriatic Coast, for its exclusive atmosphere, elegance and charm, with its typical beach awnings, magnificent gardens and stately villas. The town centre is one of the most famous place in Italy, frequented by artists and VIPs. Shopping and wandering through the fashionable streets, visiting the magnificent surrounding hills, eating in the typical restaurants, together with our favourite sport, bridge, will make your stay unforgettable! There will be individual and pairs tournaments, and friendly bridge in the evenings, as well as a very attractive and interesting programme of tourism.

You will find more information about this delightful event on the WBF web site at www.worldbridge.org or at www.mbwebdesign.nl/riccione.htm or by contacting Anna Gudge (anna@ecats.co.uk)

Defend like an Expert

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 10 9 3 2 ♥ A ♦ K 9 4 2 ♣ K 5 4 2	♠ 6 5 ♥ K J 9 5 4 3 2 ♦ 10 8 5 ♣ 9	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ Q J 8 7 4 ♥ 8 7 ♦ Q J ♣ A 10 7 6 ♠ A K ♥ Q 10 6 ♦ A 7 6 3 ♣ Q J 8 3
N						
W E						
S						

Everybody knows that a true expert would rather play for a squeeze than take a finesse; but it is a less well-known fact that the REAL expert would always lead some suit other than his own - fourth highest from your longest and strongest is so vieux jeu.

That might explain why at both tables in the match between Hecht-Johansen and Grenthe West elected to lead a spade rather than a heart against 3NT.

Where HC Nielsen was on lead the spade lead went round to declarer's king as his partner encouraged. Now a club to the king scored the trick and declarer played three rounds of diamonds, letting Nielsen back on lead. When East, Lars Blakset, discarded a heart, Nielsen played back a second spade, and declarer had only eight tricks when much to his surprise the club ace turned up in Blakset's hand.

What would have happened had the ♣A not been ducked? Well in the other room they discovered that. After East won his ♣A and shifted to a heart, declarer played three rounds of diamonds, keeping East off play, and had his contract comfortably enough.

Of course the palookas would examine the deal and point out that a boring heart lead takes the game down three... But where would be the fun in that?

Championship History

The World Bridge Championships in Verona can trace its history to 1962 in Cannes, France, where 78 pairs played in the World Pairs Championship (won by Pierre Jais and Roger Trezel).

The Women's Pairs was won by Fritzi Gordon and Rixi Markus.

By way of contrast, the 2006 Open Pairs drew 328 total entries.

The only other event in Cannes that first year was a Mixed Teams, won by Gordon, Markus, Nico Gardener and Boris Shapiro.

Round of 32

Rosenblum Cup

Set One

by Brian Senior

The Round of 32 in the Rosenblum featured a match between Brazil, under the name of Chagas, and Iceland. CHAGAS would start as favourites, but the Icemen are tough competitors and well capable of springing a surprise.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Branco	Thorvaldsson	Brenner	Magnusson
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
5♦	3♠	Dble	4♠
All Pass	Pass	Pass	Dble

We do not have the auction from the Open Room, but Miguel VillasBoas played 6♠ doubled as South for Brazil and was two down for -300. In the Closed Room, Magnus Magnusson doubled 5♦, hoping perhaps for a non-spade lead, as he had good reason to expect two heart tricks if that suit was led. Alas, Matthias Thorvaldsson led a spade and Magnusson could only take his two ace; +550 and 6 IMPs to CHAGAS.



Marcelo Branco, Brazil

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A Q J 10 7 ♥ A K Q 10 2 ♦ A 9 3 ♣ —	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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 ♥ 9 7 3 ♦ K Q J 6 ♣ J 8 6 3 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ 8 4 3 ♥ J 8 6 ♦ 8 7 4 2 ♣ K Q 5										
	♠ K 9 6 2 ♥ 5 4 ♦ 10 5 ♣ A 10 9 7 4										

West	North	East	South
Einarsson	Chagas	Haraldsson	VillasBoas
2♣	Pass	Pass	Pass
2♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
4♥	All Pass	3NT	Pass

West	North	East	South
Branco	Thorvaldsson	Brenner	Magnusson
1♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	INT	Pass
		4♥	All Pass

Neither the 1♠ nor the 2♣ opening could get close to the heart slam, which is good only because the bulk of East's strength is in the right minor. Marcelo Branco made the obvious twelve tricks for +480. VillasBoas saved an overtrick at the other table with a pretty ducking play.

Bjarni Einarsson ruffed the club lead and cashed two top hearts then played the ace of spades followed by the queen, discarding from dummy. Most defenders would have grabbed their king of spades and that would have been the end of the hand, but VillasBoas ducked. Einarsson continued by running the ♠J and this time VillasBoas won and returned a spade for Gabriel Chagas to ruff; +450 but 1 IMP to CHAGAS.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Einarsson	Chagas	Haraldsson	VillasBoas
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Branco	Thorvaldsson	Brenner	Magnusson
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Sigurbjorn Haraldsson checked back over the INT rebid then settled for a partscore when he found that partner was minimum with only two spades. Perfectly sensible and you would be quite happy to stop at the two level on the combined hands. VillasBoas led the ten of hearts. Haraldsson won and played three more rounds of hearts, pitching two clubs from hand. VillasBoas switched to a low club to Chagas's jack and he switched to a low spade to the king. VillasBoas returned a spade, ducked by Chagas, and declarer overtook in hand to cash the ace of spades so had a spade and a diamond to lose; +110.

Diego Brenner drove to game, showing his fifth spade then raising to 3NT to give Branco a choice of contracts. It would appear that 3NT has no chance as the cards lie but Thorvaldsson found the imaginative lead of the jack of clubs and Magnusson let this run to declarer's queen. Branco ran the nine of spades to Magnusson's king and he cashed out the clubs then played back a spade to dummy's jack. When Branco now cashed the ace of spades, Magnusson was squeezed in the red suits to give the ninth trick; a tremendous +600 for Branco and 10 IMPs to CHAGAS.



Gabriel Chagas, Brazil

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Einarsson	Chagas	Haraldsson	VillasBoas
	2♥	Pass	3♣
3♠	4♣	4♠	5♣
Dble	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Branco	Thorvaldsson	Brenner	Magnusson
	2♥	Pass	3♣
3♠	4♦	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

With 4♠ having been bid to make and West holding a lot of high cards, it was natural that 5♣ should be doubled at both tables. However, there were only two losers; flat at +750.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Einarsson	Chagas	Haraldsson	VillasBoas
		1♣	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Branco	Thorvaldsson	Brenner	Magnusson
		1♣	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

VillasBoas repeated the hearts, presumably because to bid 2♦ would have been more encouraging, so played in 2♥. Einarsson led a spade to the king and ace and Haraldsson switched to the queen of trumps. VillasBoas won in dummy and took a club pitch on the ♠Q then played two rounds of hearts. Einarsson won and switched to the eight of diamonds to the jack and ace and back came a diamond. It appears that the contract should be down two from this point but VillasBoas is credited with seven tricks so that is what we shall give him; —50

Magnusson showed his second suit and, facing what rated to be only a five-card heart suit, Thorvaldsson repeated his spades rather than give preference. To defeat 2♠, the defence needs to find its club ruff, but Brenner started by underleading the ace of diamonds. Thorvaldsson won the jack and played a diamond back to Brenner's ace. Now he switched to the queen of hearts. Thorvaldsson won in hand, crossed to the king of hearts and played the diamond winners, throwing two clubs from hand. Brenner could ruff the last diamond but there were just two trump tricks and one club to come; +110 and 4 IMPs to ICELAND.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ K 9 8 4 ♥ Q 2 ♦ 6 3 2 ♣ K 7 6 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		♠ — ♥ A K 9 8 7 ♦ A Q J 10 8 5 ♣ A 8	♠ Q J 7 2 ♥ J 10 6 5 ♦ 9 ♣ 10 9 4 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ A 10 6 5 3 ♥ 4 3 ♦ K 7 4 ♣ Q J 5												

West <i>Einarsson</i>	North <i>Chagas</i>	East <i>Haraldsson</i>	South <i>VillasBoas</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
INT	Pass	2♥	1♠
3♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♦	Dble
All Pass			

West <i>Branco</i>	North <i>Thorvaldsson</i>	East <i>Brenner</i>	South <i>Magnusson</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
INT	2♠	3♥	1♠
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	6♦	All Pass

Six Diamonds is an excellent contract and both pairs did well to get there. Excellent, perhaps, but it appears to be doomed to failure, as South's ♦7 prevents declarer from ruffing a heart in dummy. But Magnusson led a trump and now it was easy. Brenner could win the ten, cross to the ♥Q and lead

a diamond up. When Thorvaldsson showed out, Brenner won the ace and played on hearts, ruffing the fourth round in dummy; +1370.

Having doubled, VillasBoas then found a different way to let the slam home. He tried to cash the ace of spades and that was ruffed. Haraldsson played ace then queen of diamonds to the king and VillasBoas played a second spade. Declarer won the king, pitching a heart from hand, ruffed a spade then cashed the remaining trumps. The last trump squeezed North out of his club guard, and now the top hearts squeezed South in the black suits; +1540 and 5 IMPs to ICELAND.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ K 10 9 6 3 ♥ K J 2 ♦ A Q 10 ♣ J 5	<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 ♥ 10 7 6 ♦ 9 7 5 3 ♣ Q 10 7 6 3	♠ J 8 7 5 4 2 ♥ Q 8 4 ♦ — ♣ K 9 4 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ Q ♥ A 9 5 3 ♦ K J 8 6 4 2 ♣ A 8												

West <i>Einarsson</i>	North <i>Chagas</i>	East <i>Haraldsson</i>	South <i>VillasBoas</i>
All Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠

West <i>Branco</i>	North <i>Thorvaldsson</i>	East <i>Brenner</i>	South <i>Magnusson</i>
1♠	Pass	Pass	1♦
All Pass	Pass	Pass	2♦

Thorvaldsson did not like to open with a weak two bid on such a bad suit and with a hand that was playable in two other denominations so passed. Branco's 1♠ overcall assured that he did not get involved at his next turn so Magnusson was left to play in 2♦. Branco led the jack of clubs, which Magnusson won in hand to play the queen of spades. Brenner won the



Sigurbjorn Haraldsson, Iceland

ace and returned a club to the king. Magnusson ruffed a spade then played the king of diamonds to Branco's ace, leaving him with no good exit card. Branco tried the king of hearts but Magnusson won that played a heart to the queen and ruffed another spade, Brenner ruffing in with the nine so that he had to over-ruff with the jack. Declarer exited with a heart and Branco won the jack then cashed his two diamond winners. Magnusson had a trump and a heart at the end; eight tricks for +90.

Chagas did open 2♠ and VillasBoas tried an imaginative raise to 3♠, hoping for an indiscretion from his opponents. However, that ended the auction. Haraldsson led a club, which Chagas won in dummy to play a low heart towards his queen. Einarsson went in with the king and switched to the king of spades to pin dummy's bare queen. The appearance of the ace was from a rather unexpected and disappointing quarter. Haraldsson returned a club to declarer's king and Chagas played three rounds of hearts, pitching a club when Einarsson ruffed in with the nine. He just had to lose one trump and one club from here; down one for —50 and 4 IMPs to ICELAND.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 9 5 4 ♥ A J 7 2 ♦ 3 ♣ K 7 6 5 4	♠ K J 3 2 ♥ 9 5 ♦ A 10 ♣ J 10 9 8 2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> N </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> W E </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; width: 100%;"> S </div> </div>	♠ Q 8 7 6 ♥ Q 8 6 ♦ J 6 5 4 2 ♣ A
	♠ A 10 ♥ K 10 4 3 ♦ K Q 9 8 7 ♣ Q 3	

West	North	East	South
Einarsson	Chagas	Haraldsson	VillasBoas
Branco	Thorvaldsson	Brenner	Magnusson
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Einarsson led a club to his partner's ace. The heart switch was ducked to the jack and Einarsson returned a low heart to the queen and king. VillasBoas played on clubs, Einarsson ducking twice, the switched his attention to diamonds, cashing two rounds before playing another club, throwing a diamond from hand. Einarsson won the club and led a spade, Haraldsson putting in the queen, so declarer had the rest for +630.

Branco also led a club to the ace but Brenner switched to the ♥Q rather than a low one. That proved to be the killing defence as the heart went to the king and ace, allowing Branco to cash the jack then play a third round to the eight and ten, establishing his seven. Magnusson set up the clubs now but the ♥7 was the setting trick; down one for —100 and 12 IMPs to CHAGAS.

The Brazilians had had the better of the first session, culminating in that nice defence from Brenner, and led by 37-13 after 14 deals.

The case for aBRIDGEd....

By Maureen Hiron

Since the piece on this game appeared in Friday's Bulletin, many of you have asked me for further and better particulars. So here are the answers to those questions.

Why did you create a new card pack?

In order for prospective players to embrace bridge, it is currently necessary, in the main, for them to be introduced to it by existing players and teachers. For this, we must rely on the goodwill of others.

No distribution company would be prepared to use their resources to promote a game that other companies could simply copy, as the standard pack of playing cards is in the public domain.

In order to get aBRIDGEd onto shop shelves, it needed its own unique pack, to which only the licensing company had the rights.

And at the same time, it was necessary to create a pack that is so user-friendly that newcomers are relieved of all brain-strain.

Is it your intention that aBRIDGEd will replace bridge?

No. What I hope is that aBRIDGEd will act as the stepping-stone to bridge. And my efforts, along with that of my licensees, OUT of the BOX Publishing Inc., will be directed towards this.

Will you make money out of this?

Hopefully, yes — and hopefully lots! After all — I am a professional games inventor!

But don't begrudge me this, for two reasons.

First — the more sets of aBRIDGEd that are sold — the more prospective new bridge players there will be.

Second — I intend to share my royalties with the WBF.

Would playing aBRIDGEd be the best way to introduce bridge to my children and grandchildren?

YES!!! And not only children. It is suitable for all age groups. In fact — the ideal gift. (End of commercial)

Where can I buy it?

Only here in Verona for now. The limited number I have here are available at 10 EUROS per set.

WBF Women's Committee

A WBF Women's Committee Meeting was held last Thursday. The members representing the eight WBF Zones presented comprehensive reports on the status of women's bridge in their Zones.

The committee is satisfied with the development of women's bridge, which is progressing well. Many countries report an increase in women players and in the number of women in the field of administration. Several countries are encouraging women to become teachers and TDs.

Others have plans to undertake new events especially for women — for example Zone 6 will host a Women's Festival in Wu Xi, China from 17th - 21st October, following the same lines as the European Festival to be held in Riccione, Italy, from 26th September - 1st October 2006.

We invite women players to contact us via our secretary, Anna Gudge, who you can e-mail at anna@ecats.co.uk, to join our mailing lists for information about forthcoming events; we would also appreciate constructive comments about the format of our World Bridge events.

Anna Maria Torlontano
Chairman, WBF Women's Committee

The Unlucky Experts (and the Lucky Ones)

by Ron Klinger

Imagine a pair bids to game with no opposition bidding, the trumps break evenly but the contract goes eight down. How could that be? Take a look at:

Round 6. Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 6 5 4 ♥ — ♦ K Q 10 6 5 3 2 ♣ Q 10 8	<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 7 ♥ K 7 6 3 2 ♦ A 9 8 7 4 ♣ 9	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ Q 2 ♥ J 10 9 8 5 ♦ J ♣ K J 6 3 2		♠ K J 10 9 8 3 ♥ A Q 4 ♦ — ♣ A 7 5 4										

At one table the bidding was uneventful:

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Lead: ♣3

Declarer, Warren Lazer of Australia, played the ♣Q and continued with the ♦K: ace, ruff. A heart was ruffed in dummy, followed by the ♦Q, discarding a club. West ruffed and a spade to the ace and a spade back would now be best for the defence. Instead, West gave East a club ruff and East played another diamond.

Lazer ruffed with the ♠K, ruffed the ♥Q in dummy and led a spade. With the trumps now 1-1, he had his game for +620.

At the other table:

West	North	East	South
<i>Matthew Mullumphy</i>		<i>Valerie Cummings</i>	
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

North found the expert bid of 4♥, showing spade support and heart shortage. The trouble is that an expert bid is no longer an expert bid if partner does not read it. Thus, North was left to play in the 3-0 fit.

Cummings led the ♣9, ducked to the king. Mullamphy shifted to the ♠2 to the ace and Cummings returned the ♠7. Declarer took the 'marked' finesse and West's ♠Q scored. A club was ruffed by East, who shifted to a trump, ducked to West. After another club ruff, East played the ♦A. South ruffed with the ♥Q. The ♥A was South's only other trick for -800 and 16 IMPs away.

For the MULLAMPHY team, that did not quite make up for the previous board where East-West had a lucky outcome:

Board 19. Dealer South. E-W Vul.

♠ 10 ♥ K 5 4 3 ♦ 10 9 6 5 ♣ 9 6 4 3	<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		♠ Q J 9 7 3 ♥ A Q 10 9 7 ♦ A ♣ A 2	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ A 5 ♥ J 6 ♦ Q 7 2 ♣ K Q J 8 7 5		♠ K 8 6 4 2 ♥ 8 2 ♦ K J 8 4 3 ♣ 10										

At one table Cummings/Mullamphy bid and made game. At the other table:

West	North	East	South
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♥(i)	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦(ii)	Pass
5♠	Pass	5NT	Pass
7♣	All Pass		

- (i) 5+ - 5+ majors, game-force
 - (ii) 0 or 3 key cards for spades
- Lead: ♣4

Declarer drew trumps and ran the ♥J. With both major-suit finesses working, declarer was able to pitch the diamond losers after setting up the fifth heart and the grand slam came home for +17 IMPs. I am unsure about the meaning of some of the East-West bids and I daresay East-West were not sure of them either.

(Apology: In DB No. 7, page 14, the strip squeeze declarer in The Good, the Bad and the Ugly was Kieran Dyke).



Warren Lazer, Australia

President's Dinner



The World Bridge Federation honoured members of the Comitato Mondo Bridge with WBF medals during the President's Dinner Thursday evening. At the top left, WBF President José Damiani and Luca Darbi. Top right is Maria Cristina Motta. At right are Damiani and Enrico Ghinato.



Also honoured with World Bridge Federation medals were Jean Louis Derivery, left, WBF treasurer, and a representative of Renault, Alfonso Mereghetti, one of the sponsors of the Verona tournament.



The Rosenblum Cup Bracket

Round of 64	Round of 32	Round of 16	Quarter Final	Semi Final	Final/Play off
Nickell Texans	Nickell 115/88				
Jokish Romania	Romania 133/105	Nickell 164/80			
Russia Robinson	Russia 160/83	Gartaganis 126/111			
Bessis Gartaganis	Gartaganis 118/100				
Meltzer Altshuler	Meltzer 138/64				
Cornell Izisel	Izisel 127/67	Meltzer 110/94			
Ekeblad Borekovic	Ekeblad 161/102	Ekeblad 128/120			
Gwinner Nadar	Nadar 112/72				
Welland Strul	Welland 132/91.5				
Herbst Canada	Herbst 141/94	Welland 142/104			
Zimmerman Morath	Morath 81/59	Allfrey 172/89			
Allfrey Szilagy	Allfrey 100/70				
Gillis Gordon	Gordon 123/122				
Soulet de Botton	Soulet 138/116	Gordon 115/126			
Jacobs Bridge +	Bridge+ 122/113	Belgium 1 122/74			
Assemi Belgium 1	Belgium 1 146/80				
Lavazza Pont	Lavazza 120/42				
Hecht-Johansen Grenthe	Hecht Johansen 125/122	Hecht Johansen 146/31			
Lynch Agener	Lynch 143/57	Yadlin 122/112			
Yadlin Allana	Yadlin 102/78.5				
China Teltscher	China 126/107				
Akqul Clair	Clair 116/88	China 137/75			
Milner Tananbaum	Milner 128/115	Milner 133/97			
Chang Berg	Berg 137/125				
Chagas 11 diamond	Chagas 173/110				
Iceland Vasilev	Iceland 187/60	Chagas 133/120			
Henner Bareket	Henner 130/100	Henner 123/87			
Tornay Villa Fabriche	Villa Fabriche 101/81				
Orange Cope	Orange 128/77	Mahaffey 115/113			
Mullanphy Mahaffey	Mahaffey 103/87				
Pharmacy Service Popova	T Pharm.Serv.139/120	Schwartz 162/91			
Parioli	Schwartz 124/92				

The McConnell Cup Bracket



THE BRIDGE EVENT OF THE YEAR

TRANSATLANTIC CHALLENGE MATCH - EUROPE v AMERICA FOR THE WARREN BUFFETT CUP

12 of Europe's top bridge players will be competing against a top 12 from North America for the Warren Buffett Cup from the 18th-21st September in Dublin just before Golf's Ryder Cup. This event will be held bi-annually in the week of the Ryder Cup.

Current world champions, the Italians Norberto Bocchi and Giorgio Duboin, will spearhead the formidable European challenge. The Americans will be led by Texan Bob Hamman, undisputed World No 1 for decades, until displaced by the Italians last October.

Head-to-head matches are scheduled, starting with Pairs on Monday, followed by Teams on Tuesday and the competition climaxes with an Individual competition to conclude on Thursday evening. Winners of each match will collect points for their team.

Warren Buffett, considered by most people as the World's most famous Investment Guru, said: "This competition is unique and I am delighted to support it". The winners of the match will receive the "Warren Buffett Cup".

The matches will be shown live at the venue on viewgraph with Eric Kokish heading the commentary. Also Bridge-BaseOnline will be showing most, if not all, of the matches as

they occur. (Log into www.bridgebaseonline.com, which is a free service). Brian Senior will write daily Bulletins with an Internet edition. We are also hoping for TV coverage.

The venue: Contract Bridge Association of Ireland National Headquarters, Templeogue, Dublin 6w.

The Players: Europe:

Sabine Auken-Daniela Von Arnim (Germany): Cezary Balicki—Adam Zmudzinski (Poland): Norberto Bocchi — Giorgio Duboin (Italy): Jason and Justin Hackett (England):

Tom Hanlon- Hugh McGann (Ireland): Geir Helgemo-Tor Helness (Norway).

Non-Playing Captain Paul Hackett (England).

North America:

David Berkowitz-Larry Cohen: Bob Hamman-Paul Soloway: Geoff Hampson- Fred Gitelman: Bobby Levin-Steve Weinstein: Jill Levin-Jill Meyers: Zia Mahmood- Roy Welland.

Non-Playing Captain Donna Compton.

For more information please contact Paul Porteous (Paul@cbai.ie), Donna Compton (cdmra@mindspring.com) or Paul Hackett (paul.h@ukonline.co.uk). The contact phone number is 003531-4929666.

CALLING ALL JOURNALISTS



The IBPA Annual General Meeting will be on MONDAY 19th June at 9-15 am in the room next to the Press Room.



Alert Diogenes

Eli Solheim of Norway, one of the players at the World Bridge Championships in Verona, dropped by the Daily Bulletin office to report a gratifying experience.

On Thursday evening, she took a taxi ride, finding afterwards that she had lost her wallet.

On Friday, she was notified by the hotel staff that her wallet, with all the money still inside, had been returned by the taxi driver, who left without giving his name or seeking a reward.

World Championship Book 2006



The official book of these championships in Verona will be available before the end of the year at a price of US\$34. However, for those present in Verona, the book can be pre-ordered at the very special reduced price of US\$25 or 20 Euros, including surface mail to anywhere in the world (Airmail is extra).

To order and pay for your copy, please see Jan Swaan in the Press Room — go through the door marked Staff and Guests only, one floor down from the main playing area, and the Press Room is through the Bulletin Room. Please, when you fill in the form, write your name and address very clearly in capital letters, as every year I have to guess at several addresses.

The book will be 336 large pages, its usual size, and will include a full results listing and many photographs. There will be coverage of every championship, with the principal analysts being Eric Kokish and Brian Senior. Barry Rigal is taking a year off, but there will be one or two special guest contributors to look forward to.

