Sunday, May 10 - Late Edition

Las Vegas, NV

The Cavendish Invitational

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Levin-Weinstein Win 35th Annual Cavendish Invitational Pairs

As expected, Bobby Levin and Steve Weinstein coasted to victory in the Cavendish Invitational Pairs. Their score of 4783.59 imps was more than double their nearest rivals. This was their fourth win in eleven years, and Weinstein's sixth, having had two with Fred Stewart in the 1990s, and stamps them as the premier Calcutta pair in the country, if not in the world.

Second were Geoff Hampson and Eric Rodwell, last year's winners, who rose from fourth overnight.

After two late score changes, third were Roy Welland and Chris Willenken, who just edged Sam Lev and Jacek Pszczola. Fifth were the Germans Josef Piekarek and Alex Smirnov.



Steve Weinstein & Bobby Levin

Leo Bell & John Jones Win 12th Annual Bridge Production Pairs

The World Bridge Production Pairs was won comfortably by Leo Bell and John Jones. They were 244 imps ahead of Wafik Abdou and Gaylor Kasle, who moved up from fourth in the final session. Leonard Ernst and Fred Hamilton climbed from fifth



Leo Bell & John Jones

Cavendish Invitational Money Winners

1.	4783.59	Robert Levin - Steve Weinstein
2.	2337.00	Geoff Hampson - Eric Rodwell
3.	1946.41	Roy Welland - Chris Willenken
4.	1942.87	Sam Lev - JacekPszczola
5.	1745.54	Josef Piekarek - Alex Smirnov
6.	1656.59	Curtis Cheek - Joe Grue
7.	1640.50	Fred Gitelman - Brad Moss
8.	1490.54	Geir Helgemo - Tor Helness
9.	1187.46	Michel Bessis - Thomas Bessis
10.	911.37	Gunnar Hallberg - Michael Moss

Cavendish Invitational Pairs Overall Awards

Position	Auction Pool	Player Pool
1 st	\$214,228	\$26,460
2 nd	\$137,718	\$17,010
3^{rd}	\$91,812	\$11,340
4 th	\$68,859	\$8,505
5 th	\$61,208	\$7,560
6 th	\$53,557	\$6,615
$7^{ ext{th}}$	\$45,906	\$5,670
8 th	\$38,255	\$4,724
9 th	\$30,604	\$3,780
10 th	\$22,953	\$2,835

Cavendish Invitational Pairs Session Awards

Fro	From Auction Pool to Owners					
			Sessions			
	1 st	2^{nd}	$3^{\rm rd}$	4 th	5 th	
1 st	2,500	4,000	6,500	12,500	20,000	
2 nd		2,500	5,000	9,500	12,000	
3rd			2,500	5,000	8,000	
4 th				2,500	5,000	
5 th					2,500	
Fre	om Player	r's Pool to Pl	ayers			
1 st	1^{st} 5,000					
2 nd					3,000	
3 rd					2,500	

World Bridge Production Money Winners

1.	549.00	Leo Bell - John Jones
2.	305.00	Wafik Abdou - Gaylor Kasle
3.	220.00	Fred Hamilton - Leonard Ernst

2009 WBP Pairs Overall Awards

	<u>AUCTION</u>	PLAYERS
1^{ST}	\$6,944	\$3,674
2^{ND}	\$4,862	\$2,572
3 RD	\$2,084	\$1,104

3rd Session Award \$1,000

3NT

Pass

A Pairs Bouquet Garni

by Phillip Alder

In the final bulletin, we must give pride of place to the runaway winners of the Cavendish Invitational Pairs, Bobby Levin and Steve Weinstein. This was their favorite deal, from the fourth session, which had strong elements of poker, a game at which both Weinstein and Moss excel.

North Board 9 ♠ 10 6 4 Dlr: North ♡ K J 10 6 3 2 Vul: E-W ♦ 3 ♣ K 10 5 West East **♠**83 **♠** A Q J 7 5 2 ♥ A 9 7 4 ♥ 8 5 ♦ A 2 ♦ Q 10 5 ♣ A 8 7 6 2 ♣ Q 3 South **♦** K 9 ∇ Q ♦ K | 98764 ♣ | 9 4 West North Fast South Weinstein Gitelman Levin Moss 2♡ 2♠ Pass

Fred Gitelman led the heart six, declarer ducking South's queen. Brad Moss shifted to the diamond eight, which ran to dummy's ten. Now Weinstein called for the spade queen and South played low smoothly! He was confident that if he won the trick, declarer would have five spades, one heart, two diamonds and one club.

Pass

Pass

Now declarer played a diamond to his ace and led his second spade and ... you guessed it ... went up with dummy's ace, dropping South's king.

Weinstein then turned to Gitelman and said that if he held the club king, he was going to be squeeze-endplayed in the rounded suits by the run of the spades. Being brought down to four cards, if Gitelman kept king-doubleton in hearts and clubs, West would play the ace and another heart, forcing a lead away from the club king.

So, not only did Weinstein earn 212 imps, he would also have had a top in a matchpoint event.

Next, a big apology to Josef Piekarek, who found the spadejack lead mentioned in yesterday's bulletin. An error on my part exchanged his name with his partner's, Alex Smirnov. It was right initially, then a gremlin visited my computer.

Third, an opening lead problem. You are South. The dealer is West and your side is vulnerable.

		★ 6 4	
		♡ A J 10 7 3	
		♦ J 8 6	
		♣ K 7 3	
West	North	East	South
			You
I ♦	Pass	I♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2 ♡ (a)	Pass
3♡	Pass	3NT	All Pass
(a) Fourth-su	uit game-forci	ng	
Which card	would you le	ad?	

Nick L'Ecuyer did a Zia in the third session of the pairs.

Board I2 DIr: North Vul: N-S Wes	-	North ♠ J 9 5 3 ♡ 5 ◇ J 7 5 4 ♣ A Q 4 3	East ♠ K 8 7 2
♡ Q 9 3 ◇ A K 9 3 2 ♣ 6			♡ A J 6 2 ◇ I0 8 ♣ 8 7 2
-,	-	South ♠ Q 10 ♡ K 10 8 7 4 ◇ Q 6 ♣ K 10 9 5	
West L'Ecuyer	North Pass	East Demirev Pass	South I♡
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the spade three. What did declarer do?

L'Ecuyer's line would not occur to many people. He took the first trick with dummy's spade king and immediately led a club to his jack ... and he won the trick!

Up to six tricks, declarer played a heart to dummy's jack. South won with his king and returned the spade queen, which West ducked. South now led a heart, declarer overtaking his nine with dummy's ace to run the diamond eight. (L'Ecuyer was confident that diamonds were 4-2. If they were 3-3, North would have started with 4=1=3=5

distribution and would probably have led a club, and certainly would not have ducked at trick two.)

North, after taking his diamond jack, led the spade jack, but declarer claimed nine tricks: two spades, two hearts, four diamonds and one club.

Who were the victims? Well, the introduction gives you an idea who was sitting South. Afterward, South suggested that L'Ecuyer might have got an overtrick if he had played for a second club trick!

Now back to the opening lead. This ought to have been the full deal:

♦ K	•	North ♠ K J 8 5 3 ♡ K 9 ♦ 5 2 ♣ 10 8 5 4 South ♠ 6 4 ♡ A J 10 7 3 ♦ J 8 6 ♣ K 7 3	East ♠ A Q 10 9 7 2 ♡ Q 6 ◇ A 10 7 ♣ 6 2
West	North	East	South
Feldman	Levin	Zagorin	Weinstein
			You
I ♦	Pass	♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2 ♡ (a)	Pass
3♡	Pass	3NT	All Pass
(a) Fourth-si	uit game-forci	ing	

Weinstein led the heart three, and his side took the first five tricks. Now to come clean. West had the heart six and East the eight, so any heart (except the ace) would have worked. But that does not detract from Weinstein's thoughtful lead. Do the small things right and the big things look after themselves.

In Saturday's bulletin, I suggested that three hearts would not be defeated on this deal:

North

		1 101 011	
Board 8		∲ J 6	
Dlr:West		♡ 5 4 3	
Vul: None		♦ J 9 7	
		♣ A9873	
Wes	t		East
♠ K	987		♠ Q 10 2
	Q 10 8 7		♡ A 6 2
◊ 6			♦ 1082
♣ K	O 5		♣ 6 4 2
	~ -	South	- ,
		♠ A 5 4 3	
		♥ 9	
		=	
		♣ 10	
West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Stewart	Moss	Woolsey
•			•
I♡	Pass	2♡	Dble 2.^
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
3♡	Pass	Pass	Pass

Fred Stewart led the spade jack. Kit Woolsey won with the ace and shifted to his singleton club. North took his ace and returned the club eight, which South ruffed. Now Woolsey, confident from the auction that declarer had a singleton diamond, led a low diamond. North happily won with his jack and delivered a second club ruff for down one — and a loss of 5 imps! But minus 140 would have cost 114 imps.

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If you do not belong in a suit, it is easier if you never bid it. This was the dynamite opening board from the final session of the pairs.

	10 9 4 K 9 8 2	North	East ♠A Q ♥ 10 6 5 4 ♦ A K Q 3 ♣ Q 9 5
(b) Inquiry	Wigoder 3♦ (a)	3NT 4NT (c) 6NT Pass s's choice	South Zia Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass

Most of the field played in hearts, winning 12 tricks. After cashing West's ace and collecting an honor from North, everyone knew that the percentage play was a second-round finesse.

Lev and Pepsi did better, never showing their hearts. In seven notrump Pepsi had the luxury of leaving his decision until he had cashed all of his winners in the other suits.

South led the diamond nine. East won in his hand, cashed another diamond and played a heart to the ace, North dropping his queen. Now came a spade to the ace, the spade queen, a club to the ace, the club king, the spade king, and a club to the queen. What had Pepsi learned about South's hand?

South had shown up with six spades, two diamonds and at least three clubs. He could not hold three hearts. So Pepsi played a heart to the king and claimed.

Plus 1520 was worth 236 imps. This contract was also bid and made by Franck Multon-Pierre Zimmerman and Fred Stewart-Kit Woolsey. Seven hearts was bid and made by Albert Faigenbaum and Dominique Pilon.

See you next year at the Cavendish Invitational!

The winners of the World Bridge Production Pairs were Leo Bell and John Jones. They finished on 549 imps, 244 ahead of Wafik Abdou and Gaylor Kasle. Third were Leonard Ernst and Fred Hamilton with 220 imps.

The winners outbid the field on this deal from the second session.

	North	
	♠ K 8 4	
h	♡ 6 5	
	♦ Q 9 6 3 2	
	♣ 10 3 2	
/est		East
A 7 5		♠ 10 9
A J 3		♡ Q 10 8 7 4
K 7 4		♦ A 8 5
K J 7 5		4 8 6 4
-	South	
	♠ Q J 6 3 2	
	♡ K 9 2	
	♦ J 10	
	♣ AQ9	
North	East	South
	lones	
Pass	Pass	l ♠
2♠	3♡	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass
	/est A 7 5 A J 3 K 7 4 K J 7 5 North Pass 2♣	♣ K 8 4

South led the spade queen. When he was allowed to win the trick, he shifted to the diamond jack. East won with his ace and played a club to dummy's jack. When that held, declarer cashed dummy's spade ace, ruffed a spade in his hand, and led the heart ten: king, ace, five. Declarer drew trumps ending in his hand, then led another club toward the dummy. The defense took only one spade and one club.

Did you notice South's error? He should not have covered the heart ten. That would have saved the overtrick. But since Bell and Jones were the only pair to get to game, it made almost no difference. East-West gained 44 imps instead of 42.

I think everyone agrees that this is a beautifully run tournament, for which many people are due thanks. But I am going to restrict my comments to my niche, these Daily Bulletins. Without Donna Compton, they would never have appeared. She worked very hard not only squeezing my articles into the space available, some in the early hours, but also getting all of the other information included. She was always smiling and a pleasure to work with.

In addition, thanks to Solly Weinstein for sending Donna all of the standings so promptly. And to the other directors who helped me in one way or another.

~Phillip Alder