

Invitational

Bulletin Number 3

Friday, May 11, 2001

Editor: Rich Colker Contributing Editor: Barry Rigal

Welland Wins Cavendish Teams in Squeaker!

The team captained by Roy Welland (Bjorn Fallenius, Brad Moss, Fred Gitelman, Howard Weinstein, Steve Garner), trailing John Onstott's team (Chris Compton, Jim Robison, Roger Bates, Jon Wittes, Ross Grabel) by 5 VP going into the final match, scored a 24-imp victory over the Deutsch team (27-3 in VPs) to total 185 VP and slide by Onstott into first place at the wire, in what had to be one of the more exciting finishes in recent years. Onstott, who played Michael Moss' team in their final match, also won but not by enough: Their 9-imp victory was only worth 21VPs, leaving Onstott just 1 VP short with 184. The Perry Johnson team (Eric Rodwell, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson) finished third with 169. The final scores and rankings can be found on page 3 while the complete match-by-match results and prizes are on page 4.



Teams winners: Fred Gitelman, Brad Moss, Bjorn Fallenius, Roy Welland, Steve Garner, Howard Weinstein



Teams runners-up: Jim Robison, John Onstott, Roger Bates, Chris Compton, Jon Wittes, Ross Grabel

Special Notice: World Bridge Productions Pairs Pre-Auction

In order to generate interest and facilitate the live WBP Pairs auction, to be held on Saturday morning, May 12, provisions have been made to accept bids prior to the start of the live auction. Here's how it will work:

Arrayed around the Registration Desk will be preliminary owners' cards for all expected participants. (Not all of these pairs may attend, but the vast majority is expected.) If you wish to bid on a pair you may do so by entering the amount of your bid on the pair's card and signing your name opposite the bid amount (minimum bid = \$1000).

These bids will be considered binding, just as if they been made in the live auction. If your bid is not topped in either the pre- or live auctions you will become the owner of the pair and have all of the attendant rights and responsibilities. Remember, each pair must buy back 10% of their purchase price and may buy back up to 40% of themselves if they are so inclined.

Please confirm your bids with the appropriate parties at the Registration Desk.

Conditions of Contest: Expansions and Clarifications

In general, it is our intent to allow methods with which other contestants are expected to be familiar. It is also our intent to allow reasonable artificiality in auctions where the bidding side has guaranteed sufficient (high-card) values to invite game. If you have any questions about your own or your opponents' methods, the person to see is Barry Rigal.

	Schedule				
Day	Time	Activity	Location		
Friday, May 11th	12:30 PM	1 st Session, Pairs	Montego A, B & C		
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, Pairs	Montego A, B & C		
Saturday, May 12th	10:30 AM	WBP Brunch (all invited)	St. Croix A&B		
	11:00 AM	WBP Auction	St. Croix A&B		
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, Pairs	Montego A, B & C		
	12:30 PM	1 st Session, WBP Pairs	Montego D, E & F		
	7:30 PM	4 th Session, Pairs	Montego A, B & C		
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, WBP Pairs	Montego D, E & F		
Sunday, May 13th	12:30 PM	5 th Session, Pairs	Montego A, B & C		
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, WBP Pairs	Montego D, E & F		
	5:00 PM	Awards Ceremony and	St. Croix A&B		
		Closing Cocktail Party			

Memories Are Made of This

by Sam Leckie

That grand old man of Scottish bridge, Mr. Albert Benjamin, now aged 92, has asked me to say hello to his friends in the Cavendish, with a particular reference to Eric Rodwell. Why Eric? Well, a few years ago Eric asked to meet him at the Sunday Times tournament that Albert was attending as a spectator and in conversation Eric apparently called him immortal. (I asked Albert was he sure about the "T"?) Eric was of course referring to the fact that Albert was involved in the very beginnings of bridge in the early thirties and also because of his convention, "Benjamin Two's," played world wide.

Albert tells many amusing stories about himself. The one I like best is this: A few years ago whilst attending a congress in Scotland Albert was approached by a fellow contestant. "Are you not Albert Benjamin?" he asked.

When Albert confirmed he was, the stranger mentioned a

visit Albert had made many years ago to his home town to play in an exhibition match. He then went on to describe a hand Albert had played. Albert interrupted him and told him he remembered the occasion and the hand; then told him all four hands and how he had made it on a double squeeze.

"Quite remarkable," said the stranger. "I can't wait to tell my wife I met you and that you remembered the hand. We spoke about it for many years."

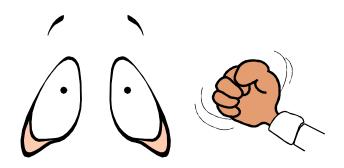
The stranger turned to leave the room when Albert stopped him in his tracks. "Excuse me, sir," said Albert, "would you do me a favor?"

"Yes, of course," he replied.

"Can you tell me, what day of the week is it?"

I Know You're New At This Game, But...

From our helpful hints department: "You'll have to learn to hold your hand up properly, as there are some guys here who will take advantage of you." -Zia Mahmood to Billy Eisenberg (5 times Bermuda Bowl Champion with 4 different partners)



Cavendish Teams: Rosters, Auction Price, and Final Rankings

1 4 Roy Welland, Bjorn Fallenius, Brad Moss, Fred Gitelman, Howard Weinstein, Steve Garner \$9,500 2 14 John Onstott, Chris Compton, Jim Robison, Roger Bates, Jon Wittes, Ross Grabel \$6,000 3 1 Perry Johnson, Eric Rodwell, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson \$15,500 4 8 Seymon Deutsch, Paul Soloway, Paul Chemla, Alain Levy, Ron Smith, Billy Cohen \$8,500 5 11 Malcolm Brachman, Mike Passell, Eddie Wold, John Mohan, Ralph Katz \$6,500 6 23 Michael Moss, Magnus Lindkvist, Bruce Ferguson, Charlton Buckley \$4,000 7 10 Onstein (NPC), Jan Jansma, Anton Maas, Vincent Ramondt, Louk Verhees \$8,000 8 Steve Robinson, Peter Boyd, Kit Woolsey, Fred Stewart \$9,000 9 7 Rose Meltzer, Peter Weichsel, Kyle Larsen, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby \$9,000 10 3 Lou Ann O'Rourke, Billy Miller, Curtis Cheek, Robert Levin, Steve Weinstein \$11,000 11 18 Reese Milner, Richard Coren, Marc Jacobus, Adam Wildavsky, Robert Blanchard \$4,000 12 12 George Steiner, Gaylor Kasle, Mark Lair, Bobby Wollf \$6,500 13 21 Mark Feldman, Sharon Osberg, Willian Pollack, Rozanne Pollack	Final	Initial	Team	Auction
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202Billy Eisenberg, Sam Lev, Geir Helgemo, Zia Mahmood\$12,5002119Gene Freed, Jeff Olson, Pinhas Romik, Stelio DiBello\$4,0002222Sheila Ekeblad, Russell Ekeblad, Michael Seamon, Markland Molson\$4,0002317Michael Whitman, Grant Baze, Linda Lewis, Paul Lewis\$4,0002424Roberta Epstein, Brenda Jacobus, Nels Erickson, Marjorie Michelin, Carol Pincus, Mark Epstein, Vivien Cornell, Elisabeth Blackham				
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Carol Pincus, Mark Epstein, Vivien Cornell, Elisabeth Blackham				\$4,000
	24	24		
\$164 500				\$164,500



The Sponsors request that the hallway around the scoring desk outside the playing room (Montego A, B & C) be kept a smoke-free area. Anyone wishing to smoke is asked to remove themself at least 100 feet (30 m) down the hallway in either direction.

Thank you for your cooperation

Cavendish Teams: Final Standings (Team Rosters on p. 3)

Team #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Total	Rank
1		14		11					21	26		47*		10	25								15		169	3
2	16		18		22	0	24*				8	5										26			119	20
3		12		11		13	15				1				23			26	21		21				143	10/11
4	19		19		27			56*			26			13*			25								185	1
5		8		3		29		13	22			10			17			2		19					123	18
6		30	17		1		6			12			19			25		14				26			150	8
7		36*	15			24		0	18						19		19				14				145	9
8				4*	17		30			27	17	21		19									21		156	4/5
9	9				8		12			7*									23	30	11			29	129	15
10	4					18		3	53*		6				19					23		25			151	7
11		22	29	4				13		24		30*						21					13		156	4/5
12	13*	25			20			9			30*				22						21				140	12
13						11								7		8	29		16	1	6			49*	127	16
14	20			47*				11					23			26						8	49*		184	2
15	5		7		13		11			11		8				25	21				19				120	19
16						5							22	4	5		30			17	8	20		21	132	14
17				5			11						1		9	0		21	14*					25	86	23
18			4		28	16					9						9		25	9			13	30	143	10/11
19			9						7				14				46*	5		27	7		0		115	21
20					11				0	7			29			13		21	3			26		15	125	17
21			9				16		19			9	24		11	22			23			5			138	13
22		4				4				5				22		10				4	25	_	3	30	107	22
23	15							9			17			21*				17	30			27		26	152	6
24 *\/Do									1				11*			9	5	0		15		0	4		45	24

*VPs = Total for two matches

Cavendish Teams Prize Awards



	Auction	Players
1 st	\$48,856	\$16,830
2 nd	\$32,571	\$11,220
3 rd	\$23,688	\$8,160
4 th	\$17,766	\$6,120
5 th	\$14,805	\$5,100
6 th	\$10,364	\$3,570



Auction Prices for the Cavendish Pairs 2001 (Based on information available at press time. This is unofficial. Updates will be published as they become available.)

Pair #	Auc		Pair #	ates will be published as they becom	Auction Price
1	Michel Kwiecien – Jacek Pszczola	\$46K	28	Bob Blanchard – Ralph Katz	\$15K
2	Robert Levin – Steve Weinstein	\$44K	29/31	Jan Jansma – Louk Verhees	\$14K
3	Paul Chemla – Alain Levy	\$40K	29/31	Chris Compton – John Onstott	\$14K
4	Geir Helgemo – Sam Lev	\$38K	29/31	Gaylor Kasle – Bobby Wolff	\$14K
5	Steve Garner – Howard Weinstein	\$36K	32/34	Adam Wildavsky – Dan Morse	\$13K
6	Eric Greco – Geoff T. Hampson	\$35K	32/34	Larry Robbins – Harry Tudor	\$13K
7/8	Brad Moss – Fred Gitelman	\$31K	32/34	Roger Bates – Dan Mordecai	\$13K
7/8	Martin Fleisher – Eric Rodwell	\$31K	35/38	Ishmael Del'Monte – Neville Eber	\$12K
9	Bob Hamman – Nick Nickell	\$28K	35/38	Steve Levinson – Barnet Shenkin	\$12K
10/13	Russ Ekeblad – Michael Seamon	\$27K	35/38	Rose Meltzer – Peter Weichsel	\$12K
10/13	Giorgio Duboin – Guido Ferraro	\$27K	35/38	Valerio Giubilo – Alfredo Versace	\$12K
10/13	Perry Johnson – Jeff Meckstroth	\$27K	39/42	Chris Convery – Craig Gower	\$11K
10/13	Billy Eisenberg – Zia Mahmood	\$27K	39/42	Drew Casen – Richard Schwartz	\$11K
14	Eddie Wold – John Mohan	\$26K	39/42	Seymon Deutsch – Paul Soloway	\$11K
15/16	Michel Abecassis – Jean-Christophe Qua		39/42	Pyotr Gawrys – Amos Kaminski	\$11K
15/16	Curtis Cheek – Billy Miller	\$24K	43/52	Amadeo Llopart – Juan Ventin	\$10K
17/18	Ron Smith – Billy Cohen	\$22K	43/52	Linda Lewis – Paul Jay Lewis	\$10K
17/18	Boye Brogland – Espen Erichsen	\$22K	43/52	Ashley Bach – Michael Cornell	\$10K
19/20	Steve Robinson – Peter Boyd	\$21K	43/52	Gene Freed – Jim Robison	\$10K
19/20	Albert Faigenbaum – Christian Mari	\$21K	43/52	Grant Baze – Mike Whitman	\$10K
21/22	Bart Bramley – Sidney Lazard	\$20K	43/52	Gary Cohler – Richard Finberg	\$10K
21/22	Ross Grabel – Jon Wittes	\$20K	43/52	Bill Pollack – Rozanne Pollack	\$10K
23	Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey	\$19K	43/52	Malcolm Brachman – Mike Passell	\$10K
24	Bjorn Fallenius – Roy Welland	\$18K	43/52	Fulvio Fantoni – Claudio Nunes	\$10K
25/27	Anton Mass – Vincent Ramondt	\$16K	43/52	Mark Feldman – Sharon Osberg	\$10K
25/27	Magnus Lindkvist – Michael Moss	\$16K			\$1,010,000
25/27	Mark Lair – George Steiner	\$16K			

Entrants for the WBP Pairs 2001

(Based on information available at press time. This is unofficial. Updates will be published as they become available.)

- 1 Rob Crawford Dan Jacob
- 2 Jeff Roman Glenn Lublin
- 3 L'Ecuiller Menachi
- 4 Nell Cahn Bill Cook
- 5 Mickey Friedman Harold Lilie
- 6 Lou Ann O'Rourke Mike Cappelletti, Sr.
- 7 Reese Milner Marc Jacobus
- 8 David Seibert Alan Seibert
- 9 Jill Levin Larry Cohen
- 10 Wayne Chu Fy Zhong
- 11 Leonard Ernst Gene Simpson
- 12 Disa Cheek Judy Wadas
- 13 Joe Jabon John Garrison
- 14 Shelia Ekeblad Mark Molson
- 15 Roger Lord –
- 16 Phil Becker Kumar Bhatia
- 17 Srikanth Kodayam Leszek Rabiega
- 18 Lynn Baker Irina Levitina
- 19 Cary Keller Bob Morris

- 20 Barry Schaefer Colby Vernay
- 21 Russ Samuel Shawn Samuel
- 22 Louise Childs Derrell Childs
- 23 Ina Demme Sheri Weinstock
- 24 Nels Ericksen Marjorie Michellin
- 25 Ken Kranyak Keith Wolff
- 26 Richie Coren Fred Hamilton
- 27 Flo Rotman Dan Rotman
- 28 Bob La Fleur Jan George
- 29 Diana Miller H Lussky
- 30 Bob Crossley Roger Passat
- 31 Pinhas Romik Stellio di Bello
- 32 Bill Doroshow Nate Ward
- 33 Simon Kantor Murray Melton
- 34 Petra Hamman Nancy Passell
- 35 Bruce Ferguson Carlton Buckley
- 36 Marshall Miles Vic Chernoff
- 37 Jo Morse Kyle Larsen

The Cavendish Teams: The Final Four Matches

Match Six:		
Bd: 24	🛧 AQ86	
DIr: West	♡ 1092	
Vul: None	♦ 10	
	& 108432	
• 9742		♠ KJ103
♡ 653		♡7
◊ 76		♦ Q8542
📥 AJ75		🛧 Q96
	♠ 5	
	\heartsuit AKQJ84	
	\diamond AKJ93	
	뢒 K	

 $6\heartsuit$ was the contract of choice here. However, most of the field found the best opening lead from one side of the table or the other, leaving it up to N/S to overcome the unfavorable diamond split. You have an interesting and very close choice of lines on a heart lead to $6\heartsuit$. One play is to win the heart in hand, lead the $\Diamond A$, ruff a diamond, $\bigstar A$, ruff a spade, ruff a diamond, ruff a spade, draw the trumps, and strip squeeze East in the minors if he has the $\bigstar A$.

The other line is to win the heart, play the $\Diamond AK$, ruff a diamond finding the bad news, then overtake dummy's last heart to draw trumps and finesse in spades to shake your club loser. Neither line works, of course, but in the match I was watching Zia saved 2 imps for the extra undertrick by following line one. Some declarers were successful here. Mike Whitman, for example, had an informative auction where he opened 1°, was raised to 2°, and heard East double 2♡. West led the ♣A against the slam and shifted to a trump. Mike won in dummy and finessed in diamonds, bringing home twelve tricks easily. Strangely, I think this is actually not the best line after his auction. You can ruff two diamonds in dummy and two clubs in hand, and squeeze East in the pointed suits if diamonds do not behave. But of course both lines work here and there is little to choose between them since on the auction they are both nearly 100% to work.

Bd: 26	♠ KQ4	
Dlr: East	♡ Q1042	
Vul: Both	\diamond A2	
	뢒 K1074	
🛧 A62		≜ J53
♡ AK5		♡ 983
♦ J84		◊ KQ1093
📥 AJ93		🛧 Q8
	10987	
	♡ J76	
	♦ 765	
	\$ 652	

How far can Bruce Ferguson push the envelope? The more outrageous things he does, the more people suspect him—so he has to keep trying ever more unusual tricks. But he still keeps reeling in the victims!

Consider this affair from the last match Wednesday evening, where he caught another world champion and added yet another notch to his belt.

If you play 3NT as West, as did the vast majority of the field, you find the cards lying exceptionally well. With the $\diamond A$ doubleton and spades and hearts behaving better than one has a right to expect, it looks very hard to go down. Ferguson started the war of attrition by leading a deceptive $\heartsuit 4$, playing fourth highest leads—when you have a hand this strong, that can be a good move. When West ducked the first heart Ferguson had won the first battle. Back came a heart and West won, crossed to a top diamond, and passed the $\bigstar Q$. Ferguson won and put the $\bigstar 4$ on the table! West eyed this suspiciously and decided to duck—we can all see that this may not be technically supportable but Bruce had given him the chance to go wrong and he took it. All credit to Ferguson, who left chortling, with another victim added to what is by now a rather long list.

Match Seven:

Match Seven.	-	
Bd: 1	♠ Q9	
DIr: North	♡ AKQ52	
Vul: None	♦ 8765	
	뢒 K8	
🛦 AJ65		♠ 1043
♡ J106		♡ 9843
♦ A9		♦ KQJ2
• 7652		♣ Q9
	♠ K872	
	♡7	
	♦ 1043	
	뢒 AJ1043	

Most of the room played $2\diamond$ as North on the unopposed auction: $1\heartsuit -1 \bigstar$; $2\diamond -P$. Fred Gitelman in the top table match received the $\clubsuit Q$ lead. He won the $\clubsuit K$ and played a diamond. East, Robison, took the $\diamond J$ and advanced the $\bigstar 10$ to Gitelman's queen. Now Fred cashed the $\bigstar AJ$ to pitch his spade and Robison ruffed in to play a spade to the jack, ruffed. Gitelman now carefully took the $\heartsuit AKQ$ to pitch dummy's spades—which turned out to be essential. When he ruffed the fourth heart in dummy he was overruffed, but West had only losing clubs or a spade for the ruff and discard, so declarer was home.

That turned out to be a flat board, but the Johnson team demonstrated that it was possible to do better here. Jeff Greco opened the North hand the "obvious" 14-16 notrump, and Hampson used Stayman before jumping to 3NT. Would

you lead a low diamond? Neither did Verhees; after the $\Diamond K$ lead the defense had only four tricks.

Bd: 8	♠ AQ63
DIr: West	♡2
Vul: None	$\diamond QJ$
	🛧 Q109743
♠ K874	♠ J92
♡ 105	♡ QJ986
♦ A2	◊ K654
📥 KJ862	📥 5
	≜ 105
	♡ AK743
	♦ 109873
	♣ A

The Onstott-Welland match was a low scoring affair decided by a couple of imps. Had Fred Gitelman been dealt a singleton \heartsuit 6 here instead of the \heartsuit 2, the 19-11 result would have been reversed.

Both tables bid the E/W cards: $1 \clubsuit - 1 \heartsuit$; $1 \bigstar$ and both Easts now passed, letting South protect with $2\diamondsuit$. Fallenius passed this out, but Robison aggressively reopened with $2\heartsuit$, smartly doubled by Moss in the North seat. Robison considered retreating to $2\bigstar$, which would probably not have fared well, but he passed out $2\heartsuit$ doubled.

The defense led a diamond and Robison cashed the \diamond AK and ruffed a diamond high. Now he led a low club to Moss's ace. Moss could lead a spade to the queen but the best Gitelman could do was shift to a heart, knowing that he could not beat dummy's spot. That let declarer score three trump tricks in the ending for down two and only a 5-imp pickup for Welland.

Match Eight:

Bd: 10	★	
Dlr: East	♡ KJ954	
Vul: Both	♦ A1032	
	🛧 Q742	
♠ K1072	♠ AQ863	
♡ A62	♡ Q107	
\diamond Q5	◊ K9	
📥 K986	🛧 J53	
	♠ J954	
	♡ 83	
	♦ J8764	
	🛧 A10	

Fallenius and Garner (a scratch partnership, which in this context is an especially appropriate term since their partners were off playing golf!) had an impressive start to their set against Greco-Hampson. When Greco opened 1♠ Fallenius jumped to 3♣, limit or better in spades. Greco doubled,

there being some confusion as to whether this meant clubs or spade take out, and when Garner passed, Fallenius retreated to 3NT—the only game with any play.

The field played this in game except for Erichsen-Brogeland. They bid: 1♠-Pass-2NT(GF)-Dbl; 3♠-All Pass! A good view by Brogeland—their systemic agreement is that 3♠ here is not game forcing any more. 3♠ just made for +140 for an 8-imp pickup.

Of course in 3NT on a diamond lead the defense has the upper hand, but Greco led a heart and Fallenius, after some thought, put in the ten. Then he ran five spades and when Greco pitched two clubs, two diamonds, and then a heart on the last spade Fallenius could now build a club trick for his contract in safety by leading to the ♣K. If Greco had pitched down to a bare ◇A it would have been equally easy for Fallenius to play a diamond and wait for a club or a heart trick from Greco. These 12 imps were the only imps scored by Welland, but it was enough for a 21-9 VP win.

Bd: 13	• 9875	
DIr: North	♡ AK82	
Vul: Both	\diamond KJ5	
	🕭 AK	
S 🛦 32		▲ KJ104
♡ J5		\heartsuit Q
♦ Q432		♦ 1097
• 984		• 107653
	≜ Q	
	♡ 1097643	
	♦ A86	
	뢒 QJ2	

Virtually nobody bid the slam here—those who did needed a dose of modern (or not-so modern) science.

Levy-Chemla bid: $1\diamond -1\heartsuit$; $3NT(GF, BAL, \heartsuit) -4\diamondsuit$; $5\clubsuit -6\heartsuit$. Billy and Rozanne Pollack, using a Precision Club, bid: $1\clubsuit -1\heartsuit$; $2\heartsuit -3\bigstar$ (SPL); $4\bigstar$ (RKCB)- $5\bigstar$ (1/4); $6\heartsuit$. In each case that was worth 13 imps.

Match Nine.		
Bd: 19	🛦 J754	
Dlr: South	♡ J1042	
Vul: E/W	♦ 83	
	뢒 K32	
1 06		♠ KQ982
♡ KQ8763		♡ 9
♦ 107		♦ K962
뢒 QJ9		♣ 854
	🛧 A3	
	♡ A5	
	\diamond AQJ54	
	뢒 A1076	

The Onstott team as leader played fourth-placed Moss. On the first deal out Lindkvist broke the cardinal rule of playing with Mike Moss: Do the right thing and/or lead my suit!

West Moss	North Bates	East Lindkvist	South Robison 1◊	
1♡	Dbl	Pass	2♡	
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	
All Pass				

Bates' wafer-thin negative double got his side to 3NT, played the wrong way up nonetheless. But Lindkvist's small spade lead gave Bates a trick and a tempo and an entry to hand to play diamonds, for +400.

At the other table the North hand passed over 1^{\heartsuit} . East bid 1 \clubsuit and South rebid 2 \clubsuit , playing there for +110. That was 7 imps to Robison, but the Welland team did even better by beating 3NT at one table where Weinstein led the \bigstar Q and making it at the other table where Levy led a small spade.

Bd: 20	♠ 8542	
DIr: West	♡ 2	
Vul: Both	\diamond AJ6	
	📥 J10842	
♠ KJ106		\$
♡ Q 9		♡ AKJ7643
♦ K87		♦ Q93
🛧 AQ76		📥 K93
	🛦 AQ973	
	♡ 1085	
	♦ 10542	
	♣ 5	

For the next few deals it seemed as if Moss and Lindkvist could do no wrong. They reached 6^{\bigcirc} after a 1NT opening from Moss on this deal and got it played so that Bates, on lead, could kick off with the $\Diamond A$ —perhaps the only lead to make life easy for declarer. That, however, was duplicated by Wittes-Grabel. Both tables in Welland-Deutsch avoided the fatal opening lead so it was a flat board at –100.

Then, after Robison went down in a partscore and a game on unfortunate lies of the cards, the tide turned.



Bd: 23	•			
DIr: South	♡ 109	53		
Vul: Both	♦ A2			
	🕭 K98	35432		
♠ KQJ875		٠	3	
♡ AJ82		♡ KQ764		
♦ J6		♦ KQ8543		
뢒 J		♣ Q		
	🛧 A10	9642		
	♡			
	♦ 1097	7		
	🛧 A10)76		
West	North	East	South	
Moss	Bates	Lindkvist	Robison	
			Pass	
1♠	3♣	3♡	5秦	
5♡	Pass	Pass	6♣	
Dbl	All Pass			

A fine bid by Robison; on a spade lead Bates could pitch his diamond and crossruff. With trumps one-one the play was straightforward for +1540.

How often do you gain imps for going five down in a freelybid game?

West Wittes	North	East Grabel	South
			2♠
Pass	Pass	3 \diamondsuit	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The defense cashed their seven clubs and three aces but Onstott still gained 14 imps!

Welland gained 3 imps on this board when he defended 5^{\heartsuit} doubled for down one at one table and played 5^{\heartsuit} undoubled at the other. Then came another slam venture—an interesting mea culpa!

Bd: 26	🛦 J10863	
Dlr: East	♡ K75	
Vul: Both	♦ 1074	
	뢒 K5	
Μκ		♠ A92
♡ 1082		♡ J 64
♦ AK8532		\diamond QJ96
• 973		• 1042
	♠ Q754	
	♡ AQ93	
	◇	
	뢒 AQJ86	

West Moss	North Bates	East Lindkvist	South Robison
11/1055	Dales	Pass	1 ♣
1♦	1♠	Fass 3◊	1 ∞ 4◊
1☆ 5◇	1 ∞ 5♡	J∨ Pass	4∨ 6♠
3⊽ All Pass	J ^v	F 835	02

Did Bates do too much, bearing in mind that if his partner has the $\bigstar K$ instead of the $\heartsuit Q$ slam is excellent? Did Robison do too much over 5 \heartsuit ? After all, he could have had

a diamond singleton. My view is that maybe Bates should just pass $5\diamond$ and then over $5\heartsuit$ bid $5\clubsuit$. But it is easy to take a view with 20/20 hindsight! $6\clubsuit$ duly went one down, of course.

Again surprisingly this was a flat board. On a far less competitive auction Ferguson and Buckley were able to conduct an auction where the South player could jump to $5 \pm$ to ask about trump quality. Unfortunately, the message was received but not understood, as the hand with two kings thought they might be helpful to his partner and raised to slam.

Snap Shots In Time



"...and if you appoint me emperor, I promise ... "



"Say, Zia, how do you turn this funny looking electric razor on? I forgot to shave before I got here."



"I can't take any more of this, guys. I'm outta here."