World Bridge Productions





Invitational

Bulletin Number 3 Friday, May 12, 2000 Editor: Rich Colker

Contributing Editor: Barry Rigal

Johnson-Five Wins Cavendish Teams

The team captained by Perry Johnson (Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco), leading after day one, increased their total to 197 VP's to take the millenium edition of the Dreyfus Cup, symbolic of victory in the Cavendish Teams. Going into the final match Johnson's total stood at 186—more than a full match (30+ VP's) ahead of the next best team. With the event locked up, and everyone else playing for second through sixth place money, the Bobby Levin team (Steve Weinstein, David Berkowitz, Larry Cohen) emerged from the pack to take second place at the wire with 175 VP's, followed

closely by "Our Lady of the Reisinger" Rita Shugart (Andy Robson, Peter Fredin, Magnus Lindkvist) with 172 VP's, who rose from a seriously undervalued (in our opinion) fifteenth-place starting position to capture the bronze. The teams captained by Henry Mansell (Sam Lev, Piotr Gawrys, Jacel Pszczola), Jim Krekorian (Richie Schwartz, Drew Casen, Robert Blanchard) and Manuel Capucho (Maria João Lara, Mickie Friedman, Armand Barfus) filled out the remaining money positions. The complete rankings and attendant financial data (for those of you suffering from "Wall Street Withdrawal") may be found on p. 2.



1st in Cavendish Teams (I to r): Geoff Hampson, Jeff Meckstroth, Perry Johnson, Eric Rodwell and Eric Greco



Runners-up in Cavendish Teams (I to r): Bobby Levin, Steve Weinstein, David Berkowitz and Larry Cohen

Cavendish Pairs Auction Tops \$1M Again

Even with this year's reduced field (50 pairs, down from a whopping 64 pairs last year), the Y2K edition of the Cavendish Invitational Pairs passed the \$1M mark yet again with an auction total of \$1,140,500. While the average pair went for a bit over \$19,000 in 1999, this year's average pair went for almost \$23,000. Top money getters in this years field were last year's winners Bobby Levin-Steve Weinstein, one of the hottest pairs in the world, who sold for \$55,000. Not far behind Piotr Gawrys-Jacel Pszczola sold for \$52,000 followed closely by Norberto Bocchi-Giorgio Duboin at \$51,000. Auctioneer George "Blind Bogey" Jacobs, with help from his friends David "Is That Your Final Answer" Berkowitz, Zia "The Waiter" Mahmood and Bob "The Boss" Hamman kept the crowd laughing and the action brisk. Complete auction results are on p. 3.



"Look over there...it's a bird, no, it's a plane, no, it's "Super Blind Bogey"!

Conditions of Contest

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 12th | 12:00 PM | 1 st Session, Pairs | Country Club, Ballrooms 3 & 4 | |
| | 7:30 PM | 2 nd Session, Pairs | Country Club, Ballrooms 3 & 4 | |
| Saturday, May 13th | 11:00 AM | WBP Brunch (all invited) | Country Club, Fairway Rooms, 2 nd floor | |
| • | 11:30 AM | WBP Auction ` | Country Club, Fairway Rooms, 2 nd floor | |
| | 12:30 PM | 3 rd Session, Pairs | Country Club, Ballrooms 3 & 4 | |
| | 12:30 PM | 1 st Session, WBP Pairs | Country Club, Ballrooms 1 & 2 | |
| | TBA | 4 th Session, Pairs | Country Club, Ballrooms 3 & 4 | |
| | TBA | 2 nd Session, WBP Pairs | Country Club, Ballrooms 1 & 2 | |
| Sunday, May 14th | 12:00 PM | 5 th Session, Pairs | Country Club, Ballrooms 3 & 4 | |
| • | 12:00 PM | 3 rd Session, WBP Pairs | Country Club, Ballrooms 1 & 2 | |
| | 5:30 PM | Awards Ceremony and | Country Club, Fairway Rooms, 2 nd floor | |
| | | Closing Cocktail Party | • | |

Cavendish Teams: Final Results

| Final | | | | Auction |
|-------|--------|--|-----|------------|
| Rank | Team # | Team Members | VPs | Price |
| 1 | 3 | Perry Johnson, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco | 197 | 28,000 |
| 2 | 4 | Robert Levin, Steve Weinstein, David Berkowitz, Larry Cohen | 175 | 26,000 |
| 3 | 15 | Rita Shugart, Andy Robson, Peter Fredin, Magnus Lindkvist | 172 | 10,000 |
| 4 | 7 | Henry Mansell, Sam Lev, Piotr Gawrys, Jacek Pszczola | 168 | 16,000 |
| 5 | 12 | Jim Krekorian, Richie Schwartz, Drew Casen, Robert Blanchard | 159 | 11,000 |
| 6 | 24 | Manuel Capucho, Maria João Lara, Maurice Friedman, Armand Barfus | 156 | , |
| 7 | 2 | Malcolm Brachman (npc), Michael Seamon, Mike Passell, Eddie Wold, Paul Soloway | | 153 28,000 |
| 8 | 5 | Maria Teresa Lavazza, Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Dano DeFalco, Guido Ferraro | 144 | , |
| 9 | 22 | Lionel Wright, Charles Wigoder, Michael Cornell, Michael Courtney | 144 | 5,000 |
| 10 | 1 | Bob Hamman, Zia Mahmood, Gabriel Chagas, Geir Helgemo | 143 | . , |
| 11 | 16 | Mike Whitman, Grant Baze, George Steiner, Gaylor Kasle, Fred Gitelman | 140 | • |
| 12 | 11 | Ron Smith, Mark Lair, Richard Finberg, Billy Cohen, Ralph Cohen | 139 | 11,000 |
| 13 | 6 | Kit Woolsey, Fred Stewart, Peter Boyd, Steve Robinson | 133 | 17,000 |
| 14 | 13 | Sidney Lazard, Bart Bramley, Russ Ekeblad, Sheila Ekeblad, John Sutherlin | 130 | , |
| 15 | 14 | Lou Ann O`Rourke, Billy Miller, Curtis Cheek, Roger Bates, Kyle Larsen | 129 | 10,000 |
| 16 | 17 | Mike Moss, Bjorn Fallenius, Simon De Wijs, Ricco Van Prooijen | 125 | 7,000 |
| 17 | 19 | Gerhard Schiesser, Andrzej Knap, Richie Reisig, Benito Garozzo | 121 | 5,000 |
| 18 | 8 | Boye Brogeland, Espen Erichsen, Michel Abecassis, Jean-Christophe Quantin | 118 | |
| 19 | 18 | Dan Morse, Barry Schaffer, Colby Vernay, Adam Wildavsky | 116 | , |
| 20 | 20 | Mike Albert, Marc Jacobus, Jimmy Rosenbloom, Roy Welland, Brian Glubok, Bill Pollaci | < | 103 5,000 |
| 21 | 10 | Seymon Deutsch, Fred Hamilton, Billy Eisenberg, Paul Chemla, Alain Levy, Bobby Wolf | f | 101 12,000 |
| 22 | 9 | Rose Johnson-Meltzer, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby, Peter Weichsel, Alan Sontag | 98 | 14,000 |
| 23 | 23 | Harry Tudor, Gary Cohler, Daniel Rotman, Barbara Wallace | 89 | 5,000 |
| 24 | 21 | Verone Lungu, Pinhas Romik, Michael Elinescu, Sorin Pleacof, Emil Dojaru | 86 | 5,000 |

Total Auction: \$312,000

The Prize Awards (Auction; Players Pool) for 1st through 6th place are:



 $1^{st} = (\$92,664; \$16,830)$ $2^{nd} = (\$61,776; \$11,220)$ $3^{rd} = (\$44,928; \$8,160)$

 $4^{th} = (\$33,696; \$6,120)$ $5^{th} = (\$28,080; \$5,100)$ $6^{th} = (\$19,656; \$3,570)$



Field for the Cavendish Invitational Pairs and Auction Prices

| Pair | | Auction Price | Pair | Aucti | ion Price |
|-------|----------------------------------|---------------|-------|--|-----------|
| 1 | Robert Levin – Steve Weinstein | \$55,000 | 25/27 | Richie Schwartz – Alan Sontag | |
| 2 | Piotr Gawrys – Jacek Pszczola | 52,000 | 25/27 | Russ Ekeblad – John Sutherlin | |
| 3 | Norberto Bocchi – Giorgio Duboin | 51,000 | 28/31 | Ishmael Del'Monte – Jason Hackett | 16,000 |
| 4/5 | David Berkowitz – Larry Cohen | 49,000 | 28/31 | Michael Cornell – Lionel Wright | |
| 4/5 | Bob Hamman – Zia Mahmood | | 28/31 | Bjorn Fallenius – Mike Moss | |
| 6 | Peter Fredin – Magnus Lindkvist | 44,000 | 28/31 | Drew Casen – Bill Pollack | |
| 7 | Gabriel Chagas – Geir Helgemo | 42,000 | 32/33 | Michel Abecassis – Jean-Christophe Quantin | 15,000 |
| 8/9 | Paul Chemla – Alain Levy | 40,000 | 32/33 | Gaylor Kasle – George Steiner | |
| 8/9 | Eric Greco – Geoff Hampson | | 34 | Robert Blanchard – Jim Krekorian | 13,000 |
| 10 | Curtis Cheek – Billy Miller | 37,000 | 35/36 | Michael Courtney – Charles Wigoder | 12,000 |
| 11 | Mike Passell – Eddie Wold | 36,000 | 35/36 | James Rosenbloom - Roy Welland | |
| 12 | Fred Gitelman – Brad Moss | 32,000 | 37/40 | Kerri Sanborn – Steve Sanborn | 11,000 |
| 13 | Steve Garner – Howard Weinstein | 31,000 | 37/40 | Simon DeWijs – Ricco van Prooijen | |
| 14/16 | Roger Bates – Kyle Larsen | 26,000 | 37/40 | Sheila Ekeblad – Michael Seamon | |
| 14/16 | Peter Boyd – Steve Robinson | | 37/40 | Grant Baze – Mike Whitman | |
| 14/16 | Perry Johnson – Jeff Meckstroth | | 41/50 | Dan Morse – Adam Wildavsky | 10,000 |
| 17 | Dano DeFalco – Guido Ferraro | 25,000 | 41/50 | Seymon Deutsch – Paul Soloway | |
| 18 | Andy Robson – Rita Shugart | 23,500 | 41/50 | George Jacobs – Ralph Katz | |
| 19 | Sam Lev - Henry Mansell | 23,000 | 41/50 | Chris Convery – Craig Gower | |
| 20/22 | Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey | 22,000 | 41/50 | Aidan Ballantyne – Joe Jabon | |
| 20/22 | Billy Eisenberg – Fred Hamilton | | 41/50 | Mike Albert – Marc Jacobus | |
| 20/22 | Billy Cohen – Ron Smith | | 41/50 | Gary Cohler – Harry Tudor | |
| 23 | Boye Brogeland – Espen Erichsen | 21,000 | 41/50 | Chip Martel – Jan Martel | |
| 24 | Bart Bramley - Sidney Lazard | 20,000 | 41/50 | Richard Finberg – Mark Lair | |
| 25/27 | Marty Fleisher – Eric Rodwell | 17,000 | 41/50 | Andrzej Knap – Gerhard Schiesser | |
| | - | • | | • | |

Total Auction Pool: \$1,140,500

Entrants for the WBP Pairs

(Based on information available at press time. This is not official. Updates will be published as they become available.)

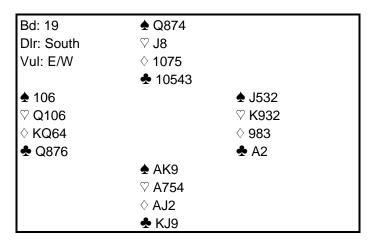
1 Peter Friedland – David Siebert 25 Armand Barfus – Mickey Friedman

| I | Peter Friedland – David Slebert | 25 | Armanu banus – wickey Friedman |
|----|--------------------------------------|----|--|
| 2 | John Lantgen – Reese Milner | 26 | Russ Samuel – Sean Samuels |
| 3 | Jim M. Foster – Allen W. Hawkins Jr. | 27 | Christal Henner-Welland – Uday Ivatury |
| 4 | Richard Hunt – Mark Itabashi | 28 | Ralph Cohen – Marvin Shapiro |
| 5 | Rob Crawford – Dan Jacob | 29 | Jonathan Greenspan – Beverly Perry |
| 6 | Louise Childs – Gene Freed | 30 | Leszek Rabiega – Edward Wojewoda |
| 7 | Joe Elsbury – Esta Van Zandt | 31 | Alan Cokin – Jill Meyers |
| 8 | Jack Blair – Daniel Rotman | 32 | Cameron Doner – Mike Lucas |
| 9 | Stan Sather – Dennis Sorenson | 33 | Steve Scott – Haig Tchamitch |
| 10 | Darryle Pedersen – R. Schwartz | 34 | Larry Cohen – Jill Levin |
| 11 | Barry Schaffer – Colby Vernay | 35 | Srikanth Kodayam – Mark Ralph |
| 12 | Denny Clerkin – Brenda Jacobus | 36 | Benito Garozzo – Rich Reisig |
| 13 | Steve Beatty – Bernie Yomtov | 37 | Bob Morris – Barbara Sion |
| 14 | K. Anand – Ghassan Menachi | 38 | John C Jeffrey – Sam Wilson |
| 15 | Michael McNamara – David Yates | 39 | Leonard Ernst – Kenny Gee |
| 16 | George Berger – Brian Glubok | 40 | John Solodar – Judith Weisman |
| 17 | Emil Dojaru – Sorin Pleacof | 41 | Sid Brownstein – Bill Wickham |
| 18 | Wayne Chu – | 42 | Chris Compton – |
| 19 | Bill Roberts – John Roberts | 43 | Rene Mancuso – Shawn Quinn |
| 20 | Manuel Capucho – Maria João Lara | 44 | Joe Kivel – Jon Wittes |
| 21 | Phillip Becker – Kumar Bhatia | 45 | Petra Hamman – Nancy Passell |
| 22 | Venkatrao Koneru – Hemant Lall | 46 | Disa Cheeks – Lynn Deas |
| 23 | Bill Jacobson – Keith Woolf | 47 | Jim Robison – Jerry Weinstein |
| 24 | Bill Doroshow – Nate Ward | | |
| | | | |

The Cavendish Teams: (Match Six &) Day Two

Match 6:

Peter Fredin and Magnus Lindkvist found an elegant defense to the standard 2NT contract, generally reached around the room in one bid.



Fredin, as West, was looking for the most passive lead available. He hit upon the ♠10, which went to declarer's king as Lindkvist encouraged. Now declarer advanced the ♣K and Lindkvist took it to shift to the ♦9, ducked to Fredin's queen. At this point Peter paused to count the hand. Declarer appeared to have 9 HCP in the minors, and if he had his bids he had to have the ♠AK. If he had anything else 2NT would be cold so Fredin found the ♥Q shift, ducked by declarer. Fredin continued with a low heart to the jack, king and ace and then won his ♣Q to exit with a third club. Declarer had no communication to take the indicated spade finesse, so he simply cashed his black-suit winners and played a diamond to the jack for down one.

At the other table 2NT made nine tricks on a diamond lead.



"Smile, you're on Candid Camera!"

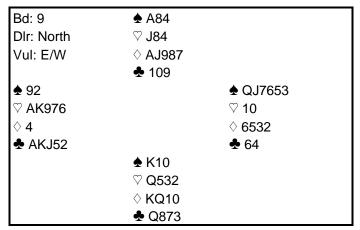
Match 7:

Shugart's team started a charge toward the medals, aided by this early deal on day two.

| Bd: 2 | | ▲ O0 | |
|----------------|----------|-------------------|---------------|
| | | ≙ Q9 | |
| Dlr: East | | ♡ 9532 | |
| Vul: N/S | | ♦ K10975 | |
| | | ♣ K8 | |
| ★ 87 | | | ♠ A6 |
| ♡ | | | ♡ A108764 |
| ♦ J86432 | | | \Diamond AQ |
| ♣ J6542 | | | ♣ A73 |
| | | ♦ KJ105432 | |
| | | ♡ KQJ | |
| | | | |
| | | ♣ Q109 | |
| | | 1 9100 | |
| West | North | East | South |
| Fredin | | Lindkvist | |
| _ | _ | 1♣(1) | 1♠ |
| Pass | 1NT | Dbl | 4♠ |
| 4NT | Pass | 5♣ | Dbl |
| All Pass | | | |
| (1) 11-13 o | r 17+ HC | P | |

4NT for the minors was not exactly what Lindkvist wanted to hear. On the $\heartsuit K$ lead he made the most of his rather poor chances by pitching a spade to win the $\heartsuit A$. He ruffed a heart to dummy and successfully finessed the diamond—well, sort of. South ruffed and led a spade. Lindkvist won the ace and ruffed another heart, then took his life in his hands by playing ace and another club. When the trumps fell he had eleven tricks, with the heart suit established. Had hearts not split he would have been hard pressed to take another trick!

When Seamon-Passell took on Levin-Weinstein, Mike Passell took an excellent view on the following deal.



Mike opened 1° in fourth seat and the auction proceeded, (2°) -Pass- (3°) back to him. Passell passed, and on this occasion discretion was certainly the better part of valor since 3° went one down on the heart ruff while nothing

was making his way.

| Bd: 8 | ♦ 9854 | |
|------------|---------------|------------------|
| DIr: West | ♡ 875 | |
| Vul: None | ♦ AQ98 | |
| | ♣ K8 | |
| ♠ A | | ★ KQ10732 |
| ♡ K109632 | | ♡ QJ4 |
| ♦ 32 | | ♦ J10 |
| ♣ A754 | | ♣ Q9 |
| | ♦ J6 | |
| | ♡ A | |
| | ♦ K7654 | |
| | ♣ J10632 | |

Is there any defense to $4\heartsuit$? Passell-Seamon bid $1\heartsuit$ -1 \clubsuit ; $2\heartsuit$ -4 \heartsuit and on a trump lead declarer had his entry to dummy. Levin won the ace and shifted to a diamond, the defense playing three rounds of the suit. But Passell could ruff in hand and unblock the \clubsuit A, then use the trump entries to ruff a spade and finish drawing trumps ending in the dummy.

| Bd: 1 | ★ K973 | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| DIr: North | ∇ KQ64 | |
| Vul: None | ♦ KQ96 | |
| | ♣ 9 | |
| ♠ A854 | | ♠ Q102 |
| ♡ 7 | | ♡ A532 |
| ♦ 19832 | | ♦ 75 |
| ♣ K1032 | | ♣ J654 |
| | ♠ J6 | |
| | ♡ J1098 | |
| | ♦ AJ4 | |
| | ♣ AQ87 | |

 $4\heartsuit$ by N/S looks to be a fine spot. However, after Levin-Weinstein's unopposed sequence $1\diamondsuit-1\heartsuit$; $2\heartsuit-2NT$; $4\clubsuit-4\heartsuit$, Passell found the devastating diamond lead (mind you a low spade might have worked too, but this was better). Levin won in hand and passed the $\heartsuit10$, then led a heart to the queen which Seamon ducked. Now Levin's best chance was the club finesse, but when that lost to the king and a diamond came back he had no further chances.



"Now what am I offered for this set of bookends?"

| \.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\. | NI a mtla | F4 | Countle |
|--|-----------|-----------------|---------------|
| | | ♣ Q8 | |
| | | ♦ 76543 | |
| | | ♥ QJ10 | |
| | | ♠ Q83 | |
| ♣ J76 | | | ♣ AK1095432 |
| ♦ J92 | | | ♦ Q8 |
| | | | ♡ 982 |
| ♥ 65 | | | უ იი ე |
| ♠ AJ954 | | * | A |
| vui. IV/S | | | |
| Vul: N/S | | ♦ AK10 | |
| Dlr: East | | | |
| Bd: 18 | | ★ K10762 | |

Match 8:

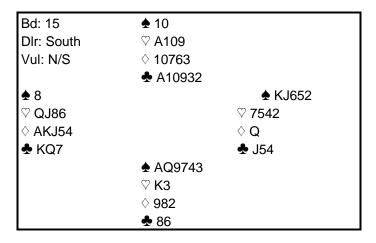
| West | North | East | South |
|------------|------------|----------|-----------|
| Hamman | Levin | Zia | Weinstein |
| _ | _ | 1♣ | Pass |
| 1♠ | 2♡ | 3♣ | 3♡ |
| 4♣ | 4 ♦ | Pass | 4♡ |
| Pass | Pass | 5♣ | Pass |
| Pass | 5♡ | 6♣ | Pass |
| Pass | 6♡ | Pass | Pass |
| 7 ♣ | Dbl | All Pass | |

A high-class game of chicken saw all kinds of insurance being taken out by E/W. Weinstein cashed two rounds of hearts (Levin following seven-four to suggest a spade switch) and then obediently shifted to the ♠3. When Zia put in the nine Levin thought for a long while before putting in the ten. That still allowed declarer to take one diamond discard and held the damage to −500.

As if to say that you can never tell what is a good result Chagas was allowed to buy the hand in 4° . At the other table Berkowitz opened 2^{\bullet} as East and when Cohen (West) responded 2^{\bullet} Chagas passed as North. Now Berkowitz rebid 3^{\bullet} and Chagas doubled that, then corrected 3° to 3° . Helgemo (South) raised to 4° and collected +620—and what could be easier than that?

| Bd: 10 | ★ K87543 | |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Dlr: East | ♡ AK5 | |
| Vul: Both | ♦ AK3 | |
| | ♣ 2 | |
| ♠ AQ9 | | ★ 1062 |
| ♡ 10987 | | ♡ J63 |
| ♦ J74 | | ♦ 98 |
| ♣ J64 | | ♣ Q9875 |
| | ♠ J | |
| | ♥ Q42 | |
| | ♦ Q10652 | |
| | ♣ AK103 | |

The folly of rebidding 1NT after 1♦-1♠ with an unbalanced hand was never more emphasized than here, where Chagas opened 1♦ and made the ill-fated rebid. Helgemo now drove the hand to 4♠ and on a diamond lead decided to lead up to the ♠J rather than playing the king. Now the defense won the queen and pressed on with diamonds. When Helgemo led the ♠K from his hand the defense took the ♠A and eventually scored a diamond ruff to set the hand.



This deal effectively decided the Brachman (npc)-Johnson match. While Passell-Seamon were collecting a small plus against 3♥, Wold-Soloway passed out Eric Greco in 2♠ doubled. The defense began with two rounds of diamonds as East pitched a heart. Now the ♣K shift let Greco win and pass the ♠10 (as the cards lie it does no good to cover). Now Greco played three rounds of heats ruffing in hand and exited with a diamond. The defense could win and cash a club but now in the four-card ending both Soloway and Greco were down to four trumps each. Greco could overruff Soloway, then exit with a low trump and collect +670.

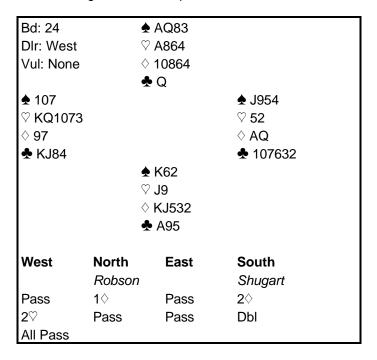
Meanwhile, Zia and Hamman were having a serendipitous accident (not all of their accidents worked out this well!). Over Hamman's (West) double of South's weak 2♠ opening Zia (East) bid 2NT, Lebensohl, raised by Hamman to 3NT. On a spade lead Zia had a cheap trick and now he could set up nine winners while the defense had no communications left. Meanwhile, 3♥ went two down at the other table.



"Who do you like in the third race...?"

Match 9:

As the final match started the winners of the event (Johnson) were known but the fight for 2nd/3rd/4th place was very close. Three consecutive deals gave Shugart a big win over Brachman, but not quite enough to prevent Levin from holding on to second place.



Shugart's reopening double showed balanced extras and Robson was delighted to defend. On a diamond lead the defense could get eight tricks after the club misguess for +500 and 8 imps (Wold-Soloway were +150 in 3\(\frac{1}{2}\) at the other table).

| Bd: 25 | ♠ AK |
|-----------------|---------------|
| DIr: North | ♡ Q942 |
| Vul: E/W | ♦ 1085 |
| | ♣ K872 |
| ★ J10754 | ♠ Q3 |
| ♡ J85 | ♡ A3 |
| ♦ AK7 | ♦ QJ942 |
| ♣ J4 | ♣ AQ95 |
| | ♦ 9862 |
| | ♡ K1076 |
| | ♦ 63 |
| | ♣ 1063 |

It is tough to stay out of 3NT here. Robson-Shugart defended 3NT after East had shown five diamonds. On a heart lead Shugart could count eight tricks for declarer, so when the \$\Delta\$J was led she had to cover and hope to find Robson with the ten. When declarer took a second club finesse he finished down 200.

But at the other table Lindkvist, who had overcalled 14 with 1NT, received a heart lead against his game. He won

and led a diamond to the ace and played the ♣J. Wold could see that unless declarer had a concealed five-card diamond suit the right defense was to duck. Unlucky!

Berkowitz-Cohen also racked up +600 in a different way.

After North opened a 12-14 notrump Berkowitz doubled. South passed to show two four-card suits and Cohen transferred to 2♠, then bid 3NT. Can you blame North for guessing to lead a club and not a heart?

Where Did the Tricks Come From?

By Sam Leckie

On Board 20 in the third-round match between the Hamman and Woolsey teams, Bob Hamman made nine tricks, as West, in 3NT. Here was the situation:

| Bd: 20 | ♠ KJ9 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| DIr: West | ♡ K 5 |
| Vul: Both | ♦ 1064 |
| | ♣ 108752 |
| ♠ Q8743 | ♠ 102 |
| ♡ AJ82 | ♡ Q43 |
| ♦ KQ | ♦ A98 |
| ♣ 94 | ♣ KQJ63 |
| | ♠ A65 |
| | ♡ 10976 |
| | ♦ J7532 |
| | ♣ A |

A diamond was led and Hamman won in hand and led a club to the king and South's ace. The normal line would be to score three diamonds, four clubs (if they break) and then the heart finesse for nine tricks. When the club was taken immediately he didn't fancy the clubs to break, so on a diamond return he led a low heart toward dummy's queen. North had to make a quick decision and opted to play low. When the queen scored Hamman led a spade to his gueen. It looked to North like Hamman had taken a losing spade finesse, so he continued with a third diamond. When dummy's clubs were cashed South had to find two discards. A spade was easy, but on the last club, reluctant to pitch a winning diamond, South let go a heart. Hamman now knew North was 3-2-3-5 so he played a heart to his ace dropping the now stiff king and scored his ♥8 for the ninth trick and a game swing.

Hamman's team won the match 27-3.

Can you work out how many tricks he made in each suit?



"Is that your final answer?"



I think Sweden is that way."



"Why did you call it 'Blue' Team?



"Yes, I guess it was kind of unlucky that he really had his bid this time."



"I love the smell of Danish in the morning."



"Table Up!"

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 13, 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 (on the second floor of the Country Club, near the playing area) 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