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USA I, France lead qualifiers into quarterfinal matches

United States I and France topped the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup round-robins respectively, but all that is history now. Today marks the start of the knockout phase, with eight teams remaining in each event. The round-robin surprises – Brazil and Denmark failed to make the Bermuda Bowl playoffs, and Germany, the defending champion, didn't make it into the Venice Cup quarterfinals.

The quarterfinals in both events will consist of 96 boards, two 32-board segments today and another 16-board segment tomorrow.

Playing for United States I are Seymour Deutsch, Paul Soloway, Zia, Michael Rosenberg, Chip Martel and Lew Stansby, with Hugh Ross as non-playing captain.

The French round-robin champions consist of Veronique Bessis, Catherine Saul, Catherine de Guillebon, Pascale Thuillez, Benedicte Cronier and Sylvie Willard, with Jean-Christophe Quantin as non-playing captain.

Bermuda Bowl

The American teams I and II finished on top, followed by France, Norway, Italy, Poland, China and Chinese Taipei. USA I, given the choice of any team from fifth to eighth, selected China, then chose to play the semifinal against the winner of the USA II – Chinese Taipei match. France will oppose Poland and Norway will play Italy. If USA I loses, China will play the winner of the other match.

Brazil made a determined bid for the last qualifying position. Down by 27 IMPs with eight boards to play, they performed magnificently the rest of the way and actually defeated Norway, 19-11. It appeared that this possibly would be good enough to unseat Chinese Taipei, but the Chinese also had a good match, winning 18-12. As a result Brazil's stars missed qualification by 3 Victory Points.

The American teams performed strongly throughout. If they both win their quarterfinal matches, they will play each other in the semifinal. USA I defeated USA II in their round-robin match here and in the American trials in New Orleans.

Venice Cup

France led at the close of play every day, but the final standings found the top six teams well bunched. USA I and II were second and third, and the rest of the qualifiers were China, Great Britain, Canada, Netherlands and Italy.

Italy and Germany were in a dingdong battle for the last qualifying spot. Italy, which replaced Israel when Israel withdrew, held on in their final match to edge Germany by 2 Victory Points.

France was challenged at times by the American teams, but they always had enough to stay out front. China came on very strong to finish in fourth place.

Today's pairings: France vs. Netherlands, USA I vs. Italy, USA II vs. Canada and China vs. Great Britain. The winner of the France-Netherlands match will oppose the victor of the China-Great Britain battle in the semifinals. If both American teams win, they will play each other. WBF rules stipulate that two teams from the same country may not play each other in the final.



Mark Hodler (left) - **José Damiani** (right)

Hodler – “Much depends on definition of sport”

What is the definition of "sport"? That is the question that has confounded officials of the International Olympic Committee for years, according to Mark Hodler of Switzerland. Hodler was first vice-president of the IOC until recently and likely to be renamed at the Winter Olympics in Japan next year.

Hodler, who has a strong interest in bridge, stopped by the Championships for a couple of days between visits to Japan, where plans for the Winter Olympics there are being finalised. Interested in bridge? Absolutely! He served as president of the Swiss Bridge Federation for 33 years.

Back to that definition. Hodler believes the IOC is close to coming up with a definition. He sincerely hopes that the word "intellectual" will be part of it. "Humanity needs training of the brain as well as training of mus-

continued on page 5

Bermuda Bowl - Results

Round 16

Table	Match	IMPs	VPs
1.	Australia - USA I	16 - 46	9 - 21
2.	South Africa - USA II	29 - 78	5 - 25
3.	France - India	35 - 24	17 - 13
4.	New Zealand - Canada	35 - 63	9 - 21
5.	Chinese Taipei - Denmark	48 - 19	21 - 9
6.	Norway - China	20 - 20	15 - 15
7.	Venezuela - Brazil	29 - 80	5 - 25
8.	Italy - Tunisia	58 - 20	23 - 7
9.	Poland - Chile	42 - 27	18 - 12

Round 17

Table	Match	IMPs	VPs
1.	USA I - Poland	38 - 22	18 - 12
2.	USA II - Australia	41 - 38	16 - 14
3.	India - South Africa	41 - 43	15 - 15
4.	Canada - France	29 - 63	8 - 22
5.	Denmark - New Zealand	65 - 25	23 - 7
6.	China - Chinese Taipei	27 - 43	12 - 18
7.	Brazil - Norway	70 - 51	19 - 11
8.	Tunisia - Venezuela	31 - 51	11 - 19
9.	Chile - Italy	50 - 64	12 - 18

Bermuda Bowl Final Rankings Round-robin

1	U.S.A. I	323
2	U.S.A. II	315.4
3	FRANCE	296
4	NORWAY	294
5	ITALY	290.1
6	POLAND	285
7	CHINA	278
8	CHINESE TAIPEI	277
9	BRAZIL	274
10	DENMARK	264
11	AUSTRALIA	256
12	CANADA	233
13	INDIA	226
14	VENEZUELA	223
15	NEW ZEALAND	205
16	CHILE	189
17	SOUTH AFRICA	174
18	TUNISIA	154

Venice Cup - Results

Round 16

Table	Match	IMPs	VPs
10.	Canada - France	42 - 26	18 - 12
11.	Brazil - Chinese Taipei	109 - 33	25 - 1
12.	Netherlands - Australia	46 - 76	9 - 21
13.	New Zealand - India	40 - 46	14 - 16
14.	Tunisia - Colombia	22 - 67	6 - 24
15.	USA II - China	65 - 39	20 - 10
16.	Italy - Great Britain	30 - 69	7 - 23
17.	Argentina - USA I	46 - 59	12 - 18
18.	Germany - South Africa	46 - 27	19 - 11

Round 17

Table	Match	IMPs	VPs
10.	France - Germany	75 - 29	24 - 6
11.	Chinese Taipei - Canada	34 - 60	10 - 20
12.	Australia - Brazil	72 - 36	22 - 8
13.	India - Netherlands	51 - 47	16 - 14
14.	Colombia - New Zealand	36 - 73	7 - 23
15.	China - Tunisia	62 - 44	19 - 11
16.	Great Britain - USA II	51 - 15	22 - 8
17.	USA I - Italy	46 - 49	14 - 16
18.	South Africa - Argentina	26 - 43	11 - 19

Venice Cup Final Rankings Round-robin

1	FRANCE	298
2	U.S.A. I	291.5
3	U.S.A. II	289
4	CHINA	288
5	GREAT BRITAIN	287
6	CANADA	283
7	NETHERLANDS	272
8	ITALY	259
9	GERMANY	257
10	INDIA	254
11	AUSTRALIA	254
12	NEW ZEALAND	253
13	ARGENTINA	238
14	SOUTH AFRICA	224
15	CHINESE TAIPEI	217
16	COLOMBIA	206
17	BRAZIL	205
18	TUNISIA	169

Bermuda Bowl Program

Quarter-finals

- USA I - China
- USA II - Chinese Taipei
- France - Poland
- Norway - Italy

Venice Cup Program

Quarter-finals

- France - Netherlands
- China - Great Britain
- USA I - Italy
- USA II - Canada

VuGraph Quips

Omar Sharif was playing in the prestigious Sunday Times Pairs Championship in London. Terence Reese was a member of the commentary team. When Omar made a particularly sparkling play a fellow commentator asked Reese what he thought of it. In his inimitable way he observed, 'Its the best thing he's done since Dr. Zhivago!'

Bermuda Bowl

Round 14

ITALY vs CHINA

By Barry Rigal

This was a critical match for both teams since a big win could virtually guarantee qualification. At the same time a big loss would put either team in real jeopardy.

(Since there are two Wangs, we will refer to them by their initials.)

The match started with a system pickup for Italy.

Board 1. Love All. Dealer North.

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

Buratti opened the North hand with an 11-14 notrump, Li with 1♥. Over the former, X. Wang as West showed the majors with a 2♣ bid which Fu contemplated passing. But in the end he relayed with 2♦ and Wang bid 2♠ to end the auction. After the lead of the ♦10, ducked around to the queen, declarer played three rounds of spades. Buratti shifted to the ♥A and a second heart to beat the contract (a trump, a diamond, a club and three hearts).

By contrast, Bocchi and Duboin could reach diamonds more easily over the 1♥ opening though they climbed to the four level. The defence would have done best to lead trumps, but they did not. (North led a spade, allowing Duboin to lead a club toward the king at trick two.) That allowed declarer to come to 10 tricks.

Then another slightly fortunate systemic pickup for Buratti/Lanzarotti.

Board 3. E/W Vul. Dealer South.

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

Lanzarotti opened the South hand with 1♥ and had to rebid 2♦ over the INT bid, showing spades. Buratti bid 2♥ and that ended the auction. The cards lie very well for a crossruff. In fact, on the lead of the ♣Q declarer made 10 tricks in a canter. However, Li and W. Wang found the club fit and bid to 5♣ – which needs a little more than the ♥A right. When that did not oblige, the Italians had 6 more IMPs and an 11-IMP lead.

Then the Chinese squared the match with good results from both tables.

Board 6. E/W Vul. Dealer East.

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

Over Fu's strong club Lanzarotti bid INT – that showed spades and diamonds or hearts and clubs. That led to a contract of 5♦ doubled played by North, and the defence were never going to get it wrong with East on lead.

The auction from the Open Room suggests North should have been declarer there too, but Duboin led the ♠5, and that let declarer wrap up 5♦.

The Italians picked up the lead with two excellent partscore results. They found a 4-4 spade fit on a hand where the field was toiling unnecessarily in INT. Then they were allowed to make a hopeless INT. Next came something more dramatic.

Board 9. E/W Vul. Dealer North.

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

Both teams declared 3NT after East had pre-empted with 3♣, and the opening lead at both tables was the ♣J. This was overtaken with the queen and East continued with the ♣K. The suit preference overtones of playing the honours in that order point clearly to East having a heart entry, not a spade. So Duboin threw a heart. But X. Wang threw a spade, and that was the ninth trick.

The Italian lead was up to 21, and another 13 IMPs came when the Italians bid a slam on a finesse (but they had a clue in the auction that the finesse was likely to work). The lead was 34 by Board 13, but China picked up only their second swing of the set when Bocchi/Duboin had a major bidding accident and played a decent 4♥ in 4♦ down one when Duboin treated a 5-3-5-0 hand as a spade-diamond two-suiter. The match got even closer when Bocchi missed a chance for a great coup.

Board 15. N/S Vul. Dealer South.

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

The Chinese East/West played quietly in 5♣, making 11 tricks. Bocchi declared 6♣ on a top spade lead. Now declarer can come home via a spade ruff, ♥A and heart ruff, a trump to the ace, heart ruff, ♠Q covered, heart ruff, a second round of trumps, and the ♠J, pitching a diamond from dummy. In the four-card ending, a diamond to the 10 endplays North to lead into the diamond tenace. But Bocchi played on diamonds prematurely and went one down.

Italy's margin was down to 15, but China bid a hopeless game on a combined 21 count for a loss of 6 IMPs. Then Buratti/Lanzarotti outbid their counterparts.

Board 17. Love All. Dealer North.

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

Buratti-Lanzarotti bid 1♦ - 1♥ - (1♠) - 2♦ - 2♠ - (Dbl) - 3♠ - 3NT - 4♣ - 4♦ - 4♠ - 6♦. That was worth 10 IMPs when the Chinese pair stopped in 3NT in the other room.

And finally the reverse of this result – another 13 IMPs for Italy.

Board 20. Game All. Dealer West.

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

This time the Italians stopped in 5♣, whereas the Chinese bid on to 6♣ off two cashing aces. All of a sudden the Italians had a victory by 45 IMPs.



Alfredo Versace (Italy)



Appeal No. 4

Bermuda Bowl. Round 6. Canada v Poland

Appeal Committee:

Grattan Endicott (GB), Jean-Paul Meyer (FRA), Naki Bruni (ITA).

Board 11. Love All. Dealer South.

<p>♠ K 6 4 3 ♥ K 2 ♦ Q 10 7 ♣ K 9 8 3</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	<p>♠ A Q 9 2 ♥ 7 5 ♦ K J 8 ♣ A J 7 6</p>
N						
W						
E						
S						
<p>♠ J 5 ♥ A J 10 8 6 ♦ 9 3 ♣ Q 10 5 4</p>						
West	North	East	South			
Zmudzinski	Hanna	Balicki	Fraser			
Pass	3♥*	Dble	2♦ All Pass			

Result: 3♥ doubled minus 1 by South. N/S -100

Facts:

The Director was called to the table at the conclusion of the hand and West complained that 3♥ had been alerted as pre-emptive with at least four spades. West said he did not bid 4♣ on the takeout double because he was afraid of finding four spades on his left. The system file of the N/S pair was examined but it gave no indication that the bid guarantees four cards in spades; it merely says that it is pre-emptive. The Director formed the view that with information as it is written in the system file, West would have bid four spades. The score was adjusted to N/S -420.

Appellant:

The decision was appealed by N/S.

The Players:

Both North and South informed the Committee that their correct agreement was that the bid guaranteed four spades with at least three hearts. The system file does not contain this information.

The Committee:

The Committee took the view that it would be more normal for the bid to guarantee at least three in each major and that the guarantee of four in the spade suit is sufficiently unusual to require some statement, certainly in the system file and, the Committee thought, also on the convention card. The Committee did not consider that there was evidence to support the statements of N/S sufficiently strongly to warrant the Committee's changing the Director's ruling.

There was some discussion as to whether a score of N/S -170 was a possibility but N/S -420 was considered "the most favourable result that was likely had the irregularity not occurred" (Law 12C1).

Committee Decision:

Equity does not require any adjustment other than the N/S -420 awarded by the Director which is also the decision of the Committee. The Committee recommends N/S to amplify their written system explanations.

Appeals No. 4-5-6

Reported by Grattan Endicott (GB)

Appeal No. 5

Venice Cup. Round 11. Canada v Tunisia

Appeal Committee:

Joan Gerard (USA), Ernesto d'Orsi (BRA), Steen Møller (DEN), Dan Morse (USA), Barbara Nudelman (USA).

Board 13. Game All. Dealer North.

<p>♠ J 10 6 ♥ 10 8 7 3 ♦ 8 7 3 ♣ J 7 4</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	<p>♠ A 5 4 ♥ Q 6 ♦ A 10 2 ♣ Q 10 8 5 2</p>
N						
W						
E						
S						
<p>♠ 8 2 ♥ A 2 ♦ K J 9 6 4 ♣ A K 6 3</p>						
West	North	East	South			
Klibi	Cimon	Jellouli	Paul			
3♥	1♣	2♦	2♠			
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣			
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥			
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT			
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♦			
Pass	6♠	Dbl	6NT			
Pass	Pass	Dbl	7♣			
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Klibi	Cimon	Jellouli	Paul
3♥	1♣	2♦	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♦
Pass	6♠	Dbl	6NT
Pass	Pass	Dbl	7♣
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

Facts:

The Director was called after the double of 6♠. At this stage North had learned that the bid of 2♦ was for the major suits. North claimed that it had not been alerted and that her subsequent bidding was on the basis that it was natural. The Director determined at the end of the hand that the bidding makes no sense with South working on the basis of the correct explanation and North believing 2♦ was natural.

Tournament Director's Ruling:

The Director decided he could not determine a bridge result and awarded an artificial adjusted score of +3 IMPs to N/S. His enquiries about the alert of 2♦ to North showed that North was emphatic that no alert had occurred, while East stated that she had alerted the bid and had looked at North who had nodded. The Director considered East had not ensured that the alert was seen by applying the requirements of the Regulations.

Appellant:

The Appellant was E/W.

The Players:

East and North repeated their statements as to the alert of 2♦. East demonstrated how she had made the alert which was not as the Regulation says it MUST be done. The Tunisian Captain asked the Committee to note the general procedure at the table which had been, in his view, not in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations, especially in the matter of alerting.

The Committee:

The Committee took the view that the presentation by both sides had been accurate as to their experience

at the table but that there had been a failure to make the alert of 2♦ in the manner prescribed by the Regulations. The Committee drew it to the attention of the players that, if an alert is not made correctly, when something subsequently goes wrong the player making the alert has to bear the responsibility for the incorrect manner in which it has been made. This is true even though there has been a general inattention to this point in the match.

Committee's Decision:

The Committee's award was +3 IMPs to N/S as the Director had awarded. It was suggested to the Directors that they should again draw the attention of teams to the position in regard to alerts.

Appeal No. 6

Bermuda Bowl. Round 7. Denmark v Canada

Appeal Committee:

Joan Gerard (USA), Ernesto d'Orsi (BRA), Barbara Nudelman (USA), Dan Morse (USA), Bill Pencharz (GB).

Board 2. North/South Game. Dealer East.

<p>♠ K 8 ♥ 8 6 5 ♦ 10 9 ♣ K 10 8 7 5 3</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	<p>♠ A Q 4 ♥ K Q J 9 7 3 2 ♦ J 8 3 ♣ -</p>
N						
W						
E						
S						
<p>♠ 10 2 ♥ A 10 ♦ A K Q 7 5 2 ♣ Q 4 2</p>						
West	North	East	South			
Fraser	Schaffer	Hanna	Andersen			
Pass	3♥ ⁽²⁾	Pass	3♦ ⁽³⁾			
Dbl	6♥	6♠	Pass ⁽⁴⁾			
Pass	Dbl	All Pass				

West	North	East	South
Fraser	Schaffer	Hanna	Andersen
Pass	3♥ ⁽²⁾	Pass	3♦ ⁽³⁾
Dbl	6♥	6♠	Pass ⁽⁴⁾
Pass	Dbl	All Pass	

⁽¹⁾ Multi

⁽²⁾ Natural (or maybe stopper for NT)

^{(3),(4)} The appeal was based on these bids.

** written explanations (if any) not available by the time the protest was made

The Result: 6♠X - 6 by East: N/S +1400

Facts:

The Director, called to the table at the end of play, was informed that there was a problem because different explanations had been given on the two sides of the screen. South had told West that 3♠ denied a stop; North had told East that it could still be a try for 3NT but was ambiguous. At a later stage East had asked North the meaning of the pass of 6♠. North said that he replied something along the lines of "Normal bridge would be that it shows first-round control". East said that North just shrugged his shoulders and said "First-round control".

Tournament Director's Ruling:

The Director allowed the table score to stand since he felt North had given an accurate description of his understanding.

Appellant:

The appellant was E/W.

The Players:

East complained that he had not been given the explanation as it was given on the other side of the screen; if he had had this explanation he would not have played South for the ♠A and instead would have played the first round low to the ♠8. The only play is for 10 doubleton trump. There was a question as to whether the words "Normal bridge" were said. The player also questioned the basis for the Director's decision since he could find no evidence on the convention card on which

the Director could conclude that he had been given an accurate description of the 3♠ bid.

The Danish South said that in explaining 3♠ he had first of all said "Treading waters", and then "stepping", and then "probing". When none of these words were understood by his opponent, he said "denies spade stop". North said that his partner had judged that he had the ♠A and had invited seven. He had found no reason to judge that he should bid seven. He also could not understand the thinking process by which declarer, who had already seen him play ♦AK and ♥A, could judge in the play that he would also have the ♠A. This view would require that North had bid a hand comprising only KQJxxxx hearts and a minor honour in diamonds in the

way that he had.

The normal understanding of the pass of 6♠ would be that it showed first-round control, but this is potentially modified by the explanation of the 3♠ bid.

The Committee:

The Committee felt that declarer, having seen the three top honours played by South and discovering that he was not void in spades, could hardly play him for ♠A.

Committee's Decision:

It was considered the appeal was substantially without merit and the deposit was retained.

Hodler – Much depends on definition of sport

(continued from page 1)

cle," he said. If the definition includes mind sports, then bridge can move ahead in its drive to become an Olympic sport.

"We have discussed this issue for many years without resolution," he said. "I hope we do not decide that physical activity is a condition of being a sport. But even there bridge may qualify – it certainly takes good physical condition to compete in a major bridge championship." He called bridge and chess the forerunners of mind sports.

The IOC no longer allows demonstration sports, although it once did. The Olympics have simply grown too big. At a Summer Olympics housing has to be found for 15,000 participants and administrators and as many as 10,000 media representatives. It is not quite so bad in the Winter Olympics – about 3300 competitors and administrators – but still upwards of 9000 media persons.

"It's a problem of accommodation. In Seoul we had 11,500 VIPs – that's a bit hard to handle. That's part of the reason why there is no more room for additional winter sports that require a stadium or a rink," he said. "But that doesn't rule out bridge. Bridge can be played in the ballrooms of a hotel – the Olympics can handle that."

Although Olympics no longer allow demonstration sports, they can still be staged in continental games – such as the Asian Games that are coming up soon in Bangkok. Hodler sincerely hopes that bridge will be okayed as a demonstration sport at these Games. His strong feeling is that this will happen.

Bridge is Hodler's second highest interest. "I'm a man of many hobbies, mostly sports. Skiing is number one – I have been president of the International Ski Federation since 1951 – and I've been associated with the IOC since 1963. After skiing comes bridge and then music. And if I have any free time, I like to do a little painting."

A well-rounded personality, without question.

World Transnational Open Teams Championship

The first round of the Transnational Teams starts at 17.00 hours on Monday. We play in the FORUM and adjacent foyer for tables 1-25 and in the basement behind the lobby of the Sol-Azur for tables 26 upwards.

The positions for each round will be posted on the monitors.

Captains are requested to bring their results to the result desk on the ground floor in the conference building.

Players eliminated in the quarter-finals may enter the Transnational Teams on Tuesday, starting at 11.00 a.m. in the fourth round, under the restrictions described in the conditions of contest.

The deadline for entry at this stage is 1800 hours on Monday. Entries should be made at the result desk.

All former champions

Remember the question in an earlier Daily Bulletin: Which team, including the non-playing captain, is made up entirely of former champions?

You probably have figured out that the answer is Brazil. Garbriel Chagas and Marcelo Branco have won three world championships. Gabino Cintra and Pedro-Paulo Branco have two, and Roberto Mello and Cristiano Fonseca have one apiece. As for npc Pedro-Paulo Assumpcao, he was a playing member of the Brazilian team that unseated Italy in the 1976 Olympiad in Monte Carlo.

Quite a few observers thought that United States I in the Bermuda Bowl was the answer. Certainly Paul Soloway, Michael Rosenberg, Seymon Deutsch, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby and npc Hugh Ross have won numerous championships. But Zia hasn't. He led Pakistan to two second-place finishes, but up to this point he has never been a world champion.

And all the players on United States II were victors in the last Bermuda Bowl – and several have won many titles. But npc Walt Walvick has never had a world title.

Alerting Procedure

The Appeals Committee would like to draw the attention of all players to the correct alerting procedure as laid down in The General Conditions of Contest for World Bridge Championships.

Rule 16.2 Alerts and Explanations

A player who makes an alertable call as defined in Section 9 must alert his screenmate, and partner must alert on the other side of the screen when the bidding tray arrives there. **The alert just be made by placing the alert card over the last call of the screenmate, in his segment of the bidding tray; the alerted player must acknowledge by returning the alert card to his opponent.**

A player may, by written question, ask for an explanation of an opponent's call; the screenmate then provides a written answer.

Many players at these Championships are not following the correct procedure as described above. In the event that there is a problem with a disputed alert, it is **entirely at the risk of the alerter** if he or she has not followed the correct procedure. In other words, the strong possibility is that the benefit of any doubt will go to the opposition.

José Damiani
Chairman

Steen Møller
Vice-chairman

Joan Gerard
Vice-chairman

VUGRAPH

Bermuda Bowl - Quarter-finals 11h00

USA I - CHINA

Quarter-finals 14h00
To be decided

Quarter-finals 17h00
To be decided

Quarter-finals 21h30
To be decided

Smoking in Hammamet

The tournament is normally non-smoking, unless if, by special agreement of the concerned players at a table, the tournament director is requested to allow it.

The same smoking policy will apply next year at the World Championships in Lille, France.

From 1999, all WBF events will be non-smoking.

Requested to add an S to the names of the smoking players. No cigars or pipes. Only players are allowed to smoke.

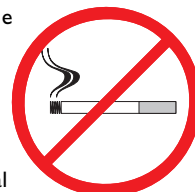
The same smoking policy will apply next year at the World Championships in Lille, France.

From 1999, all WBF events will be non-smoking.

On submitting their lineups, team captains will be requested to add an S to the names of the smoking players. No cigars or pipes. Only players are allowed to smoke.

The same smoking policy will apply next year at the World Championships in Lille, France.

From 1999, all WBF events will be non-smoking.



Bermuda Bowl MANORWAY OF

Norway was safely in the quarterfinals as the final round got under way, but Brazil was fighting for the last qualifying position. Going into the final match, Brazil was 4 Victory Points behind eight place Chinese Taipei. Brazil drew first blood by staying out of game on Board 1.

Board 1. Love All. Dealer North.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Chagas	Helness	M.Branco
	INT	2♥	2♠
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cintra	Saelensminde	P.Branco	Brogeland
	1♦	1♥	1♠
2♥	Dbl	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

M. Branco received friendly defence and wound up with 10 tricks. The Brazilian defence in the Closed Room was letter perfect after a trump opening lead and Brogeland was able to take only eight tricks. 7 IMPs to Brazil.

But the momentum quickly shifted to Norway – Brazil bid two consecutive slams that went down while Norway stopped in game in both cases.



Gabriel Chagas (Brazil)

Board 2. North/South Game. Dealer East.

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

Nothing particularly interesting happened here – Brazil gained an overtrick IMP as both teams played 3NT. But there's an interesting point here. On the opening lead of the ♦6, consider what happens if South covers the 6 with the 7 instead of going up with the queen. Later when South gets in with the ♠A, he can lead the ♦Q to pick up the entire suit and set the contract. If this happened, the action would have been a great candidate for a brilliancy prize.

Board 3. East/West Game. Dealer South.

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

Saelensminde and Brogeland stopped in 5♣, easily making, but this was the bidding in the Open Room.

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Chagas	Helness	M.Branco
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Dbl	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

When you look at the North/South cards only, this looks like a good slam – what does it need besides a reasonable trump break and no quick spade ruff? But the clubs were as bad as they could be – all with West. There was no way to avoid losing a spade and a trump – 10 IMPs to Norway.

Board 4. Game All. Dealer West.

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



Marcelo Branco (Brazil)

On this deal both teams arrived in 6♦, and the contract should be down one at both tables. But a strange thing happened in the Closed Room. When Cintra led the ♥A, Pedro Branco followed with jack! Now declarer was able to drive out the king, setting up his queen for a discard of the losing spade. In the Open Room, Brogeland followed with the 8 to the ♥A opening lead, and declarer as a result was unable to avoid losing a heart and a spade, an additional 16 IMPs to Norway.

Board 6. East/West Game. Dealer East.

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

Norway picked up another 12 IMPs here. The contract was 3NT at both tables, and Norway made 10 tricks. At the other table, however, declarer slipped in the play and made only eight tricks.

Board 7. Game All. Dealer South.

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

In the Closed Room, Cintra and P.Branco signed off in 4♠ and actually made 12 tricks after getting a diamond lead. But this was the bidding in the Open Room:

Photograph courtesy of Kodak's new digital camera

THE BRAZILIAN

Round 17

West <i>Helgemo</i>	North <i>Chagas</i>	East <i>Helness</i>	South <i>M.Branco</i>
1♣	1♥	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

The commentators quickly pointed out that this contract would make without a heart lead. But Chagas' overcall made it easy for M.Branco to lead the ♥Q. This led to a one-trick defeat – 13 IMPs back to Brazil, now trailing 38-21.

Suddenly the swing boards ended for a while – only minor swings on Boards 8 and 9, and Board 10 was flat. Board 11 also was flat, but it had the ingredients of a swing.

Board 11. Love All. Dealer South.

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

Both Helgemo and Cintra merely bid and rebid diamonds – Cintra bid the suit three times when his partner made two forcing bids. With diamonds splitting, a diamond game is possible unless the defence starts with a heart. That takes the entry out of dummy before either of the singleton kings can be played.

Board 12. North/South Game. Dealer West.

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

West <i>Helgemo</i>	North <i>Chagas</i>	East <i>Helness</i>	South <i>M.Branco</i>
Pass	1♠	2♦	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

What's that old saying about not bidding Blackwood with a worthless doubleton? M.Branco, with a magnificent fit for his partner's spades, did exactly that, and the result was another major swing against Brazil. Chagas did the best he could – he stripped the hand and led a heart, hoping that one of the opponents held a singleton honor. No such luck – 13 more IMPs to Norway, now leading, 51-24.

Brazil refused to give up and now commenced a

remarkable comeback. They scored points on almost every board.

Board 13. Game All. Dealer North.

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

Open Room

West <i>Helgemo</i>	North <i>Chagas</i>	East <i>Helness</i>	South <i>M.Branco</i>
INT	Pass	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass	3♦	Dbf

When East showed a three suiter with short diamonds South put in a lead directing double. The audience would have liked West to redouble and try and make the contract but he preferred a more prosaic 3NT.

North dutifully led a diamond and South took the ace and switched to a club, covered by the jack and queen and ducked. Declarer won the next club and played the nine of spades. Chagas went in with the queen and played his remaining club. That was taken by dummy's ace and Helgemo returned to hand with the ace of spade to run the jack of hearts. When that lost he was two down; -200.

Closed Room

West <i>Cintra</i>	North <i>Saelensminde</i>	East <i>P.Branco</i>	South <i>Brogeland</i>
2NT	2♠	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass	3♥	Pass

The same contract was reached via a different route. North led the ten of clubs which ran to declarer's jack. He went after the spades, playing ace and another, North winning as South discarded the six of hearts on the second round of the suit. North's diamond switch went to the jack and king and declarer returned the ten, taken by South with the queen. He went back to clubs but declarer was able to win and clear the diamonds. He finished up with ten tricks; +630 and 13 IMPs.

Board 15. N/S game. Dealer South.

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

Open Room

West <i>Helgemo</i>	North <i>Chagas</i>	East <i>Helness</i>	South <i>M.Branco</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♦	Pass	INT
Pass	3♠	All Pass	2NT

Three spades was not a happy contract. East led the ace of hearts and switched to a trump. That was the end of dummy and the contract drifted three down; -300.

That didn't look or feel great, but Branco/Cintra were charging.

Closed Room

West <i>Cintra</i>	North <i>Saelensminde</i>	East <i>P.Branco</i>	South <i>Brogeland</i>
Pass	Pass	Dbf	3♣
			All Pass

West led the two of hearts and East won and switched to a trump. West captured South's king with the ace and played another heart. East won and played the nine of hearts. When South ducked he switched to the king of diamonds. The contract now had to fail by two tricks; -500 and 5 IMPs.

Board 19. East/West Game. Dealer South.

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

Open Room

West <i>Helgemo</i>	North <i>Chagas</i>	East <i>Helness</i>	South <i>M.Branco</i>
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	All Pass

Nothing wrong with that auction and declarer emerged with eight tricks to record +120. Needless to say, the Brazilians were in search of bigger things in the other room.

Closed Room

West <i>Cintra</i>	North <i>Saelensminde</i>	East <i>P. Branco</i>	South <i>Brogeland</i>
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the three of hearts ducked to North's king. Winning the heart continuation with the ace, declarer played the jack of diamonds which lost to South's king. His switch to the king of spades (!) removed any further interest from the play. Declarer lost only two diamonds and a heart for +630.

Brazil had scored 46 unanswered IMPs on the final seven boards to win 70-51 IMPs, 19-11 VP. Would it be enough?

Venice Cup

Round 17

France vs Germany

by Barry Rigal

France needed a big win to have a chance to top the qualifying group. Germany needed to avoid a loss to ensure that they qualified at all. In fact the set started out well for Germany in the Open Room.

Board 2. North/South Game. Dealer East.

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

Both tables played 3NT by West – which can be defeated by the diamond intra-finesse described elsewhere by Patrick Jourdain. In fact Catherine Saul led a spade in response to her partner's delayed entry into the auction (perhaps a bad move because it implied a bad spade suit?) Auken led a heart. Then France got very lucky.

Board 3. East/West Game. Dealer South.

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

West	North	East	South
Nehmert	Saul	Rauscheid	Bessis
Pass	1♥	Dbl	Pass
2♦	Dbl	3♦	Pass
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

While Saul was making slam tries, Bessis (who had opened atypically light) was not on the same wavelength. Mind you, Saul might have bid 3♦ at her second turn. 4♣ drifted one off when Bessis lost focus, while Auken played 5♣ on the lead of the ♦K. With the ruffing finesse in diamonds working, declarer can survive the 4-0 split in trumps, but Auken followed a different line and went down.

Board 4. Game All. Dealer West.

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

3NT is a considerably less comfortable spot than 5♦, so perhaps France got a little lucky here too. After the auction:

North	South
Saul	Bessis
INT	3♣
3♦	3♠

where 3♣ showed diamonds and 3♠ showed short hearts, what should Saul have done? She elected to bid 3NT and when Rauscheid led a club she gained two overtrick IMPs for her side against the 5♦ contract in the other room.

If that was lucky for France, what about this?

Board 5. North/South Game. Dealer North.

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

The Germans bid:

West	East
Nehmert	Rauscheid
2♦	2♣
3♥	2NT
4♣	3NT
5♦	4NT
6♥	5♥
Pass	6♠

2NT was 21-22 and 3♥ a transfer. 3NT showed three-card spade support and 4♣ was a cuebid. Now Rauscheid used RKCB and settled in 6♠.

All the contract needs is 4-3 clubs or a double squeeze but today was not Nehmert's day. She got a heart lead and continuation when the defence took the ♠A. Declarer carelessly pitched dummy's heart on the top clubs, destroying the double squeeze. As the result in the other room was 4♠+2, that was 11 IMPs to France when it might have been 11 the other way.

France led by 15 IMPs and it got worse for Germany.

Board 6. East/West Game. Dealer East.

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

Both tables reached 3NT by East on a heart lead. Cronier won and played on diamonds, establishing her ninth trick when the ♦9 fell, making the position in that suit clear.

In the other room Nehmert won in dummy and finessed the ♠J at trick two. The defence pressed on with hearts at every opportunity. When Nehmert won the second heart in dummy rather than in hand, and failed to unblock the clubs, she had no communications between the two hands. She never scored the ♠K and had to go one down; France by 26.

France scored another rather fortunate game – bidding to 5♣ on Board 9. This was about a 20% shot on accurate defence but it came in; France by 37.

Board 10. Game All. Dealer East.

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

Germany pulled 13 IMPs back when France bid an approximately 40% slam which had to go down. Then both tables had a chance to generate a game swing when West reached 5♦ in one bid on Board 11.

Board 11. Love All. Dealer South.

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

Auken led a club, Saul a spade – both missing the heart lead which takes the contract down.

The luck evened out a little on the next board when Germany climbed to the five-level and needed to pick up the trumps missing the king and a small one. With the singleton king onside there was no problem.

France pushed to a thin game, down two, while Germany stopped in a partscore. Then France bid a decent game on the next board and recovered the IMPs when Germany missed it.

With another partscore going Germany's way, they trailed by only 16 IMPs with five boards to go and could

Thanks from Chinese Taipei

The Chinese Taipei Bridge Association would like to thank United Microelectronics Corporation (UMC) for its support of the women's team. UMC is Taiwan's first commercial semiconductor manufacturers. John Shen, CEO of UMC, is also a bridge player himself.

afford to drop a few points and still qualify. However, it was not to be.

Board 16. East/West Game. Dealer West.

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

3NT by West seems equally easy on a diamond or a club lead, with the heart honours all onside. On the diamond lead found against Nehmert, followed by a club to the jack, it seems right to repeat the club finesse and play hearts to dummy. Nehmert found an early spade play and her entries to hand got scrambled. That was 12 IMPs to France. On the next hand it got worse for Germany.

Board 17. Love All. Dealer North.

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

Saul declared 3NT from the North seat on the lead of the ♦8. She won and knocked out the ♠A. Nehmert ducked the spade twice, and Rauscheid pitched the ♥6 (reverse), helping Saul, after some thought, to guess the hearts correctly.

At the other table von Arnim got a diamond lead as South and misguessed hearts, playing the hand that was short in spades to have the key card, and down she went.

Even at the very end there was some hope. Germany trailed by 41 IMPs and needed a pick-up of 5 IMPs or more from the last two boards.

Board 19. East/West Game. Dealer South.

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

Nehmert reached a thin 3NT as West on a club lead to the king and ace. She played ace and another heart, on which Bessis played the eight and three. Saul, reading the echo as asking for a club continuation, played the ♣J, when a diamond switch is needed to beat the hand legitimately. Nehmert had only to win the ♣J and finesse the ♠J to succeed as the cards lie. Alas, she cashed the ♣10 before taking the spade finesse and now the defence had five winners.

France won by 46 IMPs; 24-6 VPs. They topped their qualifying group. Germany failed to qualify by 2 VPs.

Bermuda Bowl

Round 12

Poland vs Brazil

When these two teams met on Vugraph in Round 12, Poland were looking good for a qualifying place, but time was running out for Brazil who had fallen well down the table.

The first significant swings were generated by deals which presented problems in the bidding.

Board 1. Love All. Dealer North.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kowalski	P. Branco	Romanski	Cintra
Pass	Pass	INT	2♦
	2♥	All Pass	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
M. Branco	Szymanowski	Chagas	Zakrzewski
Rdbl	Pass	INT	Dbl
Pass	4♥	All Pass	2♥

Cintra showed hearts and another suit with his two diamond bid. Perhaps South should make a try as he would have a play for game if North had as little as ♥Kxxx.

In the Open Room Andrzej Zakrzewski, perhaps less well known than his illustrious colleagues, preferred to double. That might have turned out badly on a different layout, but as the auction went he was able to introduce

his main suit on the next round and North had an easy raise to game.

Both declarers made eleven tricks, +200 and +450, 6 IMPs for Poland and a nice start for the new face on the team.

Board 5. North/South Game. Dealer North.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kowalski	P. Branco	Romanski	Cintra
2♣	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	4♥	4♣	Pass
	Dbl	All Pass	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
M. Branco	Szymanowski	Chagas	Zakrzewski
4♣	2♥	Pass	4♥
	All Pass		

The Poles picked up another five points here when Branco felt obliged to double four spades.

In the other room the auction again developed differently and, although Zakrzewski gave it some thought, he eventually decided to go quietly.

As you can see, there is nothing to the play, although it was surprising to see South covering the jack of spades when it was led from dummy.

These two gains were wiped away on the very next

deal.

Board 6. East/West Game. Dealer East.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kowalski	P. Branco	Romanski	Cintra
Dbl	4♣	1♥	2♣
		5♥	All Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
M. Branco	Szymanowski	Chagas	Zakrzewski
2♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	2♥	Pass
		4♥	All Pass

You simply can't afford to go quietly on the South hand at this vulnerability.

The Polish pair in the Closed Room got pushed to the five level. That might have been okay, but Cintra cashed the ace of spades and switched to a diamond; +100.

That went very nicely with the result from the other table.

When South inexplicably passed East's opening bid, the Brazilians were given a free run. South led a club so that was eleven tricks and 13 IMPs, giving the match a new leader.

Photograph courtesy of Kodak's new digital camera



Pedro Paulo Branco (Brazil)

Board 7. Game All. Dealer South.

♠ 8
♥ 8 5 3
♦ 10 6 2
♣ J 9 8 6 3 2

♠ 9 7 4 2
♥ J 9 6
♦ K Q J 7 5
♣ 7

♠ A J 6 3
♥ K Q 7 4
♦ A 9 3
♣ 10 5

♠ K Q 10 5
♥ A 10 2
♦ 8 4
♣ A K Q 4

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kowalski	P. Branco	Romanski	Cintra
1♦	4♣	Dbl	1♣
Dbl	All Pass		5♣

Can four clubs really be the right action on the North hand? It looks as if South was bidding five clubs to make – give North the ace of spades and he would have at least ten tricks.

West led the king of diamonds and East overtook with the ace and played the king of hearts, West playing an upside down nine as declarer ducked. East switched back to diamonds and West took the jack, at which point the play record ceases and nine tricks were recorded. Presumably West tried to cash another diamond or East ducked the ace of spades, both unlikely, but the score was -500.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
M. Branco	Szymanowski	Chagas	Zakrzewski
1♦	Pass	1♥	Dbl
Pass	2♣	3♦	4♣
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

South's one club was Polish, so his second round double promised a strong hand. With so little in the way of distribution, four clubs looks dubious and North was clearly expecting a totally different hand when he went on to game. Mercifully there was no double. Once again West led the king of diamonds and East overtook to play the king of hearts. Declarer took his ace at once, after which the defence made no mistake, collecting all the tricks they were due; +300 but 6 IMPs away. The lead had changed hands again. Poland 16 Brazil 15.

The Brazilians had missed the opportunity for a juicy penalty but they did not have to wait long for another chance – just the time it took for the next board to be placed on the table.

Board 8. Love All. Dealer West.

♠ 9 8 6
♥ 7
♦ A Q J 6 5 3
♣ 10 6 3

♠ A K
♥ A K Q 6 4
♦ 8 2
♣ A J 8 7

♠ Q J 7 2
♥ J
♦ K 10 7 4
♣ Q 5 4 2

♠ 10 5 4 3
♥ 10 9 8 5 3 2
♦ 9
♣ K 9

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kowalski	P. Branco	Romanski	Cintra
1♣	2♦	Pass	Pass
2♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
M. Branco	Szymanowski	Chagas	Zakrzewski
1♥	3♦	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		

The Poles turned down the chance of a substantial penalty in the Closed Room. Doubtless annoyed, declarer contented himself with 10 tricks; +430.

The Brazilians were not so generous in the replay. Szymanowski was one of several players who got their fingers burnt on this deal. East led the jack of hearts and switched to the two of clubs. Branco cashed the king and ace of spades and continued with the two of diamonds. Hoping that was away from the ten, declarer played low, so Chagas won with that card and cashed the queen of spades. His next card was the four of clubs and after winning the trick West played the ace of hearts. Declarer threw his losing club and ruffed the next heart with the queen of diamonds. Chagas over-ruffed and played the jack of spades which West ruffed with the eight of diamonds, promoting partner's seven; +1400 and 14 big IMPs.

Board 9. East/West Game. Dealer North.

♠ K 8 4 2
♥ J 9 8 3
♦ 10 3
♣ 7 4 2

♠ J 7 6 5 3
♥ 10 7
♦ A 4 2
♣ K J 8

♠ Q
♥ A K 5
♦ Q J 8 7
♣ A 10 9 6 3

♠ A 10 9
♥ Q 6 4 2
♦ K 9 6 5
♣ Q 5

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kowalski	Branco	Romanski	Cintra
1♣	Pass	1♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
M. Branco	Szymanowski	Chagas	Zakrzewski
1♣	Pass	1♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Both East/West pairs reached 3NT. In the Closed Room South led a diamond for the two, ten and queen. Declarer could now pick up a 4-1

club break in either hand, but naturally played a club to the king and took a losing club finesse. South continued with the king of diamonds. Curtains! Declarer emerged with ten tricks; +630.

In the Open Room South led the two of hearts for the ten, jack and ace. Chagas, with one entry to hand gone had no choice and he followed the same line in clubs. Worried about the location of the nine of hearts, South found the strange switch to the ten of spades. North couldn't read that card and when he withheld the king Chagas had got his ninth trick; +600.

Neither South could have been feeling very happy after that board and the potential for a similar disaster was just around the corner.

Board 11. Love All. Dealer South.

♠ A 10 9 5 4
♥ K
♦ 5 2
♣ A Q 6 5 3

♠ J 7 6 2
♥ A 5
♦ A J 3
♣ K 8 7 2

♠ 3
♥ Q 10 9 8 6 4 2
♦ K 10 9 4
♣ 10

♠ K Q 8
♥ J 7 3
♦ Q 8 7 6
♣ J 9 4

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kowalski	P. Branco	Romanski	Cintra
1♣	1♠	2♥	Pass
Pass	3♣	3♥	2♣
Pass	4♣	All Pass	3♣

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Branco	Szymanowski	Chagas	Zakrzewski
1♣	1♠	4♥	Pass
			All Pass

The auction in the Closed Room gave South an easy chance to show his hand.

The black suit breaks gave declarer no chance of more than nine tricks, which he duly made; -50.

In the Open Room Chagas gave South no room to manoeuvre, although he gave some thought to bidding four spades before passing. This did not go unnoticed on the other side of the screen and Szymanowski unhappily passed.

Would declarer locate the queen of diamonds?

South took the first trick with the king of spades and continued with the queen, ruffed by declarer. Chagas played a heart to the ace and when the king appeared followed with two more rounds, putting South back on lead. He chose to exit with a diamond. A delighted declarer put up the jack and when it held he returned to hand to repeat the finesse. The 9 IMPs gained here made the score Brazil 39 Poland 17.

The Poles hit back with two game swings in the second half of the match but Brazil ran out winners 53-41 IMPs, 17-13 VP.



Apolinary Kowalski (Poland)

Photograph courtesy of Kodak's new digital camera

Bermuda Bowl

Round 16

Australia vs USA I

This was an important match for both teams, though more so for Australia. USAI went into the match in a battle with the other USA team for top spot in the round robin and the first pick of quarter-final opponents that went with it. Australia lay ninth, right on the edge of the qualifying positions, and needed a good result to keep their hopes alive.

Board 2. North/South Game. Dealer East.

♠ 9 3 2
♥ Q J
♦ A 9 2
♣ K 10 6 5 4

♠ A K 6 5
♥ A 10 5 3
♦ 8 5 3
♣ J 8

♠ J 8 4
♥ 9 4
♦ Q J 10 7
♣ A 9 7 3

♠ Q 10 7
♥ K 8 7 6 2
♦ K 6 4
♣ Q 2

N
W **E**
S

Both Easts played INT on a heart lead and club switch. For Australia, Seamus Browne drifted one off for -50. The play was more entertaining on vugraph. Bobby Richman led a heart to Stephen Burgess's jack. Burgess switched to a low club, ducked to the queen, and back came a second club to the jack, king and ace. Michael Rosenberg crossed to the ♥A to lead a diamond to his queen. Richman ducked smoothly. Next, Rosenberg tried the ♦J and both defenders ducked that also! A third round of diamonds brought an embarrassing crash of defensive honours. Burgess won the ♦A and cashed his club winner before exiting with a spade but now three rounds of those left Richman endplayed to give dummy the last trick with the ♥10; +90 and 4 IMPs to USAI.

Board 3. East/West Game. Dealer South.

♠ 10 9 4 2
♥ 2
♦ A 8 7 4
♣ 6 5 3 2

♠ A 5 3
♥ K 8 7 4
♦ J 5 3
♣ K Q 9

♠ Q J 8 7
♥ Q 10 5 3
♦ 6 2
♣ 10 7 4

♠ K 6
♥ A J 9 6
♦ K Q 10 9
♣ A J 8

N
W **E**
S

In the Closed Room, Chip Martel opened 1♦ as dealer and, over Khokan Bagchi's takeout double, Lew Stansby made a pre-emptive raise to 3♦, ending the auction. Bagchi led a trump, the best start for the defence. Martel won in hand and played ace and a small heart, ruffing in dummy. It seems that he should be able to get a second heart ruff even after the trump lead but somehow he was two down; -100.

In the Open Room, Richman had a strong club opening (though strong only means 15+ in his methods), which silenced West, Zia. Richman rebid INT, 15-19, over the 1♦ negative response and that ended the auction. Zia led a low heart to the queen and ace and Richman cashed three rounds of diamonds ending in dummy and led a club to the eight and nine. He seemed to have gone wrong when he ducked the ♣K return and was then put on lead with a third club, but Richman cashed his diamond then exited with the ♥J to Zia's king and now Zia played a heart to his partner's ten. Rosenberg switched to a low spade and the critical point of the hand had been reached. Had Richman risen with the

king, the defence would have taken three spade tricks for one down. In practice, he played low and Zia won the ace. Richman had the last two tricks; +120 and six IMPs to Australia.

Board 4. Game All. Dealer West.

♠ K 8 5 4 3 2
♥ 8
♦ A K 7 6
♣ A 3

♠ -
♥ 10 9 7 3
♦ 9 5 3 2
♣ Q 10 7 5 2

N
W **E**
S

♠ A 10 9 6
♥ 6 4 2
♦ 8 4
♣ J 9 8 6

♠ Q J 7
♥ A K Q J 5
♦ Q J 10
♣ K 4

How to get to 6NT? A few teams managed it, and one in the Venice Cup made 6♣ when East unwisely doubled, exposing the trump position. Both our teams got to 6♣ without really considering no trump; one off for a push.

Board 6. East/West Game. Dealer East.

♠ A K 6 3
♥ J 9 5 4 3
♦ 6
♣ 9 6 3

♠ 10 8 5 4
♥ A Q 7 2
♦ A J 3
♣ K 2

N
W **E**
S

♠ Q 9 7 2
♥ K
♦ Q 7 5 4
♣ A Q 8 5

♠ J
♥ 10 8 6
♦ K 10 9 8 2
♣ J 10 7 4

West <i>Bagchi</i>	East <i>Browne</i>
1♥	1♣
4♣	Pass

Martel led the ♦10, which seemed to have solved declarer's problems in that suit, but when Browne lost a trick to the bare jack of spades Martel was able to give Stansby a diamond ruff for one down; -100.

West <i>Zia</i>	East <i>Rosenberg</i>
1♥	1♦
2♣	1♣
3♣	3♣
4♣	3NT
	Pass

It looked for a moment as though Zia/Rosenberg were going to play in 3NT, as Rosenberg's sequence appeared to have described his hand rather nicely, three-suited with a singleton heart honour. 3NT would probably have made but Zia alerted 3NT as forcing and went back to 4♣. As we have seen, that contract is in serious jeopardy, but Richman had listened to the bidding and assumed his opponents had a good reason to play in 4♣ rather than 3NT. In that case perhaps he should start to draw trumps. The ♠J was a disastrous opening lead and when Rosenberg found the minor-suit squeeze against South in the endgame he even made an overtrick; +650 and 13 IMPs to USAI.

Board 9. East/West Game. Dealer North.

♠ A 8 4
♥ 10 9 8 4
♦ A K 6
♣ A J 3

♠ Q J 9 2
♥ Q 7 5
♦ 8 2
♣ K 10 5 2

N
W **E**
S

♠ 6 5
♥ J 6 2
♦ Q J 5 3
♣ Q 9 6 4

♠ K 10 7 3
♥ A K 3
♦ 10 9 7 4
♣ 8 7

Both North/South pairs reached 3NT but there was an important difference. For USAI, Stansby was declarer from the North seat and Browne selected a small diamond for his opening lead. With a third diamond trick in the bag, all Stansby had to do was play three rounds of hearts to establish a ninth trick; +400.

In the other room Richman was declarer from the opposite side. Zia led the ♠Q to Richman's king. Declarer's best chance is to return the ♠10 to establish a third spade trick and hope that West does not find the club switch. Even now, declarer has to judge which red suit to play on for his ninth trick. Richman won the opening lead and played three rounds of diamonds and there was no recovery. Rosenberg cashed the fourth diamond and switched back to spades so Richman could establish an eighth trick but there was no ninth; -50 and 10 IMPs to USAI.

Board 11. Love All. Dealer South.

♠ Q 8 6
♥ 2
♦ Q J 9 8 5 2
♣ K 10 9

♠ A J 9
♥ A 9
♦ 10 6
♣ J 8 5 4 3 2

N
W **E**
S

♠ 5 2
♥ J 10 8 7 6 5 4
♦ K 7 4 3
♣ -

♠ K 10 7 4 3
♥ K Q 3
♦ A
♣ A Q 7 6

Closed Room

West <i>Bagchi</i>	North <i>Stansby</i>	East <i>Browne</i>	South <i>Martel</i>
Pass	INT	3♥	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		

Bagchi liked the look of his spade holding and tried a speculative double of 4♣. He led the ♦10 to Martel's ace and declarer led a spade to the queen then a heart for the king and ace. Now Bagchi found the club switch and Browne got his ruff; one down for -100.

Open Room

West <i>Zia</i>	North <i>Burgess</i>	East <i>Rosenberg</i>	South <i>Richman</i>
Pass	1♦	3♥	1♣
Pass	Dbl	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass	Dbl	4♣
			All Pass

1♣ was strong (15+) and 1♦ a negative. When Rosenberg pre-empted, Richman passed but Burgess reopened with a double and now he jumped to 4♣.

Rosenberg doubled, looking for an unusual lead, and of course it was not difficult for Zia to see what was required. He led a careful ♠8, suit preference, and Rosenberg ruffed. He returned the ♥8 to the king and ace and Zia gave him a second ruff. There were still two trump tricks to lose so Richman was down two; -300 and 5 IMPs to USA1.

Board 12. North/South. Dealer West.

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

It says something about the modern game that both Bagchi and Zia opened the West cards with a 3♥ preempt. Stansby and Burgess both overcalled 3NT. That is quite a wide range bid, of course, and the respective Souths had different views as to whether to continue. Martel raised to 4NT, invitational, and Stansby had an easy acceptance. He showed his diamonds but Martel went back to 6NT; +1470.

Richman passed over 3NT and the Australians suffered the embarrassment of playing in game when seven was on a finesse; +720 but 13 IMPs to USA1.

Australia's qualification hopes were in ruins. They had one modest gain to come but the rest of the set consisted of a series of pushes. This was the Australian gain.

Board 14. Love All. Dealer East.

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

In the Closed Room, Martel opened 4♠, Bagchi overcalled 5♥ and Stansby doubled. Minus 300 was a slightly soft result for the Americans as they could have made 5♣.

In the Open Room, Richman also opened 4♠. Zia's imagination over-ruled his discipline now and he overcalled 5♣! Burgess doubled and when that got back to Zia he ran to 5♥. Again Burgess doubled. Rosenberg thought for quite a while before converting to 6♣ and Zia had to run back to 6♥. That was doubled, of course, and you could tell that Rosenberg was not impressed with his partner's antics. Zia lost the inevitable five tricks for -500 and 5 IMPs to Australia.

USA1 won the match by 46-16 IMPs, 21-9 VPs. They still led the qualifying table while Australia were down to tenth and effectively out of contention.

The oddest team

Why is Australia the oddest team?

They have the two tallest men, the youngest woman, the oldest man. Also it's the only team without an appropriate national (two Americans, one Indian, two New Zealanders and one Scot).

Hammamet Observations IV

by Terry Radjef

The currency exchange counter at the Sol Azur reception desk is opened every day from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and from 6.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. I did not realise this until yesterday. We had planned to go shopping in the evening. We got our dinars at 6.15 p.m. By the time we hopped in a cab we didn't have much time left as most stores close around 7.00 p.m. It seems that the best time to change money is probably in the morning, before the matches begin.

Talking about money, a good place to spend money or make some is in the casino in the Sol Azur basement. There, you can play roulette, five-dinar blackjack and half- or one-dinar slot-machines.

The casino is strictly limited to foreign visitors. The cashier will not accept dinars; you must present the foreign currency of your choice to buy chips and tokens at the current exchange rate. However, the leftover chips and tokens and/or your winnings, will be converted, at the same rate, back to the original currency. Bring a photo I.D. or, better still, your passport, and the amount of money you plan to play.

Admission is one dinar for a day. To enter your name, etc, in the computer it takes the admission desk a few minutes. I was told it goes faster on your next visit.

You will be given an admission slip. After you enter, if you decide to play you may go to the cashier to buy chips and/or tokens. Again, I suggest you keep those exchange receipts as they become part of the total of exchange receipts you've kept so far! Right?

Good luck at the casino!

Correction

In both reports concerning matches involving the US 1 women's team, the names of the North and South players were transposed. Marinesa Letizia was sitting North and Lisa Berkowitz was South.

Special deal

Order the 1995 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup Book for \$20 American (shipping and handling included). This offer is valid only until 1 November 1997. Please see Elly Ducheyne in the Press Room and fill out the necessary form.

This book is about the championships in China in which the United States defeated Canada to win the Bermuda Bowl and in which Germany toppled the United States to win the Venice Cup.

The Intra-Finesse in Defence

by Patrick Jourdain (GB)

In the last match of the Venice Cup Round-Robin the European champions, Britain, met USA2. Britain emerged the winners by 22-8, with the deal below contributing, but the defensive test at both tables was to find an intra-finesse, and both Norths passed that test. (The Brazilian man sitting North with the same problem, did not, but I am happy to report that his name was not Chagas, who first described this type of finesse). The deal in question was Board 2.

Board 2. North/South Game. Dealer East.

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

West	North	East	South
Palmer	McGowan	Chambers	Dhondy
		Pass	2♦ ⁽¹⁾
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

⁽¹⁾ 2♦ was Multi

West	North	East	South
Smith	Levitina	Davies	Sanborn
		Pass	2♣
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Both tables reached 3NT by West and North led the ten of spades, run to the king. Beth Palmer then tried to guess the clubs at once, playing ace and a low one. When Liz McGowan won with the jack she duly found the devastating switch to the nine of diamonds. This ran round to the jack. South, Heather Dhondy, won the next club, and led the queen of diamonds, pinning dummy's ten. That led to two off.

At the other table Nicola Smith was more circumspect in the play. Showing good technique she began with the jack of hearts to the ace in dummy. She then ran the ten of clubs to North's jack. North, Irina Levitina, again found the switch to the nine of diamonds, which ran to the jack, but this time declarer still had a second string. The queen of hearts revealed South was out, so Nicola finessed the nine next, cashed her last heart, throwing a spade from hand, and then ran the nine of clubs. When this held she had ten tricks for an 11-IMP swing to Great Britain.

Concerning e-mail

E-mail facilities are available in the Press Room, as promised. However, the primary purpose of the Press Room is to provide a work area for working journalists. For this reason, only one computer will be set aside for e-mail messages. That means you will sometimes have to wait your turn.