



August 21
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Lille 98

Daily News

WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



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Chagas, Mosca win by 1

The team captained by Gabriel Chagas of Brazil staged a powerful comeback to score a 1-IMP victory in the Round of 64 in the Vivendi Rosenblum Teams. Carlo Mosca of Italy just barely held on against Steve Robinson of the United States - again it was a 1-IMP triumph. Bernasconi of Italy also had a tough battle, defeating the Robin Klar team by just 2 IMPs.

The Chagas comeback was spectacular against the Yuniarto Hadimartono squad. The Indonesian team raced to a 30-point lead in the first quarter and increased it to 37 in the second. Chagas closed to within 13 in the third quarter, then outscored their foes, 29-15, over the final 14 boards for a 95-94 victory.

The Klar team made a mighty effort after falling behind by 25 IMPs in the first quarter. They tied in the second canto, then gained eight in the third and 15 in the fourth - but that wasn't quite good enough.

The United States still has six representatives, and Italy is next with five. France and Sweden have four, while Great Britain and the Netherlands have three each. Poland still has two teams. Nations with one team remaining are Brazil, Germany, Israel, Denmark and South Africa.

Italian team leads in Seniors

A team captained by M. Ricciarelli of Italy jumped into the lead after the first day of play in the Elf Senior Teams. They earned 85 Victory Points out of a possible 100 as they won all four matches. They hold a 4-VP lead over A. Orlow of Poland, who also won all four matches.

Following them are five teams within 2 VPs of each other - Peter Schwartz, Canada, 75; S. Szenberg, Poland, 75; Robert Rosen, United States, 74; John Solodar, United States, 73; Mike Levine, United States, 73.

5 American teams still in McConnell

Five American teams survived the Round of 32 in the Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup Women's Teams. Still in contention are Kathie Wei-Sender, npc Alan Truscott, Karen Allison, npc John Solodar and Nadine Wood. Wood had the closest battle, defeating Zur Albu Of Israel, 88-80. In the highlight battle of the day, Sabine Auken of Germany defeated Jo Morse of the United States, 168-109. Morse defeated Auken for the Venice Cup in 1993.

France still has three representatives - Claude Bouquit, Kitabgi and Véronique Bessis. Teams captained by Speelman and Franken are still in the battle for the Netherlands.

China (Liu), Italy (Vandoni), Great Britain (Liz McGowan), Austria (Marie Erhart), and Czech Republic (Bahnik) also made the Round of 16.

Poles win Junior Pairs

T. Przyjemski and M. Zaremba of Poland had a strong 62.59% game in the final session of the Junior Pairs to take the gold medal. They averaged 58.26% over the four sessions.

P. Marino and D. Pagani of Italy had a whopping game in the last session - 69.66% - to come from nowhere and take the silver medal. Their average for all sessions was a highly creditable 57.93%. Third place went to a Dutch pair - M. Lagas and M. Schollaardt.

Europeans took the first seven places. The highest non-European finishers were A. Greenberg and C. Lubesnik of the United States, who placed eighth.

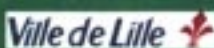
Today's starting times

Vivendi Rosenblum Teams	10.00
Louis Vuitton McConnell Teams	10.00
Elf Zonal Swiss Teams	10.00
Elf Senior Swiss Teams	11.00
Lipton Ice Tea Junior Individual	10.45
Coralia Continuous Pairs	11.00
Coralia Continuous Pairs	16.00

Laws Committee

The Laws Committee meeting set for 8.30 p.m. Friday is cancelled. (Building closure and other problems). The meeting has been rescheduled for Sunday, 14.30, in the WBF meeting Room (Septentrion Room, fifth floor).

G Endicott
Secretary



CCI DE LILLE METROPOLE





VIVENDI ROSENBLUM CUP

(Knockout Phase of 64)

1	WALVICK	USA	THUILLEZ	FRA	38	40	40	15	54	17	62	15	194	87
2	TEAM MAGIC	SWE	YALCIN	CHE	47	32	24	18	20	27	52	4	143	81
3	HACKETT	GBR	NARTIS	GRC	32	10	27	21	30	33	33	25	122	89
4	ARMSTRONG	GBR	GROMOV	RUS	26	23	10	7	15	21	42	19	93	70
5	ROCAFORT	FRA	ELIASSON	SWE	35	20	7	18	20	15	7	34	69	87
6	PRICE	GBR	JACOBS	USA	41	32	27	25	46	40	13	48	127	145
7	ROBINSON	USA	MOSCA	ITA	29	41	28	30	19	16	25	15	101	102
8	LINDKVIST	SWE	SMITH	GBR	16	25	47	12	43	40	9	19	115	96
9	CHAGAS	BRA	HADIMARTONO	IDN	10	40	23	30	33	9	29	15	95	94
10	BITRAN	FRA	SAPORTA	FRA	46	24	37	43	27	45	27	49	137	161
11	KOWALSKI	POL	MARSAL	DEU	20	49	25	21	15	27	16	67	76	164
12	MARINO	ITA	BEAUVILLAIN E	FRA	24	50	37	4	47	6	50	26	158	86
13	SUNDELIN	SWE	WILDAVSKY	USA	51	21	8	73	79	13	69	12	207	109
14	WESTERHOF	NLD	IZISEL	FRA	26	27	20	32	12	25	50	4	108	88
15	ZAKRZEWSKI	POL	YILDIZ	TUR	55	13	66	12	52	41	47	51	220	117
16	SCHALTZ	DNK	BIRMAN	ISR	32	40	14	26	19	30	19	17	84	113
17	BURGAY	ITA	SCHWARTZ	USA	17	8	32	17	35	29	53	19	137	73
18	NOBLE	AUS	ADAD	FRA	31	50	21	33	42	27	37	30	131	140
19	DUFFOUR	FRA	MUNKSGAARD	DNK	21	24	22	47	13	16	21	35	77	122
20	NILSSON	SWE	ELLIA	FRA	37	40	16	35	43	48	26	21	122	144
21	WESTRA	NLD	MEJANE	FRA	19	15	15	22	22	28	49	14	105	79
22	MITTELMAN	CAN	BRAMLEY	USA	10	42	9	28	6	20	15	44	40	134
23	WOLFF	USA	JOFFE	ZAF	17	30	26	24	20	33	51	48	114	135
24	SPILJAK	HRV	BEAUVILLAIN O.	FRA	8	32	41	27	16	29	18	36	83	124
25	ANGELINI	ITA	GWINNER	DEU	22	15	43	17	36	29	46	20	140	81
26	SCHAFFER	DNK	SOSLER	USA	50	36	53	37	6	53	16	33	122	159
27	CRONIER	FRA	POLETYLO	POL	20	19	11	25	34	38	22	26	87	108
28	KLAR	USA	BERNASCONI	ITA	26	51	39	39	41	33	51	36	157	159
29	ROSS	USA	PODDAR	IND	13	24	61	17	35	27	25	35	134	103
30	MAAS	NLD	GUNNELL	USA	19	28	40	21	5	34	44	12	108	95
31	CALDERWOOD	GBR	GOODMAN	GBR	40	27	21	34	30	9	31	10	122	70
32	WU	CHN	EKEBLAD	USA	27	53	14	2	31	15	4	40	76	110



LOUIS VUITTON McCONNELL CUP

(Knockout Phase of 32)

1	MODICA	ITA	SPEELMAN	NLD	17	24	3	20	26	26	20	24	66	94
2	LIU	CHN	VOLINA	RUS	32	15	33	18	56	28	52	2	173	63
3	ERHART	AUT	BERINGER	FRA	36	0	25	41	14	20	20	18	95	79
4	VANDONI	ITA	LESGUILLIER	FRA	53	7	19	14	8	32	38	45	118	98
5	WEI SENDER	USA	FAVAS	FRA	17	20	17	34	40	10	22	21	96	85
6	TRUSCOTT	USA	WEBER	DEU	43	17	22	51	48	26	34	28	147	122
7	BLOUQUIT	FRA	CIVIDIN DE SARI	ITA	38	25	16	34	20	6	18	13	92	78
8	ALLISON	USA	KAPLAN	ZAF	34	5	67	3	30	23	0	0	131	31
9	LEWIS	USA	KITABGI	FRA	6	27	38	35	17	61	57	13	118	136
10	MORSE	USA	AUKEN	DEU	23	51	24	39	37	38	25	40	109	168
11	BAHNIK	CZE	VARENNE	FRA	43	13	30	36	21	25	35	22	129	96
12	SOLODAR	USA	FARHOLT	DNK	15	19	45	19	45	35	22	42	127	115
13	FRANKEN	NLD	MANSELL	ZAF	35	24	45	17	37	1	0	0	117	42
14	BESSIS	FRA	EL SHAFIE	EGY	58	4	55	9	25	10	18	6	156	29
15	MC GOWAN	GBR	BEN HASSINE	TUN	38	16	22	52	37	41	76	14	173	133
16	WOOD	USA	ZUR-ALBU	ISR	9	25	21	26	34	13	24	16	88	80

Lipton Ice Tea Junior Triathlon

Final Pairs Standings

1	PRZYJEMSKI T	ZAREMBA M	POL	233.02
2	MARINO P	PAGANI D	ITA	231.73
3	LAGAS M	SCHOLLAARDT M	NLD	228.30
4	KRISTENSEN M	NOHR M	DNK	227.66
5	GRZEJDZIAK I	KIELICHOWSKI U	POL	225.05
6	PROBST R	TELSCHER M	GBR	224.61
7	PIASECKI J	JAGNIEWSKI R	POL	223.95
8	GREENBERG A	LUBESNIK C	USA	222.33
9	HAGEN A	BJARNARSON G	DNK	221.72
10	BARANOWSKI J	LUTOSTANSKI P	POL	219.16
11	BEDNAREK R	FILIPOWICZ D	POL	219.07
12	GACKOUSKI J	BEACHNIO A	POL	218.62
13	REESV	SORIANO F	FRA	218.07
14	DORABIALA M	KUCHARSKI P	POL	217.30
15	DI BELLO F	GUARIGLIA R	ITA	216.88
16	BRINK S	DRIJVER B	NLD	216.72
17	MAC CORMACT	KING R	IRL	216.19
18	ASKGAARD M	MATHIESEN J	DNK	215.53
19	KOLUDA P	MARCINIAK J	POL	212.37
20	BESSIS T	GAVIARD J	FRA	210.95
21	SZCZEPANSKA A	SKALSKI A	POL	210.66
22	LABRUYERE P	BARCIKOWSKY A	FRA	208.47
23	BACZEK M	GRZEJDZIAK S	POL	207.91
24	LOUVEAUX J	LOUVEAUX Q	BEL	207.88
25	CARMICHAEL T	WOOLDRIDGE J	USA	206.16
26	FREY N	SEBBANE L	FRA	204.72
27	MAGRINI L	DI BELLO S	ITA	204.40
28	FLIPO O	SKWVERES S	FRA	204.21
29	HOBEIKA A	LEPROVOST N	FRA	203.40
30	PELLISSON S	LECHENNET	FRA	202.74
31	OMLO J	NAGEL M	NLD	202.60
32	GARRIGOU J	CASSAR A	FRA	202.26
33	ARNTZEN C	MYRVOLD O	NOR	201.07
34	CARMICHAEL C	WIEGAND D	USA	200.84
35	MOLENAAR D	VERBEEK T	NLD	200.82
36	INTONTI R	MEDUDSEI A	ITA	199.67
37	KONOW K	MADSEN M	DNK	199.18
38	BIJKER H	BRUGGEMAN J	NLD	198.92
39	KREGLEWSKA A	POSTUPALSKI P	POL	198.91
40	DAVID S	BESSIS O	FRA	198.23
41	AMBARD C	HADDAD F	FRA	197.36
42	UREESWIJK K	BRINK N	NLD	194.81
43	LANGVELD J	VUNDERINK J	NLD	193.79
44	JANINY	DANNIELOU E	FRA	192.83
45	WARZOCHA K	ZAWADZKI M	POL	191.11
46	KAPALA S	BURAS K	POL	190.83
47	LEMAIRE B	ROCCHETTI Y	FRA	190.80
48	LEBOUTEILLER L	MAZET F	FRA	189.37
49	CAPLAIN N	GLEYZE J	FRA	188.96
50	GRANDEMANGE M	JOURDY P	FRA	187.04
51	TERMAAT M	MEURS J	NLD	186.14
52	PIRET G	DE ROOS S	BEL	185.58
53	IRUBETAGOYENA	BENSO E	FRA	185.35
54	GRENTHÉ G	GRENTHÉ J	FRA	183.05
55	CIBOROWSKI K	UKRAINSKI T	POL	182.29
56	VENESODEN T	GIELEN S	BEL	181.38
57	PAPON B	NAMUR N	FRA	180.58
58	CHARLES S	LEBOUTEILLIER	FRA	180.03
59	KOW L	LALL J	USA	177.70
60	SCHWELLER M	FELMY M	DEU	176.62
61	BARON H	ROKOSZEWSKI R	POL	176.20
62	DE ROOST	TOUTENEL E	BEL	174.18
63	DUBOUCHET G	GERY M	FRA	173.76
64	CANNON P	MINFRAY R	FRA	161.66
65	DIETSCH M	COURRIAS M	FRA	160.11
66	LESAGE S	BENECH P	FRA	137.55

Coralia Continuous Pairs Winners

Session 1				
N/S	LESSELLS G	MACCARTHY P	IRL	58.06
E/W	PERFILOW K	ARTAMONOV I	RUS	59.77
Session 2				
N/S	NOWAK M	URBAN J	POL	54.63
E/W	KOKSOY E	EKSIOGLY M	TUR	58.10
Session 3				
N/S	DUBOIS I	DUBOIS P	FRA	61.31
E/W	POLESCHI R	ALUJAS G	ARG	75.30
Session 4				
N/S	VANHOUTTE P	VANHOUTTE F	FRA	62.50
E/W	TURNER D	PHILLIPS D	CAN	60.42
Session 5				
N/S	PHILLIPS D	KERAS S		68.66
E/W	KIELBASINSKI R	ORLOW A	POL	58.33
Session 6				
N/S	PETERS J	BANG K	NOR	60.94
E/W	LEON P	CASTELLS L	ESP	63.15
Session 7				
N/S	NOWAK M	URBAN J	POL	61.76
E/W	LACOMBE J	GUILBERT G	FRA	60.99
Session 8				
N/S	PETTERSEN J	BANG K	NOR	56.50
E/W	SHAW B	HYATT I	USA	63.78
Session 9				
N/S	PIESSES I	PIESSES M	FRA	59.66
E/W	SJOBORG A	MELANDER M	SWE	60.98
Session 10				
N/S	EHSAN A	SURI K	PAK	63.56
E/W	BERTOLINI M	GARGHENTINI C	ITA	61.86



IBPA 40th anniversary dinner

The dinner at which the International Bridge Press Association will celebrate its 40th anniversary will take place Monday at 20:45 at La Laiterie. All IBPA members are invited to sign up for the dinner with Evelyn Senn at the IBPA Desk in the Press Room on the seventh floor. When Evelyn is away from her desk, the list will be on the table - just sign up.

There will be no charge for the dinner. The restaurant is located some distance away, so a bus will be available at the Grand Palais to transport the journalists who do not have cars.

Par Contest - Problem 3

N/S Vul. Dealer South.

North
 ♠ K 9 8 3
 ♥ Q 5 4
 ♦ A K 7 5
 ♣ 6 3

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

West	North	East	South
			1♥
2NT	Dble	Pass	Pass
Rdbl	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West leads the ♠10.

West's 2NT bid shows a minor two-suiter, and the redouble asks his partner once again to choose between diamonds and clubs. Thus, one may conclude that West's minor suits are of equal length since, faced with his partner's non-committal pass, he would have bid a six-card suit had he had one. East bids clubs to show where his values are. The spade lead, certainly a singleton, completes the picture of West's shape (1-2-5-5); so that declarer is now faced practically with a double-dummy problem.

South, with five trump tricks and two each in spades and diamonds, can think of different ways to bring home the tenth trick:

a) Play a club right away, intending to ruff the third club in dummy. This line will fail because East can give his partner two spade ruffs.

b) Draw one round of trumps before attacking the club suit. This leaves West with only one trump and his ruffing of one of declarer's losing spades does not jeopardise the contract. But this time East counters by playing a heart at every opportunity to prevent dummy from ruffing a club.

c) Try to create a position where East is endplayed and has to concede two spade tricks.

It is easy to reach the following position:

	♠ K 9 8		♠ Q J 7
	♥ -		♥ -
	♦ A K 7		♦ x x
	♣ -		♣ x
♠ -		♠	
♥ -		♥	
♦ x x x x		♦	
♣ x x		♣	
	♠ 5 4 2		
	♥ 9		
	♦ 8		
	♣ 7		

North to lead.

Declarer leads the ace and king of diamonds,

ruffs a diamond, but of course East throws a spade, keeping the club for the setting trick. The idea was fine but the timing was wrong.

To come down to the winning end position, East has to be forced to part with his club, and this manoeuvre is possible only if he is forced to discard while he still has a trump left.

In other words, the RHO is subjected to a squeeze in three suits: spades, clubs and trumps!

This unusual form of squeeze is called a Knockout squeeze.

Solution

After winning the opening lead with the ace (1), South plays a diamond to the king and ruffs a diamond (2), draws one round of trumps, keeping the queen in dummy, and exits with a club. The defenders have to return a trump. Declarer wins with the queen, cashes the ace of diamonds throwing a club, and comes down to this position:

	♠ K 9 8		♠ Q J 7
	♥ 5		♥ 7
	♦ 7		♦ -
	♣ 6		♣ x x
♠ -		♠	
♥ -		♥	
♦ x x		♦	
♣ x x x x		♣	
	♠ 5 4 2		
	♥ K J		
	♦ -		
	♣ 7		

North to lead.

The seven of diamonds is led and East cannot afford to ruff, so:

a) East discards a club.

South ruffs and exits with a club to reach this position:

	♠ K 9 8		♠ Q J 7
	♥ 5		♥ 7
	♦ -		♦ -
	♣ -		♣ -
♠ -		♠	
♥ -		♥	
♦ x		♦	
♣ x x x		♣	
	♠ 5 4 2		
	♥ K		
	♦ -		
	♣ -		

1) If East wins the trick he either returns a trump and is then endplayed in spades, or leads a spade and gives up a trick immediately in the suit.

2) If West wins the trick, the card he plays is ruffed by North, over-ruffed by East and then by South. The stage is now set for an endplay in spades.

b) East discards a spade.

Declarer ruffs the diamond, then plays the king and a small spade, to reach this ending:

	♠ 9		♠ -
	♥ 5		♥ 7
	♦ -		♦ -
	♣ 6		♣ x x
♠ -		♠	
♥ -		♥	
♦ x		♦	
♣ x x		♣	
	♠ 5		
	♥ K		
	♦ -		
	♣ 7		

East to lead.

The defence cannot prevent declarer from scoring two more tricks. The full deal:

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

1) If the opening lead is won in dummy with the king, East can later let his partner ruff the ace of spades instead of a small one.

2) If the second diamond honour is cashed too early, South will face an insurmountable discarding problem:

a) if South discards a club, East will be able to let his partner ruff North/South's losing spade, but he will still have another spade trick to come from the queen-jack.

b) If South discards a spade, when East is later subjected to the three-suit squeeze, he can resist the pressure by throwing a spade. The following ending is reached, which turns out to be a losing position:

	♠ K 9 8		♠ Q J
	♥ 5		♥ 7
	♦ -		♦ -
	♣ 6		♣ x x
♠ -		♠	
♥ -		♥	
♦ x		♦	
♣ x x x x		♣	
	♠ 5 4		
	♥ K		
	♦ -		
	♣ 7 4		

South to lead. Declarer can of course establish a spade trick without cashing the king (playing small in both hands). East counters by returning a club, won by West who leads out his last diamond for a ruff and discard all around the table. North ruffs but East, instead of over-ruffing, throws his last spade and the defence is bound to score a fourth trick, either in clubs or with the seven of trumps.

Bridge Laws mailing list

By David Stevenson (England, GB)

With the enormous growth of international communication through the Internet, many people have decided to discuss the laws of bridge. They have discussed interpretations, both to learn them and to compare different interpretations around the world. They discuss what the 1997 Laws mean, and how they should be changed in 2007! Soon, perhaps, a discussion will commence on the next rubber bridge law book. There are examples of difficult rulings and discussions on how to deal with them.

Who is on the list? We have ordinary players, and club directors: we have the top directors in some countries, and some of the world's top lawmakers, including three members of the WBF's Laws Commission. We could do with a few top directors from countries that are not represented. However, we want you, whoever you are!

This mailing list is open to anyone who has an Internet connection and email capability. To join in, you should send an email to <majordomo@rgb.anu.edu.au>. Leave the subject line empty. In the body of the email you include: subscribe bridge-laws.

But be warned! This is a lively group, and there are quite a number of emails. You will probably find that you do not read them all. Good software that threads mailing lists as newsgroups is an advantage.

Anyway, why not try us? You may find it enjoyable!

It never Rains

As a result of heavy rain (You know, the sort of weather we have been enjoying here in Lille) the river overflowed and a man's house was flooded. He prayed to God that he might be saved and when God heard his cry for help he told him he would help him.

As the water reached the second floor the Police arrived to save him but the man informed them that God had promised to save him and he didn't want to go away.

The water went higher and the Fire Brigade arrived. Again he told them God was going to help him and he stayed put.

As the water reached roof level a helicopter flew by offering help but for the third time he declined.

As you have probably guessed by now the inevitable happened and he drowned.

In heaven he bumped into God. 'Can't stop' he said, 'I'm on my way to the afternoon Open Pairs but what on earth are you doing here?'

'That's what I'd like to know.' was the reply. 'You promised to save me.'

'Of course, I sent the Police, the Fire Brigade, a helicopter....'

Right Move - Wrong Table!

This deal from the Vivendi Rosenblum Teams Championship gave two defenders the chance to shine. Unfortunately the one who really needed to be on the ball missed his opportunity.

Love All. Dealer North.


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

West	North <i>Dhondy</i>	East	South <i>Pagan</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

A strong club auction saw South arrive in 4♥.

A club lead would have given declarer no chance but West not unnaturally selected his singleton diamond. Declarer put up the king and East won with the ace and continued with the jack. The spotlight was on West, but he missed his chance for glory when he failed to ruff and switch to a club. The contract could no longer be defeated.

In the other room North-South came to rest in 3♥. The opening lead was the same, but declarer put on the ♦10 and East won with the jack. He now returned his small diamond and West ruffed and switched to a club holding declarer to his contract.



Radio France

FREQUENCE NORD

94.7

LILLE 87.8

Rendez-vous with the World Bridge Championships very day at 18:40 on Radio France Frequence Nord 94.7 or in Lille 87.8

The hand with no names

All the participants in the following fiasco must remain nameless (even the author of the column to protect himself from his teammates), but the hand does serve the useful purpose of demonstrating that Homer nods.

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

You reach 4♥ on the lead of the ♣9, winning it to play the ♠K. West wins the ace and plays a diamond. You take the ace and cash the ♠Q to pitch a diamond. Now what?

Well, a club is fairly safe, but you play a trump and RHO pitches a diamond. You win the ♥J and can settle for 10 tricks by playing on trumps. You greedily play a club, however. West ruffs, plays ace and another trump, and you sadly put your hand back in the board for down one.

And the result? You gain 3 IMPs!! 4♥ at the other table was played by North on the lead of the ♦K. Declarer can survive by ducking or playing on spades. However, when he won and played a trump, West ducked the first and won the second. Now a club through saw declarer try to unblock the clubs. West ruffed, cashed his diamond and exited with a trump. Now declarer was two down.

Breaking News from around the World

A Radical Muslim group claimed responsibility for a bomb in Cape Town's Planet Hollywood restaurant last night, saying it was in retaliation for the American attacks in Sudan and Afghanistan. It killed one woman and a second is believed to have died of a heart attack.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair announced several "draconian and fundamental" security measures yesterday. They are designed to bring members of the IRA to justice. He also visited the town centre of Omagh, which was devastated by a car bomb 11 days ago.

Hurricane Bonnie is still offshore, but tropical storm-force wind and rain from the rapidly north-moving monster were lashing the North Carolina coast yesterday. The resulting damage could be intensified by the timing of its arrival on land that is expected to be early in the afternoon, at the same time as high tide.

Three from Meckwell

Our ace roving reporter went to watch Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell in their 12th round match of the Vivendi Rosenblum qualifying stage and he came up with three boards he liked the look of.

Board 3. E/W Vul. Dealer South.

<p>♠ K J 9 5 3 ♥ 10 8 ♦ 10 6 3 ♣ 10 8 3</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; 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>♠ 8 4 ♥ J 6 3 ♦ A K 8 ♣ K Q 7 5 4</p>	
N						
W E						
S						
<p>♠ A Q 10 7 6 2 ♥ A ♦ Q 7 4 2 ♣ 9 2</p>		<p>♠ — ♥ K Q 9 7 5 4 2 ♦ J 9 5 ♣ A J 6</p>				
West	North <i>Meckstroth</i>	East	South <i>Rodwell</i>			
1♠	Pass	2♦ ⁽¹⁾	1♥			
4♠	Dble	All Pass	3♥			

⁽¹⁾ 11+, forcing

Looking at the trump position, you might be forgiven for expecting this to be quite a bloody affair. In fact, the defence cannot beat the contract at all after the normal heart lead. Jeff Meckstroth led the ♥10 to declarer's ace. Declarer led a club to the ten (reverse count) and king. Rodwell thought for quite a while before ducking. That gave declarer a chance to go wrong. Suppose that Rodwell wins the club. Whatever he plays back, declarer can ruff one club and one heart in hand and cash three rounds of diamonds. That gives him seven of the first eight tricks. He leads the 13th diamond from hand and North must ruff. That leaves North endplayed. He leads into declarer's trump holding but is then put back in by a low trump lead to again lead into declarer's

tenace at trick twelve and give the tenth trick. After the first club holds the trick, declarer must play a second club to establish a ruff in the suit. Whatever the defence plays back, he uses the two diamond entries to dummy to take his club and heart ruffs and comes back to the same ending as before.

In practice, declarer ruffed a heart at trick three then played the ♠Q from hand, hoping to pin the bare nine or jack. When that did not come to pass, he could no longer make the hand and was one down; 200 to Meckwell, which proved to be worth 12 IMPs.

Board 6. E/W Vul. Dealer East.

<p>♠ J 10 6 4 3 ♥ J 7 5 ♦ A Q 6 ♣ J 3 2</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; 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 Q 7 ♥ A 8 4 3 2 ♦ 5 ♣ 10 7 5 4</p>	
N						
W E						
S						
<p>♠ J 5 2 ♥ Q 9 6 ♦ K J 9 8 4 ♣ 9 6</p>		<p>♠ K 9 8 ♥ K 10 ♦ 10 7 3 2 ♣ A K Q 8</p>				
West	North <i>Meckstroth</i>	East	South <i>Rodwell</i>			
All Pass	2♥	Dble	1♥			
		Pass	INT			
			2♠			

Meckstroth's double was for takeout and Rodwell responded 2♠ almost instantaneously. The lead was the ♦4, which was won by dummy's six. Rodwell played a spade up and East took his ace and switched to a low heart. Rodwell rose with the king and thought for a while before playing back his remaining heart. West won the queen of hearts and gave his partner a diamond ruff. East now tried a club but Rodwell could win that with dummy's jack, ruff a heart and lay down the ♠K. He only had to lose to the ♠J now for +140.

Board 7. All Vul. Dealer South.

<p>♠ — ♥ K 10 5 4 3 ♦ A 3 2 ♣ A Q J 8 4</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; 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 5 3 ♥ 6 2 ♦ J 8 5 4 ♣ K 10 6</p>	<p>♠ K Q 10 8 4 2 ♥ 9 ♦ 9 6 ♣ 7 5 3 2</p>
N						
W E						
S						
<p>♠ A 7 6 ♥ A Q J 8 7 ♦ K Q 10 7 ♣ 9</p>						
West	North <i>Meckstroth</i>	East	South <i>Rodwell</i>			
Dble	Pass	3♣	1♣			
Dble	Pass	Pass	3♥			
Pass	3NT	Pass	Rdbl			
Dble	All Pass	Pass	Pass			

1♣ was strong and West's double showed either clubs and hearts or diamonds and spades. Meckstroth's pass showed 0-5 and 3♣ was pass or correct. Perhaps it is not my place to criticise one of the best players in the world, but on a scale of one to ten Rodwell's 3♥ bid would not score very highly. West started to double now and when the auction came to an end Meckstroth had the pleasure of playing 3NT doubled on the North cards.

East chose to lead his heart, which could have been right if his partner's hearts had been much stronger, but was not best. Meckstroth thought for quite a while before going up with dummy's ace and playing the king of diamonds. West won that and switched to the queen of clubs. Meckstroth put up his king and cashed three rounds of diamonds then played a heart to the queen and king. The defence cashed the clubs now but had to give Meckstroth two tricks at the end. Still, that was -500 and 9 IMPs away.



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Darty provides the video screens

Right Solutions all around

When the Russian team, REKOUNOV, faced OTVOSI in the ninth round of the Vivendi Rosenblum round-robin, their big swing came on this deal:

N/S Vul. Dealer South.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Rekounov</i>	<i>Lesniewski</i>	<i>Kazantsev</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>
Pass	INT	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	4♥
			All Pass

Kazantsev doubled 4♥ for penalties knowing that his partner had to have substantial heart length, and it was time to take the money. Declarer's task was hopeless and the Russians collected +500.

In the other room, the bidding reached a somewhat different conclusion.

West	North	East	South
<i>Zaremba</i>	<i>Khokhlov</i>	<i>Lasocki</i>	<i>Zlotov</i>
Pass	INT ⁽¹⁾	Pass	1♠
Pass	3NT	Dble	3♥
			All Pass

⁽¹⁾ semi-forcing

Khokhlov was the second Russian player to come to the right solution on this deal. Knowing that his partner was five-five in the majors with concentrated values, he bid 3NT, which proved to be unbeatable; +750 and 15 IMPs to REKOUNOV.

The third player who came to the right conclusion was Lasocki! He knew that 3NT would be passed out and that it was the correct contract for North/South. He doubled to try to push his opponents out of their cold contract and into four of a major which he was sure would fail. Alas, his opponents did not run, but the double cost Lasocki not a single IMP, even though it didn't come off, so it was a shot to nothing.

Taking Advantage

Sometimes a contract is virtually impossible unless declarer gets a little help from the friendly defenders. He still has to take advantage of the help they give him, of course. Debasish Ray of India, did just that on this deal from Round 9 of the Vivendi Rosenblum round robin.

<p>♠ 10 7 6 3 ♥ Q 9 4 3 ♦ 7 ♣ K Q 5 2</p>	<p>♠ A J 8 4 ♥ A 7 5 ♦ A Q 10 6 ♣ 10 4</p>
---	--

N
W E
S

<p>♠ K 9 2 ♥ K J 8 6 2 ♦ 5 4 2 ♣ A 8</p>	<p>♠ Q 5 ♥ 10 ♦ K J 9 8 3 ♣ J 9 7 6</p>
--	---

North	South
<i>Kusari</i>	<i>Ray</i>
1♦	1♥
1♠	2♣
3♥	4♥
Pass	

The opening lead was the singleton diamond, a dubious choice when holding trump length. Ray had little choice but to finesse. His queen lost to the king. Now East erred, returning the nine of diamonds as a suit preference signal for spades. West ruffed and advanced the ♣K but it was too late. Declarer quickly drew two rounds of trumps then played the ace of spades, unblocking his nine, a spade to the king and a third spade to dummy's eight. The losing club went on the fourth spade and that was ten tricks.

That was a big swing because at the other table the opening lead against the same contract was a club and declarer went three down after getting the spades wrong (the normal thing to do without aid from the defence).



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Nice approach

Tommy Sandsmark, former president of the International Bridge Press Association and here as a member of the Appeals Committee, nearly caught his opponents in a neat deceptive bidding sequence on a hand from the Vivendi Rosenblum Teams.

♠ 10 7 4 2
♥ Q 10 5 3
♦ A 8 2
♣ K 7

North passed and East opened INT. Sandsmark, South, had a convention to use against notrump, so he bid 2♣. He described his hand has diamonds or both majors. West doubled. North bid 2♦ and it went Pass - Pass (Sandsmark thought West might be caught in a doubling sequence). At this point West asked, "Diamonds?" Sandsmark nodded and West doubled. After two passes, South bid 2♥. "Both majors?" asked West. Sandsmark nodded again, and it went Pass - Pass - 2NT. After two more passes, North supported to 3♥, and there the bidding died.

West led a small club to East's ace, and East switched to the ♦10. How would you play? These are the hands you see:

♠ J 9
♥ A J 7 6 4
♦ 7 6
♣ Q J 6 4

♠ 10 7 4 2
♥ Q 10 5 3
♦ A 8 2
♣ K 7

Declarer believed the ♥K was offside, so he found a different way to make his contract. He went up with the ace on the diamond lead, played the ♣K and crossed to dummy with a heart to the ace. Then he threw a diamond loser on the ♣Q and continued with the ♣J. These were the East-West hands:

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

East, out of clubs, had to use the king to ruff. So Sandsmark was able to get rid of both of his diamonds to make his contract.

Slovenian thank-you

Players of the Slovenian team want to express their gratitude to sponsors Calcitt-Kamnik, Chemo and ZZI enabling them to participate in this tournament.

Round of 32



Boards 1-28

Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup



By Barry Rigal

The match of the day in the Louis Vuitton McConnell Trophy Teams was surely AUKEN vs. MORSE.

The Auken team did not have the usual lineup - the group that has won previous world championships. Sabine Auken and Daniela von Arnim were playing together, but their teammates were Katrin Reps (Daniela's sister-in-law) and Barbara Harkavy. Against them Jo Morse, Karen McCallum and Lynn Baker were a flexible trio, Hjordis Eythorssdottir and Judi Radin at the other table.

Note: a few compass directions have been rotated during this article for the convenience of the reader.

The match started with a bang. Auken picked up:

- ♠ A 7 5 3
- ♥ 9 6 4
- ♦ K
- ♣ K Q 10 9 3

and opened 1♠ (potentially canapé). This was doubled by McCallum, and von Arnim leaped to 4♠. McCallum doubled again to end the auction. Auken must have awaited dummy with some interest and trepidation, but it turned out to be a highly suitable collection.

Board 1. None vul. Dealer North.

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

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

The defence cashed two hearts, then played two diamonds, and declarer claimed plus 590. In the other room, after 1♣ - INT - 2♠ - Pass, the South hand passed, not unreasonably, and collected 170 - 9 IMPs to AUKEN.

AUKEN collected 5 IMPs in a rather unusual fashion a little later - 5♥ doubled down two for minus 300 against 4♥ doubled down three for 500 in the other room. The lead had gone into double figures.

Then Morse was faced with a tough decision, made even harder by a slightly hazy recollection of her systemic agreements! The auction to her was:

2♦ - 2NT - Pass (the opening bid showed hearts or spades and a minor.)

Holding:

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

how should one advance? Morse bid 3NT, perhaps reasoning that both majors figured not to split and that slam was likely to be marginal. She was delighted to see a red-suit lead of - a heart, not a diamond. In fact, it did not matter: McCallum had:

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

so in fact there were going to be 12 tricks in hearts played by the strong hand (the defence can only lead trumps once since the weak hand had a 5-1-5-2 shape with the ♠A and the ♦K).

Declarer can cash a few plain suit winners and crossruff undisturbed in the minors. Slam was not bid in the other room - just as well, since the weaker hand would have been declarer - so there was no swing on the board.

Then both pairs had a bidding misunderstanding on the following deal. However, Auken took a pragmatic approach and emerged smelling of roses. The Radin-Eythorssdottir accident was considerably more expensive.

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

Von Arnim opened 2♦ (hearts or spades and a minor) and rebid 4♦ over the game-forcing relay to show a maximum 5-6 shape. Now Auken tried 4♥ (intended as Roman Keycard Blackwood in spades) and received an impossible 5♣ response, which showed two keycards and no trump queen. Auken simply closed her eyes and bid 6♠. She duly collected an easy plus 1430.

Radin and Eythorssdottir bid it this way:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥	Dble	Pass	Pass
Rdble	Pass	5NT	Pass
7♠	All Pass		

If you bid 3♦ with the East hand, it is gild-

ing the lily, in my opinion, to cuebid the suit at your next turn. 5NT was intended as pick-a-slam but was interpreted as the Grand Slam Force. Whatever your view on that, 7♠ was not a success. 17 more IMPs to AUKEN.

The next board saw more IMPs fly in the same direction when Auken opened 1♠ with

- ♠ Q 8 7 6 5 4
- ♥ 8 4 3
- ♦ A 5
- ♣ A 2

McCallum jumped to 5♦ and von Arnim doubled - Auken passed this, of course. In the other room, the 10-count passed, and 5♦ survived undoubled. This was the full deal:

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

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

McCallum received a spade lead and an accurate club shift to the ace. The ♥5 back meant the defense had the first three tricks, but on the play of the ♣K next, declarer guessed diamonds by crossing to the ♥Q and playing a trump to the king. Von Arnim could have achieved 800 by playing her second spade at trick four for the trump promotion. Should she? A lot depends on whether partner's heart card has suit preference overtones. If so, perhaps West might play the ♥8.

Plus 500 gained 5 IMPs anyway against 300 from the other room, where declarer mis-guessed the diamonds.

Going into the final board of the set, AUKEN's lead was up to 33 IMPs, and it could have been a lot more if they had gotten the last board right.

First of all, let's look at Morse's problem.

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

West	North	East	South
INT ⁽¹⁰⁻¹²⁾	2♥	2NT	?

Jo passed, perhaps intending to back in over the 3♣ signoff. The auction proceeded 3♣ - Pass - 3NT to her and she passed again.

The opening lead was the predictable heart. The full deal:

Board 14. Love All. Dealer East.

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

Auken won the heart lead, peeled off six clubs, then tried for an endplay on McCallum. But the defence had kept the right winners, and Morse took the last tricks for down two.

Harkavy-Reps had a chance to pick up on the board, since 4♣ is cold their way. But this was their bidding:

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

Had the final bid been 4♠ instead of 5♦, they would have gained 8 IMPs instead of losing 5. However, as it was they finished the set 28 IMPs up.

Board 9 in the second quarter provided a huge double-game swing for AUKEN.

Board 9. E/W Vul. Dealer North.

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

Harkavy opened 4♥ with the South hand, and the auction was closed with a double. Eythorssdottir led the ♠9 went to the queen, and was the ♣K cashed, getting a signal from partner showing an odd number. The defense Radin tried for another club trick, but this backfired. Declarer ruffed, drew trumps and knocked out the ♠A while the ♦A was still in dummy as an entry to the good spades. East had to switch to the ♦K at trick three to beat the contract.

The auction was the same, up to the double of 4♥, at the other table. However, Auken

very courageously pulled to 4NT and von Arnim corrected to 5♣. As you can see, there is no way to beat the club game, so the German team scored 590 at the first table and 600 at the second for a 15-IMP gain.

MORSE got seven of those IMPs back on the next deal.

Board 10. Game All. Dealer East.

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

Radin opened 3♠ and partner raised her to game. Neither East nor West had anything to say so 4♠ became the final contract. On the ♦K lead, declarer lost four red tricks plus the trump king for minus 200. The bidding was different at the other table.

West	North	East	South
2♥ ⁽¹⁾	3♦	3♠ ⁽²⁾	3NT
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

⁽¹⁾ Spades or hearts and a minor.

⁽²⁾ Willing to play at the three level in spades, higher in hearts.

This contract was beaten the same two tricks for a 7-IMP pickup. The defence actually could have scored 800 if they take the hearts tricks first, then the diamonds, with a further diamond continuation to possibly set up trump trick for West, but plus 500 was still a useful pickup.

Per's putdown

by Patrick Jourdain (GB)



More famous than Shakespeare?

The London Daily Telegraph has two million readers. On a high after my piece from Lille made the front page, I said to my friend, Per Jannersten, "More people have read my words than read Shakespeare during his lifetime."

"Ah yes," replied Per. "But how many will remember your words four hundred years after you are dead?"

The 4th Red Sea International Bridge Festival

The 4th Red Sea International bridge festival will be held in Eilat, Israel, from the 15th to 22nd of November. The venue is the Royal Beach Hotel, Eilat. The climate in Eilat in November is always warm, with temperatures from 16-27 °C.

There are three main events - a two-session IMP Pairs, three-session Open Pairs, and two-session Teams - plus a Special Pairs tournament on the evening before the main events begin, and a two-session Invitational Master tournament.

For further details and registration please contact:

The Organising Committee:

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APPEALS 5 to 8

APPEAL No. 5

Reported by Tommy Sandsmark (Norway)

Appeals Committee:

Richard Colker, USA (Chairman), Bechy Rogers, USA, Eric Kokish, Canada, Patrick Choy, Singapore and Tommy Sandsmark, Norway

Round 5 - Mixed Pairs Qualification

N/S: L.Wright, GBR - J. Cormack, AUS

E/W: Lustin, FRA - Kaplan, USA (FRA)

Board 10. Game All. Dealer East.

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

West	North	East	South
4♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	4♥	INT
			Pass
			All Pass

⁽¹⁾ Transfer

Result at table:

4♥ by East +1: 650 E/W

The Tournament Director:

The TD was called to the table after the end of play. The play went: ♥3 to the queen and king, ♥J to the ace, ♥4 to the 9, ♠Q and at that point there was some confusion as to the succession of events. East did something with her cards as she either played a diamond to dummy's queen or said she would play a diamond, losing only to the ace.

South told her partner (when he put his cards back into the board) that if he didn't take the ♦A immediately, she would get a spade trick. N/S stated that North had played the ♦A AFTER East's claim; E/W said that North played the ♦A BEFORE East claimed by saying "A diamond for you!"

The Players:

N/S: North said that he never actually put the ♦A down on the table. He maintained that East said she would play a diamond to the queen, but that she didn't actually do it. At this point North acquiesced, assuming that declar-

er had another spade for her INT opening. North also said that declarer might have made a proper claim after trick three, without cashing the ♠Q.

EW: East spoke only French. With her partner as interpreter she denied having said "A diamond for you and the rest are mine". Both East and West insisted that a diamond was played and taken with the ace.

The Committee:

The Committee found that what had really been going on was that East had probably played a diamond to the queen, then shown her hand to her screenmate to shorten the play. North had quite correctly understood this action as a claim, to which he acquiesced. The Committee did not think that North had actually put the ♦A on the table, but even if it had been played, the claim had come first.

When there is a claim, the laws require play to stop, and the TD is to be called if the claim is contested. It is within South's rights to contest any claim, as North may not concede any tricks on her behalf.

Thus, the Committee found that N/S were entitled to one more trick, as the claim came after East had removed her last entry to her diamonds with her play of ♠Q. Thus, the contract was adjusted to 4♥ by East making 10 tricks, 620 to E/W.

Appeal No. 6

Reported by David Stevenson (England)

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Denmark, Chairman), Dan Morse (USA), Becky Rogers (USA), David Stevenson (England).

Mixed Pairs Final Round 2

Israel v France

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
3♣	1♠	Pass	INT ⁽¹⁾
All Pass	Pass	Pass	Dble ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ = alerted

Facts:

South asked West the meaning of the 3♣ bid and West told her it was natural. After there had been two passes, South tried to find out more about the meaning of the bid and West refused to describe it in more detail. On the other side of the screen East described it as "Strong". More than one TD attended the table because of some language difficulties.

Result at table:

3♣ doubled making.

TD's decision:

Double cancelled.

Scored as 3♣ making, N/S -110. Law 75A.

Appellant:

East/West appealed.

The players:

West said that there was no special understanding between him and his partner as to the meaning of the 3♣ bid, so he saw no reason to tell South something that was not an agreement, and told her so. He had bid 3♣, knowing it was undiscussed, and a gamble, since that was his general style. He pointed out that 3♣ doubled could be beaten on a heart lead.

East said she believed that they had discussed the sequence if INT was not alerted. She could not remember an alert. She explained that 3♣ must be strong because of the vulnerability and her hand.

South said that she had tried to find out more information and that West had been extremely brusque and used gestures in telling her he was not going to answer. She said that if 3♣ was strong then her takeout double needed to be stronger in case partner wished to pass it, and she would have bid 3♦ on the actual hand.

North agreed the double was takeout but he had passed it because there seemed no other sensible call.

The Committee:

The Committee believed that East-West had no further understanding about the 3♣ bid. The felt that South was not misinformed. They also felt that even if there had been misinformation then there was no damage since the South hand was an automatic takeout double.

The Committee felt that West had not acted correctly when asked further questions. If he felt the questions were inappropriate then he should have called the Director rather than

lecture his opponent. If the questions were appropriate he should have answered them.

The Committee's decision:

The Committee ruled: Table score stands (3♣ doubled making). Deposit returned.
20% of a top Procedural Penalty to East-West for West's actions when asked questions he believed to be inappropriate. Law 74A2.

Appeal No. 7

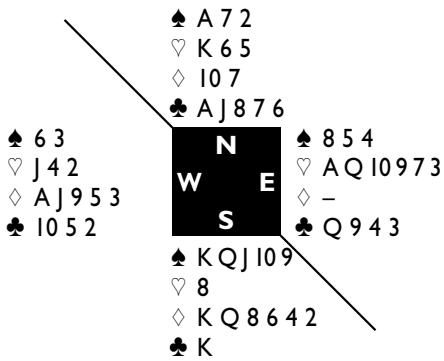
Reported by Steen Møller (Denmark)

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), John Wignall (New Zealand), Herman De Wael (Belgium).

Mixed Pairs Round 3
Austria v France

Board 13. Dealer North. Game All.



West	North	East	South
Pichler	Chemla	Weigkricht	d'Ovidio
Pass	1♣	2♥	3♦
All Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠

Facts:

West led a small heart to the queen and East returned a club. South played the king, West the deuce, and now South asked West the meaning of 2♥. West said that it showed 10-14 points. Therefore South placed East with the ace of diamonds and overtook the club king with the ace to lead a diamond from dummy. The contract went two off, minus 200 North/South. South called the TD and told that had she got a correct explanation of 2♥ being a weak jump-overcall she would have won the club trick with the king to play a small diamond towards the 10. She claimed that this way she would have made at least nine tricks and probably ten as the defenders would have to play very carefully to beat 4♠.

TD's decision:

The TD decided that there had been an infraction and that South had been damaged, but as she could not tell what would have happened without the infraction she scored the hand 60/40 in favour of North/South.

Appellant:

East/West appealed.

The Players:

West told the Committee that he had agreed with his partner to play intermediate jump-overcalls and that he had given a correct explanation to South. On the convention card the jump-overcall was marked "weak", but West said that he and East were using the card normally used by East and her female partner, and that they had forgotten to change the word "weak" to "intermediate". East first told the committee that she felt that her hand was very good and qualified for an intermediate jump-overcall, but later she admitted that she had told North that 2♥ was a weak jump-overcall.

The Committee:

The committee decided that there was an infraction, namely misinformation and that South had been damaged. The committee was not so sure of the superiority of playing - in a pairs tournament - a small diamond towards the ten, thus making the contract against less than perfect defence. The committee was happy with the 60/40 decision made by the TD. The committee felt that East/West also should have been happy with that decision and not brought the case to appeal.

The Committee's decision:

The Committee ruled: TD's decision to stand. Deposit forfeited.

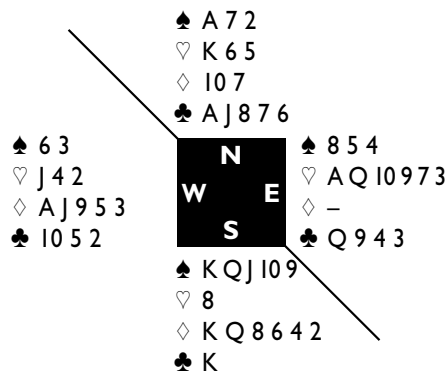
The Committee warned East/West for not playing the same system, or for an incomplete convention card, if they really played intermediate jump overcalls.

Herman De Wael, one of the members of the Appeals Committee that heard this case, asks: The ruling was correct after all... or was it? He then offered the following observations concerning this hand:

By Herman De Wael

Kibitzing a Belgian pair in the Mixed Pairs, I was witness to a strange ruling.

Board 13. Game All. Dealer North.



West	North	East	South
Pass	INT	2♥	Dble
All Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT

On the South side of the screen, 2♥ was explained as a transfer to spades. The notrump contract and the subsequent two down tricks were the result. Of course the director was called, and not to our surprise, he announced a score correction shortly afterwards. But at this point he did not state what the adjusted score would be. Quite some time later, an artificial adjusted score of 60% (to NS), 40% (to EW) was announced.

Now this is a very strange thing. Law 12C2 reads:

"When the director awards an assigned adjusted score in place of a result actually obtained after an irregularity, the score is, for a non-offending side, the most favourable result that was likely had the irregularity not occurred or, for an offending side, the most unfavourable result that was at all probable."

When applying this Law, the director should decide whether the making of ten tricks is likely or probable. If it is likely, the result becomes +620 to both sides. If it is merely probable, a split score of -100 to NS, +620 to EW is advisable. And if it is not probable at all, the score shall be -100 to both sides.

Awarding an artificial score is possible in two cases. Law 12C1 reads:

"When, owing to an irregularity, no result can be obtained..."

I don't see how this can apply here. The final contract is not in real doubt. The number of tricks is either nine or ten (or possibly some other number), so if it is the directorial staff's opinion that this Law applies, this is certainly a new interpretation to me.

Alternatively, Law 12C3 reads:

"... an Appeals Committee may vary an assigned adjusted score in order to do equity." So if this is the correct final result, it can be, but it is not in the Director's powers to decide upon it.

Before continuing my comments on this ruling, I would like to continue the story of that day.

Later in the evening, I was asked to sit on the Appeals Committee. Great was my surprise when this same deal came up.

Here the bidding was different, however.

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

2♥ was explained by East to North as "weak", but by West to South as "10-14". Based on this explanation, South overtook her bare ♣K to lead a diamond through the ace which, based on the point count, must be with East.

The Director here had also ruled 60%/40%. It suddenly became clear to me that the directors had discussed these cases together and found that the chances of making 4♠ were simply insufficient to warrant an adjustment to +620. In fact they went through the room to check the frequency of +620.

The rest of the appeal does not really matter, but in the end we decided that we were quite happy with the director's decision and 60/40 seemed a good result to us.

This leads me to suggest a small Law change: to Law 12C3 might well be added that in top level tournaments, directed by top level directors, the chairman of the Appeals Committee has the power to delegate the L12C3 powers to the Chief Tournament Director. After all, no one is served with a number of appeals over, after all, quite a good ruling. In reality, the TD now has the power to turn the case over to the Appeals Committee himself if he finds that a L12C3 adjustment is needed. It does not seem reasonable to burden Appeal Committees in this manner.

Let us now return to the first case.

It seems that, after all, the Director awarded the adjustment that might well have turned out to be the final result if the case had gone to Appeal as well.

Or is it? There is a fundamental difference between the two cases. In the one that reached the Appeals Committee, the misexplanation did not affect the bidding (or if it did, no claims to this effect were made by non-offenders). In the first case though, the bidding was affected. And so, while the second director had no choice left but to rule +620 or -100, both of which do not seem equitable, the first director did have a third option: +140.

I leave it to the reader to determine if it is likely that North-South will stop below game. Perhaps it isn't.

APPEAL No. 8

Reported by Tommy Sandsmark (Norway)

Appeals Committee:

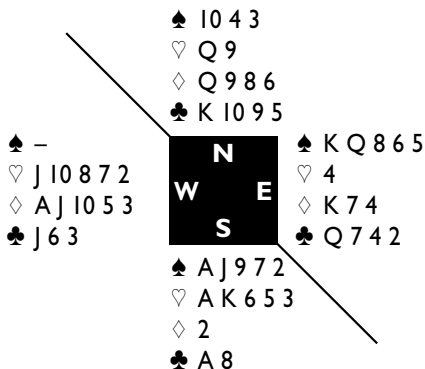
Richard Colker, USA (Chairman), Becky Rogers, USA, Eric Kokish, Canada, Patrick Choy, Singapore and Tommy Sandsmark, Norway

Mixed Pairs Qualification

N/S: Philippe Carpentier
Madelaine Menessin, France

E/W: Robert Maybach
Ulrike Schreckenberger, Germany

Board 10. Game All. Dealer East.



West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	2♣ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	Pass	Pass	3NT ⁽³⁾
All Pass			

- (1) Semiforcing.
- (2) Relay.
- (3) Explained from N to E: "For play!"; from S to W: "5-5 in the majors".

Table result:

3 NT +1: 630 N/S

The Tournament Director:

The TD was called to the table after the play. The play went: ♦J to the queen, ♠10 to the queen and ace, ♥3 to the queen, ♠3 to the king. Then East played a small diamond to the 10, and another small diamond came back to the king, and then a small spade from East.

There was nothing on the convention card that could support South's explanation of 5-5 in the majors. The TD, as instructed by law 75, accepted North's explanation as the correct one and ruled that the table result would stand.

The Players:

E/W: East was told that South had a balanced, strong hand with at least two diamonds and held back the ♦K because she assumed that South held the ♦A. She maintained that if she had known that South had 5-5 in the majors and an intermediate hand, she would have gone up with the ♦K either on the first or the second round of diamonds and defeated the contract.

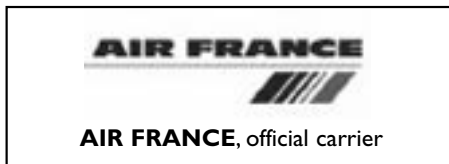
N/S: South maintained that in France, this sequence is often played to show 5-5 in the majors. She believed that North knew this. North, who was somewhat less experienced than South, did not know.

The Committee:

The Committee found that the footnotes under law 75 D2 forced the TD to rule any discrepancy in statements as a misexplanation and not a misbid unless one of the statements could be proved to be true.

Furthermore, the Committee believed that if South's statement were true, East would have put up the ♦K the first or the second time if she had known. On the other hand, if North's statement were true, West might have found a better lead (e.g. the ♥J) if he had known the facts. In either case the contract was likely to have gone one down.

Thus, the Committee adjusted the score to 3 NT by South, 8 tricks: -100 for N/S; +100 for E/W.



The 35-IMP Question

by Philippe Brunel

In the unlikely event that this edition of the Daily News is sending you to sleep here is a little lead problem that might just wake you up. A small matter of 35 IMPs rests on your choice!

You find yourself looking at the following hand during one of your matches in the Viven-di Rosenblum Teams Championship.

♠ Q 2
♥ K J 8 6 5
♦ 7
♣ K J 7 6 4

It fits into your system nicely and you are able to open 2♥ promising that suit and one other. By the time the bidding tray returns to your side of the screen there have been some dramatic developments! This is what you see:

West	North	East	South
Haas	Lev	Burtin	Mohan
7♦	7♥	7NT	2♥

You can only pass and hope to be on the winning side, but when the tray becomes visible again you see that your partner has doubled.

What are you going to lead?

When this deal was presented as a problem to your Editors they all replied within ten seconds!

You see we not only type fast, we think fast!

The man in the hot seat was John Mohan and he took just a little more time than we did to come up with the winning answer.

Time to take a look at the full deal:

Both Vul. Dealer South.

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

West's gambit has been seen before, but this time his luck was out as South found the club lead that resulted in an 1100 penalty.

This is actually quite a common situation - well, at least we have seen it before! West simply must have some very good diamonds and very likely a second suit. To work out what to lead you look at your black suit holdings. Usually you will be right if you select the stronger of the two. QED.

In the other room the contract was 6♦ scoring +1390.

Who gets the prize?

by Peter Lund

Tem Engel, Germany, and Team Norris, Denmark, didn't qualify for the knockout phase of the Vivendi Rosenblum Cup, but their dogfight on this board might qualify for a prize:

N-S Vul. Dealer South.

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

West	North	East	South
Schwenkreis	Berg	Maybach	Graulund
			1♦
2♦	Dble	2♠	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Lead: ♠6

2♦ = 5-5 in ♠+♣

After the lead Graulund had 8 tricks on top and the only chance was a squeeze in the black suits against West. He ducked the ♠J and ♠Q, and East now played the ♥2, ducked to the ♥J. Back came the ♠10 to the ace, East discarding a diamond. To rectify the count South needed to give East a trick. He played three rounds of diamonds and West discarded a club and two hearts. Here is the position:

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

Nis Graulund played the ♥10 from dummy and Robert Maybach played the ♥8! He knew exactly what was going on and did his best to mislead South. (If East plays the ♥Q, South ducks and the tempo is now correct). Graulund went into the tank for long time. He was considering the likely distribution of the West hand. Was it 5-4-0-4? But with that shape, there was no squeeze against West as East would have three clubs.

Eventually South won the battle. He played the ♥7 and now took 10 tricks on the black suit squeeze.

Probably they both deserve a prize!

Paying the (W)right Price

The auction goes 1♠ from your partner, 2♥ on your right and using the immortal words you hold:

♠ 9
♥ Q 5 3
♦ K Q 9 6 4
♣ A Q 9 8

Would you consider doubling?

Would you prefer that to be take out or penalties?

Lionel Wright doubled for penalties and the bidding tray took forever to come back with the addition of three 'green cards'.

Lionel led the spade nine and dummy was pretty ideal from his point of view.

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

The first trick was completed by the ♠10, ♠J and the ♥7! Still if partner had eight spades Lionel felt he must have a bunch of hearts too.

Declarer laid down the ♦A at trick two and Lionel's partner David Price ruffed. Back came a club to Wright's queen. He cashed two diamonds and the ♣A and gave his partner a club ruff. The spade continuation was ruffed and overruffed and another club ruff brought the defenders number of tricks up to eight and the ace of trumps made it nine and +1100 for the good guys.

The full deal looked like this:

All Vul. Dealer East.

	♠ K 10 6 3		
	♥ -		
	♦ 8 7 5 3 2		
	♣ 7 6 4 3		
♠ 9	N	♠ AQJ87542	
♥ Q 5 3	W	♥ A 6 4 2	
♦ K Q 9 6 4	E	♦ -	
♣ A Q 9 8	S	♣ 5	
	♠ -		
	♥ K J 10 9 8 7		
	♦ A J 10		
	♣ K J 10 2		

U.S. Juniors express thanks

The Junior team from the United States is very grateful to Alan Truscott, who put the team together for these championships. They also are very thankful to their sponsors: George Rosenkranz, Jim Mahaffey, Ace Greenberg and Jimmy Cayne.

Reverse Rosenkranz

George Rosenkranz is the author the Rosenkranz Convention whereby partner of the overcaller either doubles or redoubles the intervening call to show a high honor or raises to show no top honor. However, Rosenkranz now plays this convention in reverse - the raise shows the honor. The reason for the change - greater preemption.

It made the difference of an undertrick on this board from the third qualifying session of the J.M. Weston Mixed Pairs.

Board 13. Game All. Dealer North.

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

When North opened 1♣, Edith Rosenkranz overcalled 1♥. South bid 1♠ and George doubled, showing heart support but no top honor. North-South arrived in 3NT, and of course the usual lead was a heart. That led to a one-trick set.

But Edith knew George did NOT have the ♥K, so she did not lead a heart. Declarer was about to take seven black tricks, but as soon as diamonds were touched, George rose with the ace and led his ♥J. Down two for an excellent matchpoint result.

Tough game to reach

Lily and Maud of Egypt used one of their gadgets to find their way to the good heart game after East opened 1♠. The hand comes from the Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup round-robin.

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

Lily doubled 1♠ and West raised to 2♠. Maud bid 2NT, Lebensohl in their methods, demanding a 3♣ bid by partner. But Lily, with a good heart suit and a fine hand, ignored the demand and bid 3♥. That made it easy for Maud to raise to four. With both aces onside, as expected, the contract came home easily.

Defence - par excellence

A.S. Viswanathan

J.M. Shah, easily one of the best players from India, is particularly well known for his table presence. Put yourself in his shoes and see how you would defend one of the hands that arose in one of the Vivendi Rosenblum teams.

Playing a natural system where with both minors you open 1♣ you are involved in the following auction:

West	North	East	South
		1♣	1♥
Dble	INT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Your partner leads the ♣5 and this is what you can see:

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

Dummy plays the 2, you the 8 and South wins with the ace. He then plays three rounds of spades, your partner winning the third one with the 10. How do you plan to defend?

JM, as he is popularly called, had no problem. When his partner played back the ♣4 he won with the 10, cashed the ♣K and played his remaining club. As you can see from the full deal, that was the end for declarer as a trump trick was now promoted for the defence.

JM knew declarer had to trump his remaining spade in dummy with the ace. Therefore forcing him to ruff high left declarer with no chance.

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

Declarer could have made life more difficult by ducking the first trick. Then East needs to find the trump switch to ensure the defeat of the contract.

Be Courteous! Apres Vous

A.S. Viswanathan

Those of you who have heard of the game of cricket will immediately recognise the surname of our contributor for it is identical with that of an outstanding Indian spin bowler. It came as no surprise to us to discover that both of them were born in the same state. However, we were intrigued to learn that our storyteller was born in the same town as the Indian chess-playing superstar 'Vishy' (guess what that is short for) Anand and that they all used to play cricket together!

It isn't often the pleasure (or agony!) of the tournament director to watch a full deal at the table. Having had to do duty as a time monitor at one table in the Vivendi Rosenblum Teams Championship on day two of the Round Robin I learned something fascinating about courtesy. The names of the two players and the teams will remain anonymous.

N/S Vul. Dealer East.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

As spade was led to the queen and king. Either minor suit breaking or the jack of either coming down early sees the declarer home. However our declarer wanted to 'steal' an early trick or wanted to be courteous to the opponents saying 'Apres vous' (you take your tricks first and then I shall take mine) and he played back a small spade.

West went up with the jack and after considerable thought (in retrospect I feel he was considering leading anything but a heart to be equally courteous!), finally tabled the ♥2. When dummy played the six it was East's turn to show his courtesy. He simply followed suit with his ♥3. South was quite ashen-faced when dummy's ♥6 won. When the smoke cleared he had 12 tricks. The moral of this story:

It pays to say 'Apres vous' while you are in France.

The Irish Grand Slam

by Tos McGee

Board 22. E/W Vul. Dealer East.

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

West	North	East	South
King	Louvaux	MacCormal	Louvaux
		1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
7NT	All Pass		

Only two pairs bid to 7NT on this deal in the Lipton Ice Tea World Junior Pairs Championship. The Irish combination of Thomas MacCormal and Richard King was one of them. You may be aware that the standard defence against an Irish slam is to lead an ace to look at dummy, cash your other ace and wait for your natural trump trick(s). In some variations your partner also produces an ace. This time the North player was shocked to find he had no ace to lead against the Irish grand slam.

SS Finland Challenge

To commemorate the birthday of contract bridge, 31 October 1925, some members of the Bridge-Laws-Mailing-List organised, in their respective clubs, a Simultaneous Tournament on 31 October 1997.

In honour of the ship on which the sport originated, this tournament was called the SS Finland Challenge. 263 players in 13 centres on three continents competed in that first edition.

A second edition of this tournament is scheduled for 30 October 1998. The formula is a simultaneous tournament with post-fact scoring.

If your club is interested in organising a heat of this event on the last weekend of October, contact Herman De Wael either at these championships or by e-mail on:

hermandw@village.uunet.be

You can read more about this event on Herman's Home Page at:

www.gallery.uunet.be/hermandw/

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A new division has been set up to facilitate the transfer of retail banking expertise acquired in France to subsidiaries engaged in the same line of business in other regions of the world.



GROUP

The ultimate hard luck story

The Lebanon team captained by Fayach needed a big win - like a 25 - in their final match to have even a chance to qualify for the Round of 64 in the Vivendi Rosenblum Knockout Teams. At the same time they needed some cooperation from other teams that were ahead of them.

Well, they scored their 25 - would it be enough? When the standings were announced, the Lebanese discovered they had moved up into a tie for the last qualifying position with Eliasson of Sweden. Of course it was necessary to break the tie.

The first method - check to see who won when they played each other in the qualification round. One of the Lebanese players immediately expressed triumphal joy - "We won that match, 23-22! We're in!" But another player reminded him that a decision by a tournament director had adjusted the score by 1 IMP, so that the final result was a tie, 23-23.

Next method, according to the Conditions of Contest - quotient. This means adding all the plus scores and all the minus IMPs for all matches, then dividing the plus by the minus. When this was done, Sweden was in and Lebanon was out.

The Lebanese were not happy with this outcome - they pointed out, quite reasonably, that IMPs was a poor method because the teams did not play the same boards. But the Conditions of Contest of course prevailed.

Strangely enough, one of the Lebanese had spoken to a high-ranking bridge official to suggest a change in this condition because of the problem of different boards. The official agreed it was a good point, but felt it wasn't necessary to change the rule because a double tie "will never happen."

Trick Question

by Pony Nehmert, Germany

You pick up pretty much your usual collection of rubbish and see the following:

♠ Q 7 6 5
♥ Q 7
♦ 10 7 2
♣ 9 7 4 3

The bidding goes:

West	North	East	South
		1♣	Dble
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

The question is how many tricks do you expect to take with this rotten hand? Since you will never guess it right I will let you know - it was five! Now I will ask you a more difficult question. Which five cards took tricks? I'll give you some help by showing you the full deal:

N/S Vul. Dealer East

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

Don't ask me why North bid 2♥. Maybe she had been holding hands like mine for the rest of the day.

The opening lead was the ♣K and declarer took the ace at once, West giving count with the six. She exited with the ♠J and this time West gave a suit preference signal with the ♣9. East switched to a spade and declarer won with dummy's ace and played the ♥6, electing to play low from hand when West produced the ♥7.

Trick number one.

West exited with a spade and East's ten was taken by the king after which declarer played a second trump. West won this with the queen.

Trick number two.

West got off play with the ♣8 and declarer won with the ♠10 and played a third trump. East won and drew the remaining trump before playing a spade to West's seven.

Trick number three.

Now West was able to cash the ♠Q and the ♣7.

Tricks number 4 & 5.

The only thing that didn't make this a perfect story from my point of view was that I didn't take the last trick with my ♦7!

The last gasp

As you would expect, there were some desperately close finishes in the race for a qualification spot. One of them involved team Yildiz from Turkey. Things were going badly for them in their last match when the final board was placed on the table.

Board 10. Game All. Dealer East.

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

West	North	East	South
Erkog		Tsen	
		1♣	2♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

When West started with the ♠K, declarer won and returned a spade. West cashed his remaining trump winners and switched to the ♣Q. When that held he cashed the ♦A before playing his remaining club. Declarer ruffed and played a diamond. East won with the queen, cashed the ♦10 and exited with the ♥K. Declarer still had to lose a diamond so he was three down. The 800 penalty was worth 5 IMPs. The match was lost 8-22 VPs, but the extra victory point generated by the swing on the final board was enough to see the Turkish team safely through to the next stage - by half a VP!



Festival De Bridge De Bordeaux

The Bordeaux Bridge Festival will be held from September 24th to 27th.

The tournament features a two-session Open Pairs with a generous prize fund including a first prize of FF 12000; a two-session Patton Teams, and one-session Mixed Pairs, also with substantial prize fund.

For further details or to enter, please contact **Herve Pacault**.

Tel: 05 56 52 00 46 (mornings).

Looking for partner

Ann Mari Mirkovic of Norway is seeking a partner for either the Open Pairs or the Women's Pairs. She is staying at the Hotel Ibis, Room 305. Phone 00-47-95-23-02-40.