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Issue: 1

# Golden Anniversary

The Opening Ceremony of the Orbis World Bridge Championships, under the patronage of Orbis Investment Management Limited and the Ministry of Tourism, Bermuda, was a stupendous affair.

Following a welcome from E. Michael Jones, the resplendent Town Crier of St. George's, the audience was entertained in splendid style by The Bermuda Regiment under the direction of Major Barrett Dill, and the spectacular dance troupe, Gombey Magic.



Master of Ceremonies David Ezekiel was the link man 'par excellence' as he introduced The Honourable Jennifer Smith, J.P. M.P. Premier of Bermuda, The Honourable Alex Scott, J.P. M.P. Acting Minister of Tourism, Geoffrey Gardner, Director, Orbis Investment Management Ltd, and Sheena Rayner, President of the Bermuda Bridge Federation.

Following an address by the President of the World Bridge Federation, José Damiani, the teams were introduced in alphabetical order. That was followed by the formal opening of the event by the WBF President, and the unfurling of the WBF flag.

Afterwards everyone was able to partake of some spectacular Bermudan hospitality, the chocolate cake being a particular favourite!



## ORBIS BERMUDA BOWL - PROGRAMME

### ROUND - 1

1	Bulgaria	Pakistan
2	Chinese Taipei	New Zealand
3	Bermuda	Italy
4	Norway	Brazil
5	Argentina	Poland
6	China	South Africa
7	Australia	Sweden
8	USA 2	USA 1
9	Canada	France
10	Guadeloupe	Indonesia

### ROUND - 2

1	New Zealand	Bulgaria
2	Italy	Chinese Taipei
3	Brazil	Bermuda
4	Poland	Norway
5	South Africa	Argentina
6	Sweden	China
7	USA 1	Australia
8	France	USA 2
9	Indonesia	Canada
10	Pakistan	Guadeloupe

### ROUND - 3

1	Bulgaria	Chinese Taipei
2	Bermuda	New Zealand
3	Norway	Italy
4	Argentina	Brazil
5	China	Poland
6	Australia	South Africa
7	USA 2	Sweden
8	Canada	USA 1
9	Guadeloupe	France
10	Indonesia	Pakistan

## ORBIS VENICE CUP - PROGRAMME

### ROUND - 1

11	Australia	New Zealand
12	Great Britain	China
13	Hong Kong	Canada
14	France	The Netherlands
15	Bermuda	Argentina
16	USA 2	USA 1
17	Egypt	Indonesia
18	Colombia	Austria
19	India	Brazil
20	Germany	Denmark

### ROUND - 2

11	China	Australia
12	Canada	Great Britain
13	The Netherlands	Hong Kong
14	Argentina	France
15	USA 1	Bermuda
16	Indonesia	USA 2
17	Austria	Egypt
18	Brazil	Colombia
19	Denmark	India
20	New Zealand	Germany

### ROUND - 3

11	Australia	Great Britain
12	Hong Kong	China
13	France	Canada
14	Bermuda	The Netherlands
15	USA 2	Argentina
16	Egypt	USA 1
17	Colombia	Indonesia
18	India	Austria
19	Germany	Brazil
20	Denmark	New Zealand

## Bulgaria



*Dessy Popova, direct from the Bulgarian capital, Sofia, kindly supplied this information.*

**Rumen Trendafilov**, 36, and **Kalin Karaivanov**, 33, are both from Varna, the famous resort on the Black Sea. They play a natural system. They have been National Teams Champions five times. They have also taken first place in several important events, including the famous Cino del Duca, and the Cairo Festival pairs in 1998.

**Vladimir Mihov**, 30, is from Sofia while his partner **van Nanev**, 27, lives in Varna. They play a strong club. They won the National Pairs Championship in 1998, and in 1999 they were members of the team that took first place in the Teams Championship at the Egyptian Festival.

**Georgi Stamatov**, 27 and **Borislav Popov**, 36, both hail from Sofia. They also play a natural system. They have won the National Teams Championship three times.

## Bulletin Tips

At the European Championships in Malta last summer, I failed to tip Italy to make the top six in the Open series - They won, going away. For obvious reasons, Guido Ferraro has requested that I do not tip Italy to make the later stages of these championships in Bermuda so, my selection for the semi-final places in the Bermuda bowl is:

**Indonesia**

**Norway**

**Sweden**

**USA I**

My foursome for the Venice cup is:

**Austria**

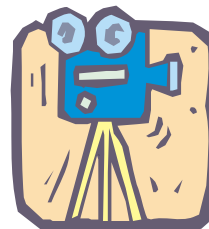
**China**

**USA I**

**USA 2**

Brian Senior

## VuGraph Matches Saturday 8 January 2000



**10.00 USA I v USA II**

**14.00 Sweden v China**

**17.20 Norway v Italy**

## MUD in the Third Dimension

by Jon Sveindal (Norway)

There are a few people present for the Bermuda Bowl that attract crowds most players can only dream of. Geir Helgemo is one of those. This latest board from Reisinger may help to illustrate why Geir has risen to stardom, and why Rita Shugart's team defended their title so convincingly.

The lead of the middle card from three, followed by the highest, is conventionally called MUD - middle-up-down. Third hand MUD is a technique used by a defender when he wants to keep the communication lines with his partner, for example playing the queen from A-Q-x when he knows declarer has the king.

Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	1♠	INT	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

Lead: six of diamonds

At both tables the contract was Three Clubs, and the lead was the same. The other East player put up the Ace (who wouldn't), which incidentally gave declarer three diamond tricks, and a total of eight.

Knowing that declarer was likely to hold the King at least, Geir played the JACK! There was no way South could get more than two diamond tricks, and following a perfect defence team Shugart won the board when declarer had to go two down.



**José Damiani**  
President of the World Bridge Federation

## WBF PRESIDENT'S OPENING ADDRESS

*We are clearly here in Bermuda for a very special event.*

*The World Bridge Federation is going to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Bermuda Bowl that, more or less, covers the whole of the history of our Organization.*

*Bridge has made enormous progress since 1950 and, as you all know, we are entering the 3rd millennium as a sport. Bridge is, as of now, a recognized sport which means, hopefully, a new status for you, the champions, who deserve to be admired for your particular skills and to be rewarded for your dedication to the game. And you have known for a long time that you are our main concern.*

*We could not have found a better place to launch our new image.*

*You will find here a perfect environment for play, the best, most courteous and charming people and I don't doubt that you will join me in thanking the Bermuda Government and people as well as Mr. Allan Gray, Chairman of Orbis Investment Management Ltd., and all the staff of Orbis who did such a very professional job for us. Without their sponsorship and help, we could not possibly have achieved such high standards of quality.*

*But let me tell you that even with this financial support, we always need the goodwill and the enthusiasm that we have got from the Bermuda Bridge Federation.*

*In giving a warm hand of appreciation to their President, Sheena Rayner, you will also be thanking all the staff and the volunteers from the island. They have all worked very hard to make this event a success and I know they will continue to do so.*

*Believe me, it is not that easy, as we have really enlarged these Championships.*

*Besides the Orbis Bermuda Bowl with 20 teams and the Orbis Venice Cup of the same size, we will be holding, for the first time, a Seniors Exhibition match with 6 teams and a Transnational World Open teams event of approximately 70 teams.*

*That shows how attractive Bermuda is.*

*Everything is now ready for the start and it is my pleasure and honour to declare the 2000 Orbis World Bridge Championships open.*

## Results &

## On line VuGraph

If you want to follow the results on the internet or see the online VuGraph simply go to:

[www.bermudabowl.com](http://www.bermudabowl.com)

## Bridge Magazine

To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Bermuda Bowl, the world's first bridge magazine, founded in 1926, is offering a special rate of US\$50 for a subscription. The list of contributors features many of the stars present at these Championships, including Eric Kokish, Sandra Landy, Barry Rigal, Brian Senior, Liz McGowan & Phil King.

All you have to do to subscribe is make your way to the Daily Bulletin office on the mezzanine floor and give your details (and your cash!) to the Editor, Mark Horton. The first 50 subscribers will receive a free copy of The Complete Book of Bols Bridge Tips by Sally Brock.

# The World Bridge Championships - This time it's a SPORTS competition

By Henry Francis

The bridge SPORTS competition gets under way today. At yesterday's pre-tournament press conference, Jose Damiani, president of the World Bridge Federation, emphasized that the 2000 Orbis World Bridge Championship tournament is a SPORTS event, officially recognized by the International Olympic Committee.

"Many people were surprised when our game received official recognition as a sport," said Damiani, but I wasn't surprised. Mazhar Jafri of Pakistan, a member of the World Bridge Federation Executive, and I worked long and hard to convince the IOC that bridge indeed is a sport. Bridge is going to be a demonstration sport at the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City in 2002, and we have strong hopes that bridge will be one of the sports on the agenda of the 2006 Olympics."

## Journalists here despite Internet

Damiani also pointed out that approximately 200 journalists will be here covering the actions of the 1200 participants. "Despite the ease with which journalists can cover this tournament via Internet, it's heartening to realize that so many journalists want to be humanly present for these championships."

This is the biggest tournament of its kind, Damiani said. "There are 20 teams each in the Bermuda Bowl and the Venice Cup, and the exhibition Seniors match also will be featured. Then there will be the Transnational Open Teams during the second week, an event that is blossoming. We had 76 teams at the first running of this event in Hammamet in 1997. We're expecting as many as 70 teams this time around."

Geoffrey Gardner, director of Orbis Investment Management Limited, corporate sponsor of the Championships, told how the arrangement between Orbis and the WBF came about. "We were approached about our interest in being part of the golden anniversary of the Bermuda Bowl and the year happened to coincide with our 10th anniversary. We saw this as something we could give back to Bermuda after Bermuda has done so much for us."

The Orbis Hand of the Week contest was reported to be a tremendous success. According to Alan Gilbertson of Orbis, bridge players from 117 countries took part - "including Mongolia and Marshall Islands!" Altogether there were 36,254 entries. The fact that Zia was the center of the competition had much



to do with the world-wide interest. The competitors had to figure out what Zia would do in various situations, and of course it's not always easy to guess what Zia's going to do.

## Rhoda Addison wins Orbis contest

The winner! Rhoda Addison, a UK citizen who lives in the United States. When she got the news that she had won the \$50,000 prize, Rhoda said, "I'm thrilled. It's a fantastic way to end the millennium. There were nine contestants who had a perfect record."

When the press conference was opened for questions, the first concerned the drug testing that will be done. "This tournament is now under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee," said Damiani, "and that means mandatory blood testing. The players all are aware of this - they understand. Social drugs are forbidden in Olympic competition, and there's no good reason why bridge should be an exception. Really, I don't expect any problems with the players."

Just a moment now - a worldwide contest with entries from 117 countries? How is that possible? Koen Gijsman of the Netherlands had the answer to that one.

"We set up an Internet website called [www.bermudabowl.com](http://www.bermudabowl.com), and we used that to

send out all the information to the competitors all over the world. It worked very well."

## Thorough coverage on Internet

Gijsman also offered information on how the tournament news will be disseminated here. "Through our database system all boards in all matches will be recorded. Play-by-play reports will be available on all vugraphed matches. Several different methods will be used to give reports on the tournament happenings. We also will put each Daily Bulletin on the Internet only a short time after the Bulletin is finished."

"Thousands of bridge fans will be following the action here. In Hammamet in 1997 we had 68,000 visits to our website. That number will be greatly increased here, I am sure. Many people want to follow the play of their home country's team, and there always is tremendous interest in the matches from the quarterfinals on."

When Zia was asked about his performance in the Orbis Hand of the Week competition, the first thing he pointed out was how happy he is about the drug testing. "Many of my partners have told me they think I play like a druggie. Now I can prove I'm not!"

He feels the 13 hands on Orbis were a great introduction to this tournament. "Bridge can grow through computers and Internet," he said. The he added, "It's great to be in Bermuda and see bridge players smiling!"

## 1975 - fewer teams and a few incidents

Jaime Ortiz-Patino, president emeritus of the WBF, said that this tournament is altogether different from the Silver Anniversary Bermuda Bowl, which also was held here in the Southampton Princess back in 1975. "There were fewer teams and no ladies, he said. "It was an interesting tournament - there were a few incidents." *Ed. Note - Incidents indeed. This was the tournament of the foot-tapping and also of Eddie Kantar's famous king of clubs hand.*

Patino told how much he enjoyed coming to Bermuda to play in the regionals. He especially enjoyed the times he played on teams with the late great Edgar Kaplan. "Bermuda is a wonderful venue for a bridge tournament," he said.

## Tragedy strikes French Teams

Bénédicte Cronier tragically lost one of her sisters last Wednesday. As a result she will not be able to play here before Monday or Tuesday. Meanwhile, the French captain Alain Levy will have to play with only two pairs plus Sylvie Willard.

Philippe Cronier, the non-playing captain of the French Open Team has stayed in France with Bénédicte, so at the last moment Jean Christophe Quantin was chosen to act as NPC until Philippe arrives in Bermuda.

## Appeals Committee Information

As part of its arrangements under Law 80G the Appeals Committee requires the Chief Director of his own volition, as a preliminary in the appeals process, to consider whether an adjustment in accordance with the provisions of Law 12C3 would be appropriate. If so, in pursuance of the terms of the WBF Code of Practice he is authorized to make such an adjustment before the players are given the ruling in order to achieve equity as he judges it. Such a score adjustment may be appealed to the Appeals Committee on the same basis as an appeal of any other ruling, but the fact that a judgemental ruling by the Director is made with these enhanced powers, and after consultation with colleagues and expert opinion, means that Appeals committees will require strong evidence that puts it beyond reasonable doubt a ruling should be varied

## Back to the Future

Fifty years ago, the inaugural Bermuda Bowl was fought out on the Island that is now synonymous with the most prestigious World Championship in bridge. To celebrate the anniversary, Five Aces Books have produced *Bermuda Bowl*, an account of all the battles for the supreme trophy. The publishers have kindly agreed to allow the reproduction of some of the material from the book, and we start with the historic first championships.

### 1st Bermuda Bowl

1950 - Hamilton, Bermuda

The first Bermuda Bowl championship was staged in Bermuda in 1950, with three teams competing for the first official world team championship. But it wasn't a Bermuda Bowl championship as far as the competitors or the press were concerned. Alfred Sheinwold's report in *The Bridge World*, which filled 27 pages, never mentioned the trophy. The ACBL Bulletin noted that the United States had custody of the Bermuda Trophy, a magnificent symbol donated by the people of Bermuda, which will possibly be put into play again in 1951. Each member of the team received a replica of the trophy for permanent possession.

That's right - the United States, representing North America, emerged victorious, defeating Europe and England in the four-day round robin at the Castle Harbour Hotel, Bermuda, in November. The Americans defeated England by 3660 points (total point scoring) and Europe (Sweden and Iceland) by 4720. England, the European champions, finished second by toppling Europe by 1940 points.

On the American team were John Crawford, Charles Goren, Sidney Silodor, Howard Schenken, George Rapee and Sam Stayman. The team had no fixed partnerships. In general they used weak jump overcalls, weak two-bids and the Stayman convention. Practically no artificial bids were used.

Both the other teams were made up of three fixed partnerships. Representing England were Maurice Harrison-Gray and Joel Tarlo, Leslie Dodds and Kenneth Konstam, Louis Tarlo and Nico Gardener. The pairs used different bidding systems, but the differences were not major.

Playing for Europe were Einar Werner and Rudolf Kock, Nils-Olof Lilliehook and Jan Wohlin of Sweden, teamed with Einar Thorfinnsson and Gunnar Gudmundsson of Iceland. The differences in bidding practices were major here. Werner/Kock used their own version of Culbertson. Lilliehook/Wohlin used Efos, a new system replete with artificial bids. Thorfinnsson/Gudmundsson employed the Vienna System, with asking bids.

It's interesting that Sheinwold's report states that the North American pair flexibility 'was helpful in the long, grueling match. In later years, bridge reporters decried the lack of fixed partnerships among North Americans. Journalists pointed to the tremendous success achieved by the Italian Blue Team, calling special attention to the advantage Italy had because of its fixed partnerships.

During the four days of play, there were 72 boards a day, 36 boards each afternoon and 36 each night. Since the tempo was slow and careful, this meant about ten hours of bridge each day, to say nothing of the post-mortem discussions that began when play ended and went on until three or four in the morning. Sheinwold reported that it was difficult to find time to dress for dinner. 'Everyone involved dressed

each evening for dinner - players, tournament officials, staff - even this reporter. I'll go out on a limb and assert that Sam Stayman was the snappiest dresser.'

Norman Bach of Bermuda and his associates from the Bermuda Bridge Club did a first-class job of organization and management. All hands, complete with bidding and play, were recorded - a first for the American players but nothing new to the Europeans - such recording was standard practice in important European matches.

Crawford and Schenken both felt their victory lay in better bidding. The Americans played conservatively in general - although not always.

Asked his opinion of the tournament, Maurice Harrison-Gray, captain of the British team, said: 'First of all, the Americans had an intense will to win. Their concentration was remarkable. This imposed a great strain on them and it was thought that in the hectic final stages the Americans might deteriorate. However, their card skill pulled them through, and in a stormy finish they proved without any quibble that they were the best all-round team in the contest.'

Dr Einar Werner, captain of the European team, said: 'Of course the best team won. The Americans made few mistakes and had the advantage of a team composed of six good players, familiar with each other's play.'

Even though this tournament was a first, a system of careful security was the rule. Kibitzers were not allowed to wander from one room to another, and special precautions were taken when any player needed a rest-room break.

In general the British were quite aggressive in their bidding. It worked to their disadvantage on the following deal.

Dealer South. N/S Vul

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

West	North	East	South
Dodds	Silodor	Konstam	Goren
Dble	3♦	3♠	5♦
5♠	6♦	Dble	All Pass

Silodor jumped pre-emptively, but Konstam was not an easy person to shut out.

Goren wasn't sure what was going on, but he definitely wanted to be in game, so he jumped to Five Diamonds. Dodds also didn't know who was doing what to whom. He decided to bid Five Spades, hoping it would make but knowing it couldn't be hurt badly. (Wrong - it could have gone for 800!)

Silodor just jumped right in and bid the slam - he didn't know if his side could beat Five Spades, but he did know Six Diamonds had at least a chance. Konstam doubled to warn his partner to stop bidding.

Of course Goren had no trouble scoring up the slam. He ruffed the second heart, drew one round of trumps, cashed the top clubs and set up the suit by ruffing a club.

The bidding started the same way in the other room, but Schenken didn't think the East cards were worth a bid. Louis Tarlo went to game, but there was nobody there to push the British to the slam. 690 points to America.

Different views concerning jump overcalls created the swing on the following deal.

Dealer West. None Vul

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

West	North	East	South
Goren	J. Tarlo	Crawford	Gray
Pass	Pass	1♣	2♠
4♣	4♠	All Pass	

The British were using strong jump overcalls, so it was natural for Gray to bid Two Spades. Tarlo knew his partner had a good spade suit and club shortage, so he jumped to the spade game.

Goren's lead of the club queen was ruffed, and Gray cashed a high trump. He crossed to dummy with a diamond and led the spade ten. When Crawford covered, he guaranteed two trump tricks. There was no way declarer could avoid two heart losers, so went down one. Gray could have made his contract if he had finessed in trumps before drawing even one round, but such a play is not all that clear.

West	North	East	South
Schenken		Rapee	
Pass	Pass	1♣	Dble
4♣	4♥	All Pass	

The North Americans were using weak jump overcalls, so Rapee had only two choices - he had to make a take-out double or bid One Spade. He had something in all the unbid suits, so he doubled. Schenken had no problem going directly to Four Hearts, and this contract was unstoppable - in fact Schenken lost only two trumps and made an overtrick. That was a 500-point gain for North America.

Stayman wasn't happy about losing 450 points on the next deal, but the hand emphasized a bidding point he had been crusading for.

Dealer North. All Vul

	♠ K 7		
	♥ K 9 8 7 4		
	♦ Q 10 9 2		
	♣ 8 3		
♠ 10 6 5 4		♠ A Q J 3	
♥ 10 2		♥ 3	
♦ 8 6 4		♦ A K J 7 5	
♣ A Q 10 7		♣ J 9 5	
	♠ 9 8 2		
	♥ A Q J 6 5		
	♦ 3		
	♣ K 6 4 2		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Crawford</i>	<i>J. Tarlo</i>	<i>Rapee</i>	<i>Gray</i>
	Pass	1♦	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

The non-forcing raise to Three Hearts did its job - Rapee would have been happy to bid spades over a simple heart raise, but he wasn't interested in bidding at the three level.

Harrison-Gray bid the game as a double shot - it certainly would keep the opponents from coming back into the auction in spades, and Four Hearts might make. In fact, transpose the black aces and the game would have come home. As it was he was beaten two tricks.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Konstam</i>	<i>Schenken</i>	<i>Dodds</i>	<i>Stayman</i>
	Pass	1♦	1♥
Pass	2♥	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Schenken made the value bid of Two Hearts, but that wasn't enough to keep Dodds from bidding Two Spades. Konstam's hand jumped in value when spades were mentioned, and he raised to Three. Dodds was happy to bid the game. With both black kings right, Dodds had no trouble making his game with an overtrick for a 450-point gain.

Stayman had been suggesting for some time that non-forcing double raises of partner's overcalls could have a favourable impact on the auction by making it more difficult for the opponents. Sheinwold reported that Stayman would have used this hand as an example in his new book if the book had not already gone to press. Of course the double (or triple) pre-emptive raise is routine in today's bidding, but it was brand new back in 1950.

Everything depended on the opening lead on the next deal.

Dealer West. None Vul

	♠ A 8 4 2		
	♥ A 5		
	♦ 7 5 3		
	♣ A Q 4 3		
♠ J 7		♠ 6 5 3	
♥ Q 9 6 3 2		♥ 10 7	
♦ Q 9 4		♦ J 10 8 2	
♣ J 8 2		♣ 10 7 6 5	
	♠ K Q 10 9		
	♥ K J 8 4		
	♦ A K 6		
	♣ K 9		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Goren</i>	<i>Gud'sson</i>	<i>Silodor</i>	<i>Thor'sson</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	7♠
All Pass			

No bidding outlines were provided with the reports on this championship, so we are unable to explain the bidding here. Goren had very little to go on as far as his opening lead was concerned. He finally decided on a low heart, and this proved to be disastrous. Declarer now had to ruff only one heart; +1510.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Kock</i>	<i>Rapee</i>	<i>Werner</i>	<i>Crawford</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	7♠
All Pass			

Rapee was happy to get a trump lead as it picked up the jack. He drew one more round of trumps, then went about attempting to get two heart ruffs. But Werner overruffed the third heart, and Europe gained a quick 1560 points.

Three hands later, Crawford/Rapee regained some of the points they lost on the grand slam. Crawford's pre-empt was considered remarkable in 1950, but in modern bridge it would be almost routine.

Dealer South. All Vul

	♠ K J		
	♥ J 7 5 4 3		
	♦ A K		
	♣ K J 3 2		
♠ 7 3		♠ A 8	
♥ A K 10 9		♥ Q 6 2	
♦ Q 10 7		♦ 9 8 4 3	
♣ A Q 10 5		♣ 9 8 6 4	
	♠ Q 10 9 6 5 4 2		
	♥ 8		
	♦ J 6 5 2		
	♣ 7		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Kock</i>	<i>Rapee</i>	<i>Werner</i>	<i>Crawford</i>
			3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Rdble	All Pass	

Werner won the opening trump lead and

led his other trump. Back came a heart to West's nine, and Crawford won the diamond return in dummy. He ruffed a heart and led his singleton club. Kock went into a long huddle, finally ducking. Crawford went up with the king and ruffed another heart. He crossed to a high diamond and ruffed still another heart. When he led another diamond, West was forced to win with the queen. That set up Crawford's diamond jack, so he now had ten tricks - six spades, three diamonds and the king of clubs. That was 1030 points, a gain of 890 since the Europeans played in Two Spades making an overtrick at the other table.

Sam Stayman came into the bidding on this deal, while Louis Tarlo took a passive position. Stayman's move paid off handsomely.

Dealer West. Non Vul

	♠ Q 7 4		
	♥ A J 9 3		
	♦ J 10 8		
	♣ 7 6 2		
♠ J 6		♠ 10 9 8 2	
♥ K 8 6 2		♥ 7 4	
♦ K 6		♦ Q 5	
♣ A J 10 8 4		♣ K Q 9 5 3	
	♠ A K 5 3		
	♥ Q 10 5		
	♦ A 9 7 4 3 2		
	♣ -		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Dodds</i>	<i>Stayman</i>	<i>Konstam</i>	<i>Schenken</i>
1♣	Pass	1♠	2♦
Pass	3♦	4♣	5♦
Dble	All Pass		

Stayman's hand is not particularly impressive - 4-3-3-3 distribution and the spade queen under the spade bidder. Nevertheless, he decided to raise his partner - he knew Schenken had to have good values to enter the bidding between two active bidders. If Schenken's values were only so-so, maybe the raise would silence the opponents. And if Schenken held good cards, maybe Stayman had enough to produce game.

The raise was all Schenken needed. Without it, all he had was a few top cards and a shabby diamond suit. After the raise he had no problem bidding the game, and he even gave a few seconds' thought to redoubling. With the heart finesse working and the diamonds splitting 2-2, he had no trouble racking up twelve tricks.

At the other table Tarlo passed over Two Diamonds, so Gardener played it there. He

## Calling all Captains!

We would like to feature profiles of all the players taking part in the Orbis Bermuda Bowl and Orbis Venice Cup. We usually get a varied response when we ask for this information, but this time we have taken the unprecedented step of organising one or two of them in advance. They start appearing in this bulletin, and with your cooperation we should have a full house well before the end of the event.



also made Six, but that was 480 points to the Americans.

The contract was the same at both tables on the next deal, and both opening leaders tried a small diamond. As a result declarer was put to an excruciating guess at trick one.

Dealer West. E/W Vul

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

West	North	East	South
J. Tarlo	Stayman	Gray	Rapee
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

After the session Stayman commented that he had shown everything with his jump to Three Spades, and so should have bid a simple Four Spades instead of Four Diamonds.

Tarlo led a diamond, and Rapee considered his options for at least five minutes. Certainly Tarlo was capable of leading away from the king to put declarer to the guess at trick one. Also, would the slam be bid in the other room? Maybe - but the opening lead might well be the ace of hearts. Then the diamond finesse would be a must. Rapee also realized that if he finessed and lost, he might not be any worse off than the other declarer. So he took the finesse and lost the slam. Was he right or wrong to finesse? The experts of the day felt it was too close to call.

The bidding at the other table was essentially the same, and the opening lead was also the two of diamonds. Whatever his reasons, Dodds rose with the ace and then cashed the top trumps, clearing the suit. Now Six Spades was cold - he discarded his heart on a good club and lost only to the king of diamonds.

England collected an 800-point penalty against Europe's save on the following deal, but this was still a 510-point loss. A small change in the defence would have turned this into a 90-point gain for England.

Dealer North. N/S Vul

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

West	North	East	South
L. Tarlo	Kock	Gardener	Werner
	1♦	1♥	1♠
4♥	4♠	6♥	Pass
Pass	6♠	Dble	All Pass

After Tarlo led the king of clubs, Gardener went into deep thought. It was possible that South had no diamonds and seven spades, in which case the slam would make unless there was an immediate switch to hearts. So Gardener overtook the king to cash his ace of hearts. When the ace of hearts held, he switched to the ace of diamonds, discovering he was right about the diamond void but wrong about who held it. He gave his partner a ruff for down three.

What would have happened if Gardener had allowed the club king to hold? Tarlo would have continued clubs, forcing dummy to ruff. The ace of spades would reveal the 4-0 break, so declarer would have to abandon trumps for the moment. He would surely attack diamonds, East ducking and West ruffing. Another club would force another ruff in dummy. Declarer would have to lead another diamond for West to ruff. West then would lead a trump, voiding dummy of the suit. Declarer would still have to lose two hearts and the ace of diamonds for a 1400-point set.

England also suffered disaster at the other table, where the bidding went:

West	North	East	South
Wohlin	Konstam	Lilliehook	Dodds
-	1♦	Dble	1♠
Dble	Pass	2♥	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Wohlin's jump to Five Hearts was astonishing but logical. If his partner had a singleton or void in spades, his hand must consist largely of broken suits in both hearts and clubs. Wohlin wanted to indicate that he solidified both of these suits.

Lilliehook of course accepted the invitation. Konstam's double of the final contract is difficult to understand - he might expect to get a spade trick, but where was the other trick coming from? Lilliehook easily racked up all thirteen tricks to gain 1310 points.

Dealer North. E/W Vul

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

West	North	East	South
Werner	J. Tarlo	Kock	Gray
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Joel Tarlo considered running to hearts or spades, but finally decided to sit out the double. If he had run, nothing serious would have happened to his side - he probably would have taken six or seven tricks in Two Hearts - a fine save against the opponents' no trump game. One No Trump was a different story.

Werner led the jack of clubs to Kock's ace. Kock switched to the jack of diamonds, and Gray took his ace.

Now what? Gray considered cashing his top spades and settling for down four - after all, down 700 against a vulnerable game isn't such a bad deal. But he finally decided to go for more. When he led a spade and finessed the jack, he opened the floodgates. East returned the ten of diamonds, covered by the queen and won with the king. West cashed the club king and ran the rest of the suit when the queen obligingly fell.

Gray had discarding problems. He assumed from West's failure to lead a third diamond that East had both the nine and five, so he felt constrained to retain the six and three. He should have saved the spade ace in hand and a heart stopper in dummy, but he made the error of throwing the ace of spades. As a result of this dummy was squeezed on the run of the minors - on the last of these dummy was down to three hearts and the king of spades - and had to make what appeared to be a disastrous discard. Gray tossed the spade king and as a result suffered a six-trick penalty - he won only the ace of diamonds. That was -1100.

The squeeze was only pseudo - East had pitched a heart on the run of the clubs. If Gray had discarded a heart in the end position, he would have saved a trick.

At the other table Dodds/Konstam had no problem getting to Three No Trump.

West	North	East	South
Konstam	Lilliehook	Dodds	Wohlin
	Pass	Pass	1♥
2♣	2♥	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Wohlin, feeling that his opponents were ready for hearts, started with the ace of diamonds, then shifted to a spade. Lilliehook took the king and returned the jack, ducked all around. A third spade went to Wohlin's ace, and he led a second diamond, declarer winning with dummy's king. Dodds made the correct guess in the club suit to rack up his game. But that still was a 500-point loss because of the disaster at the other table.

The very last hand of the tournament had many points of interest.

Dealer South. E/W Vul

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

At one table, Konstam/Dodds bid the slam in typical aggressive fashion, making it relatively easy for Silodor, South, to take the Seven Club save. This contract was set only three tricks. This was the bidding at the other table:

West	North	East	South
Stayman	Gardener	Rapee	L.Tarlo
			1♣
Dble	1♠	4♥	5♣
5♥	Pass	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	6♥	All Pass

The play was easy; the bidding was not.

When Rapee leaped to Four Hearts, he showed a long, independent suit. As a result, Stayman was sure his side could make the heart slam. So why did he bid only Five Hearts? The answer lies in Tarlo's Five Club bid. It was clear he had a long suit - long enough for a fruitful save against Six Hearts since North/South weren't vulnerable.

Stayman had two reasons for bidding Five Hearts. First, it might pay off better than defeating a Seven Club save. (And it would have: +780 against -600. Don't forget - honours were counted in total point competition.) And if South carried on to Six Clubs when East/West had been willing to play in Five Hearts, is it likely that South would bid again when East/West bid on to Six Hearts? Not very!

Stayman added to the illusion when he passed Six Clubs. This was a forcing pass, calling upon Rapee either to bid on or to double. Rapee of course bid Six Hearts - he had worked out what Stayman was doing. Stayman wanted the slam bid to come from his partner so that South would be uncertain about how much defence his partner had. If Stayman had bid the slam, North's failure to double no doubt would have led South to bid Seven Clubs. But now South was uncertain - it was possible his partner had something that would set the slam. Finally he passed.

Of course Gardener could have taken the save. But he reasoned that a swing might make a big difference - after all, his side was behind in the match. Since the opponents had bid the slam so reluctantly, maybe it would go down while their teammates played in a heart game for a big gain. After some thought, he too passed.

America gained 930 points (1530 - 600; again don't forget the honours!)

A great finish for the inaugural Bermuda Bowl world championship! And a great beginning for the world's premier bridge event!

*Copies of Bermuda Bowl can be purchased at these Championships from the hospitality desk for US\$25.00.*

## ORBIS BERMUDA BOWL

The featured match of the day pits two teams who know each other well - USA 1 versus USA 2. Here are brief profiles of the competitors.

### USA 1

**Nick Nickell.** An investment banker originally from North Carolina who now lives in New York City. A strong player in his own right, Nickell has led his team to victories in six of the last seven Spingold Knockout Teams and a world championship (Bermuda Bowl) in 1995. He also has wins in the ACBL's premier pair event, the Blue Ribbon, and the Cavendish Calcutta in Las Vegas (with Bob Hamman) last year.

**Richard Freeman.** Senior vice president at Oppenheimer Investment Co. in Atlanta. He gained fame in his youth as a Quiz Kid on radio and at one time was the ACBL's youngest Life Master. Owner of several North American titles. He and Nickell make a solid partnership to complement their teammates.

**Bob Hamman.** No. 1 in World Bridge Federation rankings since 1985. Runs a prize promotion business in Dallas, Texas. Hamman and Bobby Wolff made up one of the most formidable partnerships in bridge until they parted company in 1998. Hamman has nine world titles to his credit.

**Paul Soloway.** One of the top players in the USA, owner of more ACBL masterpoints than anyone on the planet. More importantly, he has three Bermuda Bowl victories. Began partnership with Hamman in the summer of 1998. Played with Hamman in the Seventies as a member of the famed Aces squad.

**Jeff Meckstroth.** When the final major ACBL tournament was concluded last November and the masterpoints won in major events in Nineties were counted up, Meckstroth was on top of the heap. A professional player who lives in Tampa, Florida, Meckstroth is the only player to receive the Best Played Hand award from the International Bridge Press Association two consecutive years. With Rodwell, one of a small group of players to have won three major WBF events - Bermuda Bowl, Olympiad Teams and World Open Pairs.

**Eric Rodwell.** Professional player who recently moved to Florida (Clearwater). The brains behind RM Precision, a highly complex and aggressive bidding system. Finished right behind Meckstroth for the best showing in major ACBL events in the Nineties.

### USA 2

**Jeff Wolfson.** Team sponsor. An options trader who lives in Chicago. Has three major ACBL titles, including the Grand National Teams in 1997. Is considering retiring from major competition after the 2000 Orbis Bermuda Bowl.

**Neil Silverman.** Professional player who lives in Florida. A member of the winning squad in the Rosenblum Cup Teams in 1985. Owner of three major ACBL titles. Has played with Wolfson for the past five years.

**Zia Mahmood.** One of the world's best-known bridge personalities, and a world-class player known for his flair and imagination. Emerged from obscurity when his lightly regarded team from Pakistan made it to the final of the Bermuda Bowl in Rye, New York, in 1981. Has won several ACBL championships with a variety of partners.

**Michael Rosenberg.** Options trader who lives in New York City. Born in the U.S. but reared in Scotland. Rosenberg is acknowledged as one of the top players in the world. Won the Rosenblum Cup in 1994 and the tough Par Contest at the World Championships in Lille in 1998.

**Chip Martel.** Professor of computer science at the University of California at Davis. Small in stature but one of the toughest competitors in the world. Has four world titles to his credit - World Open Pairs, two Bermuda Bowls and the Rosenblum Cup (with Stansby). Co-chairman of the ACBL Laws Commission.

**Lew Stansby.** Commodities trader from the San Francisco area. Besides his stellar record with Martel, Stansby and wife JoAnna form one of the best mixed partnerships in ACBL tournaments. Winners in 1998 of the Life Master Open Pairs at ACBL's fall tournament, they were second in the same event last year.

**All of us at Orbis Investment Management Limited would like to welcome you to Bermuda and the Championships. It is great to see you all here after some much preparation and planning.**

**As an interlude to your preoccupation with the Championships, we will be publishing articles on various aspects of investment management at the end of the Daily News. We will also be hosting luncheons in the Churchill Suite and would like to meet you. If you wish to attend one of these you may make your reservation with the staff at the Championships' Hospitality Desk.**

