



Wednesday, 19 January 2000

Issue: 12

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The Usual Suspects

Orbis Bermuda Bowl

Brazil gained revenge for their defeat by **Norway** in the semi-final of the 1993 Bermuda Bowl in Santiago when they staged a dramatic comeback in the final session of their semifinal encounter against the Scandinavians. They bounced back from a 30 IMP loss in the penultimate session to win by 12.3 IMPs.

There are instances in many sports of great competitors never winning the ultimate prize. Ken Rosewall never won at Wimbledon, Colin Montgomerie has never won a Major, and for the moment, Zia Mahmood must put on hold his hopes of a World title. **USA 2** could not stay with **USA 1**, losing by 91 IMPs. In the last four sessions, **USA 1** conceded only 50 IMPs in 64 boards.

The final sees **USA 1** holding a 24 IMP advantage, the maximum carry-over allowed, by virtue of their huge win over **Brazil** in the Round-Robin. **Norway** start the bronze medal match with an 8 IMP advantage over **USA 2**.

Orbis Venice Cup

The United States have appeared in every Venice Cup Final since the competition started in 1974 and they maintained that record when **Denmark** could make no impression on **USA 1** in the last two sessions. **USA 1** will meet **The Netherlands** in the final, the **Dutch** team resisting everything that **Austria** could do. When they defeated **China** in the quarterfinals, the **Dutch** team celebrated with a trip to a Chinese restaurant. Last night they had Wiener Schnitzel. They are planning a trip to McDonalds on Thursday night!

USA 1 start the final with a lead of 3 IMPs, and in the play-off for third place **Denmark** have an 8 IMP advantage.

Orbis World Transnational Teams Championship

After ten rounds of the Orbis World Transnational Teams Championship, the leaders are the team from **Bulgaria** that narrowly failed to qualify for the quarterfinals of the Orbis Bermuda Bowl. With four rounds to go before the top four teams qualify for the knockout stages, they are 14VP clear of the fifth placed team.

The chasing teams are closely grouped, with 11VP covering the next ten teams. Five of the chasing pack are from the **United States of America**, and two from **Great Britain**.

Orbis World Computer Bridge Championship

After a seven-round, ten board per match Round-Robin, the field has been reduced to four 'teams': **GIB** (US, 100 VPs), **WBridge5** (France, 99 VPs), **MicroBridge9** (Japan, 91 VPs) and **Bridge Buff** (Canada, 70 VPs). The semi-final match-ups will be **GIB** vs **Bridge Buff**, with GIB having a 21-IMP carry-over, and **WBridge** vs **MicroBridge9**. These will be 38-board matches with a full carry-over.

Attention

Closed Room and other matches begin at 10.30, 13.20, 16.10 and 21.00.

! Attention s.v.p. !

Airport Transportation Forms MUST be handed in to the Transport Desk by 4 p.m. (16.00 hrs) Thursday 20th January.

Taxis are pre-ordered and pre-paid. If your name is not registered on the list, you will NOT be guaranteed transport.

The above applies only to Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup participants; all others must make their own arrangements.



The Annual General Meeting will be today 19th January at 9 a.m. in the NEPTUNE CLUB (lobby level).

The Annual Awards will be presented at 10 a.m.

ORBIS BERMUDA BOWL - SEMI FINALS

		Carry Over	1 st Session	2 nd Session	3 rd Session	4 th Session	5 th Session	6 th Session	Total
1	Brazil Norway	1.3 - 0	15 - 16	20 - 26	19 - 17	43 - 19	4 - 34	34 - 13	136.3 - 125
2	USA I USA 2	0 - 3	27 - 27	31 - 55	54 - 1	25 - 22	20.2 - 17	70 - 10	227.2 - 135

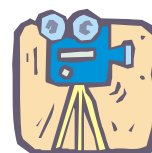
ORBIS VENICE CUP - SEMI FINALS

		Carry Over	1 st Session	2 nd Session	3 rd Session	4 th Session	5 th Session	6 th Session	Total
3	USA I Denmark	16 - 0	27 - 17	27 - 24	53 - 17	30 - 53	47 - 21	21 - 19	221 - 151
4	Austria The Netherlands	8.7 - 0	32 - 30	33 - 69	45 - 31	30 - 28	6 - 16	20 - 37	174.7 - 211

Orbis World Transnational Open Teams Championship Results after 10 rounds

Team's Name	Country	VPs	Team's Name	Country	VPs
1 MIHOV V.	BUL	200	39 SOSLER G.	USA	149
2 KATZ R.	USA	181	40 HAGA M.	NOR	149
3 MILNER	USA	179	41 LEVINE M.	USA	147
4 DE FALCO	ITA	178	42 ZIMMERMAN	FRA	147
5 DHONDY J.	GBR	176	43 KIRILENKO	RUS	146
6 O'ROURKE	USA	175	44 RASMUSSEN	USA	146
7 HENNINGS	USA	174	45 ROUDINESCO	FRA	145
8 HACKETT P.	GBR	173	46 GERARD J.	USA	145
9 MELTZER	USA	173	47 BARRETT J.	USA	145
10 JAGNIEWSKI	POL	172	48 KRZYSZTOF	POL	145
11 ROHAN K.	ISR	170	49 SURIYA C.	THA	144
12 JABBOUR	USA	168	50 CONTERNO	PER	144
13 BRACHMAN	USA	167	51 ESPINOSA	ARG	143
14 SILVER J.	USA	166	52 SCOTT W.	AUS	143
15 ZAKRZEWSKI	POL	165	53 FRIEDMAN	USA	142
16 BAZE G.	USA	165	54 BLACSTOCK	NZL	141
17 Ms EKEBLAD	USA	164	55 SCHIESSER	GER	140
18 GULLBERG	SWE	162	56 BIZER L.	RUS	139
19 REIPLINGER	FRA	162	57 FOLDES M.	ISR	137
20 RINALDI	ITA	161	58 CONVEREY	ZAF	136
21 LES AMOILS	ZAF	160	59 HICKS K.	CAN	136
22 MELLSTROM	SWE	160	60 ASH M.	GBR	133
23 TORNAY G.	USA	159	61 BOJOH L.	IDN	133
24 MUNAWAK	IDN	158	62 HANRATTY	IRE	132
25 SHUGART R.	USA	158	63 MARKOWICZ	USA	129
26 TERRANEO	AUT	158	64 RAND R.	USA	129
27 KOUMETZ	FRA	158	65 ROGERS R.	USA	127
28 NEHMERT B.	GER	157	66 MOSES N.	AUS	127
29 RICCIARELI	ITA	156	67 KIRSH D.	CAN	125
30 KLAR R.	USA	156	68 REVILL C.	CAN	124
31 DOUGLAS	BDA	156	69 ACHTENBERG	SWI	124
32 SIMPSON	USA	155	70 WARSHAUER	USA	124
33 SAMUEL R.	USA	155	71 REDRUPP	CAN	123
34 QUINN J.	USA	153	72 HAMAOU I	VEN	111
35 AUKEN J.	USA	152	73 ROSEN E.	VEN	109
36 SOUSTER W.	BDA	152	74 WOOD	USA	103
37 HALLEN	SWE	151	75 GRAY A.	ZAF	93
38 CORNELL M.	NZL	150			

VuGraph Matches Wednesday 19 January 2000



Orbis Venice Cup
10.40 - Session 1
USA 1 v The Netherlands

Orbis Bermuda Bowl
13.30 - Session 2
USA 1 v Brazil

Orbis Venice Cup
16.20 - Session 3
USA 1 v The Netherlands

Orbis Bermuda Bowl
21.10 - Session 4
USA 1 v Brazil

World Transnational Open Teams Championship Playing Schedule

Wednesday 19th	11.00 - 12.25	Round 11
	14.00 - 15.25	Round 12
	15.45 - 17.10	Round 13
	17.30 - 18.55	Round 14

A gigantic contest - it's worldwide!

By Henry Francis

- ✓ Top on a board – 10,000 (or more)!
- ✓ Average – 1,200,000 (or more)!
- ✓ Worldwide frequency charts!
- ✓ Real comparisons against every contestant in the world!
- ✓ Up-to-date standings available every hour of the day!

This is what you can expect when you play in the Mind Sports Organization (www.msoworld.com) Worldwide Simultaneous Pairs organised by the World Bridge Federation on August 22 and 23, 2000. There will be two separate competitions with completely different hands for each day.

This will be a contest like nothing you've ever seen before. In the past such events as the Epson Pairs produced a worldwide winner, but the results taken from each club never were integrated with results from all the other clubs around the world. Your final score was whatever your percentage was at your own club.

This time your scores will be compared with every score at every other club in the world. Anna Gudge and Mark Newton of Great Britain have devised a program that will make this possible.

Another major change – this time there will be no arbitrary matchpoints. The number of matchpoints you receive on a board will be the result of matchpointing against the entire field.

How is all this going to work?

It starts with you playing with your partner at your club. The hands will be supplied to every club director. These will be the hands you play. The director will then matchpoint the results to determine the club winners, the same as usual. Then the director will use special software to transmit the results directly to headquarters in Great Britain, where they will be added to the results already received. The computer will immediately rescure the event to this point, and a new set of results will be produced. These results will be changed every time a new club reports.

When all the clubs have reported, the

computer will have all the results from all the games all over the world. It will matchpoint them and produce the winner almost instantaneously.

After the process is complete, every player in the world will be able to access the tournament on his own computer. He will be able to get his personal scorecard, the overall results, all the board frequencies, all the hands - even the individual scorecards of some of the experts in whom he may be interested. Incidentally any unusual results that appear to be possible mistakes will be checked.

Your percentage at the local club most likely will be different from your percentage worldwide. At the club you are matchpointed only against others in your field at the club. Worldwide you will be matchpointed against everyone everywhere.

You will be able to see the results on www.msoworld.com. To get an idea of what this is going to be like, you can access <http://bridge.ecats.co.uk> where the results of a British tournament are being compiled at this moment.

There will be a special MSO heat at the Alexandra Palace in London on those days, and the organizers are hoping that some of those players headed for the World Team Olympiad in Maastricht, the Netherlands, will stop in on their way and play in the London games. The Olympiad gets under way on Aug. 26.

This will be a charity event – a large proportion of the entry fees will be donated to charity.

The games are in addition to the Simultaneous Pairs sponsored by the World Bridge Federation that will take place on June 2 and 3. That event also will be scored on the Internet.

MSO also is planning a rubber bridge competition. Details concerning this event will appear on their website when they are ready. The winners of this event will be invited, with expenses paid, to the Mind Sports Olympiad in London where they will have the opportunity to win cash prizes. The bridge portion of the Mind Sports Olympiad will take place August 22-28.

WBF creates Zone 8

Bermuda, 8th January 2000

Presidents of African NCBOs of: Botswana, Egypt, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Morocco, Reunion, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zimbabwe

Dear President,

Re: African Federation and creation of Zone 8

I am pleased to advise you that following deliberation on the proposal of the Management Committee, the Executive Council decided to approve the creation of a new Zone, to be numbered and known as Zone 8, for Africa.

Pursuant to stipulations of the WBF Constitution and By-Laws, the boundaries of Zone 8 are defined as extending from the Atlantic Ocean to Egypt (inclusive) and also including the Indian Ocean islands of Madagascar, Mauritius and the Reunion. The Zone will be administered by a Zonal Conference (ZC), to be known as the African Bridge Federation and its Constitution and By-Laws must be presented for approval by the Executive Council before its meetings in Maastricht, The Netherlands, in August 2000.

Further, Zone 8 will be entitled to one delegate to the Executive Council, whose appointment or election must be notified to the WBF before the Executive Council meetings in Maastricht. The Zone will also be eligible to one representative team for participation in each of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, starting from 2001.

Finally, while the WBF hopes that Zone 8 and the African Bridge Federation will prove to be a major breakthrough in the promotion and development of bridge on the African continent in the new century, under the umbrella of the WBF, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you for all the efforts made to attain this goal and to welcome your Zone into the WBF family.

Yours sincerely,

José Damiani
President of WBF

Victory Banquet

Friday 21 January 2000

The Victory Banquet desk will open today 19 January at 12 noon. It will be located next to the Hospitality desk.

All the Captains of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Seniors Exhibition and Transnational teams are requested to come to the Victory Banquet desk as soon as possible to advise us of the requirements of their teams.

Those eligible for complimentary tickets are players and captains with their spouses, of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, and Seniors Exhibition teams. Also eligible are the Transnational Teams players. Others, including the spouses of Transnational Teams players, may purchase tickets for \$100 (inclusive of wines).

Dress: Black Tie Preferred

Disclaimer

Whereas there may be no valid excuse for literary mishaps in previous issues of the Daily Bulletin, let it be known that any errors and/or omissions you might spot in this issue is strongly correlated with last night's Journalist Cocktail party being more than an outstanding success.

Orbis Bermuda Bowl SF - Session 4

USA 1 v USA 2



Zia Mahmood, USA 2

USA 2 had led after two sets of their Orbis Bermuda Bowl semi-final against their compatriots, USA1, but a big third set saw USA1 take a 26 IMP lead at the half. And it was USA1 who started Set Four the better.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

♠ 10 9 8 7			
♥ A 8 3 2			
♦ 10 5			
♣ 10 8 7			

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Rosenberg	Meckstroth	Zia
	INT	Pass	2♣
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Rosenberg/Zia's style is to run from One No Trump with any hand of less than 5 HCP before the opposition's double. Hence, Two Clubs promised neither points nor a major. When Eric Rodwell overcalled Two Diamonds, Michael Rosenberg therefore took the opportunity to pass, knowing that Zia Mahmood would bid again if they had a contract their way. Jeff Meckstroth bid a natural and invitational Two No Trump, and Rodwell raised him to game.

The opening lead was all important. On a spade lead, the defense can establish five winners immediately to defeat the contract. However, Zia followed the old rule by leading fourth highest of his longest and strongest. The heart lead allowed Meckstroth to win and knock out the ace of diamonds. He took ten

tricks for +430.

West	North	East	South
Stansby	Hamman	Martel	Soloway
	1♠	Pass	2♠
3♦	All Pass		

Bob Hamman opened his strong four-card major and Paul Soloway raised. When Lew Stansby overcalled, Chip Martel did not try for game – a good decision. There were four top losers but that was all; +110 but 8 IMPs to USA1.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 7 3			
♥ 5 3 2			
♦ Q 4 3 2			
♣ A K Q			
♠ J		♠ AQ1096542	
♥ A K Q 9 8 6		♥ –	
♦ 7 6		♦ A K J 9 5	
♣ J 10 8 3		♣ –	

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Rosenberg	Meckstroth	Zia
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Stansby	Hamman	Martel	Soloway
			2♣
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

There is no way to defeat Six Spades on this freak deal but it is impossible for anyone to know how good or bad the contract will be until dummy comes down. Both teams showed great discipline in stopping at the four level – can you imagine putting this deal into your local club drive?

On vugraph, Meckstroth received a club lead, which he ruffed. He cashed the ace of diamonds and the eight fell. Now the contract could be defeated if he played the other top diamond and it was ruffed and the king of spades played. However, his diamond spots were all equals against the ten and queen. Meckstroth played ace then queen of spades, planning to give up one or two diamonds to establish the suit, as necessary. The super safety play had held him to 11 tricks, but when Zia won the spade he switched to a heart, so all the small diamonds could be discarded; back to 12 tricks and a flat board.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ K 5 3 2			
♥ J 8 5			
♦ K 7 5 4			
♣ 7 2			
♠ –		♠ AQ109876	
♥ K Q 7 3		♥ 10 9 4	
♦ A Q J 10 9 3		♦ 6 2	
♣ Q 10 6		♣ K	

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Rosenberg	Meckstroth	Zia
			1♣
1♦	1♠	Pass	2♣
Dble	Pass	4♠	All Pass

When Rodwell showed his extra values by doubling Two Clubs, Meckstroth leaped to Four Spades, treating Rosenberg's spade call with contempt. Zia led his stiff diamond. There is a winning line – go up with the ace of diamonds and lead a club. That establishes a discard for the losing diamond and there is a heart entry to cash it. With North lacking a quick entry, the defense is powerless. However, all that seemed to be a lot to hope for, and it was Zia who had led the diamond, so there was no guarantee that the finesse would lose. Meckstroth stuck in the queen and Rosenberg won his king. He could have given his partner a diamond ruff now, but thought it safer to lead a club. Zia won and cashed his other ace before exiting with a second heart. Meckstroth won and ruffed a club to hand then played ace and queen of spades; one down for -100.

West	North	East	South
Stansby	Hamman	Martel	Soloway
			2♣
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The natural Two Club opening led to a quite different auction in the other room. Three No Trump looks to be an awkward contract but it played very well. Hamman led the seven of clubs to the ace and Soloway switched to a low heart to declarer's king. Stansby played ace then queen of diamonds to Hamman's king. The heart continuation did not exactly paralyze declarer, who now had nine tricks; +600 and 12 IMPs to USA2.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 6 2			
♥ Q 9 8 7			
♦ A 8 2			
♣ K 10 4 2			
♠ Q 5		♠ AK10983	
♥ 5 4		♥ 10 6 3	
♦ K Q J 10 6 5 4		♦ –	
♣ A 7		♣ J 9 5 3	

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Rosenberg	Meckstroth	Zia
	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Stansby	Hamman	Martel	Soloway
	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

Martel opened a weak two bid and Stansby contented himself with a pre-emptive raise. The defense started out by cashing two hearts, but declarer took the remainder for +200.

Meckstroth liked his 6-4 distribution enough to open at the three level, despite the vulnerability. The transfer pre-empt convinced Rodwell that he was worth a shot at game. Rosenberg led a low club to the nine, queen and ace. Rodwell took a while to think it through then led the king of diamonds, to the ace and ruff. Then he played ace of spades and a spade to the queen. He continued with the diamond queen then the ten, hoping to slip that past a sleeping North if he held only a doubleton diamond plus the last trump. But diamonds were 3-3 so that small deception was not necessary. A club towards the jack completed Rodwell's plan and saw him to ten tricks; +620 and 9 IMPs to USA1.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Rosenberg	Meckstroth	Zia
		2♣	3♣
Dble	3♠	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Stansby	Hamman	Martel	Soloway
		1♣	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

When the Closed Room result came through to the vugraph theatre, Stansby's three down for -300 looked to be a good position for his opponents. However, Rosenberg's decision to bid Three Spades rather than leave it back round to his partner worked very well. Rodwell was not comfortable to double with only ace to three trumps, not knowing that declarer also had three little

hearts so that he would not see his heart winners ruffed out. He tried Three No Trump but the first trick settled his fate. There were those in the audience who suggested that, having bid spades, Rosenberg would lead hearts. However, he had bid his stronger major and he duly led his stronger major – which looks right in theory as well as practice. The spade queen was covered by the king and ducked. Rodwell won the third spade and played a diamond to the king and ace. Zia cashed his spade winners then played a low club. Rosenberg thought about that for some time (but then he thinks about most things for some time) before coming to the correct conclusion, winning the ace and switching to a diamond through the queen, three. Rodwell finessed, and that was four down; -400 and 3 IMPs to USA2.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Rosenberg	Meckstroth	Zia
1♦	1♥	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Stansby	Hamman	Martel	Soloway
1NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Dble	Rdbl	3♠
Pass	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♦	All Pass

Six Diamonds is good if North has overcalled and mediocre otherwise. Stansby shut out the overcall by opening One No Trump, and Martel responded Three Clubs, transfer. They had a look, but when neither felt able to cuebid they stopped in the safe game; +420.

Rodwell opened a loose diamond and that did attract an overcall. Two Diamonds was forcing and Rodwell described his hand by bidding Two No Trump. Meckstroth simply raised to game. Rosenberg led the queen of spades and continued the suit when it was ducked. Rodwell won the second spade and played a diamond to the ace then a diamond back to the king. He led the heart jack and Rosenberg played low smoothly. That brought a serious huddle from Rodwell. You always feel very foolish if you go down in a game contract by going for an overtrick, but these 2 IMP swings add up over the course of a match and North was a big favourite to hold the king. Eventually, Rodwell finessed and came home with 11 tricks; +460 and 1 IMP to USA1.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Rosenberg	Meckstroth	Zia
		Pass	1♠
Dble	Rdbl	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Rosenberg's redouble gave Zia an awkward problem. He could see a continuation in which Rosenberg would double Two Hearts, and he didn't fancy defending that contract. Yet if he passed now and then pulled the double, he would be showing a sound hand. Zia decided to bid now to show his weakness and guessed well to show his diamonds. Now Two Hearts was forcing and Zia repeated his weak spade suit. Now Rosenberg went into a long huddle before eventually passing. Rodwell led a low club to the king and ten. Whatever route declarer follows seems to get to only seven tricks. Zia tried the ruffing heart finesse, pitching a club. Rodwell won and played king and another diamond – the instant gratification defense – and Meckstroth won and gave him a ruff. Rodwell cashed the ace of trumps and had to decide how to get off play. If he exits with a heart, it looks as though declarer can win, throwing the club jack, ruff a heart and cross to the queen of spades to lead hearts through West to trump-coup him. However, Rodwell accurately exited with a club and Zia had no entry to dummy to shorten himself to allow the coup to work. Meckstroth took the setting trick with a spade for -100.

West	North	East	South
Stansby	Hamman	Martel	Soloway
		Pass	1♠
2♥	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

Soloway also opened One Spade but Stansby preferred the heart overcall to a take-out double. When that came back to Soloway he knew that his partner would pass a reopening double and didn't like the notion. He bid Three Clubs instead and Hamman gave preference to Three Spades, no doubt cursing under his breath.

Three Spades looks to be hopeless but Stansby made the disastrous opening lead of the ace of hearts. Soloway ruffed and played a club to the king. He cashed a heart, pitching a diamond, then played another heart winner, ruffed with the seven and over-ruffed. Ace of clubs and a club ruff was followed by another winning heart. Again the heart was ruffed and over-ruffed. Soloway ruffed his last club and took a fourth heart ruff and that was nine tricks; +140 and 6 IMPs to USA1.

USA1 gained 3 IMPs on the set and ended the day up by 29. There were 32 deals to play.

Orbis Venice Cup - QF Session 5

Austria v The Netherlands

Inch by inch

After averaging more than 75 IMPs per set between them in the first four rounds in their Orbis Venice Cup semifinal match, Austria and the Netherlands seemed a good bet for some swinging bridge when they played on VuGraph Tuesday in set five.

There were no fireworks, but it was an entertaining set as the Netherlands strung together a series of small gains to prevail in the set, 16-6, and increase their lead to 174-154 with 16 deals to play.

Both pairs did well to get to game – and make it – on the North-South cards on the following deal.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul

<p>♠ J 9 5 ♥ 8 5 3 2 ♦ Q 10 4 3 ♣ 7 3</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ Q 10 7 4 ♥ K J 9 4 ♦ A ♣ Q J 10 5</p>	<p>♠ A K 8 3 ♥ A Q 10 ♦ K 6 5 ♣ A 9 6</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Weigkricht	Pasman	Fischer	Simons
Pass	2♦	Pass	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

Terry Weigkricht led the ♥5, and Anneke Simons duly took nine tricks for plus 600.

West	North	East	South
Van der Pas	Erhart	Vriend	Terraneo
Pass	1♦	Pass	Dble
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

Sylvia Terraneo got the lead of the ♣7. Bep Vriend put in the 10 and declarer won the ace. Next came the ♦K, taken by Vriend, who attacked hearts by leading the 4. Terraneo inserted the ♥Q and resumed her campaign for diamond tricks. She played the ♦6 from hand and put in dummy's 7 when Marijke van der Pas played the 3. Back to hand with the ♠A, Terraneo played a third diamond, taken by West with the queen. A heart return set up the suit for the defenders, but declarer had nine tricks via three diamonds, two hearts, two spades and two clubs. Plus 600 and no swing.

Was there a better line for the defense – perhaps a continuation of clubs by East to knock out dummy's entry to the diamonds? In order to do so, East would have had to sacrifice a trick in clubs, giving declarer three, assuming South unblocks the ♣9 from hand on the second round of the suit. Declarer would then have three clubs tricks and, if she took the right view in hearts, three tricks in that suit (she



Terry Weigkricht, Austria

finesses the 10 while in dummy with the club – and she gets back another time with a diamond) to go with one diamond and two spades.

The Netherlands stole the deal from Austria on the following board, but they lost an IMP anyway.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul

<p>♠ 10 3 ♥ 6 2 ♦ J 8 7 6 4 3 2 ♣ A 9</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ A 2 ♥ Q 10 9 8 7 ♦ Q 10 9 ♣ K 6 2</p>	<p>♠ K Q J 8 6 ♥ A 3 ♦ – ♣ Q 10 8 7 4 3</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Van der Pas	Erhart	Vriend	Terraneo
2♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	2♠	All Pass

⁽¹⁾Weak hand with long diamonds or natural and game-forcing.

Looking at the North-South cards, one would be happy to be in 4♥. The Austrians went quietly, however, and Vriend was not tested by the defense. Terraneo led a low spade to the ace, and Maria Erhart won and returned the suit. Vriend now played a club to the ace and the ♣9 from dummy. Erhart hopped up with the ♠K and played the ♥10, Vriend won the ace, pulled trumps and claimed, conceding a heart. Plus 170 to the Dutch.

West	North	East	South
Weigkricht	Pasman	Fischer	Simons
Pass	1♥	2♥ ⁽¹⁾	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

⁽¹⁾Spades and a minor.

Doris Fischer led the ♠K, taken by Jet Pasman with the ace. When Fischer came in with the trump ace, she cashed a high spade, led a club to partner's ace and took the setting trick by ruffing a diamond. Plus 200 and 1 IMP to Austria.

Austria gained another 5 IMPs when Weigkricht and Fischer stopped in 2♣, just making, on Board 6, while van der Pas and Vriend played in 3♣, down one.

Both teams missed an opportunity on this deal.

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul

<p>♠ A K 10 9 8 6 ♥ A 4 ♦ A 5 ♣ A K 7</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ Q J 7 3 ♥ – ♦ J 9 6 4 ♣ Q 10 9 8 2</p>	<p>♠ 5 ♥ K Q 9 8 7 3 2 ♦ K 10 3 ♣ J 3</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Weigkricht	Pasman	Fischer	Simons
1♣ ⁽¹⁾	2♥	Dble	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾Strong.

Fischer's double indicated some useful values, but the partnership could not work out that Fischer had a source of tricks in the five-card club holding. There was nothing to the play and Weigkricht easily scored up a disappointing plus 1460.

West	North	East	South
Van der Pas	Erhart	Vriend	Terraneo
2♣	3♥	Pass	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

Perhaps Vriend's pass of 3♥ convinced van der Pas that a grand slam was not likely, hence her leap to 6♠. In fairness, the grand slam was not bid by anyone in the Orbis Venice Cup or the Orbis Bermuda Bowl, although Norway did earn a swing when Brazil sacrificed in 7♥ on the North-South cards and were beaten six tricks for minus 1700, a 6-IMP loss.

After 10 boards in the Austria-Netherlands match, Austria led, 6-0. It was all Netherlands from there as they outscored their adversaries 16-0 over the final six boards.

This deal featured a fine play by van der Pas to land a game contract.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul

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



West	North	East	South
Weigkricht	Pasman	Fischer	Simons
Pass	Pass	INT	All Pass

Fischer came home with 11 tricks after Simons led a low heart. Plus 210 to Austria.

West	North	East	South
Van der Pas	Erhart	Vriend	Terraneo
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Erhart led the ♠5, which went to the 9, queen and ace. When Van der Pas played the ♣2, Erhart put up the queen. Van der Pas won with the ace and considered her play for a few moments before calling for the jack, which drew cheers from the Netherlands supporters in the VuGraph audience. Terraneo won with the ♣K and, hoping partner had more substantial holding in diamonds – perhaps A J 8 x – put the ♦10 on the table. Van der Pas covered with the queen. Erhart won the ace and played back the ♦J, overtaken by Terraneo with the king, surrendering the overtrick and 1 IMP in the process. That was 6 IMPs to the Netherlands.

Another 4 IMPs went to the Netherlands on this deal.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul

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



West	North	East	South
Van der Pas	Erhart	Vriend	Terraneo
Pass	INT	Pass	1♠ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♦

⁽¹⁾ Canape.

Vriend had a natural heart lead, and Erhart could do nothing but run the diamonds and hope for a discarding error from the Dutch. That didn't happen, and Erhart finished down one.

West	North	East	South
Weigkricht	Pasman	Fischer	Simons
Pass	INT	Pass	1♦
3♥	All Pass	2♥	3♦

Simons started with the ♦A and ♦K, ruffed by Fischer. She played the ♥Q, ducked all around, and another heart. Pasman won with the ♥A and got out with a trump. Fischer then played a club to the ace and another back to her queen and Simons' king. Fischer still had a club and two spade tricks to lose, so she was minus 100 on the board – 4 more IMPs to the Netherlands.

The Netherlands gained 1 IMP in unusual fashion on the next-to-last deal.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul

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



West	North	East	South
Van der Pas	Erhart	Vriend	Terraneo
1♥	1♠	2♥	Pass
2♠	Dble	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Erhart led the ♣K and continued with a club to Terraneo's ace. The spade switch went to the jack and queen. Erhart followed with the ♠A and the ♠10, ruffed with the 9 and over-ruffed with the king. Plus 100 to Austria.

West	North	East	South
Weigkricht	Pasman	Fischer	Simons
1♠ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	INT	Pass
2♥	Dble	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

⁽¹⁾ Canape.

The meaning of the 2♠ bid is unclear, but South made the most of a defensive error to bring the contract home with an overtrick.

Weigkricht led the ♦9, which was ducked all around! Had Fischer overtaken with the 10, she could have cashed two more rounds of diamonds, allowing Weigkricht to discard both her clubs. She could then ruff a club and play the ♥A. If declarer ruffed in dummy, she would have no way to return to hand to take a spade finesse, although she could make the contract by ruffing the ♦Q. West could overruff but would be forced to put South on lead with a heart or give declarer a free finesse in trumps. Another spade finesse would nail down eight tricks for declarer.

If declarer refused to ruff the ♥A, she would go down. West could exit with the ♥Q to South's king and insert the ♠J on the subsequent spade play to assure another trick.

Checkmate!

The Orbis World Transnational Teams Championship is littered with stars, especially as many of the players eliminated in the Orbis Bermuda Bowl and Orbis Venice Cup have stayed on to take part.

One of them is Canada's John Carruthers, who will be representing Canada in the Maastricht Olympiad later this year. Here he is in action, a well-judged auction being matched by an excellent piece of declarer play that, just as in a good game of chess, led to a neat endgame.

Orbis World Transnational Teams Championship

Round 4

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul

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



West	North	East	South
	Deaves		Carruthers
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

West led the jack of hearts, taken by declarer's ace. A spade went to the queen and ace, and East switched to the nine of diamonds. Declarer went up with the ace and cashed the top hearts to get rid of the losing diamonds. The next move was to ruff the eight of hearts and cash the queen of spades, discarding a diamond from hand. A spade was ruffed with the five of clubs, and a diamond ruffed in dummy.

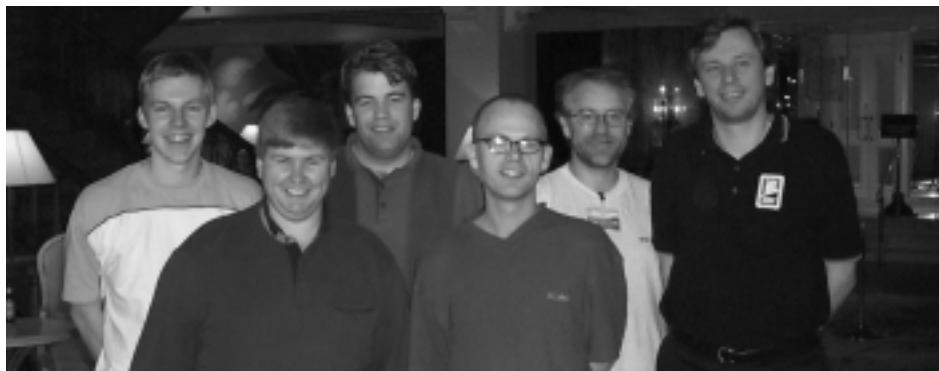
A spade was ruffed with the king of clubs, and declarer played the queen of diamonds, discarding a spade from dummy. Like a good chess player, East resigned as he was forced to ruff and lead into the club tenace.

John Carruthers thought a trump lead might beat Five Clubs, but there is a winning line. Declarer lets it run to the king and plays a spade. East wins and switches to a diamond. Declarer wins with the ace and cashes the hearts, discarding the losing diamonds. He can now get home on a crossruff, cashing the ace of clubs along the way, eventually, and neatly preserving the chess theme, scoring the seven of clubs en passant.

At the other table, North-South failed in 3NT, so the swing was 10 IMPs.

Orbis Venice Cup - SF Session 6

Brazil v Norway



The Norwegian team

Norway led by 10 IMPs going into the final set of their Orbis Bermuda Bowl semi-final against Brazil. The margin was unchanged seven boards into the set, but Chagas/Branco had to do well to flatten this board:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 43		♠ 98762									
♥ A642		♥ QJ95									
♦ K764		♦ A10									
♣ Q72		♣ 98									
	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ AKQJ10									
		♥ 7									
		♦ QJ9									
		♣ K1064									

West	North	East	South
Campos	Austberg	Villas-Boas	Helgemo
		Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
Furunes	Chagas	Helness	Branco
		2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

As you can see, Helgemo/Austberg had a free run to Three No Trump. When East showed up with five spades, it was not too taxing to pick up the clubs without loss; +630.

In the other room, the Two Diamond opening, weak with at least 4-4 in the majors, created a very different scenario for Chagas/Branco. Their agreements included a Two Spade overcall being take-out for the minors, so Marcelo Branco had to pass on the first round. When he bid Two Spades at his

next turn, Gabriel Chagas did well to go on. Branco raised, of course, ending the auction.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

		♠ 10952									
		♥ A									
		♦ J6									
		♣ KQJ986									
	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ 3		♠ KQJ876									
♥ KJ10964		♥ 8									
♦ A97		♦ 543									
♣ 532		♣ A104									
		♠ A4									
		♥ Q7532									
		♦ KQ1082									
		♣ 7									

West	North	East	South
Campos	Austberg	Villas-Boas	Helgemo
2♥	Dble	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Dble	4♦
Dble	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Furunes	Chagas	Helness	Branco
2♥	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

I much prefer Chagas's overall to Erik Austberg's take-out double. Four Diamonds Doubled was not a pleasant experience for Geir Helgemo. He won the spade lead and played a club. Miguel Villas-Boas won and played two top spades. Helgemo ruffed high, while Joao Paolo Campos pitched two clubs. Helgemo played a diamond to the jack and another diamond to the queen and ace. Campos played a heart to dummy's bare ace and Helgemo tried to cash a club. Campos ruffed that and played king and another heart for Villas-Boas to ruff. When the smoke had cleared, Helgemo was three down for -500.

Three No Trump was an interesting contract in the other room. John-Egil Furunes led the king of hearts, hoping to pick up a singleton queen in either dummy or his partner's hand. Dummy was no doubt a disappointment to him. Branco led a club to the king, ducked, and the jack of clubs to East's ace. Helness switched to a low spade, correct if someone had a bare ace. Fearing that West might win a spade honour and clear the hearts while still

holding the ace of diamonds as a further entry, Branco rose with the ace of spades. Now he led a low diamond towards dummy. This was the key point of the hand. In practice, Furunes ducked and the jack scored. Branco could cash the clubs and play a diamond back; +400 and 14 IMPs to Brazil, who had taken the lead.

Suppose, however, that Furunes rises with the ace of diamonds and returns a diamond. Declarer can win in either hand but has only eight tricks and will then be stranded in a hand full of losers. That would be down one.

A couple of boards later, Helgemo/Austberg had a bidding disaster when someone was clearly reading from the wrong page of the system file. They missed a vulnerable game and Brazil picked up a further 11 IMPs.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

		♠ 765									
		♥ KJ43									
		♦ KQ103									
		♣ Q9									
	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ QJ10432		♠ AK									
♥ Q10		♥ A852									
♦ J		♦ 96									
♣ K1085		♣ J7643									
		♠ 98									
		♥ 976									
		♦ A87542									
		♣ A2									

West	North	East	South
Campos	Austberg	Villas-Boas	Helgemo
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

The weak two bid kept North/South out of the auction and Campos played a comfortable partscore. After a diamond lead and continuation, he picked the clubs correctly and made 11 tricks; +200.

West	North	East	South
Furunes	Chagas	Helness	Branco
			Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♦
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

Furunes did not think the West hand fitted any of his options. Personally, I like Three Spades with that shape, but that's me. When he passed and then overcalled the inverted raise, he had not shown sufficient playing strength to encourage Helness to compete.

Three Diamonds came down to a heart guess which was not really a guess. Helness cashed the top spades and switched to a low club. Chagas rose with the ace and played a trump to hand, ruffed his last spade and drew the missing trump. Then he exited with a club. Furunes won the king and switched to the queen of hearts. That was covered by the king and ace and Helness played back a heart. Chagas played low, of course, and made his contract; +110 and 7 IMPs to Brazil. The point is that had Helness held the ace, ten of hearts, he would just have ducked the king.

The good news for Norway was that there

Bermuda shorts

"That lowdown scoundrel deserves to be kicked to death by a jackass, and I'm just the one to do it."

A Congressional Candidate in Texas

were some big boards to come. The bad news was that they were far enough behind to need at least two big swings to turn the match around.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 9 5			
♥ K Q 8 6 3			
♦ Q 3			
♣ K 8 7 2			
♠ Q 10 8 7		♠ AKJ6432	
♥ J 7 4 2		♥ -	
♦ 10 9 7 4		♦ A J 5 2	
♣ 5		♣ A 9	

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Campos</i>	<i>Austberg</i>	<i>Villas-Boas</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♣
3♠	Dble	4♣	Pass
4♠	5♣	5♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Austberg seems to have made a point-count double. How could his opponents make 11 tricks after South had overcalled? He was right; they couldn't make 11 tricks, they were cold for 12. That was +750 for Brazil.

West	North	East	South
<i>Furunes</i>	<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Branco</i>
Pass	Pass	2♣	Dble
Pass	4♣	4♠	5♣
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

Helness decided that he should open his side's big bid. When Furunes could compete to Five Spades, he bid the slam; +980 and 6 IMPs to Norway.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

♠ 8 7 4			
♥ J 8			
♦ A Q 9 7 6			
♣ Q 9 5			

West	North	East	South
<i>Campos</i>	<i>Austberg</i>	<i>Villas-Boas</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>
1♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Dble
Pass	Pass	Rdbl	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Furunes</i>	<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Branco</i>
2♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
	All Pass		

Both East/Wests missed a great chance. Slam is little better than two 3-2 breaks, but once you start on a slam hunt it looks quite attractive to bid it. Consider the Brazilian auction. Villas-Boas had shown a game-force opposite a forcing no trump response. He had then shown short diamonds. Does the West hand not look pretty good now, with two honours in partner's first suit and only one wasted jack?

Meanwhile, Furunes made a two-over-one response and Helness also forced to game. Furunes thought that he had a minimum and so jumped to Four Hearts. Helness was not close to bidding on. After the hand, he appeared to be suggesting to Furunes that he might have bid the West hand differently.

No swing at +680.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

♠ J 10 7 2			
♥ J 9 5 3			
♦ A 8			
♣ 10 5 2			

West	North	East	South
<i>Campos</i>	<i>Austberg</i>	<i>Villas-Boas</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>
1♣	3♦	Pass	Pass
3♥	All Pass	Dble	Pass

The defense took two diamonds and switched to spades. Campos did not guess the hearts so was one down; -50.

West	North	East	South
<i>Furunes</i>	<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Branco</i>
INT	3♦	Pass	Pass
4♣	All Pass	Dble	Pass

The Norwegians were probably on their way to Three No Trump after Furunes' opening bid, but the Three Diamond overcall saved them. Double was for take-out and Furunes bid his solid suit rather than dabble with a three-card heart bid, which would have at least kept Three No Trump in the picture. Chagas led the diamond king and Branco overtook and returned the suit. Chagas exited passively with his trump. Furunes won and cashed a second trump. Then he led a spade to the king, cashed the ace of hearts, and played a heart to the ten. He drew the last trump, unblocked the heart, and crossed to the nine of clubs to take a pitch on the heart queen; +130 and 5 IMPs to Norway.

Brazil led by 12.5 IMPs but the last two deals both featured possible slams.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

♠ 10			
♥ K Q 8 5 2			
♦ Q J 10 5 3			
♣ 10 5			

West	North	East	South
<i>Campos</i>	<i>Austberg</i>	<i>Villas-Boas</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♠	All Pass

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

⁽¹⁾ Short-suit try

Both pairs bid smoothly to the slam for a push at 980.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

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

And both East/West pairs got to slam on this one as well. Furunes must have aged ten years as he attempted to remember his system. He opened a strong no trump and Helness bid Stayman then followed up with Three Clubs, a shape enquiry. Furunes bid Three No Trump, showing 4-3-3-3 with a four-card minor, and Helness bid Four Spades. Helness was very confident that this showed a slam try in spades, but Furunes put his head in his hands, sat up and thought, put his head back in his hands, and repeated this procedure for about 15 minutes. Finally he bid Five Clubs. When the tray reached Helness, he took about half a second to jump to the cold slam, saving his partner from any more torture.

Campos/Villas-Boas got there without any of the agony suffered by Furunes to flatten the board. Brazil had won the match by 137.5-125 IMPs. Not only were they in the final, but they had exorcised the ghosts of 1993 in Santiago, when they had lost the Bermuda Bowl semi-final on the very last board against Norway.



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ce normand de
48 ans, végé-
tarien, a la répu-
tation de désta-
biliser ses adver-
saires avec le
sourire...



Marc Bompis
Les championnats du
monde lui vont bien: le
titre aux Olympiades
en 1996 et une
médaillon d'argent en
mixte par paires avec
Claude Blouquit en
1998. Très connu des
bridgeurs parisiens, il
anime l'un des clubs
les plus prestigieux de



la capitale.
Christian Mari II
partage son temps
entre ses
recherches sur le
bridge, plus parti-
culièrement sur
les enchères, et de
longues balades
avec ses chiens
dans la campagne
picarde. Côté pal-
marès, il fait partie

des joueurs français les plus titrés: deux
Olympiades (1980 et 1996) et une Bermuda
Bowl (1997).

Franck Multon

A 35 ans compte
déjà une
Olympiade et une
Bermuda Bowl a
son palmarès.
Animateur dans
un club de bridge
à Nice, il partage
avec Catherine,
vice-championne
d'Europe par
paires dames, sa
partenaire à la ville comme à la table, la même
passion du bridge, ensemble ils ont gagné de
nombreuses compétitions.



**Thierry de
Sainte Marie**
Plusieurs sélec-
tions en équipe
de France (1977,
1979), de nom-
breux titres
nationaux à son
actif, et un retour
chez les
Tricolores mar-
qué par une qual-
ification pour la

Bermuda Bowl.

Jean-Michel Voldoire

Première appari-
tion chez les
Bleus à Malte. La
plus grande
qualité de ce
consultant en
informatique a
été de s'adapter
au "style" de son
partenaire.



L'équipe de France Féminine-Louis Vuitton



Alain Lévy
Capitaine non joueur.
Golf et bowling sont
les loisirs préférés du
capitaine français.
Enseignant de bridge, il
est aussi l'un des
entraîneurs les plus
demandés: la Tunisie a
déjà fait appel à lui
pour son équipe nationale. Côté palmarès: deux
Olympiades et une Bermuda Bowl !



Bénédicte Cronier
Double championne
d'Europe, vice-cham-
pionne du Monde, cette
nantaise est "montée à
Paris" pour devenir
l'une des meilleures
joueuses française.

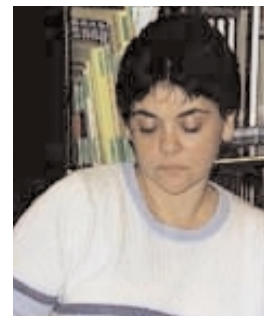
Christine Lustin
Enseignante de bridge, la
benjamine de l'équipe a
déjà gagné l'argent et le
bronze aux deux
derniers championnats
d'Europe par équipes,
tentera de compléter sa
collection aux
Bermudes...



Danièle Avon Elle a
découvert le bridge à
l'âge de 8 ans. De nom-
breuses sélections en
équipe nationale ne
l'ont pas empêché de
mener une carrière
d'ingénieur chez IBM.
Aujourd'hui en prére-
traite, elle préside tou-
jours le club de bridge
de son entreprise. Elle a récolté des médailles de
bronze aux Olympiades 1992 et à l'Euro par
équipes en 1999.

Véronique Bessis

Première joueuse
française quadruple
championne d'Europe,
un mari, Michel, cham-
pion de...bridge et deux
filles, Thomas et Olivier,
membres de l'équipe de
France des moins de 20
ans: c'est de famille !



**Catherine
d'Ovidio**
Elle s'est initié au
bridge au club
"Le Raincy" à
Villemonble, club
qui a vu égale-
ment débiter un
certain Michel
Perron. Voilà de
quoi donner de
l'inspiration à
cette double

championne d'Europe considérée comme l'une
des joueuses les plus douées de sa génération.

Sylvie Willard

Fille de qui vous
savez, (Iréne de
Hérédia, le père de
l'arbitrage en
France), femme de
qui vous savez
(François Willard,
arbitre international)
elle a su se faire un
prénom...avec qua-
tre titres européens
à la clé.



Golden Anniversary Dinner



Champions all: Wolff, Janz, Hamman, Levy, Freeman, Multon, Rodwell, Branco, De Falco, Becker, Levin

One of the highlights of any World Bridge Championship is the President's Dinner. That was especially true of the one hosted by José Damiani, the President of the World Bridge Federation at these Orbis World Bridge Championships.

A presentation to past winners of the Bermuda Bowl was one of many highlights. There were other presentations to some of the distinguished guests.

This was José Damiani's speech:

This time the traditional President's dinner has fallen on the occasion of the 2000 Orbis World Championships, which is the first event to be held under our new status of International Sports Federation.

Thanks to the marvellous hospitality of the Bermuda Government and the Bermuda Bridge

ment Limited group.

I am very happy to ask Mrs. Allan Gray, wife of the Chief Executive Officer of Orbis Investment Management Limited to come up and receive our plaque, which is presented with our sincere gratitude.

In celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Bermuda Bowl, which in the course of this time has actually been held on 33 occasions (this one is the 34th), we recall that after the first win in 1950 the U.S. retained the Bowl 14 times and Italy 13 – a truly formidable record. Despite the domination

of these two countries, there are other Federations whose names appear on the Roll of Honour – France has won twice, Great Britain, Brazil, Iceland and The Netherlands once each.

Among the players, the undoubted record belongs to Giorgio Belladonna, who played for the Italian team on all 13 occasions and was also runner-up on many other occasions. Pietro Forquet won 12 times, Benito Garozzo 10, and other members of the famous Blue Team also won many times.

Our current number-one ranked play-

er, Bob Hamman, together with our Past-President Bobby Wolff, won the event seven times.

We are lucky enough to have them both with us tonight as well as many past winners:

Chip Marte, Lew Stansby and Eric Rodwell, who each won twice, Marcelo Branco, Gabriel Chagas, Dano de Falco, Dick Freeman, Ricardo Janz, Bobby Levin, Alain Levy, Michael Becker, Roberto de Mello, Franck Multon – they all deserve a big hand – please stand up. We have in the Championships some



Alex Scott, acting Minister of Tourism, receiving medal from José Damiani, President of the WBF

other past winners who are playing but unfortunately not here – Paul Soloway, who won three times, Jeff Meckstroth twice and Christian Mari and Nick Nickell once.

Many other winners will be competing in the Orbis World Transnational Teams Championship. Paul Chemla, Michel Perron, Hervé Mouiel, Malcolm Brachman, Mike Passell, Peter Weichsel, Alan Sontag, Fred Hamilton, Enri Leufkens and in pride of place, five-time winner, Billy Eisenberg.

And we will have some thoughts for all the former winners who make this game so attractive.

Champions, this is clearly your dinner and I would like to thank your leader, Bob Hamman, for saying a few words.



Mrs Allan Gray, representing Orbis Investment Management Ltd, receiving a plaque from José Damiani, President of the WBF

Federation, we have been able to offer you a magnificent tournament here in Bermuda. We would like to acknowledge our gratitude to both of them, and I am absolutely delighted to call:

- The Honourable Alex Scott, Acting Minister of Tourism, to receive the gold medal of the WBF.
- The President of the Bermuda Bridge Federation, Sheena Rayner, to receive the plaque of the WBF.
- And Edna Clay, who really has done a great job in liaison between the BBF and Orbis, together with their Tournament Committee: John Hoskins, Jack Rhind, Barbara Huntington and Tony Saunders.

Indeed, quite clearly there is another partner who has given our sport enormous support, and that is Orbis Investment Manage-



*from left: Sheena Rayner, President of the Bermuda Bridge Federation
José Damiani, President of the WBF
Edna Clay: Marketing and Promotion*

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Prize Giving

The prize-giving ceremony will begin promptly at 19.00 in the VuGraph Auditorium. We request that everybody be seated by 18.50.

The teams who are to receive medals will be assigned seats.

The Ceremony will be followed by dinner and dancing in the Atlantic Room (the playing area).

WBF Code of Practice

Many of the players in the Transnational Teams will not have read the new WBF Code of Practice which applies in these Championships.

One of its provisions is the encouragement of random timing of the passage of the tray across the screen. This is not achieved by delaying the placement of bidding cards on the tray (or at least the player should make sure his screenmate understands the purpose of the delay) but by not always passing the tray as quickly as possible.

Another point it makes is that if a player does something irregular behind screens and his screenmate might be misled by the occurrence (as, for example, a long pause before placing his bid in a position where it may be thought his action would be automatic) it is for the player to clarify for his screenmate what has actually happened in order not to mislead him. This does not mean that an occurrence entitles the screenmate to let unreasonable thinking deflect him from sensible bridge judgement.

INVESTING IS OUR STRONG SUIT

A daily column on investing by Orbis Investment Management Limited

You may meet a senior representative from Orbis Investment Management Limited at the hotel. To make an appointment please contact the hospitality desk or call the Churchill Suite, room phone: 7554.

Building a portfolio

This article will discuss the structured approach investors take when building a portfolio of securities. Before we start however, it is important to explain why the topic "building a portfolio" deserves any attention. A simple approach to building a portfolio is to select those securities that are expected to offer attractive returns and invest in each based on the size of the expected returns.

Unfortunately portfolio construction is not this simple. The simple approach largely ignores potential risk when constructing the portfolio. It turns out that if both risk and return are considered at the same time, a portfolio can be produced that will offer a much higher expected return for a given level of risk than could have been achieved by simply concentrating on returns. To manage the consideration of risk and return, portfolio construction is frequently broken down into two steps.

Asset allocation

The first step, known as asset allocation, considers the risks and returns of potential asset classes and selects appropriate weights for each asset class. For example, a very conservative investor might distribute his portfolio 20% in cash, 50% in bonds and 30% in equities. In contrast, an investor who is prepared to take much more risk might have an asset allocation that placed more weight in equities for example 5% cash, 25% bonds, and 70% equities.

The appropriate allocation between asset classes depends on the given investor's risk tolerance, his return requirement, the expected returns of each asset class, the risk or volatility of each asset class and a measure of how much the different asset classes move together. The portfolio manager takes all this information and uses it to construct an optimal asset allocation for that investor. This would be a huge amount of data if not reduced to asset classes first. For a portfolio of 50 securities there are 1,225 correlations between the individual securities. Sophisticated computing techniques help to calculate the best asset allocation. Usually, the portfolio manager combines the results of quadratic optimization with data that reflect additional investor constraints, the liquidity requirements of the portfolio and the status of the current portfolio if this already exists.

Security Selection

Once capital has been allocated to each asset class, the portfolio manager then takes the second step of selecting individual investments from within each asset class. Again the manager needs to allow for return, risk, liquidity, and investor constraints when making this selection. The aim of this process is the same as that in the first step, namely to generate the maximum return for the portfolio for a given level of risk.

Alternative Portfolio Construction Methods

It is entirely valid to construct a portfolio without going through the asset allocation step. A manager could simply take a wide range of different investments and select weights for those investments that produced an optimal portfolio. This has the advantage of allowing all risk and return information to be considered at once which, in theory, should produce a portfolio that is superior to that resulting from the two step construction process. In practice, however, this approach requires very high quality data that is not normally available.

Diversification-when and how far to spread your risk

So we have seen that diversification can be used to improve the returns of a portfolio for a specific level of risk. However there are limits to the benefits of diversification. The most significant is that the risk reduction gained by diversification declines as the number of investments in the portfolio increases. For example, a portfolio that increases its number of holdings from 10 to 20 investments experiences a significant decline in risk (assuming the investments have the same volatility and are uncorrelated). Not only does the impact of each incremental holding diminish, it also becomes difficult to find new investments that do not share some similarity of returns with the ones already held. A portfolio that increases the number of its holdings from 90 to 100 should not expect its market risk to decline by very much at all.

