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Sunday, 28 October 2001

It's a Knockout - Jeux Sans Frontieres



The VuGraph nerve center

The qualifying stages of the Bermuda Bowl and the Venice Cup have thrown up some intriguing quarter-final matches. None more so than the encounter between **USA I** and **Italy** that ensures one of the favourites will be eliminated. **France**, who have qualified a team in all three competitions, will face **USA II**. **Poland** meets India while **Norway** line up against **Indonesia**.

In the Venice Cup, the match between **Germany** and **USA I** is a repeat of the 1995 Venice Cup final. France play South Africa, China opposes Austria and England is pitted against USA II.

In the Seniors Bowl, the American teams meet each other while **France** face **Poland**.

The Seniors semi-finals will be completed after three sessions today with the first session of the final being played tonight.

Don't Leave the Hotel!

It would be a serious mistake to go to the Stade de France today as all events are now being played in the Hotel Concorde la Fayette.

VUGRAPH MATCHES

Venice Cup – Quarter Final (Session 1) – 10.30 France v South Africa

Bermuda Bowl – Quarter Final (Session 2) – 13.20 USA II v France

Bermuda Bowl – Quarter Final (Session 3) – 16.10 USA I v Italy

Bermuda Bowl – Quarter Final (Session 4) – 21.00 to be decided

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Time Changed in Europe

We hope you remembered to change your watches last night. That may be why you are the only person at breakfast today!











Paris, France

RESULTS Bermuda Bowl

ROUND 16			
Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
INDIA	EGYPT	17 - 27	3 - 7
ARGENTINA	NORWAY	26 - 93	2 - 25
HONG KONG	ISRAEL	27 - 53	10 - 20
FRANCE	RUSSIA	41 - 27	18 - 12
GUADELOUPE	NEW ZEALAND	14 - 60	6 - 24
INDONESIA	USA I	40 - 30	17 - 13
POLAND	BRAZIL	57 - 16	23 - 7
USA II	ITALY	30 - 33	4 - 6
AUSTRALIA	JAPAN	84 - 52	22 - 8
	Home Team INDIA ARGENTINA HONG KONG FRANCE GUADELOUPE INDONESIA POLAND USA II	Home TeamVisiting TeamINDIAEGYPTARGENTINANORWAYHONG KONGISRAELFRANCERUSSIAGUADELOUPENEW ZEALANDINDONESIAUSA IPOLANDBRAZILUSA IIITALY	Home Team Visiting Team IMPs INDIA EGYPT 17 - 27 ARGENTINA NORWAY 26 - 93 HONG KONG ISRAEL 27 - 53 FRANCE RUSSIA 41 - 27 GUADELOUPE NEW ZEALAND 14 - 60 INDONESIA USA I 40 - 30 POLAND BRAZIL 57 - 16 USA II ITALY 30 - 33

ROUND 17

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
I.	EGYPT	NORWAY	5 - 47	6 - 24
2	INDIA	HONG KONG	56 - 34	20 - 10
3	ISRAEL	FRANCE	7 - 52	6 - 24
4	RUSSIA	GUADELOUPE	48 - 58	13 - 17
5	NEW ZEALAND	INDONESIA	61 - 26	22 - 8
6	USA I	POLAND	36 - 26	17 - 13
7	BRAZIL	USA II	16 - 72	4 - 25
8	ITALY	AUSTRALIA	65 - 27	23 - 7
9	JAPAN	ARGENTINA	16 - 61	6 - 24
5 6 7	NEW ZEALAND USA I BRAZIL ITALY	INDONESIA POLAND USA II AUSTRALIA	61 - 26 36 - 26 16 - 72 65 - 27	22 - 17 - 4 - 2 23 -

PROGRAM Bermuda Bowl

Quarter Finals

- POLAND L
- USA II 2
- 3 NORWAY

4

6

8

USA I

FRANCE **INDONESIA** ITALY

INDIA

PROGRAM Venice Cup

Quarter Finals

- 5 FRANCE
 - ENGLAND USA II
- 7 USA I CHINA

.

GERMANY

SOUTH AFRICA

AUSTRIA

VBF Laws Commission

Will members please note that the provisional time for the first meeting of the committee is 1.45 pm on Sunday, in the Hotel Concorde-Lafayette.

RESULTS **Venice** Cup

	R	OUND 16		
	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
10	AUSTRALIA	JAPAN	35 - 25	17 - 13
11	ITALY	CANADA	37 - 32	16 - 14
12	ENGLAND	GERMANY	42 - 33	17 - 13
13	AUSTRIA	BRAZIL	58 - 28	21 - 9
14	INDIA	NETHERLANDS	38 - 17	9 -
15	FRANCE	USA I	31 - 23	16 - 14
16	SOUTH AFRICA	VENEZUELA	40 - 25	18 - 12
17	USA II	CHINA	39 - 28	17 - 13
18	ISRAEL	INDONESIA	52 - 37	18 - 12

ROUND 17 IMPs Home Team **Visiting Team** VPs 10 JAPAN CANADA 68 - 16 25 - 5 II AUSTRALIA ENGLAND 25 - 7 19 - 11 71 - 32 12 GERMANY AUSTRIA 23 - 7 13 BRAZIL INDIA 67 - 2 25 - 3 18 - 12 FRANCE 26 - 10 14 NETHERLANDS SOUTH AFRICA 37 - 28 17 - 13 15 USA I VENEZUELA USA II 30 - 52 10 - 20 16 17 CHINA ISRAEL 58 - 17 23 - 7 18 INDONESIA ITALY 38 - 53 12 - 18

RESULTS

Seniors Bowl

ROUND 13

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
19	POLAND	FRANCE	34 - 43	3 - 7
20	USA II	ITALY	30 - 30	15 - 15
21	USA I	EGYPT/S. AFRICA	66 - 25	23 - 7
22	GUADELOUPE	BAHRAIN	81 - 26	25 - 4

ROUND 14				
	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
19	FRANCE	ITALY	35 - 48	12 - 18
20	POLAND	USA II	42 - 36	16 - 14
21	USA I	GUADELOUPE		20 - 10
22	EGYPT/S. AFRIC	A BAHRAIN	63 - 21	24 - 6
21	USAI	GUADELOUPE	43 - 21	20 - 10

PROGRAM Seniors Bowl

Semi-finals

9 USA I FRANCE 10

USA II POLAND

2

Bermuda Bowl **Final Round Robin Ranking**

1	POLAND	311
2	NORWAY	311
3	USA II	310
4	USA I	306
5	ITALY	300
6	FRANCE	269
7	INDIA	263
8	INDONESIA	259
9	EGYPT	248
10	RUSSIA	245.6
	ISRAEL	243.5
12	AUSTRALIA	238.9
13	NEW ZEALAND	228
14	JAPAN	226
15	ARGENTINA	217.5
16	BRAZIL	215
17	GUADELOUPE	192
18	HONG KONG	174

Venice Cup Final Round Robin Ranking

	FRANCE	342
2	USA I	309
3	CHINA	307
4	ENGLAND	307
5	GERMANY	287
6	AUSTRIA	280
7	SOUTH AFRICA	275
8	USA II	268
9	NETHERLANDS	263
10	ITALY	247
	JAPAN	244
12	ISRAEL	240
13	CANADA	235.6
14	BRAZIL	221.5
15	AUSTRALIA	215
16	INDONESIA	197
17	VENEZUELA	169.5
18	INDIA	144.4

Seniors Bowl **Final Round Robin Ranking**

	USA I	274
2	FRANCE	250
3	POLAND	236
4	USA II	229
5	ITALY	223
6	GUADELOUPE	200
7	EGYPT / S.AFRICA	160
8	BAHRAIN	74

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Monday 29 October 10.30 - 15.00 hours

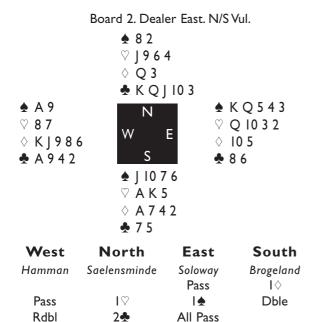
CALLING ALL JOURNALISTS!

The A.G.M. will be held at the Hotel Concorde Lafayette on Tuesday morning, 30th October. We will start sharp at 09.15. Details of the room will be published in Monday's Daily News.We have some important items to cover and we will be presenting the annual awards. We hope to see you all at the meeting.

Paris, France



The defending Bermuda Bowl champions may have started slowly, but it would be a mistake to underestimate the Nick Nickell squad, particularly when Bob Hamman and Paul Soloway, the newest partnership on the team, seem to have hit their stride. With the exception of one deal in Round 11, they were outstanding in the match against the young team from Norway. Things didn't start so well for the holders, however.



It's handy to be able to play Two Clubs as non-forcing in this sequence, as Erik Saelensminde and Boye Brogeland were able to stop on a dime. The contract just made for +90. At the other table, Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell got overboard with the North/South cards.

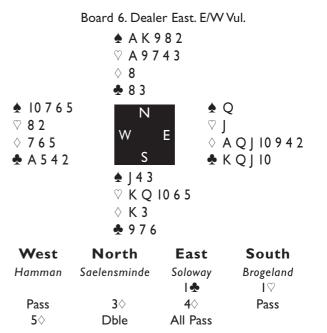
West	North	East	South
Aa	Meckstroth	Grotheim	Rodwell
		Pass	$ \diamond$
Pass	$\square \heartsuit$	♠	Dble
2♠	3 🙅	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

A quick glance at the North/South cards would not give you a clue to how dire a 3NT contract is – until West leads a diamond. Rodwell scored the diamond queen on the go, but he wanted to do it later – after the clubs were set up. As it was,

Transnational Matchmaking

If you are looking for partners or teammates in order to compete in the Transnational event please let the Daily News know. Nissan Rand will endeavor to solve your problem. He will be in the Press Room today at 13.00. dummy took the diamond queen and a club – period. That left Rodwell the three top tricks he started with, and he was soon writing the score in the opponents' column he had hoped to put in his own: 400. That was 10 IMPs to Norway.

The Scandinavians were up 10-7 when they lost the lead for good on a deal which could have produced another gain for them.



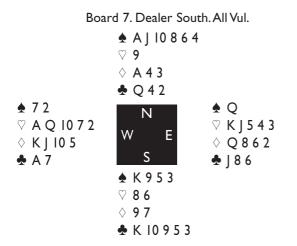
That was fine bidding on both sides: Hamman and Soloway found the vul-against-not save at the five level – and Saelensminde and Brogeland didn't go past Four Hearts, their last making spot. Brogeland led the heart king, overtaken by Saelensminde, who tried to cash a couple of spades. Soloway ruffed the second spade and cashed the diamond ace, conceding -200 when the king didn't drop. At the other table, Meckstroth and Rodwell got too high, but it worked out.

West	North	East	South
Aa	Meckstroth	Grotheim	Rodwell
		 🌩 ⁽¹⁾	$I\heartsuit$
Dble	4♡	5◇	Pass
Pass	5♡	Dble	All Pass

⁽¹⁾ Viking Club: artificial

Glenn Grotheim, forced to introduce his suit at the five level, judged accurately to double when the opponents got to Five Hearts. The problem was that he and Terje Aa neglected to beat it. Aa started with a trump – just what Rodwell ordered. He pulled the hearts and, when the spade queen dropped on the first round, he had a choice of discarding both diamonds or two clubs. Either way, he lost only two tricks and scored up +650. That was good for 10 IMPs to USA I.

The Americans earned another swing when Saelensminde took an unusual – and wrong – view in a vulnerable game.



The auction was the same at both tables:

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Saelensminde	Soloway	Brogeland
Aa	Meckstroth	Grotheim	Rodwell
			Pass
$ \heartsuit$	♠	4 ♡	4♠
All Pass			

Both East's started with the heart king. The difference was that Meckstroth came home with 10 tricks. Saelensminde did not.

Hamman overtook Soloway's heart king with the ace and switched to the diamond jack. Declarer took the ace and played two rounds of trumps, ending in his hand. The Vugraph commentators were predicting he would enter dummy with a trump and make the normal play of a club to the queen and a club back to the ten. Instead, he played a club from his hand to dummy's king – and the game could not longer be made. That was 12 more IMPs to USA I, now leading 29-10.

Hamman and Soloway had an accident on Board II when Hamman apparently misunderstood the auction and launched himself into Four Spades on a 5-1 fit, down three for -150. At the other table, 3NT was bid and made and Norway gained II IMPs.

On the following deal, the Norwegians on Vugraph reached the right spot in the bidding (at least for the opening lead they got), but Hamman and Soloway exploited a small error by Brogeland to defeat a close game.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

	 ♠ 9 ♡ Q 2 ◇ A K 8 ♣ J 10 9 7 6 5 2 	:
 ▲ Q 10 8 4 ○ A 8 5 4 ◇ 3 2 ◆ A Q 3 	N W E S ▲ A K 6 5 ♡ K J 10 7 6 ◇ Q 10 9 ♣ 4	 ▲ J 7 3 2 ♡ 9 3 ◊ J 7 6 5 4 ♣ K 8

WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

West	North	East	South
Aa	Meckstroth	Grotheim	Rodwell
		Pass	$ \heartsuit$
Pass	INT	Pass	2 ◇
Pass	3 📥	All Pass	

Meckstroth scrambled home with nine tricks for +110. The Norwegians took a different view of the North/South cards, and Brogeland nearly brought the shaky contract in.

Hamman could have defeated the game by starting with the trump ace and continuing the suit, but he began with a low spade. Brogeland took the spade jack with the ace, cashed the king and ruffed a spade low. He returned to hand with the diamond queen and ruffed his last spade. At that point, he was cold for the contract if he had gotten off dummy with the club jack. That would have served to disrupt communications between the East/West hands, an important consideration as it turned out.

Brogeland's error was cashing the diamond ace before playing the club. Soloway took full advantage, giving Hamman a diamond ruff. Hamman played the club ace, ruffed by declarer. When Hamman came in again with the heart ace, he played a third round of clubs – and Soloway's trump nine was sufficient to promote Hamman's eight to the setting trick. Hamman and Soloway engineered another major swing on this next deal.

		Q 8 3	South. N	I/S Vul.
	\diamond	J 3 2 A J 5		
▲ 10 9 6 2 ♡ 4		J 4 3 2 N	∇	K 5 4 A K Q 10 8 5
♦ K 9 8 7 ♣ 5	643 ^W	ν Ε S	\diamond	10 K 8 7
	\heartsuit	A J 7 9 7 6		
		Q 2 A Q 10	96	
West	Nort	-	East	South
Hamman	Saelensm	inde	Soloway	Brogeland I 🜩
3◊	3NT		All Pass	12

Saelensminde's 3NT bid is very aggressive, especially considering the pair's light opening style, but Hamman didn't leave him much room to manoeuvre, and in fact he would have sailed home with nine tricks if Soloway had led his partner's suit. Hamman forgave his partner, however, for simply taking the first six tricks in hearts to put the contract two down.

The heart suit also came into play at the other table, but not to the Norwegians' liking.

West	North	East	South
Aa	Meckstroth	Grotheim	Rodwell
			INT
Pass	Pass	3♡	All Pass

Rodwell upgraded his 13-point hand to qualify for their 14-16 range for a INT opener. Grotheim balanced at the three level. Six heart tricks was his limit, however., and he finished three down for -150 and an 8-IMP gain for USA I. The final score was 47-27 in favor of the Americans, who moved into first place in the round-robin standings with the victory.

Paris, France

ROUND 12

Italy v German

Venice Cup

With two-thirds of the round robin completed, this match between tenth-placed Italy and seventh-placed Germany was of crucial importance to the two teams' qualification hopes. It was Italy who struck first.



Andrea Rauscheid, Germany

Bc ◆ 7 ♡ A Q 8 ◊ Q J 8 7 3 ◆ Q 7 3 2	ard I. Deale	0 2 E	2 8 6 2 6 4 A 10 6
West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Rosetta	Nehmert	De Lucchi
	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass All Pass	2♡	Pass	2♠
West	North	East	South
Manara	Auken	Ferlazzo	V Arnim
	Pass	Pass	♣
$I \diamond$	Pass	2 ◇	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

Francesca De Lucchi's INT opening led to a straightforward transfer auction to the best contract for North/South. Andrea Rauscheid led the queen of diamonds to Pony Nehmert's ace and Nehmert switched to the eight of clubs. With the favourable heart position and the riangle Q onside the defence could only come to a heart and a spade from here for +170 to Italy.

Daniela Von Arnim opened a strong club and Gabriella Manara overcalled 1 \diamond . When Sabine Auken passed and Caterina Ferlazzo raised to 2 \diamond , the Germans had a problem in reaching spades. Auken doubled for take-out but Von Arnim had only one suit, and that of only four cards in length. Three Clubs was not a success, even with the favourable lie of the opposing cards. Again the defence began with a diamond to the ace and a club switch. Von Arnim won the club and played king and ruffed a diamond then a spade to her ace. A heart to the jack won and now she played a spade to the king, ruffed. Von Arnim was one down from here for -50 and 6 IMPs to Italy.

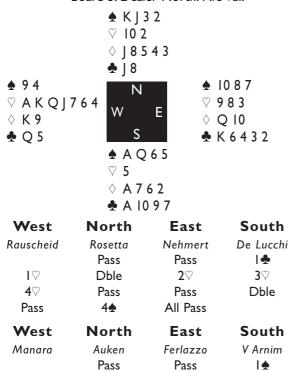
 ▲ A K 3 ♡ J 7 5 4 3 ◊ 8 ♣ 10 6 5 3 	Soard 3. Deal ▲ 10 9 ♡ 9 ◇ 5 4 2 ▲ A J 7 N W S ▲ 5 ♡ A K ◇ A Q ♣ Q 8	2 7 2 E	2 J 7 4 0 8 6 (9 7 6
West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Rosetta	Nehmert	De Lucchi I◊
Pass		Pass	2♡
Pass	2NT	Pass	3 🜩
Pass	3♢	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
Manara	Auken	Ferlazzo	V Arnim
			🐣
Pass	I \diamond	Pass	\bigtriangledown
Pass All Pass	2♡	Pass	3NT

Germany struck back when Auken/Von Arnim bid a thin game and slipped it through on inaccurate defence. In the Open Room, the Italians had a mostly natural sequence to $3\diamond$, 2NT being Lebensohl. De Lucchi made ten tricks for +130.

In the Closed Room, Von Arnim opened a strong club and rebid a two-way $1\,\%$. It looks as though Auken's $2\,\%$ was a transfer bid as otherwise the jump to 3NT is quite bizarre. Manara led a heart to the ten and queen and Von Arnim took the club finesse, the jack losing to the king. Back came a heart to declarer's ace. Von Arnim crossed to the ace of clubs to take the diamond finesse and continued with ace and another diamond honour to the king. A spade switch would have netted four spade tricks and

six in all, but Ferlazzo continued the heart attack and that was nine tricks and +400 for Von Arnim; 7 IMPs to Germany.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



Not many pairs are playing strong jump overcalls at these championships but Manara's $3\heartsuit$ call worked very well for her side, putting momentum into the auction and leaving her with a normal $5\heartsuit$ bid at her next turn. Five Hearts doubled had to lose the four top tricks but that was only -300, a good save if her teammates could play 4 \pm at the other table. Sure enough, the I \pm opening and negative double meant that the Italians only found the spade fit at the four level and it didn't sound clear to Rauscheid that her opponents expected to make 4 \pm . The even split of both spades and diamonds made 4 \pm easy, however, and that was +620 to Italy and 8 IMPs.

4♡

All Pass

4♠

3♠

Dble

3♡

50

Germany picked up three modest swings over the next few deals to retake the lead at 19-14 IMPs, then Italy struck twice in quick succession.

Board 13. Dealer	North. All Vul.
------------------	-----------------

	 ▲ Q 10 7 4 ♡ 10 7 5 3 ◊ K 10 5 ♣ 6 3 	
 ▲ A J 9 3 ♡ K ◊ 9 8 6 3 ♣ A J 8 4 	N W E S ▲ K 8 ♡ Q J 9 8 2 ◇ 2 ♣ K Q 9 5 2	 ▲ 6 5 2 ♡ A 6 4 ◇ A Q J 7 4 ▲ 10 7

West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Rosetta	Nehmert	De Lucchi
	Pass	I¢	2NT
Dble	3♡	Pass	Pass
4 ◇	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
West Manara	North Auken	East Ferlazzo	South V Arnim
	Auken	Ferlazzo	V Arnim

Rauscheid doubled De Lucchi's unusual 2NT overcall but when 3° came around to her she downgraded the bare king of that suit and settled for a competitive 4° . De Lucchi led the king of clubs and Nehmert won, took the diamond finesse, crossed to the king of hearts and drew the remaining trumps with the aid of a second finesse. Then she played the $\clubsuit10$ and claimed eleven tricks; +150.

Von Arnim made a simple 1 $^{\odot}$ overcall and Manara doubled, then doubled again when the pre-emptive 3 $^{\odot}$ raise came back to her. Ferlazzo may not have been particularly thrilled about it, but 3NT was the obvious response and that proved to be unbeatable. Von Arnim led a heart to the king and Ferlazzo took the diamond finesse then played a club for the king and ace. A second diamond finesse was followed by the 010 and that created an overtrick; +630 and 10 IMPs to Italy.

Bo	oard 14. Dea	aler East. None	e Vul.
	▲ 7 6 ♡ J 10 ◊ A 3 ♣ 8	932	
 ▲ K Q 9 8 ♡ - ◇ Q 9 7 6 ◆ 10 9 6 4 3 	N ₩ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	E	Q 8 5 4
West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Rosetta	Nehmert I♡	De Lucchi Pass
I ≜ 3NT	Pass All Pass	2NT	Pass
West	North	East	South
Manara	Auken	Ferlazzo	V Arnim Pass
IŸ	Pass	2♡	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

This time the swing came in the play or, rather, in the defence. Both Souths led a low diamond. Rosetta won her ace and switched to the jack of hearts. Nehmert did the best she could by going up with the ace. She threw a diamond from dummy, hoping to bring in the clubs for one loser. The \clubsuit K was ducked but De Lucchi took the \clubsuit Q and played king and another diamond.

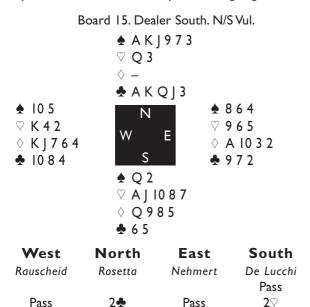


Annalisa Rosetta, Italy

Nehmert just cashed out from here and the defence took the last three tricks for down two; -100.

The Germans didn't seem to want to take any tricks in the other room. Auken ducked the diamond at trick one so that Ferlazzo's ten won the trick. Ferlazzo continued with the \clubsuit K, ducked, and the \clubsuit Q, also ducked. Now she switched her attention to diamonds, and Von Arnim won the king. But with South on lead there was no defence to the contract and declarer came to nine tricks for +400 and 11 IMPs to Italy.

Italy led by 35-19 IMPs and looked to be doing their prospects of qualification no harm at all, but they were to add only 2 more IMPs, while Germany had a string of gains, including:



2

4

Pass

Pass

3♡

4♠

All Pass

Pass

Pass

West	North	East	South
Manara	Auken	Ferlazzo	V Arnim
			Pass
Pass	🐣	Pass	\square
Pass	♠	Pass	2 ◇
Pass	6 🙅	Pass	6♡
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Two Clubs was Annalisa Rosetta's big bid and the $2\heartsuit$ response showed two controls. De Lucchi showed her heart suit at her next turn then gave spade preference and Rosetta took a pessimistic view of her hand – of course, $4\heartsuit$ could just as easily have been based on a small doubleton so there was no safety in going on. However, the Italians were not happy with their +710 – Rauscheid ducked the first heart.

Sure enough, Auken/Von Arnim reached the slam in the other room via a rather dynamic auction from Auken. Von Arnim cuebid the heart ace on the way to $6\pm$ but that was not sufficient for Auken; +1430 and 12 IMPs to Germany.



DC	ard 17. Deale	er North. Non	ie vui.
 ♣ 9 ♡ 2 ◊ A 10 9 7 0 ♣ A Q J 10 		9 7 2 5 2 E ↓ K ♡ K ◊ J ♣ 4 7 5 4	
West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Rosetta	Nehmert	De Lucchi
	🐣	I.♠	2♡
3♢	40	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
Manara	Auken I♡	Ferlazzo I♠	V Arnim 4♡
4NT	Pass	5¢	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

De Lucchi was able to make a non-forcing 2^{\heartsuit} bid, enabling her side to find the heart fit, but Rauscheid did well to judge to defend and not bid out her two-suiter in the face of a possibly prepared club opening on her left.

There was no way for De Lucchi to avoid losing a trick in each suit for down one; -50.

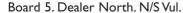
Auken's four-card major opening put momentum into the auction as Von Arnim was able to make a pre-emptive raise to game before Manara had even one opportunity to start to describe her hand. Of course, she bid 4NT to show her minor two-suiter, and Auken was happy to double Ferlazzo's choice of $5\Diamond$. Again the defence took one trick in each suit; -300 and 8 IMPs to Germany.

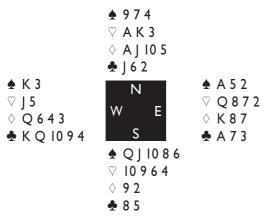
The match ended in a 51-37 IMP victory for Germany, converting to 18-12 VPs.

22nd October - 3rd November

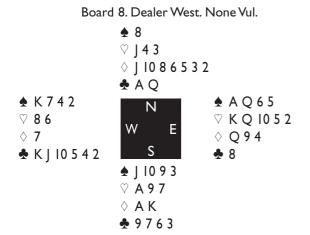


A match between two teams high in the standings will usually generate some interest. So it was with the 13th-round Venice Cup match between England and USA I. The former team was second in the standings and playing well and the Americans were among the pre-tournament favorites. On paper, it promised to be a tight, well-played match. Unfortunately, paper doesn't play bridge, and the players didn't produce what was expected. USA I routed England 53-9 to improve their position in the standings. A series of dull boards early on left the Vugraph panel groping for commentary. The only mildly interesting deal was the following.





At both tables, South went off one trick in Two Spades, and it was of interest to determine if any of the East/West pairs bid the makeable Three Notrump. Apparently none did.



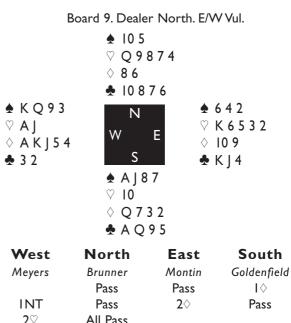
This deal featured Jill Meyers and Randi Montin taking advantage of an error by declarer to defeat a cold contract.

At both tables, West passed and North opened Three Diamonds, followed by three passes.

Against Michelle Brunner, Montin led the heart king, ducked by Brunner. Montin switched to the club eight, and Meyers made the deceptive play of the king. Brunner won the ace, played a diamond to dummy and continued with a club to the queen. Montin ruffed, underled her spade ace-queen to partner's king and got a second club ruff. Although declarer now has a major-suit squeeze on West, she went one down for -50.

When Karen McCallum played Three Diamonds, she won the opening lead of the heart king at trick one, played two top diamonds, a club to the queen and a third round of diamonds. That gave her nine tricks, and she ended up with a tenth when Nicola Smith cashed the heart queen when in with the trump queen. That was +130 and 5 IMPs to USA I, leading at that point 10-1.

The Americans' lead increased by 5 IMPs when Heather Dhondy and Smith got much too high on this deal.

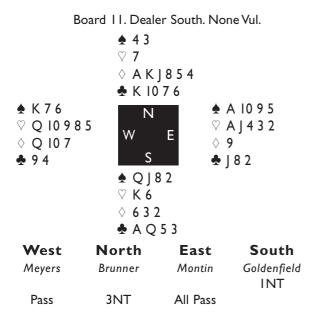


Z v	All 1 ass		
West	North	East	South
Dhondy	McCallum	Smith	Sanborn
	Pass	Pass	I \diamond
INT	Pass	2 ◇	Pass
20	Pass	2NT	Pass
4 ♡	All Pass		

With the bad trump split, seven tricks was the limit in hearts – and Dhondy had to play well to go down three. Several pairs brought home Three Notrump with the East/West cards, but that contract needed a favourable lead.

Against the ambitious Four Heart contract by Dhondy, Mc-Callum started the diamond eight, which went to the nine, queen and ace. Dhondy cashed the heart ace and played the jack to the queen and king, getting the bad news in trumps. She then played a spade to the king and a diamond to dummy for another spade play. Sanborn went up with the ace and returned a spade. Dhondy inserted the nine, which was ruffed by McCallum. Two more trumps and two more club tricks were coming, leaving Dhondy with seven tricks and England trailing by 14 IMPs.

On the following deal, Dhondy and Smith did well to push the Americans to an unmakeable spot, but Smith made one bid too many. The result was another loss.



Meyers led the heart ten to Montin's ace, and Montin cleared the suit. Had Rhona Goldenfield taken the right view in diamonds, she would have scored up +460. She did not, however, and the Americans had the plus score for two down. The Vugraph audience was treated to a vastly different auction.

West	North	East	South
Dhondy	McCallum	Smith	Sanborn
			٠
\square	3 ◊ ⁽¹⁾	40	Pass
Pass	4NT	Dble	5 🛧
Pass	Pass	5♡	Dble
All Pass			

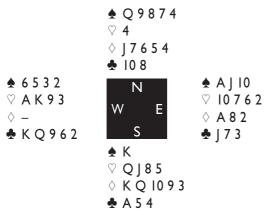
⁽¹⁾ Described as showing a fit in clubs

Dhondy and Smith had three top tricks and could have scored a fourth if Sanborn misguessed diamonds. She didn't have that problem, however, and the Americans were quickly ringing up +500 and 12 more IMPs. The margin had grown to 27-1.

England made their only significant gain of the day when Meyers and Montin went down in Five Clubs that might have been made while Dhondy and Smith collected +300 against Four Hearts doubled.

The following board might have been a gain for England, but Smith badly mismanaged her contract for down four.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



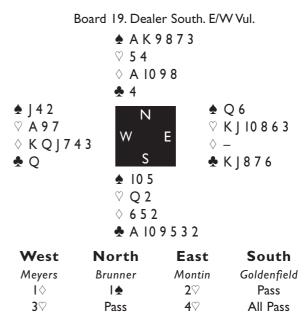
West	North	East	South
Meyers	Brunner	Montin	Goldenfield
		INT	Dble
Rdbl	2 ◇	Pass	Pass
3♢	Pass	3♡	Pass
4 ♡	All Pass		

It is not clear how Montin played the heart game, but she finished two down for -100, but she still took two more tricks than Smith.

West	North	East	South
Dhondy	McCallum	Smith	Sanborn
		Pass	I \diamond
Dble	♠	INT	Pass
Pass	2 ◇	2♡	Pass
Pass	3♢	Pass	Pass
3♡	Pass	4♡	All Pass

Sanborn led the diamond king, and Smith pitched a spade from dummy, winning the ace in hand. She played a heart to the ace, thought about her next play for a time, then cashed the other top heart. Looking at all the cards, it's easy to see that the contract can be made, and in practice perhaps it's no great sin to go down on the bad trump split, but cashing the second heart before playing on clubs seems like an avoidable error. There was nothing for Smith to do but play on clubs and hope the ace was not with the long trumps. It was not to be. Sanborn won the club ace, picked up all the trumps, and the defenders ran diamonds for down four.

Matters actually got worse for England on the next two boards.

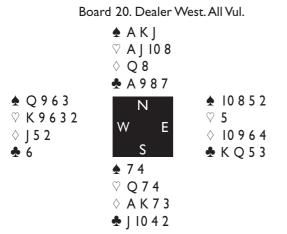


Goldenfield led the spade ten to her partner's king. Brunner cashed the ace and then played the diamond ace – the right play if she was attempting to promote a trump trick for South by a third round of spades. If East held the club ace, for example, and a singleton diamond, she would simply discard her losing diamond on the third round of spades.At any rate, the diamond play allowed Montin to make the contract.

West	North	East	South
Dhondy	McCallum	Smith	Sanborn
			3♣
3♢	3♠	4 ♡	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

McCallum defended the same way Brunner had – taking the top two spades and attempting to cash the diamond ace. The Vugraph commentators predicted, however, that Smith would not get the trumps right after McCallum's double, and they were correct. Smith ruffed the diamond and played the heart jack to the ace, following with the nine, playing the eight when McCallum followed low. This would have catered to 3-1 trumps with McCallum holding the queen: from there, Smith could simply play top diamonds and the spade jack if necessary, discarding her clubs and overruffing McCallum at any point with a trump to return to dummy's winners. Unfortunately for Smith, trumps were 2-2. Sanborn won the trump queen and cashed the club ace for one down.

The icing on the cake for the Americans occurred on the final board.



Meyers and Montin played Three Notrump with the North/South cards, easily taking 11 tricks for +660. McCallum and Sanborn took only nine tricks, but they had the pleasure of doing so on defense against a doubled contract.

West	North	East	South
Dhondy	McCallum	Smith	Sanborn
2 � ^(I)	Dble ⁽²⁾	2♠	Dble
All Pass			

- ⁽¹⁾ Both majors, at least 5-4, with 5-9 high-card points
- ⁽²⁾ A penalty double in both majors

Sanborn led a trump, restricting Smith to four winners – a trump in each hand, the diamond nine and the club king. That was down four and -1100; 10 IMPs to USA I and a resounding 53-9 victory.

Follow the 35th Bermuda Bowl, the 13th Venice Cup and the 1st Seniors Bowl on Internet through the WBF official web site:

www.bridge.gr

The Bangalore Express

The readers of the Daily News are not merely to be found in Paris. One of our Indian correspondents emailed his views on a deal reported in yesterday's edition. The first deal featured in the bulletin from this match

may be a classic case of if the finesse is right, don't take it.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.			
	🛧 A 9 1	752	
	♡] 9 2		
	◊ Q 7	3	
	📥 8 3		
4 3	N	🔺 🖈	(1086
♡ A Q 8	W	E 7	53
A K 5 4			06
📥 A 9 5 2	S	• •	QJ7
	≜ Q J		
	♡ K 10		
	♦ J 9 8		
Open Room	📥 l0 6	4	
-			
West	North	East	South
Abecassis	Weichsel	Soulet	Sontag
	-		Pass
INT 20	Pass	2 ♣ * 2NIT	Pass
20 3NT	Pass All Pass	2NT	Pass
2141	All Fass		

With West declaring 3NT trick one comprised the spade five, eight, jack & four.

At trick two South returned a heart and declarer put in the eight, then guessed wrong when North played back the seven of spades.

The view from the sub-continent is that declarer's play of the ten of spades on the seven of spades is very suspect. What holding did he think the lead was made from?

AQ75 or AQ752?

No, as then the nine would have won the first trick.

♠ A 9 7 5 2 ?

Then the king is the right play.

♦ Q 9 7 5 ?

Unlikely with the given bidding. Also, the six is the right play to block the suit. Then South will be caught in a redsuit squeeze on the run of the clubs.

♦Q9752?

Then the six is the right play.

Manoj Nair

Bangalore, India

Paris, France

Bermuda Bowl

Egypt v Russia



It's fair to say one of the surprises of the Bermuda Bowl has been Egypt, who entered play on Friday in sixth place, higher than expected. It's also a fair statement that Russia was a bit of a disappointment. Expected to contend, they began the fifth day of round-robin play in the 11th spot, although not that far away from the top eight and qualification for the knockout phase. The two teams met in Round 14 with more than a little at stake for both. It was a close match, and in the end Russia prevailed, 29-24, to keep their hopes alive.

Too much bidding by the Russians at both tables produced the following swing that put Egypt in front.



Tarek Sadek, Egypt

 ▲ K J ♡ J 9 6 5 2 ◇ A 8 6 5 4 ◆ J 	bard 3. Deale ▲ A 7 ♡ K 10 ◇ Q J ▲ A 9 W W S ▲ Q 9 ♡ Q 4 ◇ 2 ▲ Q 10	07 1097 E ↓ ↓ ⊗ A ⊗ k 864 3	052
West	North	East	South
El Ahamadi		T. Sadek	Petrunin
	21011101	n outer	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3 🛧
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

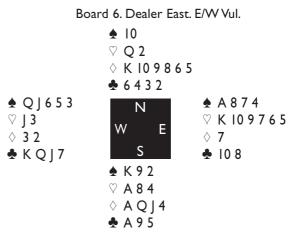
The lighter-than-air pre-empt actually looks beefy compared to some of the weak two-bids on exhibit at this tournament. Even so, North's inquiry of 2NT seems overly optimistic. Perhaps he was hoping South would show some high cards in diamonds. At any rate, the Russians were one level too high. Waleed El Ahamadi started with a heart. East, Tarek Sadek, won the ace and returned the suit to South's queen. Declarer tried a diamond to the queen and East's king, and a club came back, to the two, jack and ace.

Alexander Petrunin played the A and a spade to West's king. The heart ruff was next and East took the setting trick with the K for +50.

West	North	East	South
Kholomeev	A. Sadek	Zlotov	Naguib
			Pass
\square	Dble	2♣	2♠
Pass	Pass	3 🛧	All Pass

Dmitri Zlotov finished two down in this inelegant contract for -200 and 6 IMPs to Egypt.

The Russians lost 2 IMPs on the following deal, but it would have been worse if not for Petrunin's good judgment in the auction.



In the closed room, Zlotov and Vadim Kholomeev bid their way to $4 \ge 0$ on the East/West cards, were doubled and were one down for -200. In the Open Room, the Egyptians put pressure on the Russians, but they survived.

West	North	East	South
El Ahamadi	Gromov	T. Sadek	Petrunin
		Pass	 🍨 ⁽¹⁾
(2)	Dble ⁽³⁾	3♠	Pass
Pass	4 ◇	All Pass	

^(I) Precision

(2) Red suits or black suits

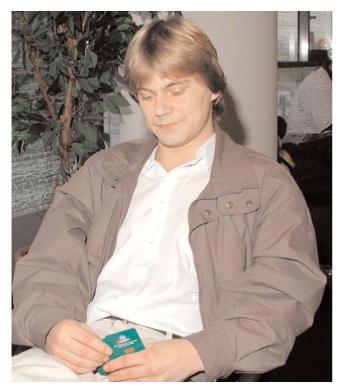
(3) 5-7 HCP

Regardless of which two suits West held, East liked his hand, even at unfavourable vulnerability. Gromov didn't have a great

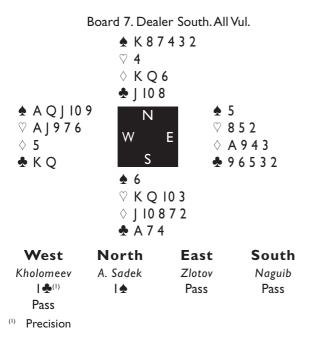
22nd October - 3rd November

hand, but he wasn't going to be shut out. Over his partner's 4 \Diamond , Petrunin had to consider whether game was a possibility. After some thought, he made the correct decision to pass. East led the $\clubsuit10$. Gromov went up with the ace, played two rounds of trumps, ending in hand, and led a spade toward dummy. When East produced the ace, Gromov conceded two club tricks to make his contract.

On this deal, it was the Egyptians who bid too much.



Alexander Petrunin, Russia



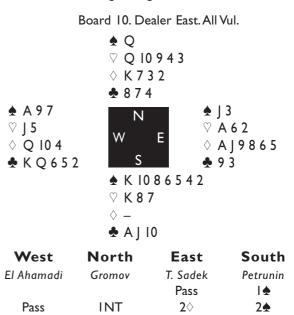
When Ashraf Sadek bid his first suit, Kholomeev saw no reason to disturb the contract, particularly if his partner could make no

noise at all over the 1 dovercall. Sadek managed six tricks for -100.

West	North	East	South
El Ahamadi	Gromov	T. Sadek	Petrunin
♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
2♡	Pass	3♡	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

Had East held four or more hearts, a raise would seem reasonable – but not with three low trumps. There are quite a few losers in that East hand. Still, it was a vulnerable game they were trying for, and South might have had only three hearts. On the lie of the cards, West had no chance. North led the $\Diamond K$ and West eventually lost a club trick and three heart tricks for one down. Egypt was -100 at both tables for a 5-IMP loss.

The first double-digit swing went to Russia on this deal.



With the major-suit jacks lying right for declarer, South could not be prevented from taking nine tricks to record +140. Petrunin had six spades, two hearts and a club trick.

Pass

3♠

West	North	East	South
Kholomeev	A. Sadek	Zlotov	Naguib
		I¢	2♠
3NT	All Pass		

Pass

3♢

All Pass

Zlotov's decision to open the East hand paid off handsomely for his side. Against 3NT, North led the riangle Q, but South could not afford to overtake. It is easy to see that a heart switch would have defeated the contract – if declarer ducks, South wins the king and clears the spade suit while he still has the riangle A as an entry. If declarer rises with the $\heartsuit A$, the defenders can cash four heart tricks when they come in with the riangle A. When declarer ducked the riangle Q lead, however, and South followed with the two, North interpreted the card as suit preference, so he switched to a club. That allowed declarer to get home with 10 tricks for +630. That was 13 IMPs to Russia, who had taken the lead 22-11.

The rest of the set was fairly dull and, although Russia prevailed, it was not by a decisive margin.

LES (DERNIERS) ECHOS DU STADE

Jean-Paul Meyer

BILAN

Nous avons quitté hier après - midi le Stade de France de même que les équipes éliminées de la poule éliminatoire de la Venice Cup et la Bermuda Bowl ont quitté le tournoi avec pour un certain nombre de joueurs l'espoir de redorer leur blason à partir de lundi dans le **Transational** par équipes.

Il est sans doute temps de dresser un premier bilan.

Il y avait 26 pays représentés, seule l'équipe pakistanaise avait déclaré forfait pour des motifs que l'on comprend aisément.Personne ne voudrait abandonner les siens dans un pays troublé et en une période aussi inquiétante dans cette région.

Tous les joueurs présents ont été émus lors de la cérémonie d'ouverture par le discours de José Damiani salué par des applaudissements qui saluaient le courage et la réussite d'un grand organisateur, prenant le 26 septembre l'incroyable pari d'être prêt le 20 octobre pour donner le coup d'envoi à Paris. l'assistance de la fédération française a été pour beaucoup dans la réussite de cet exploit logistique.

Sur le tableau d'affichage du SDF, on a pu voir en lettres de feu s'allumer les scores des rencontres de bridge qui succédait ainsi trois ans plus tard au célèbre 3-0 de France Brésil.

Vous n'en découvrirez malheureusement pas de photographie, la publication impliquerait le paiement d'une redevance de 10000 F au consortium du stade qui semble montrer une évidente propension à ouvrir son tiroir caisse très facilement.

Une conférence de presse proposée par le Président de la fédération mondiale avec la présence de Marc Hodler, Vice -Président du CIO et Jimmy Ortiz-Patino, nous a appris que l'épreuve d'attraction aux Jeux Olympiques d'hiver début février à Salt Lake City consisterait en 3 épreuves une épreuve masculine - et non open - une épreuve féminine, l'une comme



of these Championships, edited by Brian Senior, will by March next year. The price will be US\$30, but any-

one who orders and pays for a copy while here in Paris can have it at a special discount price of **US\$25**, including postage.

The book will include all the best of the action from the Championships, including every board of the finals and semi-finals of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, all the results, players' names, and many photographs. Principle analysts will be Eric Kokish, Brian Senior and Barry Rigal.

To order your copy, please see either Elly Ducheyne in the Press Room or Brian Senior in the Bulletin Room.

l'autre ouverte à huit équipes et une compétition junior proposée à quatre équipes.On connaîtra avant la fin de la semaine les conditions du choix des participants. On a également appris que le nouveau président du CIO, Jacques Rogge, d'abord très réticent, s'était rallié à la cause du bridge.

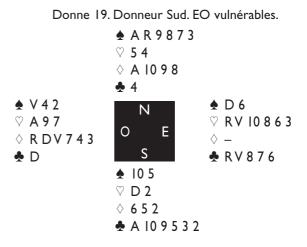
Bons arbitrages = chômage technique du comité d'appel, on est en train de battre un record dans ce championnat. A l'aube du dernier jour des poules, le comité d'appel n'avait été sollicité qu'une seule fois, ce fut d'ailleurs une fois de trop puisque l'argent fut confisqué pour appel frivole.

Coté sportif français, on a apprécié la performance des seniors et surtout le parcours impressionnant de l'équipe féminine, dominatrice dans sa poule. A l'inverse l'équipe open nous a causé bien des frayeurs. Messages d'encouragements sur internet, capitaine, coach, supporters nombreux au rama, avantage du terrain n'ont pas été suffisants pour éviterd' être en danger jusqu'au dernier match, mais nos trois équipes furent admises en deuxième semaine

BIEN JOUE DANS LES DEUX LIGNES

Le match France Brésil vit la reconstitution de la paire Chagas-Branco.

Cependant cela n'évita pas une large défaite des Brésiliens. Nous avons cependant apprécié cette jolie passe d'armes entre le déclarant et la défense.



Sud passa, Multon, Ouest ouvrit d'un carreau, Chagas, Nord intervint à un pique et Quantin, Est, déclara deux cœurs,Sud, Branco déclara trois trèfles Est jouant le contrat final quatre cœurs. Sud entama le 10 de Pique, Nord encaissa as et roi de pique et...

A de nombreuses tables Nord essaya d'encaisser l'As de Carreau avant de donner un éventuel uppercut à Sud, une manœuvre utile si Est possédait un singleton Carreau. Ainsi les problèmes du déclarant étaient simplifiés.

Mais Gabriel Chagas fit un petit calcul, Sud devait avoir exactement six cartes à trèfle pour ne pas avoir ouvert au palier de trois, six cartes à cœur étaient connues en Est enplus des cinq trèfles et des deux piques.Conclusion Est était chicane Carreau, il donna donc un troisième tour de Pique immédiatement.Quantin devina de couper du roi de cœur pour faire l'impasse à la dame sur Sud. Justefait et satisfecit pour la défense et le déclarant

22nd October - 3rd November

WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



Venice Cup

USA II v Israel



With four rounds to go, USA2 were lying ninth and Israel twelfth, but still in touch. This was a crucial match for both teams and Israel in particular could not afford to lose it.

After a string of flat boards, $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Israel}}$ were first on the scoreboard:



Nurit Naveh, Israel

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul. ▲ 10 ♡ Q 2 ◊ K 10 9 8 6 5 ▲ 6 4 3 2 ▲ A 8 7 4 ♡ K 10 9 7 6 5 ◊ 3 2 ▲ K 9 2 ♡ A 8 4 ◊ A 9 5				
West	North	East	South	
Poplilov	Breed	Campanile	Quinn	
		Pass	I \diamond	
Pass	3♢	3♡	All Pass	
West	North	East	South	
Jackson	Naveh	Hamman Pass	Melech I◊	
Pass	2 ♢	Pass	2NT	
Pass	3♢	All Pass		

Mildred Breed's diamond raise was pre-emptive and Migry Campanile judged to compete in her six-card major. Shawn Quinn showed suitable respect for the pre-emptive nature of her partner's raise and went quietly so Campanile declared 3^{\heartsuit} on the lead of ace then jack of diamonds. Campanile ruffed and played a club up, ducked by Quinn. The jack of hearts was covered by queen and king but ducked by Quinn. Campanile played a second club now and Quinn won and exited with a club to dummy. Declarer played a heart to the ten and ace, ruffed the diamond return and drew the last trump before playing on spades; +140.

Nurit Naveh made a simple limit raise in the other room and Hanita Melech tried for game, settling for the partscore when Naveh went back to 3 After a club lead, Melech could lead up to the king of spades to create a discard for dummy's heart loser; +130 and 7 IMPs to Israel.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.			
	♠ 107 ♡6 ◇Q7 ♣KQ		
♠ K Q J 3 ♡ Q 3 ◇ K 10 8 3 : ♣ 9 5	2 2 2 2 2 2 3 2 3 3 5 3 5 4 3 5 4 3 5 4 3 5 4 3 5 4 3 5 4 5 4	C ⇒ A ♣ A 4 2 7 2	J 10 8 5 4 6
West	North	East	South
Poplilov	North Breed	Campanile	South Quinn
Poplilov I ◊	Breed Pass	Campanile I♡	Quinn Pass
Poplilov I ↔	Breed	Campanile I♡ 2♣	Quinn
Poplilov I ↔ I ♠ 2 ◊	Breed Pass Pass Pass	Campanile I♡ 2♣ 3♡	Quinn Pass Pass Pass
Poplilov ↓ ★ 2 ↓ 4 ♡	Breed Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass	Campanile I♡ 2♣	Quinn Pass Pass
Poplilov I ↔ I ♠ 2 ◊	Breed Pass Pass Pass	Campanile I♡ 2♣ 3♡	Quinn Pass Pass Pass
Poplilov ↓ ★ 2 ↓ 4 ♡	Breed Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass	Campanile I♡ 2♣ 3♡	Quinn Pass Pass Pass
Poplilov ↓ ↓ 2 ↓ 4 ♡ 5 ♡	Breed Pass Pass Pass Pass All Pass	Campanile I♡ 2♣ 3♡ 4♠	Quinn Pass Pass Pass Pass
Poplilov I ◆ 2 ◇ 4 ♡ 5 ♡ West	Breed Pass Pass Pass Pass All Pass North	Campanile I♡ 2♣ 3♡ 4♠ East	Quinn Pass Pass Pass Pass South
Poplilov I ♦ I ♠ 2 ◊ 4 ♡ 5 ♡ West Jackson	Breed Pass Pass Pass Pass All Pass North Naveh	Campanile I♡ 2♣ 3♡ 4♠ East Hamman	Quinn Pass Pass Pass Pass South Melech

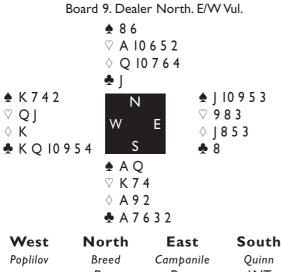
Three No Trump was, of course, an easy make, with Joan Jackson winning the club lead and passing the queen of hearts to establish eleven tricks; +460.

Campanile and Matilda Poplilov explored the hand more thoroughly before stopping just in time in 5 \heartsuit . Quinn led the seven of clubs to the queen and ace and Campanile played ace and another heart, attempting to minimise the danger of a club ruff. Quinn won the second heart and could have beaten the contract by leading her second club and getting a trump promotion via a third club lead. But Quinn switched to a diamond and Cam-

panile had the rest for +480 and 1 IMP to Israel.

A big chance missed by USA2 and errors, I think, by at least two of the participants. Breed had thrown the $\bigstar10$ on the second heart and perhaps Quinn thought that this, as well as denying the \bigstarA , showed diamond values – a low club being the correct discard if looking to encourage that suit. The diamond switch would require that North hold the ace and queen of diamonds, and might not declarer have played differently if looking at two low diamonds and ace other spade? She could, for example, have tried three rounds of spades before drawing trumps.

But declarer was also at fault, because she could have avoided the trump promotion by returning a club at trick two, intending to play to ruff the third round with dummy's three. The point is that the lead of the seven of clubs is not consistent with South holding king to six clubs, so there should be no danger of North over-ruffing the suit.



Poplilov	Breed	Campanile	Quinn
	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2♢	Pass	2♡
Pass All Pass	2NT	Pass	4 ♡
West	North	East	South
Jackson	Naveh	Hamman	Melech
-	2♡	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♢	Pass	40
All Pass			

Breed passed as dealer then transferred and followed an invitational sequence, which Quinn accepted. Poplilov led the king of clubs to the ace and Quinn crossed to the ace of hearts to play a diamond to the nine and king. She ruffed the club return in dummy, drew the remaining trumps and played three more rounds of diamonds. Campanile won her jack but one spade trick was all that was to come for the defence; +420.

Naveh had a weak option available and when she showed her two suits Melech jumped to the heart game, but this time it was played from the other side. Petra Hamman also led a club, however, looking for a ruff. The play record states that Naveh won the ace of clubs, drew trumps in three rounds then played a low diamond from hand, losing to the bare king. She ruffed the club return and laid down the ace of diamonds. From here it appears that there should be no problem in coming to ten tricks but declarer made only nine for down one; -50 and 10 IMPs to USA2. Quinn/Breed were allowed a free run to $2\clubsuit$. Poplilov led the king of clubs to the ace and won Quinn's play of a spade towards the queen to play two more rounds of clubs, Campanile ruffing. From here, it was only a matter of the heart guess for the overtrick after Campanile tried to cash the ace of diamonds. Quinn got the hearts wrong so that was +110.

Pass

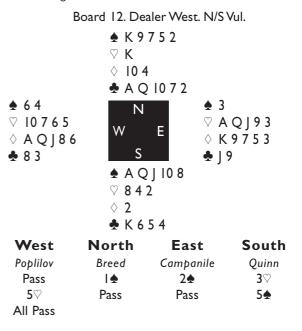
3♠

Pass

3♢

All Pass

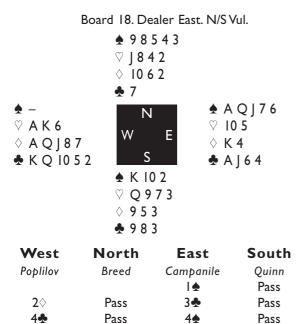
Hamman overcalled at the other table and that enabled Jackson to compete and push Melech to the three level. Here the lead was a diamond, ruffed, and Melech played a spade to the queen, ducked, and a club for the jack and queen. She too got the hearts wrong and was down one for -100 and 5 IMPs to USA2.



West	North	East	South
Jackson	Naveh	Hamman	Melech
Pass	ا 🐣	$I \heartsuit$	♠
2♡	3♠	4 \diamond	4♠
5♡	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Breed's 1♠ opening worked out better than Naveh's 1♣. Campanile showed hearts and another and Quinn a constructive or better spade raise. When Breed was not doubling Poplilov's pre-emptive heart jump, it was clear for Quinn to go on 5♣. Campanile cashed the ace of hearts then switched to a trump, so that was +680 to USA2.

At the other table, the slower start to the auction meant that North and South had both done all their bidding by the time that Jackson competed to 5° . Melech could not know of the ten-card fit, though she had some idea of the double fit. Still, 5° rated to go down while 5^{\bullet} was by no means assured of success, and she settled for taking the money – alas for her, only 100 on this occasion; 11 IMPs to USA2.



All Pass

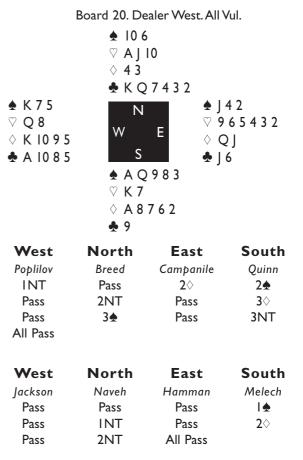
7♣



Joan Jackson, USA

West	North	East	South
Jackson	Naveh	Hamman	Melech
		♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3 📥	Pass	3♡	Pass
4 ♡	Pass	4NT	Pass
6 🙅	All Pass		

The American auction simply did not get the job done and with thirteen tricks available in any of three denominations they languished in $6\clubsuit$ for +940. Once Campanile had rebid $3\clubsuit$, Israel were always going to reach the grand slam; +1440 and 11 IMPs to Israel.



In 2NT, the lead was a heart to the queen and Naveh's ace. She passed the ten of spades to the king and back came a club, on which she played the king. Naveh eventually emerged with ten tricks for +180.

Poplilov's weak no trump created a different scenario in the other room and Breed found herself in game when the partners' respective ranges were difficult to sort out. Still, 3NT could easily be let through so this was an important deal. Campanile rose to the occasion, leading the queen of diamonds through dummy's second suit. Breed ducked but won the second diamond and played a third round. Poplilov won and underled the ace of clubs to Breed's king. After some thought, Breed ran the ten of spades and Poplilov quickly won and cashed out for one off; -100 and 7 IMPs to Israel – enough to win the match by 32-31 IMPs, a 15-15 VP draw.

That result was better for USA2 than for Israel but both teams were still alive in the hunt for a top eight place.

Paris, France

Pas encore équipé ? et pourtant...



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