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THEY'RE ALL FOURS



A group of caddies receive last-minute instructions from Tournament Director Rui Marques (not pictured) in preparation for the start of the Transnational Open Teams.

Each of the three main events is now down to four competitors – the semi-final stage – as the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Seniors Bowl move steadily toward conclusion.

There was not much drama as the quarter-finals wrapped up on Monday. In the Venice Cup there were only two teams playing in the sixth and final set, as Canada, England and USA2 withdrew, trailing by a cumulative 344.8 IMPs.

With 16 deals to play, China trailed the Dutch women by only 10 IMPs, but the final set went to the Netherlands 47-27 to end China's run in the Venice Cup.

No one withdrew in the other two events but, going into the final set of the Bermuda Bowl, the four matches were effectively over.

With two sets to play on Monday, Egypt still had a chance against Sweden, but the Swedes drubbed their opponents 53-6 in the penultimate stanza. That was it for Egypt.

VUGRAPH MATCHES

Venice Cup – Semi-Final – 11.00

France v USA1

Bermuda Bowl – Semi-Final – 14.00

USA1 v USA2

Bermuda Bowl – Semi-Final – 17.00

To Be Decided

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USA2 in the Seniors Bowl was only 13 IMPs behind the Netherlands with 16 boards to play, but they could not generate much action in a low-scoring set (18-13 for the Dutch) and lost by 18 IMPs.

These are the match-ups for the semi-final rounds: Bermuda Bowl, USA1-USA2 and Italy-Sweden; Venice Cup, Germany-Netherlands and France-USA1; Seniors Bowl, Denmark-Indonesia and USA1-Netherlands.

Play in the Transnational Open Teams got underway Monday night. See the Wednesday Daily Bulletin for results and team rosters.



PROGRAMME

Bermuda Bowl

Quarter-finals

Teams		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6	Total	
1	ITALY	INDIA	0 - 2.3	53 - 49	53 - 8	31 - 43	67 - 22	35 - 31	33 - 37	272 - 192.3
2	USA2	ARGENTINA	0 - 4	33 - 20	40 - 46	50 - 28	40 - 24	44 - 32	43 - 44	250 - 198
3	USA1	BRAZIL	9 - 0	40 - 9	24 - 38	16 - 30	55 - 2	57 - 32	42 - 30	243 - 141
4	EGYPT	SWEDEN	0 - 16	30 - 27	18 - 64	54 - 36	28 - 27	6 - 53	21 - 45	157 - 268

Venice Cup

Quarter-finals

Teams		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6	Total	
5	FRANCE	CANADA	15.5 - 0	28 - 36	62 - 7	55 - 9	69 - 20	0 - 0	0 - 0	229.5 - 72
6	CHINA	NETHERLANDS	16 - 0	28 - 10	23 - 28	20 - 71	40 - 33	61 - 61	27 - 47	219 - 250
7	GERMANY	ENGLAND	0 - 3.7	57 - 23	27 - 40	47 - 25	29 - 16	50 - 16	0 - 0	210 - 123.7
8	USA1	USA2	9 - 0	33 - 25	28 - 39	64 - 12	35 - 23	68 - 36	0 - 0	237 - 135

Seniors Bowl

Quarter-finals

Teams		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6	Total	
9	USA1	FRANCE	11 - 0	45 - 14	46* - 48	19 - 9	46 - 31	30 - 15	20 - 14	217 - 131
10	PORTUGAL	INDONESIA	0 - 16	35 - 31	36 - 24	25 - 56	34 - 61	35 - 52	36 - 80	201 - 320
11	USA2	NETHERLANDS	16 - 0	24 - 21	28 - 45	26 - 53	31 - 41	49 - 27	13 - 18	187 - 205
12	DENMARK	ISRAEL	16 - 0	21 - 17	37 - 61	58 - 12	52 - 19	54 - 47	65 - 35	303 - 191

Bermuda Bowl

Semi-finals

Teams		Carry-over	
1	ITALY	SWEDEN	3 - 0
2	USA2	USA1	0 - 5

Venice Cup

Semi-finals

Teams		Carry-over	
3	FRANCE	USA1	16 - 0
4	GERMANY	NETHERLANDS	0 - 16

Seniors Bowl

Semi-finals

Teams		Carry-over	
5	INDONESIA	DENMARK	10.5 - 0
6	USA1	NETHERLANDS	11 - 0

Swan Games
Internet broadcast

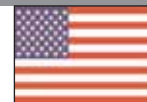
Bermuda Bowl	Italy v Sweden	11.00
Seniors Bowl	Indonesia v Denmark	14.00
	To Be Decided	17.00

QUARTER-FINAL I

Venice Cup

USA1 v USA2

Two For The Road



Jill Levin and Sue Picus, two members of the winning Venice Cup team from 2003, are in Estoril with new team mates trying for another world championship. They were in the line-up, along with Hansa Narasimhan and Irina Levitina, for their quarter-final match against USA2.

There were fireworks on the opening board.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sutherland	Levitina	Allison	Narasimhan
	1♥	Pass	2♥
Dble	3♣	3♠	Pass
4♠	5♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Irina Levitina guessed correctly that there was no way to defeat the spade game, so she took the five-level save. Karen Allison started with the ♠Q, ducked all around. East then played a diamond to the jack and queen. Peggy Sutherland cashed the ♦A before exiting with a club to the jack and ace.



Pam Wittes, USA2

Levitina was soon claiming for minus 500. She would be pleased later to learn that it was a 3-IMP gain.

West	North	East	South
Levin	Mancuso	Picus	Wittes
	1♥	Pass	3♣
Dble	4♥	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

Pam Wittes' 3♣ bid was a constructive heart raise. Against the doubled spade game, Wittes led a heart to Renee Mancuso's king. The club return went to the ten, and Sue Picus followed with the ♠Q, ducked. The ♠J was covered by the king and ace. In hand with the ♣A, Picus played a diamond to the king and ace, followed by the ♠7 to South's ten. Wittes played a club to her partner's king, and Mancuso did the best she could with a second round of hearts, but Picus ruffed with the ♠9, played a diamond to the jack and queen, pulled the last trump and claimed for Plus 590.

USA2 got 3 IMPs back on the next deal.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
Sutherland	Levitina	Allison	Narasimhan
		Pass	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Levitina started with the ♥Q and continued with the king when Sutherland ducked. Levitina cleared the suit with a low heart. Sutherland went to dummy and took a club finesse. After Levitina cashed her winners and exited with a diamond, Sutherland went up with the ♦A and took another club finesse for one down.

West	North	East	South
Levin	Mancuso	Picus	Wittes
		Pass	Pass
1♣	1♥	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Levin's 1♣ was strong, and Picus' 2♥ was game forcing without a long suit. Mancuso led hearts, continuing until the suit was cleared. Levin cashed the ♣A, guarding against the singleton king with North, then entered dummy with a spade to play a club toward the queen. Levin misguessed by putting up the ♣Q, and things got worse from there, Levin finishing three down for Minus 150.

There was some discussion among the vugraph panellists about East's view on the next deal.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

The auction was identical at both tables: 1♦ by West, 1♥ by East, 2♦ by West, all pass – and a cold 3NT was missed. Should East take further action? Does the lack of a diamond fit make a difference? The no trump game was reached once in the Bermuda Bowl, once in the Seniors Bowl and three times in the Venice Cup.

USA1 extended their lead on Board 5.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sutherlin	Levitina	Allison	Narasimhan
	Pass	1♦	Dble
Rdbl	1♥	Dble	1♠
Pass	Pass	INT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Hansa Narasimhan's offshape take-out double put her side in jeopardy – had Allison doubled 1♠ Narasimhan would have been in big trouble, but Allison rescued her with a bid of INT. South started with the ♣8, won in dummy with the queen. Allison cashed the ♦K and ran the jack to Narasimhan's queen. Allison simply did not have the tricks from there, finishing one down.

West	North	East	South
Levin	Mancuso	Picus	Wittes
	Pass	1♦	2♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

There was nothing Wittes could do against the bad club split, and she finished three down for Minus 800. USA1 had upped their lead to 25-3.

USA2 had to settle for a 2-IMP swing on the following deal, but they had a chance for more.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Levin	Mancuso	Picus	Wittes
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Dble	2♥	3♦	All Pass

Levin's take-out double without four-card support for both unbid suits would not be everyone's choice. Picus could not help losing one spade, one heart, two clubs and two diamonds for Minus 200.

West	North	East	South
Sutherlin	Levitina	Allison	Narasimhan
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Dble	2♥	3♦	3♥
All Pass			



Sue Picus, USA1

Sutherland took the same aggressive course that her compatriot had, but Narasimhan came to the rescue of East/West by bidding on.

Sutherland started naturally enough with a low diamond, to the nine, jack and queen. Narasimhan could have assured the contract by playing back a diamond, setting up her $\spadesuit 10$ for a spade discard from dummy, but she played a club to dummy's queen at trick two. A heart went to the queen and Sutherland's king, and she correctly switched to spades, but her choice was the queen – the $\heartsuit A$ followed by the queen would have made things easier for her partner.

Narasimhan went up with dummy's $\spadesuit K$, pulled trumps and played a diamond to the king. Allison won with the ace, but instead of playing a spade she got out with a diamond. One of dummy's losing spades went on the good $\diamond 10$ in the South hand.

USA2 had rallied to take a 25-22 lead in the set (although they still trailed because of the 9-IMP carryover), but the penultimate deal produced a significant swing for USA1.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

\spadesuit K 4 2 \heartsuit A K J 8 7 2 \diamond Q 2 \clubsuit K 10	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	\spadesuit Q J 7 \heartsuit 4 \diamond K J 10 9 6 3 \clubsuit Q 5 4	\spadesuit 6 \heartsuit 10 9 5 \diamond A 8 7 5 \clubsuit J 8 6 3 2
N						
W E						
S						

West <i>Sutherland</i>	North <i>Levitina</i>	East <i>Allison</i>	South <i>Narasimhan</i>
			Pass
1 \spadesuit	2 \heartsuit	2 \spadesuit	3 \heartsuit
3 \spadesuit	4 \heartsuit	All Pass	

Allison led the $\spadesuit Q$ to her partner's ace. Levitina put up the queen when Sutherland switched to a diamond. Levitina won with the $\diamond A$ and played a club from dummy. Sutherland rose with the $\clubsuit A$ and played heart, taken by Levitina with the ace. She cashed the $\clubsuit K$, ruffed a spade in dummy and ruffed a club, felling the queen. She got to dummy by ruffing her good $\spadesuit K$ and discarded a diamond on the $\clubsuit J$. Levitina had to ruff a club winner at the end and give Sutherland a trump trick, but that was 10 tricks in for Plus 620.

West <i>Levin</i>	North <i>Mancuso</i>	East <i>Picus</i>	South <i>Wittes</i>
			Pass
1 \spadesuit	2 \heartsuit	3 \heartsuit	Pass
4 \spadesuit	All Pass		

Levin had to lose one trick in each suit, but it was still an 11-IMP win for USA1. The set ended with USA1 ahead 42-25, including carryover

Playing From Hunger

by Barry Rigal

Or ... faster than the eye can see.

Ramadan requires the devout Muslim not to eat between sunrise and sunset. Walid El Ahmady seems to be thriving in this unorthodox approach to bridge – this is the second year in a row that the Egyptians have reached the final stages of a world championship (the Bermuda Bowl).

This deal occurred in Egypt's Bermuda Bowl match against the Netherlands in Round 20.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

\spadesuit J 10 5 4 \heartsuit A 6 5 \diamond K J 10 9 2 \clubsuit J	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	\spadesuit A 9 7 3 \heartsuit K Q 10 7 3 \diamond 6 \clubsuit K 6 2	\spadesuit K 2 \heartsuit 8 4 2 \diamond Q 7 5 4 \clubsuit 9 7 5 3
N						
W E						
S						

El Ahmady, North, reached 3NT after a 1 \heartsuit overcall by Louk Verhees, East. El Ahmady won the opening lead of the $\heartsuit K$ with the ace – most players would duck, incorrectly as it happens on this layout. A club switch after two rounds of hearts will sink the contract. But such a defense, of course, is just about impossible to find without a peek at North's hand.

In any event, El Ahmady played the $\diamond J$ to the ace and ran the $\diamond 8$, then took three more diamonds. Verhees did the best he could, discarding deceptively – pitching a club, a spade and a heart to reach this position:

\spadesuit K 2 \heartsuit 4 2 \diamond – \clubsuit 9 7 5 3	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	\spadesuit A 9 7 \heartsuit Q 10 7 \diamond – \clubsuit K 6	\spadesuit J 10 5 4 \heartsuit 6 5 \diamond 9 \clubsuit J
N						
W E						
S						

On the last diamond, Verhees discarded the $\spadesuit 9$, trying to look like a man still holding three clubs and a singleton $\spadesuit A$. Now declarer had a losing option: he could finesse in clubs, then exit with a spade to the hoped-for singleton ace, and take the $\clubsuit A Q$ at the end.

But El Ahmady had not come all the way to Estoril to mis-guess the ending: he played the $\clubsuit J$ to dummy's queen, cashed the ace, felling the king, and claimed his game for Plus 400.

MESSAGE TO ALL WOMEN PLAYERS

Anna Maria Torlontano

Chairman of the WBF Women's Committee

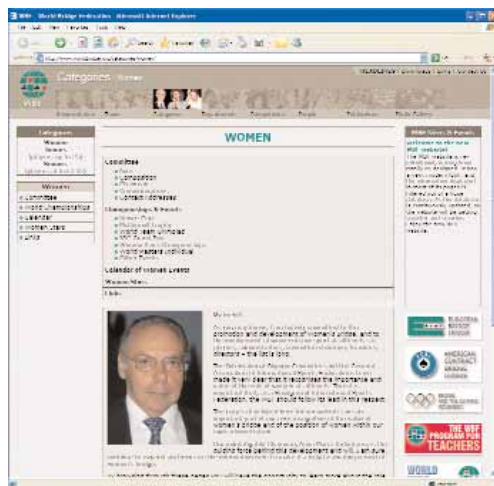
Dear Friends,

I have some very good news for you!

As you know, the World Bridge Federation has its own web site at www.worldbridge.org. What you may not realise is that, within the site, we have built a special section about Women's Bridge.

There are various sections:

- Message from the WBF President, José Damiani
- Composition of the WBF Women's Committee (clicking on each name will tell you more about each of them)
- Contact addresses
- Chairman's communications
- World Championships and Events, specifically for the Women Players.
- Calendar of Women Events
- Women Administrators in each zone
- Women Directors (Top Class) credited by WBF
- Women Teachers: in a short while the official register of the Teachers credited by WBF, will be published
- WBF WOMEN STARS. This is a special area in which you can find biographies, information and pictures of distinguished Women Players, great personalities, both of today and yesterday



Their lives and positions in Bridge, their successes, their love and devotion to this marvellous sport, serve to show and teach us what it means to have been a GREAT CHAMPION in Bridge History. Information is also provided on today's 10 Top Women Grand Masters; these are players who



have achieved and continue to achieve important results in the Tournament World.

All the Sections will be continuously updated.

PLEASE VISIT OUR SITE: www.worldbridge.org and in the section "Categories", please click on "WOMEN".

TAKE THIS DAILY BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU OR WRITE DOWN THE ADDRESS.

The WBF Women Committee is working very hard to keep you informed about what happens in our "Women's Bridge World".



Wbridge5 was the big winner in the Computer Bridge Championship, defeating Jack in the final. The developer of Wbridge5 is Yves Costel, far right in the photo, taken during the tournament. Next to him is Mike Whitaker, creator of Blue Chip Bridge, one of the other competitors.

Calling All Journalists

The IBPA Annual General Meeting and Annual Press Awards will be held on Wednesday November 2nd at 9 a.m. in the WBF meeting room (balcony floor).

Fancy a Flutter

You are welcome to visit the Casino – all you need to do is show your badge and some form of identity.

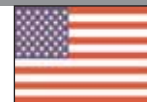


QUARTER-FINAL 2

Bermuda Bowl

Brazil v USAI

by Mark Horton



When the second session of the quarter-final got under way Brazil needed to score some points, otherwise they were in danger of being out of contention almost before the match had started.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A K 10 3		♠ Q 9 8 7 5									
♥ A K 10 8 6		♥ J									
♦ 7 4 3		♦ K J 9 6									
♣ A		♣ 9 3 2									
♠ J 4	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><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		♠ 6 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ Q 7 5 2		♥ 9 4 3									
♦ A 10 2		♦ Q 8 5									
♣ K Q J 6		♣ 10 8 7 5 4									

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Villas-Boas	Rodwell	Chagas	Meckstroth
1♣	Dbl	1♠	Pass
INT	2♥	2♠	Pass
Pass	4♥	All Pass	3♥



Pedro Paulo Branco, Brazil

You can be pretty sure that you will get value for money when Meckwell are on vugraph. Here South's raise to Three Hearts left nothing unsaid and saw Rodwell press on to a hopeless game.

East led the jack of hearts, and declarer won and played three rounds of spades, ruffing with the nine of hearts. West overruffed and switched to the king of clubs. Declarer won and drew trumps, but was two down; -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	M.Branco	Nickell	P.Branco
1♣	Dble	Pass	Pass
INT	2♥	1♠	Pass
		All Pass	

East led the two of clubs, and declarer won and played three rounds of spades, ruffing the third round low. West overruffed and played the king of clubs. Declarer ruffed, cashed a top heart and ruffed a spade. West overruffed, but declarer could claim; +110 and 7 IMPs for Brazil.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 10 9 3		♠ Q J 5									
♥ A Q 6 5 3		♥ 7 4									
♦ A J 9		♦ K 8 3 2									
♣ J 3		♣ Q 7 4 2									
♠ A 8 2	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><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		♠ K 7 6 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 10 9 8 2		♥ K J									
♦ Q 6		♦ 10 7 5 4									
♣ K 8 6 5		♣ A 10 9									

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Villas-Boas	Rodwell	Chagas	Meckstroth
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♦*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	All Pass	2♥

If I heard the explanation correctly, Two Diamonds was a one-round force (Two Clubs would have been forcing to game). Meckwell have made a living from bidding games on minimum values, so it was a surprise to the audience when they stopped short.

East's lead of the two of diamonds was covered by the four, queen and ace, and declarer unblocked the hearts and played a diamond to the jack. East won and switched to the queen of spades, covered by the king and ace. West returned a spade and East won and played a third round, at point declarer claimed the rest; +180.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	M.Branco	Nickell	P.Branco
			Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the two of clubs, and West won and returned the suit. Declarer's ten was allowed to hold and he crossed to dummy with a heart to play diamond to the jack. East won and switched to the queen of spades, for the king and ace. The defenders could get another spade trick but declarer had the rest; +400 and another 6 Brazilian IMPs.

Brazil were leading the session 14-3 but then suffered as Meckstroth unleashed another thunderbolt – and was backed up to perfection by his partner.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Villas-Boas	Rodwell	Chagas	Meckstroth
			2♦*
2NT	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

South's emaciated opening eventually got spades into the picture and enabled North to take a two-way shot. Four Spades might make, or be a good save against Four Hearts.

A diamond lead would result in a quick one down – West wins and returns the suit, while a heart lead also leaves declarer with too much to do.

However, to the consternation of the sizeable Brazilian contingent, East led the six of clubs. Now, provided declarer could pick his way through the minefield, he could not be defeated.

West won the ace of clubs, cashed the ace of diamonds and switched to the six of hearts. Declarer won and played a spade to the queen and ace, East discarding the six of hearts. West switched to the four of diamonds and the last critical point had been reached. East had discouraged on the ace of diamonds, so the finesse was a valid option. But declarer went up with the king, discarded a diamond on the king of clubs, ruffed a diamond and took the marked spade finesse for +790.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	M.Branco	Nickell	P.Branco
			Pass
INT	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

East/West were given a free run to the heart game. North led a low spade, and declarer ruffed and ran the jack of hearts. North won and played another spade, and declarer ruffed and took the heart finesse, drew the last trump and played a low diamond. When North produced the king declarer could claim; +620 and 16 IMPs.

After a series of deals where neither side could claim any advantage, Brazil gave their cheering section cause to celebrate with two big swings.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Villas-Boas	Rodwell	Chagas	Meckstroth
	Pass	Pass	3♥
Dble	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

Five Clubs was easy. North led the king of hearts, and South overtook it and cashed the queen – but declarer then claimed; +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	M.Branco	Nickell	P.Branco
	Pass	Pass	3♥
Dble	Pass	4♠	All Pass

It was suggested on vugraph that if you double Three Hearts with the West hand it is because you are intending to bid Five Clubs over Four Spades, but that was not West's choice at this table. South led the four of diamonds, and declarer won in dummy and cashed the ace of spades. The appearance of South's nine gave declarer pause for thought, but he decided to play a spade to the king – and could no longer make the contract. He tried three rounds of clubs but North ruffed and the defenders took two hearts and switched to a diamond. Declarer can escape – if that is the right word – for one down by taking the king and playing a winning club, but he finessed and was two down; –200 and 13 IMPs for Brazil.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Villas-Boas</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>
1♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
		4♥	All Pass

Having discovered a spade fit, Chagas was happy to bid game in his powerful suit. The defenders started with two rounds of diamonds, and declarer ruffed and drew trumps in three rounds. He started spades by playing low to the queen, but the contract was secure; +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>M.Branco</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>P.Branco</i>
1♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass	3NT*	Pass

3NT must have some conventional significance – Tacchi says in Vaupillon it shows two minor-suit singletons – but, although I cannot find it on the convention card, it must have shown spades.

North led a club, and declarer took the ace and ruffed a club. He cashed dummy's top hearts discarding diamonds, and ruffed a heart with the eight of spades. When North discarded the two of diamonds declarer ruffed a club with the five of spades and South overruffed. He exited with a diamond, and declarer ruffed and played a club. North discarded the jack of diamonds, and declarer ruffed with the king of spades and played a heart, ruffed in turn by South, West and North. North's trump exit meant one down; -50.

At the point where declarer played a winning club he can prevail by simply discarding a heart. South ruffs and plays a diamond, but declarer ruffs in hand, plays a club and makes two more tricks however North plays.

It's too late at night to decide if declarer had any reason to follow that line – the bottom line was that Brazil had another 10 IMPs and kept their hopes alive.

Quote of the Day

"We must make sure that bridge will not be like a dead language, very interesting, but for a very small group."

Case Closed

by David Berkowitz

Watching board 10 – Bermuda Bowl, third set – on vugraph could drive an analyst to drink.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	7♣	Pass	5NT
?		Pass	7♦

First of all, after the above auction, should Fred Gitelman (West) double with a spade void?

He did not and was soon Minus 2140 for a spectacular push.

Barnet Shenkin and I were speculating what South should do if 7♦ doubled got back to him. Originally, we thought he should run to 7♠, playing partner for one spade.

Then we thought, heck, he should redouble, after all, how will the opponents know to lead a spade? Case closed.

Almost closed. What if the opening leader had both rounded-suit kings? Then he would know South's suit was spades and he would lead one, so South should run. Case closed.

Almost closed. How should South know his partner has a spade? It must be a guess. Case closed.

Almost closed. We now get to the crux of the matter. North is looking at a spade void and the ♥A. He knows that partner has spades and that there is a double void. It is North who must redouble to spare South the guess.

Case closed.

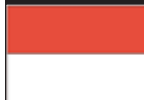
WBF Press Conference

The WBF is to hold a Press Conference on Friday November 4th at 11.30 a.m., followed by a light lunch, also in the WBF meeting room. Please register by Thursday in the Press Room for the lunch.

QUARTER-FINAL 4

Seniors Bowl

Indonesia v Portugal



Midway through their 96-board quarter-final encounter, the Indonesian Seniors team led the host nation, Portugal, by 127-96, useful but not yet decisive. The Portuguese struck early in the fourth session.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Debonnaire</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Teixeira</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	INT	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Pinto</i>
	INT	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			



Munawar Sawiruddin, Indonesia

Henky Lasut opened 1♦, Precision, then rebid INT, over which Eddy Manoppo made a game-forcing enquiry and discovered North's club suit. Had he now tried 3♦, slam might well have been reached, but he was facing a weak no trump and had weak diamonds, so contented himself with a raise to the no trump game. Lasut ducked the opening heart lead but won the second round, perforce. He tested the spades, then unblocked the clubs. When he next played a low diamond, the appearance of the king meant twelve tricks for +490.

Juliano Barbosa opened a 12-14 no trump and Rui Pinto transferred then bid his second suit, game-forcing. When Barbosa not only raised diamonds but did so via a 4♣ cuebid, Pinto drove to slam. In spite of the bad breaks in spades and diamonds, twelve tricks were comfortable; +920 and 10 IMPs to Portugal, closing to 106-127.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Debonnaire</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Teixeira</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
		Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Pinto</i>
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	2NT	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

Manoppo's 3♠ opening looks normal to me, as does Lasut's raise – 3NT is too dangerous, requiring either a second diamond stopper or the ♣A from partner. Jose Antonio Debonnaire led a low diamond and Manoppo chose to play low, losing to the king. Back came the singleton club. Manoppo won in dummy and correctly cashed the top hearts, throwing the ace of clubs from hand to avoid the risk of a ruff. Now he played a spade to the queen and ace, when I would have thought low to the nine might be better, won the diamond return in dummy, ruffed a heart to hand and led the ♠J, pinning the ten; +620.

Pinto opened 1♠ then jumped to 4♠ at his next turn. It is hardly surprising that this combination convinced Barbosa

that it would be worth his while to look for a slam, but 5♠ was, of course, one too high; -100 and 12 IMPs to Indonesia. The lead was back up to 139-106.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Debonnaire</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Teixeira</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
Pass	2♦	Dble	2♥
Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Pinto</i>
Pass	3♥	Dble	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	All Pass

What would be your choice with the North hand? You are vulnerable and 7-2-2-2, both of which suggest the more cautious option, but I like the strong heart suit sufficiently that I would opt for a 3♥ opening, as did Barbosa. It didn't matter, as both Easts eventually declared 4♠.

Both Souths led their singleton heart to the jack and ace.



Indonesia v Portugal on the vugraph

Munawar Sawiruddin immediately played a diamond to the king, back to the ace and a third diamond. Barbosa ruffed his partner's winner to play two rounds of hearts, but declarer could ruff high, cash a top trump, ruff his last diamond with the ten and play a spade to hand. After drawing the last trump, he led towards the ♣K for his contract; +620.

Carlos Spinola Teixeira played a club at trick two. Manoppo took the ace and switched to a trump for the nine and queen. Teixeira played a diamond to the king then a diamond back to the ... nine. Manoppo won and gave his partner a diamond ruff. Lasut cashed a heart for down one; -100 and 12 IMPs to Indonesia, stretching the lead to 152-106.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Debonnaire</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Teixeira</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	2♠	Dble
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Pinto</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Neither East could stomach a weak 2♠ opening in second seat, even at favourable vulnerability, but Teixeira was happy to make a weak jump overcall after the strong-club opening and negative response. Manoppo's double then 3♥ combination sounds stronger than an immediate 3♥ call, but Lasut hated his lack of either a heart fit or a spade stopper more than he liked his 5 HCP so passed out 3♥. Manoppo lost two black aces and the ♥Q; +170.

Pinto's strong and artificial 2♣ opening meant that there was less pre-emptive value to a call with the East cards, so the Portuguese pair were left unmolested and reached the inevitable 3NT. Sawiruddin tried to find his partner's suit by leading a club, won in the strong hand as Denny Sacul, West, ducked. Pinto tried the queen of spades and Sacul took the ace to continue with a low club to dummy's queen. Pinto passed the ten of hearts to the queen, so Sacul cashed two club winners but declarer had the rest; +600 and 10 IMPs to Portugal. That made it 152-116 in favour of Indonesia.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
<i>Debonnaire</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Teixeira</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
		2♥	3♦
3♠	Pass	4♥	All Pass
West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Pinto</i>
		1♣	4♦
4♠	5♦	5♥	All Pass

Pinto jumped on Sawaruddin's strong-club opening by preempting a level higher than is probably technically correct. Sawiruddin could hardly not go on to 5♥ over 5♦ but that contract had no chance of success. Pinto cashed a top diamond then switched to a spade to Barbosa's queen. Back came a diamond, ruffed. Sawiruddin tried three rounds of clubs but Pinto could ruff in with the ten in front of dummy for one down; -100.

Teixeira could open with a strong but not game-forcing natural two bid, and now there was little point in Manoppo overpre-empting, even were that his style. Teixeira was allowed to play in 4♥ and Manoppo had to find the defence to flatten the board. No problem! Manoppo cashed a top diamond then switched to the five of hearts. Teixeira won in hand and played three rounds of clubs. Manoppo ruffed with the ten and switched to the nine of spades to Lasut's queen. The trump return left declarer with a club to lose at the end; very nicely defended for down one, -100 and a flat board.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
<i>Debonnaire</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Teixeira</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
Pass	1♠	2♥	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Pinto</i>
Pass	1♠	2♥	2♠
3♣	4♠	Dble	All Pass

Sacul's 3♣ bid tempted Sawiruddin to double the final contract of 4♠. He led a club, so Barbosa won with the ace, pitching a heart from hand, then ran the ten of diamonds to the king. This was the last chance for the defence. Alas for Indonesia, Sawiruddin did not find the heart switch, instead returning a second club. Barbosa ruffed and played a trump. Sacul won with the ace of spades and played back a diamond, but Barbosa could finesse the nine, draw trumps and play a heart towards the king; ten tricks for +590.

Lasut also threw a heart on the ace of clubs at trick one, then played a spade to the king, followed by a second spade to the ace. Debonnaire returned the ♦6 and Lasut, aware of the danger of a heart ruff, rose with the ace to take out the last trump. He cashed an extra round of trumps then led a heart up. Teixeira took the ace of hearts and exited with a club. Lasut ruffed, crossed to the king of hearts, and led the ♦10 off the table. When Debonnaire covered with the jack, Lasut played for that to have been a serious misdefence and played low from hand, hoping to drop a doubleton king on his left. That cost him a second undertrick as the jack held the trick and his last trump was forced out, leaving Teixeira with the last two tricks; -100 and 12 IMPs to Portugal, who trailed by 129-152 midway through the set.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
<i>Debonnaire</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Teixeira</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
			Pass
1♠	4♦	4♠	5♦
5♠	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Pinto</i>
			Pass
1♠	5♦	5♠	6♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Lasut's 4♦ pre-empt was sufficient to push his opponents to the five level when Manoppo could compete with 5♦. Lasut led his heart and Debonnaire won in dummy, picked up the trumps, then cashed the hearts and gave up a club; +480.

Barbosa pre-empted a level higher and his partner went on to 6♦ over 5♠. Sacul left the decision to Sawiruddin who, with such a lack of controls, had no reason to imagine that his side could make twelve tricks. He doubled and normal defence resulted in down three for -500 and 1 IMP to Indonesia; 154-130.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Debonnaire</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Teixeira</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
2NT	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
4NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
		6♦	Pass



Juliano Barbosa, Portugal

7♠	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Pinto</i>
	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Dble	Pass	Pass
Rdbl	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♦	Pass	6♠	All Pass

Seven Spades is a little below par, and Portugal were heavily punished for their optimism when there proved to be an unavoidable trump loser; +1430 and +100 to Indonesia and 17 IMPs to stretch their lead to 171-130.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Debonnaire</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Teixeira</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Pinto</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Pinto led a diamond to the king and ace, and Sawiruddin ruffed a diamond then played three rounds of clubs, pitching his heart loser when Barbosa ruffed in with the jack. The defence could only come to one diamond and one trump from here; +620.

At the other table Manoppo led the ace of hearts then switched to a club. It was open to declarer to follow essentially the same line as we have just seen, but Teixeira chose what certainly looks to be an inferior alternative – quite apart from the result. He won the ♣Q and played a spade to the king and ace. Manoppo's club return ensured the defeat of the contract. Teixeira won the ace and tried to take a pitch on the ♣J. When Lasut ruffed in with the jack, he over-ruffed and so was left with two diamonds and a trump to lose; two down for -200 and 13 IMPs to Indonesia.

The Indonesians won the set by 61-34 and would go into the final 32 deals with a healthy 188-130 advantage.

First, Second or Third Trick?

by Phillip Alder

Some deals escape notice because the cards lay in such a way that the declarers stood no chance. Geoffrey Foster-Taylor, a friend from England, sent me an e-mail suggesting that on this deal the declarer on the vugraph had erred. See what you think.

Board 2. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ K Q 9 8

♥ 10 5 2

♦ A 6 2

♣ 10 9 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 7 5

♥ A 9 6

♦ Q 3

♣ A Q 8 5 2

By one uncontested route or another, South ends up in 3NT. (The deal has been rotated for convenience.)

West leads the king of hearts. What is your basic plan?

For once, it is no good peeking at the full deal because that will tell you that your contract is no-play. But what is the best line?

This was the layout:

Board 2. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ K Q 9 8

♥ 10 5 2

♦ A 6 2

♣ 10 9 4

♠ J 4 2

♥ K Q J 8 4

♦ 9 8 7

♣ K 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 7 5

♥ A 9 6

♦ Q 3

♣ A Q 8 5 2

♠ 10 6 3

♥ 7 3

♦ K J 10 5 4

♣ J 7 3

Most declarers ducked until the third round of hearts, went into the dummy and either ran the ten of clubs or played low to the queen. (One cannot help thinking that winning the second heart is better because East might have king-doubleton of clubs, when one can do an avoidance play – but read on.) The only pair to go plus were P.O. Sundelin (North) and Johan Sylvan. They open 14-16 notrumps, and Sundelin understandably did not try for game.

If the hearts are 4-3, you just need to avoid two club losers. But if hearts are 5-2, you must establish the clubs without letting West win a trick.

There seem to be two possibilities.

If you duck the first two tricks and West has no semblance of an entry, he might shift to a diamond. Given the relatively weak dummy, I think that that is unlikely.

If you can score four club tricks without letting West in, you ought to win the second heart trick. If you duck twice and East has king-doubleton of clubs, it might occur to him to discard that king at trick three, giving West an entry with his jack-third. So, take the second heart, lead a spade to the dummy, and call for a low club, putting in the queen if East plays low. Assuming that wins, return to dummy with another spade and ask for a club. If East plays low or the jack, win with the ace and continue with a third round. (If East started with king-jack-fourth of clubs, you are still all right if you can guess who holds the king of diamonds.) But if East plays the king of clubs, duck from hand.

Who played like this? The records do not say what Jens Auken (Denmark Seniors) or Alfredo Versace (Italy Bermuda Bowl) did. But three players followed the recommended line given above: Michelle Brunner (England Venice Cup), Jill Levin (U.S.A.1 Venice Cup) and Guillermo Mooney (Argentina Bermuda Bowl).

Transport options to Lisbon airport

By Train

From Estoril or Cascais train station to Cais do Sodre train station (terminal) and from there by bus or by taxi. Outside the train station at Cais Sodre there is taxi service, or take Bus 44 or Bus 45, both with stops at the Lisbon airport.



By Bus



Departing from the bus stops by the Estoril train station, using Scott Urb bus direct to the Lisbon airport. This bus operates daily from 6:13 a.m. and every hour until 7:13 p.m. After the departure at 7:13 p.m., there are another two at 8:58 p.m. and 9:55 p.m. The price of the ticket is 8 Euros.

By Taxi

Order at hotel reception. From Estoril to the Lisbon airport can cost between 30 Euros and 45 Euros.

Note that you should leave enough time for the journey, which can take more than an hour in congested traffic.

Delegations preferring private transport should contact Top Atlantico in the lobby of the convention centre. Please do so well in advance.

The Ecstasy, The Agony – And The Sigh Of Relief

by Sheri Winestock

Any non-playing captain or coach will tell you that it is much more stressful to watch the results coming into the vugraph theatre than it is to play. Depending on whether or not you have been in one of these positions, you may or may not believe them.

Sitting in the vugraph theatre watching the Closed Room on Bridge Base Online, Steve Landen and I (captain and coach, respectively, of USA2 in the Bermuda Bowl) say this deal.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ – ♥ A 6 4 3 ♦ A K 9 8 3 2 ♣ Q J 2	N W E S	♠ Q 7 5 4 ♥ Q 8 5 2 ♦ 6 4 ♣ K 10 8	♠ A K J 10 9 8 6 3 2 ♥ – ♦ Q 7 5 ♣ A
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West	North <i>Ekeblad</i>	East	South <i>Rubin</i>
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	7♦
All Pass			

Here is what the bidding means:

1♣ = strong, artificial and forcing.

1♠ = game forcing with at least 6-4 distribution.

1NT = relay.

2♣ = six-card minor.

2♦ = relay.

3♣ = six diamonds and four hearts.

4♦ = sets trumps and asks North how he likes his hand, trumps and whether maximum or minimum.

4NT = Likes hand, likes trumps, 0 or 3 controls, including the trump king.

5♣ = asks about the trump queen or a seventh trump.

5♦ = negative response.

7♦ = this is our spot.

With our deft analysis, we immediately noted that 7♦ was the only grand slam that could be made. We were delighted to watch Russ Ekeblad and Ron Rubin bid to 7♦.

As we watched for the board to be played in the Open Room and noticing many Minus 100s in the other matches, we planned our submission for the best-bid-hand contest.

Alas, Walter Fornasari (North) and Luis Palazzo (South) for

Argentina reached the grand on this most efficient auction.

West	North	East	South
		Pass	2♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	5NT
Pass	7♣	Pass	7♦
All Pass			

Fred Gitelman (West) did have a chance to double 7♦ with his spade void. Of course, declarer can overruff. Still, the speculation by the vugraph commentators was that double may have influenced South to run to 7♠. There was no double, so we will never know.

Our speculation was that South should know that Brad Moss (East) would almost certainly not be able to get the opening lead right, since Moss could have at most four spades, in which case North was also void, and with three or fewer spades (when a spade lead would sink the contract), he would surely lead from a different, longer suit.

Redouble, therefore, is clear! So Fred's pass allowed us to escape a loss of 11 IMPs. Is that stressful? You be the judge.

Curse Or Destiny?

Marc Lachapelle, NPC (Canadian Seniors Team)

The Canadian Seniors team, which has been generously sponsored by Air France (Canada), started the event in a roller-coaster fashion: up on the first five rounds, and then down big time for the next six! They finally picked up some momentum with a solid win against the Italians in the twelfth round, from then managing to win six in a row.

Expectations were running high, until they met... France. The French team played solid bridge and gladly accepted all the gifts the Canadian boys had brought for their 'cousins'! The French squad left the table with a crushing victory of 25-2, hence providing to the stunned Canucks a much undesired quicker way back home!

The Canadians just couldn't recover. Curse or destiny? They will never know for sure, but one thing is certain: no matter the result, they were all thrilled to play Estoril 2005, and thankful to the WBF and Air France (Canada) for having the chance to participate in this wonderful event.

Transnational Open Teams Notice

Players in the Transnational Open Teams MUST complete a WBF Convention Card and bring two copies to the table, one for each opponent. Blank copies of the card are available from the Convention Card Desk.

The Transnational Open Teams is a Category 3 event and no HUM or Brown Sticker Conventions are allowed. Copies of the definitions are also available at the Systems Desk.

Artificial systems must be fully described, using the Convention Card and Supplementary Sheets if necessary. In particular, conventions and treatments that require defensive preparation should be listed on the front of the Card and fully described either inside, or in the Supplementary Sheets.

Players are reminded that these are short matches, so excessively artificial methods are undesirable, and Red Systems are not permitted unless they were pre-registered by 15 August.

John Wignall

Chairman, WBF Systems Committee

Sports News

Cricket



India won their third straight one-day international against Sri Lanka. The Sri Lankans posted a competitive total of 298-4, but India strolled past that target, reaching 303-6 with nearly four overs to spare. M.S. Dhoni hit an Indian record ten sixes in his 183 not out from 145 balls.

Ice Hockey – NHL

Ottawa Senators 3-5 Philadelphia Flyers; Anaheim Mighty Ducks 3-2 Phoenix Coyotes.



Soccer

Brazilian Campeonato: Atletico Mineiro 1-3 Palmeiras; Atletico Paranaense 2-1 Parana; Corinthians 1-1 Vasco; Santos 1-2 Cruzeiro; Brasiliense 0-0 Botafogo; Fluminense 4-3 Ponte Preta; Sao Caetano 0-1 Sao Paulo.



American Football

Chicago 19-13 Detroit; Arizona 13-34 Dallas; Green Bay 14-21 Cincinnati; Oakland 34-25 Tennessee; Jacksonville 21-24 St. Louis; Washington 0-36 NY Giants; Cleveland 16-19 Houston; Kansas City 20-28 San Diego; Miami 21-6 New Orleans; Tampa Bay 10-15 San Francisco; Philadelphia 21-49 Denver; Buffalo 16-21 New England.



Tennis



Justine Henin-Hardenne has confirmed that she will not play in the Los Angeles Masters next week as she strives to recover full fitness. The French Open champion has been beset by illness and injury, and last played at the start of October in Filderstadt when she lost in the first round.

Transnational Schedule

(Swiss Teams - 10-Board Matches)

Tuesday 1 November

10.00 - 11.30	Match 3
12.00 - 13.30	Match 4
14.00 - 15.30	Match 5
16.00 - 17.30	Match 6
18.00 - 19.30	Match 7

World Championship Book 2005



The Official World Championship Book 2005, of these championships in Estoril, will be available next March. As always, we offer a substantial discount to anyone who would like to order and pay for their copy while at the championships.

On publication, the price will be US\$33 per copy plus postage. For the duration of these championships, you can order the book for US\$25 or Euros20, including postage (surface mail) to anywhere in the world. To order your copy, please see Jan Swaan in the Press Room on the ground floor of the building.



Principal analysts will be Eric Kokish, Barry Rigal and Brian Senior. There will be a complete listing of teams playing in all four championships, plus a full results listing and many photographs. Kokish will cover every board of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup finals and there will be substantial coverage of the earlier stages, plus enhanced coverage of the Seniors Bowl and the best of the action from the Transnational Teams.