



World Bridge Productions Presents the **C**♠**avendish**^{wbp} Invitational

Bulletin Number 3

Friday, May 9, 2003

Editor: Rich Colker
Contributing Editor: Barry Rigal

Johnson Wins 2003 John “Jocco” Roberts Teams

The team captained by **Perry Johnson** (Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Eric Greco, Jeff Hampson) took their revenge on the Malcolm Brachman team, which had scored 87 out of the 90 VPs available on Wednesday evening to take the lead after two sessions, by scoring 76 out of the 90 VPs available in the final session to rack up 201 VPs and breeze to victory in the 2003 John “Jocco” Roberts Teams. **Brachman** (Mike Passell, Eddie Wold, Claudio Nunes, Fulvio Fantoni) finished second with 166 VPs while the **Rose Meltzer** team (Peter Weichsel, Alan Sontag, Kyle Larsen, Chip Martel, Lou Stansby) held on to third place with 162 VPs. The Reese Milner team (Sam Lev, Piotr Gawrys, Krzysztof Jassem, Bob Blanchard, Marc Jacobus) finished fourth with 157 VPs. The match-by-match results and final overall standings can be found on page 3.



Winners of the 2003 Teams: Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco, Perry Johnson, Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell

Pairs Auction Falls Just Short of \$1M



For the first time in six years (the last time was 1997) the total for the Cavendish Pairs auction dipped under the \$1M mark (see page 4 for the auction details), coming in at \$973K, only \$27K shy of the magic number. Auctioneers George Jacobs, Chris Compton, Zia Mahmood and Bob Hamman did their best to beg, cajole and intimidate bidders to loosen their purse strings and reach the seven-digit goal, but this year's reduced number of pairs (50, down from 60 last year) as well as the general state of the economy were cited by some as contributing to the decline. Still, \$973K ain't so bad when it comes right down to it—is it?



Conditions of Contest: Expansions and Clarifications

In general, it is our intent to allow methods with which other contestants are expected to be familiar. It is also our intent to allow reasonable artificiality in auctions where the bidding side has guaranteed sufficient (high-card) values to invite game. Along with the new "prize-pool only" team format this year there will be no minimum play requirement for individuals; however, teams should make certain that all team members are listed on the entry before play commences. If you have any questions about your own or your opponents' methods, the person to see is Barry Rigal.

Schedule

Day/Date	Time	Activity	Location
Friday, May 9	12:30 PM	1 st Session, Pairs	Montego ABC
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, Pairs	Montego ABC
Saturday, May 10	10:30 AM	WBP Brunch	St. Croix
	11:00 AM	WBP Auction	St. Croix
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, Pairs	Montego ABC
	12:30 PM	1 st Session, WBP Pairs	Montego DEF
	7:30 PM	4 th Session, Pairs	Montego ABC
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, WBP Pairs	Montego DEF
Sunday, May 11	11:30 PM*	5 th Session, Pairs	Montego ABC
	12:00 PM	3 rd Session, WBP Pairs	Montego DEF
	4:15 PM	Closing Party	St. Croix

* expected

John "Jocko" Roberts Team Rosters

Team #	Members
1	Perry Johnson , Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Eric Greco, Jeff Hampson
2	Russ Ekeblad , Ron Rubin, Brad Moss, Fred Gitelman, Michael Seamon
3	Malcolm Brachman , Mike Passell, Eddie Wold, Claudio Nunes, Fulvio Fantoni
4	Pierre Zimmermann , Alain Levy, Herve Mouiel, Pierre Sapporta
5	Drew Casen , Richie Schwartz, Andrei Gromov, Aleksander Petrunin, Paul Chemla, Christian Mari
6	Mike Katz , Billy Miller, Curtis Cheek, Sidney Lazard, Bart Bramley
7	Reese Milner , Sam Lev, Piotr Gawrys, Krzysztof Jassem, Bob Blanchard, Marc Jacobus
8	George Jacobs , Ralph Katz, Mitch Dunitz, Iftikhir Baqai, Boye Brogeland, Espen Erichsen
9	Roy Welland , Bjorn Fallenius, Bobby Levin, Steve Weinstein, Jimmy Cayne, Geir Helgemo
10	Nick Nickell (NPC), Bob Hamman, Zia Mahmood, Jacek Pszczola, Michal Kwiecien
11	Mike Moss , Joe Grue, Louk Verhees, Jan Jansma
12	Juan Ventin , Luis Lantaron, Massimo Lanzarotti, Andrea Buratti, Guido Ferraro, Giorgio Duboin
13	Rose Meltzer , Peter Weichsel, Alan Sontag, Kyle Larsen, Chip Martel, Lou Stansby
14	E.C. Angelini Parioli , Benito Garozzo, Nicola Del Buono, Alfredo Versace, Valerio Giubilo
15	Seymon Deutsch , Paul Soloway, Ron Smith, Billy Cohen, Cezary Balicki, Adam Zmudzinski
16	Lou Ann O'Rourke , Fredrik Nystrom, Peter Bertheau, Peter Fredin, Magnus Lindkvist

Gamblers Non-Anonymous

Those players intending to gamble at the Mirage during their stay are advised to register at the Players Club desk located in the casino area; or check with Billy Rosenbaum, who has cards for most players. It will be in your own best interest and that of the WBP for you to do so.

John "Jocko" Roberts Teams: Final Standings

(Team Rosters on p. 2)

Team #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Total	Rank
1		25	40*		6							50*	20		30	30	201	1
2	5			25		30					40*	11	7	16		4	138	9
3	20*			24	30					29		10	20	28		5	166	2
4		5	6		26	13*	0		30	23						3	106	14
5	24		0	4		29			11			11	0	11	18		108	13
6		0		47*	1			25	25	19	14*						131	10
7				30				21	29		25		11*	29*		12	157	4
8						5	9		26*	2	1	11			27*		81	16
9				0	19	5	1	34*		11					30*		100	15+
10			1	7		11		28	19		21			8	9	10	114	11
11		20*				46*	5	29		9		4			27		140	8
12	10	19	20		19						26		19	6		26	145	6
13	10	23	10		30		49*	19				11		10			162	3
14		14	2		19		31*			22		24	20			12	144	7
15	0				12			33*	30*	21	3					12	111	12
16	0	26	25	27			18			20			4	18	18		156	5

* Based on two matches; + = Best 3rd session score (not in top 4)

John "Jocko" Roberts Teams Prize Awards



Place	Players
1 st	\$50,500
2 nd	\$37,800
3 rd	\$25,200
4 th	\$15,000
Best 3rd Session (not in top 4)	\$7,500



Special Notice: World Bridge Productions Pairs Pre-Auction

In order to generate interest and facilitate the live WBP Pairs auction, to be held on Saturday morning, May 10, provisions have been made to accept bids prior to the start of the live auction. Here's how it will work:

Arrayed around the Registration Desk will be preliminary owners' cards for all expected participants. (Not all of these pairs may attend, but the vast majority is expected.) If you wish to bid on a pair you may do so by entering the amount of your bid on the pair's card and signing your name opposite the bid amount (minimum bid = \$1000).

These bids will be considered binding, just as if they were made in the live auction. If your bid is not topped in either the pre- or live auctions you will become the owner of the pair and have all of the attendant rights and responsibilities. Remember, each pair must buy back 10% of their purchase price and may buy back up to 40% of themselves if they are so inclined.

Please confirm your bids with the appropriate parties at the Registration Desk.

Entrants for the WBP Pairs 2003: Dedicated to the Memory of Joe Jabon

(Based on information available at press time. This is unofficial. Updates will be published as they become available.)

Pair #	Pair #
1 Barry Schaffer – Colby Vernay	14 Kent Mignocchi – Beverly Perry
2 Alan Graves – Brian Maksymetz	15 Vincent Demuy – Gavin Wolpert
3 Lenny Holtz – Renee Mancuso	16 Lynn Baker – Debbie Rosenberg
4 Terri Casen – Larry Cohen	17 Sheila Ekeblad – Michael Seamon
5 Roger Lord – Jaqueline Sincoff	18 Alan Cokin – Harold Lillie
6 Leonard Ernst – Richard Halperin	19 Lars Froeland – Aksel Hornslien
7 Mike Cappelletti Jr. – Lou Ann O'Rourke	20 Steve Cox – Marshal Lewis
8 Bob Blanchard – Reese Milner	21 Les Amoils – Darren Wolpert
9 Russ Samuel – Shawn Samuel	22 Simon Kantor – Jim Robison
10 Mark Lair – Jim Mahaffey	23 Garey Hayden – Barbara Kasle
11 Kyle Larsen – Jo Morse	24 Marjorie Michelin – Bob Morris
12 Rob Crawford – Dan Jacob	25 Harold Feldheim – Jim Murphy
13 Dan Klein – George Mittelman	

2003 Cavendish Pairs: Auction Results

Rank	Pair	Auction Price	Rank	Pair #	Auction Price
1	Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein	\$40K	26/27	Jan Jansma – Louk Verhees	\$17K
2	Eric Greco – Geoff Hampson	\$37K	26/27	Bjorn Fallenius – Roy Welland	\$17K
3	Michael Kwiecien – Jacek Pszczola	\$36K	28	Valerio Giubilo – Alfredo Versace	\$16K
4/5	Andrea Buratti – Massimo Lanzarotti	\$34K	29	Jimmy Cayne – Geir Helgemo	\$15K
4/5	Czary Balicki – Adam Zmudzinski	\$34K	30/31	Ross Grabel – Jon Wittes	\$14K
6	Bob Hamman – Zia Mahmood	\$33K	30/31	Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey	\$14K
7	David Berkowitz – Larry Cohen	\$31K	32	Joe Grue – Mike Moss	\$13K
8	Fulvio Fantoni – Claudio Nunes	\$30K	33/50	Dennis Dawson – Eric Rodwell	\$12.5K
9	Alan Sontag – Lew Stansby	\$28K	33/50	Glenn Milgrim – Chris Willenken	\$12.5K
10	Mike Passell – Eddie Wold	\$26K	33/50	Seymon Deutsch – Paul Soloway	\$12.5K
11/12	Piotr Gawrys – Krzysztof Jassem	\$25K	33/50	Pierre Sapporta – Pierre Zimmermann	\$12.5K
11/12	Fred Gitelman – Brad Moss	\$25K	33/50	Chris Compton – Gaylor Kasle	\$12.5K
13/15	Andrei Gromov – Aleksander Petrunin	\$22K	33/50	Grant Baze – Michael Whitman	\$12.5K
13/15	Giorgio Duboin – Guido Ferraro	\$22K	33/50	Gary Cohler – Harry Tudor	\$12.5K
13/15	Paul Chemla – Christian Mari	\$22K	33/50	Bill Passell – Aubrey Strul	\$12.5K
16/18	Billy Cohen – Ron Smith	\$21K	33/50	Sabine Auken – Daniela Von Arnim	\$12.5K
16/18	Perry Johnson – Jeff Meckstroth	\$21K	33/50	Russ Ekeblad – Ron Rubin	\$12.5K
16/18	Peter Fredin – Magnus Lindkvist	\$21K	33/50	Drew Casen – Richard Schwartz	\$12.5K
19/21	Curtis Cheek – Billy Miller	\$20K	33/50	Rose Meltzer – Peter Weichsel	\$12.5K
19/21	Alain Levy – Herve Mouiel	\$20K	33/50	Luis Lantaron – Juan Ventin	\$12.5K
19/21	Peter Bertheau – Fredrik Nystrom	\$20K	33/50	Doug Doub – Adam Wildavsky	\$12.5K
22/23	Bart Bramley – Sidney Lazard	\$19K	33/50	George Jacobs – Ralph Katz	\$12.5K
22/23	Marc Jacobus – Sam Lev	\$19K	33/50	Andy Robson – Rita Shugart	\$12.5K
24/25	Boye Brogeland – Espen Erichsen	\$18K	33/50	Nels Erickson – Gene Freed	\$12.5K
24/25	Walid El Ahmady – Tarek Sadek	\$18K	33/50	Nicola Del Buono – Benito Garozzo	\$12.5K

Auction Total: \$973K

The John "Jocko" Roberts Teams: Days One (cont.) and Day Two

Match Two:

Bart Bramley brought home one of the most unlikely games of the millennium on this deal from the fifth match.

Bd: 15	♠ Q9542		
Dir: South	♥ Q		
Vul: N/S	♦ A852		
	♣ 1073		
♠ J6		♠ K87	
♥ 107		♥ AJ9543	
♦ K74		♦ J96	
♣ KQJ984		♣ A	
	♠ A103		
	♥ K862		
	♦ Q103		
	♣ 652		
West	North	East	South
<i>Lazard</i>	<i>M. Moss</i>	<i>Bramley</i>	<i>Grue</i>
			Pass
1♣(!)	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

How many undertricks would you settle for here? On a diamond lead to the ace, best defense of a diamond back might hold declarer to just six or seven tricks. But Moss played back a club, perhaps trying to cut the communications in clubs. Bramley took his ace and realized that the shortage of entries to dummy meant that he would not be able to play both spades and hearts from the board. His legitimate chance was to play to drop a bare heart honor (or find the king-queen doubleton). So he advanced the ♥A at trick three and his prayers were answered. When he next led a low heart towards the ten, South had several options—all of them losing ones.

If he took his king a passive exit or the ♠A would clearly be hopeless. His one active shift, the ♦Q, would kill dummy but let declarer throw two spades away on the top clubs and a third on the fourth round of clubs. That ruff would be the defense's last trick. Alternatively, if South ducked the ♥10 declarer would cash two clubs to pitch spades and lead a fourth club to pitch his last spade. Then he could go to the ♦K to pitch his last diamond on the fifth club, so all routes led to ten tricks.

Incidentally, at the other table Bart's teammates defended 3♥ and led a trump at trick one. Locked in his hand, declarer scored his five heart tricks and the ♣A—for down three!

Match Four:

Peter Fredin has already established a name for himself as

the Wizard of Odd. He was able to bolster this reputation somewhat on the first deal of the second session.

Bd: 1	♠ AQ98		
Dir: North	♥ J76		
Vul: None	♦ J10		
	♣ 10976		
♠ J107		♠ 542	
♥ AKQ1093		♥ 8542	
♦ Q85		♦ K43	
♣ 2		♣ 843	
	♠ K63		
	♥ ---		
	♦ A9762		
	♣ AKQJ5		

The field was pretty much split between those able to reach 6♣ and those stuck in 5♣. However, Fredin introduced a spectacular diversion. Against two unnamed opponents (well, okay, think "Tournament Organizers") the auction, believe it or not, went as follows:

West	North	East	South
<i>Fredin</i>		<i>Lindkvist</i>	
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1NT(!)	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass(!)	Pass	Pass	

Fredin not only overcalled 1NT, he sat it out when doubled.. This is set to go four down without too many problems—right? Not so. North led the ♦J and South knew his partner had a yarborough—but declarer seemed to have no tricks. So he ducked and declarer cashed out for +180. We're told the air turned blue. Fredin's teammates reached 6♣ so this was a very handy 15-imp swing.

Match Five:

Eric Greco (as South) reached a delicate 3NT contract on the following deal.

Bd: 11	♠ Q8		
Dir: South	♥ A854		
Vul: None	♦ 103		
	♣ J9754		
♠ K10965		♠ 73	
♥ 107		♥ K962	
♦ 965		♦ A842	
♣ 1062		♣ AQ8	
	♠ AJ42		
	♥ QJ3		
	♦ KQJ7		
	♣ K3		

West	North <i>Hampson</i>	East	South <i>Greco</i>
			1♣(1)
Pass	1♦(2)	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
(1) Strong, artificial; (2) Negative			

The strong club auction was unrevealing and Greco was treated to a low club lead. The defense took the ♣A and shifted to a spade; Greco ducked to the nine and queen. Now he played a low heart to the queen and divined that the suit split four-two. So he knocked out the ♦A, won the club return and was now able to cash all of his diamonds and the ♠A, reducing East to four cards: the ♣Q and ♥K96. Greco then led the ♥J, pinning the ten, and ducked it around to East. He could win, cash a club, but then had to lead into the heart tenace to concede nine tricks.

Match Six:

Two teams were pouring it on as the first day neared its conclusion: Brachman and Johnson both scored three near blitzes in the evening. This deal helped Johnson's cause.

Bd: 21	♠ A10		
Dir: North	♥ 94		
Vul: N/S	♦ J97432		
	♣ 976		
♠ 52		♠ K9763	
♥ AKQ862		♥ J10753	
♦ ---		♦ K85	
♣ QJ543		♣ ---	
	♠ QJ84		
	♥ ---		
	♦ AQ106		
	♣ AK1082		

As you can see, red-suit slams pose interesting declarer and defensive play problems here. 6♦ by North avoids the Lightner double for the club ruff, but rudely falls victim to the defense of two rounds of hearts to establish the ♦K in due course. 6♥ by East comes even closer. The defense has to take their spade ace in order to lead trumps—otherwise declarer has eleven trump tricks plus the ♠K.

Meckwell reached 6♥ doubled from the West side and received the ♠A lead followed by a diamond shift; +1210. turned out to be a 24-imp swing.

Greco-Hampson conceded the "normal" 650 in 5♥ doubled to gain 11 imps when Fredin overcalled 5♥(!) over a strong club.

Richie Schwartz as South opened 1♣ and doubled 4♥ when that came back around to him. Drew Casen broke Edgar Kaplan's first rule ("Take out partner's takeout doubles") and

conceded -790—a normal number in an unusual fashion. It was a little unlucky to gain only 4 imps when, at the other table, Weichsel opened 1♦ and also doubled 4♥. When the opponents bid on to 5♥ Sontag doubled, but could do no better than hold his opponents to 650.

Bd: 27	♠ K4		
Dir: South	♥ KJ1053		
Vul: None	♦ KQJ10		
	♣ J6		
♠ 108		♠ AQJ932	
♥ A2		♥ 9	
♦ A98654		♦ ---	
♣ A72		♣ KQ9854	
	♠ 765		
	♥ Q8764		
	♦ 732		
	♣ 103		
West	North	East	South
<i>Stansby</i>		<i>Martel</i>	
			Pass
1♦	1♥	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

Martel-Stansby had a good auction here. Martel took an interesting view not to go beyond 4♣ but Stansby knew his aces were golden and jumped to 6♣ to offer a choice of slams. Martel was happy to opt for clubs. This was worth 11 imps against the tame 440 at the other table.

Some pairs climbed even higher: Against Greco-Hampson Fredin-Lindkvist bid all the way to 7♣ and found their luck was in—on this board, but still not enough to avoid the blitz.

Match Seven:

Bd: 2	♠ 85		
Dir: East	♥ KQ95		
Vul: N/S	♦ KJ87		
	♣ AK4		
♠ KJ632		♠ A1074	
♥ J10764		♥ A832	
♦ 432		♦ 106	
♣ ---		♣ 932	
	♠ Q9		
	♥ ---		
	♦ AQ95		
	♣ QJ108765		

An intriguing defensive problem arose here. Would your signaling and suit-preference methods cover this?

Sontag-Weichsel (N/S) bid as follows:

West	North	East	South
		2♣	Pass
2♦(1)	Pass	2♠(2)	Dbl
3♦(1)	3♠	4♣	4♠
6♣	Dbl	All Pass	

So far, so ugly. West an imaginative ♠K lead in case his partner had the case and a void. This held the trick as South took his time to follow with an upside down count four. So now the question is, is the ♠4 simple reverse count? Or, if the partnership can “assume” that a second spade is not standing up, is the card suit preference? Unluckily from West’s perspective, if declarer had eight clubs and one spade he might be pitching diamonds on hearts, or vice versa. Jassem as West eventually decided that the ♠4 was suit preference, not count, and shifted to a diamond. That meant –1540 and 13 imps away (his teammates conceded 750 by doubling 5♣—at least they cashed out!) Instead of 14 imps the other way.

Matches Eight and Nine:

The two critical deals in this round’s the match between the two top teams were as follows.

Bd: 16	♠ Q62		
Dir: West	♥ AKQ4		
Vul: E/W	♦ A1096		
	♣ 85		
♠ KJ8		♠ 10754	
♥ 98		♥ J1063	
♦ Q87532		♦ K	
♣ J9		♣ K642	
	♠ A93		
	♥ 752		
	♦ J4		
	♣ AQ1073		

Both tables reached 3NT from the North seat on relatively uninformative auctions. Both declarers received a heart lead, won in hand, and led a club to the ten and jack. Stansby shifted to a diamond to the king and Martel returned a heart. Declarer now had a route to nine tricks via a club to the queen and a second diamond finesse. When the ♦J held, he could safely revert to clubs and set up his ninth trick there.

Perry Johnson returned a heart at trick three (after winning his ♣J). Weichsel won, took a second club finesse, then ran the ♦J to the bare king. Meckstroth exited with the ♥J and was thrown in with the fourth heart. That forced a discard from dummy; Weichsel chose a spade and Meckstroth then led a spade to his partner’s king and when Johnson returned a diamond declarer misguessed, rising with the ace, and had only eight tricks.

Bd: 18	♠ K10862		
Dir: East	♥ KQ10		
Vul: N/S	♦ Q5		
	♣ Q107		
♠ Q974		♠ ---	
♥ 754		♥ A32	
♦ A732		♦ KJ10964	
♣ 54		♣ KJ93	
	♠ AJ53		
	♥ J986		
	♦ 8		
	♣ A862		

Both tables found the 5♦ save over 4♠ but on very different auctions. Greco heard...

West	North	East	South
<i>Stansby</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Martel</i>	<i>Greco</i>
		1♦	Dbl
1♠	Dbl	2♦	2♠
3♦	4♠	5♦	Pass
Pass	Dbl	All Pass	

while Sontag heard...

West	North	East	South
<i>Johnson</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Sontag</i>
		1♦(1)	Dbl
1♠	Dbl	2♦	Pass
3♦	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♦	All Pass

Greco led a trump and Martel drew a second round, then tried a club to the jack; it was a blind guess as to whether to play the king or jack, but once in a blue moon he would find ♣Q10x onside and actually make his contract. Bingo! That was +550. Alan Sontag found the heart lead and now declarer had to guess the clubs to escape for down one. Despite this 12-imp pickup for Meltzer, Johnson won the match 20-10 to take a 20 VP lead going into the final match.

Bd: 21	♠ 2		
Dir: North	♥ 5		
Vul: N/S	♦ KQ10		
	♣ AQJ108632		
♠ A9643		♠ QJ8	
♥ J83		♥ A107	
♦ J98		♦ 76432	
♣ 94		♣ K7	
	♠ K1075		
	♥ KQ9642		
	♦ A5		
	♣ 5		

Sometimes the most hopeless looking contracts can be made if you don't give up. Here Sam Lev reached 5♣ (how many could reach 3NT here?) and got the ♠Q lead (West had doubled earlier for a spade lead). When he covered the defense took the ♠A and continued the suit—wouldn't you? Sam ruffed, crossed to the ♦A, ruffed a spade (the jack falling), cashed the ♦K, ruffed the ♦Q, and pitched his heart on the ♠10. East could ruff, but now Lev had eleven tricks.

The battle for second place was won by Brachman, who beat Meltzer 20-10 pushing the latter into third place. Fantoni and Nunes had two great hands for their 2♦ opening (five-plus diamonds in a minimum opening hand). This was the first.

Bd: 19	♠ KQJ43		
Dlr: South	♥ J2		
Vul: E/W	♦ 8		
	♣ Q10832		
♠ 1097		♠ A82	
♥ Q10876		♥ A9543	
♦ KJ2		♦ AQ75	
♣ J6		♣ 9	
	♠ 65		
	♥ K		
	♦ 109643		
	♣ AK754		
West	North	East	South
<i>Stansby</i>	<i>Nunes</i>	<i>Martel</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>
Pass	2♠(2)	Pass	2♦(1)
All Pass			3♣(3)
(1) 5+ diamonds, minimum opening bid			
(2) Invitational; (3) Minimum, no spade fit			

At the other table Sontag-Weichsel did well to save in 5♣ over 4♥, but here Fantoni-Nunes bid unmolested to 3♣. In all fairness to Martel, since 3♣ did not actually show clubs it was difficult for him to come into the auction.

Fantoni's second 2♦ opener was...

Bd: 25	♠ J106		
Dlr: North	♥ 10		
Vul: E/W	♦ QJ1052		
	♣ A984		
♠ AK832		♠ Q9754	
♥ AQ96		♥ J754	
♦ 93		♦ A	
♣ J2		♣ Q105	
	♠ ---		
	♥ K832		
	♦ K8764		
	♣ K763		

At the other table Sontag-Weichsel pushed their opponents to 5♠ which fetched eleven tricks. But after Fantoni opened 2♦ in third seat Stansby doubled and Nunes jumped to to 5♦. Can you blame E/W for defending—and just collecting 100?



A Profile of the Winning Pair: Part Two

by Sam Leckie, Scotland

Now that all the bids are in, WBP kindly permit me to continue where I left off yesterday. All the Italian pairs fell by the wayside as non-regular partnerships (no Lauria-Versace) [Lanzarotti-Buratti should be one of the favorites—if not *the* favorite.—*Ed.*] and even though the French are great pairs I feel they have a better chance of taking home their Statue of Liberty than the Cavendish as for me they don't have the mental toughness for this type of tournament.

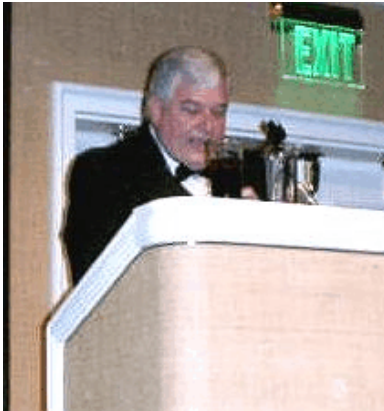
Levin-Weinstein are ruled out because you need a lot of luck to win and by their own admission they used up most of that last year. I'm also eliminating the Egyptians as 2nd and 1st in their first two attempts just doesn't happen. Of the home players I fancy Gitelman-Moss, who have under-performed in this tournament, Berkowitz-Cohen (I'll tell you why later) and Doub-Wildavsky, a pair I've never seen! How come I

chose them? Before I left home to come here, Willie Coyle, one of Scotland's leading players, told me "Watch out for a guy named Doub. I watched him on the Internet at one of the Nationals. He's dynamite." Normally when you ask Coyle's opinion of a top player his reply ranges from "Not bad" to "okay." So on that basis I must include him in my final selection.

Who does this leave? The two Polish pairs, the Russian pair, as well as the three from North America. Why Berkowitz-Cohen? Well, my room number at Bally's is 1212 and they are number 12 in the tournament list. Decide for yourself but for me it's got to be number 12. Sorry, but when a real live reason like this appears out of nowhere it makes all my previous arguments fly out the window. Berkowitz-Cohen. You know it makes sense.

“Going,...going,...”

Learn how to sell a pair...



“...and they're a lot of fun!”

Learn to work well with others...



“I get the podium because I'm more important.”

Learn the pecking order...



“Where does it say ‘Paki upstages chauffeur’?”

Learn humility...



“And I'd like to thank all the little people...”

Learn a trade...



“The water you ordered sir...”

Learn grace...



“If they outbid me again I'll hold my breathe until I turn blue...”

But most importantly, learn to have a good time...

