

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

Bulletin Number 4

Saturday, May 13, 2006

Editor: Rich Colker

Hampson-Rodwell Lead 2006 Cavendish Pairs

With a seventh- and second-place finish in yesterday's first two sessions, first-time Cavendish partners Geoff Hampson and Eric Rodwell are leading the 44-pair field with a score of 1459. That was good enough for a 43-IMP lead over second-place finishers Boye Brogeland and Ishmael Del'Monte, with a score of 1432. In third place, in their first Cavendish appearance, is the Dutch pair of Huub Bertens and Ton Bakkeren with 1414. In fourth place, only 13 VPs back, are Martin Fleisher and Chip Martel with 1401. The next closest pair, Russia's Alexander Dubinin and Andrei Gromov, is about 400 IMPs back with a score of 1036. A complete listing of all the scores and rankings from Day One can be found on page 3.

Brunch, Bidding and Bridge

Don't forget to join us this morning for the WBP Brunch, beginning at 10:30 am in El Viento (below the Sports Book). The WBP Auction will follow at 11:00 am. The two pair games will start at 12:30 pm. If everyone isn't in his/her seat promptly, Solly threatens to pull his hair and rend his garments, neither of which he can afford, and Guillermo threatens to swallow a bottle of Tabasco sauce straight up, which he would be only too happy to do given even the slightest provocation. So don't let these embarrassing things happen. Be on time!

Gamblers Non-Anonymous

Those players intending to gamble at the Green Valley Ranch during their stay are implored to register at the Total Rewards desk, located in the casino area. It will be in your own best interest and that of the WBP to do so.

Great Bid/Play!

If you make or see a great bid, play or defense we'd like to report it in the Daily Bulletin. Report what happened to the Bulletin Editor (or jot it down and give it to the Editor or a Director). Include the Board # and player names if possible.

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 current "prize-pool only" team format 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 Rich Colker.

Schedule

Day/Date	Time	Activity	Location
Saturday, May 13	10:30 AM	WBP Brunch	El Viento
	11:00 AM	WBP Auction	(below Sports Book)
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, Pairs	Estancia DEFG
	12:30 PM	1 st Session, WBP Pairs	Estancia ABC
	7:30 PM	4 th Session, Pairs	Estancia DEFG
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, WBP Pairs	Estancia ABC
Sunday, May 14	12:00 PM	5 th Session, Pairs	Estancia DEFG
	12:00 PM	3 rd Session, WBP Pairs	Estancia ABC
	4:30 PM	Closing Party	

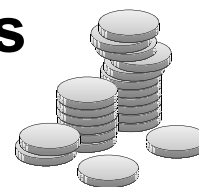
Entrants for the WBP Pairs 2006

(Unofficial, based on information available at press time. Updates will be published as they become available.)

Pair #	Pair #
1 Nels Erickson – Marjorie Michelin	10 James Cunningham – Frank Treiber III
2 Marc Jacobus – Lou Ann O'Rourke	11 Mike Cappelletti Jr. – John Morris
3 Jon Kranyak – Ken Kranyak	12 Arno Hobart – George Mittelman
4 Wafik Abdou – Connie Goldberg	13 Roger Lord – partner
5 Lynn Baker – Kerri Sanborn	14 David Chechelashvili – David Yang
6 Simon Kantor – Murray Melton	15 Rob Crawford – Joe Kivel
7 Joshua Donn – Marshall Miles	16 Jiang Gu – Xiaodong Shi
8 Barry Schaffer – Colby Vernay	17 Danielle Tessier – Carol Belise
9 Sheila Ekeblad – Michael Seamon	18 Fred Hamilton – John Jeffrey



Overall and Session Awards for the Cavendish Pairs

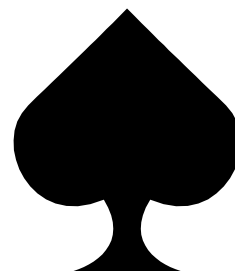
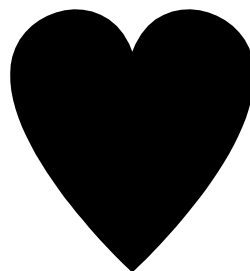
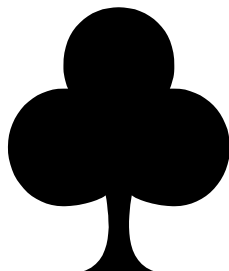
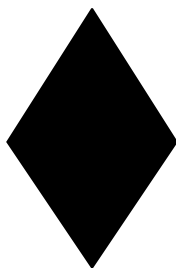


Place	Session					(From Players' Pool 5 th Session)	Overalls	
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	Auction	Players	
1 st	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$12,000	(\$5,000)	\$193,236	\$21,560
2 nd			\$2,500	\$2,500	\$ 8,000	(\$3,000)	\$124,223	\$13,860
3 rd			\$1,000	\$1,000	\$ 5,000	(\$2,500)	\$ 82,816	\$ 9,240
4 th					\$ 3,000		\$ 62,112	\$ 6,930
5 th							\$ 55,210	\$ 6,160
6 th							\$ 48,309	\$ 5,390
7 th							\$ 41,408	\$ 4,620
8 th							\$ 34,507	\$ 3,850
9 th							\$ 27,605	\$ 3,080
10 th							\$ 20,704	\$ 2,310

2006 Cavendish Pairs: Standings After Day One

Rank	Score	Pair	Auction Price (in \$K)
1	1459	Geoff Hampson – Eric Rodwell	32
2	1432	Boye Brogeland – Ishmael Del'Monte	23
3	1414	Ton Bakkeren – Huub Bertens	14
4	1410	Marty Fleisher – Chip Martel	15
5	1036	Alex Dubinin – Andrei Gromov	16
6	962	Gilad Altschuler – Piotr Gawrys	12.5
7/8	857	Gary Cohler – Howard Weinstein	19
7/8	857	Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein	42
9	636	Curtis Cheek – Joe Grue	17
10	521	Drew Casen – Jim Krekorian	17
11	469	Sam Lev – Jacek Pszczola	29
12	462	Piotr Bizon – Michael Kwiecien	17
13	417	Antonio Sementa – Alfredo Versace	42
14	371	Bob Blanchard – Jeff Meckstroth	13
15	249	Vincent Demuy – Gavin Wolpert	14
16	221	George Jacobs – Ralph Katz	12.5
17	207	JoAnna Stansby – Lew Stansby	12.5
18	191	Fulvio Fantoni – Claudio Nunes	43
19	176	Christal Henner-Welland – Michael Kamil	12.5
20	139	Mathias Bruun – Peter Fredin	12.5
21	125	Bob Hamman – Justin Lall	17
22	118	Sartaj Hans – Tony Nunn	12.5
23	114	Chris Compton – Mike Passell	17
24	0	Jill Levin – Jill Meyers	12.5
25	-8	Peter Lakatos – Gabor Winkler	13
26	-13	Steve Landen – Pratap Rajadhyaksha	20
27	-113	Michael Elinescu – Entschö Wladow	12.5
28	-136	Neil Chambers – John Schermer	14
29	-206	Bart Bramley – Barry Rigal	12.5
30	-316	Alain Levy – Herve Mouiel	25
31	-349	Bjorn Fallenius – Roy Welland	21
32	-374	Waleed ElAhmady – Tarek Sadek	34
33	-425	Franck Multon – Pierre Zimmermann	12.5
34	-649	Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey	14
35	-804	Seymon Deutsch – Paul Soloway	12.5
36	-835	Zia Mahmood – Andrew Robson	48
37	-843	Amos Kaminski – Shaya Levit	12.5
38	890	Zoltan Nagy – Bob Richman	12.5
39	-911	Russ Ekeblad – Ron Rubin	13
40	-929	David Berkowitz – Billy Pollack	14
41	-1160	Marc Bompis – Jean-Christophe Quantin	16
42	-1287	Richie Schwartz – Chris Willenken	12.5
43	-1611	Grant Baze – Gaylor Kasle	13
44	-1633	Michael Cornell – Michael Rosenberg	14

Auction Total: \$821,000



The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

by Sam Leckie

There was only one match for me to watch in the final session of the John Roberts Teams on Thursday: Deutsch vs Ekeblad—or, rather, Hamman vs Zia. Partners for the past two years in this tournament and now seeking partners new.

In this match my pairs pick (Zia-Robson) went from the sublime to the ridiculous. Here they are at their best.

Bd: 9	♠ 932		
Dlr: North	♥ 1052		
Vul: E/W	♦ K86		
	♣ 8642		
♠ AKJ1076		♠ 54	
♥ KJ94		♥ 3	
♦ A		♦ J432	
♣ AK		♣ QJ10975	
	♠ Q8		
	♥ AQ876		
	♦ Q10975		
	♣ 3		
West	North	East	South
<i>Robson</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Zia</i>	<i>Seamon</i>
	Pass	Pass	2♥
Dbl	3♥	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

The ♥A was led and Seamon switched to a diamond. With the ♠Q coming down the slam is on, but here's how Zia played it. ♥K, pitching a diamond, heart ruff, spade to the ace, ♠K, heart ruff. This left a high crossruff for twelve tricks. Who cares about the ♠Q? That was worth 12 IMPs.

this next hand was laughable, but not for Hamman.

Bd: 8	♠ J3		
Dlr: West	♥ 43		
Vul: None	♦ A2		
	♣ AQ109543		
♠ AK987		♠ Q106	
♥ J10		♥ AKQ985	
♦ 964		♦ QJ8	
♣ KJ7		♣ 6	
	♠ 542		
	♥ 762		
	♦ K10753		
	♣ 82		
West	North	East	South
<i>Robson</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Zia</i>	<i>Seamon</i>
1♠	2♣	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	All Pass

Everyone in the world must play that bid as forcing—except Andy! A club lead and a diamond ruff meant nine (only) tricks and a gain of 6 IMPs when 5♥ went down at the other table. Zia, with a smile on his face, explained it to Hamman later. “You see, he didn't know whether to bid 3NT, 4♥ or 4♠. So he passed. It's an English thing, really, so don't worry about it.”

It won't surprise you to know that after the smoke had cleared and a great set from Ron Smith and Billy Cohen, the Deutsch team won the match by 47 IMPs, 30-0 in VPs.

In the final shake-up, Deutsch finished tied for second in the event.

P.S. I hope you noticed that at the auction my selection went for top price. Another leak, perhaps?



“She thinks that's ice cream, but it's really lard!”

The 2006 Cavendish Pairs: Day One

I have it on good authority that the first six deals of the 2006 Cavendish Pairs were rather uninspiring. This was certainly true as far as I was concerned—I slept through the 10:30 am starting time.

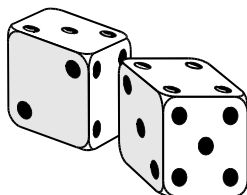
Session One:

I arrived at the playing area just as Round Three was getting under way. I decided to watch Bob Hamman and Justin Lall play Bart Bramley and Barry Rigal, and this is the first board I saw.

Bd: 7	♠ 1095
Dlr: South	♥ AQ5
Vul: Both	♦ 9864
	♣ 1087
♠ J76	♠ 8432
♥ K10	♥ J863
♦ A105	♦ K
♣ AQ964	♣ KJ52
	♠ AKQ
	♥ 9742
	♦ QJ732
	♣ 3

Rigal, South, opened 1♦ and Bramley ended the auction with his 1NT response. In my experience, a 1NT response to a "Standard" 1♦ opening generally means "I have a club suit, partner," and that seems to be what was in Justin Lall's mind as he chose to lead his second-highest four of spades. Bramley won dummy's queen and tried a low diamond which went to the ten and king. Lall studied the situation long and hard before he decided to continue the spade attack with the two. With the lead in dummy again Bramley continued with the ♦Q, which held, and then the ♦J, won by Hamman's ace. Perhaps pitching the ♠2 and ♠8, in that order, would have discouraged spades and signaled a preference for the lower of the two other suits, but Lall pitched the ♣5 and ♥3, two very low-looking spots. Hamman thought about his next play for a long while and, perhaps influenced by the suggestion of clubs in the North hand, finally continued spades. Now Bramley was home free with three diamonds, three spades and the ♥A. The heart finesse would have brought the trick total to eight but Bart was not greedy and settled for +90.

The next round Levin-Weinstein played against Blanchard-Meckstroth. They employed a bidding gadget well-known to the expert community but perhaps not so familiar to the more casual player to reach this rather pushy 6♥ slam.



Bd: 10	♠ 1052		
Dlr: East	♥ Q763		
Vul: Both	♦ 84		
	♣ AQ76		
♠ AKJ97	♠ Q8		
♥ KJ42	♥ A1095		
♦ AQ3	♦ J1065		
♣ 5	♣ KJ8		
	♠ 643		
	♥ 8		
	♦ K972		
	♣ 109432		
West	North	East	South
<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Blanchard</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

Meckstroth's 3♣ rebid was artificial showing a strong hand with either real clubs, a four-card heart suit, or a "jump shift" from spades into spades. Blanchard's 3♦ bid asked which and 3♥ showed four hearts. (A direct jump to 3♥ over 1NT would have shown five hearts.) Blanchard had way too much in all the right places to simply bid 4♥ and I like his choice of the straight value bid of 5♥. Meckstroth never met a slam try he didn't like and with the opening lead of the ♣A and the ♦K being onside he just had to locate the ♥Q. No problem; E/W +1430.

Perhaps driven by what happened on Board 10 Bobby Levin perpetrated a neat swindle on this next deal to try to recoup his losses.

Bd: 12	♠ A83
Dlr: West	♥ AK75
Vul: N/S	♦ KJ85
	♣ 92
♠ QJ6542	♠ 10
♥ 2	♥ QJ96
♦ Q42	♦ 1097
♣ KQ3	♣ A10874
	♠ K97
	♥ 10843
	♦ A63
	♣ J65

Playing in 3NT from the North side after Meckstroth had opened a weak 2♦ bid Levin receive the ♠10 opening lead.

He rose with the ♠K and after much thought crossed to the ♥A and continued with a low heart toward dummy. Blanchard eyed this suspiciously and finally, knowing that Meckstroth's spades were not very robust, decided that the odds were that Levin was playing for hearts to be three-two missing the KQJ and ducked. When dummy's card won Levin had his ninth trick—after the diamond suit behaved as he needed it to. That was a sweet +600 and even sweeter revenge.

Bd: 13	♠ AK10986	
Dlr: North	♥ K4	
Vul: Both	♦ J52	
	♣ 102	
♠ ---		♠ Q54
♥ AQ982		♥ J65
♦ AK73		♦ Q96
♣ J976		♣ Q843
	♠ J732	
	♥ 1073	
	♦ 1084	
	♣ AK5	

Some say the secret of the Italians' success is that they bid a lot—and make most of what they bid. Well, here's the rare exception that proves the rule. Marty Fleisher opened 1♠ and his partner Chip Martel raised gently to 2♠. Alfredo Versace, West doubled and Fleisher bid an obstructive 3♠. When that came back to Versace he doubled again, and now Antonio Sementa was in the hot seat. A conservative 3♣ might have produced a plus score (it could happen), but small pluses are not what the Italians are all about. Sementa went for the gusto and tried 3NT, and if the ♥KJ had been onside there would have been a different moral to this story. Martel led a spade and Fleisher won the king and continued with the ♠10 as Sementa won the queen. But when the ♥J lost to the king the defense cashed four more spades and two clubs to beat 3NT four tricks; +400 for N/S.

Bd: 17	♠ K4	
Dlr: North	♥ AQJ86	
Vul: None	♦ Q976	
	♣ K5	
♠ AQJ1052		♠ 86
♥ 5		♥ 943
♦ 4		♦ J1082
♣ QJ1098		♣ 7643
	♠ 973	
	♥ K1072	
	♦ AK53	
	♣ A2	

When Bruun-Fredin met Hampson-Rodwell in Round Six Rodwell made what seemed like a normal 4♠ bid with six-five in the black suits that came back to haunt him in an unusual way. The auction:

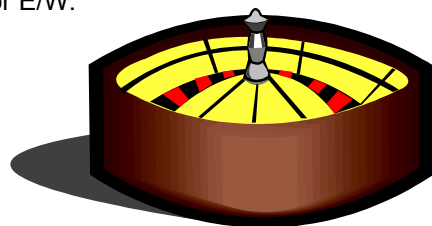
West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Bruun	Hampson	Fredin
	1♥	Pass	2NT
4♠	Dbf	All Pass	

Fredin's 2NT showed an invitational-plus heart raise. Bruun led the ♥A and continued the suit at trick two as Rodwell ruffed. The ♣Q went to the king and another heart forced Rodwell to ruff once again. Rodwell knocked out the ♠A but now Fredin played ♦A, low diamond, and Rodwell pitched a club to avoid taking another tap as Bruun won the queen. A third diamond now forced Rodwell to ruff a third time and when Rodwell led the ♠10 from hand to retain a trump in dummy to avoid being shortened again in hearts. This did not fool Bruun who continued with a fourth heart allowing dummy to ruff as Rodwell enjoyed a useless club pitch. Now Rodwell could not get off dummy without giving the defense another trump trick for three down; -500. "Six-five, come alive. Bah, humbug!"

You pick up ♠1093 ♥AQ5 ♦10876 ♣K74 and partner opens a Precision 1♦ in first seat. RHO overcalls 1♠ and, with your side silent, LHO cue-bids 2♦, RHO bids 3♣, LHO bids 3♠, and RHO bids 4♠. Now, do you pass or double, and in either case what do you lead? This is a trick question as the whole deal turns out to be:

Bd: 21	♠ 42	
Dlr: North	♥ KJ3	
Vul: N/S	♦ QJ92	
	♣ AQ65	
♠ QJ8		♠ AK765
♥ 9862		♥ 1074
♦ AK543		♦ ---
♣ 3		♣ J10982
	♠ 1093	
	♥ AQ5	
	♦ 10876	
	♣ K74	

Christal Henner-Welland passed and led the ♠3. Billy Pollack won in dummy, cashed the ♦AK pitching two hearts, and exited with a club to Michael Kamil's ace. Kamil returned a trump as Pollack rose with the king and led the ♣J. If South ducks North wins the queen and leads a heart to South, who can play a third round of trumps, leaving declarer with a third club loser to go with his heart loser. But when South covered Pollack ruffed, returned to his hand by ruffing a diamond, drew the last trump and conceded a club to the queen. Plus 420 for E/W.



Session Two:

Board 3 presented an interesting choice of opening bids and responses.

Bd: 3	♠ 743		
Dlr: South	♥ J83		
Vul: E/W	♦ K75		
	♣ QJ75		
	♠ K862		♠ AQ10
	♥ K94		♥ AQ1075
	♦ Q1064		♦ J2
	♣ 94		♣ A82
			♠ J95
			♥ 62
			♦ A983
			♣ K1063

Piotr Bizon opened a very strong notrump and his partner, Michael Kwiecien, passed his chunky eight-count, perhaps hoping one of his passed-hand opponents would balance? When the smoke cleared Bizon had taken an embarrassing number tricks and the recriminations began flying. To this writer's naive eye the East hand looks too suit-oriented for 1NT: I'd opt to open 1♥. That said, I would respond with 2♣ (Stayman) to a 1NT opening with the West hand's chunky 8-count, good intermediates, and two four-card suits including spades. That's probably why I'm writing rather than playing, a perennial malady that Barry Rigal has remedied this year.

Bd: 6	♠ AKQ10865		
Dlr: East	♥ ---		
Vul: E/W	♦ 63		
	♣ AK106		
	♠ 3		♠ 942
	♥ J763		♥ AQ84
	♦ J1097		♦ Q84
	♣ J873		♣ 942
			♠ J7
			♥ K10952
			♦ AK52
			♣ Q5

Only fourteen pairs bid the grand slam here, and Zia-Robson was one of them—which may account for their first-day total of -746 in spite of the fact that +1510 was worth 77 IMPs. Their auction seems a wild shot:

	North	South
	<i>Robson</i>	<i>Zia</i>
		1♥
	2♠	2NT
	3♠	4♦
	7♠	

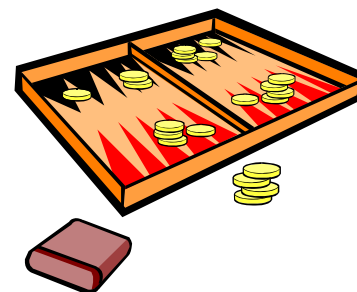
Bd: 8	♠ QJ10		
Dlr: West	♥ Q9732		
Vul: None	♦ 64		
	♣ A103		
	♠ 32		♠ AK8754
	♥ J4		♥ A10
	♦ K98732		♦ A5
	♣ 765		♣ K98
			♠ 96
			♥ K865
			♦ QJ10
			♣ QJ42

Bompis-Quantin bid the E/W cards to 3NT. Dubinin led the ♣2 to the ace and Gromov returned the ♠10 at trick two. Bompis knocked out the spade stopper and soon had nine tricks. Only three pairs managed to score +400 on the board (presumably in 3NT), which was worth 125 IMPs.

Bd: 13	♠ K96		
Dlr: North	♥ 10943		
Vul: Both	♦ AQJ7		
	♣ 62		
	♠ AQ8		♠ J53
	♥ AKJ52		♥ Q76
	♦ 6		♦ K54
	♣ A853		♣ KQ97
			♠ 10742
			♥ 8
			♦ 109832
			♣ J104

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ekeblad</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Rubin</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	6♣	All Pass

Weinstein's 2♣ was 3-card Drury and it was excellent judgment to bid the slam in clubs rather than hearts. (With an inescapable diamond loser the hearts are needed to get rid of the spade loser in the likely event that the ♠K is not outside doubleton.) Plus 1370.



Bd: 15	♠ Q109853		
Dlr: South	♥ 10982		
Vul: N/S	♦ 853		
	♣ ---		
♠ J2		♠ 6	
♥ AK76		♥ J	
♦ K92		♦ AQ764	
♣ A842		♣ KQJ963	
	♠ AK74		
	♥ Q543		
	♦ J10		
	♣ 1075		
West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ekeblad</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Rubin</i>
			Pass
1NT	Pass	2♠	Dbl
Pass	3♠	6♣	All Pass

Lots of pairs bid the good club slam but we'd bet few of them got there as quickly as Levin-Weinstein did here. 2♠ showed both minors and the pass of the double denied a spade stopper. Now think about it from Weinstein's perspective. Partner has 15+ HCP, at most one of which is in spades. The only way E/W can be off two aces is if Levin holds specifically the ♠J, ♥KQJ, ♦KJ and ♣A. In any other scenario West must have the ♥A and ♣A, so slam must at worst be on a diamond finesse (and then only if West has the wasted ♥KQ). So Weinstein just up and bid the slam.

Bd: 19	♠ K5		
Dlr: South	♥ AK108		
Vul: E/W	♦ AJ986		
	♣ KJ		
♠ 9873		♠ QJ4	
♥ 43		♥ QJ7	
♦ KQ32		♦ 74	
♣ A93		♣ Q8754	
	♠ A1062		
	♥ 9652		
	♦ 105		
	♣ 1062		



Most pairs reached the good 4♥ contract, but about a third of them failed. We know of one pair who were unlucky enough to have played it from the South side and receive a low club lead. That's just too tough.

Bd: 22	♠ K7		
Dlr: East	♥ J9752		
Vul: E/W	♦ AKQ8		
	♣ 108		
♠ AQ82		♠ J10953	
♥ A106		♥ K8	
♦ 6432		♦ 105	
♣ AK		♣ 9753	
	♠ 64		
	♥ Q43		
	♦ J97		
	♣ QJ642		
West	North	East	South
<i>Rubin</i>	<i>Del'Monte</i>	<i>Ekeblad</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

4♠ is an excellent contract but only a little more than half of the field bid it. Russ Ekeblad and Ron Rubin contributed to Brogeland-Del'Monte's good Day One when they subsided in 3♠ on the above auction. 1♣ was strong and 1♠ showed clubs or the red suits. 2♥ was Pass-or-Correct and Rubin's pass tended to show a strong balanced hand. Now maybe Rubin should have jumped to 4♠ with his impressive controls but certainly Ekeblad has to assume some responsibility for not getting there with his good spade intermediates, five-four shape, and the ♥K behind the hand with the red suits.

