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Lille 98

Daily News

WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



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The Pride of Austria



Sylvia Terraneo, Maria Erhart, Doris Fischer and Terri Weigkrickt

Austria is the new Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup World Team Champion

In a final that started out close but ended up being one-sided Austria defeated Germany to secure the McConnell Cup.

Three of the team, Maria Erhart, Doris Fischer and Terri Weigkrickt were winning their second World title having won the Teams Olympiad in Salsomaggiore in 1992. For Sylvia Terraneo it is her first World title.

Vivendi Rosenblum

After two exciting semi-finals it is Brazil's Chagas and Angelini of Italy who face each other in today's final.

Société Générale Open Pairs

At the midway point in the semifinal, America's Steve Weinstein and Michael Rosenberg lead from Piotr Gawrys and Marcin Lesniewski of Poland.

Louis Vuitton Women's Pairs

After two of the semifinal sessions the leaders are China's Wang Wenfei and Zhang Yu. They lead by almost 2% from America's Amalya Kearsse and Jacqui Mitchell.

Elf Seniors Pairs

Leading after two qualifying sessions are Great Britain's Boris Schapiro and Irving Gordon.

Leaving Lille Saturday poses serious problems

Leaving Lille on Saturday will pose serious problems for those attending this tournament. Lille will be host to Plan Semi-Marathon, a major festival this weekend, and more than a million people are expected.

Driving will be very difficult early in the morning and impossible after 15.00 when all automobile traffic will be banned in downtown Lille. This prohibition will continue until midnight Sunday. It is strongly suggested that you do any driving prior to 10.00. We suggest that you pick up a map called "Braderie le Plan" from the Hospitality Desk. The map shows clearly all the streets from which automobiles will be banned.

Special arrangements have been made for participants in the bridge tournament. Anyone with a car who needs to travel out of Lille **MUST** have a special pass. This pass can be obtained from the Stand in the foyer at the bottom of the main stairs. To obtain the pass you must give your car registration number, your name and the hotel where you're staying.

Those who do not have cars may use taxis to get to the airport or the railroad station until about 9.00. After that, any taxi that accepts a fare will take his passengers to their destination, but the taxi will **NOT** return to Lille. Therefore it is incumbent on all those who need taxi service to use a taxi as early as possible.

Rides on the Metro will be free from Friday through Sunday evening.

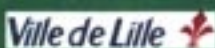
Any additional notices concerning this matter will appear in the Daily News as received.

Cara IMP Pairs

The three-session Cara Transnational IMP Pairs will be held Wednesday and Thursday. The first session will start tomorrow at 14.00. The second and third sessions will be held Thursday at 11.00 and 16.00.

Registration will take place today at the Hospitality Desk. The cost is \$120 American. The event will be held on the 8th floor.

The first session of all of today's pairs events will start at 11.00. The Vivendi Rosenblum Teams will get under way at 10.00.



CCI DE LILLE METROPOLE



SEVENTH HEAVEN

by Tony Gordon (GB)

In the semifinal of the Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup, the German team captained by Sabine Auken led the American team captained by Nadine Wood by 12 IMPs (64-52) at the three-quarter mark. However, the last quarter was mostly one-way traffic and Auken eventually triumphed by 50 IMPs to set up an all-European final against Maria Erhart's Austrian team.

On their way to winning the last set 48-10, Sabine Auken and Daniela von Arnim broke one of their own personal records. In the semifinal of the Venice Cup in Beijing, they had bid to 6♠ with spades being mentioned for the first time at the six-level. Early on in the final set they went one better.

Board 17. Nil Vul. Dealer North.

♠ 8 7 6 5 ♥ 10 6 5 4 2 ♦ 9 5 ♣ 6 2 ♠ A J 10 4 2 ♥ K 9 8 3 ♦ 10 8 3 2 ♣ -	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td style="border-left: 1px solid black;"></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N		E	W		S	♠ K Q ♥ A Q ♦ A K Q 6 4 ♣ K Q J 7 ♠ 9 3 ♥ J 7 ♦ J 7 ♣ A 10 9 8 5 4 3	
N		E							
W		S							
West v. Arnim	North Tornay	East Auken	South Lewis						
3♥ 4♥ 6♣ 7♦	Pass Pass Pass All Pass	1♣ 3♠ 7♣	3♣ Pass Pass Pass						

After Ellee Lewis had overcalled Auken's strong club opening with a weak jump overcall in clubs, von Arnim's 3♥ was game forcing with spades and her subsequent 4♥ was natural. In response to 4NT she then showed one ace and a club void. That was enough for Auken to offer her partner a choice of major suit grand slams with her 7♣ bid. However, von Arnim then showed that she had a further string to her bow when she introduced her diamonds for the first time at the seven-level. It took some time for the bidding tray to come back at this point as Auken had to decide if she, in turn, was being asked to choose between the majors. Eventually she decided that 7♦ was bound to be a good contract and duly passed. Claire Tornay led a heart, but there were no problems in the play and +1440 was worth 10 IMPs as Nadine Wood and Terry Michaels stopped in 6♠ in the other room. Three boards later, there was another slam swing to Germany.

Board 20. All Vul. Dealer West.

♠ Q 4 3 ♥ K 10 7 6 ♦ 5 4 ♣ 9 7 3 2 ♠ A K 6 5 ♥ A 2 ♦ A Q 9 7 6 2 ♣ A	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td style="border-left: 1px solid black;"></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N		E	W		S	♠ J 7 2 ♥ Q J 9 5 ♦ K 3 ♣ K 6 5 4 ♠ 10 9 8 ♥ 8 4 3 ♦ J 10 8 ♣ Q J 10 8	
N		E							
W		S							
West v. Arnim	North Tornay	East Auken	South Lewis						
1♣ 2♦ 3♠ 4♦ 6♦	Pass Pass Pass Pass All Pass	1♥ 2NT 3NT 5♦	Pass Pass Pass Pass						

After the strong club opening and positive response, Auken's subsequent 2NT showed 8-10 or 13+ and 3NT put her in the lower range. Von Arnim might well have passed 5♦, but she went on to slam with her control-rich hand. However, when Tornay led a trump and dummy appeared, she must have wished she was in 6NT rather than 6♦.

In 6♦ she had a choice of plays. She could win the first trick in hand and play to pitch her second heart on dummy's ♣K and subsequently try to make three spade tricks. Alternatively, she could cash the rounded aces and then play a second heart, intending to discard her losing spades on dummy's ♣K and a winning heart.

There doesn't seem to be much to choose between these two lines and, of course, they both work. Eventually, she chose the second line and duly chalked up +1370 for a 13-IMP gain as the contract in the other room was 5♦.

Auken led by 44 IMPs at this point and the match was as good as over. Board 27 put the final nail in the coffin.

Board 27. Nil Vul. Dealer South.

♠ K Q 10 4 ♥ A 8 3 ♦ Q ♣ A K 10 5 2 ♠ 8 5 3 2 ♥ K Q 10 4 ♦ 7 6 2 ♣ 4 3	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td style="border-left: 1px solid black;"></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N		E	W		S	♠ A 7 6 ♥ 2 ♦ K 10 9 8 5 3 ♣ 9 7 6 ♠ J 9 ♥ J 9 7 6 5 ♦ A J 4 ♣ Q J 8	
N		E							
W		S							
West v. Arnim	North Tornay	East Auken	South Lewis						
Pass Pass	1♣ 4♥	2♦ All Pass	Pass 2♥						

In the Open Room, the Americans reached the popular contract of 4♥ and von Arnim led the ♦6. There was less excitement here compared with what happened on vugraph, as Lewis simply ruffed a diamond and then played two rounds of trumps to go one down when trumps did not behave.

Clearly, the ideal contract is 3NT, and that was the contract reached by Katrin Farwig and Barbara Stawowy in the Closed Room.

West Michaels	North Stawowy	East Wood	South Farwig
Pass Pass Pass	1♣ 1♠ 3NT	Pass Pass All Pass	Pass 1♥ 2NT

3NT made 11 easy tricks for another 11 IMPs to Germany.

Internet Traffic

These championships, in line with previous events, are being followed not only by the people present here but also by thousands of others in the comfort of their own homes.

The WBF Internet site:

www.bridge.gr

is the source of information for results from the tournament, all of which are available within moments of their being made available. In addition the *Daily News* can be read long before the printed version is available here in Lille.

Moreover, material from the WBF server is regularly copied by numerous other sites around the world, helping to spread the information further afield to those not travelling to Lille.

We do not know the exact amount of traffic that these secondary locations attract. However, at the halfway mark of the championships, around 24,000 people (an average of 3,000 per day) have received information from the WBF's primary site.

Computer or Information Technology specialists use the term 'hit' to measure the total number of requests of any kind received by the server and here we had a record on Thursday 27 August of 122,000 'hits'. Over the first eight days we have received over 600,000 hits, an average of 75,000 per day.

The Olympic Grand Prix



IOC



A major breakthrough bridge event will take place in Lausanne, Switzerland, immediately following the end of these championships.

The WBF, in partnership with the **International Olympic Committee** (IOC), are organising a top-level tournament to mark the strong link developing between the two organisations.

Taking part are the teams that have won the Bridge Olympiad: **France**, 4 times; **Italy**, 3 times; **Brazil**, **Poland** and the **USA** once each. **China**, nowadays the most rapidly expanding bridge organisation, joins them thereby ensuring global representation.

They will play a Round Robin from which the top two teams will go forward to contest the **IOC Grand Prix** Final.

The tournament will be staged in the Olympic Museum in Lausanne and the President of the IOC, **Juan Antonio Samaranch**, will preside over the event. The Opening Ceremony will be held on Monday, September 7th, and Mr Sama-

ranch will hand out the prizes to the winners at the Victory Banquet on Friday September 11th.

Bridge players from around the world will doubtless wish to visit Lausanne in order to attend this unique competition between some of the World's best teams. All visitors are most welcome.

There will be a **VuGraph** presentation every day where leading analysts will be covering the most interesting match.

At the same time visitors will enjoy the beautiful surroundings of Lausanne, a peaceful and picturesque city on the shores of Lake Geneva.

Those people from around the world who are unlucky enough to be unable to come to Lausanne will be able to follow the tournament through the WBF Internet site:

www.bridge.gr

while the most important matches will be shown on Internet VuGraph at: **www.bridgeplaza.com**

Beineix, Jafri and Wignall named to Committee of Honor

Three leading figures in world bridge have been named to the Committee of Honour by the World Bridge Federation. They are Jean-Claude Beineix of France, Mazhar Jafri of Pakistan and John Wignall of New Zealand.



John Wignall

John Wignall has been a major factor in making New Zealand one of the most active bridge nations in the world. He helped form the Christchurch Contract Bridge Club way back in 1953, and he served as club president from 1958 to 1978. During that period club membership increased from 100 to 800.

How did this come about? First of all, he instituted teaching programs that proved highly successful. But there was a problem - when students graduated from their bridge classes, they found they were outclassed by the regulars at the bridge club. So they came a few times and then stayed away.

Wignall was one of the first in the world to find the solution - he set up separate grades of games so that players were able to play with their peers in ability and experience. This program brought back a lot of the students who had been scared away.

John also thought it was important to have a good place to play, and in 1968 he oversaw the building of a clubhouse for the Christchurch club. This was one of the first bridge clubhouses ever built in the world. Problem - the club burned down in 1974. Solution - immediately the club set about building a new clubhouse, the building where Christchurch players compete today.

Wignall is not just an administrator - he has represented New Zealand on many occasions in world play. He has competed in three Olympiads and three Bermuda Bowls. He also has played in eight Far East Championships. He is a Grand Master in New Zealand. This year he was given the New Zealand Honour of Merit for his outstanding contributions to the "sport of bridge".

He became a member of the WBF Executive in 1987 after serving as a member of the New Zealand management committee since 1974 and as president for two years. A WBF vice-president since 1994, he serves on several key WBF committees - Management, Systems, Laws, Finance and Rules and Regulations. He is also president of Zone 7 (South Pacific including Australia and New Zealand).

He is also a bridge journalist - he has been writing bridge columns for the two largest newspapers on the South Island for more than 30 years.

He is accompanied on all his bridge excursions by Adele, the woman who became his wife in 1975. "Adele has given me considerable support in my bridge activities over the years," said John. They have three children, "but only the youngest, Keith, shows any interest in bridge."



Mazhar Jafri

Mazhar Jafri, who became a member of the WBF Executive in 1979, has helped Zone 4 (Africa, Asia and the Middle East) make giant strides in the advancement of bridge. Most of the countries in his zone are Third World developing nations, and he faced many problems in making bridge a part of the culture of these nations.

What kind of problems did he face? In some nations card playing is considered to be akin to gambling and therefore is severely frowned upon. The government has to recognize a game as a sport in many of the countries as well.

The WBF was a major help in some areas. The WBF provided technology to many nations, and these countries in turn began to develop interest in bridge. Books were supplied, and interested persons were taught to teach bridge. Seminars were set up to train tournament directors. Classes were then set up by the newly trained teachers.

But there still was much work to do. Jafri

became very much involved with the WBF hopes of seeing bridge become an Olympic sport. He realized that, if this hope came to fruition, it would be much easier to convince the leaders of Third World countries that bridge is, after all, a sport - a sport of importance sufficient to be Olympian. (A separate article about what is happening on the Olympic front will appear in a later edition of the Daily News.)

Jafri has held many major positions through the years. He was president of the Pakistan Bridge Federation for six years and is now president emeritus of this organization. After serving as secretary of Zone 4 for 15 years, he became president in 1995. He has been a vice-president of the WBF since 1991.



Jean-Claude Beineix

Jean-Claude Beineix of France, first vice-president of the European Bridge League and former president of the French Bridge Federation, now is a member of the WBF Executive. He was instrumental in the preparations for the Championships here in Lille, with primary responsibility for logistics.

He has worked closely with WBF President José Damiani since 1982, where he was part of the group that staged the Olympiad in Biarritz. In the French Bridge Federation, he is delegate general with responsibility for everything technical. That includes tournament organization.

He has been playing bridge since 1962. He is a good player, "but I'm not in the top level of French players." He enjoys the mental stimulation he gets from the game. "And I enjoy the sociability as well. I love to get together with friends for dinner, then play some bridge afterwards."

His wife Odile also is a good player. At this tournament she is in charge of the Hospitality Desk. They have two sons - and they are eagerly awaiting the birth of their first grandchild in about three months.

L'imagination au pouvoir

Par Philippe Brunel

Il aura fallu attendre le 11^{ème} bulletin pour enfin avoir le droit à quelques lignes en français. Cette donne, illustre l'imagination d'un jeune français, Thierry van Reeth (associé à Philippe Taguère) au volant, en Ouest au contrat de 3SA.

Donne 3 - Est/Ouest Vul. Sud donneur

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

Contrat: 3SA par Est
Entame: 4 de T.

Sur le 5 du mort, Nord, Philippe Soriano, mit le Valet, carte qui allait s'avérer fatale quelques minutes plus tard car le déclarant (Thierry van Reeth) prit la levée de ...l'As. Il joua ensuite la Dame de Pique qui fut duquée et continua du 10 pris du Roi. Du mort maintenant, il avança le Valet pour l'As de Pique de Sud.

Mettez-vous à la place du malheureux J.Gozlan, en Sud, lorsqu'il dut rejouer. Il n'imagina pas la diabolique présence de table de son adversaire et revint du 3 de T. pour le 10 du mort !

Quelques Piques plus tard, grâce à un gisement favorable des Carreaux, le déclarant avait aligné 9 levées.

L'extra-lucide Soriano n'a pas imaginé fournir le 8 de Trèfle sur l'entame qui aurait ruiné les espoirs du déclarant.

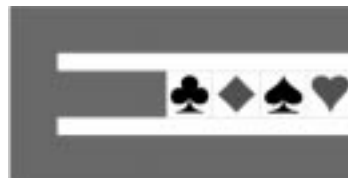
Bridge fanatic

Germany's Elke Webber and her partner were surprised to find they had a sit out in one of the Louis Vuitton Women's Pairs qualifying rounds. While Elke stayed at the table her partner excused herself. In due course the Director called the move for the next round. Two minutes later she hurried back to the table, apologising for being late. Later she explained that she had been playing against a computer during her sit-out!

She won 13 IMPs!

PROKOM
SOFTWARE S.A.

European



Championships

10th Open Pairs (9 sessions) and 5th Senior Pairs (6 sessions)



will be held at the Palace of Culture and Science in Warsaw, Poland

March 15 - 20, 1999



The Palace of Culture and Science is situated in the centre of Warsaw and its spacious halls will provide excellent playing conditions

There will be substantial cash prizes

Please Contact your NCBO for further information or write to:

Information of Entries

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e-mail: 100717.272@compuserve.com

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Final LV Set One

Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup

Erhart (Austria) v Auken (Germany)

A lively set of deals saw a lot of swings in the first session of the Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup final, but at the end of the 14 boards there was only 1 IMP between the teams.

First blood went to the Germans.

Board 1. Nil Vul. Dealer North.

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

West <i>Weigkricht</i>	North <i>Auken</i>	East <i>Fischer</i>	South <i>v Arnim</i>
2♣	1♥	Pass	2♦
All Pass	Pass	Pass	4♥

The 2♦ response was at least invitational in hearts and Sabine Auken's pass over 2♣ said that she did not hold a minimum hand. Daniela von Arnim closed proceedings with a jump to 4♥.

Doris Fischer led a spade and Auken won the ace and played a club to the ace then ruffed a club. She cashed the king and ace of diamonds then ruffed a spade. Now the third club was ruffed by Terry Weigkricht with the ♥10, forcing Auken to over-ruff with the ace. Declarer was in control, however. She ruffed a diamond then another club followed by a spade, and still had to make another trump in dummy for +420.

Closed Room

West <i>Farwig</i>	North <i>Erhart</i>	East <i>Stawowy</i>	South <i>Terraneo</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

The 2NT forcing heart raise shut Katrin Farwig's spades out of the auction and this was to have an important bearing on the play as Maria Erhart had less information to go on than her opposite number. Barbara Stawowy led the ♦Q and Erhart won the king and played a diamond to her ace then played ace of spades and a spade ruff. Next came ace of clubs and a club ruff then another spade,

ruffed in dummy as East pitched a diamond. The next club was ruffed with the ten and over-ruffed with the ace. Now Erhart ruffed another spade in dummy and Stawowy threw her ♣K. When Erhart now played a winning club, Stawowy ruffed and could draw trumps and cash her ♦J to defeat the contract by one trick; -50 and 10 IMPs to AUKEN.

Board 2. N/S Vul. Dealer East.

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

West <i>Weigkricht</i>	North <i>Auken</i>	East <i>Fischer</i>	South <i>v Arnim</i>
1♦	Dble	3♦	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

It seems to me that von Arnim might have been better advised to bid 3♠ rather than 3♥ over the pre-emptive diamond raise. Had Auken's majors been reversed and she had again bid 3NT, that would have allowed a comfortable 4♥ continuation. As it was, 4♦ was an intelligent shot, attempting to show a secondary spade suit. Unfortunately, Auken could not imagine that her partner had five spades and imagined that she was facing a three-suited hand. 6♣ was not what von Arnim wanted to see, but her disappointment was nothing compared to Auken's when dummy went down. A spade lead to the ace saw the ♣K ruffed out at trick two and the slam eventually drifted four down; -400.

Closed Room

West <i>Farwig</i>	North <i>Erhart</i>	East <i>Stawowy</i>	South <i>Terraneo</i>
INT	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♥	Dble	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

The auction went much better for the Aus-

trians in the Closed Room. Erhart was able to double the no trump opening then make a takeout double of 2♥ on the next round. Sylvia Terraneo now jumped to 4♠ and that contract lost just two trump tricks; +650 and 14 IMPs to Austria, putting them into the lead.

Board 3. E/W Vul. Dealer South.

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

West <i>Weigkricht</i>	North <i>Auken</i>	East <i>Fischer</i>	South <i>v Arnim</i>
Pass	1♣	2♦	Pass
2♥	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

1♣ was strong and the 2♦ overall was weak in an unspecified major. When Auken freely rebid 3♣, von Arnim felt she had to show her diamonds and the almost hopeless 3NT was reached.

Fischer led the ♥10 to Weigkricht's bare king. Weigkricht switched to a spade and Auken put in the queen then played out three rounds of clubs, Fischer throwing a heart. Back came another spade and Auken won and ran the clubs.

It seems that the defence should be virtually double dummy now, as declarer's shape is known and her singleton diamond has to be the king to justify her bidding. East has, therefore, to come down to ♠J, ♥A, ♦QJ and West must keep at least one other spade with the king. Inexplicably, Fischer, who had been discarding smoothly with the air of someone who knew exactly what was going on, threw the ♦Q on the last club. Auken could now overtake the ♦K and made an overtrick; +430.

Closed Room

West <i>Farwig</i>	North <i>Erhart</i>	East <i>Stawowy</i>	South <i>Terraneo</i>
Pass	1♣	1♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

This time the overcall of the strong club was only at the one-level and Erhart reopened with a double when 1♥ came back to her. When Terraneo jumped to 3♦, the 3NT continuation was inevitable.

Again the lead was a heart to the bare king. Here, declarer had not disclosed her clubs in the auction, except perhaps by implication. Farwig switched to the queen of clubs and Erhart ducked. She won the club continuation and rattled off the clubs. It seems that she was in a worse position than Auken in that she had not even had the spade finesse taken for her. However, on the run of the clubs, Stawowy was throwing hearts away. By the time the clubs were exhausted, she had come down to only two hearts. Erhart could lead a heart, win the spade return, and play a second heart to establish her queen. That was nine tricks for +400 but 1 IMP to AUKEN.

Board 4. All Vul. Dealer West.

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

	♠ K 3 2	
	♥ A J 9 8	
	♦ A J 8 2	
	♣ J 8	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Weigkricht</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>v Arnim</i>
2♦	Pass	2♥	All Pass

Would you open a vulnerable multi on that emaciated suit? Well, the Austrian style is to open whenever possible and worry about it later. Von Arnim led the ♣J against 2♥ and Fischer won the queen, cashed the ace of clubs and ruffed a club. On that trick von Arnim pitched a spade. Now Fischer led the ♠Q and ran it to the king. Von Arnim returned a spade and Fischer tried to cash her other spade winner. When that got ruffed she had no way to recover and finished down one; -100.

It might have been better for declarer to play a diamond to the queen at trick three. Now she takes the spade finesse and the defence has to be very careful to prevent her from being able to cash two spade tricks. Still, it looks as though the timing may not be quite right to allow declarer to scramble eight tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Farwig</i>	<i>Erhart</i>	<i>Stawowy</i>	<i>Terraneo</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Dble
2♥	2♠	All Pass	

Farwig did not open the West hand but made a weak jump response over the takeout double of 1♣. Now Erhart bid her spades, a dubious decision on such a weak suit vulnerable with a badly placed ♣K. 2♠ went two down for -200 and 7 IMPs to AUKEN, back in the lead.

Board 5. N/S Vul. Dealer North.

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Weigkricht</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>v Arnim</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	INT
Dble	2♣	Pass	Pass
	Pass	2♠	All Pass

North's auction would usually be canapé so it was normal for von Arnim to pass 2♣. That meant that West had the right shortage to make a normal balancing double and Fischer responded 2♠.

Von Arnim led the ♥Q against 2♠. Fischer won in hand and played the ♠J, running it to the ace. Auken cashed the ♦A and underled the ♣A to put von Arnim in to give her a diamond ruff. That went to the queen and king. Though von Arnim led a high diamond back, suggesting no second club entry, Auken underled again in the vain hope of defeating the contract. That got Fischer back up to nine tricks; +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Farwig</i>	<i>Erhart</i>	<i>Stawowy</i>	<i>Terraneo</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	INT
All Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥

One would have thought that North's sequence would again have been canapé in the Austrian style, but perhaps not.

Anyway, Terraneo gave preference to hearts and now it was less obvious for East/West to protect. 2♥ was a fairly straightforward make; +110 and 6 IMPs to ERHART, back in front at 20-18.

Board 6. E/W Vul. Dealer East.

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

	♠ 8	
	♥ -	
	♦ A K 10 9 7 6 4	
	♣ J 10 8 6 4	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Weigkricht</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>v Arnim</i>
4♥	Dble	1♥	4♦
		All Pass	

The 4♦ overcall was perfectly timed, giving Weigkricht little option but to bid 4♥. When Auken doubled that the Austrians were in trouble.

Von Arnim led the ♦K and switched to the ♣J. At this early stage in the play, Fischer knew very little about the opposing hands and thought it possible that the switch was from ♣Jx. Accordingly, she covered with dummy's queen, losing to the bare ace. Auken returned a low trump which Fischer won on table to play a club. Auken discarded a spade so the king won. The ♦Q was covered and ruffed with the ♥J and now declarer played the third club. Von Arnim won and played a spade through. There were now various possible routes, all leading to three down; -800.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Farwig</i>	<i>Erhart</i>	<i>Stawowy</i>	<i>Terraneo</i>
Dble	All Pass	INT	5♦

Terraneo's full-blooded jump to 5♦ left Farwig with what looked to be an obvious double. If so, she was swiftly disillusioned. After a spade lead, Terraneo could play to ruff two clubs in the dummy and just concede one club and one diamond; +550. Terraneo was probably mildly disappointed with the comparison on this deal; 6 IMPs to AUKEN who was back in the lead.

Board 7. All Vul. Dealer South.

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Weigkricht	Auken	Fischer	v Arnim
			1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

2♦ was a transfer to hearts and 3♦ showed a decent five-five. When von Arnim next admitted to heart tolerance, Auken used RKCB then bid the fair slam. This time, the slam had to fail by a trick due to the bad heart break; -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Farwig	Erhart	Stawowy	Terraneo
			1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Erhart started with 2♣ to set up a canape sequence then bid her hearts and stressed them at her third bid with a jump to 4♥. Terraneo had no reason to move on and 4♥ made eleven tricks for +650 and 13 IMPs to Austria. Once again the lead had changed hands.

Board 9. E/W Vul. Dealer North.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Weigkricht	Auken	Fischer	v Arnim
	1♦	1♥	2♣
3♣	3♦	Pass	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

Terry Weigkricht did not look very impressed when her partner passed what was surely a forcing sequence, and she didn't look any happier when the dummy went down.

Auken led the ♣K and von Arnim overtook to switch to her singleton diamond.

Weigkricht put in the ♦8 and Auken won the ten and switched back to clubs, the ten being covered by the jack and ruffed. Weigkricht finessed the ♥J next, losing to the queen. Von Arnim played a low club and Weigkricht threw a diamond as Auken ruffed. Now came the ace of diamonds and another diamond for von Arnim to ruff. When she returned the ♣Q, ruffing with the eight would have got Weigkricht out for down two, but she not unreasonably ruffed high and that meant down three; -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Farwig	Erhart	Stawowy	Terraneo
	3♦	Pass	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

Maria Erhart picked a good time to open with a chunky pre-empt. Katrin Farwig overcalled 3♠ and played there. After a heart lead, Farwig did well to make eight tricks for just one down and 5 IMPs to AUKEN.

Board 10. All Vul. Dealer East.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Weigkricht	Auken	Fischer	v Arnim
		1♠	Pass
INT	All Pass		

The defence began with five rounds of hearts, on the fifth of which von Arnim threw a discouraging ♠9 while Weigkricht came down to a bare ♦J.

Auken cashed one top club then switched to a diamond. Declarer thought for a while then played low. The queen won and von Arnim could exit with a spade and wait to be given two more diamond tricks in the ending; -300.

Had Auken cashed the second top club, dummy would have been squeezed. Had declarer thrown a diamond, banking on their being guessable to keep her four spade tricks intact, a diamond switch now would have led to six down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Farwig	Erhart	Stawowy	Terraneo
		INT	Pass
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

The auction panned out much better for North/South in the Closed Room. When Erhart balanced with 2♥, Terraneo had sufficient trump support and distribution to justify a raise to game. Game is poor but successful. In practice, Erhart made twelve tricks on a low club lead for +680 and 9 IMPs to ERHART.

Board 14. Nil Vul. Dealer East.

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

Erhart/Terraneo bid quickly to the normal 4♠ in the Closed Room; +480. The Germans were more adventurous in the Open Room.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Weigkricht	Auken	Fischer	v Arnim
		Pass	INT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

INT was a mini and 2♥ a transfer. 2♠ showed a minimum for spades and now 4♦ was a self-agreeing splinter. With two key cards, von Arnim wanted to show some suitability for slam without going past game. When partner is not prepared to make a more positive acceptance of the slam try, it looks a little over-aggressive for North to drive to slam, but that is what Auken did, and she got very lucky.

The lead was a heart to the ace. Auken drew three rounds of trumps then played a diamond to the ace and ruffed a diamond, heart to the queen and ruffed another diamond. When she next played a club to the ace, she had a complete count on the hand and knew that the ♣Q had to be singleton rather than from ♣KQ so there was no guess; +980 and 11 not unfortunate IMPs to AUKEN.

At the end of an action packed first set ERHART led by 44-43 IMPs.

Semifinal - Set Two



By Barry Rigal



Bramley v Angelini



The semifinal between BRAMLEY and ANGELINI was very close after one set and continued to be so during the second stanza. The swing on this first deal could have gone either way;

Board 19. E/W Vul. Dealer South.

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

Pollack and Casen missed 6♥ when they bid:

West	East
1♠	2♣
2♥	3♥
4♥	5♣
5♥	Pass

Why didn't West bid 5♦ over 5♣? We will never know; +680. But in the other room:

West	North	East	South
	Lazard		Bramley
			3♦
4♦	7♦	7♥	All Pass

The Italian East put too much trust in the fact that his opponents had bid all the way to the seven-level and bid 7♥ over 7♦. Perhaps a forcing pass would have been better advised because Bart Bramley had found a great time to open a desperately thin 3♦ pre-empt. When Bramley followed that up by leading a diamond that was one down and 13 IMPs to BRAMLEY. 7♦ doubled would have cost 1700, which would have meant a 14 IMP swing in the opposite direction.

Board 20. All Vul. Dealer West.

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

Differing weak two opening styles created a swing on this deal. Lazard's 2♥ opening showed 6-10 and Bramley just passed it. 2♥ was one down for -100.

For Buratti/Lanzarotti, 2♥ promised 8-12. South responded 2NT, showing spades, and North showed his club feature then raised to 4♠, which was duly made with an overtrick for +650 and 13 IMPs to ANGELINI.

Board 22. E/W Vul. Dealer East.

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

West	North	East	South
2♠	2NT	1♠	Dble
All Pass		3♦	3NT

This was +400 for BRAMLEY when Lazard won the spade lead and picked up the clubs successfully. At the other table it went:

West	North	East	South
2♠	3♣	1♠	Dble
All Pass		3♠	4♣

This made eleven tricks despite the 4-0 trump split but that was still only +150 and 6 IMPs to BRAMLEY.

Board 23. All Vul. Dealer South.

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

ANGELINI gained a game swing on this deal. Both tables saw West declarer in 4♥ on the lead of a diamond, ducked to South's queen. The Italian South switched to a club now

and the contract had to fail by a trick. Bramley switched to the ♠3. When Versace played low from hand he had no spade loser and so made his contract; 12 IMPs to ANGELINI.

Board 29. All Vul. Dealer North.

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

Bramley played in 3♦ on a heart lead to the ace. He played ace and another diamond to West's king and back came a heart, ruffed. Bramley ducked a club to the ten and back came the ♣Q. Bramley took this and eventually went one down, West having the necessary entry to push through a spade to secure two defensive spade tricks. But suppose that Bramley ducks the ♣Q. He wins the club continuation, ruffs a heart and plays a diamond to the queen. The end position is this:

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

East must discard on the trump queen. If he pitches a spade, declarer can play ace and another spade to establish the queen. If East pitches a heart, declarer simply exits with the ♥Q and pitches a spade, and East must lead into the spade tenace. Either way, that is nine tricks.

Better Luck Next Time!

If you did not do well in the tournament, you can replay the deals in the 'Computer Jungle'. The scoring is in matchpoints for the pairs and IMPs for the teams.

Final **Set Two**

Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup

Austria v Germany

Austria started the third quarter with a healthy 29 IMP lead and within the space of four boards they had effectively put themselves out of reach.

Board 1. Nil Vul. Dealer North.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Erhart</i>	<i>Stawowy</i>	<i>Terraneo</i>	<i>Farwig</i>
	1♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

The short interval between sessions makes it difficult to obtain exact details with regard to the meaning of every single bid, but this is what we think was happening. After South had made a game forcing response to the opening bid the rebid showed a shortage and the subsequent 3NT was of the 'serious' variety, implying slam interest. When North failed to cuebid over 4♣ (or was that a reply to RKCB?) South could hardly be blamed for settling for the small slam.

West	North	East	South
<i>Von Arnim</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Weigkricht</i>
	4♣	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♥	Pass	7NT
All Pass			

This was duck soup for the Austrians and

Correction

In the report on the Senior Teams final in Monday morning's Daily News, Mr Szenberg should have been West and Mr Wilkosz East throughout. Our apologies for the misinformation.

they must have been slightly surprised to gain 11 IMPs, putting them 40 IMPs ahead. Germany suffered on the next deal.

Board 2. N/S Vul. Dealer East.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Erhart</i>	<i>Stawowy</i>	<i>Terraneo</i>	<i>Farwig</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
2♥	All Pass	2♣	Pass

East's reopening bid promised the majors and West gave preference. North must surely have been tempted to wield the axe but in the event she went quietly. The contract drifted two down for +100 to Germany.

West	North	East	South
<i>Von Arnim</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Weigkricht</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♦
Pass	2NT	Dble	1♠
All Pass		Pass	3NT

We have no idea why Terri Weigkricht bid 1♠ and it had the effect of letting von Arnim off the hook. 3NT is clearly too high but the bridge Gods were about to smile on the Austrians.

With a difficult lead East selected the ♥2 which went to the six, nine and ten. With no place to go declarer tried a club to the ace and another club. West won with the ♣K and played the ♠8. North tried the ♠K and East won with the ace. East could not be sure her partner had the ♥A so she switched to the ♦9. Declarer went up with dummy's ace and called for a card from dummy. The players were speaking in German and clearly von Arnim thought it was a diamond for she put the ♦6 on the table. When it transpired that declarer had asked for the ♥K von Arnim substituted the ♥A.

The Director, Richard Grenside confirmed that the ♦6 was a major penalty card and so

had to be played at the first legal opportunity. East had no problem on this trick, parting with a heart, but the next diamond was a killer. Releasing a heart or a club would allow declarer to cash her tricks in that suit, at the same time squeezing East again. Auken released a club and was eventually thrown in with a spade to lead into declarer's heart tenace.

That cost another 11 IMPs; Austria by 51.

Both teams were at fault for not using English at the table which may well have contributed to this disaster.

Fischer/Weigkricht bid an excellent slam on the next board and the German pair must have been relieved to see it reached in the other room. It was only a temporary reprieve.

Board 4. All Vul. Dealer West.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Erhart</i>	<i>Stawowy</i>	<i>Terraneo</i>	<i>Farwig</i>
Pass	Pass	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

4♠ can be defeated but its not easy. South has to switch to a heart after cashing one trick in either minor. Then she can get in with the other minor to give North a heart ruff.

Not easy and after cashing the ♣A she fatally took a top diamond; +790 for Austria.

West	North	East	South
<i>Von Arnim</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Weigkricht</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	Dble
Pass	2♦	2♠	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

Well bid by the Austrians who recorded +600 and 16 huge IMPs.

It was by now clear that they would be the new Louis Vuitton McConnell World Champions.

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Regional delegations and subsidiaries	10	14
Branches	2,050 (1)	618
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Customer accounts	4,323,960	613,780

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GROUP

A ruff in a notrump contract?

As an involved auction by your opponents continues, your RHO bids 5NT. You pass and push the bidding tray to the other side. A short time later the tray comes back with the bidding cards from the other side removed. The contract is 5NT, right?

Well, you cash an ace and then lead the ♠A and ♥K. And declarer ruffs! Really!! What happened? While the tray was on the other side, your screenmate's partner bid 6♠, but both players pulled their bidding cards before sending the screen back.

No problem - 6♠ also was set a trick of course - your two aces.

A sure trick!

As declarer was playing his contract, his LHO discarded a small diamond, then discovered he could follow suit. Penalty card. Two tricks later his RHO discarded a small diamond, then found he could follow suit. Another penalty card. "A sure trick!" said declarer as he called for dummy's singleton ♦J and both opponents had to follow with their penalty cards.

A real Belgian slam

by Herman De Wael

Playing in 6♣, a Belgian declarer was happy to see both opponents leading an ace at the same time. Usually, when you now call the Director, you will find some way of seeing one of these aces disappear. And so it did! Which said nothing about the ace of trumps, which was also outstanding.

Actually I came across the hand again that evening - in the Appeals Committee, where they were studying the hand played in 6♥. Despite being off three aces, including the ace of trumps, that slam happens to be cold. For the full story of that board, see the Appeal that will be published some day soon.

Mellow Mexican music

George Rosenkranz and Miguel Reygadas enjoyed these hands from the fourth qualifying session of the Société Générale Open Pairs.

Board 11. Nil Vul. Dealer South.

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

♠ 9
 ♥ K J 9 4 2
 ♦ 7 6 5 3
 ♣ 10 9 5

West	North	East	South
Rosenkranz		Reygadas	
			2♦ ⁽¹⁾
Dble ⁽²⁾	4♥	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥ ⁽³⁾	Pass	5NT ⁽⁴⁾	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

- ⁽¹⁾ Weak heart suit
- ⁽²⁾ Either 16-18 balanced hand or 19-plus HCP
- ⁽³⁾ Do you have the ♠Q?
- ⁽⁴⁾ I do indeed!

Making 12 tricks was easy - the position of the ♥K was marked so of course the finesse worked. This was worth a large proportion of the matchpoints.

Board 20. All Vul. Dealer West.

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

♠ K 8
 ♥ Q 9 4
 ♦ K Q J 9 2
 ♣ Q 10 2

West	North	East	South
Rosenkranz		Reygadas	
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♦
3♦	4♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	4♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

When Rosenkranz started with the ♥K, Reygadas played the eight, suggesting a switch. Rosenkranz led a spade to partner's ace, and Reygadas tabled his ♥J, leading to two more tricks for the defence. Rosenkranz switched to a club, and declarer ducked to the king. Reygadas led a club back to the queen, and declarer went after trumps. But Rosenkranz rose with the ♦A and led a club for his partner to ruff. That capped an 1100-point set for virtually all the matchpoints.

Maintaining control

by Yildiz, Turkey

I found myself with a 4-3 trump suit on this deal, so I knew I had to be careful and keep control.

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

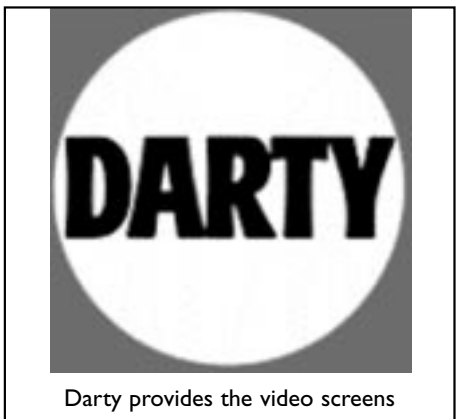
♠ K J 9 5
 ♥ 4
 ♦ A 7
 ♣ K Q 8 7 6 3

West	North	East	South
Mouiel	Aydogdu	Multon	Yildiz
Pass	2NT ⁽²⁾	Pass	2♣ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	3♦ ⁽³⁾	Pass	3♣ ⁽⁴⁾
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

- ⁽¹⁾ Four spades and a longer minor, 11-16 points
- ⁽²⁾ Relay
- ⁽³⁾ Values in diamond suit
- ⁽⁴⁾ Two honours in spades but no heart stopper

East won the ♥J opening lead with the ace and continued the suit. I discarded two clubs on the second and third rounds of the suit. Mouiel, after winning the third heart, switched to a small club to dummy's ace. I played the ♠A and ♠Q and then led dummy's other club. With both black suits behaving, I had my game.

By refusing to ruff a heart, I kept open the possibility of making my game even if the trumps broke 4-2. I couldn't afford to shorten my trumps by ruffing a heart.



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The return of Moyses

When 3NT does not look attractive, the best hope for game often can be located in a 4-3 major suit fit.

Board 19. E/W Vul. Dealer South.

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

West	North	East	South
Vortmann		Weber	
			Pass
2♦	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	All Pass

The 2♦ opening was either strong, 21-22 or 4-9 HCP with 4+♠ and a longer minor.

South led the ♠10 and after North won with the ace he switched to his singleton club. Declarer played the ♣10 from his hand, covered by the queen and ace. He now cunningly played the ♣2 from dummy and North ruffed with the ♥5. He switched to the ♦4 and dummy won with the ace. Declarer now played the ♣7 from dummy and North decided to ruff with the ♥7. Declarer overruffed and played a heart to the ace. Now he could cash two winning clubs discarding diamonds from his hand and take four more tricks on a crossruff.

The things world champions are made of, follow-up

by David Stevenson (England, GB)

In Daily News Issue 9 there is a hand bid boldly and played excellently by Fred Hamilton – but did you notice that the defence helped?

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

The write-up says: 'Hamilton ruffed the opening lead and immediately played a heart to the 10. The slam is unbeatable now.' Is it? The writer now considers what happens after a defender has taken his ♥K, but consider the hand if the ♥10 holds. Declarer plays another heart, East follows, and declarer plays ??? Either a defender has ducked brilliantly from Kxx with the East hand or with Kx with the West hand. If declarer guesses which correctly, he makes 13 tricks - and if he misguesses he goes off! What a shame that a defence equally brilliant to Fred's play was not found at the table!

Croatian Pseudo-squeeze

by Vladimir Biondic

Opens Pairs Qualifying Session 4.

Board 2. N/S Vul. Dealer East.


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

Davor Blazencic and Esad Kulovic of Croatia overbid to 6NT from the East hand. Kulovic received the lead of the ♠7 to the eight, ten and king. He thought he had a chance to win his contract if the heart honours were divided. In that case he had to play a heart to his queen and, if left-hand-opponent won with the ♥K or ♥A, there might later be a squeeze. If South held both heart and spade length he might duck to try to prevent declarer from setting up and reading a squeeze ending.

Kulovic led a spade to dummy followed by a heart to the queen. The first hope failed to materialise when South took the ace and returned a club. Declarer won in hand and rattled off the remainder of the clubs. North had big problems with his discards, having important holdings in all three suits. Kulovic's first two discards were the ♦4 and ♦7 and, as he had shown five diamonds in the auction, it appeared to North that he must therefore still hold the ♦AQ8.


In reality, South's ♦8 was guarding the suit, so that North needed only to keep the bare ♦K to defeat the contract. However, he threw his ♥K to hang on to the diamonds and now Kulovic had two heart tricks and made his slam for a huge score.

Of course, North's defence doesn't stand up to analysis. After six rounds of clubs, three spades and a heart, he can keep only two diamonds, even if he relies on his partner to guard the hearts, as he must also keep a spade guard. Once you are coming down to two diamonds, you might just as well come down to a singleton. Still, well played by Kulovic to visualise the opportunity to give his opponents a problem.



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Master Bidders Club

Canada's Joey Silver is well known not only as a top class player but also as one of the best panellists taking part in the bidding features of several bridge magazines. He dropped into the Daily News office to provide details of the following deal from the first qualifying session of the Société Générale Open Pairs Championship. It featured an excellent bidding sequence.

Board 2. N/S Vul. Dealer East.

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

	♠ Q 10 8	
	♥ Q J 7 3 2	
	♦ J 5 2	
	♣ 10 2	

West	North	East	South
<i>Gitelman</i>		<i>Silver</i>	
		Pass	Pass
1♣	2♠	Dble	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♦	All Pass

After Fred Gitelman opened with a natural 1♣ North made a weak jump overcall of 2♠. He probably considered bidding 3♠ but the vulnerability and his poor 7-2-2-2 shape were strong factors. Joey Silver made a negative double that by agreement promised real values.

As an aside, many partnerships now play that in this situation a redouble by South would promise a high spade honour but this was clearly not an appropriate moment.

Fred introduced his diamond suit and Joey showed his primary support for clubs. When Fred now bid 4♥ it was clear his shape was 1-3-4-5. The obvious bid was 5♣ but Joey realised that the fifth club in his partner's hand would provide a potentially vital discard. That enabled him to find the winning bid of 5♦.

Proof, if it were needed, that he bids just as well at the table as he does on paper!



Vivendi sponsors the Vivendi Rosenblum Cup



World News

Shark alert

The spectacular Steven Spielberg film 'Jaws' immediately sprang to mind when thirty miles of Italy's coast were closed to swimmers after a 20-foot great white shark attacked a cabin cruiser 12 miles off shore.

It is the first time a great white shark has been sighted in the Mediterranean. Experts said global warming was affecting the territorial spread of the shark and predicted that it would move into British waters within 10 years.

Cuban plane crash kills 78

A Cuban plane carrying 90 people burst into flames at take-off at Quito, Ecuador, on Saturday killing 78 people, including five children playing football.

At least 19 foreigners were killed, including Cubans, Chileans, Italians, Spaniards, an Argentinean and a Jamaican.

Big Mac's attack

No, not an advert for McDonald's, but confirmation that Baseball star, Mark McGwire is homing in on a place in the record books as the 1998 season winds down.

He is on a streak that has made him the fans favourite to overtake Roger Maris, who in 1961 hit the existing record of 61 home runs in one season. Maris overtook the record set by the legendary 'Sultan of Swat', 'Babe' Ruth. With 52 home runs by August 23, he was the clear leader of a pack that also includes Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs, and Seattle's Ken Griffey Jr.

In 1998 the 6 foot 5 inch, 225-pound McGwire has hit home runs in every National League park except Atlanta's Turner Field and Cinergy Park in Cincinnati. He hit 52 home runs in 1996 and is likely to become the first hitter to score at least 50 home runs three years in a row, something not even Babe Ruth ever did.



The Aberlour VIP Club News



Visit from Hébrard

Antoine Hébrard, President of both the world famous French magazine *le Bridgeur* and the French edition of 'Who's Who', called in at the club after making sure everything was running smoothly at his company's stand located outside the playing room. Then it was time to return to Paris to look after the visitors to the magazine's shop which is located in the 1st arrondissement, 28 rue de Richelieu.

1997 World Championship Book



The book of the Hammamet World Championships is on sale at the Le Bridgeur shop in the main hall.

Edited by Brian Senior, the 304 page book includes coverage of all three teams championships, a full results service and listing of all participants. There is also cross-imping of both round robins and many photographs.

The main analysts are Eric Kokish, Brian Senior and Barry Rigal, with sections by Alan Truscott, Kit Woolsey, Walter Walvick, Geir Helgemo and Alain Levy.

As always, the best value bridge book of the year!