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Issue No. 6

Friday, 28 October 2005

HOPES AND DREAMS



Cheerful Lavazza representatives. Lavazza is a tournament sponsor.

A number of teams are virtually certain that they will still be playing when the quarterfinal rounds of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Seniors Bowl begin on Sunday.

No one can rest comfortably or take anything for granted, but teams on the edge will have more of a sense of urgency as time slips away. There are only two days and six matches left for those with moves to make.

Italy and Egypt have looked very strong in the Bermuda Bowl round-robin, while the two teams from the U.S., including the defending champions (USA1), look like qualifiers along with surprising Argentina. Host Portugal is also in a good position after 15 of the 21 qualifying rounds.

The Italians lost to Egypt on Thursday 41-54 (12-18) but then came back against South Africa before losing a close match to Poland. Italy's lead over Egypt remained at a substantial 20 Victory Points despite the 33-37 loss (14-16) to a Polish team that has been near the bottom of the standings for most of the round-robin.

In the Venice Cup, the French women, who took over the first qualifying spot from China on Thursday, also appear to be a lock for the round of eight (as do the Chinese). The two U.S. teams, Germany and England are also well positioned.

France had a huge day, clobbering all three opponents — Morocco, Japan and Sweden — to earn 74 out of 75 possible

VUGRAPH MATCHES

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 16 – 10.00

China v Italy

Venice Cup – ROUND 17 – 14.00

Germany v Canada

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 18 – 17.30

USA I v Netherlands

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Victory Points. China fell from first despite beating Portugal and England, and they later lost to USA2 26-48 (10-20).

Among competitors in the Seniors Bowl, the Netherlands surged back into first among the round-robin contestants, followed closely by USA I and Indonesia. The Dutch regained the top spot by defeating Sweden, Israel and Italy, the last two in convincing fashion.



PROGRAMME**Bermuda Bowl****ROUND 16 10.00**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	PORTUGAL	USA1
2	JAPAN	NETHERLANDS
3	INDIA	CANADA
4	USA2	AUSTRALIA
5	CHINA	ITALY
6	NEW ZEALAND	CHINESE TAIPEI
7	SWEDEN	SOUTH AFRICA
8	ENGLAND	POLAND
9	JORDAN	EGYPT
10	ARGENTINA	RUSSIA
11	GUADELOUPE	BRAZIL

Venice Cup**ROUND 16 10.00**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	EGYPT	USA1
13	BRAZIL	FRANCE
14	AUSTRALIA	NEW ZEALAND
15	SWEDEN	PAKISTAN
16	JAPAN	CHINA
17	MOROCCO	SINGAPORE
18	USA2	VENEZUELA
19	ENGLAND	NETHERLANDS
20	PORTUGAL	INDIA
21	CANADA	AUSTRIA
22	ARGENTINA	GERMANY

Seniors Bowl**ROUND 16 10.00**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
23	GUADELOUPE	GERMANY
24	USA1	BANGLADESH
25	CANADA	EGYPT
26	PAKISTAN	JAPAN
27	NEW ZEALAND	INDONESIA
28	DENMARK	POLAND
29	BRAZIL	MOROCCO
30	AUSTRALIA	NETHERLANDS
31	ITALY	USA2
32	PORTUGAL	ISRAEL
33	FRANCE	SWEDEN

ROUND 17 14.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	AUSTRALIA	CHINA
2	ITALY	NEW ZEALAND
3	EGYPT	SWEDEN
4	SOUTH AFRICA	ENGLAND
5	POLAND	JORDAN
6	RUSSIA	GUADELOUPE
7	BRAZIL	ARGENTINA
8	USA1	INDIA
9	PORTUGAL	JAPAN
10	CANADA	NETHERLANDS
11	CHINESE TAIPEI	USA2

ROUND 17 14.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	PAKISTAN	JAPAN
13	CHINA	MOROCCO
14	INDIA	USA2
15	VENEZUELA	ENGLAND
16	NETHERLANDS	PORTUGAL
17	AUSTRIA	ARGENTINA
18	GERMANY	CANADA
19	USA1	AUSTRALIA
20	EGYPT	BRAZIL
21	NEW ZEALAND	FRANCE
22	SINGAPORE	SWEDEN

ROUND 17 14.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
23	EGYPT	NEW ZEALAND
24	JAPAN	DENMARK
25	BANGLADESH	BRAZIL
26	INDONESIA	ISRAEL
27	POLAND	NETHERLANDS
28	MOROCCO	ITALY
29	SWEDEN	USA2
30	PORTUGAL	AUSTRALIA
31	GUADELOUPE	USA1
32	CANADA	FRANCE
33	GERMANY	PAKISTAN

ROUND 18 17.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	RUSSIA	BRAZIL
2	ARGENTINA	GUADELOUPE
3	NETHERLANDS	USA1
4	INDIA	JAPAN
5	CANADA	PORTUGAL
6	USA2	ITALY
7	CHINA	CHINESE TAIPEI
8	NEW ZEALAND	AUSTRALIA
9	SWEDEN	POLAND
10	ENGLAND	EGYPT
11	JORDAN	SOUTH AFRICA

ROUND 18 17.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	AUSTRIA	GERMANY
13	CANADA	ARGENTINA
14	FRANCE	USA1
15	AUSTRALIA	BRAZIL
16	NEW ZEALAND	EGYPT
17	SWEDEN	CHINA
18	JAPAN	SINGAPORE
19	MOROCCO	PAKISTAN
20	USA2	NETHERLANDS
21	ENGLAND	INDIA
22	PORTUGAL	VENEZUELA

ROUND 18 17.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
23	DENMARK	INDONESIA
24	BRAZIL	POLAND
25	NEW ZEALAND	MOROCCO
26	NETHERLANDS	USA2
27	ITALY	PORTUGAL
28	ISRAEL	AUSTRALIA
29	GERMANY	FRANCE
30	SWEDEN	GUADELOUPE
31	USA1	EGYPT
32	CANADA	JAPAN
33	PAKISTAN	BANGLADESH

Symmetrical Playing Cards

The WBF will be selling symmetrical cards. They will be available at the Hospitality Desk from Monday, 24th October. Minimum quantity will be 10 decks at €1 per deck.

No Need To Go Hungry

Playing bridge can make you hungry. Luckily, there are several options at the Centro de Congressos. There is a cafeteria with hot food on the ground floor of the facility, and there is a snack bar on the first floor with sandwiches, snacks, soft drinks and cakes.

RESULTS**Bermuda Bowl****ROUND 13**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	NEW ZEALAND	CHINA	31	57	10	20
2	USA 1	JORDAN	63	60	16	14
3	JAPAN	SWEDEN	45	51	14	16
4	CANADA	ENGLAND	34	31	16	14
5	PORTUGAL	RUSSIA	55	47	16	14
6	NETHERLANDS	BRAZIL	38	13	20	10
7	INDIA	GUADELOUPE	60	29	21	9
8	AUSTRALIA	POLAND	56	39	19	11
9	EGYPT	ITALY	54	41	18	12
10	CHINESE TAIPEI	SOUTH AFRICA	13	62	5	25
11	USA 2	ARGENTINA	29	41	13	17

ROUND 14

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	JORDAN	JAPAN	31	22	17	13
2	SWEDEN	CANADA	63	15	25	5
3	RUSSIA	INDIA	46	38	16	14
4	BRAZIL	PORTUGAL	22	43	11	19
5	GUADELOUPE	NETHERLANDS	15	48	8	22
6	POLAND	CHINESE TAIPEI	72	22	25	5
7	AUSTRALIA	EGYPT	27	31	14	16
8	ITALY	SOUTH AFRICA	48	39	17	13
9	USA 2	NEW ZEALAND	60	24	22	8
10	ARGENTINA	CHINA	26	52	10	20
11	ENGLAND	USA 1	11	56	6	24

ROUND 15

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	NETHERLANDS	RUSSIA	34	56	10	20
2	INDIA	BRAZIL	14	38	10	20
3	PORTUGAL	GUADELOUPE	53	46	16	14
4	POLAND	ITALY	37	33	16	14
5	EGYPT	CHINESE TAIPEI	53	43	17	13
6	SOUTH AFRICA	AUSTRALIA	41	37	16	14
7	CHINA	USA 2	44	34	17	13
8	ARGENTINA	NEW ZEALAND	46	57	13	17
9	USA 1	SWEDEN	30	44	12	18
10	JAPAN	ENGLAND	9	71	3	25
11	CANADA	JORDAN	73	17	25	4

Ranking after 18 rounds

1	ITALY	281
2	EGYPT	261
3	USA 2	250
4	CHINA	249
5	USA 1	248
6	ARGENTINA	247.5
7	SWEDEN	238
	CANADA	238
	PORTUGAL	238
10	BRAZIL	236
11	NETHERLANDS	233
12	AUSTRALIA	226
13	ENGLAND	223
	JAPAN	223
15	INDIA	220
16	RUSSIA	218
17	NEW ZEALAND	206.5
18	SOUTH AFRICA	200
19	POLAND	187.5
20	CHINESE TAIPEI	185
21	GUADELOUPE	163
22	JORDAN	141

Butler information

During these championships one Butler per series is scored as cross-IMPs. This means all scores are first IMPed against all others. The IMP totals are then divided by the number of comparisons to reach the averages shown in the table. If you are interested in round-by-round details you can go to www.swangames.com — the Butlers are published within an hour of game-time.

Tomas Brenning, scoring

Quote of the Day

Sir, you aren't the world's worst player but when that player dies ...

George S. Kaufman

RESULTS

Venice Cup

ROUND 13

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 ARGENTINA	USA 1	16 58	5 25
13 AUSTRIA	BRAZIL	31 14	19 11
14 GERMANY	NEW ZEALAND	57 15	25 5
15 PORTUGAL	CHINA	17 58	6 24
16 USA 2	SINGAPORE	29 48	11 19
17 PAKISTAN	ENGLAND	17 43	9 21
18 FRANCE	MOROCCO	49 5	25 5
19 AUSTRALIA	SWEDEN	64 21	25 5
20 JAPAN	EGYPT	45 45	15 15
21 NETHERLANDS	CANADA	24 9	18 12
22 INDIA	VENEZUELA	29 36	14 16

ROUND 14

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 CHINA	ENGLAND	32 22	17 13
13 SINGAPORE	PORTUGAL	17 45	8 22
14 USA 2	PAKISTAN	44 5	24 6
15 JAPAN	FRANCE	9 47	6 24
16 MOROCCO	AUSTRALIA	32 53	10 20
17 SWEDEN	EGYPT	14 62	4 25
18 VENEZUELA	NETHERLANDS	20 23	14 16
19 CANADA	INDIA	45 9	23 7
20 USA 1	GERMANY	24 31	14 16
21 BRAZIL	ARGENTINA	19 38	11 19
22 NEW ZEALAND	AUSTRIA	16 55	6 24

ROUND 15

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 ARGENTINA	NEW ZEALAND	60 33	21 9
13 CHINA	USA 2	26 48	10 20
14 ENGLAND	SINGAPORE	23 25	15 15
15 PORTUGAL	PAKISTAN	43 13	22 8
16 FRANCE	SWEDEN	63 18	25 5
17 AUSTRALIA	JAPAN	29 37	13 17
18 EGYPT	MOROCCO	33 37	14 16
19 NETHERLANDS	INDIA	66 28	24 6
20 VENEZUELA	CANADA	14 67	3 25
21 AUSTRIA	USA 1	14 31	11 19
22 GERMANY	BRAZIL	44 6	24 6

Ranking after 15 rounds

1	FRANCE	298
2	CHINA	282.25
3	USA 1	274
4	GERMANY	270
5	ENGLAND	258
	USA 2	258
7	CANADA	250
8	NETHERLANDS	227.5
9	PORTUGAL	222
10	AUSTRIA	220
11	BRAZIL	218
12	AUSTRALIA	211
13	SINGAPORE	206
14	JAPAN	205
15	EGYPT	204
	NEW ZEALAND	204
17	VENEZUELA	203
18	SWEDEN	196
19	MOROCCO	178
20	ARGENTINA	176.5
21	INDIA	175
22	PAKISTAN	173.25

World Championship Book 2005

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

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

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

RESULTS**Seniors Bowl****ROUND 13**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
23	MOROCCO	USA 1	11 50	6 24
24	INDONESIA	CANADA	14 45	8 22
25	POLAND	PAKISTAN	28 45	11 19
26	BANGLADESH	USA 2	57 30	21 9
27	EGYPT	PORTUGAL	19 56	6 24
28	AUSTRALIA	JAPAN	9 32	10 20
29	DENMARK	GUADELOUPE	17 3	18 12
30	BRAZIL	FRANCE	19 15	16 14
31	GERMANY	NEW ZEALAND	60 13	25 4
32	NETHERLANDS	SWEDEN	37 23	18 12
33	ITALY	ISRAEL	27 37	13 17

ROUND 14

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
23	USA 2	JAPAN	25 29	14 16
24	PORTUGAL	BANGLADESH	58 24	23 7
25	EGYPT	AUSTRALIA	9 44	7 23
26	GERMANY	DENMARK	25 47	10 20
27	GUADELOUPE	BRAZIL	16 43	9 21
28	FRANCE	NEW ZEALAND	31 36	14 16
29	ISRAEL	NETHERLANDS	11 60	4 25
30	SWEDEN	ITALY	8 60	4 25
31	USA 1	POLAND	21 20	15 15
32	CANADA	MOROCCO	24 8	19 11
33	PAKISTAN	INDONESIA	32 26	16 14

ROUND 15

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
23	MOROCCO	PAKISTAN	41 46	14 16
24	USA 2	EGYPT	53 0	25 3
25	JAPAN	PORTUGAL	27 21	16 14
26	BANGLADESH	AUSTRALIA	16 46	8 22
27	DENMARK	FRANCE	40 26	18 12
28	BRAZIL	GERMANY	39 59	10 20
29	NEW ZEALAND	GUADELOUPE	60 22	24 6
30	NETHERLANDS	ITALY	40 14	21 9
31	ISRAEL	SWEDEN	28 28	15 15
32	INDONESIA	USA 1	36 38	15 15
33	POLAND	CANADA	19 31	12 18

Ranking after 15 rounds

1	NETHERLANDS	288
2	USA 1	272
3	DENMARK	267
	INDONESIA	267
5	POLAND	247
	FRANCE	247
7	PORTUGAL	244
8	AUSTRALIA	238
9	USA 2	234
10	SWEDEN	233
11	JAPAN	229
12	CANADA	227
13	ISRAEL	224
14	ITALY	223
15	GERMANY	219
16	PAKISTAN	215
17	BANGLADESH	190
	EGYPT	190
19	MOROCCO	177
20	GUADELOUPE	176
21	NEW ZEALAND	167
22	BRAZIL	133

**Transnational
Open Teams**

The organisation needs to know how many teams will be competing in the World Transnational Open Teams (NOT Mixed, as the previous notice stated) starting on Monday. Teams from the round-robin phase of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Seniors Bowl who are interested in competing in this event are requested to go as soon as possible to the WBF office on the first floor and register.

The office will be open for Transnational Entries and for pre-registered teams to confirm their entries between:

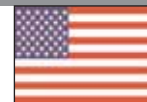
10.00 - 12.00 and 14.00 - 17.00 hours today.

ROUND 11

Seniors Bowl



Italy v USA I
Memories



In the pre-match vugraph interviews, the subjects were Alan Sontag and Benito Garozzo, who faced each other in 1983 in Stockholm in the Bermuda Bowl final won by the United States.

In Estoril, the two warriors were meeting again in Round 11 of the qualifying matches for the Seniors Bowl, Sontag playing for USA I and Garozzo for Italy, despite the fact that the Florida resident has been a naturalized U.S. citizen for several years.

Asked about Power Precision, the system published in book form, Sontag said that when he and Peter Weichsel reformed their partnership in 1998 after a 15-year hiatus, they reviewed the Power Precision system and wondered how they could have won anything playing those methods.

Garozzo was asked to comment on the differences between bridge now and back when he was in the Bermuda Bowl final. He smiled and said, "There are more singletons and voids today."

Early on, it was looking as though the interviews were going to be the highlight of the match. Most of the boards were flat and dull, although the vugraph audience was amused when the camera focused on a sleeping Garozzo, who was lulled into brief unconsciousness by Weichsel's excessive study at trick one of a hopeless 3NT contract. On Board 12, Garozzo eventually awoke, and he and Dano De Falco took their tricks for a 2-IMP gain (the contract was the same but one down at the other table).

Italy led 4-3 on overtricks here and there when this deal came up.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ 7 ♥ 8 7 4 3 2 ♦ J 10 ♣ J 9 4 3 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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 3 2 ♥ K 6 ♦ A K Q ♣ A 10 6 5	♠ Q J 9 ♥ A Q 10 5 ♦ 9 7 5 4 ♣ K 8
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Sontag	De Falco	Weichsel	Garozzo
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Weichsel's 1♣ was strong, and the 1♥ bid over the negative 1♦ was a relay to 1♠, after which 1NT showed the equivalent of a standard 2NT opener. That had the effect of making

West declarer in 4♠, so a heart lead would have defeated the contract, but De Falco started with the normal ♦J. Sontag won with the queen, cashed two rounds of spades, then another two rounds of diamonds, followed by a spade to Garozzo's jack.

Garozzo could see what was coming, so he exited with the ♣K, eliminating Sontag's loser in that suit. Garozzo could have forced dummy's last trump with the ♦9, but Sontag would have had two routes to his contract. He could cash the ♣A and exit with a club to Garozzo's king, putting him on play with nothing but hearts to lead to dummy. Another plan that would have worked would be a low club from dummy. If Garozzo goes up with the king, Sontag unblocks the queen. Garozzo would have the choice of playing on hearts or leading into dummy's ♣A 10. Either way, the game was making.

West	North	East	South
Sbarigia	Bates	Mosca	Stansby
	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

After Carlo Mosca showed his balanced powerhouse, Silvio Sbarigia tried to transfer to spades, but Mosca cuebid to show the excellent fit. Again, West was declarer and vulnerable to a heart lead. Roger Bates also started with the ♦J, however.

Sbarigia did not fare as well in the play. He won the diamond lead in dummy, played two rounds of spades and another two diamonds before cashing the ♣A and playing a low club. That left Lew Stansby with the ♦9 as his out-card, so the contract failed. USA I had taken the lead 14-4 (somehow, Sontag was credited with 11 tricks for Plus 450, giving USA I an 11-IMP gain instead of 10 IMPs).



Silvio Sbarigia, Italy

The Americans came to another 10 IMPs on Board 9.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sontag</i>	<i>De Falco</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>
	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Weichsel and Sontag had no difficulty arriving at the vulnerable game via the game-forcing 2♦ checkback. De Falco started with a low heart. After winning the second heart, he solved the club problem for Sontag by switching to a low club. Sontag took two finesses in spades and cruised in with 10 tricks for Plus 620.

Sbarigia and Mosco did not bid the game, thanks to interference from Stansby and Bates (not to mention Mosca's conservative pass in second seat).

West	North	East	South
<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Bates</i>	<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Stansby</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	3♥	3♠	All Pass



Alan Sontag, USA

Stansby did well not to start with 2♥, as some might. That might have given East/West the impetus to bid more than they did. As it was, the pre-emptive heart raise by Bates blew the Italians out of the water. USA had upped their lead to 32-5.

Another 5 IMPs went to the Americans on this deal.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sontag</i>	<i>De Falco</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>
			Pass
1♠	Dble	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Weichsel's 3♥ was a spade raise. Garozzo's pass of 3♥ seems very conservative — and it was a costly decision. De Falco managed only 10 tricks — Weichsel underled his ♠A on the go, and Sontag played a low heart, ducked, at trick two — but he probably would have played differently in game.

West	North	East	South
<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Bates</i>	<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Stansby</i>
			Pass
1♠	2♣	4♠	5♣
5♥	Dble	Pass	Pass
5♠	Dble	All Pass	

The defense took four tricks for Plus 300 and a 5-IMP gain. USA1 was up 37-7.

The Italians ended the more or less dull set with a bit of a bang, and they earned 8 IMPs in the bargain.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

♠ 9 7 5 4 3 ♥ — ♦ J 9 7 6 ♣ K 9 7 4
--

West	North	East	South
<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Bates</i>	<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Stansby</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Stansby started with a low club, and Mosca put up dummy's queen. He played the ♥10 putting up his king when Bates played low. Another heart went to the nine and jack, and Mosca won the club continuation with the ace. He played the ♥8 to North's ace, took the continuation of the ♠K with the ace, played a heart to the queen in dummy and gave up a spade to North's queen. Mosca now had a parking place for his losing club — and Plus 620.

Sontag and Weichsel never found their heart fit in the Open Room.

West	North	East	South
<i>Sontag</i>	<i>De Falco</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>
		INT	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	2♣
Dble	Rdbl	Pass	2♠
Dble	All Pass		

Weichsel started with INT, no doubt because if he opened a forcing 1♣, the auction would become uncomfortable if Sontag responded 1♦. A rebid of INT would show more than Weichsel had, while 1♥ would be a relay to 1♠ with more complications from there.

Sontag started accurately with the ♠J. Garozzo put up the king and won the spade return with the queen. He then played a low diamond from dummy, ducked by Weichsel. Sontag won with the ♦K, cashed the ♠10 and exited with the ♥10. Garozzo played low and ruffed when Weichsel put up the king. Another diamond went to the queen, and Weichsel played a low club, ducked to Sontag's queen. Weichsel won the club return with the ace and played a third round. Garozzo went up with the king and played a third round of diamonds. At least he was able to get to dummy with a diamond to discard his losing club. That was two down, minus 300 but 8 IMPs, Italy's best score of the day in a 37-15 loss.



Benito Garozzo, Italy

Neutralising The Bad Break

by Ron Klinger

Seniors. Round 9.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Lilley</i>		<i>Smolanko</i>	
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Dble
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Lead: ♦Q

South took the ace of diamonds and returned a diamond to David Lilley's king. Lilley played the ♥Q taken by the king. Back came a diamond, ruffed in dummy as West shed a spade. A club to the ace was followed by the ♣Q, overtaken with the king. South ruffed and persevered with a fourth diamond, ruffed again in dummy as West let go of another spade. The ♥10 was cashed to leave this ending:

	♠ K 9 5		
	♥ —		
	♦ —		
	♣ 8 7		
♠ 8 7 6			♠ A Q
♥ A J			♥ —
♦ —			♦ —
♣ —			♣ J 10 9
	♠ J 10		
	♥ 9 8		
	♦ 10		
	♣ —		

Lilley now simply ran the clubs. If South ruffed, West would overruff, draw the last trump, pitching the ♠Q, and dummy would make the rest. If South did not ruff, West could pitch all his spades and make the two trumps at the end. Thus Lilley could make 4♥ without needing to resort to the spade finesse.

Jettison Squeeze

by Patrick Jourdain (Wales)

Within an hour of arriving on Tuesday evening this reporter had a story worth the telling. "What about a slam made on a three-suit squeeze, with a twist?" asked Goran Mattsson, "and a trump coup at the other table?"

"Tell me more."

The deal was from the Round 8 Seniors Bowl encounter between Germany and USA1:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ J 8 6 2 ♥ 9 7 2 ♦ J 7 6 2 ♣ 7 5	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K 10 5 ♥ J 10 6 5 ♦ 3 ♣ K 10 9 3 2	♠ Q 3 ♥ Q 8 ♦ K Q 10 9 8 4 ♣ J 8 4 ♠ A 9 7 4 ♥ A K 4 3 ♦ A 5 ♣ A Q 6
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Open Room

West <i>Strater</i>	North <i>Weichsel</i>	East <i>Kratz</i>	South <i>Sontag</i>
			1♣*
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥*
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠*
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦*
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

Closed Room

West <i>Meltzer</i>	North <i>Humburg</i>	East <i>Hayden</i>	South <i>Mattsson</i>
			1♣*
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

In the Open Room, Alan Sontag opened a strong 1♣ and received a natural positive response. After some asking bids they ended in 6♦.

East led a heart. Peter Weichsel, North, won in hand, and cashed two rounds of diamonds. When East threw a club, declarer took time out. He continued with a heart to the ace, the king of hearts, on which he threw a spade, ace of spades, a spade ruff, a club to the queen, a spade ruff, a club to the ace, a third spade ruff, and his top trump. Twelve tricks. East had a good club, and West a master trump but they fell together at trick thirteen.

Other tables in 6♦ followed similar lines. After the club to the queen at trick eight, you can also cash the ace next, then take the second spade ruff, and exit with a club, coming to

two trumps at the end. You might think this is an improvement, guarding against the danger that West can throw his last club on the third spade, but as East has already followed to three hearts, West's shape cannot be 2-5-4-2.

In the Closed Room Mattsson's opening was Polish Club. The natural positive response showed at least 10 points. Three Diamonds was artificial, promising the strong version of the club, and two natural bids followed.

The lead against Six No Trump was again a low heart. Hans Humburg as declarer had to win in dummy to preserve an entry to hand, and he followed with two top diamonds. This time, when East threw a club, things were much tougher.

Declarer did not want to squeeze dummy too quickly so he followed with the ten of diamonds, throwing a spade from dummy.

West, Rose Meltzer, won and correctly exited with a heart to declarer's queen. This forced declarer to cash his diamonds before the ending for a squeeze had been tidied up. The club finesse had to win, and East was likely to guard hearts. But because declarer had been unable to cash the ace of spades, it was only the fact that East also guarded that suit that saved the situation.

Declarer's problem appeared to be one of guessing which suit East had unguarded, but there was an amusing solution to this. East was actually squeezed by the penultimate diamond, in this ending:

♠ J 8 6 2 ♥ 9 ♦ — ♣ 7 5	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K 10 ♥ J 10 ♦ — ♣ K 10 9	♠ Q 3 ♥ — ♦ 8 4 ♣ J 8 4 ♠ A 9 ♥ K 4 ♦ — ♣ A Q 6
	N											
W		E										
	S											

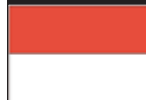
East, Garey Hayden, correctly decided his only hope was to rely on his partner to hold the spade queen, so he threw his ten of spades. Humburg could not be sure that suit was providing the twelfth trick, so he also threw a low spade, temporarily blocking the suit. He then continued with the last diamond.

It looked as if the heart-club squeeze was dead but, when East had to dispose of the king of spades, declarer was able to resurrect it — he ditched the ace of spades from dummy, and followed with the now good queen from his hand. Hayden at last had to concede; 2 IMPs to Germany, but USA1 won the match 23-7.

ROUND 13

Seniors Bowl

Indonesia v Canada



It is time to take a look at the team that is leading the Seniors Round Robin, Indonesia. In Round 13 the Indonesians faced a mid-table Canadian side in search of a little momentum to kick-start their fight for a top-eight spot.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Cummings</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Lindop</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
<i>B. Bowman</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>J. Bowman</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
All Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠

David Lindop's 3♣ response showed a limit raise. Munawar Sawiruddin led a heart to the king and ace, and Denny Sacul switched to a low diamond, round to the queen. Michael Cummings played ace and another spade and had ten tricks for +420.

Four Spades is defeated by an initial diamond lead or a heart followed by a club to the ace and a diamond switch. Would one of these defences be found at the other table?

Eddy Manoppo showed at least a limit raise. John Bowman led a low club, a dangerous start for the defence. Henky Lasut



Denny Sacul, Indonesia

won the nine and returned the ♣Q to the ace. Now Bowman found the diamond switch to the queen, king and ace. Lasut led a heart to the king and ace and Bill Bowman cashed his diamond winner; one down for -50 and 10 IMPs to Canada.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Cummings</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Lindop</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
<i>B. Bowman</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>J. Bowman</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
Pass	2♥(i)	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

(i) Flannery

Both Wests led their singleton club and both Easts ducked it to declarer's king. At both tables declarer led the ♠10 and East won with the ace. That was where the two paths diverged. Bowman cashed the ♣A and ♦A, then gave his partner a club ruff for one down; -100. Sawiruddin chose to play his partner for ♣J10x and underled the ace of diamonds in the hope of getting him in for a second club lead. Lindop put up the king of diamonds and drew the remaining trumps, then knocked out the ace of clubs; +620 and 12 IMPs to Canada.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Cummings</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Lindop</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>B. Bowman</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>J. Bowman</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

The opening lead was crucial on this deal. Sacul led a spade and Lindop rose with the ace then played ace, and another club to the king. A second spade was won by the king and declarer had time to try a third spade towards the jack before eventually falling back on the diamond finesse for his ninth trick; +600.

Bill Bowman led a heart. Manoppo could have succeeded by winning the first or second round of hearts, leaving the suit blocked, then playing on clubs. However, he ducked twice then won the third round. He tried the spade finesse, which lost and a club came back. Manoppo took the ace and tried to split the spades. When they did not oblige, he took the diamond finesse but was two down for -200 and 13 IMPs to Canada.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Cummings</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Lindop</i>
		Pass	1♦
1♠	Dble	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>B. Bowman</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>J. Bowman</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
		Pass	1♣
1♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	5♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Cummings made a very aggressive negative double and passed the responsive double from Lindop, who did not wish to commit to the five level, which would have required a minimum of two aces from partner. Alas for Lindop, when partner turned up with only one ace, 4♠ doubled proved to be an easy make. Sacul ducked the heart lead and Lindop switched to his trump. Sacul won and drew trumps ending in dummy, then played a club. Lin-

dop rose with his king, which could have been right if declarer had an unlikely low singleton and never rated to cost. Here it was irrelevant; +990.

Lasut did not make the negative double, which would have promised 5+ opposite Manoppo's strong club opening. He did, however, double when 4♠ came back to him, and Manoppo made a very good decision as it turned out when he converted to 5♥, where he was doubled. Bill Bowman led two top spades. Manoppo ruffed, then played the ♥K, ducked, and a second heart, won with the ace. A third spade forced declarer to ruff and established a trick for the ♥10. When East ruffed in on the diamonds, he played the fourth spade and declarer could ruff and cash the remaining diamonds for just two down, losing only one club at the end; -500 but 10 IMPs to Indonesia.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Both Norths played in 3NT after East had shown the red suits. Lasut won the heart lead with dummy's king, took a club finesse followed by a spade finesse, and had eleven tricks for +460.

Cummings put in the nine on the heart lead, losing to the jack, and back came a low diamond to the bare king. He led a club to the jack, then ace and a third club to the king. Sacul cleared the diamonds. Sawiruddin had thrown one spade and two hearts. Declarer had the choice of crossing to the eight of clubs to take the spade finesse, or of cashing the clubs and playing to endplay East, who surely had the ♥A, to lead from the ♠K at the end. Cummings was tempted by the endplay line but, after serious thought, crossed to dummy and ran the ♠J, making ten tricks for 1 IMP to Indonesia.

Canada ran out winners by 45-14 IMPs, 22-8 VPs, moving them up the table as the former leaders slipped to third.



David Lindop, Canada

ROUND 12

Bermuda Bowl



Italy v Sweden



Slugging It Out

When Italy and Sweden met in the twelfth round of the Bermuda Bowl qualifying, Sweden was in need of a good performance to enhance their chances of making the knockout phase. That would be challenging, of course, facing the round-robin leaders, but the young Swedes are not intimidated by any opponent.

There were fireworks early on.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 8 2	<table border="1"> <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		♠ 7 3
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ K J 9 8 6 2		♥ Q 5 4 3									
♦ 10 8 5	♦ 9 7 3 2										
♣ Q 7	♣ 10 5 2										
	♠ K J 10 6 4										
	♥ 10										
	♦ Q J 6										
	♣ J 8 4 3										

West	North	East	South
Versace	Lindkvist	Lauria	Fredin
2♥	Dble	Pass	Pass
Pass	6♠	4♥	4♠
		All Pass	

Alfredo Versace's weak 2♥ in third seat and Lorenzo Lauria's jump to game did not slow down Magnus Lindkvist and Peter Fredin. Thirteen tricks were easy, thanks to the friendly lie of the clubs.



Peter Bertheau, Sweden

Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes had more interference to deal with in the Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Fantoni	Bertheau	Nunes
3♥	Dble	Pass	Pass
Pass	7NT	6♥	Pass
		All Pass	

The Italians could have profited by simply doubling the 6♥ save—that goes for 1700 but is only a 6-IMP gain. Nunes' pass of 6♥ was forcing, which prompted Fantoni to bid the maximum. He was lucky that the ♣Q was with the two-card holding. Plus 2220 was a 13-IMP gain for Italy.

Sweden struck back two boards later to take the lead.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 7 5	<table border="1"> <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		♠ J 10 9
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ Q 9 8		♥ K 10 3 2									
♦ A 9 6 4	♦ 7 5 3										
♣ Q 10 8 5	♣ K 9 4										
	♠ A K Q 8 4										
	♥ A J 4										
	♦ Q 10										
	♣ A J 2										

West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Fantoni	Bertheau	Nunes
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

Fredrik Nystrom started with a spade, and Nunes played five rounds of the suit, hoping for a miracle or poor discarding. He got neither. At trick six, Nunes played the ♦Q from hand, overtaking with the king. He used his only trip to dummy to play a heart to the jack and Nystrom's queen. Nystrom cashed the ♦A and exited with a club to Peter Bertheau's king. Declarer could do nothing from there. That was one down; Plus 100 for Sweden.

It was a different story at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Lindkvist	Lauria	Fredin
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Versace started with a low club to the king and ace. At trick two, Peter Fredin played the ♦10 from hand, ducked all around. Fredin then cashed five spade tricks, putting Versace

under some pressure. Versace discarded one diamond and two hearts, but then he ducked again when Fredin continued with the ♦Q. That was five spade tricks, two diamonds and two aces for Plus 600 and a 14-13 lead for Sweden.

Italy went back into the lead when they bid 3NT that made mostly because of a blockage in spades, but the lead was gone after the next board.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
1♥	2♣	2♠	3♣
3♥	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

Bertheau's 2♠ was non-forcing, and all the bidding made it difficult for the Italians to find the best spot of 3NT, although they were there briefly.

Bertheau started with a heart, giving Fantoni no chance for



Alfredo Versace, Italy

11 tricks. He won the ♥A, played a diamond to his queen and cashed two high clubs, but his only chance from there was a doubleton ♦K with West, so he finished one down for Minus 50.

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
1♥	2♣	Dble	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

No matter what the Italians did, Fredin always had nine tricks — six clubs, two diamonds and a heart. That was Plus 400 and 10 IMPs to Sweden, now leading 24-23.

A couple of boards later, Sweden gained another 13 IMPs when Fantoni and Nunes bid to 6♥ off two aces, down two on a bad trump split. As the laborious auction progressed ever upwards, one of the vugraph commentators offered the view that "5♥ is bad luck, 6♥ is bad bridge." Indeed, the Swedes realized a handsome profit by stopping in 4♥ at the other table.

An aggressive bid by Versace paid off for Italy on this deal.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
2♦	Dble	2♥	3♦
3♥	Dble	4♣	4♠
All Pass			

By the time the Italians got around to bidding spades, it must have been hard for them to tell that they had an 11-card fit and super playing strength between the North/South hands. Still, at Plus 680, they did better than North/South in the Closed Room.

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
1♦	1♠	Dble	4♠
5♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Lindkvist led the ♠K, overtaken by Fredin with the ace. Fredin switched to the ♣Q, won by the ace. The ♥J went to North's ace, and a second round of clubs was taken by South with the king. Fredin exited with the ♦9, taken by Versace with the queen. When North showed out, Versace claimed for three down and Minus 500.

Italy closed to within 1 IMP on the following deal:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
1♦	2♠	1♣	Dble
5♣	All Pass	4♣	Pass

Nunes' double showed two suits of the same colour over the artificial strong 1♣ opener. Nystrom's 1♦ response showed a game-force with fewer than five 3-2-1 points (A=3; K=2; Q=1). Fantoni's 2♠ bid indicated a good fit with South whether the suits were red or black.

The only play for the 5♣ game involved a defensive error, and there was none coming. One down for minus 50.

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
3♠	Pass	1♣	1♥
		3NT	All Pass



Peter Fredin, Sweden

A low diamond lead initially or a diamond switch by North would have defeated the no trump game, but Fredin started with the ♠9, which went to the queen and ace. Naturally enough, Lindkvist returned the suit his partner had over-called. The result was an overtrick and a 10-IMP gain for Italy, now trailing only 39-38.

The match began to unravel for Sweden near the end as they dropped 21 IMPs on two consecutive boards.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
2♦	Pass	1♦	1♠
	2♠	3♦	All Pass

Lauria had to lose a trick in each suit, but he took nine tricks in comfort for plus 110.

West	North	East	South
<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
All Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥

Bertheau started with the ♦A, switching at trick two to a low club. Who would play anything but the ♣10 in Nystrom's seat? The defense still might have prevailed if Fantoni took two finesses in spades, but that chance was reduced significantly when Bertheau discarded the ♠7 on the third round of hearts. After initially passing the ♠8 to Nystrom's queen, Fantoni played the ♠J to the ace on the second round of the suit to claim Plus 420 and an 11-IMP gain for his team.

More IMPs went to the Italians on the next board.

Fancy a Flutter

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



Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
Dble	4♥	1♠	2♥
4NT	Dble	Pass	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Versace actually took 12 tricks on the lead of the ♠K. He won the ace and played a low spade from dummy, ruffing high when the jack appeared. He drew trumps, ending in dummy, and played the ♠10, discarding his singleton heart. He could then re-enter dummy with the ♣A and discard three clubs from his hand on good spades.

West	North	East	South
<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
Pass	2NT	1♣	1♥
4♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♦	All Pass	5♣	

Nystrom's pass showed 0-4 (3-2-1) points. When partner overcalls, it's usually best to lead his suit, as it was on this occasion. Nystrom's only hope after the defense took a heart trick was something lucky in clubs or 3-3 spades, neither of which materialized, so he was one down for a 10-IMP loss. Sweden's lead had turned into a 19-IMP deficit.

Sweden recovered an overtrick IMP on the penultimate board, then picked up a 12-IMP swing when the Swedes played 3NT, making, while the Italians holding the same cards bid to 5♣, which had no chance.

Sweden closed the gap but still lost by 59-53 — 16-14 VPs, in an action-filled but not particularly well-played set.



Renault Scenic. Renault is of the tournament sponsors.

Variations on a theme

by Barry Rigal

This deal from the fourth round of the Bermuda Bowl qualifying match between China and Canada produced an interesting ending. Boris Baran and Allan Graves for Canada opposed Zhong Fu and Jie Zhao.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Baran</i>	<i>Fu</i>	<i>Graves</i>	<i>Zhao</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♠
Dble	Rdbl	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♣	3♥
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

Baran started with a low club to the ten and ace, ruffed by declarer. The ♠Q went to East's king. Graves got out with the ♦7, to the four, king and ace. (Double-dummy, returning another suit also defeats the contract.) Now Zhao played a spade to his jack and another spade to the ace. When declarer led a low heart from dummy, Graves played the king, perforce, leaving this position:

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

The defense at that point had only two tricks, so if Graves played the ♦Q, the only other trick for East/West would be the ♥A. Graves therefore exited with a club, and Zhao played well by discarding his diamond. Now Baran won the ♣K and cashed his ♥A. That was it for the defense.

It seems that Baran might do better by playing the ♥10 from hand, but Zhao has a counter to that move. He wins with the ♥Q in dummy and plays the ♦J, discarding a heart from hand when Graves plays the queen. Now Graves must play a minor suit to dummy, and Zhao's other two losing hearts go away. If Zhao ruffs out the ♦Q he goes down.

Sports News

Baseball



Chicago White Sox won their first World Series since 1917 with a hard-fought 1-0 win over Houston in game four. The visitors completed a 4-0 series sweep after Willie Harris scored on a Jermaine Dye RBI single in the eighth inning at Minute Maid Park. The Astros left three runners on base in the sixth inning, and another two in the bottom of the eighth.

Soccer

Italy Serie A

Inter 2-3 Roma; Empoli 1-3 Milan; Ascoli 1-1 Udinese; Cagliari 1-1 Livorno; Reggina 1-2 Treviso; Siena 0-2 Fiorentina; Parma 1-1 Messina; Juventus 2-0 Sampdoria; Lazio 2-2 Chievo; Palermo 3-0 Lecce.



Spain - Primera Division

Betis 2-3 Villarreal; Mallorca 1-0 Celta Vigo; Osasuna 3-0 Atletico Bilbao; Barcelona 2-0 Mallaga; Deportivo La Coruna 3-1 Real Madrid.

In England, Chelsea lost for the first time this season on Wednesday evening, going down 5-4 on penalties to Charlton after being level at 1-1 after both regulation and extra time in their second-round Carling Cup match.

Sailing

Dame Ellen MacArthur has launched a new non-stop round-the-world race that pits crews of two against each other. The Barcelona World Race will start in Barcelona in November 2007 and end in the city about three months later.

The race will be managed by MacArthur's Offshore Challenges company and could also be held in 2011 and 2015. It will use Open 60 boats similar to the one in which she shot to fame in the 2001 Vendee Globe race.

Championship Diary

Surprisingly we have another story concerning England's Kitty Teltscher. Taking advantage of the fact that her partner, Sally Brock, was declarer, having found a caddy to turn the dummy she took some 'personal time'.

When Sally, having to play from dummy called 'small' the caddy came through the screen to say 'they are all the same size, which one?'

A couple of tricks later Sally asked for the ace - 'Which one?' asked the caddy.

When that was explained he replied 'This is the first time I've played Bridge - it's fun!'

When Brian Senior was in need of some 'personal time' he armed himself with a copy of the Daily Bulletin (soft, strong and thoroughly absorbent). Unfortunately the part of the building he was visiting uses a motion sensor lighting system and he was cut off in mid stream so to speak.

Brian Senior - apologies for mentioning him twice - overheard a conversation concerning the value of a singleton king. 'Worth six points', he said, 'three for the king and three for the ruffing value.'

'It's worth even more in no trumps' said Tacchi.



Renault Laguna. Renault is of the tournament sponsors.



The 2005 WBF Seniors Congress



Saturday 29 October at 12.30 in the WBF meeting room on the second floor.

Agenda

- 1 Greetings from the WBF President José Damiani, who will announce plans for Senior events in 2007/2008.
- 2 Report on the progress of Seniors Bridge in the WBF by Seniors Committee Chairman Nissan Rand.
- 3 Comments, suggestions and perhaps some praises for the 2005 Seniors Bowl.
- 4 Senior Bridge events in Verona, June 2006.
 - Senior Teams 16-19 June 2006
 - Senior Pairs 20-23 June 2006
- 5 Any other business

We invite to the Seniors Congress all officers of the WBF and EBL Executive, officers of NBO's, members of the World Seniors Committee, Senior players and Captains competing in Estoril.

The meeting is expected to last 60-75 minutes.

Nissan Rand
Chairman, WBF Seniors Committee