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THE WILD BUNCH



Team captains meet to determine the draw for the quarterfinals.

A remarkable set of deals produced some stunning results as qualifying rounds were completed in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Seniors Bowl. The matches are now made for the quarterfinal rounds.

Italy was hoping to dispatch USAI in the Bermuda Bowl in strong enough fashion that the Americans would fail to make the final eight. The match went the other way, however, as the Americans won 107-40 to move into third.

Disappointment was the order of the day for China, sitting in second place as the final day began. The Chinese were clobbered by Brazil on the final round and did not make the cut. The Netherlands, also in a top-eight spot with one day to play, dropped out as well.

Even more disappointed was Austria in the Venice Cup, losing out on the final board of the set when Canada gained 14 IMPs against Portugal to turn defeat into victory and move into eighth place.

France set the standard in the Venice Cup with a string of impressive wins.

USAI were the runaway leaders in the Seniors Bowl, the only event in which host Portugal will field a team for the knockout phase.

Head-to-head matches begin today as Italy takes on India in their quest to take the Bermuda Bowl championship home for the first time since 1975. The defenders, USAI, will meet Brazil in the quarterfinal round.

VUGRAPH MATCHES

Venice Cup – Quarter-Final – 11.00

USA2 v USA I

Bermuda Bowl – Quarter-Final – 14.00

USA I v Brazil

Quarter-Final – 17.00

To Be Decided

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PROGRAMME**Bermuda Bowl****Quarter-finals**

Teams		Carry-over
1	ITALY INDIA	0 - 2.3
2	USA2 ARGENTINA	0 - 4
3	USA1 BRAZIL	9 - 0
4	EGYPT SWEDEN	0 - 16

Venice Cup**Quarter-finals**

Teams		Carry-over
1	FRANCE CANADA	15.5 - 0
2	CHINA NETHERLANDS	16 - 0
3	GERMANY ENGLAND	0 - 3.7
4	USA1 USA2	9 - 0

Seniors Bowl**Quarter-finals**

Teams		Carry-over
1	USA1 FRANCE	11 - 0
2	PORTUGAL INDONESIA	0 - 16
3	USA2 NETHERLANDS	16 - 0
4	DENMARK ISRAEL	16 - 0

**Transnational
Open Teams**

All teams registered in the World Transnational Open Teams are requested to come as soon as possible to the WBF Secretariat Office on the second floor of the Congress Centre in order to pay their entry fees and collect the receipt that will give them entry to the playing area.

If you reserved your hotel through Top Atlantico, you are entitled to a discount on the entry fee PROVIDED you bring a copy of your confirmation of reservation from Top Atlantico with you when you come to pay.

Teams who have paid in advance or teams of players from the Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup or Seniors Bowl should also come to the WBF Secretariat and confirm their entry and obtain the necessary receipt.

The office will be open for Transnational entry fees payment between 10.00 - 12.00 and 14.00 - 17.00 today and Monday.

Book Collection

Karen Allison, playing here for the USA2 team in the Venice Cup, moved to Las Vegas and found that she no longer had room for her large collection of bridge books and magazines. She wanted the collection to stay together and looked around for a suitable place to donate it.

As she discovered, the University of Nevada at Las Vegas has a gaming department, which possessed a rudimentary bridge library. That provided a very suitable home for Karen's collection, which was very gratefully received. Karen's Bridge World magazine collection was incomplete, but the publishers have kindly agreed to fill in the gaps.

If anyone else has bridge books that they no longer require, rather than just throw them away, why not consider adding them to the UNLV collection. If anyone is interested in doing so, please contact either Karen or the professor in charge of the gaming department, Dr. Dave Schwartz.

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Renault Grand Scenic. Renault is a championship sponsor

Fancy a Flutter

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



RESULTS**Bermuda Bowl****ROUND 19**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	JAPAN	ITALY	42 33	17 13
2	CHINESE TAIPEI	CANADA	34 30	16 14
3	SOUTH AFRICA	NETHERLANDS	78 10	25 2
4	POLAND	INDIA	52 56	14 16
5	EGYPT	PORTUGAL	54 27	21 9
6	GUADELOUPE	USA 2	28 21	16 14
7	CHINA	RUSSIA	19 22	14 16
8	BRAZIL	NEW ZEALAND	38 39	15 15
9	SWEDEN	ARGENTINA	28 14	18 12
10	ENGLAND	JORDAN	101 18	25 0
11	AUSTRALIA	USA 1	35 38	14 16

ROUND 20

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	JORDAN	SWEDEN	6 132	0 25
2	ARGENTINA	ENGLAND	55 18	23 7
3	USA 1	CHINESE TAIPEI	51 39	17 13
4	JAPAN	AUSTRALIA	53 52	15 15
5	ITALY	CANADA	48 26	20 10
6	NETHERLANDS	EGYPT	33 49	12 18
7	INDIA	SOUTH AFRICA	91 38	25 5
8	PORTUGAL	POLAND	80 22	25 4
9	USA 2	BRAZIL	49 30	19 11
10	GUADELOUPE	CHINA	50 54	14 16
11	NEW ZEALAND	RUSSIA	42 38	16 14

ROUND 21

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	CHINESE TAIPEI	JAPAN	47 82	8 22
2	POLAND	NETHERLANDS	39 67	9 21
3	EGYPT	INDIA	59 86	9 21
4	SOUTH AFRICA	PORTUGAL	85 64	19 9
5	RUSSIA	USA 2	46 92	6 24
6	BRAZIL	CHINA	102 21	25 0
7	NEW ZEALAND	GUADELOUPE	112 23	25 0
8	SWEDEN	ENGLAND	65 2623.01	7
9	JORDAN	ARGENTINA	60 72	13 17
10	ITALY	USA 1	40 107	2 25
11	CANADA	AUSTRALIA	60 87	9 21

Final Rankings

1	ITALY	368
2	USA 2	348
3	USA 1	347
4	SWEDEN	344
5	INDIA	344
6	ARGENTINA	339.5
7	EGYPT	339
8	BRAZIL	334
9	JAPAN	328
10	CHINA	323
	NETHERLANDS	323
12	SOUTH AFRICA	317
13	RUSSIA	314
14	PORTUGAL	312
	AUSTRALIA	312
16	NEW ZEALAND	305.5
17	ENGLAND	305
18	CANADA	301
19	CHINESE TAIPEI	273
20	POLAND	272.5
21	GUADELOUPE	225
22	JORDAN	184

**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.

LOST WALLET

A Dutch man has lost his wallet and is hoping for its return. He doesn't care about the money. If you find the wallet, please turn it in to the Hospitality Desk.

RESULTS

Venice Cup

ROUND 19

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 BRAZIL	CHINA	29 22	16 14
13 SINGAPORE	NEW ZEALAND	29 25	16 14
14 VENEZUELA	FRANCE	3 36	7 23
15 NETHERLANDS	AUSTRALIA	18 2	19 11
16 INDIA	EGYPT	21 43	10 20
17 ARGENTINA	SWEDEN	31 48	11 19
18 JAPAN	AUSTRIA	35 25	17 13
19 GERMANY	MOROCCO	38 28	17 13
20 USA 2	CANADA	45 15	22 8
21 ENGLAND	PORTUGAL	43 9	23 7
22 PAKISTAN	USA 1	23 50	9 21

ROUND 20

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 PORTUGAL	USA 2	31 26	16 14
13 CANADA	ENGLAND	25 42	11 19
14 USA 1	SINGAPORE	29 19	17 13
15 BRAZIL	PAKISTAN	34 30	16 14
16 CHINA	NEW ZEALAND	45 58	12 18
17 FRANCE	INDIA	58 14	25 5
18 AUSTRALIA	VENEZUELA	48 35	18 12
19 EGYPT	NETHERLANDS	57 32	21 9
20 SWEDEN	GERMANY	24 72	4 25
21 ARGENTINA	JAPAN	50 18	23 7
22 MOROCCO	AUSTRIA	40 44	14 16

ROUND 21

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 SINGAPORE	BRAZIL	48 62	12 18
13 NETHERLANDS	FRANCE	46 44	15 15
14 INDIA	AUSTRALIA	29 51	10 20
15 VENEZUELA	EGYPT	41 67	9 21
16 AUSTRIA	SWEDEN	55 77	10 20
17 GERMANY	JAPAN	25 53	8 22
18 MOROCCO	ARGENTINA	42 63	10 20
19 USA 2	ENGLAND	74 19	25 3
20 PORTUGAL	CANADA	49 55	14 16
21 CHINA	USA 1	61 38	20 10
22 NEW ZEALAND	PAKISTAN	44 56	12 18

Final Rankings

1	FRANCE	423
2	CHINA	383.25
3	GERMANY	383
4	USA 2	374
5	USA 1	366
6	ENGLAND	346
7	NETHERLANDS	329.5
8	CANADA	312
9	AUSTRIA	310
10	EGYPT	306
11	AUSTRALIA	303
12	JAPAN	302
13	BRAZIL	298
	NEW ZEALAND	298
15	SWEDEN	293
16	PORTUGAL	287
17	ARGENTINA	269.5
18	SINGAPORE	269
19	VENEZUELA	268
20	PAKISTAN	266.25
21	MOROCCO	250
22	INDIA	247

Swan Games
Internet broadcast

Seniors Bowl	Denmark v Israel	11.00
Bermuda Bowl	Sweden v Egypt	14.00
Seniors Bowl	Denmark v Israel	17.00

Jack's reign
at an end?

With 16 boards to go in the World Computer Bridge Championship, Wbridge5 (France) held a substantial lead over Jack (Netherlands), threatening to end the Dutch program's run of titles at three. With the final set to be played today at 9 a.m. on the Internet (Bridge Base), the French program was on top 86-48.

RESULTS**Seniors Bowl****ROUND 19**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
23	NEW ZEALAND	USA 1	22 33	13 17
24	CANADA	DENMARK	25 19	16 14
25	BRAZIL	PAKISTAN	23 24	15 15
26	FRANCE	AUSTRALIA	26 23	16 14
27	GERMANY	USA 2	22 32	13 17
28	GUADELOUPE	PORTUGAL	19 75	3 25
29	EGYPT	ISRAEL	21 21	15 15
30	JAPAN	NETHERLANDS	9 12	14 16
31	BANGLADESH	ITALY	50 28	20 10
32	SWEDEN	INDONESIA	6 36	8 22
33	MOROCCO	POLAND	26 14	18 12

ROUND 20

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
23	AUSTRALIA	GERMANY	12 28	11 19
24	USA 2	GUADELOUPE	53 23	22 8
25	ITALY	EGYPT	51 17	23 7
26	ISRAEL	JAPAN	49 47	15 15
27	NETHERLANDS	BANGLADESH	18 36	11 19
28	INDONESIA	MOROCCO	30 17	18 12
29	POLAND	SWEDEN	41 37	16 14
30	USA 1	BRAZIL	40 11	22 8
31	NEW ZEALAND	CANADA	34 43	13 17
32	PAKISTAN	DENMARK	20 33	12 18
33	PORTUGAL	FRANCE	34 4	22 8

ROUND 21

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
23	INDONESIA	POLAND	67 29	24 6
24	SWEDEN	MOROCCO	23 89	1 25
25	DENMARK	USA 1	56 43	18 12
26	BRAZIL	CANADA	64 37	21 9
27	PAKISTAN	NEW ZEALAND	51 37	18 12
28	FRANCE	USA 2	43 42	15 15
29	GERMANY	PORTUGAL	52 56	14 16
30	GUADELOUPE	AUSTRALIA	20 66	5 25
31	EGYPT	NETHERLANDS	62 30	23 7
32	JAPAN	ITALY	18 63	5 25
33	BANGLADESH	ISRAEL	6 76	1 25

Final Rankings

1	USA 1	394
2	INDONESIA	378
3	USA 2	363
4	DENMARK	360
5	PORTUGAL	355
6	FRANCE	354
7	NETHERLANDS	352
8	ISRAEL	336
9	POLAND	333
10	AUSTRALIA	323
11	ITALY	322
12	JAPAN	312.5
13	GERMANY	311
14	CANADA	303
15	PAKISTAN	289
16	SWEDEN	286
17	BANGLADESH	274
18	EGYPT	264
19	MOROCCO	261
20	NEW ZEALAND	255
21	BRAZIL	226
22	GUADELOUPE	217

Transport options to Lisbon airport**By Train**

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

By Bus

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

By Taxi

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

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

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

ROUND 17

Venice Cup

Germany v Canada

by Mark Horton



Eric Kokish presented the prematch interviews — but unfortunately he held the microphone so far away that both questions and answers are lost in the mists of time.

Germany were on a hot streak, having won eight matches in a row, so Canada, anxious to consolidate their position amongst the qualifiers, would have to be at their best.

The first board gave a very slight indication that things might not go well for the Canadians.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kraft</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Gordon</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
1♥	1♦	Pass	Pass
4♥	2♦	3♦*	Pass
	All Pass		

North led the king of diamonds and, seeing South's eight, switched to the five of spades. South won with the king, declarer dropping the queen, and returned the two of spades. Declarer won in dummy with the ten and, ignoring the inferences from the bidding, ran the queen of hearts to the singleton king. The club position meant declarer was spared a guess; +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Schraverus</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Alberti</i>	<i>Lee</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
2♥	2♦	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	3♦
4♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
	All Pass		

I approve of South's initial response and it was enough to keep West out of the auction on the first round. When she protected next time South might have seen the danger in advertising her diamond support but, in reality, how often do your opponents bid a game in this situation?

The early play followed that in the Open Room, but declarer played a heart to the ace at trick four and earned an IMP for her side.

It was a match of small swings — the biggest so far came on the following deal:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kraft</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Gordon</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
1♥	3♠	1♦	Dble
		All Pass	

South's double would not be to everyone's taste but the contract had some chances. East led the queen of hearts; declarer won and played a diamond. West took the ace and made the slightly surprising play of switching to the two of clubs, rather than continuing with a heart.

Now declarer was in with a chance. She won in hand and played a second diamond. East won with the queen and played the queen of clubs. Declarer won and had reached the critical point of the deal.

If she ruffs a club, ruffs a diamond and advances the queen of spades, East has to cover and declarer wins with the ace and simply plays a spade.

However, that line requires East to have ♠KJ6(7) and declarer decided to cater for West having the jack of spades.

She played a heart to the ace, ruffed a club and played dummy's last diamond. If West had started with ♠J7 she would have no answer, as if she ruffs with the seven declarer overruffs with the eight, and if she ruffs with the jack declarer simply discards her losing heart.

On the actual lie of the cards West could ruff with the nine of spades and declarer had no winning move; one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Schraverus</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Alberti</i>	<i>Lee</i>
		INT	All Pass

South cashed the king of hearts and switched to the three of spades. Declarer took the queen with the king and played a heart. South won and returned the eight of hearts, setting up her six. Not quite perfect, but one down and 4 IMPs for Canada, tying the match 5-5.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kraft</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Gordon</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
Pass	INT(i)	All Pass	

(i) INT 10-12

East started with four rounds of clubs and West pitched a spade, so declarer made nine tricks; +150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Schraverus</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Alberti</i>	<i>Lee</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Dble
1♠	Dble	2♣*	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass*	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Two Clubs denied three spades and the pass of Three Clubs showed at least one club honour.



Francine Cimon, Canada

North/South got their wires badly crossed — perhaps life would have been easier if South had passed over Two Clubs. This inelegant contract finished four down for —200 and a loss of 8 IMPs.

On the following deal Germany played in Three Hearts down one, —50, while the Canadians again attempted Four Hearts, this time down three, —150. Tacchi pointed out that at this rate they would be making it by Board 12.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kraft</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Gordon</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
All Pass			INT

West led the six of hearts; declarer won in hand with the eight and played a spade. She ducked when West put up the king and won the diamond switch in dummy. She cashed the ace of spades and played a third spade, discarding a diamond as West threw the four of hearts. East played a heart, covered by the ten, jack and ace, and declarer played a spade, East winning with the queen as South and West discarded diamonds.

East exited with a diamond and declarer won, discarding dummy's remaining heart, and advanced the jack of clubs. West covered — a fatal error — and declarer put up the king. East could win, but eventually had to give dummy the last two tricks; +90. Note that if West does duck the jack of clubs and declarer ducks in dummy, East must also duck.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Schraverus</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Alberti</i>	<i>Lee</i>
			2♦
2♥	All Pass		

That looks like a very dangerous overcall on the West cards, but it passed off peacefully. North led the king of diamonds and switched to a heart for the queen and king. Declarer played the king of spades, North taking the ace and returning the six of spades. If declarer finesses she can arrive at eight tricks, but she put up the queen and was given no further chance; one down for —50 but 1 IMP for Germany.

The boards had not been very exciting for the spectators, but that was about to change — only a little.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kraft</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Gordon</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
INT	Pass	2♣*	2♦
2♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

On another day North's hair-trigger double might have produced a decent penalty. Here the ace of diamonds, a diamond ruff and a couple of clubs meant one down; +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Schraverus</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Alberti</i>	<i>Lee</i>
1♦	3♣	Dble	4♣
All Pass			

East led the jack of diamonds and in due course declarer arrived at ten tricks; +130. The aggressive double at the other table had saved an IMP.



Germany v Canada on the vugraph

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kraft</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Gordon</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

2NT was forcing and Four Clubs and Four Spades were cue-bids. Five Spades was a general, how do you feel about a slam, question and North went for her chunky looking heart suit.

Since North had denied a diamond control it might have been one of those deals where underleading the ace of diamonds might have given declarer an anxious moment, but this was not the case. East cashed the ace of diamonds and declarer was soon claiming +1430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Schraverus</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Alberti</i>	<i>Lee</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♣*	Pass	5♦*
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

The Canadians could not match the result in the other room — that was 13 IMPs for Germany.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kraft	Auken	Gordon	von Arnim
		Pass	1♥

2♣ All Pass

By modern standards, East's initial pass was very surprising and it left her awkwardly placed when her left-hand opponent opened in her best suit and her partner overcalled in her weakest. I think you have to bid now, probably 2NT, but when she passed again her side was well below par on the deal. Declarer could just manage Two Clubs, but +90 was not likely to be enough.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Schraverus	Cimon	Alberti	Lee
		1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♦*	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

The German pair — having a fantastic tournament on their debut — got very close, West using Conditional Keycard Blackwood, but then signing off in game over the discouraging minimal response. It was still worth 7 IMPs.

In winning their ninth straight match by 39-6 IMPs, 22-8 VP, Germany had given a very impressive performance — for Canada the road to the quarter-finals was going to be a hard one.



Mirja Schraverus-Meuer, Germany

The Best Line

by Anders Wirgren

We don't get too many compliments (joke), so when we do they are given top priority, especially when they happen to be delivered by one of the world's top bridge writers.

You do a great job with the bulletin, as usual, and I enjoy reading it. Keep up the good work!

I did find an improvement on a deal from Bulletin 2 and, since the line is quite cute, I thought I'd better send it to you (you will surely agree).

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

When Italy played the Netherlands in Round 3 of the Bermuda Bowl, Simon De Wijs played in 4♠ from the North seat. Lauria led the ten of hearts and when that was ducked he continued with the queen. Declarer ruffed but when De Wijs led a club from hand, Lauria as East put in the queen. De Wijs could still have succeeded had he known the exact layout of the opponents' cards, but without a peek he played along normal lines and finished one down — 10 IMPs to Italy.

Since East led the ten of hearts from a broken holding, it's unlikely that he has the king of clubs (restricted choice agrees). Then, there is only one holding where my line fails. Win with the ace of clubs, draw ONE round of trumps and cash the ace and king of diamonds, then lead a club.

After winning the trick, what can West do? On a low heart, or a club, North discards a diamond; if West has a diamond to play, East can't do any harm; if West leads the ace of hearts, North ruffs, cashes the second spade top and ruffs a diamond. West can overruff but has to lead a heart or a club to dummy. If West returns a low trump after the king of clubs, it's 100% safe to duck. The ONLY time this line fails is when East is 2-4-5-2 with two low trumps (then he ruffs the club return, when North pitches, and gives his partner an overruff with the queen of spades). This is the best line — and it is single dummy!

If East has the king of clubs (surprise, surprise), and plays a diamond after that, you'll go down if West can overruff and return a trump. Given that he at that time is known to hold the ♥Q-10-9, the ♣K-Q and at least one trump, the risk that he also has five diamonds is minimal.

Hi Lilley, Hi Lilley, High-Low

by Ron Klinger

Many declarers were too high on Board 13 from Round 15. In the Seniors, David Lilley made use of a favourable lead to bring in 4♥:

Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lilley		Smolanko	
	3♠	Pass	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Lead: ♣J

Declarer has nine tricks but, with the bad club break and the ♦A over the king, a tenth trick seems impossible without help from the opposition. It is true that the ♦Q lead, followed by a club switch, will defeat 4♥, but why should North find that lead?

North started with the ♣J and Lilley won with the ace to play ♥A then ♥Q. South took the ♥K and returned a low club to dummy's queen. A low spade was ruffed and that stripped South of spades. The club position was known and South figured to hold the ♦A on the bidding. Therefore Lilley ran all the trumps but one to reach this position:

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

So far declarer has lost only one trick and needs to take three of the last five tricks. He continued with his last trump, throwing a diamond from dummy. What was South to do? If he discarded a club, declarer would continue with king and another club, discarding spades and forcing South on lead. South would have to give declarer the ♦K as the game-going trick.

In practice, South discarded the ♦8. Lilley now exited with a diamond. South won and played the ♣10. Lilley ducked and made the last two tricks with the ♣K 8.

The General's View

This deal from Round 13 of the Seniors Bowl qualifying highlights a winning effort by Azizul Haque of Bangladesh.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Azizul, a retired brigadier—general, marshalled his forces just right after South started the defense with the ♥5. Azizul played low from dummy and took the ♥Q with the ace. He correctly diagnosed that South had led from shortness, so he played to avoid a guess in diamonds.

At trick two, he played the ♠K, noting the fall of the ten from North. Azizul then played the ♠J and let it ride. He knew that even if it lost to a doubleton queen with North, that player could not threaten the contract as long as he had the ♥K, which seemed likely.

Azizul's careful play was rewarded when North showed out. Declarer picked up the trump queen, then played a heart, eventually discarding a diamond from dummy and avoiding the guess.

As it happened, the play gained only 1IMP because, although declarer at the other table did have a spade loser, when North got in with the second round of hearts, he cashed the ♦A instead of giving South a heart ruff and making declarer guess what to do in diamonds.



Uppercut KO's Declarer

by Mark Horton

USA2 met Egypt in Round 15 of the Seniors Bowl. When declarer made a mistake he was quickly punished.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North <i>Mohan</i>	East	South <i>Zia</i>
			1♠
2♥	2♠	Dble	Rdbl
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

North led the three of spades and declarer won and played a club to the king. When that held he played the jack of diamonds, North following with the nine, and that too held the trick. Now he cashed the ace of hearts and had only to play a second round of trumps to land his game.

However, he tried the ten of clubs and was soon alerted to the error of his ways. Zia won the trick, cashed the ace of diamonds and put his partner in with a spade. Back came a diamond and Zia ruffed with the ten of hearts, promoting his partner's queen into the setting trick.



Zia Mahmood, USA

The Versace Defense

by Barry Rigal

Alfredo Versace is rarely in need of someone to spring to his defense. Just in case, look again at deal No. 4 from Round 12 in the Bermuda Bowl (Italy versus Sweden).

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

In 3NT by South, Versace (West) allowed nine tricks to be made by Peter Fredin by ducking twice in diamonds.

Consider, however, the contract on the actual lead of the ♣5 to the king and ace. (Of course, a low diamond or even a spade lead works better: I wonder what Paul Chemla would think of a successful lead from four to the ace.)

Declarer scores the ♦10, then runs five spades. To reach this six-card ending:

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

Note that West must discard the ♣10 to produce the most challenging defense — perhaps declarer's 2NT opener (20-22), marking East with the ♥K and not the ace, hence the necessity of reducing to this ending.

Declarer now leads the ♦Q. West wins and clearly must get out with the ♥8 to the king. Declarer takes the ♥A and has a choice of poisons. Whether he plays a club — high or low — or a heart — high or low — East will, sooner or later, get on lead to shift to the rounded suit not played by South.

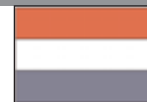
So the defense can always prevail, right? Wrong!
 In the diagrammed ending, declarer ducks the ♥K. Now he has an answer for any move the defenders make. Best defense is for East to try a low club, but West is left on play to lead into the heart tenace. If East plays a heart back, declarer rises with the ace to lead a third heart to West's queen to endplay him to lead clubs for the ninth trick.

ROUND 18

Bermuda Bowl



USAI v Netherlands
American Campaigns



Vugraph on Friday night was to have been USAI versus the Netherlands in the Bermuda Bowl, but technical difficulties interrupted that plan, at least for a period. The standby match was USA2 versus Italy. Given the wild set of boards, there was great entertainment no matter which match was being shown.

USAI started off poorly as Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell missed a virtually laydown grand slam on the first board.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Both tables went through lengthy bidding sequences (Meckstroth and Rodwell took 14 bids), but the Americans stopped in 6♠ for an 11-IMP loss. USA2 and Italy both bid the grand in the other match.

The second board featured a good slam in diamonds that happens to go down on a bad trump split, but USAI picked up 3 IMPs when the Dutch in the Closed Room bid 6NT and went three down.

The third board was a push (3NT making three at both tables), but the Dutch scored heavily on this deal.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

How Louk Verhees and Jan Jansma got to 6♠ was not shown because the Open Room transmission was still out, but the auction must not have been as revealing as in the Closed Room.

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Soloway</i>
Pass	1♣	2♣	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

It was clear to Bauke Muller that Bob Hamman did not have a diamond control — he almost certainly would have cuebid if he had. Muller started with the ♦K, and the defenders took the first two tricks, declarer ruffing high on the third round of diamonds.

At the other table, Meckstroth started with the ♣7 against the spade slam, allowing Muller to take 13 tricks for an IMP gain of the same number.

In the USA2-Italy match, the contract was 5♥ by South at both tables — and the auction in each case led to the killing opening lead.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Gitelman</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

Closed Room

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



Brad Moss, USA

To expert players, the two auctions made it clear neither North nor South had a control in diamonds, so the opening lead of a low diamond by West stood out — and it was the killer both times. The two Easts — Norberto Bocchi and Eric Greco — won with their kings at trick one and returned the suit, earning a trump promotion for the defense with a third round of the suit. That was one down at both tables.

USA1 lost 3 IMPs on Board 5 — passed out at one table and two down in 2♠ at the other — leaving them behind 27-3. The next two deals brought the Americans right back into the match.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

In the Open Room, Meckstroth and Rodwell played in 3♠, one down for Minus 100. The Dutch in the Closed Room had higher ambitions, which proved costly on this occasion.

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Soloway</i>
		INT	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Muller's INT showed 12½ to 15. Simon De Wijs's invitation to game was aggressive, but one is supposed to push for game when vulnerable. Hamman was only too happy to take a piece of 4♠, which suffered a two-trick set on the lead of the ♣A and another club by Paul Soloway.

The next deal produced another 13 IMPs for USA1.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

At three tables in the two matches involving the American teams, the contract was 4♥, two down each time. Meckstroth and Rodwell, however, found just the right spot — 3NT (Meck-

stroth's bid as East after three passes to him). The foul breaks did not threaten this contract thanks to the singleton ♦Q in the South hand, and Meckstroth as East emerged with nine tricks for Plus 600.

The next deal was another distributional freak that produced swings in both matches.

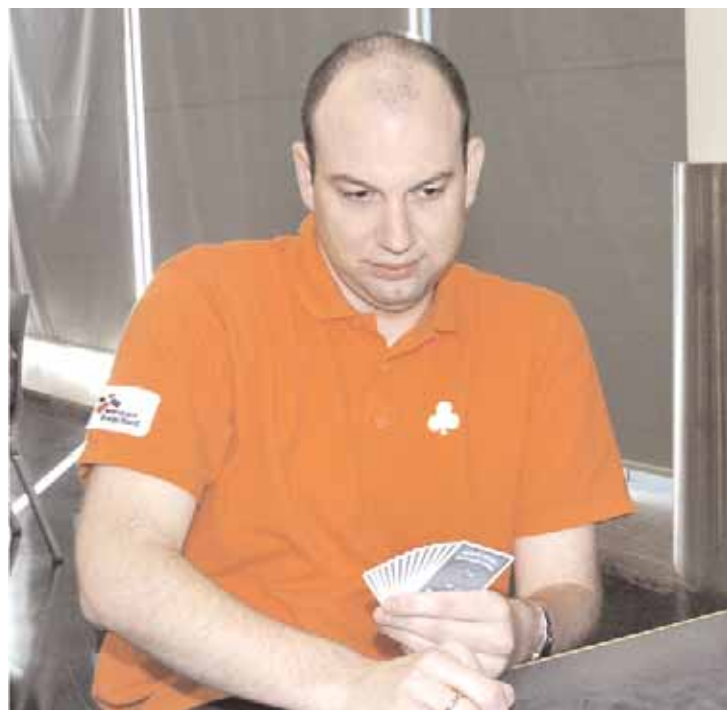
Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Gitelman</i>
Pass	1♠	2♣	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

Fred Gitelman started with the ♠A, ruffed, and Bocchi plunked down the ♣A at trick two — one down. In the other match, the bidding was the same, but the opening lead from Jansma was a low diamond (which probably looked a lot like a singleton), so Meckstroth played trumps as Bocchi did and suffered the same fate. It was an 8-IMP loss compared to 4♠ doubled, two off for Minus 300 by his team — mates in the other room.

Greco, with a different auction to consider, made his club game.



Simon de Wijs, Netherlands

West	North	East	South
<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
Pass	INT	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

Greco ruffed the opening lead of the ♠A and considered what Fulvio Fantoni could have for his 12-14 INT opener. After due consideration, Greco entered dummy with a diamond to the jack, then played the ♣Q. Fantoni ducked smoothly, but Greco stuck to his guns and let it ride. Next came the ♥Q, covered this time, and Greco was able to claim for the loss of one trick each in hearts and clubs. A well-earned 10 IMPs by Greco.

Board 13 was another wild deal that, surprisingly, did not produce many swings. There was one in USA2 versus Italy, however.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

	♠ Q 9 7 5	
	♥ A 9 6 3	
	♦ J 9 4	
	♣ A 9	

West	North	East	South
<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Dble	All Pass		

In USA1 versus the Netherlands, South played in 5♦ doubled in both rooms, but without a spade to lead, West cannot find the killer against 5♦. Rodwell started naturally enough with the ♥K, and Jansma discarded dummy's spade. He considered his next play carefully before leading a low diamond to the eight and king. Next he played a club from dummy, winning Meckstroth's queen with the ace and running the ♣9. He lost only two diamond tricks for Plus 750, the result achieved by Hamman and Soloway in the other room.

It was different in USA2 versus Italy.

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Gitelman</i>
Pass	2♦	4♠	Dble
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Dble	All Pass		

Unfortunately for Moss and Gitelman, Moss's weak 2♦ opening made him declarer, so Bocchi was able to get the spade trick that was not taken at most other tables (South achieved Plus 750 35 times in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup a Seniors Bowl).

The next deal was a push in USA1-Netherlands as both North players judged well to assure a plus.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

	♠ A K 8 6 4	
	♥ A 6 5	
	♦ A Q 7	
	♣ 9 8	

West	North	East	South
<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	7♠	Dble	Pass
Pass	7NT	All Pass	

Despite the fact that all the club bids by Verhees were relays, Rodwell would not have been troubled to find the correct opening lead against 7♠ doubled. There was no such lead against 7NT.

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Soloway</i>
		Pass	1♣
2♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	7NT	All Pass	

On the bidding — West's 2♣ was natural — Hamman could easily envision a club void in the East hand — and he knew as well that if a club finesse was needed, it was going to work.

When USA2 and Italy played the deal, Greco also doubled 7♠ after a long, tortuous auction, prompting Fantoni to pull to 7NT.

At the other table, the double came at a different spot in the auction, and that made a huge difference in the outcome.

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Gitelman</i>
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Dble	5♦
Pass	5♥	Pass	5NT
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

Bocchi's double of the response to Blackwood was clever, and it appears Gitelman did not consider that it might be a void. The club lead sank the grand and gave Italy a 17-IMP swing.

Most of the deals in the set involved the wild distribution of the hands. Board 15 showed Meckstroth playing well in a bad contract.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

The contract in the Closed Room was a normal 3♣ by East for Plus 130.

West <i>Rodwell</i>	North <i>Verhees</i>	East <i>Meckstroth</i>	South <i>Jansma</i>
			Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	All Pass

Meckstroth's response to his partner's Multi 2♦ indicated that was as high as he wanted to be if hearts was Rodwell's suit.

Jansma started with the ♠J, taken by Verhees with the ace. Verhees continued with the ♠7 to Meckstroth's king, and he continued with the ♠9, ruffed by Jansma with the ♥10. Meckstroth discarded a diamond from dummy rather than overruffing, and Jansma could have scuttled the contract by playing the ♥A. Instead, Jansma played a club to the jack and queen. Meckstroth continued with the ♠8 to the ♥3 and ♥5 in dummy.

The ♣K was ruffed, and Verhees switched to a diamond. Jansma won with the ♦Q and tried to cash the ace, but Meckstroth ruffed and played the ♠Q. Jansma could have ruffed with the ace and played a club to promote another trump trick for Verhees, but he discarded. Meckstroth pitched dummy's last diamond, ruffed a club with the ♥K and played the low heart from dummy to achieve a strange Plus 110, losing 1 IMP instead of 4.

USA1 was down 57-25 and in need of some good news. They got it on the penultimate board.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

♣ K J 10 8 4

In the Closed Room, East/West managed 11 tricks in 3♦ for Plus 150.

West <i>Rodwell</i>	North <i>Verhees</i>	East <i>Meckstroth</i>	South <i>Jansma</i>
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣	2♥
Dble	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The 1♣ bid was strong and artificial, and 2♥ showed 'weak hearts or weak spades.' Rodwell's double showed a smattering of values, and he tried for the nine-trick game over his partner's diamond bid. Verhees had to guess what to lead, and he inferred from his strong spade holding that the weakness in his partner's hand was in hearts. It didn't take long for Rodwell to claim 10 tricks with five diamonds, four hearts and the

Textbook Stuff

by Barry Rigal

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

A sizeable percentage of the field reached the moderate 6♣ on this deal and were unlucky that South was dealt a natural spade lead. Declarer needs to find the ♣K singleton now — no luck.

In the Bermuda Bowl, Kiran Nadar and Buchiraja Satyanarayana of India stopped in 5♣, and again the ♠K was led.

Now declarer has three apparent losers, but declarer (one of the few women playing in the Bermuda Bowl) was equal to the task.

She ducked the spade, won the heart continuation, cashed the ♣A and the ♦A and crossed to the spade and pitched her heart loser on the ♦K.

Of course, this line would fail if spades were 5-1 and the defense could ruff and still have a trump trick.

Perhaps a better line is to win the ♠A, unblock the ♦A and advance the ♣Q. This line succeeds against all 2-1 club breaks. But perhaps South's failure to overcall 1♠ at Love All makes the spade split a better shot?

This was the line followed by Ze Ying Lam of Singapore and Sue Picus of USA1 in the Venice Cup: Give South the ♠J, however, and winning the ♠A to unblock the ♦A is clearly the right play.

CROSS TABLES**2005 World Team Championships****After Round
21****Seniors
Bowl**

Team	AUS	BAN	BRA	CAN	DEN	EGY	FRA	GER	GLP	INA	ISR	ITA	JPN	MAR	NED	NZL	PAK	POL	POR	SWE	USA1	USA2	Pen	Team	Total	Rank
AUSTRALIA		22	22	10	16	23	14	11	25	16	8	24	10	25	14	19	12	5	13	14	13	7		AUSTRALIA	323	10
BANGLADESH	8		11	14.5	-0.5	15	4	14	24	19	1	20	11	15	19	16	24	7	7	15	9	21	1.5	BANGLADESH	274	17
BRAZIL	8	19		21	11	10	16	10	21	2	5	5	14	16	6	10	15	14	10	5	8	0		BRAZIL	226	21
CANADA	20	15	9		16	20	2	7	25	22	5	18	12	19	9	17	16	18	11	16	15	11		CANADA	303	14
DENMARK	14	25	19	14		17	18	20	18	10	23	14	20	13	9	21	18	13	10	25	18	21		DENMARK	360	4
EGYPT	7	15	20	10	13		11	18	15	10	15	7	18	14	23	15	17	16	6	7	4	3		EGYPT	264	18
FRANCE	16	25	14	25	12	19		22	14	11	18	17	23	16	10	14	22	22	8	21	10	15		FRANCE	354	6
GERMANY	19	16	20	23	10	12	8		23	10	15	20	12	15	13	25	15	14	14	7	7	13		GERMANY	311	13
GUADELOUPE	5	6	9	5	12	15	16	7		16	16	11	15	15	9	6	24	1	3	14	4	8		GUADELOUPE	217	22
INDONESIA	14	11	25	8	20	20	19	20	14		8	18	25	18	20	19	14	24	24	22	15	20		INDONESIA	378	2
ISRAEL	22	25	25	25	7	15	12	15	14	22		17	15	12	4	15	20	18	13	15	7	18		ISRAEL	336	8
ITALY	6	10	25	12	16	23	13	10	19	12	13		25	21	9	12	22	21	16	25	8	4		ITALY	322	11
JAPAN	20	19	16	18	9.5	12	7	18	15	3	15	5		24	14	24	22	10	16	20	9	16		JAPAN	312.5	12
MOROCCO	4	15	14	11	17	16	14	15	15	12	18	9	6		10	6	14	18	9	25	6	7		MOROCCO	261	19
NETHERLANDS	16	11	24	21	21	7	20	17	21	10	25	21	16	20		19	18	11	23	18	10	3		NETHERLANDS	352	7
NEW ZEALAND	11	14	20	13	9	15	16	4	24	11	15	18	6	24	11		12	0	4	0	13	15		NEW ZEALAND	255	20
PAKISTAN	18	6	15	14	12	13	8	15	6	16	10	8	8	16	12	18		19	25	16	24	10		PAKISTAN	289	15
POLAND	25	23	16	12	17	14	8	16	25	6	12	9	20	12	19	25	11		13	16	15	19		POLAND	333	9
PORTUGAL	17	23	20	19	20	24	22	16	25	6	17	14	14	21	7	25	4	17		15	14	15		PORTUGAL	355	5
SWEDEN	16	15	25	14	5	23	9	23	16	8	15	4	10	1	12	25	14	14	15		17	5		SWEDEN	286	16
U.S.A. 1	17	21	22	15	12	25	20	23	25	15	23	20	21	24	20	17	6	15	16	13		24		U.S.A. 1	394	1
U.S.A. 2	23	9	25	19	9	25	15	17	22	10	12	25	14	23	25	15	20	11	13	25	6			U.S.A. 2	363	3

**WBF Laws Drafting
Committee**

The first meeting of the WBF Laws Drafting Committee will take place at 10 a.m. today in the WBF Meeting Room on the first (second) floor of the convention centre.

Only members of the Committee are invited.
John Wignall, Chairman

Follow the 37th Bermuda Bowl,

the 15th Venice Cup and the 3rd Senior Bowl
on Internet through the WBF official web site:

www.worldbridge.org

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.



Great Play, Small Gain, No Profit

by Phillip Alder

How can declarer find a great play to make his contract, but it lead to only a small gain and no net profit? Read on. This deal was lucky thirteen in Round 15.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ — ♥ A Q J 10 9 7 2 ♦ 7 ♣ A K 8 6 2	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;">W</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ K 8 7 5 4 ♥ — ♦ K 10 6 5 4 2 ♣ Q 5	♠ Q ♥ K 6 4 3 ♦ A 8 3 ♣ 10 9 7 4 3
N							
W	E						
S							

West	North	East	South
Sontag	Lasut	Weichsel	Manoppo
4♥	2♦ Pass	Pass Pass	2♠ Pass

That was the auction in the open room. Two diamonds was the Multi, an unusual choice with a good seven-card suit. When South responded Two Spades, which usually promises some values and heart length, Alan Sontag (West) devalued his hand slightly, settling for Four Hearts.

Henky Lasut (North) led his singleton jack of clubs. Declarer won in hand with his ace, cashed the ace of hearts, and continued with the nine of hearts. Eddy Manoppo (South) won with his king and exited with a club, North discarding a spade. Declarer ruffed a spade in his hand and, confident that South had the ace of diamonds, ran his trumps to reach this end-position:

♠ — ♥ 7 ♦ 7 ♣ K 8 6	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;">W</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ K 8 ♥ — ♦ K 10 6 ♣ —	♠ — ♥ — ♦ A 8 ♣ 10 9 7
N							
W	E						
S							

On the final trump, the dummy released a diamond, but what could South discard? If he threw a club, declarer would play on clubs, throwing spades from the dummy and scoring the king of diamonds at trick thirteen. But when South released a diamond, Sontag exited in that suit. South won with his ace and led the ten of clubs, but West ducked, leaving South to

lead from the nine-seven of clubs into the king-eight: Plus 620.

That was very nicely played. Note two things, though. If North leads the queen of diamonds, he can defeat the contract. If declarer plays low from the dummy, North shifts to either a trump or his club. And if West covers the queen of diamonds with dummy's king, South wins with his ace and defeats the contract by returning anything but the king of hearts(!) or a diamond (declarer discards a club from his hand).

If declarer makes the mistake of winning the first trick in the dummy with the queen of clubs, he should fail. He ruffs a spade to hand, cashes the ace of hearts and continues with a second high heart. South wins with his king, cashes the ace of diamonds, and exits with a trump. West is forced to lead clubs from his hand.

Was this a big swing? Sort of. This was the auction in the Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Sacul	Bates	Sawiruddin	Stansby
	3♠	Pass	Pass
4NT	Pass	6♦	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	7♣	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In his unappetizing contract, declarer went for 1/100. This gave USAI 17 IMPs. If Sontag had gone one down, the U.S. team would have gained 'only' 14 IMPs. And to make matters worse, no victory points were at stake. USAI won the match by 2 IMPs. If they had lost by 1, it would still have been the same 15-15 tie.



Lew Stansby, USA

Final Butler Rankings

Bermuda Bowl

Rank	Name	Team	Matches	Score
1	Geoff HAMPSON - Eric GRECO	USA2	17	0.56
2	Waleed EI AHMADI	EGY	20	0.49
3	Martin REID - Peter NEWELL	NZL	16	0.47
4	Alfredo VERSACE - Lorenzo LAURIA	ITA	14	0.46
5	Tarek SADEK	EGY	21	0.43
6	Fredrik NYSTROM - Peter BERTHEAU	SWE	14	0.43
7	Norberto BOCCHI - Giorgio DUBOIN	ITA	15	0.40
8	Bachiraju SATYANARAYANA - Kiran NADAR	IND	13	0.40
9	Tony NUNN - Sartaj HANS	AUS	16	0.38
10	Lixin YANG - Jianming DAI	CHN	13	0.36
11	Yoshiyuki NAKAMURA - Yasuhiro SHIMIZU	JPN	14	0.36
12	Luis PALAZZO - Walter FORNASARI	ARG	15	0.34
13	Tim COPE - Glen HOLMAN	RSA	14	0.34
14	Colin SIMPSON - David PRICE	ENG	12	0.34
15	Miguel VILLAS-BOAS - Gabriel CHAGAS	BRA	18	0.28
16	Alexander KHOKHLOV - Max KHVEN	RUS	14	0.28
17	Ton BAKKEREN - Huub BERTENS	NED	15	0.23
18	Jeff MECKSTROTH - Eric RODWELL	USA1	18	0.20
19	Jorge CASTANHEIRA - Sofia PESSOA	POR	14	0.18
20	K Raman VENKATARAMAN - Sunit CHOKSHI	IND	14	0.18
21	Nick NICKELL - Dick FREEMAN	USA1	10	0.17
22	Claudio NUNES - Fulvio FANTONI	ITA	13	0.17
23	Krzysztof JASSEM - Krzysztof MARTENS	POL	15	0.16
24	Per-Olof SUNDELIN - Johan SYLVAN	SWE	13	0.15
25	Chih-Kuo SHEN	CTP	14	0.14
26	Pedro Paulo BRANCO - Marcelo BRANCO	BRA	11	0.13
27	Louk VERHEES JR - Jan JANSMA	NED	12	0.11
28	Paul SOLOWAY - Bob HAMMAN	USA1	14	0.10
29	Justin HACKETT - Jason HACKETT	ENG	17	0.10
30	Wayne CHU - Craig GOWER	RSA	15	0.10
31	Rui Silva SANTOS - Paulo Goncalves PEREIRA	POR	14	0.09
32	Malcolm MAYER - Tom JACOB	NZL	17	0.09
33	Dawei CHEN - Kazuo FURUTA	JPN	14	0.09
34	Peter FREDIN - Magnus LINDKVIST	SWE	15	0.08
35	Roberto De MELLO - Ricardo JANZ	BRA	13	0.08
36	Martin MONSEGUR - Guillermo MOONEY	ARG	13	0.07
37	Subhash GUPTA - Rajesh TIWARI	IND	15	0.06
38	Jie ZHAO - Zhong FU	CHN	15	0.05
39	Vadim KHOLOMEEV - Dmitri ZLOTOV	RUS	14	0.03
40	Philippe MATHIEU - Dominique GERIN	GLP	13	0.03
41	Arno HOBART - George MITTELMAN	CAN	14	0.01
42	Juei-Yu SHIH	CTP	19	0.00
43	John CARRUTHERS - Joseph SILVER	CAN	16	0.00

Venice Cup

Rank	Name	Team	Matches	Score
1	Nicola SMITH - Heather DHONDY	ENG	13	0.84
2	Vanessa REESS - Nathalie FREY	FRA	11	0.84
3	Sylvie WILLARD - Benedicte CRONIER	FRA	15	0.80
4	Sabine AUKEN - Daniela von ARNIM	GER	20	0.71
5	Joanna STANSBY - Debbie ROSENBERG	USA1	19	0.65
6	Anja ALBERTI - Mirja SCHRAVERUS-MEIJER	GER	11	0.64
7	Carla ARNOLDS - Bep VRIEND	NED	15	0.63
8	Yalan ZHANG - Ling GU	CHN	14	0.59
9	Daniele GAVIARD - Catherine D' OVIDIO	FRA	15	0.54
10	Ming SUN - Jian WANG	CHN	14	0.51
11	Ping WANG - Yi Qian LIU	CHN	14	0.50
12	Karen ALLISON - Peggy SUTHERLIN	USA2	12	0.49
13	Pam WITTES - Renee MANCUSO	USA2	16	0.43
14	Khouri MAUD	EGY	16	0.41
15	Khalil LILY	EGY	13	0.41
16	Irina LEVITINA - Hansa NARASIMHAN	USA1	8	0.25
17	Kathy SULGROVE - Jo Ann SPRUNG	USA2	14	0.25
18	Francine CIMON - Linda LEE	CAN	15	0.25
19	Sylvia MELLO - Leda CHAGAS-PAIN	BRA	12	0.20
20	B. STAWOWY - HACKETT - P. B. NEHMERT	GER	11	0.19
21	Rose DON - Kathryn YULE	NZL	16	0.18
22	Meredith WOODS - Margaret BOURKE	AUS	14	0.18
23	Jill LEVIN - Sue PICUS	USA1	15	0.15
24	Jane CHOO - Greta CHAI	SIN	14	0.12
25	Terry WEIGKRICHT - Iris GRUMM	AUT	17	0.10
26	Beverly KRAFT - Dianna GORDON	CAN	14	0.08
27	Susanne KRIFTNER - Sylvia TERRANEO	AUT	16	0.08
28	Kathrine BERTHEAU - Catharina MIDSKOG	SWE	16	0.04
29	Jenny RYMAN - Mari RYMAN	SWE	14	0.03

Seniors Bowl

Rank	Name	Team	Matches	Score
1	Reese MILNER - Mark MOLSON	USA2	7	1.19
2	Peter WEICHSEL - Alan SONTAG	USA1	17	0.81
3	Nico KLAVER - Roald RAMER	NED	14	0.66
4	Lew STANSBY - Roger BATES	USA1	18	0.57
5	Carlos TEIXEIRA - Jose' A. DEBONNAIRE	POR	16	0.56
6	Pierre ADAD - Gerard SALLIERE	FRA	10	0.54
7	Bruce NEILL - Ron KLINGER	AUS	14	0.54
8	Nicolas DECHELETTE - Francois LEENHARDT	FRA	16	0.51
9	Kirsten Steen MOLLER - Jens AUKEN	DEN	14	0.51
10	Denny SACUL	INA	20	0.48
11	Steen MOLLER - Peter LUND	DEN	14	0.47
12	Sam LEV - Bill EISENBERG	USA2	17	0.46
13	Rami SHEINMAN	ISR	18	0.44
14	Adrian SCHWARTZ	ISR	19	0.43
15	Eddy M F MANOPPO - Henky LASUT	INA	21	0.41
16	Munawar SAWIRUDDIN	INA	20	0.40
17	Jerzy RUSSYAN - Krzysztof LASOCKI	POL	17	0.40
18	Reiner MARSAL - Dirk SCHROEDER	GER	16	0.31
19	Makoto HIRATA	JPN	17	0.30
20	Tadeusz KACZANOWSKI - Krzysztof ANTAS	POL	15	0.26
21	Silvio SBARIGIA - Carlo MOSCA	ITA	14	0.25
22	Juliano BARBOSA - Rui PINTO	POR	16	0.25
23	Ulrich KRATZ - Bernhard STRATER	GER	12	0.24
24	Rashidul GHAZI	PAK	18	0.24
25	Zia MAHMOOD - John MOHAN	USA2	18	0.24
26	Garey HAYDEN - Rose MELTZER	USA1	7	0.24
27	Nino MASUCCI - Pietro FORQUET	ITA	14	0.21
28	Jaap TROUWBORST - Nico DOREMANS	NED	14	0.17
29	Pinhas ROMIK	ISR	14	0.15
30	Hans-Olof HALLEN - Lars BACKSTROM	SWE	14	0.14
31	Kyoko OHNO	JPN	14	0.14
32	Andrzej WILKOSZ - Roman KIERZNOWSKI	POL	10	0.06
33	Syed Sujauddin AHMED	BAN	19	0.03
34	Michael CUMMINGS - David LINDOP	CAN	15	0.02
35	Philippe POIZAT - Guy LASSERRE	FRA	16	0.02

Butler information

During these championships one butler per series is scored as cross-imps. This means all scores are first imp:ed against all others. The imp totals are then divided by number of comparisons to reach the averages shown in the table.

Quote of the Day

'Bridge, like love, like music, has the power to make you happy.'

Master Of Psychology

by Mark Horton

Playing on vugraph can be a nerve-racking experience, especially when you realize that you are being watched not just by the audience in the theatre but also by several thousand on line spectators.

Under those circumstances it takes an awful lot of courage to adopt a psychological line of play as opposed to taking a genuine chance. Take a look at this deal from the Round 15 Bermuda Bowl match between Japan and England.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Jason</i>	<i>Furuta</i>	<i>Justin</i>	<i>Chen</i>
Pass	1♥	Dble	3♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	All Pass

In the other room, where North opened a strong no trump, East had surprisingly contented himself with an overcall of Two Spades, so some IMPs were sure to change hands.

South led the three of spades and, after some thought, declarer put up dummy's ten. North covered with the jack, although in view of what happened later he would have done better to play the six, giving declarer an entry he needed to take the losing club finesse.

Justin won in hand and had nothing better to do than play off his trumps. This was the seven — eard ending:

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

North's discards of the four and five of clubs convinced Justin that the queen of clubs was not going to fall, so instead of cashing the ace and king he tried a very cunning jack of clubs!!

It's easy to say that South should not have been caught out, but when he played the seven declarer had achieved a spectacular coup - and on vugraph to boot!

Sports News

Cricket

South Africa defeated New Zealand in the second one-day international. South Africa 201-9, New Zealand 182 all out.

Ice Hockey - NHL

Carolina Hurricanes 8-6 Philadelphia Flyers; Columbus Blue Jackets 2-1 Minnesota Wild; New Jersey Devils 3-2 Buffalo Sabres; Tampa Bay Lightning 4-2 Washington Capitals; Dallas Stars 3-5 Edmonton Oilers; Anaheim Mighty Ducks 6-4 St. Louis Blues; L A Kings 4-5 San Jose Sharks.

Rugby Union - Heineken Cup

Treviso 17-30 Saracens; Stade De France 12-6 Leicester; Bath 39-12 Bourgoin; Biarritz 33-19 Ulster; Llanelli 15-13 Edinburgh; Munster 42-16 Castres.

Soccer

English Premiership: Wigan 1-0 Fulham; Tottenham 1-1 Arsenal; Birmingham 0-1 Everton; Charlton 0-1 Bolton; Chelsea 4-2 Blackburn; Liverpool 2-0 West Ham; Middlesbrough 4-1 Manchester Utd; Sunderland 1-4 Portsmouth.

Italy Serie A: Sampdoria 2-2 Inter Milan; Milan 3-1 Juventus.

Spain Primera Division: Real Betis 0-2 Real Madrid.

France Ligue 1: Marseille 1-1 Lille; Bordeaux 2-0 Troyes; Lens 1-0 Toulouse; Lyon 1-0 Sochaux; Monaco 3-0 Ajaccio; Nantes 1-0 Le Mans; Rennes 2-1 Metz; Strasbourg 0-1 St. Etienne.

Germany Bundesliga: Werder Bremen 4-1 Eintracht Frankfurt; Stuttgart 3-3 Hertha Berlin; Cologne 1-2 Bayern Munich; Kaiserslautern 2-2 Bayer Leverkusen; Hamburger 1-0 Schalke 04; Duisberg 1-0 Wolfsburg; Borussia Dortmund 2-1 Borussia M.

Tennis - Semi-finals

Basel: M. Baghdatis beat D. Nalbandian 6-2, 7-6; F. Gonzalez beat D. Hrbaty 6-0, 6-3.

Hasselt: F. Schiavone beat M. Krajicek 4-6, 6-3, 7-5; K. Clisjsters beat D. Safina 6-0, 6-1.

Lincoln: P. Schnyder beat A. Ivanovic 7-5, 6-2; N. Petrova beat K. Peschke 6-3, 6-4.

Lyon: G. Monfils beat S. Grosjean 6-4, 7-5; A. Roddick beat F. Santoro 6-4, 7-6.

St. Petersburg: N. Kiefer beat R. Vik 6-3, 6-4; T. Johnsson beat F. Verdasco 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

Rugby League Tri-nations

New Zealand defeated Great Britain by 42-26 in London.

Transnational Teams Broker

Nissan Rand will be available today and tomorrow to help you put together a Transnational team.

You will find him in the Press Room at the following times:

Today	15.00 - 17.00
Tomorrow	13.00 - 15.00