



DAILY BULLETIN

WORLD BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

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Issue No. 5

Thursday, 4 October 2007

TEAMS HOPE TO AVOID 'TERMINATION'



California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger visited Shanghai on Wednesday to help promote the Special Olympics.

On a day when former movie strongman Arnold Schwarzenegger was in the house, several of the teams vying for qualifying spots in the three main events were flexing their muscles in hopes of lifting themselves to the knockout phases of their events.

Schwarzenegger, now governor of California, was in Shanghai to help promote the Special Olympics, and he attended a press conference in the convention center while 22 teams each in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Senior Bowl were competing for the eight top spots in their respective events.

There were some strong performances, notably by Bermuda Bowl leaders USA 1 and Norway. The Norwegians socked the Netherlands 61-34 to start the day, but they were manhandled by USA 1 in the next round 48-15. The Americans maintained their lead over second-place Poland, but the margin has shrunk.

In the Venice Cup, Germany was on the move, aided by an 85-16 rout of Japan, and are closing in on the leaders, USA 1, who lost two of three matches. China Global Times, France and Denmark are all close behind.

In the Senior Bowl, Canada finished Wednesday with a flourish, defeating China 66-6 to take over the top spot, but they are only 2 victory points ahead of Italy, with USA 1 and USA 2 in hot pursuit.



VUGRAPH MATCHES



Round 13 (11.00-13.20)

VG:	Table 50	Italy - Canada	(SB)
BBO 1:	Table 2	Poland - USA 2	(BB)
BBO 2:	Table 4	Brazil - Netherlands	(BB)
SWAN*:	Table 48	Denmark - Germany	(SB)
OurGame:	Table 10	China SMEG - India	(BB)

Round 14 (14.20-16.40)

VG:	Table 7	USA 1 - Brazil	(BB)
BBO 1:	Table 10	Egypt - Italy	(BB)
BBO 2:	Table 24	USA 1 - France	(VC)
SWAN:	Table 27	Denmark - China Global Times	(VC)
OurGame:	Table 6	Ireland - Japan	(BB)

Round 15 (17.10-19.30)

VG:	Table 4	China SMEG - USA 2	(BB)
BBO 1:	Table 11	Argentina - USA 1	(BB)
BBO 2:	Table 25	China Global Times - Australia	(VC)
SWAN:	Table 7	Sweden - South Africa	(BB)
OurGame:	Table 26	Croatia - Canada	(VC)

* This match will be broadcast at 20.30 Chinese time

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TODAY'S PROGRAM



Bermuda Bowl

ROUND 13 11.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	Italy	Chinese Taipei
2	Poland	USA 2
3	Argentina	Pakistan
4	Brazil	Netherlands
5	Japan	USA 1
6	Sweden	Ireland
7	Norway	Australia
8	Indonesia	South Africa
9	New Zealand	Canada
10	China SMEG	India
11	Trinidad & Tobago	Egypt

ROUND 14 14.20

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	Poland	China SMEG
2	India	New Zealand
3	USA 2	Chinese Taipei
4	South Africa	Norway
5	Australia	Sweden
6	Ireland	Japan
7	USA 1	Brazil
8	Netherlands	Argentina
9	Pakistan	Trinidad & Tobago
10	Egypt	Italy
11	Canada	Indonesia

ROUND 15 17.10

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	Chinese Taipei	Egypt
2	Italy	Pakistan
3	Trinidad & Tobago	Netherlands
4	China SMEG	USA 2
5	Brazil	Ireland
6	Japan	Australia
7	Sweden	South Africa
8	Norway	Canada
9	Indonesia	India
10	New Zealand	Poland
11	Argentina	USA 1

Venice Cup

ROUND 13 11.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
21	Netherlands	Germany
22	Jordan	Indonesia
23	Japan	USA 2
24	China Global Times	Philippines
25	Croatia	Denmark
26	New Zealand	Australia
27	France	Canada
28	Egypt	USA 1
29	England	Guadeloupe
30	Brazil	South Africa
31	India	Argentina

ROUND 14 14.20

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
21	Jordan	Brazil
22	South Africa	England
23	Indonesia	Germany
24	USA 1	France
25	Canada	New Zealand
26	Australia	Croatia
27	Denmark	China Global Times
28	Philippines	Japan
29	USA 2	India
30	Argentina	Netherlands
31	Guadeloupe	Egypt

ROUND 15 17.10

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
21	Germany	Argentina
22	Netherlands	USA 2
23	India	Philippines
24	Brazil	Indonesia
25	China Global Times	Australia
26	Croatia	Canada
27	New Zealand	USA 1
28	France	Guadeloupe
29	Egypt	South Africa
30	England	Jordan
31	Japan	Denmark



TODAY'S PROGRAM

Senior Bowl

ROUND 13 11.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
41	Japan	Indonesia
42	China	Guadeloupe
43	Brazil	China Hong Kong
44	USA 2	Sweden
45	India	Thailand
46	Argentina	Australia
47	USA 1	Poland
48	Denmark	Germany
49	South Africa	New Zealand
50	Italy	Canada
51	France	Egypt

ROUND 14 14.20

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
41	China	Italy
42	Canada	South Africa
43	Guadeloupe	Indonesia
44	Germany	USA 1
45	Poland	Argentina
46	Australia	India
47	Thailand	USA 2
48	Sweden	Brazil
49	China Hong Kong	France
50	Egypt	Japan
51	New Zealand	Denmark

ROUND 15 17.10

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
41	Indonesia	Egypt
42	Japan	China Hong Kong
43	France	Sweden
44	Italy	Guadeloupe
45	USA 2	Australia
46	India	Poland
47	Argentina	Germany
48	USA 1	New Zealand
49	Denmark	Canada
50	South Africa	China
51	Brazil	Thailand



The World Computer-Bridge Championship, XI, begins today at 10:00 AM in room 5J. The eight robots competing are: defending champ, Jack from The Netherlands; last year's runner-up, Micro Bridge from Japan; 2005 winner, Wbridge5 from France; 1997 champ, Bridge Baron from the USA; tree-time runner-up, Q-Plus Bridge from Germany; Shark Bridge from Denmark; newcomer RoboBridge from The Netherlands; and newcomer TUT Bridge from Tokyo University of Technology, Japan.

The format is a 32-board round robin with the top four robot-teams advancing to the semi-final KO stage. The round robin is from 4-7 October, and the semi-final starts on 8 October. Kibitzers are welcome, and the results will be posted on computerbridge.com.

Systems Committee Meeting

There will be a meeting of the WBF Systems Committee at 09.30 hours on Saturday 6th October in the Appeals Committee Room (through the Press Office), 3rd Floor, Convention Centre

John Wignall (Chairman)



RED SEA INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE FESTIVAL
 8-18 NOVEMBER 2007

Tournament Program

Mixed Pairs	November 8, 9
T.B. Pairs	November 10
National Simultaneous	November 11
IMP Pairs	November 12, 13
Open Pairs	November 14, 15, 16
Teams	November 17

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Bridge ISROTEL

For Further Information And Registration: The Organizing Committee: David Birman
 50 Pinkas St. Tel Aviv, Israel, Tel: 972-3-6058355, Fax: 972-3-5465582, E-mail: birmand@inter.net.il



RESULTS



Bermuda Bowl

ROUND 10

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 Canada	India	15 - 56	6 - 24
2 South Africa	Poland	35 - 35	15 - 15
3 Australia	China SMEG	29 - 40	13 - 17
4 Ireland	New Zealand	59 - 32	21 - 9
5 USA 1	Indonesia	28 - 30	15 - 15
6 Netherlands	Norway	34 - 61	9 - 21
7 Pakistan	Sweden	25 - 52	9 - 21
8 Egypt	Japan	23 - 22	15 - 15
9 Chinese Taipei	Brazil	49 - 24	21 - 9
10 USA 2	Trinidad & Tobago	71 - 14	25 - 3
11 Italy	Argentina	38 - 26	18 - 12

ROUND 11

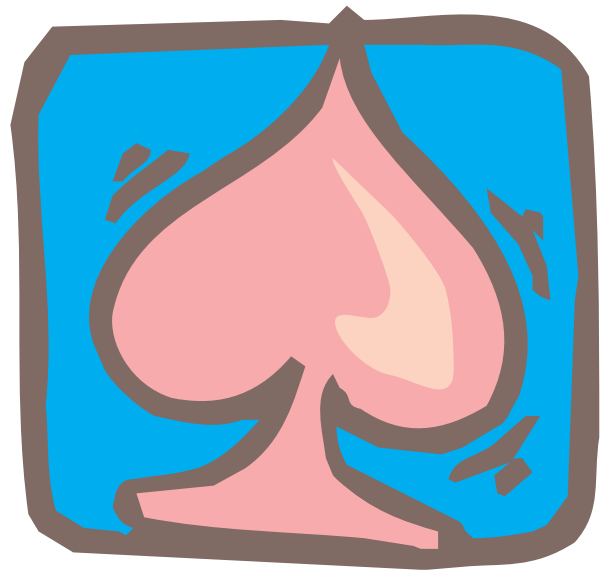
Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 Trinidad & Tobago	Italy	31 - 60	8 - 22
2 Argentina	Chinese Taipei	30 - 39	13 - 17
3 Brazil	Egypt	26 - 63	6 - 24
4 Japan	Pakistan	46 - 29	19 - 11
5 Sweden	Netherlands	39 - 28	17 - 13
6 Norway	USA 1	15 - 48	7 - 23
7 Indonesia	Ireland	50 - 36	18 - 12
8 New Zealand	Australia	36 - 18	19 - 11
9 China SMEG	South Africa	59 - 24	23 - 7
10 Poland	Canada	25 - 40	12 - 18
11 India	USA 2	33 - 2	22 - 8

ROUND 12

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 USA 2	Italy	34 - 30	16 - 14
2 Canada	China SMEG	72 - 33	24 - 6
3 South Africa	New Zealand	95 - 15	25 - 0
4 Australia	Indonesia	42 - 17	21 - 9
5 Ireland	Norway	45 - 10	23 - 7
6 USA 1	Sweden	40 - 53	12 - 18
7 Netherlands	Japan	73 - 27	25 - 5
8 Pakistan	Brazil	18 - 40	10 - 20
9 Egypt	Argentina	27 - 27	15 - 15
10 Chinese Taipei	Trinidad & Tobago	53 - 14	23.5 - 5.5
11 India	Poland	14 - 51	6 - 24

Ranking after 12 Rounds

1	USA 1	231
2	Poland	217
3	Italy	212
4	Australia	196
	Norway	196
6	Netherlands	194.5
7	China SMEG	193
8	South Africa	185.5
9	Argentina	183
	Japan	183
11	Brazil	182
	Egypt	182
13	USA 2	178
14	Sweden	177
15	Indonesia	175
16	Chinese Taipei	166.5
17	Pakistan	160
18	New Zealand	154
19	Ireland	152.5
20	Canada	149.5
21	India	148
22	Trinidad & Tobago	117.5





RESULTS

Venice Cup



ROUND 10

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	Guadeloupe	South Africa	35 - 40	14 - 16
22	USA 1	Jordan	13 - 30	11 - 19
23	Canada	Brazil	22 - 51	8 - 22
24	Australia	England	46 - 29	19 - 11
25	Denmark	Egypt	28 - 22	16 - 14
26	Philippines	France	27 - 22	16 - 14
27	USA 2	New Zealand	47 - 39	17 - 13
28	Argentina	Croatia	37 - 17	20 - 10
29	Germany	China Global Times	25 - 31	14 - 16
30	Indonesia	India	36 - 48	12 - 18
31	Netherlands	Japan	38 - 17	20 - 10

ROUND 11

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	India	Netherlands	19 - 27	13 - 17
22	Japan	Germany	16 - 85	1 - 25
23	China Global Times	Argentina	27 - 19	17 - 13
24	Croatia	USA 2	31 - 23	17 - 13
25	New Zealand	Philippines	5 - 48	5 - 25
26	France	Denmark	67 - 29	24 - 6
27	Egypt	Australia	46 - 12	23 - 7
28	England	Canada	13 - 59	5 - 25
29	Brazil	USA 1	41 - 48	14 - 16
30	Jordan	Guadeloupe	28 - 45	11 - 19
31	South Africa	Indonesia	29 - 83	3 - 25

ROUND 12

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	Indonesia	Netherlands	32 - 14	19 - 11
22	Guadeloupe	Brazil	35 - 41	14 - 16
23	USA 1	England	57 - 60	14 - 16
24	Canada	Egypt	42 - 13	22 - 8
25	Australia	France	10 - 42	7 - 23
26	Denmark	New Zealand	44 - 28	18.5 - 10.5
27	Philippines	Croatia	47 - 23	21 - 9
28	USA 2	China Global Times	24 - 62	6 - 24
29	Argentina	Japan	68 - 51	19 - 11
30	Germany	India	57 - 26	22 - 8
31	South Africa	Jordan	51 - 35	19 - 11

Ranking after 12 Rounds

1	USA 1	230
2	Germany	216
3	China Global Times	209
	France	209
5	Denmark	199.5
6	USA 2	191
7	Argentina	189
8	Egypt	185
9	Australia	182
	Philippines	182
11	Canada	180
	England	180
13	India	176
14	Indonesia	175
15	New Zealand	174.5
16	Netherlands	173
17	Brazil	170
18	Croatia	167
19	Japan	142
20	South Africa	139
21	Jordan	129
22	Guadeloupe	125





RESULTS

Senior Bowl



ROUND 10

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41	New Zealand	Canada	32 - 44	12 - 18
42	Germany	China	34 - 36	15 - 15
43	Poland	Italy	48 - 28	20 - 10
44	Australia	South Africa	17 - 33	11 - 19
45	Thailand	Denmark	36 - 43	14 - 16
46	Sweden	USA 1	19 - 28	13 - 17
47	China Hong Kong	Argentina	35 - 48	12 - 18
48	Egypt	India	15 - 54	6 - 24
49	Indonesia	USA 2	26 - 28	15 - 15
50	Guadeloupe	France	26 - 37	13 - 17
51	Japan	Brazil	40 - 36	16 - 14

ROUND 11

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41	France	Japan	59 - 11	25 - 4
42	Brazil	Indonesia	30 - 39	13 - 17
43	USA 2	Egypt	35 - 27	17 - 13
44	India	China Hong Kong	39 - 39	15 - 15
45	Argentina	Sweden	47 - 39	17 - 13
46	USA 1	Thailand	51 - 30	20 - 10
47	Denmark	Australia	19 - 23	14 - 16
48	South Africa	Poland	14 - 42	8 - 22
49	Italy	Germany	61 - 30	22 - 8
50	China	New Zealand	36 - 12	21 - 9
51	Canada	Guadeloupe	29 - 40	13 - 17

ROUND 12

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41	Guadeloupe	Japan	46 - 48	15 - 15
42	New Zealand	Italy	36 - 42	14 - 16
43	Germany	South Africa	77 - 45	23 - 7
44	Poland	Denmark	27 - 43	11 - 19
45	Australia	USA 1	34 - 19	18 - 12
46	Thailand	Argentina	35 - 59	9 - 21
47	Sweden	India	55 - 58	14 - 16
48	China Hong Kong	USA 2	11 - 62	4 - 25
49	Egypt	Brazil	36 - 30	16 - 14
50	Indonesia	France	41 - 38	16 - 14
51	Canada	China	66 - 9	25 - 3

Ranking after 12 Rounds

1	Canada	231
2	Italy	229
3	USA 1	213
4	USA 2	210
5	Indonesia	207
6	Poland	203
7	France	199
8	Australia	197
9	Egypt	192
10	Brazil	188
11	India	183
12	Germany	176
13	China	173
	Denmark	173
15	Argentina	172
16	Japan	166
17	Sweden	163
18	Guadeloupe	154
19	China Hong Kong	146
20	Thailand	131
21	New Zealand	128
22	South Africa	87



BERMUDA BOWL

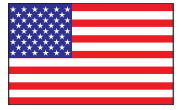
Round 8



China SMEG

v

USA 1



by Phillip Alder

After seven rounds, USA 1 led the Bermuda Bowl table with 162 victory points. China SMEG was eighth with 126 v.p. This would be a good match for China to win.

The home team sent Zejun Zhuang and Hao Jun Shi to play East-West in the Open Room against Steve Garner and Howard Weinstein. At the other table, Xiao Jing Wang and Shaolin Sun faced Michael Rosenberg and Zia.

The opening board was flat, but not without its exciting moments. See page ten.

Over the next six deals, USA 1 scored four overtrick IMPs.

On board eight, Rosenberg misplayed the play, as they say Down Under, to go down one in three hearts. Zhuang, only in two hearts, guessed better and landed ten tricks, giving China SMEG six IMPs and a one-point lead in the match.

Finally there was a big swing on number nine:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shi</i>	<i>Garner</i>	<i>Zhuang</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
	Pass	Pass	2♦ (a)
Dble	2♥ (b)	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

(a) Undisciplined weak two-bid promising only a five-card suit

(b) Spades with some diamond support



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Sun</i>
	1♠	Pass	INT
Dble	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Against three notrump in the Open Room, South led the spade four. North took dummy's queen with his ace and established his suit. Declarer won the third spade and played a heart, North taking his heart ace and cashing his spades for down one.

In the Closed Room, Wang opened his ten-count, aware that partner would know he was not strong, because he had not opened one strong club. After South responded one semiforcing and psychic notrump, Zia did well to start with a double. Rosenberg jumped to three clubs to show some useful values. Then, when West rebid three hearts, East judged well to raise.

Against four hearts, North led his lowest diamond. Declarer (West) won in his hand and gave up a spade trick. He took the diamond continuation in the dummy and threw his last diamond on the spade king. Then declarer ran dummy's heart ten, losing to North's jack. West ruffed a diamond, drove out the heart ace, and had ten tricks.

On a club lead, declarer would have won in his hand and played hearts from the top.

Plus 100 and plus 620 gave 12 IMPs to USA 1.

After a flat three notrump with two overtricks came board 11:



Hao Jun Shi explains his bid to Howard Weinstein under the gaze of the VuGraph camera

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shi	Garner	Zhuang	Weinstein
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Wang	Rosenberg	Sun
1♣	1♦	1♠	3♦
Dble	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

In the Open Room, Zhuang called his hand a weak major two-suiter, using Stayman and rebidding two hearts over the no-major reply.



Zejun Zhuang and Steve Garner share the screen in the Vugraph room

Against two hearts, South led his third-highest diamond. After declarer played low from the dummy, North won with his ace and returned a diamond. North took dummy's club queen with his ace and tried another diamond, declarer ruffing in his hand and discarding a spade from the dummy. A heart to the nine lost to North's queen, and now he shifted to the spade jack, won by East's queen when South played low. East cashed his club king, played a heart to the king and ace, cashed the club jack, and continued with the club ten, North ruffing and East overruffing. Now came a spade to dummy's ace, but North ruffed to hold declarer to one overtrick.

In the Closed Room, Zia had to open one club because one notrump would have been weak.

Against three spades, Sun found the great lead of the heart king. Declarer won with dummy's ace, and if he had known what was happening, he would have called for a club or a heart, but he cashed dummy's spade ace and played another spade. South won, led a heart to his partner's queen and got a heart ruff. North's two aces resulted in down one.

Plus 140 and plus 50 gave China SMEG five IMPs, closing the deficit to six IMPs.

On the next board, West was dealer at favorable vulnerability holding:

♠ Q 9 3
♥ 9 4 2
♦ 2
♣ Q J 9 8 4 3

Would you pass or open three clubs?

In the old days, everyone would have passed without giving it a second thought. Not now. Whenever it is one's turn to call, one has 13 cards and one might do something other than pass, one does not pass. So, in the Closed Room, Zia opened three clubs. North overcalled three spades with a limited 5-5 in the majors, Rosenberg jumped to five clubs, and South, with a 2=4=2=5 13-count with three aces and the spade jack, doubled. This went down three, minus 500.

At the other table, Shi passed. Garner and Weinstein had an uncontested auction to four hearts, made with an overtrick. Another four IMPs to USA 1.

The last four boards were flat, making the final score USA 1 21 China SMEG 11, which converted to 17-13 in victory points, a reasonable result for both teams.

WBF Women's Committee Meeting

There will be a meeting of the WBF Women's Committee on Friday 5th October at 09.45 hours. Members of the Committee are asked to meet in the WBF Secretariat's room on the 3rd floor.

Anna Maria Torlontano, Chairman

Do You Sincerely Want To Be Rich?

by Barry Rigal

Cathy Chua briefly discussed the hidden depths of the contract of 4♥ here, but I suspect there were some wrinkles that might allow you to increase your per diem (assuming you are lucky enough to get one) by some strategic wagers. Pick your mark – the dictionary defines a mark as a gullible victim, and did you know that the dictionary has no entry for ‘gullible’?

Then ask them to pick a side in a contract of 4♥.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	1♠
3♦	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Say you play in the normal game here of 4♥ by North on a diamond lead. At the two tables in the match involving USA-Canada, both declarers won and took the two top hearts, then played ace and king of spades (as Cathy pointed out, the correct approach at single-dummy). At one table West discarded, so declarer played a third spade and could not be defeated. In the other room West ruffed and cashed a diamond, then played the club queen. Now declarer had no way home. The line of play that North followed was certainly not unreasonable but it would appear to fail against best defence.

So let's look at the double-dummy options: win the diamond and play three rounds of hearts. West wins and cashes a diamond, then must play a club; but which? If he leads the club queen, declarer takes the ace, crosses to a spade, then runs the trumps, catching East in a strip-squeeze, to force him to win the club and lead away from the spade queen at trick 12. If West shifts to the club ten, it is covered by North and East, and declarer ducks, then can run the clubs. Again, contract made.

Now let's go back and see if the defenders can do any better. Instead of cashing the diamond, West exits immediately with the club queen; now the strip-squeeze does not work. After running the trumps declarer has reduced to the following ending:

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

When the last trump is led, East comes under no pressure; since the count has not been rectified there is no squeeze. Is there a response to this? Yes! The key to declarer's strategy is that he must DUCK the first trick. West can do no better than continue with a diamond and the play transposes to the winning endings discussed above.

Is that the end of the story? No: there is a defence to four hearts. On a club lead to the queen and a top diamond shift, declarer has to win in dummy. When West gets in with the heart queen (or East with the heart jack) a top diamond then a club breaks up any tension in the ending and the defence must get a spade trick eventually.

So the contract can always be defeated, right? No! As Cathy pointed out, game is cold – just so long as you declare it from the South seat – South is ALWAYS supposed to be declarer, as we all know – since the initial club lead from West is ineffective. On the lead of the club queen (a top diamond lead, ducked, transposes the position) declarer wins, cashes the two top trumps and plays the club jack to establish the clubs for a diamond discard. And the club-ten lead is no more effective.



Tough Hand

by Brian Senior

The first board of Round 8 was a tough one for the North/South pairs. Despite usually having the bidding to themselves, there were eight different North/South contracts reached in four different denominations, plus one East/West contract.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Saelensminde</i>		<i>Brogeland</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
	<i>El Ahmady</i>		<i>Sadek</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

I guess that with those soft values I would bid 3NT at South's third turn, as did Tarek Sadek, but Boye Brogeland's choice of 4♦ gave his side the opportunity to make one slam try before stopping in the diamond game. Egypt picked up 2 IMPs in this match.

Our Venice Cup match for this deal is England v Philippines, in which Nicola Smith and Heather Dhondy, for England, duplicated the Egyptian auction to 3NT. Their opponents had an altogether different sequence:

West	North	East	South
	<i>Mayer</i>		<i>Lin</i>
	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

Faith Mayer had decided that aggression was the best approach against a stronger team, so stretched to open with a game-forcing 2♣. When Phoebe Lin gave preference to

4♦, stronger than 5♦, Mayer took control and, on finding that her partner held the king of diamonds, bid the slam. Six Diamonds comes in somewhere in the low 30s as a percentage, not horrible, but well below what is required for long-term success. Today, aggression paid off, and England were left gnashing their teeth at their ill-fortune; 10 IMPs to Philippines.

We saw another contract on vugraph.

West	North	East	South
	<i>Garner</i>		<i>Weinstein</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
	<i>Wang</i>		<i>Sun</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♠
2♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Steve Garner and Howard Weinstein bid to 6♦ when Garner went on with a descriptive 4♣ and Weinstein liked the ♣Q and decent diamond support sufficiently to leap to slam.

The auction in the other room was dark and mysterious. Xiao Jing Wang opened with a strong 1♣ and 1♠ was a natural positive. Wang passed over the 2♥ intervention to see if his partner would make a descriptive bid and, when Shaolin Sun doubled, bid his clubs. I can only assume that Wang chose to bid clubs rather than diamonds because that would make it convenient for partner to show a diamond suit, where 3♦ would not have made it so convenient to show a club suit – but wouldn't South have bid 3♦ rather than doubled had he held a second suit? Anyway, 3♣ worked out very badly because, though Wang showed the diamonds at his next turn, Sun does not appear to have appreciated the possibility that his partner might be five-five. While 6♣ is not hugely inferior to 6♦ (the latter can often be made with clubs five-two), it is a bit of a strange place to get to. Today though, there were no problems and the board was a push at +920.

In the Seniors – a practical bunch, the Seniors – the contract was 3NT on nine occasions, 5♦ three times and 6♦ ten times. In the Bermuda Bowl 6♦ was reached 12 times, 5♦ five times and 3NT only three times. There was also one 1♠ doubled by East, going for 800. The Venice Cup saw somewhat more variety: ten in 6♦, two in 5♦, six in 3NT and one in 4NT. Then there were the eccentrics: one each in 4♠ (making), 7♦, and 4♦!

I give the award to the Seniors for handling this deal the best of the three series. But, I am certain, the Seniors already know that they are the best bidders in world bridge.

Introducing Mr Grosvenor

by Maureen Dennison

For those unfamiliar with this gentleman, he was notorious for making the most absurd defensive plays. They were so unbelievable that declarers never took advantage of the opportunities offered. Let me give you a prize example from Round 8 of the Bermuda Bowl.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Fulvio Fantoni is sitting North, and, after a fast and furious bidding sequence, is playing in 6♥.

West	North	East	South
	<i>Fantoni</i>		<i>Nunes</i>
3♣	Dbl	5♣	Dbl
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

East cashes the ♠A and switches to the ... ♦7 – the only lead to give the contract. Fantoni thinks, has West ♦K bare?

Has West ♦Kx and all the top clubs and so be squeezed with the ♣7 as a menace?

Never could he imagine that East has the ♦K!

He rose with dummy's ace and was well and truly Grosvenored.

Have sympathy. It could happen to you.



Knowing Your Partner

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Quinn</i>	<i>Hamdy</i>	<i>Picus</i>	<i>Sarwat</i>
		Pass	1♣
1♥	Dble	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♥	Pass	5♠
All Pass			

In Round 8 of the Venice Cup, USA2 met Egypt. The American pair came in to tell us about a fine play and well-judged stop by their opponents.

Sophie Sarwat, for Egypt, opened 1♣, as did many others in these championships, though that South hand can hardly be described as a 'good' 11-count. When Shawn Quinn overcalled 1♥, Nessrine Hamdy had to start with a negative double as 1♠ would have shown a five-card suit. Naturally enough, Sarwat responded 1♠ and Hamdy cuebid to set up a game force. Sarwat made a minimum rebid and now Hamdy asked for key cards. Five Diamonds showed one key card so now Hamdy asked for the queen of trumps.

Sarwat denied the queen of trumps but told her screenmate 'actually I have the queen but my hand is so bad that I am denying it.' When the tray came through, Hamdy thought for a bit and, when asked about the 5♠ bid said 'it denies the queen but I don't believe that she doesn't have it.' After more thought, Hamdy eventually passed.

Quinn led the ten of diamonds, which Sarwat won in hand with the queen. She played the queen of spades to the king and ace, then a second spade to the jack. The heart finesse was necessary, so a heart to the queen came next, followed by the diamond winners, a heart being thrown from hand. Now came the key play. Sarwat led the queen of clubs and, when it was not covered, went up with her ace. Then she exited with a spade to the ten. Sue Picus had to lead a club as the alternative was to give a ruff-and-discard. Sarwat played low, when Quinn won the ♣K but was endplayed. Whatever she returned, declarer would have no heart loser; well played for 11 tricks and +450.

Shanghai Jim

by Patrick Jourdain

“My name is James Graham, and I am writing a book about contract bridge.” So says James Graham Ballard in the film and book “The Empire of the Sun,” quoting his 11-year-old self in Shanghai in 1941. His story of the momentous events in Shanghai from 1941 to 1945 was made into the 1986 film directed by Steven Spielberg and starring as the boy Ballard the young Welsh-born actor Christian Bale (known more recently for American Psycho in 2000 and Batman Begins in 2005).

J. G. Ballard, as he is better known, now lives in London, and last Saturday (29th September 2007) I spoke to him about the World Championships in Shanghai. He said, “I wish all the best to the participants in the World Championships in Shanghai, where as a child I learned to play bridge myself. I think Shanghai is an ideal setting in which to hold the championships.”

Ballard was born on the 15th November 1930 in Shanghai to a British father who ran a local textile firm. His family lived at 13 Amherst Avenue, Shanghai on a wealthy housing estate of expatriate Brits. His mother was an avid bridge player and before he was ten Ballard was taking an interest in the game. Ballard reported to me, “My mother regularly held bridge parties in the afternoon. I watched from the age of nine, listening to the bidding, and could not make head or tail of it. When I was eleven my mother taught me to play and I was fascinated by the game. I filled an exercise book with 30 or 40 pages of notes about bridge including, for example, psychic bidding. Sadly everything, including the book, was lost during the war. When I was in the camps aged thirteen and fourteen, I played bridge a great deal, mostly with adults. In the camps we had about two thousand British and some Americans and bridge-playing was tolerated by the camp staff. After the war I returned to Britain and stopped playing.”

Lecturing in London last year (September 14th 2006 at the Institute of Education) he said, in response to a question from Ben Austwick:

“At that point, at the age of eleven or twelve, did you know you wanted to be a writer?”

“Yes, I did. But I was writing even before the war, in the late 1930s.

“My mother based her whole life as far as I know on playing bridge and drinking large martinis. She died at the age of ninety-three, a wonderful advertisement for the misspent life”. I mentioned the two-martini lunch to her and she said, “Two martinis? Five martinis.” She never worked, of course — I don’t think the idea ever entered her mind. Her job was to run the home and arrange dinner parties.

“She spent an enormous amount of time playing bridge and gossiping, real character assassinations, whilst passing this small child around. I didn’t know who the heck they

were talking about, but was fascinated by the game and its bidding system — two hearts, three no-trumps, and so on — and I thought, ‘what on earth does all this mean?’ It was a sort of code and I wanted to figure it out. So I asked my mother to explain the conventions. She did and I thought ‘my God!’ I was so inspired that I actually wrote a little book on how to play contract bridge. I think the gigantic moralistic strain in my fiction, which everyone comments on, probably stems from that first effort to set the world to rights.”

James Ballard survived in war-torn Shanghai from Pearl Harbor through to Hiroshima, by which time he was fifteen years old. He was mostly with his parents, though the book and film imply they were separated for years. After the war “Shanghai Jim” and his mother returned to England, where his father joined them later. He attended Leys School, Cambridge, then read medicine at Cambridge University. It was not until another thirty years had passed, and his children had grown up, that he wrote “The Empire of the Sun.”

World Championship Book 2007



The official book of these championships will be available around the end of March. On publication the official retail price will be £22 Sterling plus postage. You can pre-order a copy at the championships at the reduced price of US\$30 (225 Rmb) including surface mail, by seeing Jan Swaan in the Press Room on the third floor of the Convention Centre.

There have been some problems with copies of last year’s book being lost in the post. If you bought a copy in Verona and it has still not reached you, speak to Brian Senior in the Daily Bulletin Office, also on the third floor, and I will arrange to send another copy when I get home. I will be looking at a different way of sending out the individual copies this year in the hope of reducing these problems to a minimum.

The 2007 book will consist of 336 large pages. There will be substantial coverage of all events, including every board of the final and semi-finals of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, with full results listings, Butler rankings, photographs etc. Eric Kokish is taking a year off, alas, so principle analysts will be Brian Senior and Barry Rigal, with guest writers including John Carruthers (Senior Bowl) and Cathy Chua (BB and VC Round Robin stages). If you have a possible hand for inclusion, do feel free to contact John or Cathy, as appropriate.

Problem Solved

Earlier editions reported the death of Australian great Tim Seres. Here is a deal from more than 30 years ago.

This spade game was played by Tim Seres in the final of the 1975 Australian Interstate Teams. It is unusual because the problem suit, the one that declarer needed the defenders to open, was the trump suit! Seres was South.

Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

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

In the New South Wales system, INT was an artificial game force. West led the ♥J, won with the ace, and Seres took an immediate diamond finesse. When this lost to the king, he was faced with three losers in the minor suits and therefore could not afford a loser in the trump suit.

A club was returned, to the jack, and West continued with the ♣K. Seres won with the ♣A, cashed dummy's ♦A and ♥K, then ruffed a heart in his hand. A diamond ruff was followed by a fourth round of hearts. East showed out, so Seres was able to ruff cheaply in his hand. These cards remained:

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

Time to exit with a club! East won and returned the ♠5, covered by the 10, queen and king. A finesse of the ♠9 then gave Seres his contract. If East had returned the ♠J instead, Seres would have had to read the lie – dropping the ♠Q on the second round. The same situation would have arisen if West had retained the top club, allowing him to win the third round. He could not safely return a trump or a diamond without giving declarer a chance to pick up the trumps.

Polish Power Play

by Mark Horton



Poland are looking good for a spot in the knock-out rounds and this deal from their clash with Italy is a good indication of the way they have been playing:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jassem	Bocchi	Martens	Duboin
	1♣	Pass	1♥*
Dbl*	3NT	4♥	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	5♣
Dbl	All Pass		

1♥ promised spades, and West's first double showed hearts.

Against 5♣ doubled East unerringly led a trump. Declarer won in dummy and played a diamond, East winning with the queen and leading another trump. That meant the contract was two down, -300.

Closed Room

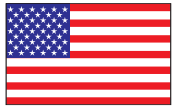
West	North	East	South
Nunes	Gawrys	Fantoni	Chmurski
	1♣	Pass	1♦
1♥	5♣	All Pass	

Here East had no particular reason to lead a trump and his choice of the queen of hearts gave declarer an opportunity he was not slow to take advantage of.

North won in hand and ran the ten of spades to West's king. North won the trump return in dummy, ruffed a spade high and exited with a diamond. He ruffed the heart return high, ruffed a diamond, ruffed a spade high and crossed to dummy with a trump to reach the two winning spades that took care of the losing diamonds, +400 and 12 well-earned IMPs to Poland.

VENICE CUP

Round 9



USA 2

v

France



by Brian Senior

Going into their ninth round match, USA 2 was lying second while France was still in the middle of the field. This match changed all that. It was a massacre, quite remarkable for a match between two such strong teams. France won by 95-18 IMPs, 25-0 VPs, and in the process moved up to joint seventh place while their opponents slipped to joint third, still handily placed but with a stack of teams coming up close behind.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sanborn	d'Ovidio	Bjerkan	Gaviard
Pass	1♠	Pass	3NT
	4♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Willard	Eythorsdottir	Cronier	Pollack
All Pass	1♠	Pass	4♠

The match started badly for the Americans when the respective East players were left to find a blind lead against 4♠.

For France, Bénédicte Cronier led a safe trump. Hjordis Eythorsdottir (Disa) won and drew a second round of trumps, then ran the queen of clubs. Cronier won and switched to the ten of hearts. Sylvie Willard won two heart tricks and there was the ace of diamonds to come; down one for -50.

For USA 2, Cheri Bjerkan led her fourth-best club. Catherine d'Ovidio won dummy's queen, drew trumps in two rounds, and played a diamond to the king and ace. Bjerkan also switched to a heart, but the damage had been done; +420 and 10 IMPs to France.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sanborn	d'Ovidio	Bjerkan	Gaviard
1♥	4♣	Pass	1♦
Dble	All Pass	4♥	6♠

West	North	East	South
Willard	Eythorsdottir	Cronier	Pollack
1♥	4♠	Pass	1♦
6♦	Dble	5♥	5♠
All Pass		6♥	Dble

The swing was created by individual judgement, but the auction showcased an interesting French agreement which, I am told, came up for the first time on this deal. D'Ovidio's 4♣ bid said that she wished to play game in the unbid major but from her partner's hand. Danièle Gaviard simply blasted into the spade slam, hoping for a diamond control in partner's hand, and Kerri Sanborn doubled, ending the auction.

There was nothing to the play. Sanborn cashed the ace of diamonds then switched to a heart, but Gaviard could win, draw trumps and throw her heart loser on the king of clubs, then take two ruffs in hand; +1660.

Disa just jumped to 4♠ with the North cards and Rozanne Pollack bid only 5♠ over Cronier's 5♥. Willard went on to the six level, being careful to indicate a diamond lead in case her opponents took the push to 6♠. Disa doubled 6♦ and Pollack doubled Cronier's correction to 6♥, ending the auction.

Disa led the two of clubs to Pollack's ace. She tried the ace of spades but Willard could ruff and play a heart, win the diamond return and draw a second round of trumps, then knock out the king of clubs; down two for -300 and 16 IMPs to France, who led by 26 after only two boards.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sanborn	d'Ovidio	Bjerkan	Gaviard
	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Dble
Pass	Pass	Rdbl	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Willard	Eythorsdottir	Cronier	Pollack
	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♦	Pass	7♣	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Willard	Eythorsdottir	Cronier	Pollack
	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Dble	Pass	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♣	All Pass

In 3NT, Bjerkan ducked two rounds of hearts, then won the third. Knowing that there could not be two cashing hearts on her right after South's double, it was now safe to play a diamond to the jack. She cashed the ♦K, crossed to the ace of clubs and rattled off the diamonds, eventually taking the club finesse for her eleventh trick; +460.

Six clubs is not that great a contract on a heart lead, but this was France's day and everything was just as declarer would have wished. Willard won the heart lead and played a club to the jack, then cashed the king and ace of diamonds. When the queen fell, she played a club to the ten, then back to the ace, and claimed 13 tricks; +940 and 10 IMPs to France.



We do not have the bidding and play from the Open Room, but the contract was 2♠ doubled by North, down three for -500. Presumably East doubled a weak jump overcall and West left it in.

There was no temptation for Willard to pass out a one-level negative double. Instead, she cuebid 2♠ to set up a game-force then supported Cronier's clubs. Cronier took control, asking for key-cards, then suggesting seven. Willard was not able to bid seven herself, but when she showed the king of diamonds, Cronier was happy to bid it.

Seven clubs is a decent contract, cold once trumps divide evenly. If clubs are three-one, declarer will need the hand with the long trumps also to have some red-suit length to permit a heart and a diamond to be ruffed in dummy. It was easy on the actual lie of the cards. Cronier won the spade lead, played ace then a low club to the queen, and claimed; +1440 and another 14 IMPs to France.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sanborn	d'Ovidio	Bjerkan	Gaviard
2♠	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	5♥
Pass	Pass	5♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Willard	Eythorsdottir	Cronier	Pollack
Pass	1♣	INT	Pass
2♠	4♥	4♠	All Pass

Sanborn opened a weak 2♠ and d'Ovidio overcalled 4♥. When Bjerkan's 4♠ came around, d'Ovidio doubled to show her good all-round hand and Gaviard, with decent heart support in context, bid 5♥. Even 4♥ can be defeated by a spade lead and club switch, so the easy way to go plus would have been for Bjerkan to double. However, that was tough to do with a heart void and great potential to make 5♠, which was her chosen call.

D'Ovidio led a top heart, ruffed. Sanborn led the ♠J to her ace, then the ♦2 to dummy's queen. Gaviard won with the ♦K and returned a trump. D'Ovidio won with the ♠K, cashed two heart tricks, then switched to the king of clubs while the diamonds were still blocked to ensure a fifth defensive trick; down three for -150.

Disa opened a strong club and Cronier showed both minors – she was borderline between this and 2NT, which would have shown slightly better suits in her style – but Willard's spades were long enough to be worth showing and she did so. Disa rebid 4♥ and Cronier, who had huge spade support given her previous call, bid 4♠. There was less momentum in this auction and Pollack did not feel the need to get involved.

Disa led the ace of hearts, ruffed. Willard found the interesting play of the queen of diamonds, attempting to create an entry to her hand. That lost to the king and back came a heart, again ruffed. Now Willard continued with her plan, leading a diamond to the jack, ruffed, and back came a third

heart, ruffed with dummy's last trump. She played the ace of diamonds, throwing a club as Disa ruffed with the ♠K, and that was that for the defence; ten tricks for +420 and 11 IMPs to France.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sanborn	d'Ovidio	Bjerkan	Gaviard
3♣	All Pass	Pass	Pass

West	North	East	South
Willard	Eythorsdottir	Cronier	Pollack
2♠	3♥	Pass	INT
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	4♥	Dble	All Pass

Perhaps seeking to create a swing, Sanborn opened a somewhat off-centre third-seat pre-empt, which bought the contract. D'Ovidio led the king of hearts to dummy's ace. Sanborn led the king of spades, which d'Ovidio won. She returned the jack of clubs to declarer's queen, and Sanborn cashed the ace of clubs before exiting with a diamond to South's queen. Once Gaviard avoided returning a black card, Sanborn had to lose a second spade plus two trump tricks and was down one for -50.

Pollack's mini-no trump led to a very different auction in the other room. Willard overcalled 2♠, transfer to clubs. Three Hearts was forcing, so 3NT was the natural continuation and now, with a heart stack, Cronier started doubling.

Four Hearts doubled was not a pleasant contract – unless you were a defender. Cronier led her singleton club to the queen and Willard returned a low club for her to ruff. Cronier switched to the king of spades, which Disa won. Declarer played the ♥Q, ducked, then the ♥K, which Cronier won. She played her remaining spade to Willard's ten. Willard cashed the ♠Q and played a third spade, ruffed with the nine. Now Cronier erred by over-ruffing, the last trick for the defence. Had she discarded, she would have made both the jack and eight of hearts. The contract was still three down for -500 and 11 IMPs to France.

France had played well and in luck, a potent combination.



Kerri Sanborn

“No Big Deal”, he said

by Jon Sveindal (jbgood)

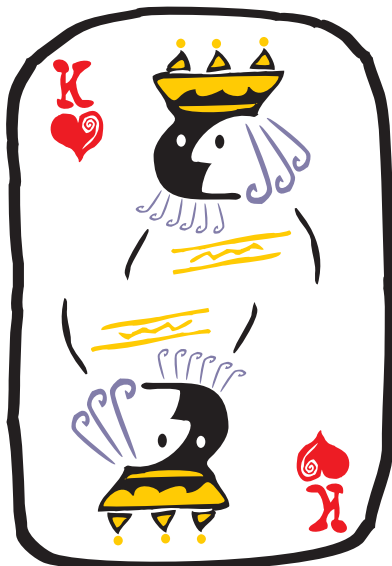
Just two players declared 4♥ from the East position on this deal from Round 5 – one of them because the Norwegian pairing, Grøtheim/Tundal, were playing Precision. A sequence starting with 1♣ – 1♥ (showing a positive and balanced hand) ‘wrong-sided’ the heart game since South had an easy singleton lead, dooming the contract. West was declarer at all other tables, and all but two made their games with an overtrick.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	All Pass

West showed a Flannery major two-suited hand, and continued with a cuebid after East had invited game. Tor Helness was North and reasoned that West would have to have a 4-5-3-1 distribution if there was to be any chance of beating the contract, and duly led the ♦A. Two ruffs and two minor-suit aces gave the hoped-for result, and a modest, “No big deal” comment from Helness when he was credited for his fine defence.



A Bidder’s Game

by Knut Kjaernsrod

It is definitely true that IMPs are often won during the bidding, and this is a typical example from Norway’s match against Pakistan in Tuesday evening’s match.

As South, both sides vulnerable, you hold:

- ♠ A 2
- ♥ 10 7 4
- ♦ Q 10 7 6 3 2
- ♣ Q 8

This is the bidding:

West	North	East	South
1♣	1♦	1♠	?

What is your decision?

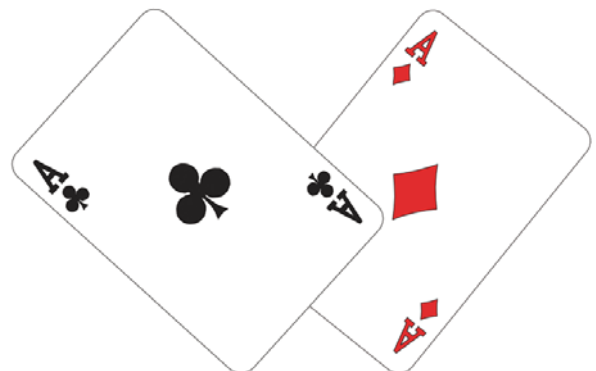
Boye Brogeland put a confident 3NT on the bidding tray. Nobody had anything to add, and this was the full deal:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

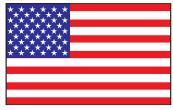
♠ J 4 ♥ A Q 8 2 ♦ A K 8 5 4 ♣ J 9	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ Q 10 9 8 5 3 ♥ K J 9 3 ♦ 9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

- ♠ A 2
- ♥ 10 7 4
- ♦ Q 10 7 6 3 2
- ♣ Q 8

The Pakistani West took his ♣A, pondered for a while, and then proceeded to cash his seven club tricks. This meant three down for minus 300, but it was a good save against 4♠, which is cold for East-West. It turned out to be even better when North-South at the other table sacrificed in 5♦ against Glenn Groetheim and Ulf Tundal. That was doubled and went three down for minus 800.



BERMUDA BOWL Round 9



Italy

v

Brazil



Brazilian Samba Beat(s) Italy

by Mark Horton

The VuGraph audience is sure to be entertained when one of the game's legendary superstars, Brazil's Gabriel Chagas, is at the table. His partnership with Miguel Villas Boas is a formidable one, as the reigning World Champions soon discovered.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Chagas	Lauria	Villas Boas
1♥	4♠	Pass	1♦
Dbf	All Pass	5♥	6♠

When Chagas jumped all the way to 4♠, his partner decided to gamble that there would not be two losers – and right he was.

It was clear to West that he was doubling for a diamond lead – the first suit bid by dummy – but East led the nine of clubs, hoping that East would be able to ruff.

As you can see, no lead would have helped as declarer has a parking place for dummy's second heart in the form of the king of clubs.

+1660 was not a bad way to start the match, especially since 7♥ is a very good save for East/West.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Figueiredo	Bocchi	Brenner	Duboin
1♥	2♥*	Pass	1♦
All Pass		4♥	4♠

2♥ was a transfer that South was happy to complete, but that ended the auction and Brazil collected 14 IMPs.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Chagas	Lauria	Villas Boas
Pass	INT	2♦*	Pass
2♥*	All Pass		
2♦	One major		
2♥	Pass or correct		

North led the ace of diamonds and continued with the king. South, who had signalled with the two on the first round, now played the ten, so when North cashed a third diamond it was clear that South had something good in spades.

Chagas switched to the three of spades, South winning with the king and returning the five to North's ace.

Everyone was expecting Chagas to complete a perfect defence by playing the last diamond, promoting a trump for South, but he switched to a spade and declarer was soon claiming, +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Figueiredo	Bocchi	Brenner	Duboin
Pass	INT	All Pass	

With six possible tricks East was prepared to let INT go by and that proved to be a good decision. The defence started with six rounds of hearts, West discarding two diamonds and both spades. East switched to a club and that was two down, -200 and 3 IMPs to Brazil.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Villas Boas</i>
1♣*	1♠	Dbl*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♣	All Pass

1♣ 10-22, 2+♣

Versace gave a lot of thought, to bidding one for the road, and when dummy was displayed, he immediately engaged his partner in an animated discussion, at the same time returning his cards to the board.

The players were happy to go on to the next deal, but that does not work in this electronic age. The board had to be returned to the table and declarer had to complete a trick before being allowed to claim +940.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Figueiredo</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Brenner</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
1♦	1♠	3♣	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♣	All Pass		



Gabriel Chagas

West was content to abandon any exploration at an early stage producing a flat board.

At several tables North overcalled the opening bid of 1♦ with 2♠ and East's negative double ended the auction. That usually produced between 500 and 800 – not perfect compensation for the missed grand slam.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Villas Boas</i>
Pass	Pass	Dbl	1♠
Pass	Pass	INT	Rdbl
All Pass			Dbl

The odds against getting a Yarborough are 1827-1, so Versace will be hoping that it will be a while before he sees another.

Chagas picked a good moment to ignore a certain Bols Bridge Tip, and when East doubled, his side was in some trouble.

If East/West had located their diamond fit, North would certainly have doubled, but it is hard to beat it by more than a trick. (South has to lead his singleton trump.)

The defence against INT was easier.

Four rounds of clubs saw declarer discard two diamonds and a spade, then a spade through declarer followed by a diamond exit meant two down, +300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Figueiredo</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Brenner</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
Pass	INT	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♣*	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3NT*	All Pass	3♠*

3♠ 5-3-1-4 19+

Once North responded, it was hard to stop at a safe level. Even so, 3NT had some chances.

East led the king of hearts, and when that was ducked, he switched to the three of spades. (I saw one commentator on

BBO suggest the jack of spades, but that would give declarer a chance to make the contract! He can win in dummy and play four rounds of clubs to East's discomfort.)

Declarer won in dummy and if he had now played on clubs, East simply would keep his spade holding intact and the contract would fail.

Instead declarer tried a diamond to the jack. East won with the queen and played the jack of spades. Declarer won and might have cashed out for one down, but he exited with a spade and was two down, -100 and 9 IMPs for Brazil.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ A Q 10 9 2 ♥ Q 10 3 ♦ 8 7 5 ♣ 8 4	♠ 7 ♥ A K J 9 8 ♦ A Q 10 4 ♣ A 9 2	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; text-align: center; width: 80px; height: 80px;"> <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 8 5 4 ♥ 6 ♦ K J 9 2 ♣ K 10 6
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ 6 3 ♥ 7 5 4 2 ♦ 6 3 ♣ Q J 7 5 3											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Chagas	Lauria	Villas Boas
Pass	1♥	1♠	Pass
3♥*	Dbl	Rdbl	Pass
3♠	All Pass		Pass

South led the seven of hearts. North won with the jack and played the king. Declarer ruffed, played the jack of spades to the queen, led a club to the king, drew trumps, and played a diamond to the jack. When that held he soon claimed +170.

Closed Room

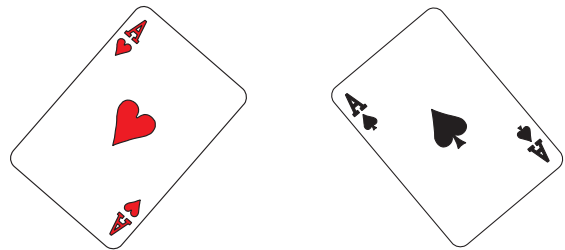
West	North	East	South
Figueiredo	Bocchi	Brenner	Duboin
Pass	1♥	1♠	Pass
4♠	Dbl	All Pass	2♥

South led the four of hearts. North won with the jack and switched to ace and another diamond. Fearing South would be able to win with the queen and give North a ruff, declarer put up the king and had to go one down.

Despite that missed opportunity, Brazil had won 36-20 IMPs, 19-11 VP.

I have a correction to yesterday's report on Italy v Norway. Giorgio Duboin dropped by to point out that the play record on Board 11 was wrong. Holding ♦1075 he did (as suggested) play the ten of diamonds on the first round of the suit and followed that with the seven. (See page 20.)

So, gentle readers, don't believe everything you read/see on BBO!



Members of the news media gathered on the seventh floor of the convention center for a press conference with former film star Arnold Schwarzenegger to help promote the Special Olympics in Shanghai.