

IBPA BULLETIN 421, Bermuda SPECIAL, 1st February, 2000

The return of the Bermuda Bowl to the island where it was launched fifty years ago was a triumphant success. The contribution by Orbis Investment Management of a million dollars, and by the Bermudan Tourist Board of \$300,000 was a major factor : a room rate subsidy of \$23 (yes, Bermuda is an expensive place), the highly popular Player Communication Room with six computers for e-mail and Internet (which saved the Press Room from invasion by non-members), good playing conditions that made for happy players (witness the very low number of Appeals), and a Closing Ceremony (David Ezekiel was an excellent compere) and Dinner that were significantly better than in the past. The Bermudan Bridge Federation, led by Sheena Rayner, can be proud of their achievement.

The bridge provided spectacular finishes with half the medal-determining knockout matches being in doubt when the last deal arrived. Notably, of course, the Venice Cup Final: the 128 deals in the final were won by the Netherlands by 1 IMP, but there was a 3 IMP carry-over from the Round Robin in favour of the USA I, and a net 2.5 IMP slow-play penalty from the fourth session in favour of the Dutch, so overall a new nation's name went on the Trophy by half-an-imp 249.75 to 249.25 ! The Netherlands joins the USA and Great Britain as the only countries to have won both the Venice Cup and the Bermuda Bowl.

IBPA had a successful event, with 15 new members, a Press Party at which entertainment was provided by two players meeting the next day in the World Final on opposite sides (Eric Rodwell on piano and Gabriel Chagas accompanying him), forty members at an AGM which went well (see next Bulletin), an Awards ceremony which, by making Marc Hodler the IOC Vice-President Personality of the Year, attracted the media (full awards inside), and a Press Room which was well-equipped and run.

Although IBPA has not yet received any details it is likely there will be a Press Clippings Prize for clippings submitted mentioning the name of Orbis, so don't throw them away. Details next month.

The winners in the draw for the Generali Clippings Prize for Malta, made at the AGM, were Dowling of Ireland, Dupont and Meyer of France, Vandoni of Italy, and Neamtzu of Romania. The first four have already been paid their \$100, the last will receive it later.

The Editorial would not be complete without some negatives. In the Transnational only the top ten tables had duplicated boards, this number should be increased. The Press Room, which used normally to be open the morning after the Closing Ceremony for journalists filing their last reports with news from the Closing Ceremony and Final Bulletin, was dismantled prematurely (but an improvement on Lille and Warsaw, where the computers were being unplugged as journalists filed their *penultimate* reports). And lastly, the weather. Your Editor had ten days in Bermuda and on eight it rained with strong winds. At least the weather is better in Cardiff !

Patrick Jourdain - Editor

Bermuda Bowl Knock-outs

Final 160	C/O	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	
USA I	24	44	34	43	47	91	
Brazil	0	25	40	18	30	4	
	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	Total	
USA I	69	49	42	22	41	506	
Brazil	11	41	35	30	54	288	

Play-off for third place (48 boards) :

USA II beat Norway 143-115

Semifinals (96 boards) :

Brazil beat Norway 136.3-125
USA I beat USA II 227.2-135

Quarterfinals (96 boards):

Norway beat Indonesia 213.5-205
USA I beat Italy 198.5-190
USA II beat Poland 165-161
Brazil beat Sweden 221-191

Venice Cup Knock-outs

Note the carry-over was 3 IMPs to USA I, the slow play fine in session 4 was 3.25 against USA and 1.25 against the Netherlands.

Final:	C/O	S1	S2	S3	S4	
Neth	0	38	21	49	12.75	
USA I	3	17	24	14	30.25	
	S5	S6	S7	S8	Total	
Neth	27	34	43	25	249.25	
USA I	37	45	39	40	249.75	

Play-off for third place (48 boards) :

Denmark beat Austria 202-62

Semifinals (96 boards) :

USA I beat Denmark 221-151
Netherlands beat Austria 211-174.7

Quarterfinals (96 boards) :

USA I beat Canada 239-184
Netherlands beat China 217-191
Austria beat Germany 177-166
Denmark beat France 260-182

Orbis Transnational Teams

Gold: Rose Meltzer, Adam Zmudzinski, Cezary Balicki, Alan Sontag, Peter Weichsel (USA, Poland)
Silver: Reese Milner, Fred Gitelman, Brad Moss, Bobbie Levin, Marc Jacobus (USA/Can)
Bronze: Vladimir Mihov, Rumen Trendafilov, Borislav Popov, Jerry Stamatov, Ivan Nanev, Kalin Karaivanov (Bulgaria)

Final (48 boards):

Meltzer (USA/Pol) beat **Milner (USA/Can)** 104-93

Semifinals (32 boards) :

Milner (USA) beat Mihov (Bulgaria) 85-70
Meltzer (USA) beat Hackett (GB/USA) 88-71

Mihov (Bulgaria) won bronze by finishing higher in the Qualifying than Hackett.

Swiss after all 16 matches :

5. Brachman (USA) 280
6. O'Rourke (USA) 279
7. Rinaldi (Italy) 273
8. De Falco (Italy) 270
9. Dhondy J. (GB) 268
- 10= Reiplinger (Fra)
Munawak (Indonesia) 266

Leaders when the cut came after 14 matches of 10 boards (76 teams competing)

1. V. Mihov (Bulgaria) 254
2. Meltzer (USA/Poland) 253
3. P. Hackett (GB/USA) 252
4. Milner (USA/Canada) 245
5. O'Rourke (USA) 245
6. Brachman (USA) 242

Orbis Seniors Exhibition

Final (60 boards)

Poland beat France 229-73

Play-off for third place :

China beat North America 135-80

**Orbis World Computer Bridge
Championship**

Eight programs entered. In the final GIB (USA) beat WBridge5 (France)

Bermuda Bowl Medallists

USA 1

Nick Nickell. An investment banker originally from North Carolina who now lives in New York City. Nickell has led his team to victories in six of the last seven Spingold Knockout Teams and a world championship (Bermuda Bowl) in 1995. He also has wins in the ACBL's premier pair event, the Blue Ribbon, and the Cavendish Calcutta in Las Vegas (with Bob Hamman) last year.

Richard Freeman. Senior vice president at Oppenheimer Investment Co. in Atlanta. He gained fame in his youth as a Quiz Kid on radio and at one time was the ACBL's youngest Life Master. Owner of several North American titles. He and Nickell make a solid partnership to complement their teammates.

Bob Hamman. No. 1 in World Bridge Federation rankings since 1985. Runs a prize promotion business in Dallas, Texas. Hamman and Bobby Wolff made up one of the most formidable partnerships in bridge until they parted company in 1998. Hamman has nine world titles to his credit.

Paul Soloway. One of the top players in the USA, owner of more ACBL masterpoints than anyone on the planet. More importantly, he has three Bermuda Bowl victories. Began partnership with Hamman in the summer of 1998. Played with Hamman in the Seventies as a member of the famed Aces squad.

Jeff Meckstroth. When the final major ACBL tournament was concluded last November and the masterpoints won in major events in Nineties were counted up, Meckstroth was on top of the heap. A professional player who lives in Tampa, Florida, Meckstroth is the only player to receive the Best Played Hand award from the International Bridge Press Association two consecutive years. With Rodwell, one of a small group of players to have won three major WBF events - Bermuda Bowl, Olympiad Teams and World Open Pairs.

Eric Rodwell. Professional player who recently moved to Florida (Clearwater). The brains behind RM Precision, a highly complex and aggressive bidding system. Finished right behind Meckstroth for the best showing in major ACBL events in the Nineties.

Sidney Lazard non-playing captain

For Round Robin Results see back two pages

BRAZIL

Gabriel Chagas, one of eight people who have won the triple crown of Olympiad (1976), Open Pairs (1990), and Bermuda Bowl (1989 in Perth). Investment consultant. First described the intra-finesse. Partners..

Marcelo Branco, as Chagas but also won the World Pairs in 1978, (with Cintra) the only player to have won it twice.

Miguel Villas-Boas & Joao-Paulo Campos with Chagas & Branco took silver in Lille Rosenblum, and then tied with China in the first IOC Grand Prix and were runners-up the next year.

Roberto Mello & Ricardo Janz They were both in the team which won the Bermuda Bowl in 1989, the first time that any country from outside Europe or North America had achieved this.

Pedro-Paulo Assumpcao, non-playing captain

USA 2

Jeff Wolfson. Team sponsor. An options trader who lives in Chicago. Has three major ACBL titles, including the Grand National Teams in 1997. Is considering retiring from major competition after the 2000 Orbis Bermuda Bowl.

Neil Silverman. Professional player who lives in Florida. A member of the winning squad in the Rosenblum Cup Teams in 1985. Owner of three major ACBL titles. Partnered Wolfson for the past five years.

Zia Mahmood. One of the world's best-known bridge personalities, and a world-class player known for his flair and imagination. Emerged from obscurity when his lightly regarded team from Pakistan made it to the final of the Bermuda Bowl in Rye, New York, in 1981. Has won several ACBL championships with a variety of partners.

Michael Rosenberg. Options trader who lives in New York City. Born in the U.S. but reared in Scotland. Rosenberg is acknowledged as one of the top players in the world. Won the Rosenblum Cup in 1994 and the tough Par Contest at the World Championships in Lille in 1998.

Chip Martel. Professor of computer science at the University of California at Davis. Has four world titles to his credit - World Open Pairs, two Bermuda Bowls and the Rosenblum Cup (with Stansby). Co-chairman of the ACBL Laws Commission.

Lew Stansby. Commodities trader from the San Francisco area. Stansby and wife JoAnna form one of the best mixed partnerships in ACBL tournaments. Winners in 1998 of the Life Master Open Pairs at ACBL's fall tournament, they were second in the same event last year.

Michael Becker, non-playing captain.

Netherlands Ladies, World Champions

The same team played in the Tunisia Venice Cup in 1997, and in 1998 won the last European Union Championships in Salsomaggiore, Italy.

Bep Vriend, bridge teacher. With Carla Arnolds she won the European Ladies Pairs in 1993 and the World Ladies Pairs in 1994. Since 1974: 12 Europeans and the last 5 Olympiads. Since 1994 partnered Marijke van der Pas. Bep, and husband Anton Maas, in 1994 with van der Pas-Tammens won the European Mixed Teams. Vriend is an honour member of the Dutch Bridge Federation. In 1998 for her merit for bridge she received a Royal decoration.

Marijke van der Pas from Utrecht, playing bridge since 1967. In the Dutch Ladies team 1979. With Elly Schippers she won the European Ladies Pairs in 1980. She played 11 Europeans and the last 5 Olympiads. A bridge journalist, also works for the Dutch Bridge Magazine. Marijke is living together with Jaap Trouwborst, captain of the Dutch Open Team. After Perth 1989 (silver), Yokohama 1991, Tunisia 1997, Bermuda 2000 is 4th Venice Cup for her and Vriend.

Jet Pasman comes from near Amsterdam. From 1989 to 1993 Jet was captain of the Dutch Ladies team at 3 Europeans, one Olympiad and 2 Venice Cups. Since 1979 she has been partnering Anneke Simons. As a player: 5 Europeans and 2 Olympiads. Pasman, a sports teacher, is married to the coach of the Ladies team: Chris Niemeijer, the coach. 2nd Venice Cup.

Anneke Simons, a personnel manager, lives in Amsterdam with Kees Tammens a bridge journalist and their son Bas aged 17. Anneke learned bridge at the age of 20 and since 1979 she has been playing with Jet Pasman. In 1988 she gave up bridge for four years. Anneke played 5 Europeans and 2 Olympiads. Pasman-Simons also played Tunisia 1997 Venice Cup.

Wietske van Zwol, from Tilburg, married to Carel Berendregt, a business economics researcher. From 1995-1997 Europeans partnered Ine Gielkens, winning the European Union Ladies Pairs in Belgium in 1996. For the 1997 Tunisia Venice Cup Wietske renewed her partnership with Martine Verbeek. 3 Europeans and one Olympiad.

Martine Verbeek born in Amsterdam, is living together with Ron Pannebakker in Rotterdam. She learned bridge at age 14. Martine works as a book-keeper in her own administration firm. Debut: Venice Cup in Tunisia 1997 with Wietske van Zwol with whom she played from 1992 to 1994. Martine played in 1 European Championship - Malta 1999

Ed Franken, npc, is the team manager and captain of the Dutch Ladies Team since the European Championships in Vilamoura, 1995.

Chris Niemeijer is the coach of the Dutch Ladies Team since 1987. He is married to Jet Pasman and is a former player of the Dutch Open team.

Silver Medal: USA I

(no team profile provided)

Three are the holders: Myers, Montin & Sokolow.

Shawn Quinn World Ladies Pairs 1998

Jill Meyers won VC in 1993 and 1997 and world Ladies Pairs in 1998 with Quinn.

Randi Montin, Tobi Sokolow, previously Deutsch.

Janice Seamon-Molson, Renee Mancuso

Jo Morse, non-playing captain

Bronze: The Danish Ladies Team

Trine Bilde -The Spiderwoman, has just finished her Ph.D. in Spider Ecology. After these championships, she will exchange Denmark with the Negev Desert in Israel to participate in a scientific research project (spiders - what else!). Mother of two girls of 4 and 6.

Dorte Cilleborg - The Farmer, with Trine she has represented Denmark 4-5 times. Living out in the country she has the life of a part-time farmer, combined with a job as a full time sales manager and the mother of 3 children of 6, 7 and 10 years.

Kirsten Steen Møller -The Grandmother of the team World Champion with Olympic gold in 1988 in Venice (together with Bettina and Charlotte), and European Champion in the Juniors in Dublin in 1970. She has two adult sons and one grandson.

Mette Drøgemüller - The Junior, 26 years old, Mette had her breakthrough during these championships. Together with "the Grandmother" she took on a huge responsibility and played excellently when Charlotte took ill. Unfortunately she caught a really bad flu after 10 matches in the round robin, and did not recover in time for the play-off. She was runner-up with a German partner in the World Junior Pairs in 1997 in Italy. She is unmarried.

Bettina Kalkerup -The Bridge Pro, the only (almost) professional player on the team, co-owner of a big bridge club in Copenhagen. Olympic gold in 1988, and runner-up in Miami in 1986 in the World Women Pairs. She had to reestablish a partnership of 10 years ago with Kirsten due to Mette's flu. She has two children of 6 and 9.

Charlotte Palmund-Koch -The Canary Bird, played only 5 matches before she unfortunately was taken seriously ill and had to return to Copenhagen for hospital treatment. She has great international merits together with Bettina. Computer system developer and the mother of two girls, 6 and 8.

Jacob Ron -The Broomstick, coach, only 26. World Junior Champion in Hamilton in 1997, bronze in Bali in 1995 and 4th in 1993 in Aarhus. In between studies at the university he is a part time kindergarten worker -**Lotte Skaanning-Norris** - The Captain, IT consultant. Mother of two girls, 6 & 8, and weekend mother for a boy of 14 and a girl of 7. Plays golf.

Mello's Marvel By Patrick Jourdain (GB)

Brazil might have been far behind USA I in the Bermuda Bowl Final but they were still able to produce great plays, as Bob Hamman reported. Board 9 Session 8, featured Roberto Mello:

Dlr: North	[A K 4		
E/W Game	] A 10 6 5 4		
	{ 4 3		
	} K 10 9		
	[6 2	[Q J 9 5 3	
	] 2	] Q J 9 7 3	
	{ A J 8 6 5 2	{ K 9 7	
	} J 8 6 5	} None	
	[10 8 7		
	] K 8		
	{ Q 10		
	} A Q 7 4 3 2		
West	North	East	South
<i>Soloway</i>	<i>Ganz</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Mello</i>
	1]	1[	2}
2{	Pass	Pass	3}
Pass	3[	Pass	4}
Pass	5}	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

At the other table USA I had gone two light in Five Clubs, so Mello faced a tough task when doubled. Soloway led his singleton heart. Mello won in hand, and started with a key play, finessing the nine of trumps on the first round. He was now able to draw trumps in four rounds. Hamman, East, began by discarding two spades and a diamond, but was already in trouble on the fourth trump. He could not afford another spade, and a heart discard would enable declarer to set up the suit, so he had to throw another diamond. He chose to throw a small diamond, leaving himself with the bare king.

Reading the position perfectly, Mello exited with a low diamond to East. Hamman exited with a high spade, won in dummy. Now came the coup de grace. Mello exited from dummy with a low heart! Hamman was forced to win with the jack and concede a trick with his return. Declarer's other diamond went away on dummy's extra winner.

The players later analysed what would have happened if, on the fourth trump, Hamman had unblocked his diamond king. Mello had the answer: "I know the ending. I cash my top spades, and exit with a diamond to West. He can only run diamonds, and East gets squeezed " 12 IMPS to Brazil.

Bermuda Bowl Semifinal Brazil v. Norway Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

	[10 9 5 2		
	] A		
	{ J 6		
	} K Q J 9 8 6		
[3		[K Q J 8 7 6	
] K J 10 9 6 4		] 8	
{ A 9 7		{ 5 4 3	
} 5 3 2		} A 10 4	
	[A 4		
	] Q 7 5 3 2		
	{ K Q 10 8 2		
	} 7		

West	North	East	South
<i>Campos</i>	<i>Austberg</i>	<i>Villas-Boas</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>
2]	Dble	Pass	3]
Pass	3NT	Dble	4{
Dble	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
<i>Furunes</i>	<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Branco</i>
2]	3}	Pass	3{
Pass	3[	Pass	3NT

We much prefer Chagas's overcall to Erik Austberg's take-out double. 4{ Doubled was not a pleasant experience for Geir Helgemo. He won the spade lead and played a club. Miguel Villas-Boas won and played two top spades. Helgemo ruffed high, while Joao Paolo Campos pitched two clubs. Helgemo played a diamond to the jack and another diamond to the queen and ace. Campos played a heart to dummy's bare ace and Helgemo tried to cash a club. Campos ruffed that and played king and another heart for Villas-Boas to ruff. When the smoke had cleared, Helgemo was three down for -500.

3NT was an interesting contract in the other room. John-Egil Furunes led]K, hoping to pick up a singleton queen in either dummy or his partner's hand. Dummy was no doubt a disappointment to him. Branco led a club to the king, ducked, and }J to East's ace. Helness switched to a low spade, correct if someone had a bare ace. Fearing that West might win a spade honour and clear the hearts while still holding the {A as a further entry, Branco rose with [A. Now he led a low diamond towards dummy. This was the key point of the hand. In practice, Furunes ducked and the jack scored. Branco could cash the clubs and play a diamond back; +400 and 14 IMPs to Brazil, who had taken the lead.

Suppose, however, that Furunes rises with the ace of diamonds and returns a diamond. Declarer can win in either hand but has only eight tricks and will then be stranded in a hand full of losers. That would be down one.

Rosenberg defeats Vugraph

By Barnet Shenkin (USA)

Now he was able to put East in with a club to leave this position:

In the quarter-final match between USA II and Poland:

QF. Set 6. Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

[A 3	
] K 10 7 5 4	
{ A J 7	
} Q 4 3	
[10 4 2	[K J 9 8 6
] J 9 6 3 2	] Q
{ 10 8 6 2	{ K 9 3
} J	} A K 5 2
[Q 7 5	
] A 8	
{ Q 5 4	
} 10 9 8 7 6	

West	North	East	South
	<i>Rosenberg</i>		<i>Zia</i>
		1♠	Pass
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

Michael Rosenberg declared Two Hearts on the lead of the club ace. Now a low club was led by East and ruffed by West, who played a spade. At this point declarer studied the position for some time. The commentators suggested he should win the spade ace and return a spade to East's king. Now if East won, cashed a club and played another spade, declarer would be able to win in dummy and play black winners through West, eliminating one of his losers. However, when East wins the spade king he would cash the king and now exit with the heart queen.

[-	
] K 10 7 5	
{ A J 7	
} -	
[-	[J 9 8
] J 9 6] -
{ 10 8 6 2	{ K 9 3
} -	} 5
[Q	
] 8	
{ Q 5 4	
} 10 9	

When declarer leads a black winner, West can ruff in and the defense will still come to a diamond and a heart. In fact, this was exactly the way the defense went when Martel and Stansby were defending the same contract for down one. However, Rosenberg, at trick four led a heart to dummy and passed the heart eight.

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      [ 3
      ] K 10 7
      { A J 7
      } -

[ 10
] J 9
{ 10 8 6 2
} -

      [ K J 9
      ] -
      { K 9 3
      } 5

      [ Q 7
      ] -
      { Q 5 4
      } 10 9

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overtaken with the king, giving the overtrick and 1 IMP. That was 6 IMPs to the Netherlands.

East cashed the spade king and played a club. West was given Hobson's choice of either giving up his trump trick or discarding and losing the defensive diamond trick. So declarer could not be prevented from making his contract. The single dummy player defeated the commentators. The resultant swing of 4 IMPs was exactly the margin of victory.

Venice Cup Semi-final Austria v. Netherlands

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul

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      [ 8 5 4 3 2
      ] 9 8 2
      { A J 3
      } Q 10

[ A J 6
] 10 6
{ Q 8 7 6 2
} 7 4 2

      [ K 9
      ] A K Q 3
      { 9 4
      } A J 9 8 6

      [ Q 10 7
      ] J 7 5 4
      { K 10 5
      } K 5 3

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West	North	East	South
<i>V.d. Pas</i>	<i>Erhart</i>	<i>Vriend</i>	<i>Terraneo</i>
Pass	Pass	1}	Pass
1{	Pass	1]	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

At the other table Fischer, East, opened 1NT, played there and came home with 11 tricks after Simons led a low heart. Plus 210 to Austria.

Against 3NT by West, Erhart led the [5, which went to the 9, queen and ace. When Van der Pas played the }2, Erhart put up the queen. Van der Pas won with the ace and considered her play for a few moments before calling for the jack, which drew cheers from the Netherlands supporters in the VuGraph audience. Terraneo won with the }K and, hoping partner had more substantial holding in diamonds – perhaps A J 8 x – put the {10 on the table. Van der Pas covered with the queen. Erhart won the ace and played back the {J,

**Round Robin Venice Cup China v. GB
& Bermuda Bowl USA I v. USA II Round 1**

A winkle appeared at more than one table. First look at Heather Dhondy's play v. China, helping the European champions to a 22-8 win:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

[A 6 5] 8 6 5 2	{ K Q 3	} A 8 5
[Q 3] K J 10 9 4 3	{ 4	} K J 10 9
[K J 2] 7	{ 10 9 7 2	} Q 7 6 4 3

[10 9 8 7 4] A Q	{ A J 8 6 5	} 2
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Sun (East) and Wang (West) bid unopposed:

1[-2]-2[-3]-4]-Pass

Nicola Smith led ♦K to dummy's ace. Wang led a club to the jack and ace and Smith switched to a trump. Declarer won in dummy, ruffed a diamond, then ruffed a club. After ruffing another diamond back to hand, she drew the remaining trumps and cashed ♣K. There were two spades and a club to lose now for -100.

West	East
Dhondy	McGowan
2]	3]
4]	Pass

McGowan could not bring herself to rebid that spade suit so pretended that she had a third heart instead. Dhondy, of course, went on to game. The play followed exactly the same lines as in the other room except that Dhondy did not cash the king of clubs after drawing trumps. She was down to }K10 and [Q3 and South had been squeezed out of a spade. South actually bared the [K to keep three clubs, but it didn't matter. Dhondy exited with a spade and South had to win and lead a club into the tenace (had she kept two spades, the club lead would merely have been delayed by one trick). That was +620 and a further 12 IMPs to the British total.

On the same deal in the first round of the Bermuda Bowl when USA II beat USA I 46-37 or 18-12 in VPs, Martel found the same way to take 10 tricks in a heart game with the help of the winkle.

West	North	East	South
Soloway	Rosenberg	Hamman	Zia
2]	Pass	2[	Pass
3]	Pass	4]	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Martel	Meckstroth	Stansby	Rodwell
3] (1)	Pass	4]	All Pass

(1) Natural and invitational.

Rosenberg led the {K, taken by Soloway with the ace. Soloway then played a club to the king and Rosenberg's ace. Rosenberg got out with a trump to dummy's queen and Soloway's king. Soloway then played the }J, running it to Zia's queen when Rosenberg followed low. Soloway had to lose two spade tricks and finished down one.

Meckstroth led the {K to dummy's ace. At trick two, Martel led a club to the jack and ace. Meckstroth got out with a trump. Martel won in dummy, ruffed a diamond, ruffed a low club and ruffed another diamond. He then ran trumps, reaching:

[A 6 5] 8	{ -	} 5
[Q 3] J	{ -	} K 10
[K J 2] -	{ -	} Q 7

[10 9 8] -	{ J 8	} -
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On the play of the West's last heart, South was in trouble. He had to hold on to a club to keep Martel's }10 from being good, so South had to pitch a spade. No matter which spade South let go of, it would result in 10 tricks for Martel, whose plan was to exit with a low spade. If South had discarded the [2, he could win dummy's 10 with the jack but would have to play another spade to keep Martel from taking another club finesse for the contract. If South's last spade was the king, North would have to overtake with the ace to avoid the club endplay, but then North would have to give West the free club finesse or put him in dummy, where the spades were good. If South discarded a spade honour, Martel would be able to build a spade trick on power, with the club finesse a constant threat on South. Plus 620 was good for 12 IMPs to USA 2.

Double three-suiter endplay

By Krzysztof Jassem (Poland)

We tend to see an endplay as a two-suited affair: one suit is needed to throw a poor guy in and the other is the one that he is forced to exit with, giving a trick away. Andrzej Wilkosz of the Polish Seniors executed a double three-suiter endplay. This means that three suits were involved in the endplay and that the endplay was executed twice rather than once! Here is the board from the Senior Final:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

	[A 5 3		
	] A K 8		
	{ 10 9 6		
	} A 10 9 2		
[J 9 7 6		[8 4	
] Q 9 7 4		] 10 5	
{ A Q J 3		{ 8 4 2	
} 6		} K Q J 8 4 3	
	[K Q 10 2		
	] J 6 3 2		
	{ K 7 5		
	} 7 5		
West	North	East	South
<i>Roudinesco</i>	<i>Wilkosz</i>	<i>Delmouly</i>	<i>Szenberg</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2}
Pass	2{	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

After this simple auction, Delmouly started with ♣K. Wilkosz ducked the first trick and East, not surprisingly, continued with a second club honour. This meant the end of the defence for the French pair. Wilkosz played back a club, discarding a heart from dummy (meanwhile West had got rid of a heart and a diamond). Delmouly tried to help partner at the fourth trick by playing a diamond. Wilkosz played low from dummy and when West won with the jack he was endplayed in three suits for the first time. He chose to underlead ♥Q, Wilkosz winning with dummy's jack. Next he cashed his top hearts, reaching:

	[A 5 3		
] -		
	{ 10 9		
	} 9		
[J 9 7 6		[8 4	
] -] -	
{ A Q		{ 8 4	
} -		} 8 4	
	[K Q 10 2		
] -		
	{ K 7		
	} -		

On the last club, Wilkosz discarded ♦7 from the dummy, baring the king. Roudinesco threw away ♦Q. Wilkosz tested spades and only when the jack did not show played a diamond. West was end-played for the second time to give the ninth trick in the spade suit.

Thanks to the double endplay in three suits Wilkosz managed to come to nine tricks, having started with only seven.

Let us notice that playing a spade instead of a heart after being thrown in ♦J would not have helped the defence. In the four-card ending West would have been thrown in with the ace of diamonds and forced to concede three heart tricks.

At the other table the same contract went one down for a swing of 12 IMPs.

Polish Seniors' Team Profile

Jan Prochowski, the team's non-playing captain is a lawyer by training. He is also vice-president of Prokom Software, and both President and sponsor of the Polish Bridge Union.

Janusz Cyprian Nowak, one of the founders of the Polish Bridge Union (1956) is a retired economist and a WBF World Life Master. Credits include the silver medal in the 1970 European Teams in Estoril; the bronze medal in the European Senior Pairs in Bielefeld and the Gold Medal in the European Senior Team Championships in Rome and in Vilamoura.

Aleksander Jezioro is employed as an inspector in a private security company. He won the European Team Championship in 1981, earned bronze in the 1981 Bermuda Bowl, came second in the 1995 and 1997 Senior European Championships and the 1998 Senior World Championships in Lille.

Julian Klukowski is a mathematics professor at the Warsaw Technical University. He twice won the European Teams, in 1981 (playing with Jezioro), and in 1989 (with Moszczynski). He was runner-up in the 1997 European Senior Championship and won the Senior World Team Championship in 1998 in Lille.

Stefan Szenberg is a businessman who has been living in Milan, Italy, for many years now. He has twice won silver medals in the European Senior Championships (Vilamoura, and Montecatini), and once in the Senior World Team Championship in Lille, 1998. His regular partner is Andrzej Wilkosz.

Andrzej Wilkosz is a retired scientist and a WBF World Life Master. He won the 1978 Rosenblum in New Orleans, one silver and two bronze medals in Europeans, the 1971 Sunday Times Invitation, silver medal at the Senior World Team Championship in Lille and two silver medals in European Senior Team Championships (Vilamoura & Montecatini).

Handle with care By Onno Eskes (Net)

This heart game from round 8 had to be handled very delicately. Ten declarers failed; only Martin Reid, Albert Bitran and Fred Gitelman found the safe way home.

Round 8. Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul

	[Q 8 4 3		[A K 6 2
	] Q		] J 6 3
	{ J 8 7 5 2		{ 10 9 6
	} A 6 5		} J 10 7
[7			
] K 9 7 4 2			
{ A K 4			
} K Q 4 2			
	[J 10 9 5		
	] A 10 8 5		
	{ Q 3		
	} 9 8 3		
West	North	East	South
<i>Gitelman</i>			<i>Silver</i>
1]	Pass	2]	Pass
4]	All Pass		

Gitelman won the spade lead in dummy with the [A and did not fall in the first trap, cashing the [K prematurely, in which case declarer will lose control. Fred continued with a heart to the king, felling the queen. He realized that continuing hearts would again result in loss of control, so he played the }K to drive out the ace. North won the }A (ducking would probably have been better) and persisted in spades.

Fred, who had played the hand rather defensively until now, realized that the time to change gear had come. He took the [K, ruffed a spade, cashed the {AK and }Q and crossed to the }J. The fourth round of spades from dummy allowed him to score his]9 en passant for his tenth trick.

Other things that have to be handled with care are words like 'inevitable', as in '6} has two inevitable losers' in yesterday's bulletin, concerning this hand:

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul

	[K		[8 7 5 4 2
	] A J 8 7 3		] 9 6 2
	{ 8 7 3		{ 6 5 2
	} 10 7 4 3		} 9 2
[Q J 10 6 3			
] Q 4			
{ K 10 4			
} Q 8 6			
	[A 9		
	] K 10 5		
	{ A Q J 9		
	} A K J 5		

West	North	East	South
<i>v.d.Pas</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Vriend</i>	<i>Gu</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1}
1[	2]	3[	Dble
Pass	4}	Pass	6} All Pass

Marijke van der Pas led a spade. Ling Gu played quickly as if there were no problem in the play at all. Two top trumps, followed by the [A, throwing a diamond from dummy. The]K was followed by four more rounds of hearts. Marijke van der Pas is still puzzling how she could escape and leave declarer with the allegedly 'two inevitable losers'. Ruffing a heart would endplay her immediately; instead she discarded on all the hearts, but that was only delaying the execution. Ling Gu exited with a club at trick 10 and Van der Pas had to concede a ruff-and-discard or lead into the diamond tenace. Very elegant. All other declarers in 6} went ingloriously down when they tried a diamond or club finesse at trick two.

Strong Lead from Strong Player by Alan Truscott

In the Transnational Teams, a player to whom I am connected by marriage found an effective lead here:

Dealer: West	♠ A 10 5
E/W Game	♥ Q 8 7 4 2
	♦ K Q 3
	♣ K 6
♠ Q 9 6 4 3	♠ 8 2
♥ A K J 10	♥ 9 6 5
♦ 4	♦ A 8 6 2
♣ 10 9 2	♣ J 8 7 3
	♠ K J 7
	♥ 3
	♦ J 10 9 7 5
	♣ A Q 5 4

West	North	East	South
<i>Dorothy</i>		<i>Alan</i>	
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

1NT forced 2♣ and the continuation was natural.

West led ♥J! The play went briskly. The heart jack held, of course. The heart ten won the next trick, of course. A shift to the ♣10 followed, and when East won ♦A, two more hearts provided a 10 IMP gain.

Is that the best opening lead of the Transnational? Thank you, Dorothy.

Orbis Venice Cup: India v Austria

Jovi Smederevac of Austria found an intra-finesse on this deal from Round 3:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul

	[J 10 9 7 3] K 7 4 3 { 2 } K 9 4		
[6] A J 10 9 5 { K J 8 7 3 } 10 8	[K 5 4] Q 2 { A 10 5 4 } Q J 5 3	[A Q 8 2] 8 6 { Q 9 6 } A 7 6 2	
West <i>Krishna</i>	North <i>Erhart</i>	East <i>Divakaran</i>	South <i>Smedeverac</i>
2]	4[	1{ All Pass	1[

At the other table Doris Fischer and Terri Weigkricht had a free run to Three Diamonds by East. South led the eight of hearts and Doris went up with the ace, played a diamond to the ace and finessed on the way back. Well done for +110.

In the closed room, Jovi Smedeverac was not deterred from overcalling by the lack of a fifth spade, and a few seconds later she found herself in game. West led the seven of diamonds and East won and returned a trump. Jovi let that run to dummy and repeated the finesse, West discarding a heart. As the ace of hearts was undoubtedly onside, a 2-2 trump break would have enabled declarer to claim, but now she needed three club tricks. After drawing the last trump, she played a club to the eight (that must have been a happy sight!) nine and jack. When she got in with the king of hearts, she cashed the king of clubs and seeing the ten from West, finessed the seven on the next round to bring home the contract.

As Maria Erhart commented, 'If you bid like this you have to play well!'

Venice Cup RR Denmark v. New Zealand

The Danish ladies headed the field at the end of the first day, missing a maximum on the day by a single IMP. Kirsten Steen-Møller brought in a game swing on the first board of their third round win over New Zealand. Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

	[K 6 5] J 4 { Q 8 } A J 10 5 4 2		
[A 10 3] Q 10 9 { 7 5 3 2 } K 6 3	[8 4 2] K 7 6 5 2 { A 10 9 6 } 7	[Q J 9 7] A 8 3 { K J 4 } Q 9 8	
West	North <i>Drøgemüller</i>	East	South <i>Steen-Møller</i>
2]	1}	1]	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	3]
All Pass	3[	Pass	3NT

West led the queen of hearts and, when that was ducked, continued with the heart ten to the jack and king. It was clear from the bidding that East had to have an entry to her long hearts. The only hope, then, was to find that the hearts were blocked. Kirsten won the second heart and took the club finesse then rattled off six rounds of clubs. Note the importance of the eight of hearts, without which West would have been able to unblock the suit by discarding the nine on the run of the clubs. Watching the discards carefully, she judged that East had shown the ace of diamonds so continued with the diamond queen. There was no way for the defense to untangle the heart suit now and Kirsten had nine tricks for an excellent +400.

In the other room, the New Zealand declarer went two down in the same contract for a well-deserved 11-IMP swing to Denmark.

Bermuda on the run

By Onno Eskes, TheNetherlands

On Sunday the island was flooded with marathon-runners for the annual Bermuda Marathon. If you can't understand that some people actually get some form of satisfaction from running 42 kilometers in a few hours, then try to explain that you are throwing around pieces of cardboard for nine hours a day, fourteen days in a row, and that you really like it!

The Bermuda Open team showed that they are in good form for the running contest. On this deal from their match against Canada. Joe Wakefield held [KQ7]AK87{Q98}863. He opened 1} and after his partnership bid undisturbed to game (1)-1{-1}-1[-1NT-3NT) his left hand opponent suddenly doubled! Wakefield realized that this must have been based on a nasty club surprise and took the excellent view to run to 5{. David Sykes had no trouble heading this ball into the goal: he raised to 6{!

Board 14 Dealer East. None Vul

	[9 6 4 3		
	] 10 5 2		
	{ J 2		
	} 9 7 4 2		
[A J 10 8		[K Q 7	
] Q 9		] A K 8 7	
{ K 7 6 5 4 3		{ Q 9 8	
} A		} 8 6 3	
	[5 2		
	] J 6 4 3		
	{ A 10		
	} K Q J 10 3		
West	North	East	South
<i>Sykes</i>	<i>Maksymetz</i>		<i>Wakefield</i>
		1}	Pass
1{	Pass	1]	Pass
1[	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	5{	Pass
6{	All Pass		

6{ was of course no problem with the diamonds 2-2. More interesting was the play in 3NT, which was bid (and left alone) at the other table. After a club lead declarer cashed three spade tricks before switching his attention to the red suits and going down. That was exactly one spade trick too little. Had he cashed his fourth spade (as Liz McGowan did for GB v. Germany), South would have been squeezed in three suits!

Against GB South, von Arnim threw a club on the fourth spade. So McGowan was able to set up diamonds without danger.

Can Write and Play

When the Press Team met the Rosenblum World Champions in the Transnational you can be sure the journalists were looking for good copy. The best deal was a push:

Dealer West; N/S Game

	[J 8 2		
	] J 10 7		
	{ None		
	} K Q J 9 8 3 2		
[Q 10 4		[9 7	
] A 9 8 5		] K 6 4	
{ A Q J 10 9		{ K 8 7 6 5	
} 4		} 10 6 5	
	[A K 6 5 3		
	] Q 3 2		
	{ 4 3 2		
	} A 7		

West	North	East	South
<i>Hallen</i>	<i>Buratti</i>	<i>Dennison</i>	<i>Lanzarotti</i>
1{	Pass	3{	3[
Pass	4[	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Ventura</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Jourdain</i>
1{	3}	3{	3[
Pass	4[	All Pass	

At the table where Buratti passed the North cards Lanzarotti bravely came in Three Spades on the South cards. It was slightly easier for Jourdain at the other table where his partner had made a weak jump overcall which nevertheless had to be sound at the vulnerability.

The play did not take long at either table. West led the ace of diamonds. Both Lanzarotti and Jourdain ruffed and at once played a low trump from both hands! The defenders cashed their two heart tricks but declarer was now able to draw trumps and run the clubs to claim the game.

The IBPA team won 9-6 in IMPs or 16-14 in VPs.

Bermuda Bowl RR USA II v. Italy

This Round 15 deal featured a good auction by Chip Martel & Lew Stansby

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul

[5 3	
] K 10 8 6 5 2	
{ K 7	
} Q 8 6	
[K 8 2	[Q J 10 9 6
] 4	] Q J 7 3
{ 10 9 8 6 4 2	{ J 3
} 9 3 2	} 10 7
[A 7 4	
] A 9	
{ A Q 5	
} A K J 5 4	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Mahmood</i>	<i>De Falco</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Ferraro</i>
			1}
2}	2]	Pass	2NT
Pass	3]	Pass	3[
Pass	3NT	Pass	4NT
All Pass			

There was nothing to the play, declarer quickly claiming eleven tricks for +660. On a 3-2 heart break, Six Hearts is just about laydown, and so for that matter is Seven Clubs. Could the American pair in the open room avoid the trap of playing in hearts?

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Stansby</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Martel</i>
			2}
Pass	2]	2[	2NT
3[	4]	Pass	4[
Pass	5NT	Pass	6}
All Pass			

The key to the auction was North's bid of 5NT, almost certainly inviting South to pick a slam. When South suggested that clubs might be the place to play, North eventually decided to agree. The contract still had to be made, but Martel made no mistake, winning the opening diamond lead in hand and ducking a spade. He could win the return, cash the ace of spades and ruff a spade, +1370 and 12 IMPs.

Venice Cup RR: Denmark v. India

The second match of the opening day featured a Greek gift from Charlotte Koch-Palmund:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul

[A J 10 7 5	
] Q 8 2	
{ -	
} Q 10 7 5 2	
[Q 6 4 2	[K 3
] 9 6	] A K J 3
{ K Q J 6 5	{ 3 2
} 9 3	} A K 8 6 4
[9 8	
] 10 7 5 4	
{ A 10 9 8 7 4	
} J	

It looks as if declarer cannot be prevented from scoring nine tricks in 3NT, most likely via one spade, three hearts, three diamonds and two clubs. The double-dummy program, 'Deep Finesse' has confirmed that the contract cannot be beaten, but that does not mean declarer cannot go down!

In the match between Denmark, the runaway leaders in the Venice Cup, and India, Charlotte Koch-Palmund and Bettina Kalkerup found a way to exploit a slight mistake by declarer, West.

The opening lead was the ten of spades, ducked all round. North, Kalkerup, played a second spade to dummy's king, and declarer played a diamond to the queen. Now came a club to the king and a second diamond. Charlotte went in with the ace and gave declarer a little gift by exiting with a heart. That went to the nine, queen and king. We all know to be careful about Greeks bearing gifts, but clearly we must now add the dangerous Danes to this list. Declarer, seeing no danger, cashed her second top club. South made a second, and more spectacular gift to her opponent by discarding a heart! Now she could no longer be end-played, and North took the setting tricks.

The Three Suit Criss-Cross

By Henry Francis (USA)

John Sutherlin of the USA, playing with Russ Ekeblad, found a very unusual squeeze position to score his notrump game on this deal from the Transnational Teams:

Dealer: South ♠ None
 Game All ♥ K 7 5
 ♦ Q J 10 6 5 3
 ♣ 7 5 4 3

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

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Ekeblad</i>		<i>Sutherlin</i>
			1♣
2♠	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Sutherlin was hoping for a spade lead, but West started with a diamond. Sutherlin put up the queen, but East allowed this to hold. Sutherlin led a club, successfully finessing, then led a second diamond to drive out the king. East also did not lead a spade - he returned to clubs instead. Sutherlin won and decided to go after the spades himself, leading the king. West won and shifted to a heart. Sutherlin won this in hand and drove out ♠Q. He won the heart return with the queen, leaving this ending:

 ♠ None
 ♥ K
 ♦ J 6
 ♣ 7 5

♠ 9 8 4 3 2 ♠ None
 ♥ None ♥ J 9
 ♦ None ♦ A
 ♣ None ♣ Q 10

 ♠ 10 7
 ♥ 4 2
 ♦ None
 ♣ K

Sutherlin won ♠10, discarded a diamond from dummy - and what could East do? If he pitched a club, declarer would cash the club king, cross to ♥K, and score the last club for his ninth trick. East could not afford ♦A, and if he threw a heart, Sutherlin would lead a heart to the queen, cross back to his hand with ♣K, and cash the long heart for his ninth trick. A three-suit crisscross squeeze.

Venice Cup RR China v. Egypt

From Round 15:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

[A K 5 4 3
] 8 6
 { J 9 6 3 2
 } 10

[Q J 6 [9 8
] K 9 3 2] 7 4
 { K Q 4 { A 10 8 5
 } Q 4 3 } K J 9 8 6

[10 7 2
] A Q J 10 5
 { 7
 } A 7 5 2

West	North	East	South
<i>Shatila</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Homsey</i>	<i>Wang</i>
		Pass	1]
Pass	1[	Dble	Rdbl
1NT	Dble	2}	3[
Pass	4[	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Maud</i>	<i>Gu</i>	<i>Lily</i>
		Pass	1]
Dble	1[	2}	2[
Pass	4[	All Pass	

The Egyptian declarer went down after a club lead when she tried to make her small trumps by ruffing and found that the unfavourable heart position left her a trick short; -100.

Sun received a heart lead. She finessed and Shatila won the king and switched to a club for the ace. Sun gave up a diamond, ruffed the club return and cashed the top spades. Next she ran the hearts and had a trump left in the dummy to take care of her last diamond; +620 and 12 IMPs to China.

THE 1999 IBPA ANNUAL AWARDS

The 1999 IBPA Personality of the Year:

Marc Hodler (Switzerland)

Marc Hodler has a remarkable record: he has international significance in bridge, skiing, and the Olympic movement.

He learned to play bridge, from his family in Berne, Switzerland, at the age of nine, and read the first major book on the game, Culbertson's Blue Book, when it appeared in 1930. He represented his country in one European Championship, and was President of the Swiss Bridge Federation from 1955 to 1985.

He learned to ski at the age of five, which he says was too late: future champions must start at two. He was President of the International Skiing Federation for an astonishing 47 years, from 1951 to 1998. This led him into the Olympic movement, based in Lausanne, and he has been a member of the International Olympic Committee since 1963. His efforts to counter corruption within the movement bore fruit in 1998, when ABC News obtained some secret documents from Salt Lake City.

Mr. Hodler has worked hard to bring bridge into the Olympics. The first step is the international team contest now being staged annually in Lausanne. The second, he hopes, will be a similar demonstration event in Salt Lake City. Finally, perhaps in Turin in 2006, we can look forward to an official bridge event with gold, silver and bronze medals. That is an exciting prospect for us all.

The IBPA 1999 Award for Best Play: Jeff Meckstroth (USA) by Omar Sharif (Egypt) See Bulletin 413 page June '99

Omar Sharif's column in the London Observer on 6th June reports this deal, Board 9 in the second session of the Cavendish Pairs Qualifying:

It is not often that declarer makes a play that leaves me feeling that I still have a lot to learn about this game. However Jeff Meckstroth of the US is one of those masters of the game who occasionally produce a coup to take your breath away. With that huge hint, put yourself in his shoes as declarer on the following deal:

Dlr: South [A 7
 E/W Game] J 6 3
 { J 5
 } Q J 9 6 4 2
 [Q J 9 3 [8 4 2
] A 4] Q 10 2
 { K 9 8 7 3 2 { Q 6
 } K } A 10 8 7 3
 [K 10 6 5
] K 9 8 7 5
 { A 10 4
 } 5

West	North	East	South
Cope	Johnson	Chu	Meckstroth
			1]
2{	2]	Pass	Pass
2[	3}	Dble	3]
All	Pass		

Cope led ace and another trump on a very informative auction, after Meckstroth had opened on very light values - some would use harsher language than that! Meckstroth could immediately form the picture of West's hand as having four spades and six diamonds, with a probable singleton club honour (no club lead) and with the diamond honours split (no top diamond lead).

At trick three he led his singleton club, won the return of the queen of spades in dummy, and advanced the queen of clubs, covered and ruffed. This was the ending - what would you do with the sight of all four hands?

[7
] J
 { J 5
 } J 9 6 4
 [J 9 3 [8 4
] None] Q
 { K 9 8 7 3 { Q 6
 } None } 10 8 7
 [K 10 6
] 9 8
 { A 10 4
 } None

South is on lead, needing six more tricks. As you can see, playing on diamonds does not work, East will take the trick and draw a round of trumps. Ruffing a spade in dummy brings you to eight tricks, but not to nine. Meckstroth found the spectacular coup of leading the ten of spades from hand - be honest, would you have thought of it?

If West takes the trick and leads either a spade back (a diamond is no better) declarer wins in hand pitching a diamond from dummy. He plays the ace of diamonds, ruffs a diamond, ruffs a club and leads a losing heart, to endplay East into leading a club at trick 12 into the tenace in dummy.

In fact, at this point Cope decided his best chance was to duck the ten of spades, hoping his partner had the king. That simply let Meckstroth cash [K to pitch a diamond, then take {A, and ruff a diamond. Now he scored }J and ruffed a club for nine tricks, and put in an entry for the Best Played Hand of the Year.

IBPA Editor: When West did not cover [10 declarer can make 10 tricks by following the line described earlier of an end-play on East. Presumably Meckstroth did not wish to take any risks once his contract was secure.

Others on the shortlist were: B410 P11 March Henrik Ron (Den) by Ib Lundby (Den); B411 P10 Apr Brown (Australia) by Ron Klinger (Aus); B415 P7 Aug Seamon (USA) second hand by ACBL staff; B415 P10 Aug Piotr Tuszynski (Pol) by Krzysztof Jassem (Pol).

The Sender Award for Best Defence:
 Andrew Robson (GB) by **Philip King**
 (GB)

Horton (GB); B410 page 4 March Anna &
 Gudrun (Ice) by Barnet Shenkin (USA);
 B411 page 3 Apr Glowacki (Pol) by Marc
 Smith (GB); B414 page 12 Jul Popov
 (Bulgaria) by Malta Staff.

See IBPA Bulletin 407 page 5
 From the Lederer Memorial Press Release

Dlr: West [J 8 5 3
] Q J
 { A 7 6
 } 10 8 5 4

[K 10 7 [A Q 9 6 4
] K 9 6 5 2] A 10 8
 { K Q 9 8 4 { 5
 } None } A J 6 3

[2
] 7 4 3
 { J 10 3 2
 } K Q 9 7 2

West	North	East	South
<i>Erichsen</i>	<i>Robson</i>		<i>Charlsen</i>
		<i>Zia</i>	
1]	Pass	1[	Pass
2{	Pass	3}	Dble
3[	Pass	4NT	Pass
5{	Pass	6[	All Pass

Zia led the king of clubs against East's Six Spades, (a heart going from the table) won by the ace and Charlsen played a diamond to the king and ace. At every other table where this happened North played a second club, anticipating that he would then make a trump trick. However, the declarers succeeded on a cross-ruff without even taking advantage of the heart position. One heart went on the good diamond, two top hearts were cashed and when the cross-ruff followed the defence never had a chance to over-ruff. The declarers made four outside winners and eight trumps.

By contrast Robson counted declarer's potential twelve tricks and switched to a trump away from Jxxx! Although it is possible to succeed Charlsen assumed that, with the switch, the trumps must be 3-2, and with two club ruffs, he needed one extra trick from either setting up diamonds, or a squeeze. But when he came to draw trumps they did not break, and the slam went two down.

The others to make the shortlist were: B405 page 15 Oct Steve Eginton (GB) by Mark

The Romex Award for Best Auction: **Geir Helgemo and Tor Helness (Norway)**
by Patrick Jourdain (GB)

See Bulletin 409 Page 2, February
From the Macallan Daily Bulletin

Board 21

Dlr: North [J 8
Vul: NS] Q 10 3
 { J 4 2
 } Q 9 8 3 2
[K Q 10 5 3 [A 9 7
] 7 4] A 5
{ K 8 7 5 3 { A Q 9 6
} 6 } A J 10 5
 [6 4 2
] K J 9 8 6 2
 { 10
 } K 7 4

West	East
Helgemo	Helness
	1}
1[	2NT
3{	4{
4[	4NT
5{	5NT
7{	Pass

4NT was Key Card Blackwood. 5{ showed one keycard. 5NT guaranteed all first round controls and no trump loser. Helgemo realised any heart losers would disappear. This effort gains in stature when you realise that three pairs stopped in game.

Others on the shortlist were:

B410 page 14 March Bettina Kalkerup - Charlotte Koch-Palmund (Den) by Svend Novrup (Den); B413 page 7 June Titkin-Deloney (USA) by Harvey Bernstein (USA); Lille Special page 10, Sabine Auken & Daniela v Arnim (Ger) by Tony Gordon (GB); B411 page 7 Apr Collins & Cusworth (Australia) by Dick Cummings (Aus).

The Levendaal Award for Best Play by a Junior: Martin Schaltz (Denmark)
by Ib Lundby (Denmark)

See Bulletin 408 page 7, January '99

went to the jack and queen, and before
Martin cashed the [Q this was the picture:

Third generation

Lizzi and Jørgen-Elith Schaltz were some of the hot bridge names I read about and learned from, when I was a junior player. Lizzi won the European Ladies Team title several times, and her husband played on our national team as well. For a couple of years my partner was Peter Schaltz, their son, and in 1970 I was his captain when he and his team won the European Junior title in Dublin. Since then Peter has for many years played on our national team with different partners, among them his wife Dorthe and his cousin Knud-Aage Boesgaard.

Dorthe and Peter are still competing in the Danish first division, but their chances to represent Denmark again maybe have decreased a little. No problem at all - the third generation is ready to take over! Meet 14 years old Martin Schaltz in this fascinating hand from a recent club evening.

Dlr :South	[Q 8 4	
None	] Q 6	
	{ A K 10 7 2	
	} Q 10 2	
[J 10 7 3		[A 6
] K 9 7 4 3 2		] 10
{ 8		{ J 9 5 4 3
} J 8		} K 9 7 4 3
	[K 9 5 2	
	] A J 8 5	
	{ Q 6	
	} A 6 5	

South West North East
1NT Pass 3NT all pass

West led his fourth best heart, won by dummy's queen, and after a diamond to the queen the next diamond trick told Martin that he had to work for it. So he did!

The {K took trick 3, and a heart to the 8 end-played West on the 9. He elected to play the [J which was taken by the [K, and a spade went to the 8 and the bare ace. Now it was East's turn to be thrown in! A low club

	[Q	
] -	
	{ A 10 7	
	} 10 2	
[10 7		[-
] K 7 3] -
{ -		{ J 9 5
} 8		} K 9 7
	[9 5	
	] A J	
	{ -	
	} A 6	

Look what happens to East when the [Q is played. If he throws a diamond, declarer will cash the {A and continue with a diamond, thereby making his third end-play. Therefore East had to throw a club, but it didn't help him very much. Instead Martin played a club to his ace, discarded a diamond on the]A and threw East in with the }K. Dummy's A-10 in diamonds took the two last tricks. 3NT made with an overtrick.

Two end-plays and a throw-in squeeze in the same hand ... I guess that we will meet Martin at the international scene very soon.

Others on the short list were: B403 page 11 Aug Julien Geitner (Fra) by Hervé Pacault (Fra); Lille Special page 16 Sep Gavin Birdsall (GB) by Lille staff; B404 page 6 Sep Oglobin (Poland) by Krzysztof Piatkowski (Pol); B416 page 3 Sep 99 Eric Greco (USA) by Florida staff.