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In this issue members will find a Questionnaire composed by our Vice President. The idea is to find your views about possible changes to the way we communicate with members before the new Bulletin Editor is appointed.

We need to know how many of our members have no convenient access to Internet. If you do not, please let us know. You may fax your answers to our Production Editor, Anna Gudge, as indicated on the form or send them in by post.

Those who have access to Internet can reply to Anna by e-mail. If you wish any of your comments to be private from either of the Editors, then please send them instead to our President, Henry Francis, (details opposite) telling him that they have not been sent to Anna.

Your Executive will be making a recommendation to the Annual General Meeting in Montreal regarding subscriptions for the year 2003. It is likely that a discount will be offered for those opting not to receive the printed version of the Bulletin. The size of that discount has yet to be determined, but it is expected to be at least a quarter. The discount will reflect the savings we can achieve in postage and on printing costs.

The Bulletin will remain available to be downloaded from our website. We need to know how many members might take advantage of such a discount. Of course, many members who do have access to Internet may wish to continue receiving the printed version in preference to reading it on a monitor or going through the chore of downloading and printing it each month.

The password required each month by members to download the latest Bulletin is currently given in the previous issue of the printed Bulletin. For those who opt not to receive the printed Bulletin it will be sent by e-mail from our Production Editor, who must therefore have an up-to-date version of your e-mail address.

Also under consideration is the idea of updating Bulletin material each week on the website, with the monthly Bulletin being created partly from the material that has built up over the month. This, of course, would be a major extra service for those of our members who had Internet access and who were prepared to check most weeks for new material. We also need to know the reaction of those who could not use this service to the thought that other members have that advantage.

Your Executive is conscious that, as the emphasis on the website grows, so the Organisation must be prepared to put more effort into the site to serve those members who use it regularly.

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The Press Room numbers for Salsomaggiore are not available as we go to Press. They will be published on the ECatsBridge website when known.

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Weinstein-Levin Take Cavendish Pairs, Blanchard wins Teams

From information supplied by Barry Rigal (USA) May 2002

Steve Weinstein and Bobby Levin won the Cavendish Calcutta (they also won in 1999) held at the Rio Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. In the final session they moved up from 15th to first place.

Bob Blanchard, Sam Lev, Piotr Gawrys, and Krzysztof Jassem won the John "Jocko" Roberts Teams.

The auction generated \$1,070,500. Of this \$967,740 (90.40%) was distributed to the winning bidders. 60 pairs competed.

Pair	Score	Auction		Players'	
		Price	Pool Prize	Pool Prize	Pool Prize
1 Robert Levin - Steve Weinstein (USA)	2983	\$30k	\$242,967	\$32,760	
2 Walid Elahmady - Tarek Sadek (Egy)	2752	\$13k	\$156,193	\$21,060	
3 Eric Greco - Geoff Hampson (USA)	2648	\$33k	\$104,129	\$14,040	
4 Andrei Gromov-Aleksander Petrunin (Rus)	2429	\$28k	\$78,097	\$10,530	
5 Bart Bramley - Sidney Lazard (USA)	2416	\$21k	\$69,419	\$ 9,360	
6 Giorgio Duboin - Guido Ferraro (Ita)	2266	\$23k	\$60,742	\$ 8,190	
7 Peter Fredin - Magnus Lindkvist (Swe)	1995	\$30k	\$52,064	\$ 7,020	
8 Geir Helgemo - Eddie Wold (Nor-USA)	1990	\$36k	\$43,387	\$ 5,850	
9 Michal Kwiecien - Jacek Pszczola (Pol)	1746	\$39k	\$34,710	\$ 4,680	
10 Curtis Cheek - Billy Miller (USA)	1641	\$26k	\$26,032	\$ 3,510	

Other scores:

11. Alain Levy - Herve Mouiel (Fra) 1486;	12. Bob Hamman - Zia Mahmood (USA) 1422
13 Paul Chemla - Philippe Cronier (Fra) 1420;	14 JoAnna Stansby - Lew Stansby (USA) 1288
15 Fred Gitelman - Brad Moss (Can-USA) 1285;	16 Steve Garner - Howard Weinstein (USA) 1278
17 Doug Doub - Adam Wildavsky (USA) 1126;	18 Michel Abecassis - Michel Eidi (Fra) 1086
19 Tom Hanlon - Hugh McGann (Ire) 1038;	20 Boye Brogeland - Espen Erichsen (Nor) 1030
21 Perry Johnson - Jeff Meckstroth (USA) 1024;	22 Jim Krekorian - Rick Zucker (USA) 1021
23 Gary Cohler - Mark Lair (USA) 893	24 Michael Cornell - Lionel Wright (NZ) 824
25 Gunnar Hallberg - Nick Sandqvist (Eng!) 672;	26 Garey Hayden - John Onstott (USA) 598
27 Martin Fleisher - Eric Rodwell (USA) 219	

Supplied by Matt Granovetter from Adam Wildavsky Extreme Programmer Tameware, LLC
adam@tameware.com http://www.tameware.com

Teams (money figures in '000 US \$)	VPs	Auction	Player	PRICE
1. Blanchard-Lev, Gawrys-Jassem (USA/Pol)	198	54	20	10
2. Levy-Mouiel, Saporta-Zimmerman (Fra)	177	36	13	6
3. Brachman Cappelletti-Passell, Helgemo-Wold (USA/Nor)	172	26	10	8
4. O'Rourke Cheek-Miller, Fredin-Lindkvist (USA/Swe)	169	20	7	8
5. Woolsey-Stewart, Lazard-Bramley (USA)	155	16	6	8
Total pool US\$ 182,500				

The John "Jocko" Roberts Teams: Day One

Two early grand slams caused big swings. This one from the first match was marginal:

Bd: 4	♠ J 9
Dlr: West	♥ 5 4
Vul: Both	♦ Q 9 8 5 3
	♣ J 10 9 6
♠ A K 10 7 5	♠ Q
♥ K 10 8	♥ A Q J 9 3
♦ K 7	♦ A 10 6 4
♣ 8 7 4	♣ A 3 2
♠ 8 6 4 3 2	
♥ 7 6 2	
♦ J 2	
♣ K Q 5	

In the top-ranked match Garner-Weinstein bid:

West	North	East	South
Garner	Pszczola	Weinstein	Kwecien
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣(1)	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	5NT	Pass
7♥	All Pass		

(1) Serious slam try

Over 5NT Garner knew he could not show his values precisely. So rather than bid 6♦ and trap his partner into a slow 6♥ bid he just leaped to the Grand Slam.

On the trump lead Weinstein won, unblocked the ♠Q at trick two, and crossed to the ♦K to cash the ♠AK. If they had stood up he would have had a high

crossruff; as it was, when North ruffed the third spade Weinstein needed to ruff two diamonds in dummy and for the ♠10 to live. All was well when North proved to be two-two in the majors and the contract made.

Effectively this same line of play was followed by Sylvia Moss playing with Sue Picus to wrap up the Grand Slam.

Far more pairs missed the Grand Slam than bid it, although essentially it only requires four-three spades, with the extra chances involving the doubleton ♠J that exist in the actual layout.

IBPA Editor: When the jack of spades falls declarer could have played for North to have sole guard of the diamonds. In that case it does not matter who has the third trump. You simply run all your trumps, then ace, king of diamonds and the top spades. South has to keep a spade, North a diamond, so the club three is your thirteenth trick.

In the Round 2 match between the leaders, Mordecai and Kasle, this grand was the big swing:

Bd: 16	♠ J 10 9 3	
Dlr: West	♥ 7 3 2	
Vul: E/W	♦ 9 7 2	
	♣ J 7 5	
	♠ 8	♠ A Q 7 6 5 4
	♥ K Q 6	♥ A J
	♦ A J 6 5 3	♦ K Q 4
	♣ Q 10 4 3	♣ A 2
	♠ K 2	
	♥ 10 9 8 5 4	
	♦ 10 8	
	♣ K 9 8 6	

Both E/W pairs bid to 7♦. How should you play it on a trump lead? Both Marc Jacobus (and Krzysztof Jassem in another match) elected to play for three-two diamonds by leading to the ♠A and ruffing a spade. When the ♠K fell the hand was over.

Check out the line where you test the trumps first (planning to finesse in spades if the trumps are 4-1) and there are snags.

At the other table Chris Compton, also in 7♦, was treated to a low club lead by George Steiner on an auction where dummy was due to have the ♣A. Compton looked at this for a long while and eventually elected to run this to his hand, playing for Steiner to be pulling a fast one on him. One can perhaps sympathize with this view, but the fact remains that cost him 19imps (although Mordecai still narrowly won the match).

Paul Soloway made a subtle play on this deal:

Bd: 15	♠ 10	
Dlr: South	♥ Q 10 9	
Vul: N/S	♦ K Q J 7 6 4	
	♣ 10 7 3	
	♠ 6	♠ K 8 5
	♥ K 8 5 3	♥ A 7 6 4 2
	♦ A 8	♦ 9 5
	♣ A Q J 9 5 2	♣ K 8 4
	♠ A Q J 9 7 4 3 2	
	♥ J	
	♦ 10 3 2	
	♣ 6	

At those tables where South opened 4♠, West had to choose his poison. Soloway reasonably overcalled 5♣ to end the auction. North led the ♠10.

A diamond switch beats the slam, so, to encourage a spade continuation Paul Soloway tried the effect of putting on the spade king. South fell for this, winning and continuing the suit. If declarer plays low at trick one South may be reluctant to play a second spade, and so find the killing switch.

Match Five

When Bramley-Lazard took on Sandqvist-Hallberg, the former dug themselves into a pit.

Bd: 10	♠ A 9 6	
Dlr: East	♥ 10 5 3	
Vul: Both	♦ 9 7 3	
	♣ A 5 4 3	
	♠ J 7	♠ 10 8 5 3 2
	♥ Q 4 2	♥ K 8
	♦ A 4 2	♦ K Q 6 5
	♣ Q J 9 7 6	♣ 8 2
	♠ K Q 4	
	♥ A J 9 7 6	
	♦ J 10 8	
	♣ K 10	

Hallberg (South) opened his 14-count a strong notrump and Sandqvist did well to pass this around to Bramley (East), who could double to show spades and diamonds or hearts and clubs. Lazard ran to 2♣ (pass-or-correct) and ultimately left Bramley holding the baby in 2♦ doubled.

Hallberg led the ♦J and Bramley won in hand to lead a spade. Hallberg needed no second chance to get trump promotions going. He won the ♠Q, then cashed the ♥A on which Sandqvist discouraged. Now the ♣K and a club to the ace let Nick lead a third club. Hallberg was allowed to score his ♦8 and now a spade to Sandqvist's

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The July Bulletin will have code 449xp so you will need to type:

www.IBPA.com/449xp.pdf

ace for a fourth club meant +500 for the defense.

Alain Levy showed us what we must be one of the neater declarer plays of the event. On Board 22, where 3NT by West was normally down one, Alain, West, declared 3NT after opening a strong notrump. He was playing against no less a pair than Kwiecien-Pszczola.

Bd: 22 ♠ 6 3
 Dir: East ♥ 8 6 4 3
 Vul: E/W ♦ 10 7 5 4
 ♣ A J 2

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

♠ A K 7 4
 ♥ Q 10 9 7
 ♦ J 2
 ♣ 8 7 5

On the ♥6 lead (five, nine, king) Levy led a spade to the nine, which held. South won the second spade to play the ♣7 and North made a slight slip when he ducked Levy's queen. That allowed Levy to clear the spades (on which North pitched a heart) and South exited with a club, won by North with the jack. North, who could not afford to cash his last club since it would set up Levy's ninth winner, exited with a heart. Levy took the ace in this six-card ending:

♠ — ♥ 8 ♦ 10 7 5 4 ♣ A	♠ Q ♥ J ♦ Q 8 3 ♣ 10
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♠ — ♥ — ♦ A K 9 6 ♣ K 6	♠ 7 ♥ Q 10 ♦ J 2 ♣ 8
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The ♠Q forced North to discard his last heart (as declarer pitched his low club). Levy cashed the ♦Q, led a diamond to the ace, and then endplayed poor North with the ♣A to lead into his diamond tenace. Nine tricks made!

Day Two - Match Eight

John Mohan and Bart Bramley found the winning line on this treacherous Four Spades:

Bd: 10 ♠ A 10 9 8 3
 Dir: East ♥ 6
 Vul: Both ♦ K 9 5 3
 ♣ 10 6 3

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

♠ —
 ♥ K 7 5 2
 ♦ Q 7 6 2
 ♣ Q 9 7 5 2

How many down would you expect 4♠ by East to go? With three trump losers and the heart wrong, even down one is far from trivial. On a club lead our heroes followed a double-dummy line.

They won the club cheaply in hand, cashed the ♦A and ruffed a diamond. Then came a club to the king, a diamond ruff, the ♣A pitching a heart, a heart to the ace, and a diamond ruff with dummy's last trump.

By now North and East were down to five trumps each. Declarer led a heart, ruffed by North with the nine and overruffed with the jack. Now an exit with a top spade endplayed North. Four Spades made!

One declarer, after the same start, unfortunately pulled out the ♠2 at trick ten!? North claimed down one. That reminds me of "The Musical Joke" by Mozart where everything goes perfectly until three discordant crashing notes at the end.

Match Nine

The two leading teams met, with Blanchard 7 VPs in front of O'Rourke and thus the latter needing a 19-11 win (in VPs) to take home the big prize. This was the key board of the match.

Bd: 20 ♠ K 9 7 2
 Dir: West ♥ K 10 7 2
 Vul: Both ♦ K Q
 ♣ K Q J

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

♠ J 3
 ♥ J 4
 ♦ A J 8 4 2
 ♣ 9 7 4 3

Miller and Cheek (N/S) stopped in INT when Cheek did not make a try over Miller's INT overcall. Gawrys (East) led a club and Miller made 8 tricks by overtaking the second diamond and leading a heart to the king later.

By contrast, at the other table Lev (North) reached 3NT doubled and Fredin led a club as well. Lev won and returned the suit. Fredin played a third club. Lev won and ran the diamonds, reducing to ♠Kx and ♥K10x. Then he led the ♥J from dummy. Whatever Lindkvist did, he had to concede two tricks to Lev for +750 and what in the end was a comfortable win for Blanchard.

At trick 3 East does best to shift to the ♠Q. If declarer wins the spade and runs his diamonds, he ends up squeezing his own hand. To survive, declarer must win and exit in spades, then get back on lead to play the ♠9 to set up a spade trick by force.

The 2002 Cavendish Pairs: Day One Session One:

Billy Pollack made a slam on this deal:

Bd: 25	♠ 9 8 6		
Dlr: North	♥ A K 2		
Vul: E/W	♦ A K Q 6		
	♣ K 4 2		
	♠ K 10 5 4	♠ J 2	
	♥ J 10 8 7 5 3	♥ —	
	♦ J	♦ 10 9 2	
	♣ 6 5	♣ AQJ109873	
	♠ A Q 7 3		
	♥ Q 9 6 4		
	♦ 8 7 5 4 3		
	♣ —		

Pollack opened 1♦, East bid 4♣, Drew Casen (South) jumped to 5♦ and Pollack bid the sixth. East led the ♣A and suddenly the contract had play. Pollack ruffed, drew two rounds of trumps, ruffed a club, and then drew the last trump. When he cashed the ♥A the mysteries of that suit were revealed. He then cashed the ♣K in this ending, throwing a spade from dummy:

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

If West discards a heart, North throws him in with the fourth heart to lead into the spade tenace. If West pitches a spade to keep all his hearts, the spade suit is then known to be 2-2 so declarer can set up a spade in comfort.

Elsewhere, on the same deal, the eventual winners, Bobby Levin and Steve Weinstein, who have been slow starters in this event in the past, had a disaster.

After Levin (North) opened 1♦ Pratap (East) cast a careful eye to the vulnerability and bid only 3♣. Can you blame Weinstein for doubling, and Levin for passing? He too could see the vulnerability and knew that his side had at least 27 HCP. On a diamond lead and trump shift, Pratap had eight winners and the spades lay as nicely as possible. Plus 670 on a hand where 6♦ had made the other way!

Bobby Levin found a way to recover a little on the next deal:

Bd: 26	♠ Q 10 6 4		
Dlr: East	♥ K 7		
Vul: Both	♦ A J 5		
	♣ K Q 3 2		
	♠ 9	♠ A J 8 2	
	♥ J 9 6 4	♥ A 10 8 2	
	♦ 8 4	♦ K 6 2	
	♣ J 10 9 8 7 5	♣ A 4	
	♠ K 7 5 3		
	♥ Q 5 3		
	♦ Q 10 9 7 3		
	♣ 6		

After a transfer auction Pratap (East) declared 3♣. Weinstein led a diamond. Levin won and continued the suit. Pratap played ace and another club, and Levin won to find the devastating ♥K shift. Now the defense had to score two heart tricks or a heart and a ruff for down one.

Session Two:

Both pairs did well in the auction here.

Bd: 20	♠ A 9 8 3		
Dlr: West	♥ A K J 10 9 2		
Vul: Both	♦ J 8		
	♣ 9		
	♠ Q 10 2	♠ 5	
	♥ 5	♥ 7 6 4	
	♦ A 2	♦ K Q 10 7 6 5 4 3	
	♣ A K 7 6 5 4 2	♣ J	
	♠ K J 7 6 4		
	♥ Q 8 3		
	♦ 9		
	♣ Q 10 8 3		

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Miller</i>	<i>Erichsen</i>	<i>Cheek</i>
1♣	1♥	2♦	Dble (1)
3♣	4♥	Pass	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	All Pass

(1) Limit raise with three hearts

Against Erichsen's 5♦ contract Cheek led a spade. Miller won the ace and shifted to a trump.

Had declarer simply rattled off all his trumps, South would have been squeezed in three suits. He has to keep three clubs and the spade king, so has to throw all his hearts. Dummy keeps two spades, and two top clubs, releasing the small one, declarer crosses to a club, and plays a spade to come to the last two tricks!

In practice Erichsen went one off.

At trick two, to set 5♦ legitimately, the defense must play a club. That breaks up the squeeze. Declarer can obtain a heart ruff, or his second club, but not both.

Fleisher-Rodwell defended 5♦ doubled after bidding and raising spades. Fleisher led the ♠K and now the contract has no play on a trump shift.

IBPA Editor: *Not quite. Declarer can win in dummy and lead the spade queen, covered by North, transferring the menace back to South. Declarer ruffs and plays a heart, and North must find the same club switch to break*

up the simple squeeze.

Right after that potential double game swing came another:

Bd: 21	♠ A 8 6 5 4	
Dlr: North	♥ K 3	
Vul: N/S	♦ K Q J 4	
	♣ J 7	
		♠ J 10 7 3
		♥ A 8 7 2
		♦ 10 8 6
		♣ K 10
	♠ K Q 9 2	
	♥ Q 6 5	
	♦ 5 3	
	♣ 9 5 4 2	

At one table Cheek-Miller sold out to 4♥ on the auction:

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Miller</i>	<i>Erichsen</i>	<i>Cheek</i>
	1♠	Pass	2♠
Dble	Pass	3♥(1)	3♠
4♥	All Pass		

(1) Values

Cheek found the diamond lead and Miller took the jack to play the ♥K; Erichsen won and returned the suit. Cheek played a third heart. Time for some arithmetic. Espen knew that Miller started with five spades, four diamonds, and two hearts. So the only winning lie of the cards was to find Miller with a doubleton ♣J, making Erichsen's play of finessing the ♣10 not only the sole theoretical chance but the winning one.

By contrast, at another table, Peter Weichsel declared what appeared to be a hopeless 4♠ doubled. On the lead of the ace and another heart declarer suddenly had some chances. He continued by leading the ♠A and a spade to the ten and queen. Next he pitched a club on the ♥Q. Since the defender with four diamonds had pitched one on the second spade, Weichsel could lead a diamond to hand, repeat the spade finesse, and play another diamond and the defense was helpless to stop him. Plus 790 and another routine game scored up.

On the last round of the day I stopped off to watch the session leaders, Hanlon-McGann, take on the Egyptians, Elahmadi-Sadek (the eventual runners-up):

Bd: 26	♠ J 5 3 2	
Dlr: East	♥ —	
Vul: Both	♦ A Q J 7 4	
	♣ Q 10 8 6	
		♠ K Q 8 4
		♥ A Q 8 7 3 2
		♦ 9
		♣ 9 5
	♠ A 10 6	
	♥ K 10 9 6 4	
	♦ 3 2	
	♣ A J 7	

The Irish pair found an enterprising auction to catch Sadek in 2♥ doubled, then backed their judgment with accurate defense.

West	North	East	South
<i>Elahmadi</i>	<i>McGann</i>	<i>Sadek</i>	<i>Hanlon</i>
		1♥	Pass
INT	Dble	2♥	Dble
All Pass			

McGann was unhappy to pass 2♥ doubled, but what else could he do? After a diamond to the jack and the ♠5 to the king and ace, Hanlon found the ♥K shift! This may look like routine technique, but not everybody managed it.

Nevertheless, declarer was still in with a chance as George Jacobs demonstrated at another table. Win the ♥A, play the ♠Q and ruff a spade, ruff a diamond, lead a club to the king (South must duck the ♣A) and lead a low club. If North fails to rise with the queen he endplays his partner (in a way) on this trick. The best he can do is get out with the ♥10, which is still good enough to set the hand. But at Jacobs's table the (nameless) defender exited with a third club. That let Jacobs ruff and now he was down to ♥Q87 and a losing spade. He led the spade, forcing the defense to ruff their winner, and now Jacobs had two trump tricks in the ending for +670.

Billy Pollack showed the right way to defend this hand. On the diamond lead he won and shifted to a club to the ace, for Casen to play the ♥K. Declarer won, led a club to the king, then a spade to the king and ace. Back came a heart and declarer won the jack, ruffed a club, then played the ♠Q (Casen unblocking the ten!) and a low spade. Alas for the defense, Casen's ♠6 was just too big. Pollack had to duck this so Casen led a diamond, ruffed by declarer, who now had seven tricks.

The 2002 Cavendish Pairs: Day Two Session Three:

On this deal the only table where the normal Four Hearts was beaten legitimately was by Brian Glubok and Jim Mahaffey:

Bd: 4	♠ A	
Dlr: West	♥ A 8 6 5 4	
Vul: Both	♦ J 10 3	
	♣ K Q 10 6	
		♠ J 10 9 8
		♥ 10 9 7
		♦ K Q 6 5 2
		♣ 8
		♠ Q 6 5 2
		♥ Q 3
		♦ A 8
		♣ 9 7 5 4 3
	♠ K 7 4 3	
	♥ K J 2	
	♦ 9 7 4	
	♣ A J 2	

Glubok led ace and another diamond. Mahaffey cashed

the third round, on which East threw a discouraging spade, and a fourth diamond promoted a trump trick for the defence. Well done.

Against the Egyptians, Cornell also led $\diamond A$ and another. On the third one Cornell pitching the $\clubsuit 5$, discouraging. Lionel Wright now played a spade (worried that declarer could pitch a losing spade if he had a 1=5=3=4 shape with the $\heartsuit Q$), and that was back to +420. Should West work out that without the $\heartsuit Q$ East might ruff the third diamond if he had the $\spadesuit A$ to cash, or encourage a club with the $\clubsuit K 10$?

Lionel Wright recovered points with this coup:

Bd: 8	$\spadesuit J 7 2$	
Dlr: West	$\heartsuit A 10 4 3$	
Vul: None	$\diamond 7$	
	$\clubsuit A Q 9 4 3$	
$\spadesuit Q 10 8 3$		$\spadesuit A K 9 6 4$
$\heartsuit K Q 6$		$\heartsuit J 5$
$\diamond A J 8$		$\diamond Q 6 4$
$\clubsuit 10 8 5$		$\clubsuit J 7 2$
	$\spadesuit 5$	
	$\heartsuit 9 8 7 2$	
	$\diamond K 10 9 5 3 2$	
	$\clubsuit K 6$	

Wright, West, opened a 12-14 HCP notrump East bid $2\heartsuit$ (transfer) and West jumped to $3\spadesuit$ (four spades and a minimum). East raised to game. Our unnameable North led a trump. Wright won in dummy to pass the $\heartsuit J$. North won and back came a trump. Wright won, cashed two top hearts to pitch a club, and led a low club up.

North played a reflexive $\clubsuit Q$, blocking the suit, and now found he could not set the hand. He shifted to a diamond and Wright won his jack and led another club. What was North to do? If he took his ace, crashing his partner's king, dummy's losing diamond would go on the $\clubsuit 10$. If he ducked, his partner would be endplayed.

Roy Welland and Bjorn Fallenius were not among the leaders in the early going, but they picked up an unlikely swing here, by making Four Hearts:

Bd: 12	$\spadesuit A 10 5$	
Dlr: West	$\heartsuit J 5 4 3$	
Vul: N/S	$\diamond 4$	
	$\clubsuit K J 10 9 5$	
$\spadesuit Q 8 7$		$\spadesuit J 9 6 4 2$
$\heartsuit A 8 7 6$		$\heartsuit Q 2$
$\diamond 10 7 5$		$\diamond A K 2$
$\clubsuit 8 6 2$		$\clubsuit Q 4 3$
	$\spadesuit K 3$	
	$\heartsuit K 10 9$	
	$\diamond Q J 9 8 6 3$	
	$\clubsuit A 7$	

West	North	East	South
Pass	Fallenius		Welland
$2\spadesuit$	Pass	$1\spadesuit$	$2\diamond$
Pass	Dble	Pass	$3\heartsuit!$
	$4\heartsuit$	All Pass	

Welland won the spade lead with the ace and led a diamond. East rose with the ace and pressed on with spades. Welland won the king and ran the $\diamond Q$, pitching dummy's last spade as East won the king.

A spade continuation is best for the defence, but East played a club into the tenace. Welland won and led a heart to the ten. West won (ducking may be better) and then led a spade. This was ruffed in dummy and a second trump went to the queen and king.

Although West had two trumps while declarer and dummy had one each, all Welland had to do was cash his $\clubsuit A$ and play winning diamonds. West ruffed but declarer over-ruffed and was able to cash his winning club.

When regular partners meet as opponents, there is more than the usual amount at stake. Here it was Andy Robson (North) v. Zia Mahmood & Bob Hamman:

Bd: 20	$\spadesuit 10 8 6 2$	
Dlr: West	$\heartsuit Q 4 3$	
Vul: Both	$\diamond A 10 2$	
	$\clubsuit A Q 6$	
$\spadesuit 9 7 5 4 3$		$\spadesuit J$
$\heartsuit K 8 2$		$\heartsuit A 9 5$
$\diamond Q 9$		$\diamond K 8 7 5 3$
$\clubsuit K 10 8$		$\clubsuit 9 5 4 3$
	$\spadesuit A K Q$	
	$\heartsuit J 10 7 6$	
	$\diamond J 6 4$	
	$\clubsuit J 7 2$	

N/S bid to 3NT ($1\clubsuit-1\heartsuit$; INT-3NT) and Hamman led a diamond. Zia put up the queen (should one play partner for AKxxx or K10xxx?) and Andy Robson won the ace, went to the $\spadesuit A$, and led a low heart. Zia hopped up with the king (nice play!) and cleared the diamonds, and Robson had only eight tricks. If Zia ducks the $\heartsuit K$ declarer has his ninth winner via the club finesse in due course.

Doug Doub also found the play of rising with the $\heartsuit K$. Both defenders might have had a tougher task if declarer had led the jack from dummy.

Here is a crucial deal involving the winners:

Dlr: North	$\spadesuit Q J 8 4 3$	
E/W Game	$\heartsuit A K 10 4$	
	$\diamond K$	
	$\clubsuit Q 6 5$	
$\spadesuit K 10$		$\spadesuit A 9 7 6 5$
$\heartsuit J 9 8 6 2$		$\heartsuit Q 7 5 3$
$\diamond Q J 10 5 2$		$\diamond 4$
$\clubsuit 7$		$\clubsuit J 8 2$
	$\spadesuit 2$	
	$\heartsuit \text{---}$	
	$\diamond A 9 8 7 6 3$	
	$\clubsuit A K 10 9 4 3$	

West <i>Levin</i>	North	East <i>Weinstein</i>	South
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	6♣
All pass			

♠ A J 9 8
♥ 10 8 6 4 3
♦ K 5 3
♣ 7

♠ 7 3 2
♥ A K Q J 5
♦ J
♣ K 10 4 3

I sat behind Bobby Levin as West and saw him lead the ♠10. Declarer covered in reflex style. The defence played two rounds of spades. Declarer now needed to ruff a diamond in dummy, and not being gifted with second sight he unblocked the ♦K, crossed back to hand in trumps, and ruffed a diamond low, thus going down one, like most of the rest of the room.

But what if declarer had played low in dummy (as happened at four tables)?

East plays his partner for a stiff so wins and tries to give him a ruff. Contract made! That turned the event; had the board gone the other way Levin-Weinstein would have been third/fourth and the Russians would have won.

Double-dummy only a diamond lead sets the hand (it takes an entry out of dummy which prevents the spades being established and cashed).

Greco and Hampson were one of the beneficiaries of the spade ten lead from David Berkowitz. Greco ducked the lead, and Larry Cohen won his ace, played for the ruff, and conceded 920. After this deal it was Greco-Hampson in the lead!

But only for one deal; put yourself in Berkowitz's position. He reached Four Hearts after opening 1♥ and hearing a double on his left.

He won the trump in hand and led the ♦J to the king and ace. Back came a trump, and his LHO pitched a diamond. The percentage play in spades might be to lead low to the nine, but Berkowitz tested clubs first by advancing the ten from hand. LHO flickered, then won the jack and tried to cash the ♦Q.

Berkowitz inferred that his RHO had a club honour; else the club jack would have been taken immediately, accordingly his RHO must have the ♠KQ for his double. On that basis, he led a spade to the jack. Well done; this was the only winning line available since RHO has sx10x.

While making the game was only worth 82 cross-IMPs to Berkowitz, had he gone one down he would have lost 262. The swing on this deal would have been 344 - and that would have translated into the narrowest of wins for Greco-Hampson, by 10 cross-IMPs!

Full results are available at <http://www.thecavendish.com>
Online viewgraph is available to PC or VirtualPC users at no charge by downloading Bridge Base Online from <http://www.bridgebase.com>

Calendar	Event	Venue	IBPA Contact
2002			
JUN	1/2 7 & 8	Amstelveen International Bridge Tournament	Amstelveen
	16/30	World wide Bridge Contest	Clubs everywhere
	29/6 Jul	European National Teams,	Salsomaggiore
		New Zealand National Congress	Hamilton
JUL	7/17	European Youth Team Championships	Torquay
	15/20	Commonwealth Bridge Championships	Manchester
	18/28	ACBL Summer Nationals	Washington
AUG	4/13	World University Teams	Bruges, Belgium
	9/18	England Summer Nationals	Brighton
	16/31	World Bridge Championships	Montreal
NOV	25/28	EBL European Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs everywhere
	28/ 8 Dec	ACBL Fall Nationals	Phoenix
2003			
MAR	6/16	ACBL Spring Nationals	Philadelphia
JUN		European Open	
JUL	17/27	ACBL: Summer Nationals	Long Beach, CA
AUG	8/17	England Summer Nationals	Brighton
NOV	20/30	ACBL Fall Nationals,	New Orleans, LA

World Bridge Championships - Montreal

August 16 - 31 2002

Schedule of Events

	Fri 16 August				Opening Ceremony
Sat.	17 August	Mixed Pairs - qualifying 1/2			
Sun	18 August	Mixed Pairs: 3rd qualifying & 1st Final Sessions	Zonal Mixed Pairs		
Mon	19 August	Mixed Pairs 2nd & 3rd Sessions Final	Zonal Mixed Pairs		
Tue	20 August	Rosenblum/McConnell		Junior Teams	
Wed	21 August	Rosenblum/McConnell		Junior Teams	
Thur	22 August	Rosenblum/McConnell		Junior Pairs	
Fri	23 August	Rosenblum (64)/McConnell (32)	Zonal Teams	Junior Pairs	Senior Teams
Sat	24 August	Rosenblum (32)/McConnell (16)	Zonal Teams	Junior Individual	Senior Teams
Sun	25 August	Rosenblum (16)/McConnell (8)	Pairs Qualifying		Senior Teams
Mon	26 August	Rosenblum (8)/McConnell (4)	Pairs Qualifying		Senior Teams
Tue	27 August	Rosenblum (4)/McConnell (2)	Pairs - Semi Final	Zonal Pairs	Senior Pairs
Wed	28 August	Rosenblum (2)	Pairs - Semi Final	Zonal Pairs	Senior Pairs
Thur	29 August		Pairs - Final	IMP Pairs *	Senior Pairs
Fri	30 August		Pairs - Final	IMP Pairs *	Senior Pairs
Sat	31 August		Pairs - Final		Closing Ceremony

* Will declare Open and Senior winners

An ACBL Regional Tournament will be conducted in conjunction with the World Championships.

It will begin at 8pm on **16 August** with a 1-session mixed pairs event and end on **02 September 2002**

Flights , Hotels and Reservations

Air Canada is the official carrier for the Championships, and is offering 15% and 20% discounts off air fares from outside North America, 5% to 15% within North America. Please quote Convention N° CV 664436

Hotel reservations must be made through the 2002 World Bridge Championship Housing Bureau:

Tel: +1 514 844 0848; Fax: +1 514 844 6771; Email: reservations@tourisme-montreal.org

Entry Fees

Event	Price US\$	Length of event
Mixed Pairs	240	Three days
Open and Women's Pairs	400	Four days
Players not qualifying for the Semi Finals may play free of charge in Zonal Pairs		
Open and Women's Pairs Final	80	2 1/2 days
Rosenblum and McConnell Teams	800	10/11 days; teams are guaranteed to play at least 5 days
Senior Teams **	640	Four days
Senior Pairs	320	Four days
IMP Pairs (50% discount to participants from the Open & Women's Pairs)	160	Two days
Juniors in Junior World Championship events	free	Six days
Can-Am Regional (per Player/per Session)	10	Every day

** Senior teams qualified for the Zonal Teams may enter the Senior Teams for an fee of \$320 instead of \$640

Payment of entry fees is to be made the day before the individual event starts

How to Enter

Applications to play must be made through a player's National Bridge Federation. All National Federations must submit their lists of participants to the WBF by **15 June 2002**

Additional Information

Additional information, including the Conditions of Contest, Brown Sticker Convention information, details of hotel rates etc. can be found at www.worldbridge.org and www.ecatsbridge.com or by contacting Anna Gudge - anna@ecats.co.uk Tel: +44 1787 881920

IBPA Column Service

These hands may be used without credit to either the author or IBPA. The author is Barry Rigal

205.

The Board-a-match format in the Mixed Teams at Anaheim makes the overtricks vital — as witness this deal, which would be of no great significance at regular Teams scoring.

Dir: North	♠ Q			
Vul: None	♥ A 5 2			
	♦ 10 5 4			
	♣ A 8 5 4 3 2			
	♠ 5 2	♠ K J 9 6 4 3		
	♥ J 9 4	♥ 10 7		
	♦ J 7 3 2	♦ K Q 9		
	♣ Q 10 9 5	♣ J 7		
	♠ A 10 8 7			
	♥ K Q 8 6 3			
	♦ A 8 6			
	♣ K			
West	North	East	South	
Pass	Pass	2♠	3♥	
Pass	4♥	All Pass		

In the other room Sue Picus and Alex Ornstein from the eventual winners as East/West had held 3NT to nine tricks on a spade lead. When declarer won the lead and cashed his club and heart winners then exited with ace and another diamond, Picus unblocked a diamond honour under the ace to avoid being endplayed to give declarer a spade trick.

4♥ looks as if it had ten tricks — but again Judy Radin demonstrated that it is always possible to get a quart out of a pint pot. She won the spade lead and ruffed a spade at once before crossing to hand in clubs and leading a third spade. Whether West ruffed or not did not matter. If he discarded Radin would ruff low and unblock hearts then cash the ace of clubs and use the ♦A as the re-entry to draw trumps. West actually ruffed in with the ♥9 and Judy overruffed and drew trumps for 11 tricks. Note that if Radin had cashed the ♣K at trick two the entry position would have been compromised. Declarer can ruff two spades as before but has to use the ♦A as a re-entry to hand. Now when she leads the third club after ruffing two spades (not ruffed by West) and unblocking in trumps, East ruffs in with the ♥10 and promotes a trump trick for West.

206.

Debbie Rosenberg, who is married to Michael, demonstrated here that the talent in that family is not limited to her husband. Of course Debbie was also part of the USA team that won the World Junior Teams in 1994. This is Debbie at work.

Dir: West	♠ J 6			
Vul: N/S	♥ A K J			
	♦ A J 5 4			
	♣ K 9 5 2			
	♠ A Q 10 8 4	♠ 9 2		
	♥ 10 5 4	♥ 9 8		
	♦ K Q 9 3	♦ 7 6 2		
	♣ 3	♣ A Q J 8 6 4		
	♠ K 7 5 3			
	♥ Q 7 6 3 2			
	♦ 10 8			
	♣ 10 7			
West	North	East	South	
1♠	Dble	Pass	2♥	
Pass	Pass	3♣	3♥	
All Pass				

The defence led a club to the jack. It did not seem right to give up on the club tenace by continuing the suit (although that does defeat the hand) so East quite reasonably shifted to the ♠9 and West cashed two rounds of spades and played a third spade. Rosenberg ruffed in dummy, and appeared to have five top losers. However she realized that she had been given a chance since the defence no longer had any communications in the club suit.

Even so, the winning path was by no means obvious. However, given that East appeared to have all the remaining clubs, that marked West with the balance of high cards. Therefore, Debby cashed the top hearts and led a low diamond to the ten and queen. West hopefully led a spade, but Rosenberg could win her ♠K since East was out of trumps. She drew the last trump, finessed the ♦J and parked her club loser on the ♦A to make nine tricks, for an excellent result.

The 16th World Wide Bridge Contest - Clubs: Friday 7 & Saturday 8 June 2002

Results as they come in can be found at www.ecatsbridge.com - click on the Sims button and you will see the link to all the details for the event.

207.

In the last Junior European Championships the Greek team, sitting N/S here, put in a serious entry for the luckiest board of the tournament. The point is that the defence can cash out the spades against Three No-trumps, and Five Clubs appears to have two top spade losers and an inevitable heart loser when the finesse fails.

Dir: East Vul: E/W	♠ Q 10 ♥ J 8 5 ♦ A 8 4 ♣ Q J 10 5 2	♠ A K 9 6 5 4 2 ♥ 10 7 ♦ 7 3 2 ♣ 6	
	♠ J ♥ K 9 6 4 3 ♦ J 10 5 ♣ 8 7 4 3	♠ 8 7 3 ♥ A Q 2 ♦ K Q 9 6 ♣ A K 9	
West	North	East	South
Pass	4♣	3♠	Dble
Pass	5♦	Pass	4♦
		All Pass	

North's conservative bid of 4♣ set South up for his inspired bid of Four Diamonds, naturally raised by North to Five Diamonds. Remarkably the 4-3 fit is the only available game for North-South, because of the spade ruff in the short trump hand. When West led a spade, East won the king of spades and cashed the next spade, then played a heart.

However, declarer simply refused the heart finesse and ruffed a spade in dummy, bringing his total to eleven tricks: four diamonds, five clubs, the ace of hearts and the spade ruff. He needed to guess the trumps, as when he led the third spade from hand West ruffed in with the jack. The percentage play might have been to over-ruff and finesse against the ten, but if you bid the hands like this you don't deserve to play the percentages and go down, do you?

Note that if East had played back a heart before cashing the spades, it appears to prevent the ruff in dummy. That is so, but declarer would simply have taken the ace of hearts and drawn trumps, and then would have discarded two spades on dummy's clubs before setting up a heart. Similarly if the opening lead had been a club or diamond, South would have cashed three rounds of trumps, again discarding two losing spades on dummy's clubs.

208.

Consider North/South's club suit on the following deal, without looking at the cards of East and West. There does not seem to be much room for manoeuvre there does there? Either the finesse works or it does not. Well, there is more to it than that.

Dir: North Game All	♠ 3 ♥ A 5 4 2 ♦ K 7 ♣ A K J 8 7 5	♠ A K 8 6 5 2 ♥ 9 3 ♦ A J 6 5 ♣ Q	♠ J 10 ♥ J 10 8 7 ♦ 10 9 2 ♣ 9 4 3 2
	♠ Q 9 7 4 ♥ K Q 6 ♦ Q 8 4 3 ♣ 10 6		
West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
All Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT

The closest attention to detail is rarely rewarded as generously as happened on this deal in the Round Robin qualifying match from the 2000 Bermuda Bowl between Brazil and Poland. When the Polish declarer Michael Kwiecien played 3NT from the South seat he received a low spade lead round to his queen. That gave him one quick trick, but he could see that he would need to run the clubs to make his contract. The finesse is clearly the indicated line. The natural play seems to be to run the ten of clubs, and to play the suit from the top thereafter if that card is covered by the queen, but Michael saw a little more deeply into the position than that. The point is that the only distributions on which 3NT comes home are where the club queen is onside.

Moreover, since Michael knew he could not see through the backs of the cards, he was never going to negotiate a 4 1 split onside by finessing the nine on the second round. The one distribution he could cope with was to find a singleton queen onside † that would not jeopardize any other making lie of the cards and given West's apparent spade length, this possibility was not entirely unlikely. So he carefully led a low club to the queen and king at trick two, and could now unblock the ten of clubs, and was then able to return to dummy by utilizing the hearts, to collect ten tricks. That was worth a game swing when the Brazilian declarer missed the play in the other room.

AUSTRIA wins 17th Bonn Nations Cup

From information supplied by Jean-Paul Meyer (Fra) and Adam Dunn (Wal)

The annual May tournament in Bonn had in 2002 a sparkling cast with 18 teams representing 17 countries. The format was two qualifying groups (round robin of 8 matches) with the winners playing a final, as the remainder played on in a Swiss.

In the final **Austria** (Martin Schifko, Andreas Gloyer, Sascha Wernle and Jovanka Smederevac) beat **Israel** (Avi Kalish, Leonid Podgur, Michael Barel, Yoram Aviram, Eran Shaham and Ranny Schneider) 59-28

SWISS

3 Belgium	193	11 England	161
4 Wales	190	12 Romania	159
5 Denmark	179	13 Germany I	155
6 Sweden	175	14 France	151
7 Italy	169	15 Hungary	145
8 Bulgaria	169	16 Czech	144
9 Germany 2	165	17 Pharoah's	135
10 Estonia	165	18 Luxemborg	121

Austria fielded their junior stars and Jovanca Smederevac; Belgium (Kaplan, Polet, Conraets, Jeunen) the team that will play in Salsomaggiore; Bulgaria as usual were strong; Denmark (Jens Auken, Lauge Shaffer, Lars Blakset and Mathias Brun); England had their junior David Gold, 22, who has played Camrose, Tom Townsend, Burn and Callaghan. Faroe Islands made their first appearance at this level, France had the trial semi-finalists losers against the new international team, Sweden had PO Sundelin, Sylvan, Morath and Gustawson.

In the Round Robin Austria won rather easily one group, Israel made up the final in the last match snatching from Denmark the qualifying place. In the Consolation Swiss Belgium took the third place on the podium with Wales (Dunn, Goodman, Pownall, Thomas) a brilliant fourth.

Jean-Paul Meyer was declarer on this deal from the match between France and Germany:

Dealer: North ♠ J 8
 N/S Vul ♥ A K J 6 3
 ♦ 10
 ♣ J 9 6 3 2

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

♠ K Q 3
 ♥ 5 2
 ♦ A 6 3 2
 ♣ A K Q 7

North <i>Guillaumin</i>	East <i>Wladow</i>	South <i>Meyer</i>	West <i>Elinescu</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♦*	Pass	6♣	All Pass

2♥ = fit-jump, ♣+ ♥ for a passed hand
 4♦ = Splinter

The lead was a diamond. JPM won the ace of diamonds, ruffed a diamond, played a club to the ace, ruffed another diamond, club to the king, ruff the last diamond with dummy's last trump, and then the jack of spades.

West realised declarer had a problem getting back to hand to draw the last trump, so he correctly let the jack hold. Next came the key play of the Dentist's Coup, cash the two top hearts before playing another spade. West won and could not stick the lead back in dummy, so JPM was able to draw West's trump safely.

Adam Dunn reports two hands from the final:

Hand 26 ♠ 10 7 2
 Game all♥ 7 6 2
 Dealer East ♦ K 8 3
 ♣ K Q J 9

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

♠ J 8 4 3
 ♥ Q J 9 5
 ♦ 6
 ♣ 8 6 3 2

West <i>Schifko</i>	East <i>Gloyer</i>
3♣ (Relay)	2NT (Pre-empt in ♦s)
4♦ (slam try)	3♥ (upper range, heart val)
4NT (RKCB)	4♥ (cue, 1 st or 2 nd)
6♦	5♦ (1 or 4)
	Pass

This slam was not bid in the other room.

A gambit by Jovi Smederevac (North) talked Israel out of their game on this deal:

Hand 27 ♠ 3
 Love all ♥ K J 8
 Dealer South ♦ A K J 10 6 2
 ♣ J 10 3

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

♠ 10 9 8
 ♥ 10 9
 ♦ Q 8 7 5
 ♣ K 8 7 2

South <i>Wernle</i>	West	North <i>Smederevac</i>	East
Pass	1♥	INT!	2♥
Pass	Pass	3♦	3♥
All Pass			

The INT overcall kept them out of the cold game reached in the other room by Schifko-Gloyer. Austria were 9 down at half time so it was quite a large second half turnaround.

Apparently the organisers had told Austria that they had to win as they didn't have a copy of the Israeli National Anthem!

Polish Double at Malta 2002

By Mark Horton (England)

The Malta Festival, generously sponsored by Margaret Parnis-England for the umpteenth time, again incorporating an EBL Seniors event, has one of the finest locations imaginable, the natural beauty of the George Cross Island being matched by the top class venue.

The main events are the Pairs and Teams, but there are several other competitions with excellent prizes. Local organiser Mario Dix renewed his long time partnership with Ron 'Smile Please' Tacchi (both IBPA members) and they were involved in a number of significant deals. Tacchi missed the textbook safety play on this deal but was a hero on the second:

♠ A K 2
♥ 10 5
♦ K 2
♣ J 10 9 7 4 2

♠ Q J 10 9 8 5
♥ A K 9 8 7 4
♦ —
♣ A

West	North	East	South
<i>Dix</i>		<i>Tacchi</i>	
1♣	Pass	1♠	
Pass	INT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

South felt he might have bid 5NT, the grand slam force at his third turn, but as it was he had to tackle the small slam.

West led the three of spades and declarer won in hand, East following with the seven. How should declarer proceed from here?

Tacchi cashed his top hearts. Do you agree? I hope not! If West can ruff the second round – he did! – and has the third trump you will have floored a solid one. The correct technique is to cash one top heart and then play a low one. If the suit proves to be 4-1, you will be able to ruff a heart in dummy to set it up.

Pairs result:

1. Markowicz-Klukowski (Pol)	1327.3
2. Jezioro- Zeligman (Pol)	1240.3
3. Queran-Marina (Fra)	1201.8
4. Tacchi-Dix (Malta)	1186.1

Here was Tacchi's success:

Dealer: South ♠ 10 4
E/W Game ♥ J 10 7 3
 ♦ 9 7 6 2
 ♣ 8 6 4

♠ A Q 8 6
♠ 9 7 2

♥ A Q 9 6 5
♥ 8 4 2

♦ Q
♦ A K 10 8 6 4

♣ K Q 2
♣ A

♠ K J 5 3
♥ K
♦ J 3
♣ J 10 9 7 5 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Tacchi</i>	<i>Parmaggiano Dix</i>		<i>Reggiano</i>
			Pass
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

Declarer took the opening club lead in dummy and played a heart to the king and ace. Taking South's card at face value, declarer cashed his top clubs discarding spades, unblocked the queen of diamonds, cashed the ace of spades and ruffed a spade. Now two top diamonds were followed by a diamond ruff to leave this ending:

♠ —
♥ J 10 7
♦ —
♣ —

♠ —
♠ —

♥ Q 9 6
♥ 8

♦ —
♦ 8 6

♣ —
♣ —

♠ K
♥ —
♦ —
♣ J 10

A low heart towards the eight finished North off.

At the other table, declarer was one down in the same contract.

Tacchi was also at the wheel on this deal:

Dealer: North ♠ 10 6 3 2
 Love all ♥ A 6 5 2
 ♦ 2
 ♣ A Q J 5

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

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Dix</i>		<i>Tacchi</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	7NT
All Pass			

West found the brilliant lead of the eight of clubs. Unwilling to go down at trick one, declarer, who had just been reading about Maurice Harrison Gray's technique of playing off the long suit in *Play These Hands With Me*, went up with the ace and tested the diamonds. When they divided 3-2 he cashed the top spades (the ♠QJ might have been doubleton) and carried on with the diamonds to reach this position:

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

The last diamond saw West throw the king of clubs in the hope that East held the ten, so declarer did secure his thirteenth trick with a club after all – just as the Bridge Gods had originally intended!

Despite such results, the Tacchi led team Hippo could not prevent a Polish double.

Teams result:

1. Markowicz	241
2. Hippo	215
3. 4 Diamonds	194

Watch out for news of next years Festival dates – it's definitely one not to miss!

PLEASE GIVE US YOUR POINT OF VIEW

From: Jean-Paul Meyer, Executive Vice-President

As you all know Patrick Jourdain is retiring in September as editor of IBPA Bulletin. At the same time, thanks to Internet technology your Executive has been considering possible changes to the way we handle communication with members. We want to have your point of view. The more of you who answer these questions the better decisions your Executive will be able to take.

So please send Answers **as soon as possible** (certainly no later than the end of July) to Anna Gudge by mail, fax or email:

1. Have you ready access to internet?

If yes, please reply by email so we have your latest email address, particularly if different from that published in the most recent Yearbook.

If no, go to question 5.

2. How frequently in the last six months have you accessed the current IBPA website, and found what you sought?

3. If the current Bulletin is available for down-loading (to members only) from the Internet, would you be prepared not to receive the printed Bulletin, in return for a significant reduction in your annual subscription?

4. If an update was available each week on Internet only, and this update then became part of the monthly Bulletin, would you look for the update most weeks, or only the monthly version?

5. Do you prefer to keep the paper Bulletin using the internet for the latest news?

6. What is your opinion about the content of the Bulletins currently? What changes would you like to see? Mention what you consider as satisfactory or not.

7. Do you have any suggestions for new columns which could be published in the future in the Bulletin – Internet or paper ?

7. Any other general comments?

Please send your answers to:

Anna Gudge
 The Old Railway Station
 Long Melford, Sudbury
 Suffolk CO10 9HN England
 Fax: +44 1787 881339; email: anna@ecats.co.uk

These questions are printed on the back of your address label, so if you wish you can use that to send your answers on.

/. continued from page 16

* *Radek Kielbasinski says:* The Poland Open team in Salsomaggiore will be: Krzysztof Martens – Marcin Lesniewski; Cezary Balicki – Adam Zmudzinski; Piotr Bizon – Dariusz Kowalski (not related to the other Kowalski).

The first two pairs are world known. The case of the 3rd is very interesting. Both Bizon and D. Kowalski were known Polish players in the 80-ties.

Bizon (born 1956) represented Poland in 1987 European Open Team Championship in Brighton (with Wilkosz) – 4th place. In 1990 Lesniewski suggested they play together and become professionals. At the same time Bizon wrote a very good work in physics, (he graduated from the Physics Department at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow) about the „black holes” and received a few offers of work from wide-known European Universities. He had a life choice decision. He chose physics. For over 8 year he worked as a professor of physics at the Universities in Vienna, Dublin and University of Michigan (USA). He completely stopped playing bridge.

Dariusz Kowalski (born in 1963) represented Poland in European Junior Teams Championship in Budapest (1985). He played in the Polish First Division till 1993 (with no significant success) and gave up playing at all. He became a licensed investment advisor and he is working now for an Investment Management Company in Warsaw.

Last year they both decided to return to bridge. In their first tournament they won Polish National Pairs Championship (a very prestigious and tough tournament). They entered the national trials and finished 4th. The PBU Board decided to nominate them to the national open team.

This is the most effective and quickest come back in the history of the PBU.

Poland has a very democratic selection. The first stage is open to all, with seeded pairs entering later. The final stage consists of 10 pairs: 7 ones from national trials plus 3 of the former national team. The 10 pairs play twice; against each other (9x16 board matches), and then against 10 foreign pairs so another 10x16 board matches (This year it has been Dutch pairs.). The first two pairs are guaranteed selection. The 3rd pair is nominated by the PBU Board out of 3rd, 4th or 5th pair.

This year over 1.200 pairs decided to participate including all top Polish players: (e.g. 5th place Gawrys-Jassem, 7th Kwiecien-Pszczola, 8th place Kowalski-Tuszynski).

IBPA Ed: Adam Zmudzinski, Wojtek Olanski, Bogus Gierulski & Jerry Skrzypczak (Poland) won the England Spring Foursomes, beating Ian Monachan (Unal Durmus, Boye Brogeland, Erik Saelsminde and Espen Erichsen of London and Norway) 81-52 in the final.

Radek also sends this report:

The PBU in cooperation with the Polish Security Commission organized 1st Polish Bridge Championship of the Financial Market. Four phone calls from the Chairman of the PSC brought four sponsors (top Polish financial companies). The budget of the two-day event was US\$ 40,000.

106 pairs from nearly 40 different companies and 36 teams played in a 5 star hotel with free lunch, dinner, and the closing banquet. There were plenty of prizes including a new model IBM Notebooks and crystal cups for winners.

Moreover, the sponsors offered two Notebook computers for two schools where regular bridge classes are run. In these schools bridge is treated as a normal subject (like mathematics) and a pupil must get a positive mark to be promoted to a higher class.

The PBU also gained a few new sponsors for other events.

The participants were so enchanted they decided to play the Championship every year (with the same budget I suppose).

* *Uno Viigand of Estonia, a former member of IBPA writes:* It's been a long time since I last wrote. I have been working so hard there is only time for one weekend for bridge every month.

I have been composing crosswords for twelve years. Peter Lond (the Estonian Peter Lond) hopes to send a team to the European Youth Championship (July 7 - 17 in Torquay, England). We seek cheap accommodation for 4 + npc.

IBPA Ed: I understand the problem is solved and Estonia will be in Torquay. At the time of writing 23 nations have entered the Under 25s and a record-equalling 15 nations in the Under 20s.

* *Danny Roth comments on the last Bulletin:* From the article on the European Mixed: page 3 left-hand col. Board 26. I am surprised that NS were defending 2♠ undoubled with 4♣ laydown for them. The Daily Bulletin should have given the bidding.

Board 20 page 5 right-hand column: East can foresee the endplay and should blank his ♦K at an early stage.

Anders Wirgren adds that the article Brilliancy Missed (page 5/6) has an error in the analysis of the more exotic ending by which the Bulletin editors claim Six Spades can be made. The simpler line referred to, of playing four rounds of hearts and ditching a club works if declarer can guess which finesse to take when East exits with a low club.

This is the ending after four rounds of spades and two top hearts:

	♠ None	
	♥ A 10 6	
	♦ A Q	
	♣ K 9	
♠ None		♠ None
♥ None		♥ J 9
♦ J 10 7		♦ K 9 8
♣ Q 10 6 3		♣ A 8
	♠ 8 7	
	♥ 8	
	♦ 6 3 2	
	♣ J	

Declarer knows the heart layout, but not the minor suit layout. Another trump would squeeze dummy. Ace and another heart, throwing a club, endplays East, but if East exits with a low club declarer has to guess he holds the ace.

IBPA Editor: In the diagrammed ending I expect most declarers tried for one of two finesses, even though that fails. Ace of hearts, ruff a heart, club jack covered by queen, king and ace; ruff the next club, try the diamond finesse. To find the winning line you would need a clue from the bidding or East's discomfiture.

POINTS FROM THE POSTBAG

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

LETTERS ...

Email: patrickjourdain@compuserve.com

* *Tjolpe Flodqvist reports:* During a rubber bridge session in the South of Sweden the following rather interesting hand popped up. Magnus Lindkvist gave it to me and the hero was Johan Dieden, who used to be a coordinator for all the Swedish international teams.

Dealer: South ♠ A J 10 6
 Game all ♥ Q 7 5
 ♦ K 10
 ♣ Q J 6 5

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

♠ Q 8 5 2
 ♥ A J
 ♦ A J 6 2
 ♣ K 8 2

South	West	North	East
Johan	Peter	Mats	Stig
Dieden	Fredin	Pettersson	Åberg
INT	Pass	2♣	2♥
2♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

West led the ♠3, which was passed to East's king. The heart return to the Jack was ruffed by West, who continued spades while East discarded a heart.

All you need now is either three club tricks or to find the ♦Q. Johan drew West's last trump ending in hand, to play a small club to the Queen. A heart to the Ace was followed by a second club towards dummy and the Jack won, East following suit.

Now there was a 100% way of making ten tricks. Johan played the ♥Q and allowed East to win his King, while pitching the ♣K!

What can East do after the ♥K? If he's got a club left to play, South will ruff and the club in dummy is good. A diamond return picks up the Queen, wherever it is, so East has to play a heart.

Declarer now ruffs in dummy, while discarding a diamond from the hand. A club is ruffed, and if both defenders follow suit, dummy's last club is good. And if West still has got the ♣A left, this means that he has been squeezed out of three diamonds and the diamonds are all good.

* *Tom Townsend has a new address:* Second Floor, 47 Maida Vale, London W9 1SD

Tel: 0207-289-3329 (h) 07855-372-602 (m)

* *Anders Wirgren says:* Szymanowski's claim on the potential Hand of the Year (May Postbag) was risky, as West had already missed a potential Defence of the Year, and could still have defeated the hand if his shape had been 1-3-3-6:

Dealer: East ♠ A K 9 8 5 2
 Love all ♥ Q 8 5
 ♦ J 9
 ♣ J 2

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

♠ 6 3
 ♥ A K J 7 6 4
 ♦ A 4 2
 ♣ 9 5

The play against Four Hearts went: ♠J to the the ace, trump to hand and a second spade, on which West threw a club. Declarer won in dummy and then, Latala reported, claimed.

Wirgren says: Instead of throwing a club on the second spade, West should have thrown a diamond (when you have a potential chance for an overruff or a promotion, always discard from your shorter side-suit!). The contract is then stone dead.

When declarer ruffs the next spade low, West refuses to over-ruff and instead pitches another diamond! (important, too — but easier to find once you've thrown the first one). When Szymanowski next ducks a diamond, the defenders win, cash two club tricks ending with West on lead (very important). Then it's time for the coupe de grace: a trump.

What can poor South do? If he wins in dummy and plays diamond ace, diamond, West scores his trump ahead of dummy; and if South wins the trick in his hand, to play diamond ace, diamond ruff, he can't get back to his hand without promoting West's last trump. The same situation arises *after* the claim if West is 1-3-3-6 as he still has a chance to defend by discarding a diamond on the next trick.

IBPA Editor: Your analysis makes the deal even more fascinating, so I hope someone will check with Szymanowski himself exactly when the claim was made and whether it has been reported accurately.

/continued on page 15 ...