



THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

Editor: JOHN CARRUTHERS

This Bulletin is published monthly and circulated to around 500 members of the International Bridge Press Association comprising the world's leading journalists, authors and editors of news, books and articles about contract bridge, with an estimated readership of some 200 million people who enjoy the most widely played of all card games

BULLETIN
www.IBPA.com
mail@ibpa.com

N° 458 Year 2003

Date March 12

President:

HENRY G FRANCIS
6875 Stornaway Drive
Memphis, TN 38119 USA
(1) 901 754 3405 F: 901 398 7754
Email: hfranci1@midsouth.rr.com

Executive Vice-President:

PATRICK JOURDAIN
8 Felin Wen, Rhiwbina
Cardiff CF14 6NW Wales
(44) 29 2062 8839 F: 29 2061 5234
email: pdjourdain@hotmail.com

Organizational Vice-President:

PER E JANNERSTEN
Villa Cicero
S-77400 Avesta, SWEDEN
Email: per@jannersten.se

Chairman:

ALAN TRUSCOTT
3333 Henry Hudson Parkway
Bronx, NY 10463 USA
Email: alantruscott@aol.com

Secretary:

MAUREEN DENNISON
148 Thornbury Road, Osterley
Isleworth TW7 4QE, ENGLAND UK
(44) 20 8560 3788 F: 20 8568 3553
Email: maureen_dennison@ibpa.freeserve.co.uk

Membership Secretary:

Dr STUART STAVELEY
Rhu-na-Bidh, Shieldaig, Strathcarron
Ross-shire IV54 8XN SCOTLAND UK
(44) 1520 755 217 F: 1520 755 355

Treasurer:

HANS CHRISTER ANDERSSON
Arstagatan 20 C
75434 Uppsala, SWEDEN
(46) 18 253584 O: 18 175764
Email: jus289n@tinet.se

Honorary General Counsel:

BILL PENCHARZ
50 Boradway, Westminster
London SW1H 0BL ENGLAND
Email: billpencharz@bdb-law.co.uk

Awards Secretary:

BARRY J RIGAL
Apt 8E, 22 West 26th Street,
New York NY 10010, USA
Email: barryrigal@mindspring.com

Sponsored Members' Secretary:

IRENA CHODOROWSKA
UI Sewastopolska 3m41
02-758 Warsaw, POLAND
Email: trans@syrena.com.pl

Production Editor:

ANNA GUDGE
The Old Railway Station
Long Melford, Suffolk CO10 9HN England
Email: anna@ecats.co.uk

Editorial

The opinions expressed here are solely those of the Editor, and do not necessarily reflect those of the IBPA Executive or its members.

Bridge players the world over, and particularly in Canada and the USA, mourn the February 6 passing of Peter Nagy, most recently of Las Vegas. Peter escaped from Hungary during the revolution in 1956 at the age of 14. He and his uncle settled in Montreal, knowing no English or French. Within a year, Peter was top of his class, and became Class Valedictorian in his senior year of high school. A degree from Princeton and careers in computers and options trading in New York and Chicago eventually led to retirement in the Sun Belt, where he could pursue his true passion, cards. In addition to playing top-level bridge for the better part of four decades, Peter was expert at poker and was a concert-class pianist. Indeed, he could have made a living as a pianist rather than as a poker player had he so chosen.

In bridge, Peter won many Canadian and North American championships, as well as international titles on four other continents, but the one he wanted most just eluded him. In his quest to win a World Championship, Peter performed the unique feat of twice finishing second in the World Open Pairs Championship, once with Eric Kokish for Canada, in 1978, and in 1990 for the USA partnering Ralph Katz. Even more remarkably, he was beaten both times by Marcelo Branco of Brazil, also playing with two different partners, Gabino Cintra and Gabriel Chagas.

Troubled genius that he was, Peter was an excellent partner and teammate, and was renowned for his conservatism at the bridge table, once admitting that in order to jump shift, he needed a hand on which everyone else would open the bidding with two clubs. Nevertheless, throughout his bridge career, frequent awards for best bid, best played, and best defended hand came Peter's way. He won the 1977 IBPA Award for Best Bid Hand of the Year, as well as the Bols Brilliancy Prize for Best Defence at the 1980 Valkenburg Olympiad. His career declarer play brilliancy came in the 1975 Spingold semifinal, in which he made six no trump on a winkle, missing the ace and king of hearts. All that was required was for the opening leader not to lead his ace.

Peter died doing what he loved best, playing poker at the Bellagio in Las Vegas. He is survived by his brilliant and lovely wife Donna Hay and their son David.

Most of the contributions to this Bulletin come from the English-speaking world and northern Europe, with occasional pieces from Asia, Africa and South America. We urge all non-native English-speaking members to contribute. Don't worry that your command of English is not good enough for publication. We'll make sure that by the time it is published, the English is as correct as we can make it, while at the same time retaining your own style.

For all members, there is still time to mention Menton and become eligible for the cash prizes available in the Clippings Competition. Send the details to the Editor.

The World Bridge Federation has issued a press release revealing that this year's World Championships will be held in Monte Carlo from November 2-15, 2003. Precise details are still being worked on, but the Bermuda Bowl and Seniors Teams are currently scheduled to start on November 3, the Venice Cup on November 4, and the Transnational Teams on November 11. The organizers promise that the round robin portions of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup will be completed before the start of the Transnational Teams, as will the Senior Teams. Details are available at www.worldbridge.org and www.ecatsbridge.com

The WBF has also announced that Istanbul has been confirmed as the site for the 2004 Teams Olympiad. With the USA and Great Britain possibly waging war against Iraq very soon, and perhaps using Turkey as a staging ground (the Turkish Parliament has narrowly defeated a resolution to allow this), the wisdom of this decision remains to be seen. It would be a pity to see another World Championship relocated due to armed conflict. As Istanbul is a magnificent city in a fascinating country, we are all hoping that the Championships come off as planned.

Address all editorial correspondence to: **JOHN CARRUTHERS**
65 Tiago Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4B 2A2, Canada
Tel: +1 416 752 7034** Fax: +1 416 344 3493
Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

The 8th NEC Bridge Festival

By Nakatani Tadayoshi, Yokohama;
Eric Kokish, Toronto;
Rich Colker, Wheaton, MD

The 8th NEC Cup was held from February 4 to 9, 2003, at the Yokohama Pacific Convention Center (Pacifico Yokohama) where, you may recall, the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup were held back in 1991.

At that time, practically only two facilities were in operation, the Convention Center and the Yokohama Grand Inter-Continental Hotel. You can imagine the difficulty players and staff had to face, for example, finding suitable places to eat! Now, anyone who revisited the area more than ten years later would be stunned to witness the changes, including plenty of restaurants, hotels and offices located in fabulous buildings, including the tallest in Japan. The area has grown to one of the largest commercial districts in eastern Japan.

The NEC Cup is the main event at the Festival, and is now one of the few remaining sponsored bridge events after the recent demise of such major events as the Forbo, the Macallan, the Cap Gemini and the Generali Masters.

This year, the NEC Cup attracted 17 teams from abroad and 25 local teams. The pre-tournament favourites were the defending champions ENGLAND (Brian Senior, Pablo Lambardi, John Armstrong, Brian Callaghan); POLAND, led by the President of the Polish Bridge Union, Radoslaw Kielbasinski himself (Krzysztof Martens, Marcin Lesniewski, Michal Kwiecien, Jacek Pszczola, Witold Wasak); HACKETT (Paul & Justin Hackett, Geir Helgemo, Hugh McGann); USA (Sharon Osberg, Mark Feldman, Bobby Wolff, John Sutherlin); and SWEDEN (P.O. Sundelin, Johann Sylvan, Fredrik Nystrom, Peter Bertheau). CANADA, with two strong teams, HUNGARY, SOUTH AFRICA, and some local teams were not to be underestimated.

So it was hard to predict the top eight teams at the finish of the qualifying round, which was conducted as eight rounds of 20-board matches with IMPs converted to VPs on the WBF scale.

SWEDEN made a good start by winning all three matches by the maximum, and taking 75 VP on the first day, but thereafter POLAND played strongly and finished comfortably first with 176 VPs, 29 VPs ahead of the EUROPEAN ALLIANCE team (Philippe and Benedicte Cronier, Barbara Hackett, Katrin Farwig) who came second. ENGLAND tied 8th-9th with SOUTH AFRICA and barely made it to the KO Stages on IMP quotient. Local supporters were pleased as two local teams, TAJIMA (Mitsue Tajima, Tadashi Teramoto, Masayuki Ino, Tadashi Imakura, Ishmael Del'Monte) and HIRATA (Makoto Hirata, Nobuyuki Hayashi, Seiya Shimizu, Takehiko Nagahama, Kyoko Ohno, Akihiko Yamada) qualified for the quarterfinals. HACKETT, USA, and HUNGARY (Peter

Lakatos, Geza Homonnay, Gabor Winkler, Peter Gal) were the other qualifiers. After their fast start, SWEDEN were surprised and disappointed not to qualify.

The quarterfinal match (two segments of 20 boards) results were: POLAND 83-HIRATA 53, TAJIMA 140-EUROPEAN ALLIANCE 39, ENGLAND 126-HUNGARY 53, USA 86-HACKETT 82.

The semifinal results were POLAND 109-TAJIMA 68 and ENGLAND 95-USA 63. After 160 boards of qualifying and 40 boards each of the quarters and semifinals, it would be pre-tournament favourites POLAND and ENGLAND to fight for the US\$12,000 cash first prize over 64 boards (four segments of 16 boards).

Going into the last 16 boards, POLAND had accumulated a comfortable 40.5 IMP lead. This lead increased by five IMPs over the next five boards, but from Board 54 on, ENGLAND made a spectacular charge to bring about the most exciting finish in the history of the NEC Cup, edging the Poles by a half IMP, 111-110.5. (POLAND had 0.5 IMPs carryover from the qualifying rounds.) USA beat the local TAJIMA team for third place.

This writer was particularly impressed by John Armstrong's superb dummy play in the last several boards. You can read all the details of the event in our excellent bulletins (*They are superb.* – Ed.) edited by Eric Kokish and Richard Colker at:

<http://bridge.cplaza.ne.jp/necfest.html>

All IBPA members are welcome to cite these bulletins with due credit.

What follows is the story of that eventful final quarter...

England gained five IMPs on the first board when Lesniewski made a HCP double of a freely-bid, and cold, Armstrong game. Callaghan missed a chance to further close the gap on the next board.

Board 50. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Armstrong	Lesniewski	Callaghan	Martens
--	--	1 NT	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
3 NT	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Lambardi</i>
--	--	1 ♣	2 ♥
2 ♠	3 ♥	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Martens led a heart against Callaghan's four spades. Declarer won and led a diamond, and when the queen came up he took the ace, went to the spade jack and led a diamond through South, who released a heart. Now, when declarer conceded a diamond, a fourth round brought South's ten of trumps into play. Declarer lost the spade ten, another trump to North, and a slow club, in addition to the diamond, for one down.

Although the play varied in the Closed Room on the lead of the diamond jack, declarer could not find a way home after taking the first trick. No swing at East-West minus 50.

The winning line is not so easy to see. Declarer must duck South's queen of diamonds. Then he can play off the spade ace before reverting to diamonds and ruffing the fourth round safely with dummy's three. We believe that we've seen this textbook trump management position before, but total recall is no longer part of our arsenal. It's just not intuitive to see the solution at the table.

Poland scratched back those five IMPs over the next three boards, leaving them right where they started, up 40.5, with eleven boards to go.

Board 54. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Armstrong</i>	<i>Lesniewski</i>	<i>Callaghan</i>	<i>Martens</i>
--	--	1 ♣	3 ♠
Double	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Lambardi</i>
--	--	1 ♣	3 ♠
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

The fact that North-South can't beat three no trumps doesn't mean that East-West can find a reasonable

excuse to get there, and as four hearts can be beaten, Pszczola's decision to pass his partner's negative double would appear to be the winner. On a diamond lead, declarer started hearts but had to lose three of those and two clubs for minus 100.

Nevertheless, the fact that four hearts *can* be defeated doesn't mean that it *will* be. Anyone could lead the spade king against four hearts after partner's preempt, but real experts lead the diamond ace and continue with the suit preference eight to give their partner a ruff. Marcin Lesniewski, an expert's expert to the core, was pleased to see his partner ruff the second diamond. He was less pleased a moment later when he found himself on lead with the spade king. Now declarer's second spade went on the diamond king after trumps were drawn and Armstrong recorded a neat plus 620 on the "We" side of his scorecard. Eleven IMPs to England, down 79-108.5.

If you think this couldn't happen to you, ask yourself how you'd like to defend if North had king-and-one spade and only five diamonds.

Board 55 was a 'routine' four hearts, routinely defeated by a ruff at both tables for a push. Not so routinely, five clubs, with an eleven-card fit, was makeable on the lie of the cards for the defenders. Neither pair had bid the suit.

Board 56. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Armstrong</i>	<i>Lesniewski</i>	<i>Callaghan</i>	<i>Martens</i>
1 NT	Pass	2 ♥	Double
Pass	3 ♥	3 ♠	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Lambardi</i>
1 NT	Pass	2 ♥	Double
Pass	3 ♥	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Both Wests denied as many as three spades by passing when South doubled East's transfer response. When both Norths scraped together a 'raise' to three hearts and East competed to three spades, the South players

evaluated their hands rather differently, but at both tables the stakes were fairly high.

Against four hearts, Callaghan led the club nine to the king and Armstrong played king of spades, spade, forcing the closed hand. Lesniewski took ace-king of trumps, ruffed a spade and passed the club queen, discarding dummy's last spade. Armstrong won but had to lead a diamond from the king or a club to North's winners: plus 420 was an excellent result for Poland, but it wasn't excellent enough.

Against East's four spades doubled, Lambardi cashed two high hearts, Senior following upwards. South switched to ace and another diamond and Pszczola won the king to play ace-king of clubs, discarding a diamond. South ruffed, cashed partner's diamond, and waited for another trump trick. Three down, minus 500. Two IMPs to England, now trailing 81-108.5.

With eight deals remaining, the Polish lead had been reduced to 27.5 IMPs, and the momentum was clearly in England's favor. Fasten your seat belts, we're expecting turbulence ahead.

Board 57. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Armstrong</i>	<i>Lesniewski</i>	<i>Callaghan</i>	<i>Martens</i>
--	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Lambardi</i>
--	1 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Notice Lambardi's intelligent, but nevertheless swingy, 'state-of-the-match', raise to three no trumps. It was nothing wild, just a bid that rated not to be made at the other table. Nevertheless, on this day, the same contract was reached in the Open Room.

At both tables East found the effective lead of the spade ten, which held. Pszczola continued with the two of spades to the king, and Senior held up the ace until the third round. A heart to the jack held and a club to

the king permitted declarer to lead a heart to the ten and ace. West returned a club, but with hearts coming in and the ace of diamonds in West, the contract was cold: plus 400.

Callaghan, seeing a count card from Armstrong at trick one, decided to switch horses, since he thought it unlikely that two spade tricks would be enough to defeat the contract. He tried the five of diamonds, seven, ace, three, and Armstrong reverted to spades, leading the king. Lesniewski elected to take the trick, which proved to be his undoing. When West came in with the heart ace, he had a spade to lead to East. One down, minus 50, and 10 IMPs to England, 91-108.5.

Board 58 was a push. Not so Board 59. You might want to watch this on Vugraph...

Board 59. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Armstrong</i>	<i>Lesniewski</i>	<i>Callaghan</i>	<i>Martens</i>
--	--	--	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Lambardi</i>
--	--	--	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Lesniewski made the normal lead of the club eight against Armstrong's three no trumps. Again, note that Armstrong declined to show his fifth spade when given the opportunity – another intelligent, very mild, swingy action. The queen won and a second club went to dummy's ten. Declarer crossed to the spade queen and led a low heart to the jack and queen, Martens returning a spade. A heart to the ace felled the king and Armstrong cleared spades for a rather spectacular nine tricks: four spades, two hearts, two clubs and the diamond ace: plus 400.

I must remember to ask the inimitable Brian why he led a Marstonesque diamond and not a mortal's club (*Australia's Paul Marston extols the virtues of leading a four card suit against no trumps when holding a five card suit as well, based on the fact that there are more cards in the four card suit for partner to hold. – Ed.*) but I'm afraid he might tell me, and then where will I be? (*O.K., Kokes, it was strictly a 'state-of-the-match' lead, according to Brian. – Ed.*) The diamond king was permitted to hold and a second diamond went to the jack and queen, Senior clearing the suit at trick three. The club queen lost to the ace and Senior took the fourth defensive trick in diamonds before exiting with the nine of clubs. Declarer finessed successfully and played four rounds of spades, claiming the rest for one down, minus 50. That was 10 IMPs to England, within 7 IMPs now, at 101-108.5.

Board 60. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Armstrong	Lesniewski	Callaghan	Martens
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kwiecien	Senior	Pszczola	Lambardi
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
6 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Six diamonds is a reasonable slam because North may not lead a heart, and even if he does, there's a fair chance of avoiding a diamond loser. I'm a big John Armstrong fan but even as a tactical move his four no trumps seems like an odd choice, and in the end it told him nothing. Here hearts were unbid so Lesniewski led one: plus 400; another excellent result for England.

Things were looking positive for Poland, however, when the bidding in the Closed Room was displayed on the Vugraph screen. Lambardi had not doubled Pszczola's four heart cue bid so, Senior was likely to lead a spade. Right? Wrong! With his second-best heart so much better than his second-best spade, Brian's fingers settled

on the heart three. One down, minus 50, 10 IMPs to England, now ahead in the match by 3 IMPs, 111-108.5. Four boards remained.

The remaining four boards were flat, Poland winning single IMPs on two of them to close to 111-110.5, where it ended - in jubilation for England, and in gloom for Poland.

The next NEC Cup, as part of the 9th NEC Bridge Festival, is scheduled from February 9-15, 2004 at the same venue, in conjunction with the golden jubilee of the Japan Contract Bridge League. The Organizing Committee will subsidize some teams of high quality to the NEC Cup, and of course, anyone else who wishes to participate is most welcome. For more details, please contact the writer at Nakatani@jcbf.or.jp.

The Icelandair Open

By Stefan Gudjohnsen, Selfoss, Iceland

There was excitement in the air as the 23rd Icelandair Open got underway, and one of the reasons was that Zia was back. Since he is the most successful player in the tournament's history, and since he had not attended for a few years, everybody was glad he was back.

To be sure, there were other stars as well, for example, Zia's partner, the young Norwegian star, Boye Brogeland, and their teammates, Björn Fallenius and Roy Welland. The Swedish National team, Fredin, Lindquist, Nyström and Bertheau, was also invited. From England came, among others, the brilliant Hackett twins and Tony Forrester, not to mention some Danish stars including the Blakset brothers, and a superstar from Norway, Geir Helgemo. Finally, there were also our local heroes.

In the pairs, it was Fallenius and Welland all the way, but Zia was not far behind. Predictably, Zia managed to snatch victory from them in the last round. The pairs results were:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| 1. Zia Mahmood - Boye Brogeland | 6898 |
| 2. Björn Fallenius - Roy Welland | 6886 |
| 3. Erlingsson, H. - Sigurjonsson, J. | 6757 |
| 4. Fridriksson, H. - Gunnarsson, G. | 6741 |
| 5. Peter Fredin - Magnus Lindquist | 6613 |
| 6. Fredrik Bertheau - Peter Nyström | 6595 |

The third and fourth placed pairs are natives of Iceland.

The teams-of-four was won comfortably by an Icelandic team that included three former world champions playing under the Subaru banner. Armannson, Baldursson, Jonsson and Jörgensen took the lead in the first round and never gave it up. Denmark's Blakset team was second, with Icelandic teams in the next four places. Sweden's national team could manage no better than seventh place.

I caught up with Zia right after the pairs and congratulated him on his victory. He was very happy, and when asked for a deal from the pairs, said: "Here is a good

deal which my partner Brogeland played. His bidding sometimes is a little ambitious. However, he makes up for it with brilliant card play.”

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

With Zia and Brogeland North-South, and the President of the Icelandic Bridge Federation and his brother East-West, the bidding went as follows:

West	North	East	South
--	1 ♦	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Zia thought South’s two spade bid a little optimistic: an additional king would have been appropriate. I bet Brogeland was a little disappointed when he saw the dummy, but the lead of the ace of hearts injected life into an otherwise unmakeable slam.

West shifted to the five of clubs, and Brogeland decided against running it to his queen. He won the ace and got prepared to pressure both opponents. Declarer played the ace and queen of trumps, cashed the heart queen, travelled to dummy with the trump king, then took the king of hearts, pitching a club. He then came back to his hand via the ace of diamonds and played out the trumps.

When Brogeland played the last trump, West had to let go a diamond to keep his heart guard, and North subsequently released the five of hearts. Now East had a similar diamond problem, since he had to keep his king of clubs. The diamond six was then the twelfth trick. This card play netted 129 points out of a possible 130, and first place to boot.

The Bridge Pro Tour Report

By Matthew Granovetter, Jerusalem

The Bridge Pro Tour prize-money individuals continue this spring and summer with tournaments in San Diego (April 16), Miami (April 23), Cleveland (May 22), Las Vegas (June 26), and Los Angeles (July 22), at site of the ACBL’s Summer NABC. There is a \$20,000 bonus pool this year for the top finishers overall in the twelve events. Bonus pool awards are based on earnings.

The first event of the 2003 calendar year was in New

York City, and was won by Adam Wildavsky, who leads the bonus pool race with \$4,000. Chris Compton is second with \$2,000, and Robert Heitzman Jr. third with \$1,025.

For more information about the tour, or to buy an entry, readers can go to the website www.bridgeprotour.com or phone Nancy King at 530-274-0923 or Daniel Bolger at 917-256-0103.

Here are some nice column hands from the 2002 event in Las Vegas last spring. Remember, these events are scored by matchpoints and everyone changes partners after every hand.

Logical Shift Backfires

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South <i>Bowman</i>
--	--	2 ♠	Double
Pass	2 NT	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: ♠ 3

This deal came up in a qualifying session in Las Vegas. As you can see, some of the players are very aggressive with their preempts. East’s two spades would not be everyone’s choice. Jim Bowman, of Orlando, Florida, was South.

West led his singleton spade and Bowman called for the five. East, one of the top players in the field, won the trick with the ace as Bowman followed with the seven. At trick two, East switched to the ten of diamonds. This could easily have been right, but not this time. Bowman covered with the jack. West won the queen and returned the king. Bowman won, finessed in clubs and discarded the three of diamonds on the ace of clubs. Then a trump was led to the king and ace. Bowman lost only three tricks to score up his game.

Idea: Perhaps West should double four hearts to alert his partner that the lead is a singleton and that he wants a spade ruff. Or perhaps West should lead from his king-queen instead of partner’s bid suit. But this really goes against the grain with that singleton spade. Look at this next hand from the same event.

Against the Grain

Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1 ♥	2 ♣
Double	5 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			
Opening lead: ♠ K			

This time West led from his king-queen. Whoops. East, Bridge Pro Tour event winner Mark Itabashi, was waiting for that heart lead and had a few unkind words for his partner afterwards.

Meanwhile, Joel Wooldridge, of Williamsville, NY, played the hand nicely for a crucial overtrick. He ruffed in dummy, ruffed a diamond, and led the jack of spades for a ruffing finesse; it held. He ruffed the ten of spades, ruffed a second diamond, led a club to dummy and ruffed a third diamond. Another trump to dummy pulled the last trump, and on the ace and jack of diamonds two heart losers were thrown. Wooldridge still had in his hand: the ace of spades, jack of hearts and king of clubs. Making six.

Kitchen Player Takes the Money (Again)

Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South <i>Flickinger</i>
--	--	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
Opening lead: ♦ 4			

Meanwhile, it was 77-year-old Chandler Flickinger, of Portola Valley, California who took first prize in last year's Bonus Pool by winning two of the individuals, first in Las Vegas and then in Reno in December. Flickinger,

a confirmed bachelor, claims to be a "kitchen bridge player" who's played the game socially for many years but took up tournament bridge only a few years ago after retiring from his law practice.

Our hero was South on this deal from the final round in Vegas. When David Ashley (who placed second in Vegas) played the board, he was in three spades, his eight-card fit, making nine tricks for an exact average. Flickinger, however, reached three no trump, the kitchen contract! West led a diamond. Flickinger played low from dummy and won the jack with the king. Then he took the club finesse. When this worked he drove out the ace of diamonds for nine top tricks: two hearts, two diamonds and five clubs.

A heart lead may have defeated the contract, since declarer must make two diamond tricks by himself and the jack is sitting over the ten. Declarer wins the heart lead and finesses in clubs, then leads a diamond to the king and ace. Another heart is led. Now declarer might play for his contract by finessing in diamonds or, this being matchpoints, declarer might decide to take his eight tricks and call it a day. He then ends up making nine!

Making three no trump was a cold top.

Matthew Granovetter can be reached at his website www.bridgetoday.com

A Tollemache Deal

By David Bird, Eastleigh, England

The 2003 Tollemache Cup final (English inter-county teams-of-eight) was easily won by a very strong London team of David Burn, Brian Callaghan, David Gold, Artur Malinowski, David Price, Nick Sandqvist, Colin Simpson, and Tom Townsend. Bob Rowlands, for Surrey, defended accurately on this deal played against Hampshire. There was a very difficult counter available, but declarer did not find it.

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 NT
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Rowlands, sitting West, led a club at our table. Declarer

won in the South hand and started well with a spade to the nine, which won. He returned to his hand with another club and again led a low spade towards dummy. How would you have defended, as West?

Rowlands won with the queen of trumps and cashed the trump ace. He then played the king of hearts, a Merimac Coup to kill the entry to dummy's club winners. Since West can ruff the next club, and there is no further entry to dummy, it seems that declarer must lose two trumps and two hearts. However, suppose he reads the club position, abandons dummy's club winners, and takes a successful diamond finesse. He then draws West's last trump to leave this end position:

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

The last trump puts pressure on West. If he throws a diamond, declarer can cash the ace of diamonds and lead a low heart. West has to win to prevent dummy gaining entry with the heart eight. He must then surrender the last two tricks to South's Q-9 tenace in hearts. If instead West throws a heart on the last trump, declarer can simply set up an extra winner in hearts.

Great Play, Pity about the Bidding

By Ron Klinger, Sydney, Australia
(from the Sydney Morning Herald)

Via an auction of which you are not proud, you have landed in five clubs by South. West overcalled in diamonds but there was no other East-West bidding.

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

The lead is the diamond queen. How are you going to play this?

The deal arose in the National Swiss Pairs in Canberra in January. Declarer, Bruce Neill, won the diamond ace and played the club ten: jack, two, king. Back came the diamond jack, ruffed, and a low club fetched the ace from West. What do you know?

West began with ace-king tight and East with jack-nine-

five-three in clubs. East still has the club nine-five left, so you need to engineer a trump coup. West now exits with a spade. How do you continue?

You need to reduce your trumps and deal with the hearts as well. Thus, you take the spade ace and cash two more spades, West turning up with a singleton. On the third spade, you discard a heart. What next?

This was the full deal:

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

The bidding had been:

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1 ♥ ¹
2♦	Double ²	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	3 ♠ ³	Pass	5 ♣ ⁴
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Canapé style
2. 2♠ would not have been forcing
3. Forcing, and suggests support/tolerance for one of South's suits
4. Thinking the support would be for clubs

The appearance of dummy negated the theory about the club support. This was the position after seven tricks:

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

Neill continued with the fourth spade and discarded another heart, East ditching a heart as well. The next spade was ruffed, bring South's trumps down to the same number as East's. East discarded another heart. Next came the heart jack to dummy's ace and spades were continued. After trick eleven, East had the club nine-five and South the queen-eight. The last spade completed the trump coup.

The Professor

By Tony Friday, London

Professor Ross Harper is a great supporter of bridge and a keen protagonist. A Scottish professor of law, he is the current Chairman of the Scottish Coal Company, and a former President of both the International Bar Association and the Scottish Conservative Party. Although an ardent Scot, he has recently been playing Captain of two English teams in the World Senior Bridge Championships.

As an additional enterprise, Ross has recently purchased a sizable chunk of South Africa, where his wife and daughter organised the Makanyane Safari Lodge in the Madikwe Game Reserve. The Reserve is in the North West Province, on the Marico River, less than an hour by air from Johannesburg. Bridge players are guaranteed a warm welcome at the Lodge and a splendid holiday. Full details are on the Lodge's website at www.makanyane.com.

Ross is no slouch at the bridge table either. He sat South on the following deal from the English Bridge Union Congress in Madeira.

Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Double	2 ♥
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

In response to his partner's double, West led the eight of clubs. Declarer played low, and East, who could not afford to duck, won the king and returned a club, removing dummy's only sure late entry. Declarer cashed the ace and king of diamonds, on which East discarded the spade two and the heart three.

Declarer now led a spade to dummy's jack, placing West with the ace when it held. Realising, therefore, that he needed to remove West's exit cards, he ducked a heart to West's queen.

West returned his remaining club and Harper, sure of the distribution now, won the club queen, cashed the heart ace, and led the spade queen. West ducked, but was forced to win the next spade and lead a diamond

to dummy. Harper scored the diamond queen and the spade king for his game-going tricks. A neat stepping stone by a canny Scot.

Norwegian Brothers

By Knut Kjærnsrød, Tored, Norway

England may have their Hacketts, but in Vestfold we have the Kopstads, Ole and Kjell. They are not twins, and they are not internationals, but they still perform very nicely at the bridge table. We begin by watching the younger one, Ole Kopstad, at the helm in four hearts from an early round of the Norwegian Teams Championships:

North Dealer. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
--	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
3 ♦	3 ♥	pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East led the diamond three to West's ace, and he shifted to the queen of spades. It is very easy to cover automatically, but then can you see what happens. The ten of spades will force out the knave, ruffed, and the nine will in due course defeat the contract. Ole, however, took his time to consider the prospects and eventually played a small spade. When the trump king was well placed, Ole emerged with ten tricks.

We move to Kjell Otto Kopstad and a fragile four hearts contract from a regional championship in Vestfold:

Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	2 ♥
2 ♠	2 NT	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led a trump to dummy's ace, and a spade was captured by East's ten. Another trump was won by the knave, a diamond was led to the queen, then a club to the eight and ace. West escaped with a club to the queen, trumped. Kjell Otto trumped a spade with the king, and played a club, covered by the king and trumped with South's penultimate heart. After a diamond to the ace this was the position:

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

Kjell Otto threw the diamond knave and a spade on the clubs and finally made his trump ten en passant for his tenth trick.

The Monster

By Ib Lundby, Fredensborg, Denmark

This deal is a monster hand from a club tournament in one of our stronger clubs, Studenterforeningens Bridge Club.

Dealer East. Both Vul

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Thomas Berg</i>	<i>Georg Norris</i>	<i>Peter Lund</i>	<i>Flemming Dahl</i>
--	--	Pass	Pass!
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The club ace was led and ruffed, followed by the heart ace and a high heart to East. Lund led the spade queen, ruffed, and Dahl followed with another trump to East. The spade jack was ruffed, and South now had only one trump left, so diamonds had to be treated right. How?

Well, I would have followed the obvious line: diamond to the ace, whereupon the boom would fall! Flemming

did better. East had shown up with the spade queen-jack, the heart king-queen, and, from the lead of the club ace, likely the club queen as well. There was no room for the diamond king, because of his original pass in first seat!

So Dahl played the diamond queen - and hit the bullseye.

IBPA Column Service I

By Barry Rigal, New York City

226. John Solodar (on the winning Bermuda Bowl team in 1981) was the hero on this deal from the Round of 32 in a 1999 Vancouver Vanderbilt match.

Plan the play in four spades, a spot you have reached on an unopposed auction. The opening lead is the queen of diamonds. Before you start the play, remember that a little learning is a dangerous thing!

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

The first thing your mind may turn to is the idea of an endplay in the club and/or the diamond suit. The declarer (a many-times World Champion) in the other room took the ace of diamonds and tackled trumps early and found he had a loser. When declarer next led a heart from dummy, East got in with a heart and played a diamond through South's ten, and his fate was sealed.

However, this is actually an incredibly straightforward hand - if you see the point. John took the ace of diamonds, cashed the ace of spades, played a club to the ace, played another club to the king and led a third club. East won the trick and played a top heart, then shifted to diamonds. But John simply won, cashed the king of spades, and played a winning club to discard his diamond loser. Ten tricks made. If you did not have so many intermediates to confuse you, this hand would be so much easier!

227. It has always been a firmly established idea that four-fours are desirable trump fits; sometimes though, you have to go to some lengths to find the best suit to select as trumps.

For an example, watch Brad Moss in action as South on this deal from the second round of the 1999 San Antonio Spingold Knockout Teams. Moss, of New York City, was playing with Fred Gitelman of Toronto. (Now Las Vegas. - Ed.)

Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ A 10 9 2
♥ A 10 6 4 3
♦ Q J 6
♣ 5

♠ 7
♥ 8 7 2
♦ K 5

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

♠ 6 5 4 3
♥ 5
♦ 10 9 8 4 3 2
♣ J 4

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	Double	Pass	2 ♣
3 ♣	3 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

At his second turn Moss knew that his partner was a favourite to hold five hearts, and with a minimum and three-five in the majors, Gitelman would have overcalled one heart rather than doubling. Gitelman's likely shape, therefore, was 4-5-3-1, and so it proved. Of course, six hearts has no play, while six spades looks to be easy - but that is not quite the end of the story.

The slam in spades can actually be defeated, but only if West finds the remarkable lead of a heart. The point is that declarer must ruff clubs in order to have a chance to make his slam, and when West comes in with a club after a heart lead, he can give his partner a ruff. In the actual play in six spades, on the lead of a high club, declarer could manoeuvre to ruff two clubs in dummy. He thus got home with twelve tricks: five hearts, one diamond, four spade tricks by South and two club ruffs in the North hand.

228. It was easy enough for North-South to bid to a slam on this deal from the 1999 Spring NABC in Vancouver - particularly if East had doubled a heart cuebid, making South's hand even more valuable. However, making the slam was a tougher matter; it required some accurate card reading, together with a knowledge of technique.

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

♠ A J 10 7 4
♥ A 9 5
♦ 4 2
♣ Q 6 4

♠ 3
♥ Q 8 7 6 2
♦ K 8 3
♣ J 10 7 2

♠ 5
♥ K J 10 3
♦ J 9 7 6
♣ K 9 8 3

♠ K Q 9 8 6 2
♥ 4
♦ A Q 10 5
♣ A 5

West	North	East	South
--	--	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 ♥ ¹
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Shortage

The North hand is difficult to value over an opening bid of one spade. Most experts these days have a way to show a game-forcing hand in support of spades - and that should be enough to excite South enough to drive to the six-level. On a heart lead, South does best to win dummy's ace and take a diamond finesse of the queen at once. If the king of diamonds is onside, he has twelve tricks at once by ruffing dummy's heart losers in hand.

However, when the diamond finesse loses, declarer seems to have run out of chances - not so. Put yourself in South's position and see if you can spot your slim residual chance.

The answer is that you must play East for the king of clubs and four diamonds to the jack. Ruff the likely heart return, (a diamond does not disrupt the timing although it leads to a slightly different ending) and cross to dummy with a trump to ruff another heart.

Now comes the key for producing certainty in the ending: cash the ace of clubs (the Vienna Coup), and run all your trumps, reducing everyone to three cards. Dummy's three cards include the queen of clubs and a diamond, and on the last trump, East has to reduce to only two diamonds since he cannot discard his king of clubs. Now you can bring in the diamond suit for the last three tricks via the finesse of the ten. You cash the ace, and your last diamond wins trick thirteen.

IBPA Column Service II

Tim Bourke, Canberra

Tim has consented to join Barry in providing the IBPA Column Service. Besides writing his own books, Tim is prolific enough to collaborate with other writers such as David Bird and David Silver. Here he presents one-idea deals suitable for columns. As always, IBPA Column Service material may be used by members without attribution. - Ed.

229. There are a couple of ways to make the following four heart contract.

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

♠ 8 6 2
♥ K Q 10 7
♦ A 8 7
♣ K 4 2

♠ J 4 3
♥ J 8 4
♦ Q 5 4
♣ Q J 10 3

♠ Q 10 9 5
♥ 3
♦ 10 9 6 2
♣ A 9 8 6

♠ A K 7
♥ A 9 6 5 2
♦ K J 3
♣ 7 5

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1 ♠
Pass	3 NT	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Three no trump promised a strong heart raise.

Solid technique sees declarer home. West leads the club queen, and follows with the ten and jack after receiving encouragement from East. Declarer's first good move is to withhold the king, since East could have doubleton ace. The king would then provide a parking place for the losing spade.

As it happens, declarer must ruff the third club and leads a trump to dummy's king, guarding against four to the jack in either hand. He continues to draw trump – East must keep at least three cards in each of the pointed suits. Declarer sees that he can play three rounds of spades now – if West wins, success is assured. If East wins the spade, declarer is still alright if the diamond queen is onside, or, his last chance, East holds both the ten and nine of diamonds. This chance comes off.

Double dummy, the hand can also be made by running trumps. East is squeezed without the count out of the 'idle' club, then thrown in with the spade to lead a diamond. West cannot both win the third spade and keep a club to cash. If either opponent comes down to two diamonds, a judicious guess sees declarer home.

230. This deal has a simple lesson. That lesson is counting.

West Dealer. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Double	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

One heart promised five; West led three rounds of the suit, marking them five-three. The spade ace, king, queen followed, revealing that East had three of them as well. Finally, declarer completed his good work by cashing three rounds of clubs. When West showed out on the second round, East was known to be three-three-one-six.

Declarer thus knew that ace and another diamond, duck-

ing, could not be the winning play. He led the diamond four instead, ducking when the ten appeared. If West left East on lead, a ruff-sluff would allow declarer to discard the other diamond loser, while if he overtook, he would endplay himself. Had East's singleton been the five, declarer would simply have covered with the seven or eight.

231. Declarer was able to overcome a bad trump break here by remaining alert and not giving up.

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1 NT
Pass	2 ♥	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The opening lead of the heart three was ruffed with the spade seven. Declarer played the spade queen, blanching when East showed out. However, he continued with a spade to the ten and the ace, king, queen of diamonds. West ruffed and played a heart.

On this heart and the next, declarer discarded a diamond and a club, declining to ruff, and exhausting West of hearts. This left:

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

East played another heart. When declarer ruffed with the spade four, West could do no better than discard a club. Dummy discarded the club five. Now the diamond three gave West no winning option.

232. North-South did well in the bidding to avoid the doomed three no trumps. South still had to play well to make four spades.

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
--	--	1 ♣	1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

North-South avoided the doomed three no trump, but South still had to play well to make four spades.

The club jack was led to the ace. Declarer cashed the club king in case East had a singleton ace of spades. The spade queen was now led to the ace and East got out with his last spade, won in dummy.

Declarer now ducked a heart into West, who exited with another heart, won by the ace. With a pretty good reading on the layout, declarer was able to cross to dummy with a spade to the king and lead a diamond to the queen. He cashed the penultimate spade, leaving:

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

On the spade five, West and dummy both threw diamonds. East had to throw the diamond nine to keep a heart guard. Declarer seems to have a guess as to whether East's heart queen or diamond ace is bare. However, as he determined that East would open one diamond with two-three-four-four shape, he was able to play a diamond to endplay East.

IBPA WEBSITE NOTICE

To access a Bulletin on the IBPA website, enter the website address www.IBPA.com followed by a forward slash, then the Bulletin code, immediately followed by .pdf - the April Bulletin will have code 459pk so you will need to type:

www.IBPA.com/459pk.pdf

Phoenix, Then and Now

By Henry Francis & Jody Latham, Memphis, TN

The Later Method

Take a thoroughly established partnership, add a partnership that had never played together before and what do you get? The 1995 Vanderbilt Knockout Teams champions. Longtime partners Bill Root and Richard Pavlicek played with Michael Polowan and Marc Jacobus, a first-time partnership. They defeated another four-man squad, Ron Gerard-Michael Kamil and George Steiner-Joey Silver, 108-80. This was a key deal:

Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Root</i>	<i>Steiner</i>	<i>Pavlicek</i>	<i>Silver</i>
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	4 ♦
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
4 ♠	Double	All Pass	

Pavlicek was quite certain he could take three tricks against four hearts, but there was no guarantee of a fourth trick, so he didn't double. Root liked his hand in light of the bidding and made the two-way bid of four spades - maybe it would make and maybe it wouldn't, but even if it didn't, it might be a good save.

The opening lead was a diamond to the king and Silver shifted to a trump, but it was too late. Steiner won his ace and led a second spade, preventing any diamond ruffs. Root, however, was able to draw the last trump and discard two diamonds on the clubs. He lost only two diamonds and the spade ace to rack up plus 590.

If Steiner ducks the first spade, declarer must ruff a diamond to break the defenders' transportation. However, if he leads a low spade, the defence will prevail.

At the other table:

West	North	East	South
<i>Gerard</i>	<i>Polowan</i>	<i>Kamil</i>	<i>Jacobus</i>
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Jacobus decided to go quietly - he passed with the South cards. Gerard made eleven tricks but that still represented a 9-IMP gain for the Root team.

The Case of the Disappearing Trump Trick

A quick glance at this layout makes it clear that you're going to make your game, but whether you'll get an overtrick is questionable because the king of hearts lead stands out. But declarer wound up with TWO overtricks on this deal from a pairs event at the 2002 Phoenix NABC.

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

As expected, the opening lead was the king of hearts, and declarer took his ace. He considered going after trumps, but changed his mind and decided to try to get rid of his remaining heart on dummy's diamonds. He cashed the king, crossed to the ace and led the queen. East ruffed. Declarer overruffed and returned to dummy with a club to lead the diamond jack. This time East pitched a heart, so declarer got rid of his losing heart.

Why did East not ruff again? Two possibilities occurred to declarer - East didn't have any more trumps, or the only one he had left was the ace. Declarer called for a low spade, and sure enough, East had to play the ace. Declarer ruffed the heart return and pushed the spade jack through West, picking up the suit. Then dummy's last diamond let him sluff his last club and he had twelve tricks and all the matchpoints.

Could the defense have done anything? Yes! What if East just discards on the third diamond instead of ruffing in? Now declarer has to play the trumps completely on his own, and he must lose two tricks in the suit on the actual layout. Or East could ruff with the ace of spades and West would still have a natural trump trick.

Generation Gap

Henry Bethe reports: "A couple of nice happenings spiced up the second final session of the 2002 Life Master Pairs in Phoenix for me. First, there were three father-son pairs in a row: the Lalls, the Bethes and the Samuels. And second, I got to watch a well-played hand."

Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
6 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Lead: ♥ 7

As usual, my son Paul (East) and I weren't quite on the same page for this auction. Paul thought his fourth suit three spade bid followed by five clubs was agreeing clubs. I wasn't really thinking!

Anyway, we were lucky to reach six diamonds rather than six clubs - lucky because we chose the trump suit that broke three-two. It looked like an easy hand - ruff two spades, draw trumps and claim. So Paul won the heart ace, cashed the spade ace, ruffed a spade, cashed the diamond ace, ruffed a heart, ruffed the spade queen, led a club to the ace, and cashed the diamond king. This left:

<p>♠ -- ♥ Q 8 ♦ -- ♣ K Q 8</p>	<p>♠ -- ♥ -- ♦ 8 5 ♣ 7 3 2</p> <p>♠ J 5 ♥ K J 5 ♦ -- ♣ --</p>
--	---

Paul now led a club, prepared to claim if both followed or South ruffed. But South pitched a spade. So Paul won in dummy and led a heart. If North ruffed or pitched a club, Paul could claim. North pitched a spade and Paul ruffed.

Paul led another club. Again, if South ruffed, the rest would be Paul's. South pitched again. North won the king, and Paul led the heart queen. If North had the last trump, he could ruff while Paul pitched, or pitch while Paul ruffed. When North pitched, Paul ruffed. Then, if South had the last trump, he also had the heart king and would have to follow. Plus 920 was worth 85 matchpoints on a 90 top.



Correspondence ...

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

The always-busy Alan Truscott is writing a book about seniors and retirement. He welcomes input.

Dear John,

Many thanks. Very helpful. I have read (*Canadian writer Robertson*) Davies' *Cornish Trilogy*, which I thought was superb.

The Bulletin continues to be excellent. Keep it up. You mention the copyright problem. Anything I contribute can be rewritten as the journalist wishes. They just cannot copy it verbatim.
Alan

After being away for a few issues, the gremlins were back in February.

Dear Editor,

Thank you for including a hand that I played in one of your recent bulletins. The article reported that Sylvia Summers emigrated to the United States from Russia when she was twelve.

That is not correct. (*It was Asya Kamsky who emigrated from Russia. – Ed.*)

I was born in Washington D.C. and raised in Hyattsville, Maryland. My father, Charles Russel Summers was a Cryptanalyst for the Army during W.W.II and later continued in a similar post with the National Security Agency. C Russel received a Legion of Merit for his work during the War. He was one of the best bridge players at the Officer's Club in Washington DC and he taught me how to play bridge when I was five. If you have room please correct the information on me. Thank you.

Sylvia Summers

Panos Gerontopoulos replies to a query I had made about the WBF's position on the World Championship Daily Bulletins.

Dear John,

As a public service organization, the WBF provides material copyright-free, provided that credit is given to the source. Possible sources are: WBF News, the WBF website, WBF Daily Bulletins, etc. Whenever a piece is signed, then the name of the author, as well as the WBF source should be mentioned.

Exceptions to the above rule are possible whenever the WBF deems necessary to deviate from the general rule. However, such exceptions will be clearly and appropriately marked.

I trust that all is well with you, and wish you good luck with your new job.

Panos Gerontopoulos, IBPA Liaison

To the Editor:

Malcolm Ewashkiw's letter about language and style (Bulletin 457) raises important questions. May I direct attention to two in particular?

- (1) As Ewashkiw makes clear, British English and American English very significantly, even if the difference is not as great as that between, say, French and Swedish. But this is not an area in which writers and editors have control over choices. In matters such as handling collective nouns, spelling and diction, a British publication must use British English and an American publication must use American English. Readers who more often use the other English must make adjustments, similar to (though not nearly as great) as those required for English speakers to read *Le Bridgeur* or *Bridge Tidningen*.
- (2) Consistency of style is desirable; but consistency of meaning is much more important, and the IPBA would do well first to focus its linguistic energies in that direction. For example, although we can't do anything about the mild discomfort a reader may suffer from seeing the unfamiliar version of defence/defense, members should be aware of the British/American ambiguity over the use of colors to describe vulnerability conditions: "Red" and "white" may not mean what they do in your home country (therefore perhaps should not be used as a full description). Related matters that deserve high priority include narrowing or clarifying the definitions of technical terms and providing partial replacements for those that would otherwise admit conflicting meanings. Ideally, in the area of legal terminology the IBPA would coordinate its efforts with those of the World Bridge Federation's Laws Commission. Much of the damaging confusion and embarrassing ambiguity in the Laws stems from the lack of satisfactory definitions.

Regards,

Jeff Rubens

WORLD BRIDGE CALENDAR

Dates	Event	Location	Information
2003			
Mar 6-16	ACBL Spring NABC	Philadelphia, PA	www.acbl.org
Mar 17-23	Mexican Nationals	Ixtapan de la Sal, Mexico	www.d16acbl.org/d16sch.html
Mar 21-29	XXXIII International Crans-Montana Bridge Week	Sion, Switzerland	simonderivaz@bluewin.ch
Mar 23-29	XVI Festival Isla de Tenerife	Canary Islands, Spain	Ivan Acevedo 34-922-380 550
Apr 9-14	11 th International Bridge Tournament	Damascus, Syria	syria.bf@mail.sy
Apr 11-12	4 th Seafood Bridge Festival	Figueira da Foz, Portugal	Sonia.almeida@casinofigueira.pt
Apr 15-20	108 th Canadian Nationals	Toronto, Canada	bridgemw@rogers.com
Apr 16-18	Bridge Pro Tour San Diego Open	San Diego, CA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Apr 17-21	XXXIII International Easter Tournament	Vihtavuori, Finland	Tero Koivu bridge@cojyu.fi
Apr 19-27	ABA Spring Nationals	Minneapolis, MN	ABA (Atlanta) 1-404-768-5517
Apr 22-27	18 th Portuguese Grand Prix	Estoril, Portugal	www.fpbridge.pt
Apr 23-26	Bridge Pro Tour Miami Open	Miami, FL	www.bridgeprotour.com
Apr 26-27	2003 Junior Collegiate Team Championship	Internet	www.okbridge.com
Apr 30-May 4	International Berlin Championship	Berlin, Germany	BerlinBridgeLV@aol.com
May 2-9	SPBF Championships (WBF Zone 7)	Tahiti, French Polynesia	Fax. 68-982 9690
May 7-11	Cavendish Teams and Pairs	Las Vegas, NV	Bill Rosenbaum 1-212-725-2135
May 9-11	2003 Nordic Cup	Rottneros, Sweden	www.bridgefederation.se
May 17-25	XVI Internacional de Bridge Tournament Costa Calida	Menor, Murcia, Spain	bridgecc@hotmail.com
May 21-29	USBF Women's Team Trials	Orlando, FL	www.usbf.org
May 22-25	Bridge Pro Tour Cleveland Open	Cleveland, OH	www.bridgeprotour.com
May 24-31	CACBF Championships (WBF Zone 5)	Fort de France, Martinique	dabreteauj@wanadoo.fr
May 29-30	Bonn Nations Cup	Bonn, Germany	www.bridge-club-bonn.de
Jun 1-9	USBF Open Team Trials	Memphis, TN	www.usbf.org
Jun 3-7	CBF Bridge Week	Penticton, BC	www.cbf.ca
Jun 5-15	PABF Championships (WBF Zone 6)	Makati, Philippines	altan@info.com.ph
Jun 6-7	WBF Worldwide Pairs	Clubs everywhere	anna@ecats.co.uk
Jun 11-22	50 th South African National Congress	Johannesburg, South Africa	http://get.to/sabf
Jun 11-22	2 nd African Bridge Federation Zonal Congress	Johannesburg, South Africa	http://get.to/sabf
Jun 13-15	21 st Carta Mundi Bridge Festival	Ostend, Belgium	chris_leysen@cartamundi.com
Jun 14-28	European Open Championships	Menton, Côte d'Azur, France	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 26-28	Bridge Pro Tour Las Vegas Open III	Las Vegas, NV	www.bridgeprotour.com
Jul 1-13	Biarritz International Bridge Festival	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Jul 4-6	World Junior Pairs Championship	Tata, Hungary	www.worldbridge.org
Jul 7-14	World Junior Camp	Tata, Hungary	www.worldbridge.org
Jul 9-12	Bridge Pro Tour Chicago Open	Chicago, IL	www.bridgeprotour.com
Jul 14-27	Deauville Bridge Festival	Deauville, France	Nadine Ansay 33 1 4603 5120
Jul 17-27	ACBL Summer NABC	Long Beach, CA	www.acbl.org
Jul 22-25	Bridge Pro Tour Los Angeles Open II	Long Beach, CA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Jul 24-Aug 3	ABA Summer Nationals	Puerto Rico	ABA (Atlanta) 1 404 768 5517
Jul 26-30	European University Championships	Wroclaw, Poland	ebf@federbridge.it
Jul 26-Aug 3	9 th Bridge Festival	Skövde, Sweden	www.bridgefederation.se
Jul 26-31	Chairman's Cup	Skövde, Sweden	www.bridgefederation.se
Aug 6-8	Bridge Pro Tour Secaucus Open	Secaucus, NJ	www.bridgeprotour.com
Aug 8-17	English Summer Nationals	Brighton, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 22-24	Festival de la Côte Basque	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Aug 25-Sep 6	18 th International Bridge Festival	Mamaia, Romania	www.frbridge.ro
Aug 29-31	Bridge Pro Tour Santa Clara Open III	Santa Clara, CA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Oct 1-5	VII Azores International Tournament	São Miguel, Azores, Portugal	acotravel@mail.telepac.pt
Oct 22-26	10 th International Bridge Festival	Figueira da Foz, Portugal	sonia.almeida@casinofigueira.pt
Nov 2-15	World Championships	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 10-16	6 th International Bridge Open	Madeira, Portugal	www.bridge-madeira.com
Nov 16-22	III International Bridge Festival	La Habana-Varadero, Cuba	www.cacbf.com
Nov 16-23	9 th Red Sea Festival	Eilat, Israel	birmand@inter.net.il
Nov 20-23	International Bridge Festival	Brasov, Romania	bridgeclubbrasov@hotmail.com
Nov 20-30	ACBL Fall NABC	New Orleans, LA	www.acbl.org
Nov 24-28	EBL Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs	anna@ecats.co.uk
Dec 9-12	Bridge Pro Tour Palm Springs Open	Palm Springs, CA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Dec 26-27	Bridge Pro Tour New York Open	New York, NY	www.bridgeprotour.com
Dec 27-29	Bridge Pro Tour Reno Open	Reno, NV	www.bridgeprotour.com
2004			
Feb 9-15	9 th NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Mar 18-28	ACBL Spring NABC	Reno, NV	www.acbl.org
Jun 19-Jul 3	47 th European Bridge Team Championships	Malmö, Sweden	www.bridgefestival.net
Jun 20-24	Chairman's Cup	Malmö, Sweden	www.bridgefestival.net
Jun 20-Jul 2	10 th Bridge Festival	Malmö, Sweden	www.bridgefestival.net
Jul 8-18	ACBL Summer NABC	New York, NY	www.acbl.org
Oct 25-Nov 6	12 th World Team Olympiad	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 18-28	ACBL Fall NABC	Orlando, FL	www.acbl.org