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THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

Editor: JOHN CARRUTHERS

This Bulletin is published monthly and circulated to around 400 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

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Editorial

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

Eagle-eyed readers will have noticed the changes in our masthead over the past few months. Our Executive has changed and Anna Gudge has had to resign from her IBPA job since her WBF work had increased in scope. Anna's duties had been taken up by Christer Andersson, Per Jannersten and myself in the interim, while the search was being conducted for a suitable replacement for Anna as Production Manager for the Bulletin. We have found one. She is Jean Tyson, who is, coincidentally, the daughter of Maureen Dennison. Jean worked in the print industry for several years and runs the Official Fan Club for tennis player Tim Henman. Jean is a non-bridge player who says, "maybe best not to talk about age, as it might make people realise Mum must be older than she looks!" We are in good hands.

Reaction has been strong to the issue of Youth Bridge raised in Brian Senior's guest editorial and the responses by José Damiani and Radek Kielbasinski. Some have taken the opportunity to speak to me off the record or informally. The consensus disagrees with Senior and me (and agrees with Kielbasinski) regarding the topic of a World Junior Individual. They believe that it is a poor event, that it is a misapplication of funds, that youth bridge should be age-delimited (for example, Under-19 and Under-25, as in other sports). They believe that 'fun' events should be left to others and the WBF should organise only 'serious' events.

This view strikes me as self-defeating. Bridge is already at a serious disadvantage when it comes to attracting young players. We all understand that there are long-term benefits to bridge, but selling that to young people is very difficult when it takes them two minutes to learn Sim City or Grand Theft Auto. So, the idea of selling bridge as fun is a positive one. Nevertheless, if it's true, as Kielbasinski stated, that this approach has failed, then it is time to reassess that direction.

Here's an idea for the WBF to sell bridge to young people: hire two attractive young bridge players to be Ambassadors of Bridge. Have them visit schools and other places where young people congregate (how about aligning with Boy Scout and Girl Guide Conventions, for example?). Perhaps produce a bridge video with four young players (let's say Boye Brogeland, Tara Gokhavi, Fredrik Nyström and Jenny Ryman) and make it available to schools and NBOs. Active promotion is what's required.

After offending many Americans by having the gall to suggest that their having two teams in events such as the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup was an idea past its time, I'm finally getting around to my promised followup on Canada and Mexico (Zone 2), and Australia and New Zealand (Zone 7). With all due respect to the other countries in their zones (although Bermuda has since departed Zone 2 for greener pastures in Zone 5, Central America and the Caribbean), it does seem a bit unfair that two or three of these appear in every Zonal World Championship, while bridge-playing nations with skills at least as good as theirs, such as Holland, Sweden, Iceland and France sometimes have to stay at home.

(Editorial continued on p.15)

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THE 47TH EUROPEANS

By Tommy Gullberg, Stockholm

(This article may be used freely by all journalists and members of the press.)

This year, the 47th European Teams Championship will be played in Malmö, Sweden from June 19 to July 3. At the same time and in the same location, the 10th Swedish Bridge Festival will take place. In the Festival, all events will be open to all players.

More information on these events can be found at www.bridgefestival.net. In Brighton in 1987, Sweden fought to a 15-15 draw with Poland. This deal was crucial:

Dealer North. Both Vul.

♠ J 6 4
♥ K 8 6 4
♦ K Q J
♣ 10 6 3

♠ A Q
♥ A Q 10 7 2
♦ A 10 2
♣ A Q 7

North-South reached six hearts at both tables with South as declarer. Both received the eight of spades lead, promising one higher card. East played the ten in both cases.

Andrzej Wilcosz of Poland drew trumps in three rounds and eliminated spades and diamonds, ending in the dummy. When he played the club three from dummy, Björn Fallenius played the eight. Wilcosz was forced to cover with the queen and Magnus Lindqvist won the king.

Lindqvist returned the two of clubs. According to the Principle of Restricted Choice, South should now duck in dummy, since East might have played the nine of clubs if he'd held both the eight and nine. In this case, playing low forced Fallenius to play the jack and Wilcosz had the pleasure of making his slam. Later he stated that he did not believe in Restricted Choice, but he did believe in using the cards he was dealt. Since he'd been dealt the seven of clubs, he'd decided to utilize it!

Declarer at the other table was Tommy Gullberg of Sweden. He noted that East had been troubled by the lead and had been uncertain about which card to play at trick one. Obviously, East must hold the spade king, and therefore, West the nine. Gullberg drew trumps in three rounds, then played the jack of spades(!) from dummy. East covered with the king and South won the ace.

Gullberg then played three rounds of diamonds ending in the dummy and advanced the six of spades. When East was unable to cover, declarer discarded a club and was home.

The full deal:

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

Note that Gullberg would still have a 75% chance to make his slam if East had been able to play the seven of spades on the six. In that case, he would ruff and exit with the club seven, succeeding when either West held the club jack or East the king.

JACKS & TENS

By Ron Klinger, Sydney

Here are a couple of deals from my column in The Sydney Morning Herald for February 6. They might be of some interest, particularly the second one.

It is an infrequent pleasure to be able to report fine play, but the players shine on today's deals. The first comes from Session 1 of the New South Wales Bridge Association's Interstate Open Teams Selection:

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
David	Bruce	Mark	Ron
Ouvrier	Neill	Mordo	Klinger
Pass	Pass	1 NT	3 ♠
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Pre-emptive

Lead: ♠ 3

South captured dummy's spade and led a second spade, ruffed by West. A club to the ace was followed by a heart to the jack and queen. North continued with the heart ace and a third heart to West.

Judging from South's pre-empt that the diamond queen was more likely to be with North, declarer declined to make the

normal play in diamonds (low to the ace and back to the jack), but instead led the jack from hand. Had North ducked, declarer would have let the jack run. When North covered, dummy's ace won and declarer completed the backward finesse by playing a diamond to the nine to land his game for plus 420 and plus 8 IMPs (EW datum plus 100).

The next deal arose in a duplicate pairs session at the Double Bay Bridge Centre a few weeks ago.

Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sheila	Peter	Pat	Paul
Thompson	Strasser	Masters	Lavings
—	—	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Lead: ♥ 10

At trick two, declarer led a low spade to his king and West followed smoothly with the two. Next came the spade four and West produced the ten. Naturally expecting the spade ace to be with East, Lavings ducked in dummy. "I nearly fell off my perch," wrote Lavings. "What a brilliant coup!"

Had West captured the spade king, declarer would later lead the spade four from hand and play low in dummy if West followed with the two. This safety play limits the spade losers to two.

West's superb deception deserved to score three trump tricks and in the normal course of events it might do so. However, Lavings countered with a trump coup after West tried the diamond ten next to the jack, king and ace.

To avoid two more trump losers, Lavings needed to reduce dummy's trumps to the same length as West's. A heart ruff was followed by his cashing the diamond eight and playing a club to the queen. West and dummy discarded a club when South played the diamond queen and then another heart was ruffed.

Lavings continued with the diamond nine and West could score only one more trick no matter how she defended. (See top of next column.) Eleven tricks, plus 650, was worth 20.6 matchpoints out of 26, while plus 620 was under average at 11.8.

Afterwards Paul Lavings commented, "I have not seen this in any book." Neither have I. Well done, Sheila Thompson.

<p>♠ A J ♥ 9 ♦ — ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ — ♥ K ♦ 7 ♣ J</p>
<p>♠ Q 9 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ K</p>	<p>♠ — ♥ J ♦ 9 6 ♣ —</p>

THE 2003 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BOOK PREVIEW

By Eric Kokish, Toronto

(It will come as no surprise that the 2003 World Championship book is in production and will be published shortly. Eric Kokish has once again taken on the task of analysing the Bermuda Bowl Final for that work. Here is a selection of deals, previously unreported, that were of interest, presented in Kokish's cogent and inimitable style.)

Segment Seven (Boards 97-112)

It was a new day, the last of the 2003 Bermuda Bowl. The USA led by 37 IMPs, 242-205. Absolutely no one looked fresh and well-rested. Both captains fielded the same four-somes that had contested Segment Six the previous afternoon. The Open Room was located in the Sporting d'Hiver, on the same level as the Vugraph theatre. The Closed Room was at l'Hôtel Hermitage. Although it was 10:30 in the morning, the Vugraph theatre was filling rapidly and good seats were at a premium. Many Italian supporters had made the short trip to Monte Carlo to see the final 32 deals and root for their heroes to come from behind to win the only title that had eluded Italy's grasp since 1975.

Board 97. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Lauria	Meckstroth	Versace
—	1 ♥	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Hamman	Bocchi	Soloway
—	2 \diamond^1	3 \clubsuit	Pass
3 \heartsuit^2	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Flannery: 4 \spadesuit and 5/6 \heartsuit , less than a strong 16 HCP
2. Asks for heart stopper

With at least five hearts on their right, Meckstroth and Bocchi might have been forgiven for staying out of the auction at their first turn. Both introduced clubs, however, because their opponents might have been able to get together in spades and made it more dangerous to bid later. Rodwell and Duboin treated the club overcall with respect, and moments later the East players found themselves in a very pushy three no trumps.

Perhaps Lauria sensed that his opponents were stretching, for he doubled in the belief that he was asking for a spade lead, and that this might be the key to defeating the contract. Versace interpreted the double as a request to lead a suit other than hearts (the actual partnership agreement) and expected Lauria to have a strong spade holding. However, he thought he had a better chance for a big set by staring with the diamond jack, hoping that Lauria would play him for a spade honour from his failure to lead that suit; an interesting line of reasoning.

Lauria took the diamond king with the ace and duly switched to a spade, but led the four, ten, queen, ace. Had Meckstroth been sufficiently inspired to cash the diamond queen (he needs clubs three-two and North seems to be four-five in the majors, so this is not an inconceivable play), he would have been in a position to knock out the heart ace, and with clubs breaking favourably, claim nine tricks. Lauria could have prevented him from doing that, however, by switching to the spade king (better than the jack as East could hold singleton queen).

If declarer ducks the spade king, North continues with the jack: if declarer wins and cashes the diamond queen, South has an entry for his diamonds; if declarer strands the diamond queen he never gets it; and if declarer ducks the spade jack too, North exits with a club. But Meckstroth did not cash the diamond queen; instead he called for the heart nine at trick three. Lauria gave that a good look, but followed low. And so did Meckstroth! When the nine of hearts held, declarer crossed to a club and drove out the heart ace, and he finished with three hearts, the spade ace, and five clubs for nine tricks and plus 550.

When Meckstroth had asked Lauria about the nature of his double, Lorenzo had told him it asked for a spade lead. Meckstroth was willing to take his chances after Rodwell bid the suit, but had he been given the proper information (“don’t lead a heart”), he might not have been so keen to stand his ground with a singleton in an *unbid* suit that might well be led. Had three no trumps doubled gone down there would surely have been a Director call once all the information about the meaning of the double had come to light.

After Hamman’s Flannery Two Diamonds opening, Soloway needed no further urging to lead the three of spades, ducked to the king. Hamman returned the spade four and Bocchi

discarded a heart and took Soloway’s queen with the ace. His next play was the heart nine, and here too North followed low. Bocchi duplicated Meckstroth’s play by following low, and was soon recording plus 400 on his side of the scoresheet. He would be disappointed later to learn that he had lost 4 IMPs for this effort, USA, 246-205. Would it be unkind to the North players to categorise three no trumps as turning on the heart finesse?

Board 98. Dealer East. NS Vul.

\spadesuit A 7 6 5 2	\spadesuit Q
\heartsuit A 3	\heartsuit 7 5 4 2
\diamond 7 5 3	\diamond 10 9 2
\clubsuit 8 7 3	\clubsuit A K Q 6 2
\spadesuit J	\spadesuit K 10 9 8 4 3
\heartsuit K J 9 6	\heartsuit Q 10 8
\diamond A Q J 8 6 4	\diamond K
\clubsuit 5 4	\clubsuit J 10 9

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Lauria	Meckstroth	Versace
—	—	1 \diamond^1	1 \spadesuit
Double	4 \spadesuit	Pass	Pass
5 \diamond	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Precision, 2+ \diamond

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Hamman	Bocchi	Soloway
—	—	1 \clubsuit^1	1 \spadesuit
2 \clubsuit^2	4 \spadesuit	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	5 \diamond	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Natural or balanced 15-17 HCP
2. Diamonds, 8+ HCP

Had North-South not competed so vigorously, East-West might have reached four hearts, which they would have made, but four spades was the pressure bid you would expect to see from both Lauria and Hamman. Par at that point would have been to defend four spades doubled, which goes for 500 if the defenders get all their tricks, but both East-West pairs went on to five diamonds.

It’s easy to see why Lauria doubled (he has two aces for his pre-emptive game raise and might have been getting 300 after forcing a guess), but Hamman hates to give away the extra 4 IMPs ‘out of spite’ in this type of situation, and was unwilling to count on the ace of spades taking a trick.

Had Soloway led the king of spades and switched to a heart, Bocchi might still be thinking, but with his odds and ends in the rounded suits there was no clear sense of urgency and he started the spade ten to Hamman’s ace. Bocchi won the club switch, picked up the trump king, and ran clubs to discard three hearts, avoiding the guess in that suit: plus 400.

Versace, expecting Lauria to have values outside spades, led the club jack. Meckstroth won and started on trumps, the appearance of South's king providing added hope. He drew trumps and tested clubs, discarding a spade and two hearts when they broke, then led a heart to the jack, guided by Lauria's double. That produced an overtrick, plus 650, and USA gained 6 IMPs, 252-205.

Board 112. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Lauria	Meckstroth	Versace
Pass	1 ♦	1 ♠	3 ♣ ¹
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Limit raise in diamonds

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Hamman	Bocchi	Soloway
Pass	1 ♦ ¹	1 ♠	3 ♦ ²
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. 3+♦

2. Limit raise

With all his values concentrated in two suits, Hamman elected to start with one diamond rather than upgrade to a 14-16 no trump, which his hand was otherwise worth. He might well have taken a shot at three no trumps over three diamonds, but took a conservative position, non-vulnerable.

Missing this perfect-fit game wouldn't have been the end of the world, but by passing three diamonds, Hamman gave Bocchi a second opportunity to bid with only moderate risk. His reopening takeout double suited Duboin very well, and suddenly, it was East-West who were in game. Hamman led the diamond king and Duboin ruffed in dummy to lead a low spade, the ten winning.

A second diamond forced dummy to ruff and Duboin crossed to a club to ruff his last diamond and lead the heart king. Soloway won the ace, cashed the spade king, and played another diamond, but Duboin ruffed, cashed the heart queen, and claimed: plus 620. So three no trumps would have been an 'advance save' against four hearts, perhaps a more subtle reason to bid it.

Although desperation tactics were hardly in order for the Italians, Lauria wasn't about to settle for three diamonds when there might be a decent play for three no trumps. That

effectively silenced Meckstroth, and Italy was due to gain significantly. Although Meckstroth found the best lead (the four of hearts), three no trumps was flat out on finding the spade queen, and there was every reason for Lauria to play Meckstroth for it.

After winning the heart ace and cashing four rounds of diamond ending in his hand, Lauria led the spade jack, intending to pass it. Meckstroth covered: plus 400. So Italy made game at both tables and gained 14 IMPs by doing so. Italy had scored 30 IMPs without reply over the last four deals of the set and won the seventh segment 38-29 to reduce the American lead to just 28 IMPs with 16 boards remaining. Those who felt that the match was over when the USA had built their lead to 64 IMPs just seven deals earlier were sorely mistaken. It had promised to be a nail-biting finish before the match began, and with the momentum now favouring the trailing team, it looked as if it might well go down to the wire.

After a short break, the players would have to go back to war. There was really no time to dwell on the previous session.

Segment Eight (Boards 113-128)

It was clear to anyone who had been following the Bermuda Bowl final that it was still anyone's match. The American lead had been reduced by 30 IMPs over the last four deals of Segment Seven and was down to 28, 271-243. Both NPCs had no intention of changing their lineups for the final 16 deals, so it would be a fight to the finish between two teams that knew each other well, featuring four pairs who all knew how to win and were used to doing so.

Meckstroth-Rodwell had played every board in the final but were holding up pretty well. Fatigue would surely continue to be a factor, but sometimes the adrenaline rush trumps exhaustion when it matters most. The Italians are much more demonstrative with their emotions than the stoic American foursome, and that too might be a factor, albeit one that could work either way. While everyone was hoping that the quality of the bridge would be decisive, it was likely that the intangibles would play a role also. The Vugraph theatre was jammed with spectators, many of them standing, few of them non-partisan. Both e-Bridge and Bridge Base Online were reporting tremendous interest in their real-time webcasts. Bridge was becoming much more accessible and a match of this magnitude was certainly a magnet for the curious. The players were in their seats and ready to go ...

Board 120. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Lauria	Soloway	Versace
Pass	Pass	1 NT	2 \diamond ¹
3 NT	4 \heartsuit ²	Double	4 \spadesuit
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 6+ \heartsuit or 6+ \spadesuit
2. Pass, or correct to 4 \spadesuit

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Rodwell	Bocchi	Meckstroth
Pass	1 \diamond ¹	Pass	1 \spadesuit
2 \clubsuit	Double ²	Redouble	2 \spadesuit
Double ³	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Precision, 2+ \diamond
2. Three-card spade support
3. Maximum values for a passed-hand overcall

In the Closed Room, after an extremely thin opening bid by Rodwell, Meckstroth was uncharacteristically reticent once he learned he was facing three-card support. Duboin's 'extras' double of two spades was just what Bocchi needed to see in order to bid three no trumps with confidence.

Meckstroth led the spade jack (Rusinow) and Bocchi won the ace to lead a low club, which seems like the wrong way to start the suit: Meckstroth, who was known to hold queen-jack-sixth of spades, could hardly be void in clubs. All was well, however, and Rodwell held on to his hearts to restrict declarer to his ten top tricks: plus 430.

The tempo of the auction was very different at the other table after Lauria passed the North hand. Lauria had no idea whether three no trumps was cold or going three down, but it seemed to him that the safe action was to bid game and worry about it later. As Soloway had a minimum with no known source of tricks and the auction was forcing, he doubled both four hearts and four spades, albeit with different degrees of confidence.

Hamman led the spade five, which looked like a good idea when dummy appeared . . . if Soloway had four strong diamonds. Soloway won the ace and had to decide whether to try to cash out or to cut down potential club ruffs, the latter requiring that Hamman hold a balanced hand for his three no trump bid . . . with four decent diamonds.

When Soloway played a second trump, Versace had a chance for a make if he could pick up the diamonds without loss. Lacking the queen of diamonds, Soloway would surely have tried to take his tricks before they disappeared on the threatening diamond suit, and at the Commentators' table we were speculating on how long (in small units of 30 seconds) it would take Versace to call for the jack of diamonds. In practice it took him about five minutes, but when he finished his deliberations, he did not disappoint the audience. Soloway did not cover the jack, of course, and a moment later Versace was claiming an overtrick. Plus 690: 15 IMPs to Italy for the double game swing, and we had new leaders, the Italians moving 3 IMPs ahead of USA, 281-278.

Had Soloway switched to hearts at trick two to defeat the contract he would have saved 7 IMPs and the Americans would have retained a fragile 4-IMP lead with eight deals remaining in the match. Italy had outscored USA 38-7 over the first eight boards of the session to reclaim the lead. It was pure pandemonium now in the Vugraph theatre.

BRIDGE BASE ONLINE

By Fred Gitelman, Las Vegas

Bridge Base Online (BBO) is a free online bridge service that was developed and is maintained by Bridge Base Inc., my Las Vegas-based company. There are a lot of things you can do on BBO (including playing various forms of online bridge), but the purpose of this article is to introduce one area of our site that should be of particular interest to IBPA members: our live Vugraph broadcasts of major tournaments.

During the past year, dozens of tournaments from such diverse places as Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, Poland, Scotland, Sweden, and the USA have been broadcast live through BBO. We have broadcast as many as 8 tables simultaneously and there have been as many as 5000 bridge players from over 100 countries watching at the same time (during the Bermuda Bowl Final in Monte Carlo). Many of the world's leading players have provided live commentary and analysis during these broadcasts.

We were fortunate to have had the chance to broadcast two matches with truly historic finishes in 2003 (Italy vs. USA in both the Bermuda Bowl Final and the World Youth Teams Championships Semi-Final). If you were one of the roughly 50,000 bridge players who tuned in to watch these broadcasts at one time or another, you would have no doubt that our game could indeed be a spectator sport.

Here is a recent deal adapted from one I liked which occurred on BBO.

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

\spadesuit	A K 7 2
\heartsuit	K
\diamond	A 8 6 4 3 2
\clubsuit	7 5
\spadesuit	6 3
\heartsuit	A Q J 8 5 4 2
\diamond	K Q
\clubsuit	9 8

Partner opens one diamond, East overcalls four clubs, and your four hearts ends the auction. A club is led and East continues the suit. West pitches a diamond on the second club. East switches to a diamond. How do you play? Decide before reading on.

If you win the diamond in your hand, you have a guess to make:

- 1.) Playing hearts from the top fails when trumps are 5-0.
- 2.) Playing a heart to the dummy fails when East was 0-2-3-8.

If you had to guess, you would play for 2.), and play hearts from the top, but fortunately, you don't have to guess. The solution is to win in dummy and lead the king of hearts, overtaking if East follows.

<p>♠ A K 7 2 ♥ K ♦ A 8 6 4 3 2 ♣ 7 5</p> <p>♠ Q J 10 9 8 5 4 ♥ 10 9 3 ♦ J 7 ♣ 10</p> <p>♠ 6 3 ♥ A Q J 8 5 4 2 ♦ K Q ♣ 9 8</p>	<p>♠ — ♥ 7 6 ♦ 10 9 5 ♣ A K Q J 6 4 3 2</p>
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Not difficult, but not natural in my view!

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The ACBL, EBL, FFB, FIGB, JCBL, WBF (and several other National Bridge Organisations) have shown a keen interest in our efforts. I would like to take this opportunity to thank these organizations: there would be no Internet Vugraph broadcasts without their cooperation and support.

DETAILS, DETAILS...

By Mark Horton, Romford, England

A recent issue contains a deal featuring Sidney Lazard and Bart Bramley on defence. The writeup (taken from the Daily Bulletins at the NABCs in New Orleans) suggests that the defender made an early error, but in fact the mistake came later. The deal:

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

<p>♠ 8 7 2 ♥ 7 3 ♦ Q 10 4 3 ♣ Q J 9 5</p> <p>♠ K 5 4 ♥ 10 6 2 ♦ K 7 5 ♣ 10 8 7 2</p> <p>♠ A Q J 3 ♥ 9 5 ♦ A J 9 8 6 2 ♣ 3</p>	<p>♠ 10 9 6 ♥ A K Q J 8 4 ♦ — ♣ A K 6 4</p>
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INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION BUDGETS

by Christer Andersson, Uppsala, Sweden,
Treasurer IBPA

All figures are in \$ US

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
RECEIPTS		
Dues - total	\$23,800	\$23,500
Awards money	4,000	4,000
Interest	750	600
Advertisements	500	500
WBF	1,000	1,000
Clippings service	1,000	1,000
IBPA Championships	250	200
Donations/Tax refund	0	0
Totals	\$ 31,300	\$ 30,800

DISBURSEMENTS		
Bulletin printing, postage, extras	\$19,500	\$14,600
Bulletin Editor fee, expenses	5,070	7,670
Bulletin Editor travel	1,000	1,000
Membership Secretary fee	0	0
Membership Secretary expenses	1,500	1,000
President expenses	1,000	500
President travel	1,000	1,000
Treasurer expenses	350	300
Treasurer travel	0	0
Secretary expenses	150	150
Secretary travel	1,000	0
Inland Revenue Scotland	150	150
IBPA awards	1,250	1,250
Expenses Awards Chairman	50	0
Bulletin hands	240	240
IBPA web site	50	50
IBPA Championship	150	150
Bank costs	150	100
Bank - VISA rental/CC charge	850	900
Handbook	0	0
Stationery & Contingencies	250	200
Clipping prizes	500	500
Totals	\$ 34,210	\$ 29,760

West	North	East	South
Bramley		Lazard	
Pass	Pass	1 ♥	2 ♦
2 ♥	3 ♦	4 ♦	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

South wisely avoided the lead of the ace of diamonds, preferring a trump, which declarer won in hand. After drawing

a second round of trumps he advanced the nine of spades (wrongly considered by the bulletin to be an error) and when South covered with the queen, dummy's king won the trick.

Declarer was up to nine tricks and a tenth might well come from the club suit. With the sensible idea of eliminating the spade suit declarer returned to hand with a club and played the ten of spades. South won as North contributed the eight. Backing his judgement, South found a brilliant defence. He returned the three of spades. North won with the seven and switched to the queen of clubs.

Declarer was doomed. If he won, he would eventually lose two club tricks and if he ducked North would switch to a diamond and still get another club trick.

However, if declarer had simply exited with the six of spades rather than the ten, he would have been in control. North can win and play the queen of clubs, but declarer wins and exits with the ten of spades to endplay South, who must either give a ruff and discard or open up the diamond suit.

(Our team of crack analysts points out that the REAL error was the first club play. Declarer should have played a spade from dummy, covering North's card. Then if South exits with a spade to North, he can deal win any minor-suit return. The analysts take pains to mention that they did NOT fail to spot this Horton variation. They merely feel that it is not their task to point out declarer's errors, merely to report the writer's mistakes! - Ed.)

IBPA COLUMN SERVICE

By Tim Bourke, Canberra

(These deals may be used without crediting the author or IBPA.)

261. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	Double	2 ♦	Pass
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

The only explanation for the bidding is that North got carried away!

West led the king of diamonds, ruffed in dummy while East played the queen, indicating that he held the jack too. The major chance was that trumps would prove to be two-two, allowing declarer to cross to dummy with a trump to lead the jack of clubs. However, the ace and king of trumps revealed three-one break, killing that hope.

Declarer needed an entry to hand to take the club finesse so he paused to consider the situation. As East held the queen and jack of diamonds as well as the jack of trumps, all of the other missing honours were sure to be with West. Furthermore, diamonds appeared to be five-four, so West could have at most four spades and wouldn't have six clubs, particularly as he would surely have bid again with 2-0-5-6 shape.

South now saw that the only distribution he could overcome was 4-1-5-3 with the key spades as shown! So he played the jack of spades next. If West took this with the queen, declarer would ruff the diamond return, draw the last trump and cash the ace of spades, felling the ten. Then the nine of spades would provide an entry to dummy for the club finesse. If West ducked the jack of spades, declarer would continue with the ace and king of spades, ensuring his hand could be reached with a spade ruff (or a trump if East ruffed North's low spade).

262. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the jack of clubs, East following with the six. Declarer ruffed the next club and paused to consider a plan. If trumps were three-two, he could play the ace-king of trumps followed by the ace-king of hearts, losing only a trick to each of the major suit queens.

Here this plan fails for, after scoring the queen of hearts, East gives West a heart ruff for down one. Declarer does no better to play a third round of trumps. West takes the queen of trumps and plays a third club, reducing himself and declarer to one trump. So when East makes his queen of hearts he plays a fourth club, ensuring West scores a second trump for the fourth defensive trick.

You can make ten tricks provided spades are no worse than four-one and hearts no worse than four-two! Declarer must attack the major suits unusually - by leading the jacks!

Suppose the jack of spades is led at trick two. West wins and plays another club which declarer ruffs and leads the jack of hearts. East wins but cannot play another club play for dummy's nine of spades can ruff that card, allowing declarer to cross to hand with a diamond to draw trumps and claim the rest.

Note that if the jack of spades is ducked, declarer should cash the ace and king of trumps. The double jack play improves the chance of success from around 80% to 85%.

263. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	2 ♥	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the two of hearts, indicating that East began with six, to the ace. Declarer could only count 11 tricks and had bleak prospects for a twelfth.

In these situations, where one defender has no transportation to his partner's winners, the solution to the problem of obtaining an extra trick is usually a strip-and-endplay. So, after cashing the ace-king of trumps, revealing the three-one break, and the ace-king of diamonds, declarer crossed to hand with the queen of trumps. Now came the queen of diamonds, throwing the three of hearts from dummy.

Next came the ace-king of clubs and finally the eight of clubs to put West on play, with only minor suit cards remaining. So, North's remaining heart disappeared in a ruff-and-discard on West's next play.

264. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2 NT
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	6 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

The first two tricks are crucial here after the jack of spades was led. Declarer must see that the only problem will occur if diamonds break badly. So he

must win the trick with dummy's ace to lead a low heart - this is an insurance plan against West holding four diamonds for it succeeds against that diamond break provided East has the ace of hearts!

After the king of hearts scores, declarer tests the diamonds by cashing the queen and leading the three to West's ten and dummy's ace. Once the bad diamond division comes to light, declarer discards his seven of spades on the king of diamonds and leads a heart from dummy. This ensures a second heart trick and the contract.

PROBLEM CORNER

By **Barnet Shenkin, Boca Raton, FL**

Good defensive hands are not easily found. Here are two from the Nationals in New Orleans last fall. See how you make out.

1. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	1 ♦	1 ♥
2 ♥ ¹	Double	2 ♠	4 ♥
5 ♦	Pass	Pass	5 ♥
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Invitational or better in diamonds

This is the final round of the Blue Ribbon Pairs and you are having a decent game. Partner (West) leads the spade two. You win the spade king, with declarer playing the queen. It is your play.

2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	1 NT ¹	2 ♣ ²
Double ³	Pass	2 ♥	2 ♠
4 ♥	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass
1. 12-14			
2. 1-suiter			
3. Cards			

You lead the heart three. Partner wins the ace and returns the heart two. Declarer wins the king and plays the club

four. Not being sure of the defence, you play the five and partner wins the jack.

Partner now plays a low spade. Declarer plays low from hand and wins the jack in dummy. He then plays a second club and you win this, with partner playing low and declarer the ten. You have three tricks in. How do you continue?

For a change of pace, here's a declarer play problem. It's your chance to prove you really can play as well as Garozzo!

3. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ A 9 3
 ♥ A J 5
 ♦ A K J 10 7
 ♣ 8 4

♠ K Q 4 2
 ♥ K 6 4
 ♦ Q 2
 ♣ 9 7 3 2

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

West leads the spade six. Plan the play. (Solutions on page 12.)

NEW ORLEANS JAZZ

(These deals have been taken from the Daily Bulletins, and in some cases slightly re-edited. Where unattributed, Jody Latham and Henry Francis are the culprits.)

From Despair to Glee

When an over-exuberant partner puts you into a thoroughly bad contract, it is your job to find a way to bring it home if at all possible. Six no trump looks hopeless on this deal from the second qualifying session of the Life Master Open Pairs.

Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul.

♠ K Q 9 5
 ♥ 8 6 4 3 2
 ♦ K 2
 ♣ Q 7

♠ J 8 6 2
 ♥ 5
 ♦ Q 10 9 5 4
 ♣ J 5 2

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

♠ A 10 7
 ♥ A 7
 ♦ A J 8 3
 ♣ A K 9 6

West	North	East	South
—	Pass	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	3 NT
Pass	6 NT (!)	Pass	Pass
Pass			

English pro Brian Senior was favored with a diamond lead around to his jack – and suddenly the contract proved to be cold! Unless the jack and ten of clubs are coming down, a squeeze is required for the twelfth trick, and transportation is awkward for anything other than a heart-club squeeze. Senior crossed to the diamond king and led a heart, ducking East's nine. Back came the heart king to the ace, West pitching a diamond.

For a squeeze to operate East must have four clubs with his five hearts, which leaves him with only two spades. So, because a three-three spade split means no squeeze and a doomed contract, it is necessary to play for the actual spade position. Senior played the spade ten to the king, led low back to the ace, cashed the diamond ace and finessed the spade nine. East had to give up a club to keep the heart guard and now there were four club tricks and twelve in all. Plus 1440 and a top score on the board.

The Best Contract

By Adam Wildavsky, Jackson Heights, NY

Michael Polowan made a good bid on Board 10 of the first final session of the Life Master Open Pairs that enabled us to earn 89 out of a possible 90 matchpoints.

Board 10. Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ 9 2
 ♥ A J 10 7 6 2
 ♦ A 4 2
 ♣ Q 8

♠ A K J 8 6 3
 ♥ 5 3
 ♦ 9 6 3
 ♣ K 2

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

♠ Q 5 4
 ♥ K Q 8
 ♦ Q 8 5
 ♣ A 10 9 4

West	North	East	South
—	Polowan	—	Wildavsky
—	—	—	1 ♣
1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Correctly realizing that a nine-trick game might prove easier than four hearts, Polowan tried three spades. I was delighted to bid the no trump game. It turns out that it takes a diamond lead to beat three no trump. However, West not surprisingly started with the spade six. East had to play the seven to hold me to nine tricks, but he went up with the ten. I cashed six hearts and the diamond ace, forcing West to come down to five cards. He kept three spades and two clubs, so I threw him in with the spade nine. After he cashed three spades he had to lead away from his king of clubs, so I wound up with ten tricks.

The Old 4-3 Fit

By Barry Rigal, New York

George Jacobs won this deal in the bidding and the play as his victorious team had a huge round - 21.5 wins on 26 boards - in the first final session the Open Board-a-Match Teams.

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 ♠ ¹
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Invitational; 4-4 in the majors

The field struggled in two no trump or so, but George (South) got to the excellent four-three spade fit. On the six of club lead to the ace and the club two return, George had to read who had the club length. He guessed well when he went up with the club king and led a heart to the king and ace. Back came a heart, so George won the queen, played the diamond ace and ruffed a diamond, played the heart jack to pitch dummy's last club and led the fourth heart in this ending:

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

West pitched his last diamond and George ruffed, then thoughtfully cashed the ace and king of spades. Whether West unblocked the spades or not, George could be sure to score one more trick. If West did not unblock both spade honours, and won a trick with the queen on the third round of trumps, he would find himself endplayed to concede a club. If he did unblock both spade honors, the spade ten would be the ninth trick.

Just Another Zia Masterpiece

By Aviv Shahaf, New York

You can always count on Zia to produce something spectacular at the bridge table. I was kibitzing him during the final day of the Open Board-a-Match Teams when the following deal came up.

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

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

The auction will not win many awards and six spades would have been a much better contract. However, when playing board-a-match you have to assume that the slam was also missed at the other table and try to win the board in the play.

The defense found their best lead - a low diamond to the nine and Zia's ace, taking away a very important entry from declarer's hand. Zia played a heart to the ace and then a low spade to the queen.

He paused for a while considering his options and finally decided, based in large on the auction, that East must be a little bit more distributional than five-five and therefore must have a club void. He cashed the ace of trumps, drawing the outstanding trumps, and led the club eight out of his hand.

West missed his opportunity to shine when he failed to cover with the ten (would you have found that defense?) and Zia let the eight ride! Had he played to the queen (or jack) he would be stuck on the board (remember that annoying diamond lead...), but now he was still in his hand and was able to repeat the finesse and throw his losing diamond on the club ace, making seven!

He was rewarded when the slam was also missed at the other table, but unfortunately, his teammates led a heart, making declarer's route to thirteen tricks an easy one, so the board was a push.

Smokescreen Fails

Adam Wildavsky and Michael Polowan threw up a smokescreen on this deal from the second qualifying session of the Life Master Open Pairs. However, Boye Brogeland and Rose Meltzer had a fine auction that resulted in their getting to the cold grand slam.

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

♠ A K 9 7 4
 ♥ Q 2
 ♦ Q J 8 4 2
 ♣ K

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

♠ Q
 ♥ 6
 ♦ 9 6 3
 ♣ A Q 10 9 5 4 3 2

West	North	East	South
Meltzer	Wildavsky	Brogeland	Polowan
—	—	1 ♠	4 ♣
5 ♣	6 ♣	7 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Meltzer's cuebid was the key. It told Brogeland that she had a very good hand and a good fit in spades. Since there wasn't much else for Meltzer to have but very good spades, Brogeland knew to bid the grand. Making 2210 was worth 23 out of 25 matchpoints.

Where's the King?

Where was the spade king? This is a deal from the second final session of the Life Master Pairs.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ Q 5
 ♥ K 10 4
 ♦ K Q 5 3
 ♣ J 10 7 4

♠ K 3 2
 ♥ A J 3
 ♦ A J 6 2
 ♣ 9 6 5

♠ J 10 9 8 7 4
 ♥ 9 7 2
 ♦ 10 4
 ♣ K 8

♠ A 6
 ♥ Q 8 6 5
 ♦ 9 8 7
 ♣ A Q 3 2

West	North	East	South
	Bramley		Lazard
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Double
Pass	2 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the spade jack and West ducked, which enabled Bramley to win with the queen. He thought his partner was probably leading from a five-card suit. He expected to get in with a red ace and drive out the spade ace and get in with his other red ace to cross to partner's good spades.

After winning the first trick with the spade queen, Bramley placed the club king with West. So he led a club to the ace instead of finessing. He then led a diamond to the king and played the club jack. He was devastated when East produced the king.

But East thought Bramley had the spade king, so he believed there was no future in that suit and switched to the nine of hearts! Bramley was alive again – he could take three clubs, three hearts, two spades and a diamond for plus 150. That felt good – until he saw his matchpoint score. He and Sidney Lazard got only 43 of 90. Why? Well, most players declared two spades and misguessed the spades to lose two spades, two hearts, two clubs and a diamond for minus 200.

PROBLEM CORNER SOLUTIONS

(From page 9.)

1. ♠ 10 9 8 7 4 3
 ♥ Q 7 5
 ♦ 6
 ♣ Q 8 3

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

♠ A K 6 5
 ♥ 4
 ♦ K Q 10 8 5
 ♣ 9 6 4

♠ Q J
 ♥ A K 9 6 3 2
 ♦ 9 2
 ♣ A J 2

If you won the spade and shifted to a low club, what can declarer do? In practice he ducked the club to West's king who now played a low diamond to your queen. The spade ace and another and another promoted a trump trick for down three, plus 500 and a near top. My partner Mark Feldman found this good play.

2. ♠ J 8 6
 ♥ 7 5
 ♦ A 9 4
 ♣ 9 8 7 6 3

♠ 10
 ♥ Q 8 4 3
 ♦ K 8 7 6 2
 ♣ K Q 5

♠ K 7 2
 ♥ A 10 9 2
 ♦ J 5 3
 ♣ A J 2

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

You know declarer is trying to build his club suit. The first impulse is to win the second club and switch to a diamond to take out the entry from the dummy. However, if you think deeper you will ask yourself why partner has not returned a diamond? The answer must be that partner's holding is either weak or dangerous.

If your partner holds the spade king, declarer cannot do both of set up clubs and take the finesse against the trump king. You must play a heart and force the dummy. Now declarer can set up his clubs but partner can ruff his club winner low and you will score the setting trick with a diamond.

Partner did well here. If he had played back a heart, forcing dummy at trick four, declarer would lead the spade jack, and

now partner must **not** cover or declarer gets the extra entry required to establish clubs. Also, if partner should win the second club to play a heart, the contract will make as you will be squeezed in the minors.

If you found the play of the heart queen, you can congratulate yourself as some of the world's finest did not when shown this hand in problem form. You will win your knockout match by the margin of 1 IMP.

3. Playing in his local rubber bridge game at the Palm Beach Country Club, Benito Garozzo found an unusual play that had the opponents confused and his partner a little worried.

<p>♠ A 9 3 ♥ A J 5 ♦ A K J 10 7 ♣ 8 4</p> <p>♠ J 10 8 6 ♥ 9 7 3 2 ♦ 8 5 ♣ A Q 5</p>	<p>♠ 7 5 ♥ Q 10 8 ♦ 9 6 4 3 ♣ K J 10 6</p> <p>♠ K Q 4 2 ♥ K 6 4 ♦ Q 2 ♣ 9 7 3 2</p>
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After studying the hand for a few moments, Garozzo called for the spade three. When East played the five, Garozzo followed with the spade two!

West had won the trick with his opening lead of the trump six! At this stage, the players, except Benito, started laughing. Had the pressure become too much for him, and finally he had pulled a wrong card? Everybody waited for him to say, "Sorry, I pulled the wrong card," and in our friendly game, he would be allowed to change it. However, his face, as usual, gave away nothing, and West now switched to a heart.

Benito won the heart return in hand, played the spade ace, and when both opponents followed suit, he claimed 10 tricks. Now, in order to speed the game up, we play a rule that declarer cannot score overtricks in any undoubled contract. Thus his only concern is to make his contract. Benito decided not to play the spade ace and king, and then play on diamonds because, as in this actual layout, West could ruff the third round, put partner in with the club ace and a club to the king, and would score a second diamond ruff with the spade jack for the setting trick.

The danger in the alternative play of immediately playing three top trumps, then diamonds, was that the defence would score a trump and three or four clubs. So Benito found the safety play by letting the spade six hold the trick, thus keeping control. If the defence played three rounds of clubs, he could ruff in dummy, cash the trump ace, and return to hand to draw the remaining trumps and claim.

Of course, Garozzo could have played the spade nine on this occasion and won the first trick. But then there would have been no story to tell. Any mere mortal can win the first trick with the trump nine but it takes a 13-time World Champion to lose the opening trick to the lead of the trump six and still come out on top with his contract!

RESULTS

9th NEC Festival, Yokohama, Japan February 9-15, 2004

NEC CUP

- 1 **CHINA LADIES:** Hou Yunyan, Zhu Xiaoyin, Yan Ru, Dong Yongling, Lu Yan, Wang Yanhong
- 2 **ISRAEL:** Israel Yadlin, Doron Yadlin, Michael Barel, Migry Zur Campanile
- 3= **INDONESIA:** Henky Lasut, Eddy Manoppo, Franky Karwur, Santje Panelewen, Munawar Sawiruddin
- 3= **ENGLAND:** Brian Senior, Pablo Lambardi, John Armstrong, Brian Callaghan

YOKOHAMA SWISS TEAMS

- 1 **POLAND/RUSSIA:** Adam Zmudzinski, Cezary Balicki, Aleksander Petrounine, Andrei Gromov
- 2 **CHINA OPEN:** Li Xin, Sun Shaolin, Kang Meng, Li Xiaoyi, Fu Zhong, Zhao Jie
- 3 **CANADA:** George Mittelman, Allan Graves, Joseph Silver, John Carruthers

ASUKA CUP

- 1 Fu Zhong, Zhao Jie (China)
- 2 Rumen Trendafilov, Zalin Karaivanov (Bulgaria)
- 3 Doron Yadlin, Israel Yadlin (Israel)

Bridge Pro Tour

NEWYORK OPEN, December 30, 2003

- 1 Mike Albert
- 2 Jim Linhart
- 3 Ernest Campbell

ANAHEIM OPEN, January 31, 2004

- 1 Cecil Cook
- 2 George Bartunek
- 3 Dan Botaca

2004 BONUS POOL RACE

- | | |
|---------------|------|
| 1 Cecil Cook | 4550 |
| 2 Mike Albert | 4000 |
| 3 Jon Wittes | 4000 |

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 - this Bulletin, March 2004, will have code 470cn so you will need to key in:
www.IBPA.com/470cn.pdf

You can download a copy of the Handbook from www.ibpa.com (click on the link at the page bottom). When you try to open it will ask for a password, which is:
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EXACTLY as it appears here.

NEWS & VIEWS

Istanbul Update

The WBF informs us that following a satisfactory site inspection, the World Team Olympiad, together with the Seniors International Cup, the World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship and the World University Championship under the auspices of FISU will take place in Istanbul, Turkey from 23 October - 6 November 2004.

The Opening Ceremony will be on 23 October, and play will start in the Olympiad Open & Women's Series and in the Seniors Cup on the morning of Sunday 24 October.

The World Transnational Mixed Teams will start on either Monday 01 or Tuesday 02 November - the exact date will be determined as soon as possible. Teams knocked out of the Olympiad, and teams from the Seniors International Cup will be able to play in the Mixed Teams free of charge.

The dates for the World University Championship are changed from those originally published. The Opening Ceremony for this event will be on Sunday 31 October, and play will start on Monday 01 November, with the final ending on Saturday 06 November.

EBL Simultaneous Pairs

The European Bridge League Simultaneous Pairs will be held Monday 29 November & Wednesday 01 December in clubs throughout Europe. www.eblsims.org is the website.

ECats Bridge

ECatsBridge.com has been re-designed. Visit their new site at www.ecatsbridge.com - there is a great deal of useful information there - check in the Documents section for the "ECatsBridge Resource Kit" for information about the world of bridge.

Event organisers may add their own event to the bridge calendar on www.ecatsbridge.com - go to the events section and see the link that enables you to add your own event, which will then appear on the list of events in your country.

You can also add a link to your website in the same way - go to the Links Section to do this. And finally, you may add your details (interesting biographies are very welcome), or those of any other bridge player or administrator, to the People section.

Robert Jordan (1927-2004)

Robert Jordan died Saturday, January 10 at the age of 76. In the Sixties, his partnership with Arthur Robinson made the duo one of the premier pairs of the era. A WBF World Life Master, Jordan placed second in the World Team Olympiad 1964 and 1968.

Jordan won the McKenney Trophy in 1960 and the Mott-Smith Trophy in 1961 and 1962. His NABC victories include: Vanderbilt (1961, 1968); Reisinger (1966, 1967); Master Mixed Teams (1959); Open Pairs (1960, 1962).

Bob Evans (1941-2004)

Australian star Bobby Evans has died of an, as yet undiagnosed (at press time), illness in a Sydney

hospital, following his competing in the Australian Summer Festival of Bridge. Evans won the Australian Youth Teams (1970), the Far East Pairs Championship (1971), the Maccabiah Games (1985) and three Australian Open Teams Championships. He also successfully captained the Australian Youth Team.

(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction

Doing things, not buying stuff, has proved to be a superior pathway to pleasure in life. That's the interesting conclusion Professor Thomas Gilovich, of Cornell University, and Dr Leaf Van Boven, of the University of Colorado, come to in a paper published late last year in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*.

This discovery about experiencing rather than possessing is refined by the finding of another psychologist, Professor Martin Seligman, of the University of Pennsylvania, in his book, *Authentic Happiness*, published by Random House Australia. In Seligman's schema, what lies beyond pleasures are gratifications, which are not feelings but "activities we like doing: reading, rock climbing, dancing, good conversation, volleyball **or playing bridge**, for example."

Headline News

The ACBL was featured as a Champion of Industry by Pat Summerall Productions on Headline News Network on Wednesday, February 18, 2004. The two-minute segment aired in the United States between 6:00 and 6:30 p.m. EST.

The segment featured footage from the Fall North American Bridge Championships in New Orleans, including shots of players intent on their cards and directors busily entering scores. The segment ended with a reference to the ACBL web site to promote contact from the public.

47th European Teams Championship & 10th Swedish Bridge Festival

Micke Melander of the Swedish Bridge Federation recently sent out a press release confirming that the Championship will take place June 19 - July 3, 2004 in Malmö Sweden and that the organizers welcome everyone to Malmö 2004. The release stated, "Players, officials, journalists, family members and other guests will find everything they need for a great Festival."

Junior Info

The WBF Youth Committee has announced that the 6th World Youth Camp will take place from July 17-24, 2004 at Nyack College, NY, overlooking the Hudson River. Bridge skill is not a requirement. The program will consist of bridge, sports and lectures. Cost is US\$425. See www.worldbridge.org/tourn/NewYork.04/Camp.htm or contact Charlotte.Blaiss@acbl.org for details.

The 1st Junior Individual will be held in four sessions from July 14-16, 2004 at the New York Hilton, the venue for the Summer NABCs. Both the Camp and the Individual are open to all players born after January 1, 1979. For more information, see: www.worldbridge.org/tourn/NewYork.04/Indiv.htm.



Correspondence ...

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

Dear John,

In your Bulletin nr 468 you published two letters to the editor that prompted me to write one myself for the very first time in my life.

It is acceptable that Mr. Truscott is advertising his new book. It is indeed repulsive, however, that in the same breath he besmirches the Austrian 1937 (!) champions of Budapest. In our cultural environment we adhere to the saying "de mortuis nil nisi bene".

It is beyond me why Mr. Rex-Taylor speaks of Omar Sharif in such a derogatory manner. Sharif has done a lot to promote bridge in public. It is quite absurd to compare him with Anastas Mikojan who was a devoted vassal of Stalin, and it must not be forgotten that bridge was more or less prohibited in the Soviet Union in Stalin's era and later. Quite often, I met Omar Sharif in the 70ties during tournaments and he was always extremely courteous and polite.

Kind regards,
Fritz Babsch, Vienna

Perhaps you are right Fritz, but the blame must lie equally with the Editor.

Hi John,

I am so appreciative that you published Brian Senior's letter as your editorial for the January issue. Brian has, in my opinion, hit the nail on the head as to the importance of promoting youth bridge and the real purpose of the 1st World Junior Individual that is being held this summer at the site of the NY North American Bridge Championships.

The whole week has been named "Junior Madness" and we hope that we are going to create a big interest in participating in the events that are being offered, in particular the Individual which allows young people to play without having a partner and special systems. A very standard card is going to be the requirement.

Please let Brian know what a great article he wrote. Perhaps we should be sending him around the world promoting Youth Bridge for us.

Joan Gerard, White Plains, NY

John,

When Radek says only the wealthy can go to the camps, I would want to ask, "what about grants from the NBOs and other sources?" In Britain, both the NBOs and our Educational Trust for British Bridge regularly give grants to those in full-time education wanting to attend the World Junior Pairs, and the Camps, and will probably do so for the World Junior Individual. An impoverished but keen junior who applies for the various grants available should be able to cover most of the cost.

Speaking of my experience within Wales, we put substantial sums of money and effort into attracting, teaching and supporting young people (at national and regional level). With a couple of exceptions (one school with 30 learning minibridge, and one with a dozen playing full bridge), the response is very depressing (say, a dozen schools with a couple of tables each). Last weekend we had a 1-day schools competition, paid for by the Welsh Bridge Union, which managed 4 tables. We also paid full expenses for the Welsh Schools team to compete in the Home Internationals in Ireland the same day, so make that 5 tables.

Wales has a population of 3 million, i.e., perhaps 300,000 school kids over the age of 10. People were generally pleased to see 4 tables at a Schools bridge competition, though 25 years ago a dozen schools would field teams in the Welsh Schools Teams Championship.

Yours,
Patrick Jourdain, Cardiff

Hotel Reservations for Malmö

The organisers of the European Championship strongly recommend you reserve your hotel room before the end of March. Rooms block-booked by the Swedish Bridge Federation will be released on April 1 to a Medical Conference with 1000 attendees who are unable to obtain rooms in Malmö at the moment. Hotel details can be found on:

www.bridgefestival.net.

Editorial (cont.)

While a varied representation in these events seems a laudable ideal, there are really too few countries in Zones 2 and 7 to make the current representation scheme fair. It becomes even more unfair when both Australia and New Zealand are allowed to play in the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup. The solution: one idea might be to place Canada and Mexico in the larger (in terms of member-nations) Zone 5, and collapse Zones 6 (Asia Pacific) and 7 into one Zone. Then you could have two qualifiers from each Zone except Europe (five qualifiers), plus the host country. The 'new-look' WBF (at least for Zonal World Championships qualifying) would be: (1) Europe (2) USA (3) South America (4) Asia and the Middle East (5) North and Central America (6) Pacific Rim and (8) Africa. As an aside, why not move Venezuela and Colombia back into the South American Zone, where they belong?

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2004			
Mar 13-20	10 th Malta Festival 2004	Sliema, Malta	mario@bridge.org.mt
Mar 18-28	ACBL Spring NABC	Reno, NV	www.acbl.org
Mar 19-27	39 th International Bridge Week	Crans-Montana, Switzerland	http://home.worldcom.ch/~fsb/indexe.html
Mar 26-27	Bridge Pro Tour	Reno, NV	www.bridgeprotour.com
Apr 3-4	OKBridge Junior Championships	Online	www.okbridge.com
Apr 6-11	109 th Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON, Canada	www.toronto-bridge.com
Apr 9-10	Bridge Pro Tour	San Diego, CA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Apr 20-26	19 th International Festival	Estoril, Portugal	np93je@mail.telepac.pt
Apr 22-23	Bridge Pro Tour	Lake Geneva, WI	www.bridgeprotour.com
Apr 23-24	Bridge Pro Tour	Miami, FL, USA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Apr 23-25	Yeh Brothers Cup	Beijing, China	www.ccba.org.cn
Apr 30	Bridge Pro Tour	Cincinnati, OH	www.bridgeprotour.com
May 5-9	Cavendish Invitational Pairs & Teams	Las Vegas, NV	Bill Rosenbaum 1-212-725-2135
May 7-9	17 th OECS Championships	Anguilla	www.cacbf.com
May 8-16	61 st South of Ireland Congress	Killarney, Ireland	coollickcottage@hotmail.com
May 14-27	55 th Antibes International Festival	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.bridgejuan.com
May 15-23	XVII Internacional de Costa Calida	Murcia, Spain	www.eurobridge.org
May 16-22	3 rd Eilat Spring Festival	Eilat, Israel	www.bridge.co.il
May 19-20	Bonn Nations Cup	Bonn, Germany	www.bridge-club-bonn.de
May 25-Jun 1	USBF Women's Championships	Raleigh, NC	www.usbf.org
May 27-28	Bridge Pro Tour	Cleveland, OH	www.bridgeprotour.com
Jun 2	Bridge Pro Tour	Sacramento, CA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Jun 4-5	WBF Worldwide Contest	Clubs Everywhere	www.ecatsbridge.com
Jun 4-13	USBF Open Championships	Memphis, TN	www.usbf.org
Jun 5-13	54 th Campeonato Sudamericano	São Paulo, Brasil	www.bridgeargentino.org.ar
Jun 7-13	2 nd Festival de Bridge Golf	Almeria, Spain	http://bridgegolf.com
Jun 17-19	Bridge Pro Tour	Penticton, BC, Canada	www.bridgeprotour.com
Jun 19-Jul 3	47 th European 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
Jun 22-26	USBF Senior Championships	Las Vegas, NV	www.usbf.org
Jun 24	Bridge Pro Tour	Cherry Hill, NJ	www.bridgeprotour.com
Jun 29-Jul 11	19 th Biarritz International Festival	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Jul 1-2	Bridge Pro Tour	Chicago, IL	www.bridgeprotour.com
Jul 8-18	ACBL Summer NABC	New York, NY	www.acbl.org
Jul 9-10	North American College Championship	New York, NY	http://web2.acbl.org/html/college.htm
Jul 10-18	5 th Pacific Asia Bridge Congress	Taipei, Taiwan	www.ctcba.org.tw
Jul 13-14	1 st Youth Challenge Cup	New York, NY	www.acbl.org
Jul 14-16	1 st World Junior Individual	New York, NY	www.worldbridge.org
Jul 16-17	Bridge Pro Tour	New York, NY	www.bridgeprotour.com
Jul 17-24	World Junior Camp	Nyack, NY	www.worldbridge.org
Jul 20-25	Women's Bridge Festival	Vienna, Austria	anna@ecats.co.uk
Aug 1-7	36 th Wachauer Bridgewoche	Loiben, Austria	www.noeb-bridgesportverband.at
Aug 1-11	19 th European Youth Teams	Prague, Czech Republic	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 7-9	Pesta Sukan	Singapore	www.scba.org
Aug 10-15	Hong Kong Intercities	Hong Kong, China	isawc@cityu.edu.hk
Aug 11-12	Bridge Pro Tour	Secaucus, NJ	www.bridgeprotour.com
Aug 24-30	Mind Sports Olympiad	Manchester, UK	www.msoworld.com
Aug 26-27	Bridge Pro Tour	Santa Clara, CA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Sep 2	Bridge Pro Tour	Pittsburgh, PA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Oct 8-10	3 rd European Champions Cup	Warsaw, Poland	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 16-17	Lederer Memorial	London, England	simon@simonx.plus.com
Oct 22	Bridge Pro Tour	Lake Geneva, WI	www.bridgeprotour.com
Oct 23-Nov 6	12 th World Team Olympiad	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 24-30	3 rd Senior International Cup	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 31-Nov 6	2 nd World University Teams Cup	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 1-6	3 rd World Transnational Mixed Teams	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 5-7	Monte Carlo International Tournament	Monte Carlo, Monaco	jcaconseil@monaco377.com
Nov 7-13	4 th International Festival	Cuba	www.cacbf.com
Nov 14-21	10 th Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	birmand@inter.net.il
Nov 18-28	ACBL Fall NABC	Orlando, FL	www.acbl.org
Nov 26-27	Bridge Pro Tour	Orlando, FL	www.bridgeprotour.com
Nov 29& Dec 1	European Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs in Europe	www.eblsims.org
Dec 10	Bridge Pro Tour	Indianapolis, IN	www.bridgeprotour.com
Dec 16-18	Bridge Pro Tour	Palm Springs, CA	www.bridgeprotour.com