



## BULLETIN

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## THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

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*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.*

One of the difficulties faced by bridge administrators in making the game more accessible to a wider audience is the obscure scoring system. Imagine you are a non-bridge player who wandered into the VuGraph Theatre during the last match of the Round Robin of the 2003 Bermuda Bowl in Monte Carlo. Canada and USA 2 are fighting for the eighth and final playoff spot (each playing a different opponent). Running scores are being kept for both matches, with the raw scores for each board, the IMP scores for each board, the Victory Point scores for the match (updated every board), and the VP margin between the teams (updated every board) displayed. Further imagine that you'd asked another spectator to explain it all to you. You'd have run screaming from the theatre, never to return, assuming you could even find someone willing to take the time to oblige you.

In the early days of bridge, matches were scored on total points, where there was a big premium on some boards. Down a slam swing of 1500 points, one required three or four game swings to get it back. Thus, International Match Points were introduced as a method to flatten the results produced by huge swings. Two game swings could then cover a slam swing. Since huge IMP discrepancies could occur in separate matches by teams playing the same boards, Victory Points were born, with the goal of making each match in a series of equal value. This further flattened the results.

All these changes had the effect of further complicating the scoring system. Simplifying matters, board-a-match (or point-a-board) scoring was introduced. In BAM, each board is worth one point, a brilliant simplification that made it possible for even a non-bridge player to understand. Whoever scored better on a deal scored a point.

This novel idea was to have huge ramifications in the bridge community. It soon became apparent that it was virtually impossible for a poor team to win an event scored in this fashion. Why was that? In effect, one had to concentrate on every trick on every deal, something that the experts could do much better than the non-experts. So attendance at tournaments suffered, with the poor and average teams eventually staying home. This trend was reversed with the introduction of Swiss Teams, where even the average teams had a chance.

There are still a few board-a-match events left on the bridge calendar, such as the Reisinger BAM Teams at the ACBL Fall Nationals. Also, the Patton system of BAM and IMPs still exists in Europe and elsewhere. Experts love these events; almost any expert will tell you he or she prefers board-a-match to all other forms of the game.

So (1.) BAM scoring is easy to understand, and (2.) despite this, experts love it. So why aren't there more BAM events for these experts? Obviously, there should be. My proposal is that a bridge organisation such as the ACBL, EBL or the WBF introduce BAM scoring for an important team event such as the Vanderbilt, European Championship or World Championship. Here's how it would work. For the Vanderbilt or a World Championship Knockout match, you play your (let's say) 60-board match and score it BAM. Thirty and a half points would be required for a win to advance to the next match. In a European Championship or World Championship Round Robin, each match would be scored at BAM. In a series of twenty-board matches, for example, it would be a simple matter to keep a running total of BAM scores for each match. No conversion to VPs would be required.

So, how about it – a simple method of scoring, easily understandable by all, an event the players would love - what have we got to lose? Try it on an experimental basis. For example, suppose it's the Vanderbilt. BAM scoring could be introduced only for the semifinals and finals (these are the matches typically broadcast online) as a pilot program, increasing in scope if reaction is positive and burying the idea if reaction is negative.

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## The 47<sup>th</sup> European Championships, Malmö, June 26–July 5, 2004

Sixteen rounds into the Championships, halfway through, Sweden still entertained thoughts of dethroning Italy. They had lost just one match, the Italians two, and were within 5 Victory Points of the defending champions. The rest of the field was more than 40 VP adrift. On this board from the Italy-Belgium match, the Italians were much more subtle than their counterparts:

### Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

<p>♠ J 2 ♥ A J 7 ♦ A J 10 7 2 ♣ A 10 9</p> <p>♠ Q 9 8 5 ♥ 8 5 4 3 2 ♦ 4 3 ♣ J 2</p>	<p>♠ A 10 6 3 ♥ K 10 ♦ K 9 8 ♣ Q 6 5 4</p> <p>♠ K 7 4 ♥ Q 9 6 ♦ Q 6 5 ♣ K 8 7 3</p>
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Both North-Souths bid one no trump-three no trumps and both Easts led a low spade. West won the queen and returned the suit to the ace, and East played the spade ten to dummy's king. Both declarers now ran the queen of diamonds.

Conraets defended in simple style, winning and leading his last spade to Neve's eight. Neve switched to a heart and Bocchi rose with the ace and cashed the diamonds. That squeezed Conraets between his club stopper and the heart king, and Bocchi had nine tricks for plus 600.

By contrast, upon winning the king of diamonds, Lauria did not cash the defensive spade trick, instead returning a diamond. On the run of the diamonds he unconcernedly gave up the club guard and Kaplan crossed to dummy in clubs to take the heart finesse. That was one down, as Lauria now 'discovered' a fourth spade; minus 100 and 12 IMPs to Italy.

Netherlands and Italy met in Round 14...

### Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Fantoni	Muller	Nunes
—	—	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

A perfectly normal contract and a perfectly normal club lead from North. South won the king and returned the suit, North ducking when declarer played the queen. De Wijs then went on to unblock the spade king and play a low heart. Fantoni elected to rise with his ace, hoping the clubs would run., but when he next cashed the club ace the contract could no longer be beaten. When he exited with a heart, declarer could afford the luxury of the diamond finesse, plus 630.

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Verhees	Bocchi	Jansma
—	—	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Transfer to hearts

The Dutch defenders made no mistake. South led a diamond, won by dummy's jack, the king of spades was unblocked and a heart was led. This time, North had no reason to play the ace and the king won. Declarer continued with two rounds of spades establishing the suit. Here, Jansma played a heart, ducked all around, then king and another club. That was five tricks for the defence and 12 IMPs to the Netherlands.

They were leading 29-12, when this board appeared:

### Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Fantoni	Muller	Nunes
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♠	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

A perfectly normal contract. You need either the diamond king onside or a good guess/favourable split in trumps. Muller won the lead of a low heart with dummy's ace, cashed two top trumps, crossed in clubs, and took the diamond finesse. Alas that was one down, and minus 50.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Verhees	Bocchi	Jansma
1 NT	Pass	2 ♡	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♡	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♡	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Here too, the defence led a heart, this time from North, to dummy's ace. Maybe playing for a swing, or just following his nose, Duboin cashed one top trump, crossed in clubs and ran the ten of spades. He lost a diamond later, but had gained a huge swing of 14 IMPs for his team. Nevertheless, the match result was a rare loss for Italy, 38-68.

*(A line of play worth considering is to win the heart, ruff a heart, cash a high spade, cross on a club, ruff dummy's last heart, cross on another club and take a spade finesse. The lack of a club lead after North failed to double four hearts probably means that the leader does not have one or five. And who knows, even if the spade loses, South may be down to red cards. If he's not, the diamonds finesse remains. - Ed.)*

Would your partnership have been able to sort out this defensive mixup from Greece versus Germany?

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Filios	Reps	Papakyria-kopoulos	Ludewig
—	—	—	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	5 ◇	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Ludewig led the king of clubs on which Reps played the queen. Reasoning that North was more likely to hold four-four in the black suits, South then continued with the club king and tried the spade ace.

Greece were plus 400 and set for a nice swing. Or so we thought. The open Room was the scene of a horror show:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gotard	Kannavos	Piekarek	Triantafyllopoulos
—	—	—	1 ♠
Pass	2 NT	5 ◇	5 ♠
Pass	Pass	6 ◇	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Five spades would have been a little expensive but it helped push the Germans overboard. South led the club ace, three, queen, five, and continued...the spade ace, North having promised four or more. That was plus 1090 and 12 IMPs in, rather than minus 300 and 12 away.

Looking at all four hands it is rather easier to get these situations right than it is at the table. In this case, defending at the six-level, South might have reasoned that his partner would have given a count card with five clubs rather than the queen.

*Svend Novrup reported the following deal.*

Heidin-Mouritzen of the Faroe Islands landed a small slam against Lithuania by means of a rare guest at the bridge table, a stepping-stone end-play that is undoubtedly one of the best achievements of the championships so far.

Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Hedin		Mouritzen
—	2 ♣	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

An extremely difficult hand to bid, and probably you will not consider six spades to be the top spot, but good slams are slams that make! Three clubs showed a hand with HHxxxx in clubs and almost no side strength, so Jóannes Mouritzen thought he had to do something extra on the next round. He felt like bidding six spades, but as Hedin never refuses an invitation, he bid only five spades.

East, who expected to see AQxxxx of clubs in dummy, led a shrewd ten of clubs. Hedin won the ace and embarked on his voyage to twelve tricks: diamond to the queen, heart ruff, diamond to the ace, heart ruff, club ruff, spade ace, king, jack, and the ace of hearts, hoping for the king to drop. This did not happen, so he had to play for the stepping-stone in this position:

♠ 4  
 ♥ Q J  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ —  
 ♠ —  
 ♥ K 10  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ Q  
 ♠ 10  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ J 6  
 ♣ —  
 ♠ —  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ K 10  
 ♣ J

East was put on lead with the last trump while the club jack was discarded from dummy, and he had to lead away from the diamond jack.

Later on, one admiring fan, breathless with admiration, asked Hedin, "How did you know to finesse for the diamond jack?"

Hedin had a prosaic answer to that. "If East had held a non-diamond, he probably would have cashed it!"

Raymond Brock reported the following deal.

**Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.**

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lambrinos	Price	Zotos	Simpson
1 ♣	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

This board from the Open series match between England and Greece saw some declarer play that must be a candidate for the best-played hand of the championships.

In the Closed Room, Kannavos had made ten tricks in two spades. Here, David Price was declarer in game.

One difficult aspect of defence is when dummy has a source of tricks and the defender with most of the high cards does not have a strong holding in that suit. If his partner guards the suit (in this case diamonds), it is sufficient to defend passively; if not, it is important to set up side winners quickly.

Here East led a low spade and the jack was allowed to hold the trick. West now made a small error when he switched to a low heart. Declarer went up with the king, cashed the ace of spades, and played four rounds of clubs, discarding dummy's hearts. Now he led a diamond to the king – this

was not a guess for him as he could not afford for West to gain the lead to cash the king of trumps.

Price ruffed a diamond to hand and ruffed a heart with dummy's last trump. That was eight tricks in the bag and he still had two trump tricks to come – plus 620 and 10 IMPs to England.

On this deal from Belgium versus England, the defence missed two opportunities to defeat declarer and declarer missed one chance to secure his contract. Who would come out on top?

**Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Alain L.	Jason H.	Valérie L.	Justin H.
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
Double	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

It was the Labaeres against the Hacketts. Jason led the spade six and when Alain played the nine from dummy, Justin missed the first chance for the defence by ducking to maintain transportation with his partner's hand – a play only an expert would make. Declarer drove out the ace of diamonds and Justin shifted to a club.

Alain now missed his chance by rising (understandably) with the king. Jason won the ace and, missing his side's last chance, returned the suit. When the heart king was doubleton onside, that was nine tricks for Belgium and 6 IMPs against the 180 at the other table.

On the following deal, in the Closed Room Fantoni had led the diamond ace and another against four spades, allowing the defence to score three trump tricks.

**Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.**

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Pehlivan	Lauria	Uzum.
—	—	—	2 ♡
Pass	2 ♠	Double	Pass
3 ♡	Pass	4 ♡	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Pehlivan led the heart four, and was given no second chance as Versace won and started on trumps immediately. Pehlivan did play ace and another diamond when in with his trump, but it was too late. Versace crashed the trump honours on the next round of the suit, then ruffed the heart return, crossed with a trump to play king and another heart. He now knew everybody's shape and so guessed the club queen for plus 620 and 12 well-earned IMPs to Italy.

Poland and the Netherlands were both going well when they met in Round 24.

**Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.**

	♠ Q 9	
	♡ A Q 6 2	
	◇ K Q 6	
	♣ A K 8 6	
♠ K J 6 4		♠ 7 2
♡ 10 8 4 3		♡ K J 9
◇ 10 8 7 4		◇ A 9 5
♣ 9		♣ Q 7 5 4 3
	♠ A 10 8 5 3	
	♡ 7 5	
	◇ J 3 2	
	♣ J 10 2	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Puczynski	de Wijs	Chmurski	Muller
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 ♡
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Bartosz Chmurski led a club, which de Wijs won in hand with the king to preserve a sure entry to the dummy with the jack-ten. Next, he played the spade queen, which was allowed to hold, and the nine, taken by the king. A diamond to the ace and another diamond followed, de Wijs winning in hand to lead a club. Chmurski flew with the queen and played another club. When spades did not break and the heart finesse failed, de Wijs was one off.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Verhees	Tuszynski	Jansma	Kowalski
—	—	Pass	Pass
2 ♡	Double	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Two hearts showed the majors, and this was not the best Verhees ever held for the bid. It induced Jansma to lead the heart jack, which was allowed to hold, then the king, which

was not. Tuszynski led a diamond, East playing low, to the jack and ran the club jack, losing to the queen.

Had Jansma simply continued hearts at this point, there would have been no story to tell, but he returned a club in an effort to disrupt declarer's transportation. Tuszynski won in hand and drove out the diamond ace, Verhees discarding the spade four. Jansma accordingly played the spade seven, ducked by declarer, Verhees winning the king.

It looks now as though a diamond will complete the job of severing the link between declarer and the dummy due to the blockage in spades. Such is not the case, however, as West is squeezed in the majors upon North cashing both clubs. A great plus 600 and 12 IMPs to Poland.

The Netherlands was in a desperate battle for the fifth and final qualifying spot for Estoril when they met Bulgaria in Round 26.

*Jos Jacobs reported the following deal.*

**Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.**

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zahariev	de Wijs	Karakolev	Muller
—	1 ♠	Double	Pass
2 ♠	Double	3 ♠	Pass
3 NT	Pass	4 ♡	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
5 ◇	Pass	Pass	Pass

West's slow auction to three no trumps persuaded his partner to seek an alternative contract. As it happens, five diamonds can be made...

De Wijs made the fine lead of the heart ace, then switched to the diamond queen. Declarer won and ruffed a heart in dummy, ruffed a spade in hand, then ruffed another heart with the diamond ten. As this gave South two trumps tricks, he was one down.

Suppose instead the play goes heart ace, diamond ace, heart ruff, spade ace, spade ruff, heart ruff, three rounds of clubs. This is the position: (See top of next page.)

With eight tricks in, declarer cashes the heart jack and leads the thirteenth club, scoring the ten of diamonds en passant, with the diamond ace to come.

In reality, the Netherlands won 12 IMPs as three no trumps made easily on a spade lead at the other table.



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

Christer Andersson reported this deal.

**Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Kolata	Honti	Atabey	Harangozó
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	2 ♥
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Redouble	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Double	Redouble	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South led his singleton club to North's jack and ruffed the continuation of a low club. He continued with the jack of diamonds, won with East's ace. A spade to the queen on the table revealed the trump position as South discarded a diamond. Declarer ruffed a club and cashed the two top spades to reach this position:

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

Declarer cashed the heart king and threw North in with his last spade. North tried a diamond to the king, but Atabey

ruffed the clubs good and still had the heart ace as an entry. A real beauty created by the Turkish hands of Atabey.

The following deal, bid by the Norwegian pair of Boye Brogeland and Erik Sælensminde, is a candidate for the 2004 Romex Best Bid Hand of the Year.

The deal was reported by Jon Sveindal.

**Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.**

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

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Brogeland		Sælensminde	
—	—	Pass	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
4 NT	pass	5 ♦	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	7 ♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The Norwegians were the only pair to bid the near-waterproof diamond grand slam. Brogeland showed 22-24 and Sælensminde the minors. Brogeland preferred diamonds and Sælensminde showed heart shortness, one key card and third round club control. He had just what Brogeland need to ruff two hearts and avoid the spade finesse. The play was no challenge.

The following deal was reported by Patrick Jourdain.

Mike Tedd has returned to international bridge after a twenty-year layoff caused by career and family. This deal from Round 27 of the Open when Wales met Serbia & Montenegro is evidence that Tedd's technique is as sound as ever.

**Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Savljic	Tedd	Kikic	Salisbury
—	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦
Double	Pass	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In the Closed Room, the Serbian pair did not mention the spade suit and stopped in a part score that struggled home on a spade lead from East.

The stakes were higher at the other table where Tedd had opened, West had doubled for a diamond lead and East had dutifully led the ten. Tedd withheld the queen, winning in hand with the ace. He continued with a heart, and West won to switch to a trump: two, nine, ten, ace. Tedd unblocked the heart jack, returned to dummy with a trump, and threw his losing diamond on the king of hearts.

The bad news was that the suit did not break; the good news was that East could not ruff. So now declarer ruffed the fourth heart, returned to dummy with a club ruff, and played the fifth heart in a position where South, West and North each had one trump left.

West was forced to ruff (else declarer has ten tricks by making his remaining trumps separately). Tedd now simply threw a club from hand, and when West tried to exit with the club ace, threw a diamond from dummy, refusing to ruff once again. Now he could show his cards for West was endplayed. Another club would set up a winner and a diamond play would be away from the king. The queen of diamonds was Tedd's tenth trick.

This deal from Round 21 of the Women's series offered two chances to shine, one in the bidding, the other in the play.

**Dealer West. EW Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Långström	Auken	Andersson	von Arnim
—	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	2 NT <sup>2</sup>	Pass	3 ♦ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	3 ♠ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	4 ♦ <sup>5</sup>
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	4 NT <sup>6</sup>
Pass	5 ♦ <sup>7</sup>	Pass	6 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Limit plus in hearts
2. Spade values, usually a suit
3. Ace or king of diamonds
4. Cue bid

5. Diamond ace
6. RKCB
7. 0 or 3

Six hearts is clearly a desirable contract, as three-two hearts will leave you needing only to find one diamond honour inside. The German pair had passed the bidding test, and as their counterparts in the other room had stopped in game, a swing was inevitable – but which way would it go?

East led the queen of clubs and declarer won the ace and played a heart to dummy's ace, followed by the nine of hearts to her queen. That was a farsighted and essential move. East discarded a club.

Now came three rounds of spades, declarer discarding the losing club from dummy, followed by a low diamond. This was the position:

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

When East played low, declarer played the ten. When that held she cashed the ace and played another diamond. East won, but had no good move. Declarer can ruff a spade high and a club low while using the good diamonds to force West's trumps.

East might have done better to play the diamond king, forcing declarer to guess the position in the suit. Also, failing to unblock in trumps would have led to defeat as declarer could not draw trumps ending in hand. A great effort.

As detailed last month, the winners were Italy in the Open, Sweden in the Women's and Denmark in the Seniors.

## IBPA Website Notice

### The Bulletin

To access a Bulletin on the IBPA website, enter the website address [www.IBPA.com](http://www.IBPA.com), followed by a forward slash, then the Bulletin code, immediately followed by .pdf. This Bulletin, August 2004, will have code 475nc, so you will need to key in:

[www.IBPA.com/475nc.pdf](http://www.IBPA.com/475nc.pdf)

### The Handbook

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

## To the Organizers in Malmö and to Organizers of Future Press Rooms

We were very happy with the Press Room in Malmö for the following reasons:

- very helpful and competent, multilingual staff
- enough desk space
- sufficient number (8) of computers
- enough Internet connections (8+) for private computers
- outstanding match coverage and result service
- good ventilation
- press only.

In particular, we appreciate that we did not have to share computers with players doing their emails. Many thanks for a job well done.

However, even good things can be improved. Many journalists assume that the Press Room is a safe place where they can leave their belongings. But from experience, we know that the Press Room is not a place where computers should be left at any time. The Press Room Manager cannot be expected to attend to everything at all times. To avoid laptops being stolen (this has unfortunately become the rule and not the exception), we need to address the security question.

In Malmö, journalists had the opportunity to deposit their valuables (e.g., laptops) in the reception area. That was a good service. Even better would have been to have lockers (of the type that you find at railway stations, etc.) in, or nearby the Press Room so that each and all can lock up their valuables. Alternatively the organizers could provide (sell, rent or lend) locks for computers (so that those bringing their own can chain them to the table).

Is this a problem for the organizers? Well, you could (rightfully) say that each must take responsibility for his/her own belongings. But if something is stolen, it will no doubt reflect on the organizers (and the IBPA). So, we have common interests. And the best solution must be that each individual journalist has the opportunity to himself lock up his valuables.

On the behalf of IBPA,  
Per Jannersten, Organizational Vice-President  
ibpa@jannersten.se

### Notice to All IBPA Members !! Change of e-Mail Address

If your e-mail address changes, please let us know. Send the change to the Bulletin Production Manager,

Jean Tyson, at:

**mail@ibpa.com**

We need this for various reasons, not least of which is to let you know the Bulletin codes and to reach you personally.

## Serendipity & Visualisation

R. Jayaram, Baroda, India

The proposed title of my third bridge book, on which I am now working, is Serendipity. It was Horace Walpole who coined the word 'serendipity,' from the title of the fairy tale, "The Three Princes of Serendip," whose heroes 'were always making discoveries, by accident and sagacity, of things they were not in quest of.' The following deal, taken from Round 15 of the Women's Teams at the European Championships in Malmö, is a good example. And it is not double dummy.

### Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

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

"The club slam looks pretty good on the East/West cards does it not, but after a spade lead, declarer cannot afford the heart overruff as there is then a spade ruff. And if declarer draws a round of trumps before setting about the heart ruffs? Now there is no spade ruff, but South simply overruffs the third heart and returns her last trump to leave declarer with a heart loser...Nobody got close to the unlucky slam," wrote the Daily Bulletin of June 30 from Malmö.

That spade jack lead is an obvious singleton. Suppose West wins in hand, crosses to dummy with the ace of hearts and then plays the deuce of clubs to the queen. When the finesse stands and North follows, the declarer makes a discovery that he was 'not in quest of.' No matter how the clubs are placed now, he is home. He plays a spade - if North ruffs, the club king is drawable, one heart can be ruffed on the table and the other heart goes away on the preserved ace of spades. If North discards on the second spade, dummy's ace wins and the ten can be advanced for a ruffing finesse. Dummy still has the jack-nine of trumps, and the sure entry allows both a heart ruff (South is welcome to over-ruff) and a discard on the established nine of spades.

The only club holding that will defeat the slam is for North to hold king to three as he can win the first round and play a second club. He still has one more and the ruffing finesse will not work now, leaving declarer with a heart to lose. But if North holds king to four - lo and behold, serendipity - the contract is makeable, so long as North has three hearts. When South shows out on the first club, declarer goes up with the ace and plays for two heart ruffs in dummy.

The key play is the TWO of clubs at trick three. Interestingly, if the second spade is ruffed, it is not annoying, it is revealing. An example of giving away a trick in a loser-less suit that wins the day!



Shakti Gawain (in Creative Visualisation) states, "Create a clear idea or picture of the situation exactly as you want it." I used that theme in my second book, Moments of Truth at the Bridge Table (Batsford Books, London, 2003) in the following deal. Archie Sequeira (South), one of India's top players found himself in a very ambitious five club contract after West had opened the bidding with one spade, on this layout:

♠ Q  
 ♥ A K Q 2  
 ♦ A 9 8 6 5  
 ♣ 8 3 2

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

The diamond king lead was won on the table and the jack appears from the right. A low diamond off the table brought down the ten from the right as Archie ruffed in hand. After some thought, Archie visualized a five-two-five-one hand with West, with a singleton ace of trumps (the king-jack of spades and king-queen of diamonds would still need the ace of clubs to justify the opening bid). Archie then played a low trump from hand at trick three, 'drawing' the ace.

Archie was comfortably home with the ace of spades and two spade ruffs on the table, four hearts, the ace of diamonds, a diamond ruff in hand and at trick 11 he was in dummy with East reduced to queen-ten-nine in trumps and Archie sitting pretty with king-jack-seven. Missing ace-queen-ten-nine-five of trumps, with the suit breaking four-one, Archie lost just two trumps on the whole deal!

[Jayaram's first book was Logic, Intuition and Instinct at the Bridge Table (Visisphere Publishing, New York, 2001). He has been the many-times editor of Indian Nationals and BFAME Championships Daily Bulletins. – Ed.]

## A Jewel

Jean-Paul Meyer, Paris

I was playing an ordinary session on Bridge Base Online when this jewel came along. I was North, South was Pierre Yves Guillamin (France), West was Tiger from Bulgaria, and East was, I think, Westlop, from Australia or New Zealand.

Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

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

♠ 4 3 2  
 ♥ A K 4 3 2  
 ♦ Q 4  
 ♣ K J 10

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	Pass	1 ♥	Double
5 ♥!	Pass	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	Pass	Double	Redouble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West, a strong believer in the Law, elected to lead the jack of diamonds. As dummy, I could watch all four hands and I thought, "One down," and one down it was. At the end my partner said, "Sorry." I thought he was referring to the bidding, but meeting him later, he pointed out, "I went down in an almost-laydown contract!" Can you see why?

And right he was. Suppose he ducks the first trick and West continues with a small diamond. South wins, plays five rounds of spades and two more diamonds, finishing in dummy. Four cards are left and declarer has an almost-perfect inferential count: East is known to be three-five-two-three and must hold the club king for the final double.

If East has kept two hearts and two clubs, ace and another club sees declarer home. If he has kept three clubs and only one heart, a heart is ruffed in hand and a club led to the nine and ten.

Almost laydown? West would have defeated the contract with a club shift at trick two, but who would find that defence?

Double dummy, declarer can also succeed by winning the first diamond, drawing trumps, then exiting a low diamond. East must play a heart. Declarer ruffs, and achieves the same ending as before. Of course, if East contributes the queen of diamonds at trick one it holds the trick.

## IBDA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

Members are free to use these deals without crediting the author or IBPA.

### 284. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

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

♠ A J 9 4 2  
 ♥ K 9 8  
 ♦ A 9  
 ♣ 8 5 3

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
—	—	—	1 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

The two notrump response was Jacoby, promising four-card spade support and asking for a singleton. South showed a minimum without a shortage but North pressed on to the slam anyway.

West led the queen of clubs, taken by the king. Declarer could count ten top tricks and an eleventh from a club ruff in dummy. After drawing trumps with the ace and king, declarer ran the queen of diamonds. When West produced the king of diamonds and East the queen of hearts, declarer was down one. He complained about his bad luck. However, the fault was not with his ill fortune but his defective play.

A better approach is to work along elimination lines. First, draw trumps and cash the ace of clubs. Next, cross to hand with a trump and ruff the eight of clubs in dummy. Finally, lead a low heart from dummy covering East's card. As the cards lie, this produces a third heart trick immediately if East plays low, and declarer can set up a third heart trick, to discard his diamond loser, if East produces the ten or queen.

I'm sure you've noticed that if West were to win the eight of hearts with the ten, then any return would give South his twelfth trick. (If the eight forced the queen from West then declarer could claim his contract immediately.)

## 285. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♠
4 NT	5 ♣	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the diamond king to the ace. When the ace of spades revealed that news, declarer needed to discard two diamonds on the hearts before surrendering the lead, and that required East to have four hearts. If hearts were three-two East could prevent declarer throwing his diamonds on the hearts by ruffing the fourth heart. So, heart ace, heart to the ten, heart queen, spade king, spade queen, heart king for a diamond pitch, then the fifth heart. All East takes is a trump.

## 286. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

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

West opened a weak notrump and South made one of those balancing actions that only the current European Champion Italian team seems to survive. North had little option other than raising the overcall to game and when West led the king of hearts, it was South's job to make ten tricks.

After ducking the lead, East playing the ten of hearts to suggest the nine while deny the jack, and winning the next heart with dummy's ace, declarer cashed the ace of trump (retaining the three), pleased to see both opponents following. Clearly, West had the ace of clubs and the contract would depend on bringing in three diamond tricks or endplaying West to force a club return.

As East would have transferred to hearts with five, West had four or five hearts and so at most five diamonds (otherwise he would have a singleton in clubs or spades). So declarer cashed the king and ace of diamonds next. When neither the queen nor the jack of diamonds appeared, South needed trumps two-two and an endplay to make his contract. (If trumps were three-one, West would always have a safe heart exit when thrown in with a diamond.)

So declarer ruffed dummy's remaining heart high and then drew the outstanding trumps with dummy's king (again keeping the three). Next he led the ten of diamonds. If East covered, declarer would ruff high and, as West's jack would fall on that trick, lead the three of trumps to dummy's four to cash the good nine of diamonds. He would take six trumps, three diamonds and a heart. When East played low declarer threw a club and West was endplayed on winning the jack; he now had to lead a club or concede a ruff and discard.

## 287. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

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

North stretched to the heart game because he considered his trumps and distribution were favourable.

When West led the king of spades, declarer considered his prospects. He needed East to hold both the ace and king of clubs. So one possibility was to draw three rounds of trumps and plays a club. However South saw the trap involved; East

would win and shift to diamonds, forcing declarer to win the ace, ruff a diamond back to dummy to lead a second club; East would win again and play a diamond in this position:

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

South is forced to ruff, play a club to the queen and lose the last three tricks.

Declarer avoided this fate by drawing just two rounds of trumps before playing a club. East took the king of clubs and shifted to a diamond, but South was in control. He won the ace of diamonds and crossed to dummy with a trump to plays a second club to East's ace. Now a second diamond could do no harm as dummy had two trumps left; declarer ruffed in dummy, crossed to hand with the queen of clubs, ruffed another diamond and claimed two club tricks for his contract.

## News & Views

### Silver Distinction

Micke Melander of Sweden, a member of the EBL Executive and the Chairman of the Organising Committee of the recent European Bridge Championships, was honoured with the EBL silver medal for leading the Championships to great success.

### New EBL Members

Albania and Bosnia & Herzogovenia have joined the European Bridge League, thus raising the total membership of the League to 47 countries. The two new members were admitted following a decision by the EBL Executive at its meeting in Malmö.

### Nickell Not Going to Istanbul

USBF Trials winners Nick Nickell, Dick Freeman, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Bob Hamman and Paul Soloway have decided not to contest the Olympiad Open Teams in Istanbul. Under USBF regulations, they become the USA1 team for the next Bermuda Bowl in Estoril.

Replacing them as the USA's representatives in Turkey will be the runnersup in this year's Trials: Roy Welland, Björn Fallenius, Zia Mahmood, and Michael Rosenberg, augmented with Bobby Levin and Steve Weinstein.

### 48<sup>th</sup> Europeans

Poland will host the next European Championships, to be held in Warsaw from August 12-26, 2006. The event will take place at the Victoria-Sofitel Hotel in the centre of Warsaw, close to the old town.

### European Senior Teams Renamed

The EBL announced in Malmö that its Senior Teams Championship has been renamed in honour of Nils Jensen, its former President, who died recently. The Nils Jensen Senior European Team Championship trophy will be awarded to the winning team, and any country that wins three times will keep the trophy permanently. Denmark was the inaugural winner.

### Errata

It was erroneously stated in last month's issue that Sweden qualified in all three events for Estoril with top-five finishes at the Europeans. As was pointed out by a number of members, this was incorrect. Only the top four qualified for Estoril in the Seniors. Sweden finished fifth.

Coach Kokish also pointed out that it was Paul Soloway, not Bob Hamman who declared the successful six club contract against the Meltzer team (Bulletin 474, page 6, Board 119) in the semifinal of the USBF Trials.

### Sportsperson of the Year

The ACBL has honoured Lynn Deas as its Sydney Lazard Jr. Sportsperson of the Year. Deas was cited for her courage, strength of character and competitiveness. Deas gave all the credit to her partners and teammates.

### Alzheimer's Association

The ACBL Charity Foundation presented a cheque for US\$100,000 to the American Alzheimer's Association which provides research, education, training and support to the families of those with the disease. The Alzheimer's Association was earlier named as the Charity of the Year by the ACBL Charity Foundation.

### Bird Book

IBPA member David Bird's book, *No Trump Contracts*, has won the American Bridge Teachers Association Book of the Year (Intermediate/Advanced Level) award for 2004. The awards committee commented on the high quality of the book and its usefulness to teachers and students.

### Truscott Honoured

IBPA Honor Member, former Chairman and President Emeritus Alan Truscott has been honoured by the ACBL Goodwill Committee for his outstanding contribution to the game. Truscott was feted at a reception in New York at the recent NABC. Gail Greenberg, Joan Gerard and Leonard Harmon were similarly honoured.

### Intellympics

According to WBF President José Damiani, "If we believe in our capability, we will succeed in our project to build a new category of Olympic Games, the Intellympics. There are not many sports that can help youngsters to improve their memory, their concentration and their reasoning skills, and at the same time, help older people avoid or reduce the effects of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. We have prepared presentations along these lines that are being sent to Olympic authorities."

Damiani and Gianarrigo Rona, President of the European Bridge League, will speak about the contribution bridge

makes to education and health at the Congress of Sport for All, organised by the International Olympic Committee.

### Hugh Ross in Recovery

Hugh Ross, former World Champion, is recovering from two strokes he suffered in June. A true gentleman and one of the nicest guys in bridge, Ross was sorely missed at the Summer Nationals in New York.

### Book on Edgar Kaplan Published

The Bridge World has recently announced publication of *Bridge Master: The Best of Edgar Kaplan*, a tribute to one of the game's leading personalities and inventors. It is 256 pages, hardcover and the cost is US\$26.95. See [www.bridgeworld.com](http://www.bridgeworld.com) or phone (800) 366-1939.

### George Rosencranz's Wit

IBPA member George Rosencranz may be getting on in years, but he is still as sharp as a tack. When he responded one no trump to his partner's one diamond opening bid and played it there, one of his Hungarian opponents said, "In Budapest, we would have bid four no trumps with your cards."

"I know," replied George, "that's why I left Hungary."

### US Junior Team Trials

Results of the USBF Junior Team Trials – Andrew Hurd-Tim Crank; Noble Shore-Charlie Garrod; and Brad Campbell-Jason Feldman finished one-two-three respectively in the Trials conducted in NYC during the NABC. The two first-named pairs will form USA2 in next year's World Junior Team Championship, unless one of them is picked by the USA1 team of John Kranyak-Joe Grue and John Hurd-Joel Wooldridge. If they are picked, the third-place pair will form the team with the unpicked pair. They will then themselves choose a third pair.

### What Goes Around...

Ten years ago in Albuquerque, Sue Picus' team beat JoAnn Sprung's in the final of the McConnell Teams. Since the two were friends, they had dinner together, with Sally Woolsey, Dori Cohen, and a foreigner, Barry Rigal, from Great Britain. They had an uproarious time.

JoAnn and Sue were opponents again in the final of the Women's Knockout, this time the Wagar Teams in New York. JoAnn achieved her revenge this time, and the same fivesome, including Sue's husband, Barry Rigal, had dinner together to celebrate JoAnn's win.



## Summer NABC, NYC, July 9-18, 2004

(From the Daily Bulletins edited by Brent Manley and Henry Francis. Some further editing has taken place for these pages.)

As is the usual practice, the Daily Bulletin reported some amusing incidents from the previous New York City Summer Nationals in 1974.

**One-Track Mind** - ATD took the microphone to announce that an automobile claim check had been found, license number so-and-so. Dead silence. Turning the ticket over, the

director said, "Oh, there's a bridge hand on the back. You hold: ace-king third, ace-king-queen eighth, stiff, stiff."

Immediately a young man came dashing to microphone, waving his arms. "It's mine, it's mine, and I made it, too – four hearts!"

**No-Track Mind** - The Hospitality Desk reported some unusual requests:

"Is this where I get a partner for the Individual?" and, "What time does the seven o'clock side game start?"

Our first deal comes from the 2004 Life Master Pairs.

### Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Apfelbaum	Berkowitz	Grant	Cohen
—	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥
3 ♠	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

David Berkowitz started with his diamond king, switching to his singleton club at trick two. The plan, as you can see, was to win a high trump and put Larry Cohen in with the heart ace to get a ruff.

However, Jay Apfelbaum correctly read the situation and made the only play to keep from going down. He won the club in dummy and played the diamond queen, throwing his heart queen on it. Berkowitz won the diamond ace, but after the Scissors Coup, he had no way to reach Cohen's hand. As you can see, an initial club lead would have been successful for the defence.

Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell seem to be making dramatic comebacks a way of life. They were down 35 IMPs going into the last quarter of the Grand National Teams, but got those IMPs back and two to spare in the final 16 boards! This one helped.

### Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Seamon	Lazard	Cohler	Bramley
1 ♡	Double	Redouble	Pass
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Seamon started with the spade ace and switched to the diamond nine. Bramley tried the king, losing to the ace, and a club came back to the ace. On the club continuation, Bramley rose with the king and played a spade from dummy.

Cohler alertly rose with the queen and drew trumps with the queen and ten, a spade going from dummy. Cohler played his remaining spade to Seamon, who cashed the jack and king. This was the position:

	♠ —	
	♡ A K	
	◇ J 6 2	
	♣ —	
♠ K		♠ —
♡ J 10 8		♡ Q 5
◇ 5		◇ Q 10 4
♣ —		♣ —
	♠ —	
	♡ 9 6 4	
	◇ 8 7	
	♣ —	

As West cashed the last spade, Bramley suffered the ignominy of having his dummy squeezed. Down six, minus 1400. "Sorry, Partner, could have got out for down five."

Remarkably, the result could have been pretty much duplicated at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Passell	Meckstroth	Wold	Rodwell
1 ♡	1 NT	Double	Redouble
Pass	2 ◇	Double	Pass
Pass	2 ♠	3 NT!	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Not sure if pass would be forcing, Wold simply bid three no trumps. That bid cost his team the event as 14 IMPs went the other way. Even had they allowed Meckstroth five tricks in two spades doubled, that would have been a 7-IMP loss on the board but a 5-IMP win in the match.

The seven of diamonds is called the "beer card" under special circumstances, for example, when it wins trick thirteen in a successful contract. When that happens, declarer yells, "Beer card!" and his partner must buy him a beer.

Where did all this "beer card" stuff start? The seven of diamonds plays a special role in a Danish game called Boma-Loma. Partly because of this, bridge players in Copenhagen were the first to use the beer card term. It became quite common and reached London in the 1980s. The term was imported to the USA by the American Junior Team after they made a visit to a World Junior Camp in Poland. Now, beer card is a term used worldwide.

David Milton earned his beer on the following deal.

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

	♠ J 9 8	
	♡ 10 7 5 4	
	◇ A K 6	
	♣ 8 4 3	
♠ K Q 10		♠ 7 6 4
♡ K Q J		♡ A 8 6 3 2
◇ J 9		◇ Q 10
♣ A J 10 7 2		♣ Q 6 5
	♠ A 5 3 2	
	♡ 9	
	◇ 8 7 5 4 3 2	
	♣ K 9	

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

Yes, East-West can make four hearts, but this is a beer card story. West led the heart king and switched to the diamond jack, Milton winning the king. He ruffed a heart, then crossed on a diamond to ruff another heart. On a third round of diamonds, West discarded a club and East ruffed with the spade four.

East played a trump and Milton went up with the ace. He played yet another diamond and ruffed it successfully with the jack. He called for dummy's last heart and ruffed it with the five of spades, West finally overruffing with the queen. West cashed the spade king and Milton discarded the diamond eight.

West was forced to play clubs and when he played ace and another, Milton won the king and cashed the diamond seven, the contact-fulfilling trick, yelling, "Beer card!"

Mark Horton is always good for an interesting story. Here is one of his from New York.

Chatting to opponents before the start of the game, I reminded them of Bob Hamman's dictum that, on average, you will make twenty mistakes per session. Unfortunately, it did not take long for the first to appear, as this was the first deal of the session:

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

	♠ K 10 7	
	♡ 6	
	◇ Q J 5 3 2	
	♣ 8 5 4 3	
♠ 9 6 3		♠ A J 5
♡ A Q J 10 5 4 3		♡ K 8 7
◇ 9 8		◇ A 10 7 4
♣ 2		♣ K 9 7
	♠ Q 8 4 2	
	♡ 9 2	
	◇ K 6	
	♣ A Q J 10 6	

West	North	East	South
—	2 ◇	2 NT	Pass
3 ◇	Pass	3 ♡	Pass
4 ♡	Pass	Pass	Pass



As is so often the case, three no trumps would have been easier. South led the diamond king and declarer won with the ace, drew trumps ending in dummy and played a club to the king and ace. South exited with a spade to the king and ace and declarer followed with a diamond to North, who exited with a club. Declarer could not avoid the loss of two more spades for down one. Have you spotted his mistake?

On the diamond king lead declarer must duck. If South plays a second diamond, declarer wins, draws trumps, and plays a third diamond, discarding dummy's losing club, a classic loser-on-loser play. Later, a losing spade goes on the established diamond.

If, instead, South switches to a spade at trick two, declarer wins with the ace, draws trumps ending in the dummy, and plays a diamond. North can cover, but declarer wins and plays a third diamond, again discarding the losing club. North can play a spade, but a winning guess will see declarer home.

Finally, if North actually has a six-card suit and the club ace for his weak two bid, and if South switches to a club to the ace at trick two, to be followed by another diamond from North, declarer simply ducks and has two discards for dummy's losing spades.

Alex Kolesnik reported the following deal.

Seldom do you see a play such as the one that knocked us out of the Spingold.

**Dealer South. Neither Vul.**

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

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

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

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

East won the opening diamond lead with the ace, played the king of clubs, and switched back to diamonds. Declarer played the jack, and West, Shaya Levit of Israel, ducked! The jack held.

At the other table, the contract and early defence were the same, but West took the diamond queen and played another. Declarer took the spade finesse successfully, eventually going one down.

Levit's incredible duck made the difference. To make the contract, I needed the heart finesse with hearts three-two, or the spade finesse with spades three-three. I crossed to dummy with the spade ace and played the heart queen, unblocking the jack to retain a late heart entry.

Levit won the heart king and played a diamond. I had to lose three diamonds, two clubs and a heart for down two. We lost 2 IMPs on the board and the match by 1 IMP. Levit's amazing duck had won the match!

To be continued...

## Results

### 2004 NABC, NYC

**Morehead Grand National Teams** – Barnet Shenkin; Jim Mahaffey; Michael Seamon, Gary Cohler; Jeff Meckstroth; Eric Rodwell

**North American College Team Championship** – Massachusetts Institute of Technology: Ljudmila Kamenova; Jason Chiu; John Hopkinson; Kevin Chu

**Von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs** – Walid el-Ahmedy; Zia Mahmood

**Senior Swiss Teams** – Mike Shuman; Fran Dickman; Hamish Bennett; Gene Simpson; Bruce Noda

**World Schools Team Championship** – Poland: Marcin Malesa; Piotr Nawrocki; Filip Niziol; Przemyslaw Piotrowski; Michal Nowosadzki; Jan Sikora

**Wagar Women's Knockout Teams** – JoAnn Sprung; Kathy Sulgrove; Pam Wittes; Renée Mancuso; Karen Allison; Peggy Sutherlin

**IMP Pairs Championship** – Nikolay Demirev; Jiang Gu

**World Junior Individual Championship** - Michal Nowosadzki

**World Computer Bridge Championship** – Jack (Netherlands)

**North American Fast Open Pairs** – Rich Zucker; Peter Weiden

**USBF Junior Pair Trials** – Tim Crank; Andrew Hurd

**Mixed Master Board-a-Match Teams** – Rozanne Pollack; Bill Pollack; Steve Robinson; Beth Palmer; Lynn Deas; Bill Pettis

**Spingold Knockout Teams** - Nick Nickell; Dick Freeman; Jeff Meckstroth; Eric Rodwell; Bob Hamman; and Paul Soloway

### Prize Money Bridge

**Sacramento Open, June 2004** - Harvey Brody

**Philadelphia Open, June 2004** – Ernest Campbell

**Las Vegas Open, June 2004** – George Vasilevsky

**Chicago Open, June 2004** – Brian Beecher

**New York Open, July 2004** – Terry Michaels



# Correspondence ...

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

Email: [ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca](mailto:ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca)

## To the Editor,

The London Metropolitan Bridge Association is pleased to announce the details of its most prestigious competition, the Lederer Memorial Trophy. The 2004 Lederer will be held on the weekend of 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> October at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club in London.

The Lederer is contested by eight invited teams from England and overseas. It is sponsored by Bernard Teltscher, President of the LMBA, and hosted by the Young Chelsea; we are grateful to both for their generosity.

Once again we expect a strong field. As well as substantial prizes for the winners and runners-up, there will also be awards for the best bid, played and defended hands.

You would be most welcome to attend Lederer 2004 as a guest of the LMBA. There will be four 12-board matches on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm to 8:15 pm and three matches on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm to 6:15 pm.

The LMBA would be grateful for any publicity you are able to give the Lederer in your bridge columns. Up-to-date information will be posted at: [www.metrobridge.co.uk](http://www.metrobridge.co.uk).

If you require any other information please contact:

**Simon Cochemé** on 020 7603 3032 or [simonx@simonx.plus.com](mailto:simonx@simonx.plus.com) or at 21 Melrose Gardens, London W6 7RN.

## John:

This service listed below is for anyone involved with the 2004 World Team Olympiad in Istanbul - whether you are a player, an official, an administrator or just plain interested!

As information about the events at the Olympiad becomes available, I will be using this service to let you know about it - and indeed about anything else that relates to the event ... hopefully there won't be too many emails, but it is probably the best way of getting the details to you.

If you know of anyone else who would be interested in registering for the service, please email them and ask them to go to:

<http://www.ecatsbridge.com/Documents/maillinglist/postings.asp>

**Anna Gudge, WBF Liason**

## Friendly greetings Mr. Carruthers,

Thanks for your Bulletin which I always enjoy so much (even though you completely ignored my partner's (Arthur Hughes) and my win on June 5th of the WorldWide Pairs.

## Regards, Petra Mansell, Durban

*My apologies Petra, however, I took the results directly from the ecats website. They must have been subsequently updated. You and Hughes are currently properly credited.*

## Dear John,

Many thanks for the bulletin, which I received today. There are a couple of printing errors and especially Scandinavian names are often spelt wrongly. Page 12, last lines: Sweden did not qualify for Estoril in the Senior series as was correctly mentioned on page 1. Page 14: Magnus Lindkvist (k). Flemming Dahl (not Dahl Flemming). Göran Mattsson (ss). Hans-Olof Hallén (not Olaf). Lars-Ingvar Hydén (é).

But thanks for a lot of interesting reading.

## Yours, etc., Hans-Olof Hallén, Malmö

*As I replied to Hallén, I am particularly sensitive to non-English spellings, but sometimes still misspell them, especially if the name is incorrect in a Daily Bulletin and I do not know the person. In any case, I took full blame for these errors, since I know most of these individuals. On second thought, I decided to blame PO Sundelin!*

## Dear John,

Please allow me a couple of queries re: this edition (July 2004):

Page 4, first column - 1NT Redoubled by NORTH! East was on lead surely, not West. Far more serious however, is that, if West indeed was on lead, his correct opening lead is surely a high club, reserving the option to switch to either diamonds or spades when he sees dummy. As it is, he is able to cash out the clubs before taking a decision; partner's discards will be clear by then.

Page 13, Board 14 - I find it strange that North passes with 20 points and South protects with 2! Didn't North double?

## Danny Roth, Chigwell, England

*Quite right about the first one. As for the second, not only did Rombaut for France pass the balanced twenty-count, only to see his partner balance on a pair of jacks, Bocchi for Italy also passed, only to see Duboin protect!*

# World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
<b>2004</b>			
Aug 1-7	36 <sup>th</sup> Wachauer Bridgewoche	Loiben, Austria	<a href="http://www.noe-bridgesportverband.at">www.noe-bridgesportverband.at</a>
Aug 1-11	19 <sup>th</sup> European Youth Teams	Prague, Czech Republic	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Aug 7-9	Pesta Sukan	Singapore	<a href="http://www.scba.org">www.scba.org</a>
Aug 8-15	Avis Copenhagen Open	Copenhagen, Denmark	<a href="http://blakset.dk/co2004/co2004en/co2004/co2004.htm">http://blakset.dk/co2004/co2004en/co2004/co2004.htm</a>
Aug 10-15	Hong Kong Intercities	Hong Kong, China	<a href="mailto:isawc@cityu.edu.hk">isawc@cityu.edu.hk</a>
Aug 11-12	Bridge Pro Tour	Secaucus, NJ	<a href="http://www.bridgeprotour.com">www.bridgeprotour.com</a>
Aug 13-22	1 <sup>st</sup> Baltic Sea Championships	Ventspils, Latvia	<a href="http://www.balticbridge.lv">www.balticbridge.lv</a>
Aug 13-22	Brighton Summer Meeting	Brighton, England	<a href="http://www.ebu.co.uk">www.ebu.co.uk</a>
Aug 17-27	Festival La Baule	La Baule, France	<a href="http://www.ffbridge.asso.fr">www.ffbridge.asso.fr</a>
Aug 20-22	Festival de la Cote Basque	Biarritz, France	<a href="http://www.biarriz-bridge.com">www.biarriz-bridge.com</a>
Aug 24-30	Mind Sports Olympiad	Manchester, UK	<a href="http://www.msoworld.com">www.msoworld.com</a>
Aug 26-27	Bridge Pro Tour	Santa Clara, CA	<a href="http://www.bridgeprotour.com">www.bridgeprotour.com</a>
Sep 2	Bridge Pro Tour	Pittsburgh, PA	<a href="http://www.bridgeprotour.com">www.bridgeprotour.com</a>
Sep 2-3	Bridge Pro Tour	Santa Clara, CA	<a href="http://www.bridgeprotour.com">www.bridgeprotour.com</a>
Sep 8-10	Generali Masters Individual	Verona, Italy	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Sep 16-24	Festival Internazionale	Elba, Italy	<a href="http://www.federbridge.it">www.federbridge.it</a>
Sep 28-Oct 3	Festival Internazionale	Venice, Italy	<a href="http://www.federbridge.it">www.federbridge.it</a>
Oct 7-10	3 <sup>rd</sup> European Champions Cup	Barcelona, Spain	<a href="http://www.eurobridge.org">www.eurobridge.org</a>
Oct 12-16	15 <sup>th</sup> Sun, Sea & Slams	Barbados, West Indies	<a href="http://www.cacbf.com">www.cacbf.com</a>
Oct 14-15	Bridge Pro Tour	Los Angeles, CA	<a href="http://www.bridgeprotour.com">www.bridgeprotour.com</a>
Oct 16-17	Lederer Memorial	London, England	<a href="mailto:simon@simonx.plus.com">simon@simonx.plus.com</a>
Oct 20-25	X <sup>th</sup> Figueira International Open	Figueira da Foz, Portugal	<a href="mailto:sonia.almeida@casinofigueira.pt">sonia.almeida@casinofigueira.pt</a>
Oct 22	Bridge Pro Tour	Lake Geneva, WI	<a href="http://www.bridgeprotour.com">www.bridgeprotour.com</a>
Oct 23-Nov 6	12 <sup>th</sup> World Team Olympiad	Istanbul, Turkey	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Oct 24-30	3 <sup>rd</sup> Senior International Cup	Istanbul, Turkey	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Oct 28	Bridge Pro Tour	Lake Geneva, WI	<a href="http://www.bridgeprotour.com">www.bridgeprotour.com</a>
Oct 29-31	Antigua Independence Open Tournament	Antigua, West Indies	<a href="http://www.cacbf.com">www.cacbf.com</a>
Oct 31-Nov 6	2 <sup>nd</sup> World University Teams Cup	Istanbul, Turkey	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Nov 1-6	3 <sup>rd</sup> World Transnational Mixed Teams	Istanbul, Turkey	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Nov 5-7	Monte Carlo International Tournament	Monte Carlo, Monaco	<a href="mailto:jcaconseil@monaco377.com">jcaconseil@monaco377.com</a>
Nov 6-10	Tournoi de Bridge de la Famille	Pompadour, France	<a href="http://www.festiBridge.com">http://www.festiBridge.com</a>
Nov 7-13	IV Internacional Festival	La Habana & Varadero, Cuba	<a href="http://www.cacbf.com">www.cacbf.com</a>
Nov 9-14	VII <sup>th</sup> Madeira International Open Festival	Funchal, Madeira, Portugal	<a href="mailto:rodrigo_m_soares@hotmail.com">rodrigo_m_soares@hotmail.com</a>
Nov 14-21	10 <sup>th</sup> Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	<a href="http://www.bridge.co.il/Redsea">www.bridge.co.il/Redsea</a>
Nov 18-28	ACBL Fall NABC	Orlando, FL	<a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>
Nov 20-21	Bridge Pro Tour	Orlando, FL	<a href="http://www.bridgeprotour.com">www.bridgeprotour.com</a>
Nov 24-28	Sicily Open	Cefalù, Sicily, Italy	<a href="http://www.federbridge.it">www.federbridge.it</a>
Nov 26-27	Bridge Pro Tour	Orlando, FL	<a href="http://www.bridgeprotour.com">www.bridgeprotour.com</a>
Nov 29 & Dec 1	European Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs in Europe	<a href="http://www.eblsims.org">www.eblsims.org</a>
Dec 10	Bridge Pro Tour	Indianapolis, IN	<a href="http://www.bridgeprotour.com">www.bridgeprotour.com</a>
Dec 16-18	Bridge Pro Tour	Palm Springs, CA	<a href="http://www.bridgeprotour.com">www.bridgeprotour.com</a>
Dec 17-19	Junior Channel Trophy	England (TBA)	<a href="http://www.ebu.co.uk">www.ebu.co.uk</a>
<b>2005</b>			
Jan 14-16	II <sup>nd</sup> Évora Pairs Festival	Évora, Portugal	<a href="mailto:ruimlmarques@netvisao.pt">ruimlmarques@netvisao.pt</a>
Feb 5-10	EBU Overseas Congress	Tunisia	<a href="http://www.ebu.co.uk">www.ebu.co.uk</a>
Feb 8-13	10 <sup>th</sup> NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	<a href="http://www.jcbl.or.jp">www.jcbl.or.jp</a>
Feb 26-27	2 <sup>nd</sup> White House International Top Teams	Amsterdam, Netherlands	<a href="mailto:jvcleeff@xs4all.nl">jvcleeff@xs4all.nl</a>
Mar 10-20	ACBL Spring NABC	Pittsburgh, PA	<a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>
Mar 21-27	110 <sup>th</sup> Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON	<a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>
Apr 19-24	20 <sup>th</sup> Portuguese Grand Prix	Estoril, Portugal	<a href="mailto:np43je@telepac.pt">np43je@telepac.pt</a>
May 14-21	23 <sup>rd</sup> CACBF Zonal Championships	San José, Costa Rica	<a href="http://www.cacbf.com">www.cacbf.com</a>
Jun 3-4	Worldwide Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs Everywhere	<a href="http://www.ecatsbridge.com">www.ecatsbridge.com</a>
Jun 18-Jul 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> European Open Championships	Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain	<a href="http://www.eurobridge.org">www.eurobridge.org</a>
Jul 1-3	Hans Christian Anderson Open	Odense, Denmark	<a href="http://www.bridgeopen.dk">www.bridgeopen.dk</a>
Jul 14-24	20 <sup>th</sup> European Youth Championships	Wroclaw, Poland	<a href="http://www.eurobridge.org">www.eurobridge.org</a>
Jul 21-31	ACBL Summer NABC	Atlanta, GA	<a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>
Aug 8-17	10 <sup>th</sup> World Youth Team Championships	Sydney, Australia	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Aug 21-31	ACBL Summer NABC	Atlanta, GA	<a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>
Oct 13-16	4 <sup>th</sup> European Champions Cup	Brussels, Belgium	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Oct 22-Nov 5	37 <sup>th</sup> World Team Championships	Estoril, Portugal	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Nov 17-27	ACBL Fall NABC	Denver, CO	<a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>