



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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Year 2006

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IBPA Personalities of the Year: Warren Buffett (USA) & Bill Gates (USA)



For the first time in the 33-year history of this Award we are making two people joint winners. They certainly rank as two of the world's most famous bridge-players, though their fame is built outside bridge. This year, one gave the other a donation that made headlines around the world and brought much favourable mention for bridge in that their friendship and trust of each other was based upon the game. Last year the support they provided to junior bridge in the USA will hopefully transform the future of bridge in that country and reverse the trend of an ageing bridge population there.

When one of these two competed in the World Bridge Championships in Montreal in 2002 and Verona this year, the media were attracted to the championships in volumes we rarely see. Two intellects admired throughout the world are now firmly associated with bridge. The two men, you will have deduced, are Bill Gates of Microsoft and Warren Buffett of Berkshire Hathaway.

Last year they set aside one million dollars to encourage young people to play bridge. The two argue that the game teaches logic, mental arithmetic, and co-operative behaviour, all beneficial to young people.

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This year, Buffett, 'the Sage of Omaha', made a donation to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, a charitable trust, of sixty billion dollars, with the objective of tackling global poverty and disease. The mind-boggling amount has the chance to make a real difference to the world. Making the donation, Mr. Buffett said, "You can do a better job of giving it away than I can." Mr. Gates said: "It's almost scary. If I make a mistake with my own money it just doesn't feel the same as making a mistake with Warren's money."

Also this year, the Warren Buffett Cup will be fought over for the first time, in Dublin, preceding the Ryder Cup of golf in September. The competition brings together the cream of European and North American bridge in individual, pairs and teams play.

The two first met in 1991. Buffett was already a bridge player, and it was admiration for his intellect that encouraged Gates to give the game a try some eight years ago. Both now compete on the internet. This year Bill Gates has also announced his forthcoming retirement from executive control of Microsoft. We have little doubt that he intends to spend more time playing bridge.

P.D. Jourdain, President, International Bridge Press Association, Warsaw, 23rd Aug 2006



Alan Truscott Memorial Award Winner: Chris Dixon (England), for reporting from the South Pole, IBPA Bulletin 494.2, and then from the Sahara in 497.2.

C&R Motors Declarer Play of the Year Winner: Tarek Sadek (Egypt) by Brent Manley (USA) (\$250), Estoril, Bulletin 491.9.



Short list:
 Phil Gue, Governor's Cup, Jakarta Sep/05 by Jos Jacobs, 490.5
 Justin Hackett, Estoril, by Mark Horton in 491.9
 Andrew McIntosh, NEC Cup, by Eric Kokish/Richard Colker, 495.2
 Michael Rosenberg, ACBL Reg'l, by Bobby Wolff, Bulletin 495.3



ITES Defence Award Winner: Nino Masucci (Italy) by Kyoko Ohno (Japan), Estoril Seniors, in Bulletin 494.13

Short list:
 Zia Mahmood, Lederer, by Simon Cochemé, in 493.2
 Peter Gill, South African Nationals, July'05, by Ron Klinger, in 489.5

Fu Zhong & Jack Zhao, Estoril, by Mark Horton, 491.8
 Maarten Schollar dt Dutch Teams Final, by David Bird, 495.4

Precision Bidding Award Winners: Debbie Rosenberg & JoAnna Stansby (USA) by Matt Granovetter (USA) (\$200 + 6 months membership) in Estoril, 499.12

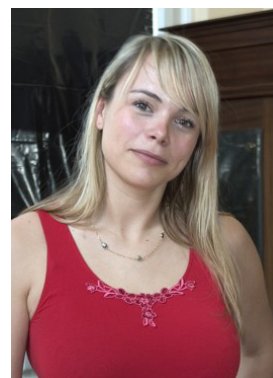
Short list:

Tony Nunn & Sartaj Hans, Lederer, by Simon Cochemé, 493.3
 Jill Meyers & Jill Levin, Cavendish, by Richard Colker, 497.8
 Tommy Garvey & John Carroll (Ire), Verona, by Peter Gill, Slovakia, Bulletin 1.3
 Fred Gitelman & Brad Moss, Verona, by Sheri Winestock, 499.12



Brazilian Junior Award Winner: Dana Tal (Isr) by Sandra Kulovic-Probst (Eng), (\$250), Bangkok, 9.14

Short list:



Marion Michielsen, European University Teams, by Christer Andersson, 490.13
 Meike Wortel, White House Top Teams, by Jan van Cleeff, 495.14
 Justin Lall, Chicago GNT, by Paul Linxwiler, Chicago NABC, Bulletin 2.13
 Adam Edgtton-Niclas Ege, defence World Junior Pairs, by Peter Gill, 499.4

Thomas Bessis, World Youth Teams, by Brian Senior, Bulletin 7.15

Masterpoint Press Book of the Year (see 497.1)
Winner: Sabine Auken: *I Love This Game* (\$500) presented by Patrick Jourdain

Short list:

Roy Hughes: *Card by Card*
 R. Jayaram (Jay): *Serendipity in Bridge*
 Krzysztof Jassem: *WJ05 - A Modern Version of the Polish Club*
 Ron Klinger: *5-Card Major Stayman*
 Julian Pottage: *Defend These Hands with Me*





WINDY CITY WINDUP

Various Scribes

(Some deals are taken from the Chicago Daily Bulletins edited by Brent Manley and Paul Linxwiler.)

With the most impressive architecture in the Americas, wonderful museums, top restaurants and a live music scene featuring the world's best blues clubs, the Second City is number one in many people's minds. Chicago played host to the Summer North American Bridge Championships from July 12-23, 2006.

GNT Table Presence

Paul Linxwiler, Memphis, TN

On this deal from the quarterfinals of the Grand National Teams, played among teams representing each of the ACBL's 25 districts, we'll see Justin Lall at work for District 16 (Texas). Justin is still a Junior, but he played this one like a veteran.

Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ K Q 4
♥ Q 7 4
♦ A 9 8 4 2
♣ 9 4

♠ A 6 3
♥ K 8 2
♦ K J 6
♣ A K Q 3

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

1. Diamonds
2. Diamond fit and three key cards
3. Pick a slam

The auction bristled with modern science, but the final contract was not so great. Justin said that perhaps five clubs over four spades would have asked for the diamond queen, but Hemant Lall (Justin's dad) did not have that agreement with Justin, so six diamonds was reached.

On the lead of the heart jack, East ducked and Justin took his king. Justin considered the implications of this; since East ducked the (presumed) ace of hearts, could

he have the queen of diamonds as well? Surely he would have won and hoped to get a trump trick. Backing his convictions, Justin ran the jack of diamonds at trick two – and pinned the singleton ten on the right!

To add insult to injury, he squeezed his right-hand opponent for the overtrick. Note that East's defence of ducking the ace of hearts at trick one was eminently sensible; holding:

♠ 10 8 7 2
♥ A 9 6 3
♦ 10
♣ J 8 6 5

If Lall held the diamond queen instead of the club queen, this defence would have been necessary to set the slam.

LM Pairs Table Presence

Howard Weinstein, Sarasota, FL

There are two major pair events on the ACBL calendar, the Blue Ribbon Pairs, held annually during the Fall NABCs, and the Life Master Pairs, run each year at the Summer Nationals. Both are six-session events with carry-forward from one day to the next.

Try your hand at a play problem from the first qualifying session of the Life Master Pairs.

Board 12. Dealer North. EW Vul.

(Rotated for convenience.)

♠ 10 5 2
♥ Q 9 3
♦ K 10 4 3
♣ K Q J

♠ 8 6
♥ A K 10 7 4 2
♦ 2
♣ A 10 9 4

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

West leads the four of spades to East's ace. East continues with the king of spades, the ace of diamonds and the queen of spades. You ruff high and cash the other high heart honour from your hand, both opponents following low. When you lead a heart toward the remaining queen-nine in dummy, West follows (of course) with the remaining spot card. Do you play the nine or the queen?

Situations such as this one are fairly common. Although the odds favour finessing the nine by a fairly wide margin, you must consider the play to date from East's point of view. Would East cash the diamond ace from a hand such as seven solid, singleton, ace third, two

small? He could be giving you an unmakeable contract if you held two small diamonds and solid hearts. It would be even more unlikely if he held the queen or jack of diamonds. Additionally, cashing the diamond ace is unlikely to occur to East unless he holds the heart jack.

Thus, the psychological (and winning) play is the queen of hearts. The full deal:

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

Delicate Timing Jack Zhao, Tianjin

This deal from the semifinal of the Life Master Pairs was a little frustrating for me.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Zhao	Weinstein	Fu	Carruthers
—	—	—	1 ♦
Pass	1 NT	Double	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

The opening lead of the diamond seven went to the three, queen and four. Carruthers switched to the club seven, queen, king, ace. Desperate for tricks, I tried the diamond five from dummy, but Carruthers won the king, Weinstein giving a suit-preference nine. South continued with the four of hearts to the jack and ace and I played off the two winning diamonds, throwing my remaining hearts.

Weinstein ruffed the fourth diamond and played the heart two to Carruthers' king and I ruffed. The position was:

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

I now led a spade to the jack, queen and king and South returned a spade. I won in dummy and ruffed dummy's last heart and tried the jack of clubs, but South could ruff and force dummy's ace of trumps with his last heart, scoring a long trump at the end for one down.

While going to the next table, I realised that I had mistimed the play. In the diagrammed position, if I play a high club first, I make my contract. Carruthers can ruff and play a heart; I ruff and play a spade to the jack, queen and king. The difference now is that I still have the nine of spades as protection against the heart force.

No Good Options Barry Rigal, NYC

Bill Pollack reported this nicely-played hand by Eric Rodwell from the second semifinal session of the Life Master Pairs. Pollack had two winners and a trump trick in a four-card ending, but could not score a trick! Pollack and Marty Fleischer came in second.

Board 11. Dealer North. Neither Vul.
(Rotated for convenience.)

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

West	North	East	South
Fleischer	Meckstroth	Pollack	Rodwell
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♣ ¹
3 ♣	Double ²	4 ♣	Pass ³
Pass	Double ⁴	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Strong, artificial, forcing
2. Game forcing positive
3. Forced
4. Suggesting two places to play

Fleischer led the club four to the ace and back came a second club. Rodwell ruffed, played a spade to the queen and ran the queen of hearts, ducked all around. He repeated the heart finesse, cashed the diamond king and the spade king, crossed to the ace of spades, and went back to the diamond ace. This was the ending:

♠ 3		
♥ 7		
♦ 9 7		
♣ —		
♠ —		♠ 10
♥ --		♥ K 4
♦ Q		♦ —
♣ K 10 7		♣ Q
	♠ —	
	♥ A J	
	♦ J 5	
	♣ —	

When Rodwell led the diamond jack, Fleischer won the queen. It would have done Pollack no good to ruff, so he pitched a club (as good as a spade). Fleischer's forced club play was ruffed in dummy, and what could Pollack do? Over-ruffing would have been tantamount to conceding, since the heart king would be over-ruffed with the ace, but pitching the spade would be just as bad since the lead would be in dummy for a trump coup. Rodwell made 11 tricks for plus 450 and a great score.

Sleepless in Chicago PO Sundelin, Stockholm

I am the type of player who agonizes over my errors (and occasionally Partner's!). The following deal from the Senior Swiss Teams is a case in point. I went down in a slam and awoke during the night with a vision of how I could have made it. (Spots are approximate.)

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♦ ¹	Pass	1 NT ²
Pass	2 ♦ ³	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 NT
Pass	4 NT	Pass	6 ♣

Pass Pass Pass

1. Four or more hearts
2. 18-19
3. Game-forcing Stayman

I received the favourable opening lead of a low diamond, but he didn't manage the contract well from there, ducking a heart at one point and hoping to set up an endplay that didn't materialize.

Too late, I realized that the winning line of play after the diamond lead was to cash the heart ace and run five clubs, putting unbearable pressure on the West hand. With four discards to make, West can comfortably let go two spades and one heart, but this is the position as the last trump is played:

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

The two of clubs is played from dummy. East throws a spade and South a heart, but what is West to do? A diamond pitch concedes a fourth trick in that suit, so it must be a heart or a spade. If he lets go a spade, declarer cashes the ace of spades, felling the jack and finesses the ten of spades for trick twelve. If West discards a heart, declarer plays a spade to the king and a spade back to the ace then exits with a heart, leaving West on lead with nothing but diamonds. Alternatively, after West discards a heart, declarer can simply play a heart from dummy. The outstanding heart honors crash together and the jack and seven of hearts are good. The same is true if West discards the heart king instead of the nine.

It takes an initial heart lead to defeat the slam.

Tell Me Why Zia Mahmood, NYC

Dealer North. EW Vul.

North (Dummy)
 ♠ A K 8 6
 ♥ A 10
 ♦ K 10 7 2
 ♣ K J 4

East (You)
 ♠ 10 4 3 2
 ♥ 9 8
 ♦ A Q 9 8 3
 ♣ Q 6

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

Try this hand as a defensive problem. It's from the Spingold semifinals. Before looking at the whole deal, decide on your defence, and more importantly, why you defended the way you did.

Your partner leads the spade five. Declarer cashes the ace and king, following once and pitching the diamond six on the second. Partner follows with the nine. Declarer next ruffs a spade in hand (jack from Partner) with the heart three, plays the club three to the two, king, and your six, then a club from dummy. Your queen holds the trick as declarer follows with the five and Partner the seven. What do you do now and why?

If declarer has seven hearts to as little as the king, there is nothing you can do. He has ten tricks (seven hearts, two spades and a club). If he has six hearts, there are two key cards as far as you are concerned – the queen of hearts and the ten of clubs.

If declarer has the ten of clubs, you should play Partner for the queen of hearts and defend passively, returning a spade. However, if Partner has the ten of clubs (with the known ace), you should return a trump. Which is it to be?

The clubs you have not seen yet are the ace, ten, nine and eight. For you to have a chance to beat four hearts, your partner and declarer must have two each. Partner is known to have the ace. Additionally, declarer cannot have both the ten and nine for his line of play (he would simply have drawn trumps before playing on clubs).

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

The point is that if your partner did *not* have the ten of clubs (an original holding of A972), he would have followed with the nine (*thereby denying possession of the ten*) to help you out. Since he has not played the nine, his holding must be A1072. (*I told you he was subtle.* – Ed.)

So, having figured out that declarer is simply trying to get a club ruff in dummy and not trying to entice you into a trump lead to pick up the queen, you return a

trump so that Partner can lead another when he wins the ace of clubs. You defend so beautifully.

Foresight John Carruthers, Toronto

We're so used to seeing Bob Hamman play and defend as though he can see everyone's cards that his slight error on the following deal from the second quarter of the Spingold final was quite surprising. As it was, Versace-Lauria still had to defend exceptionally well to beat his four-spade game.

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Soloway</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Versace</i>
—	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Versace started with the seven of clubs. Hamman won the ace and played the diamond queen. Versace won the ace and continued clubs. Hamman played the queen, ruffing Lauria's king.

Hamman continued with a diamond ruff and the ten of spades to the king, Lauria ducking. A heart to the ace was followed by dummy's last spade to Lauria's ace. Lauria played the club ten and Hamman ruffed it and was over-ruffed by the jack. A heart return from Versace broke up the impending heart-club squeeze on Lauria; one off against the 650 achieved at the other table on the ace of diamonds lead.

Devious Discard Brent Manley, Memphis, TN

Turk Melih Ozdil found an evil discard on this deal against none other than the top-rated player in the world, Italian Lorenzo Lauria. This deal occurred in a Spingold match between the teams captained by Amos Kaminski and Jimmy Cayne. Ozdil was playing with Canada's George Mittelman; Lauria was playing with fellow countryman Alfredo Versace.

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

♠ 4
 ♥ Q 8 6 4 2
 ♦ A 7 6 4
 ♣ K 9 4

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

♠ J 9 6
 ♥ 10 7 3
 ♦ Q J 8 5
 ♣ A 8 2

♠ 10 7 5 3
 ♥ A K J 9
 ♦ K 3
 ♣ Q 6 5

West	North	East	South
Ozdil	Versace	Mittelman	Lauria
—	—	—	1 ♣
1 ♠	Double	2 ♠	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Ozdil led the ace of spades, on which Mittelman signaled with a suit-preference nine, intended and interpreted as a request for a diamond shift. Ozdil obeyed by playing the ten of diamonds at trick two to declarer's king. Lauria tried a low club to dummy's king (on which Ozdil played the three), and Mittelman won the ace to continue with the club eight. Lauria won the queen (Ozdil following with the jack), before crossing to the diamond ace (Ozdil following with the nine) and ruffing a diamond with the jack of hearts.

A spade ruff was next, followed by dummy's last diamond. East won the queen as declarer pitched his last club. And here, Ozdil dropped a fiendish ten of clubs to make it look as if he had no more clubs. This was the ending:

♠ —
 ♥ Q 8 6 4
 ♦ —
 ♣ 9

♠ K Q 2
 ♥ 5
 ♦ —
 ♣ 7

♠ J
 ♥ 10 7 3
 ♦ —
 ♣ 2

♠ 10 7
 ♥ A K 9
 ♦ —
 ♣ —

Mittelman continued with the two of clubs and Lauria, believing the discard, ruffed high. Ozdil calmly followed with the seven. Declarer can succeed in this position double dummy: ruff a spade and finesse the heart nine, but even great players such as Lauria can't see through the backs of the cards (although sometimes it seems so). He cashed the heart king and played a heart to the queen, conceding down one when the heart ten didn't appear.

**A Little Nudge
 Barry Harper, Regina, SK**

Sometimes a good declarer just needs a small push to take the wrong path. Bulgarian national team players Rumen Trendafilov and Kalin Karaivanov arrived in five diamonds on these two hands from a knockout teams.

Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

♠ 7
 ♥ A 5
 ♦ A K J 7 4
 ♣ A K Q J 4

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

West led the ace of spades and continued with the queen, ruffed by South. The diamond ace was cashed, West contributing the ten. Take over for declarer. What do you do next? The precious ten of clubs can be used only once. If diamonds are 4-1 and you finesse in hearts, the spade force kills you.

Karaivanov decided to play diamonds. He could pick up four to the queen and not need the heart finesse. And if a diamond finesse lost to the queen from a doubleton queen-ten, a spade ruff could be followed by the ruff of a third club in dummy for the heart finesse.

Accordingly, Karaivanov went to dummy with the club ten and ran the nine of diamonds. One problem with that plan: John Kranyak won the queen from three to the queen and returned a diamond. Karaivanov, down to the ace-king-jack of diamonds, had to win in hand and could not take the heart finesse. Down one - and the king of hearts was onside all along. The deceptive play allowed Kreanyak's team to advance in their knockout match by 7 IMPs. The full deal:

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

♠ A Q J 9 2
 ♥ 8
 ♦ Q 10 6
 ♣ 9 7 6 3

♠ K 8 6 5
 ♥ K 10 9 4 2
 ♦ 5 3
 ♣ 8 2

♠ 7
 ♥ A 5
 ♦ A K J 7 4
 ♣ A K Q J 4

Bridge Week in Loiben

August 6-12, 2006

Fritz Babsch, Vienna

The tournament got off a very good start (almost 200 pairs in the opening event) but the next day, high water on the River Danube threatened the playing area. The prognosis was bad: the only road to Loiben was under water and had to be closed. The tournament continued, but some players had left in anticipation of flooding.

The Teams event (79 teams, 11 rounds) had an exciting finish. TERRANEO (Feichtinger, Franzel, Fucik, Kriftner, Obermair) had never played at Table 1 but were only one point behind the leaders going into the last match. The leading team lost 10 – 20; TERRANEO at table 2 won their match 24 – 6, and thus also the event, mostly due to this deal:

Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ K Q 5 ♥ J 10 9 ♦ J 10 3 ♣ K Q J 2 ♠ A 10 9 8 7 4 ♥ A 7 5 ♦ A K 2 ♣ 4	♠ J 6 2 ♥ K Q 6 ♦ Q 8 5 ♣ A 9 6 5 ♠ 3 ♥ 8 4 3 2 ♦ 9 7 6 4 ♣ 10 8 7 3
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West	North	East	South
<i>Franzel</i>	<i>Gerö</i>	<i>Kriftner</i>	<i>A. Kovacs</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1 ♠	Pass ¹	2 ♦ ²	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT ³	Pass
3 ♦ ⁴	Pass	4 ♠ ⁵	Pass
6 ♠	Pass ¹	Pass	Pass

1. Franzel thought North passed rather reluctantly in both cases
2. Longest suit or balanced
3. Game force
4. Good hand, values in diamonds
5. Should show Ax, Kx or QJx in spades or better

Lead: ♣ K

Franzel, an expert player from Vienna, concluded from North's behaviour that he might hold the missing points in a balanced hand and played accordingly. He took the lead with the club ace and ruffed a club immediately. Then he crossed once in hearts and once in diamonds in order to ruff two more clubs; he then cashed all the red winners ending on the table and played a spade to the nine...

Although deals like this can be found in some books, the layout is very rare at the table (the board looks

'made', but it was hand-dealt, and the contract at the other table was four spades making five. I encountered a similar layout in 1969 in Oslo when I played against Ireland (my task was much easier because the player on my left had opened one no trump).

The Pairs event was smaller than expected, but the players had a lot of fun – there were more slams than usual. This one led to wild discussions:

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

Only 6 of 74 pairs reached a grand slam; a small slam was played at 43 tables (21 times in spades, 22 times in no trump).

In six no trump, six declarers were beaten after a club lead (the spade suit was killed, true, but they should have played a diamond from dummy in case the spades were badly distributed, a kind of safety play). Some Souths were lucky that West had such a nice 'safe' lead in hearts!

Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

Many players cannot handle freak hands and competitive bidding. This was a good example. The West player could certainly disturb North-South's auction, either with an opening bid or with a bid on the second round. Twenty-seven pairs reached a good small slam (one in diamonds) but no less than 13 pairs reached a bad grand slam (three in diamonds).

This hand reminds me of a remark by the great Edgar Kaplan: "When they preempt, I always deduct two or three points from my hand." (Deauville, 1968).

The Pairs was won by Andreas Babsch/Renate Hansen with 64.7%. Runnersup were Wolfgang Semmelrath/Heimo Stalzer (63.2%), Björn Fallenius/Arno Lindermann (63.1%), Martin Schifko/Dani Vikor and Peter Lakatos/Geza Szappanos. Renate Hansen became “Miss Loiben” (best performance in Mixed, Teams and Pairs). “Mr. Loiben” was a draw between Martin Schifko and Josef Simon.

Festival de Biarritz

Guy Dupont, Paris

More than twenty nations were represented at the Biarritz Bridge Festival (June 30-July 12, 2006), including, for the first time, players from Lithuania and Argentina.

The Grand Prix de la Ville de Biarritz (Open Pairs) was won by Frenchmen Guy Lasserre and Philippe Poizat; the Casino Barrière Mixed Pairs by the Danish Olympiad Women’s Teams champion Bettina Kalkerup playing with Bob Prikaertz of the Netherlands; the Accor IMP Pairs by Bisontins* Franck Maillard and Sébastien Pélisson; the Whisterie.com Individual by Australian Ervin Otvosi; the Lavazza Teams by a Polish-Lithuanian squad consisting of Krzysztof Buras and Grzegorz Narkiewicz playing with Vytautas and Erik Vainikonis.

* Residents of Besançon

Complete results can be found at the website www.biarritz-bridge.com.

Here’s a hand played by French champion Hervé Pacault in the Teams:

Dealer East. NS Vul.

♠ 10 8 4
♥ Q 10 5
♦ A K 9 7 5 4
♣ 9

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

♠ K 9 3
♥ J 3 2
♦ Q 3 2
♣ A K 6 4

West	North	East	South
<i>Taurin</i>	<i>Riberol</i>	<i>Cognet</i>	<i>Pacault</i>
—	—	Pass	1 ♣
Double	1 ♦	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

Against three no trump doubled, West led the queen of clubs. South won the club ace, then cashed the

diamond queen and ran the suit. On the last diamond, West fell victim to a kind of three-suit squeeze.

♠ 10 8 4
♥ Q 10 5
♦ 4
♣ —

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

♠ K 9 3
♥ J 3 2
♦ —
♣ A

If West bares the spade ace, South plays a spade and makes his ninth trick courtesy of the spade king. Thus West discarded a club. So South played a heart and West was defenceless: if he cashed the ace-king of hearts before exiting, South’s ninth trick would be a heart. West thus played a club; South won and exited with another heart – West could cash a club, but then had to surrender the game-going trick to South’s king of spades.



Brian Senior, Nottingham
Sue Grenside, Perth
Barry Rigal, NYC

Eighteen countries entered the 11th World Junior Teams Championship (25 and under), while 16 vied for the 2nd Schools Championship (21 and under). In each series, a complete round robin of 20-board matches over 6 days decided the semifinalists. The top finishers were:

Juniors

1. *USA 1* – Josh Donn, Jason Feldman, Ari Greenberg, Joe Grue, John Kranyak, Justin Lall
2. *Italy* – Andres Boldrini, Stelio di Bello, Francesco Ferrari, Fabio Io Presti, Alberto Sangiorgio, Mateo Sbarigia
3. *Singapore* – Alex Loh, Choon Chou Loo, Kelvin Ng, Hua Poon, Li Yu Tan, Fabian Tan
4. *Poland* – Konrad Araszkiwicz, Krzysztof Buras, Jacek Kalita, Krzysztof Kotorowicz, Piotr Nawrocki, Jan Sikora

Schools

1. *Israel* – Eliran Argelazi, Alon Birman, Dror Padon, Ron Segev, Dana Tal, Bar Tarnovski
2. *Latvia* – Jurijs Balasovs, Janis Bethers, Peteris Bethers, Adrians Imsa, Martins Lorencs
3. *Poland* – Piotr Butryn, Bartolmiej Iglą, Joanna Krawczyk, Artur Machno, Maciej Sikora, Artur Wasiak

4. *Australia* - Michael de Livera, Adam Adgton, Nabil Edgton, Peter Hollands, Justin Howard, Andy Hung

**Lively Start
Brian Senior**

**RR 1. France v USAI Juniors
Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>O. Bessis</i>	<i>Grue</i>	<i>de Tessières</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
—	—	Pass	1 ♣
1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Greenberg</i>	<i>Gaviard</i>	<i>Lall</i>	<i>T. Bessis</i>
—	—	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	6 ♣
Pass	6NT	Pass	Pass

John Kranyak's one club opening was strong and two diamonds was a natural positive. From there the Americans explored carefully, judging that the spade guards might not be adequate for three no trump, making a mild slam try, then settling safely in four hearts. The poor trump position meant only ten tricks for plus 620.

Thomas Bessis opened two clubs and Gaviard started with a neutral two-diamond response, then showed significant values and eventually chose to play six no trump when Bessis accepted his slam try. Greenberg led the king of spades to declarer's ace. With the cards lying as they do, even seven no trump is unbeatable if declarer reads the position, but Lall found a way to deflect him from his path.

Bessis cashed some clubs and discovered that West had a singleton. He then led the king of diamonds and Lall dropped the ten. Declarer could have put all his eggs in one basket and taken the diamond finesse, but it seemed that, even if the finesse won, he would have

only three diamond winners. Accordingly, he went for the combination play of a diamond to the ace and, when the queen failed to drop, continued with a heart finesse. Of course, when the heart lost, Greenberg could cash both a spade and a diamond winner for two down; minus 200. That was 13 IMPs to USAI instead of 13 to France, a rich reward for a very nice false-card.

The story gets better, because in the Schools Series, the two USA teams were playing each other. When USA Blue played six no trump on the lead of the king of spades, declarer won, discovered the club layout, and played on diamonds to make the slam.

Six no trump was also played by USA Red at the other table. Here declarer won the spade lead and returned a spade at trick two. West won the queen and played back a third spade to the jack. Now declarer cashed the king and jack of clubs, seeing the five-one split. He too played a diamond next and East played the ten. Sure enough, declarer followed the combination play of a diamond to the ace followed by the heart finesse, and he too was down two for minus 200 and 17 IMPs to USA Blue. Well defended Daniel Goldfein!

That is a pretty good success rate – three USA defenders held the East hand and two of the three found the falsecard to defeat six no trump.

**The Old-Fashioned Way
Barry Rigal**

Sometimes, without the aid of Deep Finesse, you need to do things the old-fashioned way and work out for yourself the fate of a contract. Such was the case on this deal from the Round 6 Vugraph encounter between Norway and Chile in the Junior Series.

**RR 6. Chile v Norway Juniors
Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Robles</i>	<i>Ringseth</i>	<i>Pacareu</i>	<i>Berg</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♦ ¹	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
2 ♠	3 ♥	Pass	Pass

1. Four-card Drury

In three hearts, Berg won the lead of the six of spades with his ace and led a diamond, the natural play. East, Joaquin Pacareu defended well by winning the ace of diamonds and shifting to a trump. Declarer ducked and West, Benjamin Robles, won the queen and returned a club but, when he next got in with the king of diamonds, returned a low heart. Declarer now had eight tricks but had to lose two hearts, two diamonds and a spade, as he could only ruff twice in dummy.

However, declarer could have made three hearts by winning the club in dummy, playing a club to the king and ruffing a club. Then a spade to the king is followed by a spade ruff with the *jack*.

A diamond exit puts West on lead with the good spade and three heart king. He can play a spade for dummy to ruff or exit in hearts for declarer to *win in hand with the ten*. When declarer exits with a spade to West's nine, West must lead from the king-five of hearts into declarer's ace-six.

However, playing to ruff a spade and a club before playing a diamond makes declarer's life a lot easier. East can rise on the diamond play from dummy and play a heart, but declarer counters by winning the ace and ruffing his last spade, then exiting with a second diamond, scoring the heart ten in the three-card ending.

Thrust & Parry Sue Grenside

RR9. Sweden v Latvia Schools Board 1. Dealer North. Neith Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Fryklund</i>	<i>Imsa</i>	<i>Bech</i>	<i>Lorencs</i>
—	1 ♥	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Balasovs</i>	<i>C.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Bethers</i>	<i>S.Rimstedt</i>
—	1 ♥	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

In the Closed Room, the lead of the heart ten made 12 tricks easy for Fryklund in three no trump.

The Latvian East-West pair found their way to four spades. Cecilia Rimstedt led the king of clubs (ace from ace-king-x-(x)), and followed with the king, showing two, then the heart ace and the diamond two. This was a reasonable shot, hoping Partner had the diamond nine.

Balasovs had to decide how to attempt to return to hand to take the spade finesse. He went with the odds rather than the carding, and played a club, suffering the over-ruff for one off and 11 IMPs to Sweden.

If Balasovs had chosen to believe North's carding, ace, king and a third diamond, ruffing in hand, would have allowed him to take the trump finesse for his contract. Which brings up the point that North, with so many aces and kings, should consider leading the ace, as though from ace-king-small, since Partner is not likely to be involved in the defence. Additionally, if Partner does gain the lead, it is likely to be the setting trick anyway. If it does become necessary to underlead the heart ace after cashing the top clubs, the size of the heart you lead (the six) will tell Partner to continue a club rather than a diamond.

French Finesse Brian Senior

The French Junior team includes some very fine card-players. Thomas Bessis, takes centre-stage here.

RR12. France v Poland Juniors Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>T. Bessis</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Gaviard</i>	<i>Kotorowicz</i>
—	—	—	4 ♥
4 ♠	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Jacek Kalita cashed two clubs then switched to the jack of hearts to dummy's ace. Bessis drew two rounds of trumps with the queen and jack but, before doing so he carefully ruffed dummy's last club. Now Bessis cashed the king of diamonds and was pleased to see an honour fall on his right. He continued with the

seven of diamonds and Kalita took his only chance when he played low, hoping that declarer would play for South to hold the queen-jack doubleton.

That club ruff had told Bessis that South had three cards in the suit. Was he more likely to be 1=7=2=3 or 1=8=1=3 for a vulnerable four-heart opening? Clearly the eight-card suit was far more likely, so Bessis ran the diamond and could now establish the fifth diamond and come to an overtrick; plus 990 and 14 IMPs to France, as declarer misguessed the play in four spades at the other table so was one down.

Note that eliminating the clubs could also have paid off in a very different way had the trumps divided evenly. Give North a 2=1=4=6 distribution and declarer can afford to misguess the diamonds. If he goes up with the ace on the second round, he can then play a third round to North, who will be endplayed, forced to either establish the diamond for declarer or give a ruff and discard (or he can endplay South in hearts instead).

Elimination and Endplay Brian Senior

Dana Tal and Ron Segev of the Israeli Schools Team reached the following six-spade slam. Unlike at some other tables, Tal did not have the benefit of any information from the opponents during the auction.

RR13. Israel v Taipei Schools Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

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

1. Positive
2. Sets suit and asks for cue bid of ace
3. Cue bids
4. RKCB
5. One key card

All that Tal knew was that East had doubled for a club lead. She won the ace of clubs at trick one and ruffed a club, crossed to the jack of spades, then ruffed the last club. Now she led her heart without drawing the last trump. West went in with the ace and was endplayed. He exited with the heart four, eight, jack, ruffed, spade to dummy, cash two hearts for diamond discards.

The point of only playing the partial elimination is that Tal did not have the information that West had minor-suit length. Suppose that she plays the full elimination then finds the ace of hearts offside. She will have to use dummy's last trump as the entry to take the diamond finesse, but will then have no trump left to ruff should East have begun with queen to four diamonds. Her actual line preserves the third trump in case a ruff is required.

Down to the Wire Brian Senior

Going into the final round, the Italian Junior team needed a win over Australia to make the semifinals.

RR17. Australia v Italy Juniors Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Williams	di Bello	Feiler	lo Presti
Pass	Pass	1 ♣	2 ♦ ¹
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass	—	—

I. Majors

At one table, Griffiths had managed to bring home four spades doubled by squeezing East in hearts and clubs; plus 590 to Australia. Could di Bello match that?

Feiler led the king of spades. Di Bello won and led his heart up. Feiler won the ace and cashed the spade queen, then switched to the jack of clubs. Di Bello won the ace and played a trump to the jack, and Feiler continued with the ten of clubs. That was very nice defence, as without the two club plays, declarer can run the trumps to squeeze East. As it was, the transportation was cut before the squeeze could operate; down one for plus 100 - 12 IMPs to Australia. However, Italy did qualify by winning the match 20-10.

48th PROKOM EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Warsaw, Poland, August 12-26, 2006

The most grueling two weeks in bridge took place this August in Warsaw. The Open Teams (33 countries) was as anti-climactic as it has ever been, Italy being declared the winner with three matches to go. The only doubt with a match to go was whether Iceland could beat Sweden by enough to replace them as the sixth Bermuda Bowl qualifier (they couldn't). The Women's Teams (22 teams) was anti-climactic in a different fashion with 'the usual suspects' crowding the top of the table – it was simply a matter of who would finish on top. The Senior Teams (16 entries) was rather more undecided, with Germany eventually coming out on top. The qualifiers for next year's World Championships in Shanghai are:

Open	Women's	Seniors
Italy	France	Germany
Ireland	Netherlands	Sweden
Norway	England	France
Netherlands	Germany	Denmark
Sweden	Denmark	Poland
Poland	Croatia	Italy

We'll have a full report on the European Championships next month. However, just as a teaser...

TOUGH GAME

Marek Wójcicki, Pulawy, Poland

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Versace	Birman	Lauria	Fohrer
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

The Computer Era of bridge has ushered in super-light openings and high level preempts, tending to

create chaos at the table. This style dominates now - it seems that more force than subtle technique is preferred. Nevertheless, sitting in the VuGraph theatre reveals as many technical pearls as in the past. Here is a board from the Israel - Italy match, showing how tough the battle between the declarer and the defenders can be.

Birman decided on passivity, and hit on the lead of the seven of clubs: small from dummy, the jack from South, and Versace ducked. South switched to the three of diamonds: small from West, nine from North. Birman continued with another club, the three: king from the table and declarer played a diamond (the eight - to unblock for a possible eventual further finesse): jack, queen and king.

Birman now found a good exit card – the heart queen, keeping the ten of clubs against hard times. But Versace took the trick in dummy with the ace and crossed to hand with the heart king. This is the ending:

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

Versace, now playing double dummy, cashed the club ace and played a small spade. Birman ducked, and the king won the trick. Now declarer cashed two heart tricks. North tried his last chance to beat the contract - the spade jack in Partner's hand - and discarded the spade ace and queen. But Versace had the key card, and so took the ninth trick.

Notice to All IBPA Members !!

If your e-mail address changes, please inform the Bulletin Production Manager, Jean Tyson, at:

mail@ibpa.com

We need to have your correct e-mail address to send you the Bulletin codes each month.

NEWS & VIEWS

Clippings Competition

The Polish Bridge Union (PBU) and Prokom, sponsor of the recent European Team Championships in Warsaw, have announced that there is a clipping competition Championships. The clippings are in two categories: (i.) bridge magazines - articles must have the full name of the Championships to qualify; and (ii.) non-bridge magazines and newspapers - these must include the name "Prokom".

The competition is open until November 30, 2006.

Send clippings to:

Polski Związek Brydza Sportowego

Złota st. 9/4

00-019 Warszawa

Poland

There will be a prize of 250 euro in each category. The decision will be made by a panel from the PBU and Prokom. Prizes will be presented at the 3rd Open European Championships in Antalya, Turkey in June 2007.

Journalist Pairs

The most important event at the European Championships, as everyone knows, was the Journalist Pairs. The medal winners were:

1. Hans-Olof Hallén (Sweden) & Maureen Dennison (England)
2. Göran Mattsson (Germany) & Patrick Jourdain (Wales)
3. Seamus Dowling (Ireland) & Michael O'Connor (Ireland)

Tim Bourke Files

From time to time, Tim Bourke sends us files containing bidding and play records of important events. We put these on the IBPA website - to access them, use the same format as to access Bulletins, namely www.ibpa.com/...

To date, the files uploaded are:

AustralianParHands1937SetIA.pdf

Estoril2005BBFinal.pdf

Estoril2005OtherFinals.pdf

Spingold2006Final.pdf

USBF-Last30.pdf (*this is last year's Trials - Ed.*)

Vanderbilt2006Final.pdf

USBF Trials Winners

This year's winners of the USBC are: Russ Ekeblad-Ron Rubin, Howard Weinstein-Steve Garner and Michael Rosenberg-Zia Mahmood. They will be USAI at the 2007 Bermuda Bowl. (Report next month.)

Attention Contributors

Due to the large number of important bridge competitions during July and August, we have a temporary surfeit of material for publication. If you have sent us a non-time-sensitive submission recently, please be patient - we'll get to it.

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, September 2006, will have code 500sb so you will need to key in:

www.ibpa.com/500sb.pdf

You can access the IBPA Handbook from www.ibpa.com by clicking on the link on the Constitution page. When you try to open it will ask for a password, which is: **ihccaT EX-ACTLY** as it appears here. When prompted for a keyword, it is **Handbook**.

Online Transmissions

Sep 6-7	Brazilian Teams, Salvador	BBO
Sep 8-10	Hecht Cup, Copenhagen	BBO
Sep 9-10	Modalfa Top 12, Amsterdam	BBO
Sep 9-10	English Open Trials, Solihull	BBO
Sep 13-14	45 th Pula Festival, Croatia	BBO
Sep 15-16	56 th South American Championships, Cartagena	BBO
Sep 18-21	Warren Buffett Cup, Dublin	BBO
Oct 1	Vilnius Cup, Latvia	BBO
Oct 10-12	Balkan Championships, Stara Zagora, Bulgaria	BBO
Oct 12-15	EBL Champions Cup, Rome	Swan
Oct 28-29	Lederer Memorial, London	BBO

World Wide Web Resources

On-line Viewing

<http://www.bridgebase.com/>

<http://www.swangames.com/main/index.html>

Tournament Bulletins

<http://www.worldbridge.org/competitions/>

<http://www.eurobridge.org/index2.html>

<http://www.acbl.org/play/nabc3.html>

<http://www.pabf.org/competitionCorner.asp>

<http://www.bridgeplaza.com/>

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

<http://www.thecavendish.com/>

Miscellaneous Information

<http://www.greatbridgelinks.com>

<http://www.ecatsbridge.com>

<http://www.math.aau.dk/~nwp/bridge/>



Correspondence ...

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

To the Editor:

Dear John,

I am always prepared to listen to others and take lessons, in contrast to many others in this world. Unfortunately, I think that your example of the Cavendish may not be the best as there are always rumours, even there. Maybe it is inevitable.

As far as the WBF is concerned, we do our best, of course, to take care of the seeding and have done so for decades now; this is not only in the 72 pair final of the events, but at all stages, using computer programs when available. Nothing is perfect, however, and with the transnational events it becomes ever more complex as I am sure you and your readers will realise.

It is, nevertheless, our duty to correct it if and when we can and there are many ways of taking care of this (putting Directors at the table or having the pairs on rama, for example), and of trying to ensure that, as the saying goes, justice is not only done but is also seen to be done.

I believe that the statement I am about to make below speaks for itself, and the answer to your question is very simple: ***“Yes, in this case, the organisers made a mistake. As President of the WBF I recognise, apologise and take full responsibility for the people in charge, some of whom have already offered to resign. I will seek to ensure that procedures are put in place that will prevent any recurrence.”***

Yours sincerely,

José Damiani, President, World Bridge Federation

To the Editor:

Dorothy Truscott never gave up. She was a true fighter. She played bridge long after Parkinson's began ravaging her body and mind. She was still enjoying books right up to the day she died – July 4. She and her daughter Bobette were engrossed in “Cheaper by the Dozen” as Dorothy faded away at her beloved summer home at Underwood in upstate New York.

Dorothy and her late husband Alan both were strong supporters of IBPA. The IBPA executives who were hosted by the Truscotts at Underwood in 2001 will never forget the hearty breakfasts, the swimming, the hikes and the games – all kinds of mind games but no bridge. Dorothy already was having serious trouble

walking, but when it was time to return home after visiting a local lake, she insisted on walking. She walked a couple of miles through the woods as she watched healthier folks get in the car to ride back.

This strong determination served her well in her chosen field of bridge. She wasn't afraid of anyone. She played with the best against the world's best. She even had a second-place finish in the Bermuda Bowl (1965). The only other woman who ever did so well in Bermuda Bowl competition was Helen Sobel Smith.

No question about it – Dorothy Truscott was special.

Henry Francis, Memphis

To the editor,

I refer to Mark Horton's article on the sportsmanship issue in IBPA Bulletin 498.7. I echo Mark's praise of the ethics of the defenders after the hesitation but I really feel that it can, at least, be argued that they cut their own throats unnecessarily. I feel that three points are relevant.

Firstly, what did East discard on the second round of trumps? Playing McKenney, for example, he could have thrown either of his minor-suit tens to indicate spades. Now West will have been told about the spade ace LEGALLY and could defend accordingly with a clear conscience.

Far more important, however, is that West did not ask himself why declarer did not complete the drawing of trumps. If East had nothing in spades, the suit would be ready to cash out, so declarer would have had no reason not to complete the drawing of trumps and take his tricks. As he did not, there had to be a reason.

The third point, which would have solved the problem, is that there was a recommendation by Marshall Miles in one of his more recent books that it should be mandatory for East, irrespective of his hand, to pause for 30 seconds after the lead has been tabled and dummy's first card has been played. Had this been applied, the issue of hesitation would probably not have arisen. Whether it is practical or advisable for the authorities to impose this universally can probably be argued both ways, but it is certainly something worth considering.

Danny Roth, London

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2006			
Sep 6-10	40° Festival Internazionale	Venice, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Sep 8-10	Hecht Cup	Copenhagen, Denmark	www2.bridge.dk
Sep 8-10	Ballyunion Annual Congress	Ballyunion, Ireland	mulinswm@eircom.net
Sep 9-10	Torneo Internazionale Squadra Libere	Venice, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Sep 9-16	56° Suramericano de Bridge	Cartagena, Colombia	www.bridgecolombia.com
Sep 9-20	45 th Pula Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.crobridge.com
Sep 15-23	1° Festival Internazionale	Portoferraio, Elba, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Sep 18-21	Warren Buffett Cup	Dublin, Ireland	paul.h@ukonline.co.uk
Sep 26-Oct 1	Women's Bridge Festival	Riccione, Italy	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 29-Oct 1	Vilnius Cup	Vilnius, Lithuania	www.bridgeclub.lt
Oct 6-11	EBU Autumn Overseas Congress	Çesme, Turkey	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 10-12	Balkan Team Championships	Stara Zagora, Bulgaria	www.bgbridge.org
Oct 12-15	European Champions Cup	Rome, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Oct 13-15	XXV International Festival	Stara Zagora, Bulgaria	www.bgbridge.org
Oct 17-21	PABF Women's Bridge Festival	Wu Xi, China	www.ecatsbridge.com
Oct 17-21	17th Sun, Sea & Slams	Barbados, WI	www.cacbf.com
Oct 18-26	Australian Spring Nationals	Sydney, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Oct 20-22	Autumn Congress	Eastbourne, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 21-27	3 rd World University Championship	Tianjin, China	www.unibridge.org
Oct 23-29	26 th Mexico Resort Regional	Puerta Vallarta, Mexico	www.puertavallartabridge.com
Oct 27 & 28	European Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs in Europe	www.eurobridge.org
Oct 28-29	60 th Lederer Memorial Trophy	London, England	www.metrobridge.co.uk
Nov 4-11	VI ^o International Festival	Havana/Varadero, Cuba	www.cacbf.com
Nov 5-12	12 th Red Sea Festival	Eilat, Israel	birmand@inter.net.il
Nov 7-12	International Madeira Festival	Madeira, Portugal	zcurado@yahoo.com
Nov 16-26	ACBL Fall NABC	Honolulu, HI	www.acbl.org
Nov 20-24	Nanning ASEAN Invitational	Nanning, Guangxi, China	guan-peizhong@126.com
Nov 27&28	European Internet Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs in Europe	www.ecatsbridge.com
Nov 29-Dec 3	Torneo Internazionale	Cefalù, Sicily, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Dec 1-10	Festival de Mar del Plata	Mar del Plata, Argentina	www.bridgeargentino.org.ar
Dec 8-10	Torneo Internazionale Squadra Libere	Milan, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Dec 9-13	Saniva 28 th ASEAN Club Championships	Singapore	www.scba.org.sg
Dec 15-17	2006 Winter Cup	Bucharest, Romania	dragosslesan@mae.utcluj.ro
Dec 15-17	Junior Channel Trophy	France	www.ebu.co.uk
2007			
Jan 5-7	Camrose Trophy	England (TBD)	www.ebu.co.uk
Jan 12-14	Thames Coromandel Bridge Festival	Thames, NZ	www.discoverybridge.co.nz
Jan 15-29	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jan 19-21	Bergen International Tournament	Bergen, Norway	www.storturningingen.no
Jan 20-27	Bermuda Regional 2007	Southampton, Bermuda	www.acbl.org
Jan 22-26	WBF Charity Pairs	Clubs Worldwide	www.ecatsbridge.com
Feb 8-17	41 st Israel Bridge Festival	Tel Aviv, Israel	ibf@netvision.net.il
Feb 17-24	Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach, Australia	www.qldbridge.com
Feb 23-25	White House Teams	Amsterdam, Netherlands	www.hetwittehuisbridge.nl
Mar 8-18	ACBL Spring NABC	St. Louis, MO	www.acbl.org
Mar 30	Lords v Commons	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Apr 3-8	112 th Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON	www.toronto-bridge.com
Apr 17-22	International Festival of Estoril	Estoril, Portugal	np43je@telepac.pt
Jun 1&2	Worldwide Bridge Contest	Clubs Worldwide	www.ecatsbridge.com
Jun 4-13	45 th PABF Championships	Bandung, Indonesia	www.ccba.org.cn
Jun 15-30	3 rd European Open Championships	Antalya, Turkey	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 19-29	ACBL Summer NABC	Nashville, TN	www.acbl.org
Jul 30-Aug 1	2 nd World Junior Individual	Nashville, TN	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 4-9	European University Cup	Brugge, Belgium	geert.magerman@pandora.be
Sep 22-29	NZ Nationals	Hamilton, New Zealand	www.nzcba.co.nz
Sep 29-Oct 13	World Team Championships	Shanghai, China	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 22-Dec 2	ACBL Fall NABC	San Francisco, CA	www.acbl.org