



Co-ordinator: Jean Paul Meyer – Editor: Brent Manley – Assistant Editors: Mark Horton & Brian Senior  
French Editor: Guy Dupont – Layout Editor: George Georgopoulos – Photographer: Ron Tacchi

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# Teacher Beats Students for Venice Cup Crown



USA I and their non-playing captain in the Vugraph auditorium moments after their victory over China in the Venice Cup final.

**T**he victory did not come easy against a determined team from China, but USA I were finally able to celebrate on Friday with a 229.3-210 victory in the Venice Cup final.

When it was over, Kathie Wei-Sender was able to congratulate the Chinese players for their good showing and breath a sigh of relief that her proteges didn't play just a little bit better. Wei-Sender has done a lot to promote bridge to China, and she says she knows all of the players on China's Venice Cup team. "They're all my students," she says.

Wei-Sender played with Betty Ann Kennedy, Jill Levin, Sue Picus, Janice Seamon-Molson and Tobi Sokolow. Kent Massie was non-playing captain.

Halfway through the last round, played before a packed VuGraph auditorium, China had edged to within 13.3 IMPs with a 6-IMP swing and seemed poised to overtake the Americans.

On the next board, USA I engineered an 11-IMP swing when China went four off in 3NT for minus 400 in the closed room while Levin took 10 tricks in 2NT in the open room. American partisans breathed easier after

## VUGRAPH MATCHES

**Bermuda Bowl – Final – (Session 7) – 10.30**  
**Italy v USA I**

**Bermuda Bowl – Final – (Session 8) – 13.20**  
**Italy v USA I**

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that, but China stayed within range almost until the end.

While the Americans and Chinese played their close match, there was a change in the leader board in the Bermuda Bowl as USA I had three strong sessions - including a 77-31 third-set win - to enter play today with a 242-205 lead.

The two final rounds of the Bermuda Bowl will be played today.

The World Transnational Open Teams will also conclude today with the two final sets. In that match, Lavazza of Italy lead Zhuang of China 45-29.



**RESULTS****Bermuda Bowl****Final**

		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6	Total	
1	ITALY	USA I	0 - 13	43 - 32	45 - 14	21 - 20	31 - 77	31 - 40	34 - 46	205 - 242

**Venice Cup****Final**

		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6	Total	
2	CHINA	USA I	0 - 5.3	45 - 33	38 - 41	17 - 44	48 - 21	21 - 49	41 - 36	210 - 229.3

**Transnational Teams****Quarter-finals**

		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Total	
1	JANSMA	GAMRATH	0 - 0	39 - 37	61 - 34	99-71
2	BRACHMAN	DE BOTTON	0 - 0	52 - 3	59 - 15	111-18
3	ZHUANG	MILNER	0 - 0	8 - 25	41 - 12	49-37
4	LASUT	LAVAZZA	0 - 0	39 - 12	19 - 56	58-68

**Semi-finals**

		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Total	
1	JANSMA	LAVAZZA	0 - 0	11 - 12	34 - 43	45-55
2	BRACHMAN	ZHUANG	0 - 0	16 - 58	24 - 33	40-91

**Finals**

		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Total	
1	ZHUANG	LAVAZZA	0 - 0	29 - 45	0 - 0	0 - 0	29-45

**Urgent Request**

A Championship bag containing a vitally important pair of glasses was misplaced at the end of Wednesday's final session of the Transnationals. Please check your bag to make sure you have not picked up the wrong one by mistake.

Thank you.

**Transnational Schedule****Saturday 15 November**

10.30 - 12.50 Final Session 2  
13.20 - 15.40 Final Session 3



Mr Jean Pierre DINSPEL from the Société Générale, sponsors of the French Bridge Federation visiting the World Championships to congratulate the French Senior Silver medalists.

## IBPA PRESS CONFERENCE

### Damiani: 'Market' Will Influence Future Championship Sites



**W**hen terrorists struck New York on September 11 two years ago, much in the world changed, including the way world bridge championship venues are selected.

The first casualty was the tournament scheduled for Bali, Indonesia. The World Bridge Federation managed to reroute equipment to Paris, where a very successful tournament was conducted.

At his press conference on Friday, WBF President José Damiani said the players will have a lot to say in the future about where the championships take place. "It depends on the response of what I call the market," Damiani said. "Will the players come?"

North Americans will have a big influence on the situation, Damiani said. "We are in a difficult position with the world situation and we have to take that into account. Americans, for the time being, are not prepared to go to some countries. There is no safe country right now, but players feel safer in some."

Having said that, Damiani added, Bali is still a possibility for 2005, along with Maderia and Malta. He said WBF executives will discuss the matter further in the spring of 2004.

Other items covered by Damiani during the meeting with members of the International Bridge Press Association:

- A change in the incorporation of the WBF has been finalized. The organization will be incorporated in Lausanne, Switzerland, instead of New York City.
- The WBF executive have adopted the Olympic code and support the goals of the World Anti-Doping Agency. WBF Vice President Jens Auken pointed out that under those rules first violation results in a two-year suspension, and the second offense results in a life-time ban.

- The WBF is also cooperating with other mind-sport organizations - such as chess and draughts — to work on the possible establishment of the Intellympics.
- Starting in 2005, the minimum age for seniors will be advanced to 56 and increased by one year each year thereafter until the minimum age for playing in senior events is 60.
- In 2004, the senior team event will be a complete round-robin. In 2005, it will expand to have at least a semi-final and final round.
- The WBF is also considering changes in the allowable conventions. For play in 2004, brown-sticker conventions will be permitted only in the knockout phases of competitions.
- Istanbul is the site of the World Bridge Team Olympiad in 2004. Other possibilities include Cannes, France or Morocco in 2006 and China in 2007.

Damiani said the WBF is up to 125 countries at present, with applications for membership from Mongolia and Cuba, the latter of which has not formalized its bridge organization yet

The WBF president also recognized the sponsors who have supported the championships - the Generali Group, the Companie Monégasque de Bank, Louis Vuitton and the Société des Bains de Mer and Société Générale.

The Monte Carlo tournament, Damiani said, has been very successful. "Monaco is one of the best venues we have ever had," he said.

Panos Gerontopoulos, WBF vice president, described the organization's efforts to get more youth involved in bridge. One of those efforts will be a World Junior Individual in next summer in New York City during the ACBL's summer national tournament

**FINAL** **Bermuda Bowl** **SESSION 2**

**Italy v USA I**

**Fast Start**



Any carry-over is better than none, but 13 IMPs in a 128-board match isn't likely to mean as much as it might in a shorter struggle. Indeed, USA I lost all but 2 IMPs of the carry-over in the Bermuda Bowl final after the first set, as Italy won 43-32. The Americans were looking to stem the tide as the players sat down for the second round.

USA I earned 4 IMPs on the first board when Norberto Bocchi and Giorgio Duboin finished minus 100 in 2NT in the Closed Room, while Eric Rodwell and Jeff Meckstroth took plus 50 against Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes in the Open Room. Those were the last IMPs USA I were to see for some time in the set.

Italy were trailing 49-46 when this deal gave them the lead.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

<p>♠ 9 7 6 3 2 ♥ J 9 3 ♦ 7 3 ♣ A 8 6</p>	<p>♠ K Q ♥ K 8 ♦ 10 8 6 5 4 ♣ Q 10 9 3</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> <span>N</span><span>E</span></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> <span>W</span><span>S</span></div> </div>	<p>♠ A J 5 ♥ Q 7 4 2 ♦ K 9 ♣ K J 5 2</p>
<p>♠ 10 8 4 ♥ A 10 6 5 ♦ A Q J 2 ♣ 7 4</p>			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	All Pass

Duboin led a heart to Bocchi's king, and Bocchi made the excellent switch to a low diamond. When the smoke cleared, Richard Freeman had only five tricks for minus 200.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Nunes</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>
Pass	Pass	INT	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	All Pass

This was a much better contract. Meckstroth started with the ♣7 to the eight, nine and jack, and Fantoni made the excellent play of a low spade from hand. Rodwell played a diamond to the king and ace, and Meckstroth cashed the ♦J. He continued with a club to dummy's ace, and when Rodwell's ♠Q appeared on the second round of the suit, Fantoni had only to play a low heart from hand to dummy's nine. That was plus 110 and 7 IMPs to Italy, now leading 53-49

More IMPs went to Italy when Rodwell went down in a vulner-

able game he might have made.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ 5 4 ♥ Q J 5 ♦ K Q 4 3 2 ♣ 7 6 5</p>	<p>♠ A Q 9 7 6 ♥ 10 8 ♦ 6 ♣ A 10 9 8 2</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> <span>N</span><span>E</span></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> <span>W</span><span>S</span></div> </div>	<p>♠ J 10 ♥ A K 9 7 6 3 ♦ J 9 8 ♣ K Q</p>
<p>♠ K 8 3 2 ♥ 4 2 ♦ A 10 7 5 ♣ J 4 3</p>			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
3♥	1♠	2♥	2NT
All Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠

Freeman cashed two high hearts and switched to the ♣K. There were no problems from there for Bocchi. The defense was vastly different in the Open Room.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Nunes</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>
Pass	1♠	2♥	3♠
Pass	4♣	All Pass	Pass

Meckstroth's 3♠ showed 7-9 HCP and at least four trumps. Fantoni started with the top two hearts and Nunes followed with the five and the jack. Whereas Freeman knew his partner had at least three hearts, Fantoni apparently was confused about the distribution of the heart suit, because at trick three he played another heart, presenting Rodwell with a cast-iron way to make

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**www.worldbridge.org**



his contract without having to depend on one of the club honors being with West. After long consideration, however, Rodwell discarded a diamond from dummy, later taking two club finesses, both losing, for minus 100 and a strange 12-IMP swing to Italy, whose lead had grown to 65-49.

More IMPs went to Italy on the following deal.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ A K 8 7 6 4 ♥ K 10 6 ♦ A K ♣ K Q	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	N			W	E			S		♠ J 9 3 ♥ 9 3 2 ♦ 9 3 ♣ A 9 8 7 5
N											
W	E										
	S										
♠ Q 5 ♥ 8 5 ♦ Q J 7 6 5 2 ♣ 10 6 2		♠ 10 2 ♥ A Q J 7 4 ♦ 10 8 4 ♣ J 4 3									

Bocchi and Duboin conducted a long, complicated auction to the heart slam, which was cold on the lie of the cards, and they duly scored plus 980. Something happened to Meckstroth and Rodwell on the way to their own slam.

West	North	East	South
Nunes	Rodwell	Fantoni	Meckstroth
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Rodwell's opener was Precision, and 1♠ showed hearts; 2♣ showed a spade suit, and 2♥ denied spade support. The misunderstanding isn't clear, but the abrupt halt to the auction was an 11-IMP swing for Italy, now leading 82-49.

The score was 88-49 before USA I broke through again on Board 29, earning an overtrick IMP.

Rodwell played well to earn another IMP for his side on the following deal.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ K 10 6 ♥ J 4 3 ♦ A Q ♣ K Q J 8 7	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	N			W	E			S		♠ A 5 4 3 2 ♥ Q 10 2 ♦ J 7 ♣ 10 5 3
N											
W	E										
	S										
♠ Q J ♥ 9 7 5 ♦ K 9 8 6 3 ♣ A 9 6		♠ 9 8 7 ♥ A K 8 6 ♦ 10 5 4 2 ♣ 4 2									

West	North	East	South
Nickell	Bocchi	Freeman	Duboin
Pass	1♣	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♥	All Pass	1♦

Duboin's 1♦ showed hearts, and he had no reason to move over his partner's minimum bid. Freeman led the ♦J and Bocchi soon wrote plus 140 into his scorecard.

West	North	East	South
Nunes	Rodwell	Fantoni	Meckstroth
Pass	INT	Pass	Pass
Pass		All Pass	

Fantoni led the ♠2 to the jack and king, and Rodwell played the ♣K to Nunes' ace. He cashed the ♠Q, then exited with a low diamond. Rodwell considered his play for a moment before inserting the queen. That gave West the ♠QJ, the ♦K and the ♣A. He could not have the ♥Q. Rodwell cashed the top clubs from hand to make sure the suit was splitting, then entered dummy with the ♥A and returned to his hand with the ♦A. On the run of the clubs East was squeezed into discarding down to a singleton ♠A, at which point Rodwell exited with the ♠10, and took the last two tricks with the ♥J and ♥K.

On the next to last board, USA I continued their mini-rally with a 6-IMP gain when Bocchi and Duboin overbid to 3NT, going off one, while Meckstroth and Rodwell stopped in 1NT, making two for plus 120.

Meckstroth engineered a 2-IMP gain on the final board with excellent play in an unusual contract.



Jeff Meckstroth, USA

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ 7 5												
♥ A Q 8 5												
♦ K 10 9 8												
♣ A 10 7												
♠ Q 10		♠ A K J 8										
♥ 9 7 4		♥ J 6 3										
♦ J 5 3 2		♦ A Q 6										
♣ 6 5 3 2		♣ K Q 4										
	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S			
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ 9 6 4 3 2											
	♥ K 10 2											
	♦ 7 4											
	♣ J 9 8											

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Nickell	Bocchi	Freeman	Duboin
Pass	INT	Dble	2♥
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

Duboin managed six tricks for minus 100.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Nunes	Rodwell	Fantoni	Meckstroth
Pass	1♦	Dble	1♥
Pass	INT	Dble	2♣
All Pass			

Meckstroth's 1♥ bid showed spades, and he wasn't keen to bid his weak suit again considering that East likely had that suit wrapped up.

Nunes started with the ♣2 to the seven, queen and eight, and Fantoni played a heart to the two, nine and queen. A low spade was taken by East with the king, and another heart returned to the ten. A diamond went to the eight and queen, and the ♥J was played to the king. Meckstroth played his other diamond to the nine and ace, and he ruffed the return of the ♠J with the ♣10 as Nunes dropped the deceptive ♦J. Meckstroth cashed the ♦K, then the ♣A. When Meckstroth played the ♦10, Fantoni had to let declarer score the ♣J sooner or later. That was seven tricks for minus 50 and a 2 IMP gain to close a somewhat disappointing set for USA I.



Norberto Bocchi, Italy

## Team Canada profile

The Canadian team (Kamel Fergani, Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Darren Wolpert, Jurek Czyzowicz, Gavin Wolpert, Vincent Demuy and Nader Hanna - NPC) had a strong showing in this year's Bermuda Bowl competition. At 20 and 21 years of age respectively, Demuy and Gavin Wolpert were the youngest participants in this year's Bermuda Bowl. Despite their young age, the two were one of the most effective pairs in the competition, finishing 7th in the Butler rankings with a +0.69 IMP/Board average.

The Canadian team was among the top eight for most of the competition, climbing as high as third position after Round 14 behind Italy and USA I. Canada's successes included wins over USA I (23 - 7 VPs), USA II (25 - 4 VPs) and Australia (25 - 3 VPs). The eleventh round match, featured on vugraph, between Canada and Norway was a particularly well-played match, ending with Canada winning by an IMP score of 13 - 6.

With one round to go and a 13 VP lead on USA II in ninth place, Canada appeared to be in a strong position to qualify for the knockout phase of the competition. An 11 - 19 VP loss to Poland combined with a 25 - 5 VP win by USA II over New Zealand resulted in a heartbreaking ninth place finish for Canada missing the quarter-finals by 1 VP. Nevertheless, many observers have taken note of this exiting Canadian team and in particular the junior players Demuy and G. Wolpert.

### Kamel Fergani - Nicolas L'Ecuyer

Fergani lives in Montreal, where he is a bridge club owner. He was born in Algeria and moved to Canada in 1972.

L'Ecuyer lives in Montreal where he is an advertising salesman for a TV network. Nick, who is 35, started playing bridge when he was 7 years old.

Among their achievements, Fergani and L'Ecuyer were 2nd in the 2002 NEC Cup invitational teams in Yokohama, Japan.

### Jurek Czyzowicz - Darren Wolpert

Czyzowicz is a professor of computer science at the University of Quebec. He was born in Stargard, Poland and moved to Canada in 1984 and now lives in Ottawa. As a junior, Czyzowicz represented Poland in the European Junior Championships in 1974 in Copenhagen.

Darren lives in Toronto, where he works as a stockbroker. He was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, and moved to Canada with his family in 1978 when he was two years old.

Along with Fergani and L'Ecuyer, Darren and Czyzowicz were 2nd in the 2002 NEC Cup invitational teams in Yokohama, Japan.

### Vincent Demuy - Gavin Wolpert

Demuy and Gavin are students. Demuy lives in Montreal while Gavin lives in Toronto. They have been members of the Canadian Junior team since 1999. The young pair has already established a reputation as a strong up-and-coming pair in North America.

**FINAL** **Bermuda Bowl** **SESSION 3**



**Italy v USA I**  
**Fighting Back**



**A**fter losing in the first two sets of the Bermuda Bowl final by a collective score of 88-46, USA I had been rocked back on their heels. They needed some good news in the third segment. Although they lost again, the score was close.

The first significant swing of the third set went to the Americans.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 9	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ K Q J 10 7
N						
W						
E						
S						
♥ A Q 7 5	♥ J 9					
♦ A 9 7 6 4	♦ K 8 5 2					
♣ K Q 8	♣ 7 4					
	♠ 6 4 3					
	♥ 8 2					
	♦ J 10 3					
	♣ A J 9 6 2					

West	North	East	South
Versace	Rodwell	Lauria	Meckstroth
1♦	1♥	Dble	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	All Pass



Alfredo Versace, Italy

Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell let a trick slip away on a low heart lead, and Alfredo Versace finished with plus 130.

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

Bob Hamman and Paul Soloway open four-card majors with some canapé rebids, so Bocchi did not overcall. Against the notrump game, Norberto Bocchi led a low heart. Dummy's ♥9 held, and Hamman continued with the ♠K Bocchi could see there was no point in ducking, so he won the ace and switched to a club to Giorgio Duboin's ace. Hamman had no trouble in taking nine more tricks for plus 630 and an 11-IMP gain.

Part of that swing went back to Italy when Bob Hamman and Paul Soloway stopped in 3♣, making four, while Versace and Lauria got to game.

Another 8 IMPs were scored by Italy on the following deal.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ K 8 7 5	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ J 10 4
N						
W						
E						
S						
♥ A 9 3	♥ K J 8 7 6 2					
♦ A 10 7 6	♦ 8 2					
♣ 9 4	♣ A 5					
	♠ A 3 2					
	♥ Q 5 4					
	♦ J 5 4					
	♣ 10 8 7 3					

West	North	East	South
Versace	Rodwell	Lauria	Meckstroth
Dble	1♦	1♥	INT
2♥	2♣	Pass	Pass
	3♣	3♥	All Pass

Lauria, with Meckstroth's INT bid to guide him, managed nine tricks for plus 140. Hamman and Soloway got way overboard.

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Bocchi	Soloway	Duboin
2♣	1♣	1♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
	Pass	4♥	All Pass

There would a variety of opinions as to which bid - Hamman's

3♥ or Soloway's 4♥ - would win the booby prize. Even had he guessed the trump suit - he did not - Soloway had four losers against any competent defenders. The result was minus 200 and 8 IMPs to Italy.

Soloway had a chance for a 10-IMP gain on the following board, but it didn't work out.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ J 5 4 ♥ K 9 7 5 ♦ Q J 5 ♣ K Q 6	♠ A 8 7 6 2 ♥ 6 2 ♦ 7 6 4 3 2 ♣ A	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K 9 ♥ A J 10 8 ♦ A 8 ♣ J 8 5 3 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ Q 10 3 ♥ Q 4 3 ♦ K 10 9 ♣ 10 9 7 4												
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>									
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>									
1♣	1♠	2♣	2♠									
Pass	Pass	3♥	Pass									
4♥	All Pass											

Lauria took the normal view in hearts - king, then low to the jack - so he had a loser in each suit for minus 50.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Soloway</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
Pass	Pass	INT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		



Eric Rodwell, USA

Hamman didn't consider Stayman with his dull hand pattern, and Soloway was in a maker, if he could work out how to play hearts successfully.

Duboin led the ♣10, and Soloway passed the first test by playing low from dummy. He now had four club tricks. Bocchi switched to a low spade, ducked to Duboin's queen. Bocchi ducked to maintain communication when his partner returned the ♠10. Soloway had to figure out the heart suit, but first he ran some winners. After dummy's clubs were cashed, the ♦Q (in case North had the king and was tempted to cover) went to Soloway's ace, and Soloway played the last club. On each club, Bocchi discarded diamonds, giving Soloway a count of his hand.

Soloway had seen five diamonds, one club and, by inference, five spades with the North hand. Bocchi had, therefore only two hearts. With three hearts to North's two, South was more likely to have the queen. Soloway was apparently suspicious of Bocchi's willingness to give so much information about his own hand, so after considerable thought, Soloway played the ♥J to the king and a low heart to the 10. Duboin scooped up the ♥Q, cashed the ♦K and played a spade to Bocchi's ace for two down and a 2-IMP gain for Italy.

Italy dropped 6 IMPs on a game swing on the final deal or the margin would have been worse. As it was, Italy were leading after three rounds by 107-79.

## Thank You All, We Built Up a Team If not a Dream

By Jean-Paul Meyer

During a fortnight, I have been in charge of coordination for Bulletin and Rama.

It is really an easy task to coordinate the Bulletin with Brent Manley as Chief Editor, if things went well, he must get all the credit for that. It has been a true pleasure working with you Brent and I am sure the readers, too, appreciated what you have done, every day, here in Monaco.

One of the best teams I have ever had was on duty at the commentators' table in the rama. The American-Canadian duet, Barry Rigal and Eric Kokish was efficient, precise and technical, as easily predictable for those who have attended previous world events. Zia Mahmood was, as ever, highly humorous, and found the right words at the right time... when his second three-month old baby did not require his attention.

Paul Chemla played very well his part in a new role as the casting decided to use him as a commentator both in English and French instead of his usual role as a player.

Above all, I am happy we all enjoyed working together.

Merci José Damiani to have offered me such a good team.



**FINAL** **Bermuda Bowl** **SESSION 4**



**Italy v USA I**



**Crossing the Rubicon**

Sydney Lazard, Captain of the USA I team inspired his players by reading them the introduction to one of yesterday's articles. With two sessions to play in this tremendous Bermuda Bowl final we offer these lines as further motivation to Italy.

Then out spake brave Lavazza,  
The Captain of the Gate:  
'To every man upon this earth  
Death cometh soon or late.  
And how can man die better  
Than facing fearful odds  
For the ashes of his fathers,  
And the temples of his gods.'

The fourth session of the final was a classic. Exciting deals with opportunities for both sides.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 10 9 6 5 4	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ 8 7 2
N						
W						
E						
S						
♥ 6 4	♥ A K 5					
♦ J 10 7 6 4	♦ Q 9 8 5 3 2					
♣ 3	♣ 2					
	♠ K J					
	♥ 9 8 7					
	♦ A K					
	♣ K Q J 9 8 5					

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Fantoni	Meckstroth	Nunes
		Pass	1♣*
Pass	3♣*	3♦	4♣
5♦	Pass	Pass	6♣
6♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Three Clubs was game forcing.

This cost -1100. A lesser player/pair might have suffered an adverse reaction, but there was no flicker of emotion. There is a lesson there for everyone.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Hamman	Lauria	Soloway
		1♦	INT
3♦	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West did not find the heart lead, but this was still -200 and 16 massive IMPs for Italy.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 7	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ A J
N						
W						
E						
S						
♥ 10 8 7	♥ 9 6 5 4					
♦ K 6 3	♦ Q 7 5					
♣ K 10 9 8 6 3	♣ Q 7 4 2					
	♠ 10 9 8 6 5 2					
	♥ A K Q J					
	♦ A 8					
	♣ 5					

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Fantoni	Meckstroth	Nunes
			1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Declarer could not avoid losers in spades and diamonds; -50.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Hamman	Lauria	Soloway
			1♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Facing a limited opening, North simply jumped to game and collected 11 IMPs.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ 6	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ A 8 2
N						
W						
E						
S						
♥ J 10 8 4 3	♥ A K Q 5 2					
♦ 10 6 2	♦ J 4					
♣ 10 5 4 2	♣ K J 7					
♠ J 10 9 7 3		♠ K Q 5 4				
♥ 7 6		♥ 9				
♦ K 8 7 3		♦ A Q 9 5				
♣ Q 3		♣ A 9 8 6				

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Fantoni	Meckstroth	Nunes
	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♦*	Pass	1♥	Dbl
Rdbl	2♣	Dble	All Pass

Nunes followed the accepted principle of passing over the strong club and then bidding on the next round to show a decent hand. He found partner with almost nothing, but the American pair had to tread carefully to defeat the contract.

East cashed the king of hearts and switched to a trump, ducked to West's queen. Rodwell had to play back a club now and he did, declarer winning with the ace and playing back a club to East's jack. He switched to the jack of diamonds, covered by the queen and king, and West had to switch back to hearts. He did, and from here it was relatively easy to ensure a one trick defeat; +200.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Hamman	Lauria	Soloway
	Pass	1♥	Dbl
Pass	2♣	Dble	3♣
Dbl*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The Americans flirted with danger, but they emerged unscathed when East tried for game. South led the ace of clubs and a club. Declarer won in dummy and ran the nine of spades. The defence cleared clubs and with nothing good happening the contract was two down; 7 IMPs for USA 1, gradually edging closer.



Bob Hamman, USA

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Fantoni	Meckstroth	Nunes
		2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

There is no lead to defeat this contract, although if South leads a diamond declarer must play carefully, winning in dummy to play a club, and if that is covered by North he must win and lead a heart towards dummy. Here South led the four of hearts, so declarer won trick one with the six and was never in danger, recording ten tricks and +630.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Hamman	Lauria	Soloway
		1♣*	2NT*
Dble	4♦	Dble	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	All Pass

South led a diamond and there was no way declarer could avoid the loss of a club, a spade and a heart; -100 and 12 more IMPs to USA 1.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Fantoni	Meckstroth	Nunes
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Not unreasonably South led the three of clubs - but believe it or not the contract could no longer be defeated! (South must lead a red suit or a trump.) North won and tried ace of hearts followed by the queen. South made a brave try when he overtook in the hope of giving his partner a ruff, but it was not to be. +620.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Soloway</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣*	Pass	1♦*	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

South led a trump and declarer won and played a heart to the ten. North won and played a second trump. The game of ping pong continued as declarer won and played a heart to the jack, North winning to play a third spade. The diamond finesse was right, but that still meant only nine tricks; -100 and yet another 12 USA 1 IMPs.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
			INT
2♦*	Dble	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Declarer made all thirteen tricks when West led a diamond, +510.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Soloway</i>
			INT
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠*	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♣*	Pass	5♦*
Pass	5♠*	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

A splendid effort. West led the king of spades but declarer simply drew two rounds of trumps and claimed twelve tricks. Another 10 IMPs and the match was now wide open.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
1♥	Pass	2♣*	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♠*	Pass
5♦*	Pass	6♣	All Pass

A very good contract with plenty of chances. South led a diamond and declarer won in hand, crossed to the ace of spades and played a club to the queen. He ruffed a spade and played a club covered by the king and ace. He could cross to dummy with a trump, get back to hand with a heart, draw the last trump and claim +920.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Soloway</i>
1♥	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Declarer made eleven tricks, but it was a fifth double figure swing to USA 1.

On Board 29 the spade suit was distributed round the table like this.

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

Italy declared 3♠ for -200 on the North/South cards, and 1♠ for -100 on the East/West cards to lose 7 IMPs.

After the debacle on Board 18 USA 1 had outscored Italy 71-6 in one of the greatest displays ever seen in the long history of the Bermuda Bowl. They led by 16 IMPs - game on!

### IBPA Announcement

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**SEMI-FINAL** Transnational Open Teams **SESSION 2**



**Jansma v Lavazza**



Midway through the 32-board semi-finals of the Transnational Teams, ZHUANG led BRACHMAN by 42 IMPs, while the other match saw Italy's LAVAZZA ahead of the Dutch JANSMA team by just 1 IMP at 12-11. Naturally, we chose to follow the closer of the two matches and that proved to be the right thing to do as the lead changed hands on a number of occasions during the second half.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Lanzarotti	Verhees	Buratti	Jansma
Pass	1♥	1♠	Pass
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
De Wijs	D'Avossa	Muller	Ferraro
2♠	3♥	1♠	Pass
Dble	All Pass	Pass	3NT

Bauke Muller opened the East hand with 1♠ and Simon De Wijs raised to 2♠. When Mario D'Avossa overcalled 3♥, Guido Ferraro took a shot at 3NT, doubled by De Wijs. De Wijs led a spade to the king and ace and Ferraro tried a diamond to the jack, losing to the queen. A spade was returned and Ferraro won the queen then played a second diamond. De Wijs won the ♦A, cashed the ♠J and led a club to his partner's ace. The spades were cashed and that was two down for -500.

Andrea Buratti passed as dealer at the other table but later overcalled 1♠. His opponents bid slowly to 3NT but here nobody found a double. A spade was led to the nine and queen and Jan Jansma tried two top hearts, getting the bad news, then played a club to his jack followed by a diamond to jack and queen. Back came a spade and Jansma won the ace and played a second diamond. Massimo Lanzarotto took his ace, cashed the ♠A, and led a club; the same down two but here only -200 so 7 IMPs to JANSMA, who moved into the lead at 18-13.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Lanzarotti	Verhees	Buratti	Jansma
Pass	1♠	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Dble	Pass	Pass
Rdbl	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♥	All Pass

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
De Wijs	D'Avossa	Muller	Ferraro
Pass	2♠	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		Pass



Louk Verhees, The Netherlands



D'Avossa opened with a weak two bid in third seat and the auction was swift and simple. Four Hearts made 11 tricks for +650.

Louk Verhees opened only 1♠ and his opponents conducted a slow and complex auction to the small slam. After a spade lead to queen and ace, Buratti drew trumps and had to rely on the diamond finesse. When the ♦K proved to be offside he was down one for -100 and 13 IMPs to JANSMA, increasing the lead to 32-14. A touch unlucky for the Italians, perhaps, as the finesse was through an opening one-level opener.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

  

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

  

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

<b>West</b> <i>Lanzarotti</i>	<b>North</b> <i>Verhees</i>	<b>East</b> <i>Buratti</i>	<b>South</b> <i>Jansma</i>
	1♣	1♥	1♠
2♠	2NT	3♠	4♣
4♠	5♣	All Pass	

<b>West</b> <i>De Wijs</i>	<b>North</b> <i>D'Avossa</i>	<b>East</b> <i>Muller</i>	<b>South</b> <i>Ferraro</i>
	1♣	1♥	2♣
2♠	Dble	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

A trifle conservative from D'Avossa, I would have thought. Having received club support, I might have been tempted to try 3NT - there are, after all, nine running tricks if the opposition cannot take five diamonds before you get in, and the opposition have bid two other suits, not diamonds. The no trump game would indeed have made, but 3♣ plus two for +150 proved to be a useful result as it turned out.

In the other room, Jansma's 1♠ bid denied four spades, so Lanzarotti was just making a natural spade call. After a competitive auction, Verhees declared 5♣ on the lead of the king of hearts to his ace. He played a diamond at trick two and Buratti played low without a hitch. Verhees put in the jack, losing to the queen, and back came a spade. Declarer won the ace and drew trumps, ruffing two diamonds along the way in hope of dropping the ace. When nothing good materialised in diamonds, he had to go one down for -50 and 5 IMPs to LAVAZZA, closing to 19-34.

Verhees was a little unlucky in that once Buratti turned up with both the missing trumps he rated to have only three diamonds, having overcalled 1♥ and supported spades at the three level, so there seemed to be good chances that the ace would ruff out. It's a hard life sometimes, isn't it?

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

  

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

<b>West</b> <i>Lanzarotti</i>	<b>North</b> <i>Verhees</i>	<b>East</b> <i>Buratti</i>	<b>South</b> <i>Jansma</i>
	3♦	4♥	1♦
Dble	Pass	5♥	5♦
Pass			All Pass

<b>West</b> <i>De Wijs</i>	<b>North</b> <i>D'Avossa</i>	<b>East</b> <i>Muller</i>	<b>South</b> <i>Ferraro</i>
	3♦	4♥	1♦
Dble	All Pass		5♦
6♥			

The two auctions were identical up to West's decision over 5♦. De Wijs made the decision himself, jumping to 6♥, while Lanzarotti made a forcing pass and left it to partner. And when Buratti made the obvious-looking decision to bid on, Lanzarotti was not tempted to raise to six.

Against Buratti, Jansma led the singleton spade and there were twelve tricks for +480. Against the slam, Ferraro cashed the ace of clubs then switched to the king of diamonds; one down for -50 and 11 IMPs to LAVAZZA; 32-34.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

  

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

<b>West</b> <i>Lanzarotti</i>	<b>North</b> <i>Verhees</i>	<b>East</b> <i>Buratti</i>	<b>South</b> <i>Jansma</i>
	Pass	3♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
3♦			

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
De Wijs	D'Avossa	Muller	Ferraro
2♣	Dble	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Lanzarotti's 2NT showed 21-22 but promised a five-card suit, other than clubs. Buratti asked for the suit then settled for 3NT, against which Verhees led the king of spades. Lanzarotti won the ♠A and cashed the diamonds, ending in hand. Having watched the discards closely, he now judged to play a club towards the king. Verhees won the ♣A and the defence cashed the spades, then Verhees exited passively with a club to the king and Lanzarotti had to take the heart finesse for his contract; down one for -50.

The contract and opening lead were the same in the other room and declarer again won and played out the diamonds. There is a problem with the play record now because it stops before the key moment and I could not discover what happened in time to include it here. Something dramatic must have gone wrong in the defence, however, as De Wijs emerged with an overtrick for +430 and 10 IMPs to JANSMA, ahead now by 44-32 with four boards to play.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Lanzarotti	Verhees	Buratti	Jansma
Pass	1♦	Pass	INT
Pass	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
De Wijs	D'Avossa	Muller	Ferraro
All Pass	INT	Pass	3NT

D'Avossa stretched to open INT and Ferraro raised him to the 23-point game. Muller led a low heart to the nine and queen and D'Avossa played a spade to the jack and queen. Back came a heart. D'Avossa picked up four diamond tricks and cashed the spades for +600.

There was never any question of game being reached at the other table, where Verhees opened 1♦ and eventually competed to 2♣ over the opposing 2♥ contract. Buratti led his club to the king and jack and Lanzarotti switched to the ♥10, run to the king. Verhees ran the ♦J then repeated the diamond finesse. The good news in his key side-suit persuaded Verhees to play spades from the top. When the queen fell under dummy's ace on the second round, he continued by cashing the jack then taking another diamond finesse. The diamond got ruffed but the defence just had two aces to take from there;

+140 but 10 IMPs to LAVAZZA; 42-44.

JANSMA picked up 1 IMP on Board 14 to lead by 45-42, then on Board 15 Buratti/Lanzarotti played 3♦ just making while De Wijs/Muller were one down in a 22-point 3NT which, after the opening lead, required a winning diamond play holding ♦KJ1064 opposite ♦A872. There was ♦Q95 over the longer holding and it was not normal to get them right; 4 IMPs to LAVAZZA, and the lead by a single IMP at 46-45.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Lanzarotti	Verhees	Buratti	Jansma
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♥
Pass	3♥	3♠	4♦
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
De Wijs	D'Avossa	Muller	Ferraro
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♥
Pass	3♥	3♠	4♦
4♠	All Pass		

And so to the final deal. D'Avossa/Ferraro competed up to the four level but then let their opponents play 4♠. After a club lead, there was no way to avoid four losers in 4♠ for -100.

The auction got up to 4♠ again in the other room. At this point the Dutch North/South pair could double to win the match, as one down would then have earned them 3 IMPs and a win by 2 IMPs. Passing 4♠ out might also win the match but only if South could find a trump lead, necessary to hold declarer to one ruff and get the contract down two - hard to find that lead, of course, when holding a singleton in a side-suit. But Verhees passed the decision round to Jansma and he went for 5♥, hoping that one or other contract was making. Of course, Buratti doubled.

Lanzarotti led a spade and Buratti played three rounds of those. Not quite certain if he might run into an over-ruff, Jansma pitched his losing club at trick three. Buratti cashed the ace of diamonds then played a fourth spade, ruffed with the six, ten and ace. Jansma cashed the ♥K then played the king of clubs for the ace and ruffed. He ruffed a low diamond then threw the last diamond loser on a club before picking up the trumps; down two for -300 and 9 IMPs to LAVAZZA.

Having only just survived the qualifying stage after a big win in the last round, LAVAZZA was now in the final, where they would meet ZHUANG, who beat BRACHMAN by 91-40 IMPs in the other semi-final.

# Le petit écho de Monaco

par Guy Dupont

## Un 9ème titre

Cette nouvelle victoire américaine dans la Venice Cup à Monaco offre aux Etats-Unis leur 9e titre. En quatorze éditions, quel exploit ! Voilà un record qui ne va pas être facile à rattraper. D'autant que les Américaines ne vont probablement pas s'arrêter en si bon chemin. Les années glorieuses américaines : 1974, 1976, 1978, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1997 et 2003. La Chine, pour sa part, a perdu sa deuxième finale dans cette épreuve, après Hammamet, en 1997, où, déjà, les Etats-Unis lui avaient barré la route (Tobi Sokolow était déjà membre de l'équipe victorieuse, tandis que Sue Picus en était le capitaine non-joueur). La Chine a également obtenu une médaille de bronze à Yokohama, en 1991.

## Première poignée de main

L'équipe franco-suisse de Pierre Zimmermann, Pierre Saporta, Alain Lévy, Hervé Mouiel, a terminé " première poignée de main "



La Compagnie Monégasque de Banque, sponsor officiel du Championnat du Monde de Bridge 2003, est heureuse de vous rencontrer dans son point d'accueil au Sporting d'Hiver, à côté du Salon François Blanc, de 9h30 à 11h00 et de 15 heures à 16h30, chaque jour. Notre personnel se tient à votre disposition pour vous fournir tout renseignement concernant son activité de Private Banking.

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Compagnie Monégasque de Banque, official sponsor of the World Bridge Championship 2003, will be delighted to see you at its "meeting point" located at the Sporting d'Hiver, near the Salon François Blanc, from 9.30 to 11.00 a.m. and from 3.00 to 4.30 p.m., every day.

Our staff is at your disposal to give you any detail you may need about our Private Banking activity.

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La Compagnie Monégasque de Banque, sponsor ufficiale del Campionato Mondiale di Bridge 2003, sarà lieta di incontrarLa nel suo " punto accoglienza " allo Sporting d'Hiver, vicino al Salone François Blanc, dalle 9.30 alle 11.00 e dalle 15.00 alle 16.30 di ogni giorno.

I nostri consulenti sono a Sua completa disposizione per fornirLe qualsiasi chiarimento sulla nostra attività di Private Banking.

du Transnational, soit 9e, alors que la route fleurie des quarts de finale n'était ouverte qu'aux huit premiers. Il faut dire qu'ils avaient pris un sérieux handicap, au début de l'épreuve : après quatre matches (soit au quart du parcours), ils étaient 64es sur 74, avec un retard de 44 points sur le leader. S'il existait un prix pour le meilleur rebondissement, c'est à eux qu'il irait.

## Drame au rama

La donne la plus dramatique pour les Italiens dans la 6e séance de la finale de la Bermuda Bowl fut la 22.

Est donneur, Est-Ouest vulnérables

♠ 10 7 6 4	♠ AV 2	♠ —						
♥ RV 2	♥ 10 6	♥ 8 3						
♦ 10 6	♦ ADV 3 2	♦ R 8 7 5 4						
♣ R 9 6 5	♣ D 10 3	♣ AV 8 7 4 2						
<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="background-color: black; color: white; text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>			N		E	W	S	
N		E						
W	S							
♠ RD 9 8 5 3	♠ RD 9 8 5 3	♠ RD 9 8 5 3						
♥ AD 9 7 5 4	♥ AD 9 7 5 4	♥ AD 9 7 5 4						
♦ 9	♦ 9	♦ 9						
♣ —	♣ —	♣ —						

Quel contrat souhaitez-vous jouer en Nord-Sud ?

En salle ouverte, Meckstroth-Rodwell se sont arrêtés à 4 ♠ et ont fait une levée de mieux. En salle fermée, Bocchi-Duboin ont joué 6 ♠ surcontré, après :

	O	N	E	S
	Hamman	Bocchi	Soloway	Duboin
Passe		2 ♣	Passe	1 ♠
Passe		2 ♠	Passe	2 ♥
Passe		3 ♥	Passe	3 ♦
Passe		4 ♦	Passe	3 ♠
Passe		4 ♠	Passe	4 ♥
Passe		5 ♦	Contre	5 ♣
Passe		Surcontre	Passe	5 ♥
Passe		6 ♠	Contre	Surcontre
	(Fin)			

L'entame fut le 10 de ♦. Quand vous voyez les quatre jeux, vous vous dites que tout était en place pour permettre à l'Italie de marquer un gros swing (elle était, à ce moment-là, menée, de 29 imp) : on peut couper un ♥, tout en se méfiant des atouts 4-0 (en tirant l'As de ♠). Oui, mais ! Après le Contre, Sud est allé imaginer d'autres embûches (♥ 4-1 et ♠ 3-1). Il n'a pas tiré le moindre tour d'atout, avant de couper un ♥ d'un honneur du mort. Quel

coup malheureux pour lui ! Moins un (200), et une perte de 12 imp, au lieu d'un gain de 13.

**Un peu d'optimisme**

Ils ne furent pas très nombreux à se risquer au chelem, sur cette donne du 8e match du Transnational. Il est vrai qu'on manque un peu de matériel. Sabine Auken et son partenaire indien Gupta l'ont atteint en deux coups de cuiller à pots:

Donne 15, Sud donneur, Nord-Sud vulnérables

♠ 8 5 3  
♥ 5  
♦ R D 7 2  
♣ A R 8 5 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A D 6  
♥ A 9 7 6  
♦ A 8 6 3  
♣ 9 3

♠ V 10 9  
♥ R D V 3 2  
♦ 9 4  
♣ D V 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ R 7 4 2  
♥ 10 8 4  
♦ V 10 5  
♣ 10 7 6

**Frileux ou téméraire**

S'il est une donne qui a fait parler, c'est bien la donne 3 du 16e et dernier match du Transnational :

Sud donneur, E-O vulnérables.

♠ 9 7 6  
♥ 9 8 7 5 4  
♦ V  
♣ V 9 6 3

♠ V 3  
♥ A D  
♦ A R 9 6 5  
♣ R 8 7 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A R 10 2  
♥ R V 3  
♦ D 3  
♣ A D 5 4

♠ D 8 5 4  
♥ 10 6 2  
♦ 10 8 7 4 2  
♣ 10

Les enchères en salle ouverte :

O	N	E	S
Szwarc	Gupta	Beineix	Mme Auken
1 ♥	3 ♥ *	Passe	1 ♦
Passe	4 ♣	Passe	3 ♠
Passe (Fin)	5 ♣	Passe	4 ♥
			6 ♦

\* Splinter

Quest entame du Roi de ♥. **Comment jouez-vous ?**

Un peu d'optimisme ! As de ♥, As et Roi de ♦, As-Roi de ♣ et ♣ coupé, purge du dernier atout tout en remontant au mort, et impasse au Roi de ♠. Tout va bien : il faut seulement trouver les atouts 3-2, les ♣ 3-3 et le Roi de ♠ placé. + 1370. Dans l'autre salle les Français se sont arrêtés à la manche.

Beaucoup ont atteint 7 ♣. C'est le meilleur contrat. Il ne requiert qu'une distribution 3-2 des atouts. Notre sympathie va à ceux qui ont chuté 7 ♣ et déboursé une kyrielle d'imp, face à ceux qui ont frileusement demandé 6 SA (gagné en sécurité, en faisant l'impasse au 10 de ♦, après avoir vu le Valet au premier tour).

Les plus téméraires ont opté pour 7 SA. Ceux qui tiré Dame, puis As de ♦, après l'apparition du Valet (estimant plus probable de trouver Valet-10 de ♦ secs, plutôt que les ♦ 5-1) ont chuté. Mais quelques uns ont gagné en réussissant l'impasse au 10 de ♦ après la Dame, puis en terminant par un double squeeze ♠-♣ contre Nord et ♠-♦ contre Sud, dans cette position, en tirant le Roi de ♦ :

♠ (D) 7 ♣ V  
♠ 3 ♦ R 6 ————— ♠ R 10 ♣ 5  
♠ D ♦ 10 8

Il faut de tout pour faire un monde.

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