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Cruise control: Italy makes it look easy



Anna Maria Torlontano is all smiles as she accepts the Gold Medal of the World Bridge Federation, presented to her by WBF President José Damiani at his dinner on Tuesday night. Long the mistress of ceremonies at WBF events, Torlontano was honored for her distinguished service to the WBF. In Monte Carlo she is on the Hospitality Committee.

Halfway through the qualifying round-robin phase of the Bermuda Bowl, the powerful team from Italy seems to be on a mission to erase the disappointment of losing in the semi-final round of the contest two years ago in Paris.

Like a well-oiled machine, Italy is dismantling one opponent after another on their march to the top qualifying spot.

The picture is not as clear in the other two events as Chinese Taipei clings to a lead of IVP in the Venice Cup after eight qualifying rounds. Right behind them are USA I and China.

In the Senior Bowl, where the end of the round-robin will be the end of the event, France has the lead with 125 VPs, followed by Australia at 114.5 and USA I at 114. Several teams are within shouting distance of the title with nine rounds to play.

The Italian team features four regulars - Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Lorenzo Lauria and Alfredo Versace - plus the World Open Pairs champions from Montreal last year - Claudio Nunes and Fulvio Fantoni.

The team started slowly, actually losing in the second round

VUGRAPH MATCH

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 12 – 10.30

China v Australia

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 13 – 13.20

Italy v Norway

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 14 – 16.10

Spain v Poland

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to Poland and barely getting by Egypt in round three, but they have been rolling since then, averaging nearly 50 IMPs per match.

After 11 rounds, Italy are at the top of the qualification standings with 222 VPs. USA II at 212.5 and USA I at 205.5 are right behind Italy.

While Italy's success so far is not surprising, there have been some unexpected developments, including the lacklustre showing by Sweden, a favorite to qualify for the knockout phase of the event. After 11 rounds, the Swedes were mired in 16th place after losing three in a row to end Wednesday...**Continued on page 4**

PROGRAM**Bermuda Bowl****ROUND 12 10.30**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	Pakistan	New Zealand
2	Monaco	USA II
3	Canada	India
4	Bulgaria	Norway
5	Italy	Brazil
6	China	Australia
7	Chinese Taipei	South Africa
8	Indonesia	Uruguay
9	Bermuda	Egypt
10	Sweden	Poland
11	USA I	Spain

ROUND 13 13.20

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	New Zealand	Monaco
2	USA II	Canada
3	India	Bulgaria
4	Norway	Italy
5	Brazil	Australia
6	Pakistan	Chinese Taipei
7	South Africa	Indonesia
8	Uruguay	Bermuda
9	Egypt	Sweden
10	Poland	USA I
11	Spain	China

ROUND 14 16.10

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	Canada	New Zealand
2	Bulgaria	USA II
3	Italy	India
4	Australia	Norway
5	China	Brazil
6	Chinese Taipei	Monaco
7	Indonesia	Pakistan
8	Bermuda	South Africa
9	Sweden	Uruguay
10	USA I	Egypt
11	Spain	Poland

Venice Cup**ROUND 9 10.30**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	Venezuela	Canada
13	Pakistan	Indonesia
14	Germany	Netherlands
15	Brazil	England
16	India	USA I
17	Egypt	China
18	USA II	Italy
19	Sweden	South Africa
20	Chinese Taipei	Australia

ROUND 10 13.20

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	Indonesia	Venezuela
13	Netherlands	Pakistan
14	England	Germany
15	USA I	Brazil
16	Australia	India
17	China	Canada
18	Italy	Egypt
19	South Africa	USA II
20	Chinese Taipei	Sweden

ROUND 11 16.10

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	Venezuela	Netherlands
13	Pakistan	England
14	Germany	USA I
15	Brazil	India
16	Indonesia	China
17	Canada	Italy
18	Egypt	South Africa
19	USA II	Chinese Taipei
20	Sweden	Australia

Senior Bowl**ROUND 7 10.30**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	Indonesia	Polynesia
2	France	Israel
3	Jordan	Guadeloupe
4	Egypt	Japan
5	Brazil/Arg	Italy
6	USA I	Pakistan
7	Monaco	USA II
8	Australia	Denmark

ROUND 8 15.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	Jordan	France
2	Guadeloupe	Australia
3	USA I	Egypt
4	Pakistan	Brazil/Arg
5	Italy	Japan
6	USA II	Denmark
7	Israel	Indonesia
8	Polynesia	Monaco

RESULTS**Bermuda Bowl****ROUND 8**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	POLAND	NEW ZEALAND	23	39	11	19
2	EGYPT	USA II	23	36	12	18
3	URUGUAY	INDIA	49	11	24	6
4	SOUTH AFRICA	NORWAY	9	71	2	25
5	PAKISTAN	BRAZIL	14	37	10	20
6	MONACO	AUSTRALIA	23	30	14	16
7	CANADA	ITALY	31	48	11	19
8	CHINA	BULGARIA	32	14	19	11
9	CHINESE TAIPEI	SPAIN	24	17	16	14
10	INDONESIA	USA I	31	18	18	12
11	BERMUDA	SWEDEN	25	53	8	22

ROUND 9

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	NEW ZEALAND	EGYPT	11	49	6	24
2	USA II	URUGUAY	53	26	21	9
3	INDIA	SOUTH AFRICA	55	26	22	8
4	NORWAY	PAKISTAN	21	37	11	19
5	BRAZIL	MONACO	55	23	23	7
6	AUSTRALIA	CANADA	36	89	3	25
7	ITALY	BULGARIA	26	26	15	15
8	POLAND	CHINESE TAIPEI	24	58	7	23
9	SPAIN	INDONESIA	29	38	13	17
10	USA I	BERMUDA	81	27	25	3
11	SWEDEN	CHINA	1	39	6	24

ROUND 10

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	URUGUAY	NEW ZEALAND	21	40	11	19
2	SOUTH AFRICA	USA II	3	40	6	24
3	PAKISTAN	INDIA	26	32	14	16
4	MONACO	NORWAY	36	6	22	8
5	CANADA	BRAZIL	47	16	22	8
6	BULGARIA	AUSTRALIA	16	18	15	15
7	CHINA	ITALY	6	46	6	24
8	CHINESE TAIPEI	EGYPT	42	35	16	14
9	INDONESIA	POLAND	26	35	13	17
10	BERMUDA	SPAIN	17	28	13	17
11	SWEDEN	USA I	10	36	9	21

ROUND 11

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	NEW ZEALAND	SOUTH AFRICA	56	23	23	7
2	USA II	PAKISTAN	60	26	23	7
3	INDIA	MONACO	35	36	15	15
4	NORWAY	CANADA	6	13	14	16
5	BRAZIL	BULGARIA	29	26	16	14
6	AUSTRALIA	ITALY	23	36	12	18
7	URUGUAY	CHINESE TAIPEI	13	41	8	22
8	EGYPT	INDONESIA	19	27	13	17
9	POLAND	BERMUDA	51	11	24	6
10	SPAIN	SWEDEN	31	27	16	14
11	USA I	CHINA	48	24	21	9

Bermuda Bowl
Ranking after 11 rounds

1	Italy	222
2	USA II	212.5
3	USA I	205.5
4	Canada	191
5	Poland	190.5
6	Norway	186
7	Chinese Taipei	181.5
8	Australia	175
9	New Zealand	172
10	Egypt	171
11	China	164
12	Indonesia	157.5
13	Monaco	153
13	Pakistan	153
13	Bulgaria	153
16	Spain	152
16	Sweden	152
18	India	143
19	Brazil	139
20	Uruguay	130
21	South Africa	106
22	Bermuda	85

RESULTS**Senior Bowl****ROUND 5**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	FR. POLYNESIA	EGYPT	31	90	4	25
2	USA I	USA II	48	41	16	14
3	ITALY	ISRAEL	59	53	16	14
4	DENMARK	FRANCE	7	81	2	25
5	PAKISTAN	BYE	0	0	18	0
6	AUSTRALIA	JAPAN	48	33	18	12
7	BRAZIL/ARG	INDONESIA	38	49	13	17
8	MONACO	GUADELOUPE	18	116	0	25

ROUND 6

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	JAPAN	USA I	29	58	10	20
2	ITALY	PAKISTAN	30	36	14	16
3	BRAZIL/ARG	EGYPT	65	31	21	9
4	USA II	INDONESIA	48	37	17	13
5	POLYNESIA	FRANCE	16	72	5	25
6	ISRAEL	GUADELOUPE	79	49	21	9
7	DENMARK	BYE	0	0	18	0
8	AUSTRALIA	MONACO	54	34	19	11

Senior Bowl Ranking after 6 rounds

1	France	125
2	Australia	114.5
3	USA I	114
4	Indonesia	105
5	USA II	105
6	Israel	104
7	Denmark	99.5
8	Italy	93
9	Japan	92
10	Brazil/Arg	87.5
11	Egypt	81.5
12	Pakistan	75
13	Guadeloupe	69
14	Monaco	45
15	Fr. Polynesia	23

Venice Cup Ranking after 8 rounds

1	Chinese Taipei	147
2	USA I	146
3	China	145
4	Netherlands	140
5	USA II	129
6	Venezuela	126
7	Italy	123
8	Canada	122
8	Germany	122
10	England	120
11	Brazil	112
12	Australia	110
13	Sweden	104
13	Egypt	104
13	Indonesia	104
13	South Africa	104
17	India	102
18	Pakistan	88

RESULTS

Venice Cup

ROUND 6

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 SWEDEN	VENEZUELA	64 12	25 4
13 USA II	PAKISTAN	52 36	19 11
14 EGYPT	GERMANY	32 29	16 14
15 CANADA	BRAZIL	39 20	19 11
16 INDONESIA	INDIA	10 52	5 25
17 NETHERLANDS	USA I	25 32	14 16
18 AUSTRALIA	ENGLAND	30 24	16 14
19 CHINA	CHINESE TAIPEI	58 54	16 14
20 ITALY	SOUTH AFRICA	20 20	15 15

ROUND 7

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 VENEZUELA	USA II	41 38	16 14
13 PAKISTAN	EGYPT	25 60	7 23
14 GERMANY	CANADA	30 14	19 11
15 BRAZIL	INDONESIA	50 16	23 7
16 INDIA	NETHERLANDS	21 36	12 18
17 USA I	ENGLAND	52 13	24 6
18 SWEDEN	CHINA	16 36	10 20
19 CHINESE TAIPEI	ITALY	31 5	21 9
20 SOUTH AFRICA	AUSTRALIA	20 30	13 17

ROUND 8

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 EGYPT	VENEZUELA	10 29	11 19
13 CANADA	PAKISTAN	38 36	15 15
14 INDONESIA	GERMANY	12 6	16 14
15 NETHERLANDS	BRAZIL	23 28	14 16
16 ENGLAND	INDIA	43 4	24 6
17 AUSTRALIA	USA I	22 24	15 15
18 CHINA	USA II	39 13	21 9
19 ITALY	SWEDEN	31 6	21 9
20 SOUTH AFRICA	CHINESE TAIPEI	24 19	16 14

... Front Page Continued!

At this stage of the competition, however, virtually no team can be counted out.

The local team from Monaco enjoyed some early success in the round-robin but then fell on hard times dropping back in the standings. On Wednesday, however, the Monagasque squad started a comeback with a convincing 36-6 win over the talented team from Norway, runners-up in the 2001 Bermuda Bowl.

In the Venice Cup, many observers are waiting for the defending champions from Germany to make their move. After eight rounds, the German ladies were tied with Canada for the final qualifying spot, having lost six of eight matches with nine to go.

ROUND 5 **Bermuda Bowl**



Italy v Pakistan



Italian Power

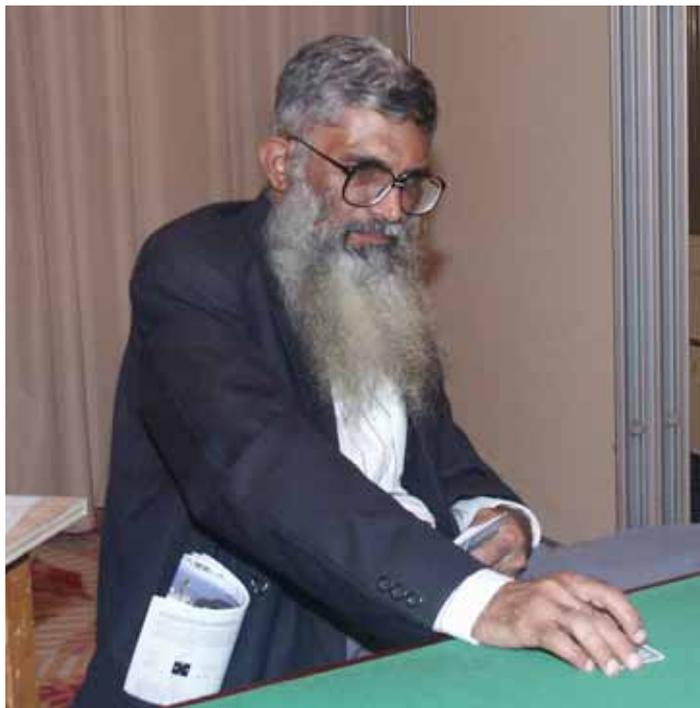
Italy are on everyone's list as potential champions, and there has been a certain measured tread to their play during the early rounds, like a Ferrari completing a few warmup laps prior to race day. When they met Pakistan in Round 5 of the Bermuda Bowl they appeared to be using cruise control.

With the red suit kings behaving so nicely, this was a simple +640, and an obvious opening for the Italians.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ K Q 10 9 8 7 ♥ 10 8 5 2 ♦ 7 2 ♣ 6	<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		♠ A J 4 ♥ 7 3 ♦ Q J 3 ♣ A Q J 10 2	♠ 6 3 2 ♥ K J 4 ♦ K 8 6 5 4 ♣ 5 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Siddiqui</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Jafer</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
1♣	2♠	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♣	Pass
All Pass			



Sultan Siddiqui, Pakistan

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Allana</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Fazli</i>
1♣*	2♠	3♣*	3♠
Dble	Pass	4♠*	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♣	All Pass

When Duboin bid Five Clubs, Paul Chemla, commenting on VuGraph, pointed out that as his previous bid had shown clubs and extra values he almost certainly had to have excellent red cards. Bocchi reached the same conclusion and added a sixth club. When North led the king of spades declarer knew he was on to a winner, as now South had to have one of the red suit kings. When he turned up with both declarer had all the tricks and 13 IMPs.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ Q 8 5 2 ♥ J 3 ♦ A Q 2 ♣ A J 7 4	<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		♠ A 10 3 ♥ K 10 7 5 ♦ J 8 5 ♣ Q 9 6	♠ 4 ♥ Q 4 2 ♦ K 10 9 4 ♣ K 10 5 3 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Siddiqui</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Jafer</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
2♣*	INT	Pass	Pass
	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Two Clubs promised the majors, and East took that very seriously indeed. When declarer failed to negotiate the spade suit he was three down, -150.

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Allana</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Fazli</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Two Clubs was inverted - but surely short of what was required - and North was clearly expecting more.

East led the five of hearts and West eventually put up the ace

and switched to the six of spades. That was clearly the indicated play, as East would certainly have led a heart from ♥K10xx rather than a spade from ♠A10xx. The defenders quickly cash out for one down and 6IMPs.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	♠ 8 4 3 ♥ K 4 3 ♦ A 9 8 7 5 ♣ 6 4											
♠ 10 7 2 ♥ A 10 9 7 6 ♦ 6 ♣ A Q 10 3	<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		♠ Q 9 ♥ Q J 2 ♦ K Q J 3 2 ♣ 9 7 2	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ A K J 6 5 ♥ 8 5 ♦ 10 4 ♣ K J 8 5											
West <i>Siddiqui</i>	North <i>Fantoni</i>	East <i>Jafer</i> Pass	South <i>Nunes</i> INT									

All Pass

The Italians like to open all sorts of hands INT. West led the ten of hearts and when the king held declarer found his luck was in when the spades produced five tricks, +90.

West <i>Duboin</i>	North <i>Allana</i>	East <i>Bocchi</i>	South <i>Fazli</i>
		1♦	1♠
Dble	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

During a lull in the play, a fellow aficionado informed me that so far Barry Rigal had used the phrase, 'A hand of power and quality' 73 times. It was certainly the right description of East's hand here, and Giorgio could not resist a smile when he saw his partner's hand.

Three Hearts was easy enough, declarer losing two spades, a heart and a diamond. +140 put 6 more IMPs on the Italian scoreboard.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

	♠ 10 6 3 ♥ A 10 4 ♦ 9 8 7 3 2 ♣ 5 2											
♠ K 9 7 4 ♥ K 2 ♦ A J 4 ♣ A Q 9 7	<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		♠ A J 8 ♥ J 8 7 3 ♦ Q 6 5 ♣ K 4 3	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ Q 5 2 ♥ Q 9 6 5 ♦ K 10 ♣ J 10 8 6											

West <i>Siddiqui</i>	North <i>Fantoni</i>	East <i>Jafer</i>	South <i>Nunes</i>
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the eight of diamonds, and declarer won and tested the clubs. When they failed to break he took a spade finesse. The defenders were not obliging enough to switch to hearts, so declarer had to get the spades right to make his contract, and when he played South for the ten he was down.

The commentators predicted a swing to Italy and it duly materialised, but not quite in the way they imagined.

West <i>Duboin</i>	North <i>Allana</i>	East <i>Bocchi</i>	South <i>Fazli</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦*	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	All Pass		

You might like to record this one for posterity, as my memory suggests that the last time an Italian pair missed a game, dinosaurs walked the earth. However, it still added points, declarer emerging with ten tricks, +130.

On Board 26 Nunes opened INT with ♠AKJ ♥J953 ♦K♣Q10872. He was facing ♠Q1075 ♥Q107 ♦A108 ♣J64 and with a favourable lead made nine tricks, +150. At the other table Pakistan played these cards in Two Spades, but a defensive cross ruff saw them lose the first six tricks. Those six IMPs made the score 43-0!

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

	♠ K 9 2 ♥ Q 8 6 5 2 ♦ 2 ♣ Q J 5 2											
♠ 10 8 6 4 ♥ 9 3 ♦ Q 7 6 ♣ 10 6 4 3	<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		♠ A 5 3 ♥ 10 ♦ A J 10 9 5 3 ♣ A 8 7	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ Q J 7 ♥ A K J 7 4 ♦ K 8 4 ♣ K 9											

West <i>Siddiqui</i>	North <i>Fantoni</i>	East <i>Jafer</i>	South <i>Nunes</i>
Pass	2NT*	3♦	1♥
All Pass			4♥

There was nothing to the play, declarer losing three aces, +420.

West <i>Duboin</i>	North <i>Allana</i>	East <i>Bocchi</i>	South <i>Fazli</i>
Pass	4♥	Dble	1♥
			All Pass



Giorgio Duboin, Italy

When North bounced into game, Bocchi was put in an awkward position. Double was the 'flexible' alternative, (a favourite comment of bidding panellists) but it left Duboin with nowhere to go. He took his best option by passing, but that gave Pakistan 5 IMPs. Hurrah!

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ K Q ♥ A K J 8 4 ♦ A K Q 6 ♣ A K	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 5 3 ♥ Q 10 9 7 2 ♦ 8 7 5 4 3 ♣ 9
N					
W E					
S					
♠ A J 8 4 2 ♥ 6 5 ♦ 10 ♣ 10 8 7 6 3					

Neither side had any difficulty in bidding this slam, but you might enjoy an insight into the sophisticated methods of the Italian pair:

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Allana</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Fazli</i>
		Pass	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♠*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠*	Dble
Pass	Pass	4♦	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

Two Spades showed a minor suit and after the waiting bid of 2NT, Three Spades showed hearts. South's double allowed West to pass and now East revealed his minor was diamonds.

Italy had cruised to victory by 50-6 IMPs, 25-5VP.

The Guru

Subscribers to Bridge Magazine will know that complex play problems involving percentages are referred to David Burn, who can always be relied upon to provide a definitive answer. Using the power of the Internet we asked him to comment on this deal from Round 4 of the Bermuda Bowl.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ A J 7 ♥ J 10 7 ♦ Q 10 8 7 3 ♣ 9 7	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K 6 4 ♥ K Q 9 4 3 ♦ K J ♣ 5 4 3
N					
W E					
S					
♠ 10 9 8 5 3 2 ♥ 6 5 2 ♦ 5 ♣ Q 10 6					

The contract is 6NT.

I asked David to compute the odds, suggesting the best line is to test the hearts and then finesse in clubs. It did not take him long to reply:

'I don't see this. If you're going to take the club finesse at the end anyway, you might as well take it at the beginning. Then, five rounds of clubs may squeeze an opponent with four hearts and ♦Q10 (or any 4+ diamonds). Besides, if North has the stiff ♣Q, you will need the heart entry to pick the suit up (you should not play for him to have falsecarded from ♣Q10 or ♣Q9, because he has no need to do this - you are going to finesse anyway). The best line appears to me to be: ♠K, ♣A, ♦K, club finesse. If this works and both follow, run clubs and hope for the best. If it works but North shows out, attempt to run hearts and squeeze South in the minors. You will make when South has ♣Q and either: clubs run and hearts run; or clubs run and the red-suit squeeze works; or hearts run and the minor-suit squeeze works. This all adds up to around 44% - 6NT was not a great contract, of course.

Dealmaster Pro and Deep Finesse indicate that on a double-dummy basis, the contract will make around 56% of the time - but this involves dropping North's doubleton ♣Q whenever he has it, so the true odds are roughly as I have suggested. Of course, if South is going to be squeezed (in the minors or the reds), North has misdefended by winning the first trick, but this is an imponderable.

Merci, David!

Lost and Found

- A special ring was found in ladies toilets of the Sporting, if it is yours call to Antonio Riccardi , the TD
- Also found a pair of earrings in the rama room. If you lost it go to hospitality desk , second floor of Sporting.



World Bridge Olympiad Istanbul Turkey

23 October - 6 November 2004



Istanbul - a fabulous city where East meets West, the bridge between Europe and Asia, a thriving metropolis of 12 million people - exotic yet distinctly western.

Istanbul has been the seat of three great empires - Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman and a meeting place for peoples of many religions and cultures who came together and learned to live in peace and harmony.

Ultra-modern amenities, the splendours of the Ottoman past and the honoured traditions of Turkish hospitality combine to make Istanbul a fascinating city, one that will impress all visitors with treasured and lasting memories. Istanbul will reward you with the comfort of home while offering sights, sounds and smells that carry you swiftly to another culture, another time.

This vibrant, exciting city is really accessible from all part of the world, served by more than 50 airlines. Every major European Airport is 2-3 hours away. There are frequent direct flights to Istanbul from most European cities, and all the important cities in the world.

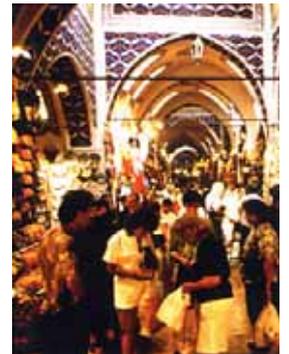
Istanbul is a treasure trove of sight seeing possibilities, and has many wonderful places that should not be missed - for example Tokapi Palace: the residence of the Sultan for 4 centuries, a city within the city; the Blue Mosque; St Sophia; the Basilica Cistern; the spice market; Rumeli Castle and many other historic monuments - followed, of course, by a shopping expedition to the Grand Bazaar.

The World Bridge Olympiad will be held in the heart of Istanbul at the

Grand Cevahir Hotel and Convention Centre

which is a truly luxurious deluxe hotel. It combines a state of art convention centre with an extremely comfortable hotel, ideal for such a prestigious Championship. Accommodation will also be available in hotels nearby which will include 2 and 3 star hotels as well as the more expensive 4 and 5 star hotels, so that as wide a range of rates as possible can be offered to players coming to the Championships

Five major Championships will be staged during the course of the two weeks, with the most important being the **12th Open and Women's World Team Olympiad**. The **2nd Senior International Cup** will be held during the first week as will the **2nd World University Teams Bridge Cup**. The **3rd World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship** will be held during the second week, enabling players eliminated from the Olympiad to participate in this enjoyable and challenging event. Details of these events are as follows:



12th World Team Olympiad Open and Women's Series

Please note that it is extremely important for each NBO to send a team to enhance our Olympic image and also to ensure that all NBOs will be eligible to qualify for the 2005 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup.

- **Entry fees : US \$ 3,000 per team**
- It is anticipated that the Round Robin stage will initially be organized with different groups and NBOs are requested to confirm their participation as early as possible but in any case no later than **15 May 2004** in order that that the draw can be made early, which will be of advantage to all participants.
- **Names of the players** will be needed by **01 July 2004** in order that the programme can be prepared.
- **The Round Robin stage** will be played from **Sunday 24 October to Saturday 30 October**.
- Players eliminated from the World Team Olympiad may play free of charge in the **3rd World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship**.

2nd Senior International Cup

- **Entry fees: US\$ 3,000 per team** (includes the entry fee to the World Transnational Mixed Teams held during the second week)
- This event is for national teams who will compete in a **Round Robin** to be played from **Sunday 24 to Saturday 30 October** (i.e.during the first week of the Olympiad.)
- **Each WBF Member NBO** is entitled to send one national team to compete in the Senior International Cup.
- Players competing in the Senior International Cup must be at least **55 years of age** on the first day of this competition.
- NBOs are requested to confirm that they will be sending a team to participate in the Senior International Cup by **15 May 2004** and names of the players must be submitted to the WBF no later than **01 July 2004**
- Players who participated in the Senior International Cup may play free of charge in the **3rd World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship**.

3rd World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship

This event has been a successful and exciting Championship since its inception in Rhodes when 86 teams competed. We feel sure that many players would enjoy participating in this challenging event, which gives them the opportunity of pitting their bridge skills against some of the greatest players in the World as well as having the chance to watch the exciting final stages of the World Team Olympiad on the expert View-Graph presentation.

• Entry fees:

- >free for the eliminated players
- >US \$800 for a new team

If a team is composed of players eliminated from the Olympiad together with players who have not competed in the Olympiad, the players who have not competed will be charged US \$150 per head if it is a team of six, or \$200 per head if it is a team of four.

- Teams must consist of at least two women and two men from any country, playing in Mixed partnerships.
- The Transnational Mixed Teams will be played during the **second week of the Championships** starting on either Monday 01 or Tuesday 02 November. The exact dates will be announced as soon as they are known. The knock out phase will start on either Thursday 04 or Friday 05 and end on Saturday 06 November.
- Teams wishing to enter this event should contact their NBO as soon as possible to request nomination. In any event entries should be made before **15th August 2004**, although late entries may be accepted provided there is sufficient space at the venue.



2nd World University Teams Bridge Cup

It is very important that each of the main NBOs should make every effort to send a team to this tournament as the staging of this event is an important part of the WBF strategy in support of its IOC policy and its aim to obtain Government and Olympic Committee recognition for bridge as a sport in as many countries as possible.

- Played under the auspices of the FISU (Fédération Internationale des Sports Universitaires)

- Entry to World University Teams Bridge Cup is free

- This event is for University teams who will compete in a Round Robin to be played from Sunday 24 to Saturday 30 October (i.e.during the first week of the Olympiad.)

- Minimum age 17, maximum 28

- **Accommodation:** very inexpensive accommodation will be arranged for this event.

- NBOs are requested to confirm that they will be sending a team to participate in the World University Teams Bridge Cup by **15 May 2004** and names of the players must be submitted to the WBF no later than **01 July 2004**

Please assist us by ensuring that you respect the deadlines for entries, team names and payments of entry fees which are as follows:

- Entry of Teams for the Olympiad Open and Women's Series:	15 May 2004
- Player's names for the Open and Women's Series:	01 July 2004
- Entry of Teams for the Senior International Cup:	15 May 2004
- Players' names for the Senior International Cup:	01 July 2004
- Entry of Teams for the World University Teams Bridge Cup:	15 May 2004
- Players' names for the World University Teams Bridge Cup:	01 July 2004
- Entry of Team for the World Transnational Mixed Teams (including registration of player's names) (late entries will be accepted provided there is sufficient space at the venue)	01 September 2004
- Payment of entry fees for the Team Olympiad and Senior International Cup:	01 August 2004
- Payment of entry fees for the World Transnational Mixed Teams:	01 September 2004

All NBOs are reminded that national teams should be selected in accordance with the WBF Eligibility Regulations published in the WBF Directory, on the WBF Website at www.worldbridge.org and on www.ecatsbridge.com. Both these Websites will carry updated information about the Olympiad as it becomes available.

Entries for all events must be made through the National Bridge Federations and sent to:

Mr José Damiani
President, World Bridge Federation
40 Rue François 1er
75008 Paris
France

Or by fax to: +33 1 40 70 14 51

or email to: cfrancin@worldbridgefed.com

Payment of entry fees should be made by bank transfer to:

Banque de Baecque Beau 30118 - Ag 00001
3, rue des Mathurins
75009 PARIS - France
Account No. : 03203 Q1065

If bank transfer is not possible, please contact Mrs Christine Francin at the WBF office, who will discuss possible alternative arrangements for payment.

A
full list of hotels, with details of how to make reservations, will be published on the WBF Website and any other associated websites in due course.

ROUND 5

Senior Bowl



Japan v Australia



After two days play the Australian Senior team was lying third, just 2 VPs behind the leaders. Round Five saw them face Japan, also well in touch in seventh position.

could cash a spade but had kept too many clubs so now had to concede the last trick to declarer's jack; nine tricks for +400 but 1 IMP to Japan.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

	♠ 9 8 7 6 3											
	♥ J 5											
	♦ Q											
	♣ K Q 10 9 6											
♠ Q J 2	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><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		♠ A K 10	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♥ Q 7 6		♥ A 10 4 2										
♦ A K 9 7 6 4		♦ 8										
♣ 4		♣ A J 7 5 2										
	♠ 5 4											
	♥ K 9 8 3											
	♦ J 10 5 3 2											
	♣ 8 3											

West	North	East	South
Walsh	Yamada	Haughie	Ohno
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Nakatani	Lester	Naniwada	Lorentz
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Both Easts declared 3NT and both received a low diamond lead on which they played the ace. For Japan, Masaru Naniwada continued with king then nine of diamonds to the ten. Gabi Lorentz switched to a spade but Naniwada was in control, being able to establish the diamonds and get to them when the ♥K was onside; ten tricks for +430.

Bill Haughie preferred to play on hearts when North showed out on the second diamond and tried leading to the ten at trick two. Kyoko Ohno took the ♥K and returned the nine to dummy's queen. Haughie played dummy's club and Akihiko Yamada split his honours. Haughie won the ♣A and cashed the spades then led to the heart ace. Down to three clubs and a losing heart, he exited with a low club and Yamada had to win the nine. He

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ 8 6 5											
	♥ A 10 9 8											
	♦ A Q 7 4											
	♣ 10 8											
♠ A 7 4 2	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><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		♠ J 10	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♥ Q 7 5 3		♥ K 4 2										
♦ J 9 5		♦ 10 6										
♣ 7 4		♣ K J 9 6 3 2										
	♠ K Q 9 3											
	♥ J 6											
	♦ K 8 3 2											
	♣ A Q 5											

West	North	East	South
Walsh	Yamada	Haughie	Ohno
			1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Nakatani	Lester	Naniwada	Lorentz
			INT
All Pass			

Lorentz showed a weak no trump while Yamada's sequence promised 15-17, making the subsequent decisions automatic. After a heart lead and spade switch, Lorentz took both heart and club finesses to come to eleven tricks for +210. Ohno received a spade lead to the ten and king. She ran the jack of hearts to the king and back came the ♠J for queen, ducked. A heart to the nine won and now Ohno gave up a spade. She did not take the club finesse so held herself to ten tricks for +430 and 6 IMPs to Japan.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

	♠ 6 5											
	♥ Q 7 6 3											
	♦ K 10 6 5 4											
	♣ 6 5											
♠ 10 8 7 3 2	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><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 Q 9 4	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♥ J		♥ 9 8 4 2										
♦ 9		♦ 7										
♣ J 9 7 4 3 2		♣ A K Q 8										
	♠ A J											
	♥ A K 10 5											
	♦ A Q J 8 3 2											
	♣ 10											

Follow the 36th Bermuda Bowl, the 14th Venice Cup and the 2nd Senior Bowl on Internet through the WBF official web site:

www.worldbridge.org

West <i>Walsh</i>	North <i>Yamada</i>	East <i>Haughie</i>	South <i>Ohno</i>
	Pass	1♣	Dble
4♣	Pass	5♣	5♦
All Pass			

West <i>Nakatani</i>	North <i>Lester</i>	East <i>Naniwada</i>	South <i>Lorentz</i>
	Pass	1♣	Dble
3♣	Pass	Pass	3♦
3♠	5♦	5♠	Dble
All Pass			

How should you handle the West cards after South's take-out double? The two Wests were actually in quite different situations because Haughie had virtually guaranteed four clubs while Naniwada might have had only two.

Alan Walsh jumped to 4♣ and Haughie raised himself to game, leaving Ohno with no option but to bid 5♦. With his right-hand-opponent having been forced to bid under pressure, Walsh could not justify bidding again, despite his extra distribution. He led the jack of hearts but there was nothing to the hand; +600.

Tadayoshi Nakatani could not afford to jump quite so aggressively at his first turn and contented himself with a raise to 3♣, however, that worked very well a sit allowed him to show the spades at his next turn and now it was an easy matter for Naniwada to go on to 5♠ over 5♦. Five Spades doubled was down only one for -100 but 11 IMPs to Japan.

My own preference, for what it is worth, would be to bid 4♣ facing a four-card club opener but with the intention of then bidding 4♠ over four of a red suit. Nakatani's sequence looks just fine opposite potentially short clubs.



Masaru Naniwada, Japan

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West <i>Walsh</i>	North <i>Yamada</i>	East <i>Haughie</i>	South <i>Ohno</i>
		Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

West <i>Nakatani</i>	North <i>Lester</i>	East <i>Naniwada</i>	South <i>Lorentz</i>
		Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Ohno contented herself with a simple raise of the 1♠ response, downgrading the singleton ace slightly. East/West do very well in a diamond contract, but the vulnerability dissuaded Haughie from protecting. He passed out 2♠ and led a club. Yamada won dummy's ace and played the ♠Q to the bare king and back came a second club. Yamada won and played another spade. Haughie won the ace and switched to a heart so the defence got its heart tricks and a club ruff; just made for +110.

Lorentz could show an invitational spade raise with a singleton diamond so did so - a slight stretch, perhaps, but the ability to describe the distribution perhaps justifies that. John Lester went on to game and this time the lead was a low trump followed by a club switch. The defence was a tempo behind now so the club ruff was lost, but there were still four major-suit losers; down one for -50 and 4 IMPs to Japan.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Walsh	Yamada	Haughie	Ohno
	INT	2NT	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Nakatani	Lester	Naniwada	Lorentz
	INT	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Both Norths opened with a weak no trump but the respective Easts chose very different approaches to showing their potentially very powerful hand. Naniwada made a simple overcall in spades while Haughie preferred to show any strong two-suite. The first approach found an easy raise to game from Nakatani while Walsh had to find a sensible response in an undiscussed sequence. His 4♥ bid was intended and taken as pass or correct so 4♠ was again the final contract.

Ohno led a spade while Lorentz chose a club, so +710 for Haughie and +680 for Naniwada; 1 IMP to Australia.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Walsh	Yamada	Haughie	Ohno
Nakatani	Lester	Naniwada	Lorentz
		3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

There is one slim chance for declarer in 4♠, given that the clubs are both offside, namely that the ♦9 will become established for a club discard. Both Souths led the ace and king of diamonds then switched to the five of clubs for the jack and queen. Lester duly cashed the ace of clubs now for down one; -100. Yamada tried to cash the ♦Q instead and that was ten tricks for +620 and 12 IMPs to Australia. Haughie followed with the ♣4, so with Ohno's switch being systemically third or fifth, there should have been no possibility of confusion, unless I misread the Japanese convention card.

Despite this mishap, Japan led 25-18 at half-time. The second half saw Australia come through to win by 48-33 IMPs, 18-12 VPs.

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.

* * *

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.

* * *

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.

You can help

Scorers are needed. If you can assist, please see the Hospitality Desk at the Sporting d'Hiver on the second floor. Note that scorers are paid by the teams they work for.

THE INDONESIAN CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

Would like to thank



And



WBF Systems Committee

There will be a Meeting of the WBF Systems Committee on Saturday at 1:45 p.m. in the Jardin d'Hiver (WBF Meeting Room) in the Hotel Hermitage.

ROUND 8 **Bermuda Bowl**



USA II v Egypt



Reversal of Fortune

Members of USA II in the Bermuda Bowl felt, with some justification, that their opponents on Monday (USA I) had more than their share of luck, particularly regarding a couple of slams.

In an interesting match against Egypt on Wednesday, USA II pretty much got back to even with Lady Luck as they took the measure of their opponents. If USA II could have skipped board 31, it would have been a rout, as Bobby Wolff and Dan Morse had an exceptional set.

The first four boards were more or less routine as USA II held a 3-0 lead. On the fifth board, they were the lucky ones for a change.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Naguib</i>	<i>Wolff</i>	<i>A. Sadek</i>	<i>Morse</i>
	Pass	1♣	Dble
2NT	Pass	3♣	3♦
3♠	4♣	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Morse must have regretted missing the odds-on slam, breathing a sigh of relief when the nasty trump split materialized. Only two rounds of clubs at the beginning would allow the slam to make - South gets the ruff, plays the other three hearts from his hand, enters dummy with a diamond and pulls the last trump, shedding the ♠J. That would be 12 tricks (and poor defense, obviously). Morse recorded plus 650.

Tarek Sadek and Waleed El Ahmady (apologies for the misspelling of his name in the Wednesday edition) did better in the auction, but the result was not satisfactory to Egyptian partisans.

West	North	East	South
<i>Landen</i>	<i>T. Sadek</i>	<i>Pratap</i>	<i>El Ahmady</i>
	Pass	1♣	Dble
4♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4♥	5♣	Pass
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

Tarek's 5♦ bid improved the South hand so much that he blew straight into the good slam. The 4-1 trump split doomed the contract, however. Pratap Rajadhyaksha started with the ♣K and switched accurately to the ♠K. El Ahmady won the ♠A and cashed the ♥A and ♥K, getting the bad news in trumps. He could have cashed out for down one, but there was one small chance to make 12 tricks. If East held both outstanding diamonds, South could enter dummy with a diamond, ruff a club, cash his last heart and return to dummy to pull East's fourth heart, discarding the ♠J. It was not to be, however, and El Ahmady finished two down for minus 200 and a 13-IMP swing to USA II.

The next three boards were flat as Egypt gained an overtrick IMP to make the score 16-1.

Luck smiled on the Americans again on board 25, but Pratap had to overcome a challenging defense from Tarek to earn the swing.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Naguib</i>	<i>Wolff</i>	<i>A. Sadek</i>	<i>Morse</i>
	1♣	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Sherif Naguib and Ashraf Sadek didn't even sniff at the slam, and in fact made only 11 tricks for plus 650.

Pratap and Landen did much better with the East-West cards.

West	North	East	South
<i>Landen</i>	<i>T. Sadek</i>	<i>Pratap</i>	<i>El Ahmady</i>
	1♣	1♠	Pass
2♣	Dble	2♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♠	All Pass

When Landen jumped to 4♠ over the 2♦ game try, Pratap knew his partner had a bit extra, so he checked for aces and bid the good slam.

El Ahmady led the ♣8 to the 3, queen and 7. Tarek smoothly

returned the ♣2, giving Pratap pause. Was South's ♣8 a singleton? At that point, VuGraph commentators were predicting that declarer would go down, ruffing with an honor in hand and then playing a spade to dummy's 10 at some point.

Pratap did think about his play for some time, but he eventually ruffed with the ♠K, cashed the queen and played a spade to the ace in dummy. He then finessed against the ♦K with confidence, scoring up his small slam when the finesse worked as expected.

Wolff and Morse were having a great set in the closed room, with one great result after another. The following board was one of their successes.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
Naguib	Wolff	A. Sadek	Morse
Pass	1♣	1♦	Dble
3♦	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

The opening lead was the ♦A, and with the spades breaking favorably, Wolff had 12 tricks and plus 1370. Would the Egyptians be able to duplicate that result?



Tarek sadek, Egypt

West	North	East	South
Landen	T. Sadek	Pratap	El Ahmady
Pass	1♣	1♦	Dble
2♦	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

That was a well-earned push for Egypt.

Despite that good result, they were still trailing by 30 IMPs going into board 31, the last one played on VuGraph. Number 32 had been played earlier to allow the closed room to catch up. It was a 6-IMP gain for USA II - Wolff and Morse defeated INT two tricks for plus 200 while Pratap and Landen had earned plus 50 when El Ahmady and Tarek overbid to 3NT.

The final deal was very bad for USA II.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
Naguib	Wolff	A. Sadek	Morse
3♠	Pass	5♦	All Pass

There was no stopping this contract. Ashraf needed only a club ruff in dummy to come to 11 tricks for plus 400. Those who were left in the VuGraph room were shocked at what happened in the replay.

West	North	East	South
Landen	T. Sadek	Pratap	El Ahmady
1♠	Pass	3NT	1♣
Pass	Dble	Pass (!)	Pass
Pass			

VuGraph commentators were certain Pratap would run from the double. Whether the diamond game would be bid wasn't part of the conversation. Considering that East didn't really have a club stopper, it was a very surprising decision for him to sit for the double. He said later that the double, indicating spade values, increased the chances that he would find something useful in clubs in the dummy.

Dummy's club holding would certainly have been useful in a diamond contract, but not in 3NT. El Ahmady started with the ♠8 to the king and ace, and Tarek shifted to the ♣8. The defenders took the first nine tricks for plus 1100, earning 17 IMPs for their side and turning a rout into a relatively close match.

The final score was 36-23 for USA II

Le petit écho de Monaco

par Guy Dupont

La grande famille d'Elly

Interview express - et exclusive - d'une grande dame du bridge (qui a été honorée mardi soir par la WBF et son président, José Damiani), la Néerlandaise Elly Ducheyne, qui dirige la salle de presse des championnats du monde depuis 30 ans, et qui a décidé de se retirer après Monaco :

Le Petit Echo : Vous souvenez-vous de votre première Bermuda Bowl ?

Elly : C'était en 1974, à Venise. Mais ne me demandez pas qui avait gagné...

LPE : Votre meilleur souvenir ?

Elly : Incontestablement, Sao Paulo, en 1985. Une organisation et une ambiance exceptionnelle. Il faut dire que l'hôtel où se déroulait la Bermuda Bowl et la Venice Cup, et où logeaient TOUS les joueurs et organisateurs, se prêtait parfaitement à cette réussite.

LPE : Le plus mauvais ?

Elly : Ocho Rios, en Jamaïque, en 1987. J'ai assuré ma fonction alors que j'étais malade. J'ai pu tenir grâce à Kathie Wei, qui venait tous les jours m'administrer des remèdes chinois et des massages, alors qu'elle avait autre chose à faire. Ce qui ne l'a pas empêchée de remporter la Venice Cup, cette année là !

LPE : Quel est le journaliste le plus pénible ?

Elly : Il n'y en pas ! La salle de presse représente véritablement le cœur des championnats. L'atmosphère y est vraiment chaleureuse. Avec les journalistes du monde entier qui la fréquentent, et malgré tous les problèmes de communications ou d'horaires auxquels ils peuvent être confrontés, nous formons une grande famille. C'est pour cela que j'ai pu tenir si longtemps. Ah ! Ils vont me manquer !

Le magicien du Sporting

Un petit problème de déclarant. Il s'est posé dans le match Italie/Monaco de la Bermuda Bowl, au 7e tour. Prenez place en Nord, dans le siège de Bocchi:

Sud donneur, Nord-Sud vulnérables.

♠ 6
♥ R 5 4 2
♦ AV 10 6 4 2
♣ A 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ DV 8 7 4 3
♥ A 9 6
♦ R
♣ V 10 5

O	N	E	S
Tognetti	Bocchi	Rothier	Duboin
			I ♠
Passe	2 ♦	3 ♣	Passe
Passe	3 SA	(Fin)	

Vous jouez donc 3 SA, en Nord. Est entame du Roi de ♣, pour votre As. Comme vous n'avez guère les moyens de gaspiller vos communications, vous décidez d'encaisser l'As de ♦. Si tant est que cela puisse vous aider, vous voyez apparaître le 8 en Est, et le 5 en Ouest. **Comment poursuivez-vous ?**

La présence à la table de Norberto Bocchi est une des (nombreuses) composantes de son talent. Suivez le cheminement de son raisonnement : " Comme je joue contre des Monégasques, adeptes du bridge français, ceux-ci ont généralement tendance à se donner le compte, en défense. Puis-je tirer quelque conclusion de la répartition des ♦ chez mes adversaires, à la vue du 5 et du 8 ? Le 5 chez le partenaire de l'intervenant à 3 ♣, possède tous les symptômes d'une troisième meilleure, en pair-impair, et le 8 pourrait être éventuellement une carte obligée. Mais dès lors

Transnational Teams

The World Open Transnational Teams Championships will start on Monday Nov. 10 at 6 p.m.

Teams who have not yet registered should go to the Salle Auguste (WBF President's Office) in the Hotel Hermitage and register as soon as possible with either Anna Gudge or Christine Francin.

It is important that any teams currently playing in the championships who intend to play in the Transnational Teams should come and register their names; this is so that we can know the approximate number of competing teams.

Of course, teams subsequently qualifying for the semifinals will be able to withdraw. Please note that there is no entry fee for players from the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup or Senior Bowl - if they are joined by other players who have not competed in these events, those players will be required to pay that proportion of the entry fee.

All teams, whether registering on site or pre-registered, must confirm their entry and, if they have not already done so, must pay the entry fee to Christine Francin as soon as possible, but certainly no later than 3 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 10.

The entry fee may be paid in either US Dollars (\$800) or Euro (720). This may be paid in cash, or by travellers cheques, payable to the World Bridge Federation. We regret that we are not able to accept credit cards.

The WBF Office will be open for the Registration of Transnational Teams at the following times:

2 p.m. to 6 p.m. from Thursday to Saturday;

10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 9, and

10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. hours on Monday, Nov. 10.

Please do not try and register at other times!

que les \diamond sont 4-2, je ne puis gagner si la Dame est quatrième. Alors, autant la chercher seconde... "

Ainsi, Bocchi déposa-t-il bravement le 2 de \diamond sur la table, à la troisième levée. Magique : la Dame était bien seconde en Est. Et quand celui-ci entreprit d'affranchir ses \clubsuit , le champion italien se trouva à la tête de ses neuf levées.

<p>\spadesuit R 10 9 5 \heartsuit D 10 8 \diamond 9 7 5 3 \clubsuit 6 3</p>	<table 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		<p>\spadesuit A 2 \heartsuit V 7 3 \diamond D 8 \clubsuit R D 9 8 7 4</p>	<p>\spadesuit 6 \heartsuit R 5 4 2 \diamond AV 10 6 4 2 \clubsuit A 2</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<p>\spadesuit DV 8 7 4 3 \heartsuit A 9 6 \diamond R \clubsuit V 10 5</p>												

- Arrêtez de donner le compte ! marmonna Michel Guglielmi, le capitaine non joueur monégasque, qui assistait à la rencontre, à l'intention de ses ouailles.

Un coup qui rapporta 14 imp aux Italiens, car, dans l'autre salle, le même contrat avait chuté de trois levées.

Un chelem qui a fait parler

Un autre problème de déclarant. Installez-vous, cette fois, en Est.

Tour 4, donne 23, Sud donneur, tous vulnérables.

<p>\spadesuit D \heartsuit A 8 \diamond A 9 6 4 2 \clubsuit A R V 8 2</p>	<table 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		<p>\spadesuit R 6 4 \heartsuit R D 9 4 3 \diamond R V \clubsuit 5 4 3</p>	<p>\spadesuit 6 \heartsuit R 5 4 2 \diamond AV 10 6 4 2 \clubsuit A 2</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Les enchères, au bridgevision, dans la rencontre Monaco/Chine

	O	N	E	S
	Tardy	Fu	Allavena	Zhao
1 \diamond		Passe	1 \heartsuit	Passe
2 \clubsuit		Passe	2 \spadesuit	Passe
3 \clubsuit		Passe	3 SA	Passe
4 \spadesuit		Passe	4 SA	Passe
6 SA		(Fin)		

Sud entame du 9 de \spadesuit (montrant le 10). Nord prend de l'As et rejoue le 7 de \spadesuit , pour votre Roi. **Et maintenant ?**

Pas si simple de découvrir la meilleure ligne de jeu, à la table. Même nos meilleurs experts en probabilités présents à Monaco ont dû plancher un tantinet avant de la déceler : après avoir défaussé un \diamond sur le Roi de \spadesuit , jouez \clubsuit pour le Valet, et encaissez trois tours de \heartsuit ; si ceux-ci apparaissent 3-3, vous tenez vos douze levées, pour peu tout de même que les \clubsuit soit 3-2. Si les \heartsuit accrochent, remontez au mort par le Roi de \clubsuit , réussissez l'im-passe à la Dame de \diamond , débloquez le Roi de \diamond , et rejoignez le mort par l'As de \clubsuit , pour encaissez vos \clubsuit et l'As de \diamond .

A noter qu'on pourrait éventuellement gagner, malgré la Dame de \clubsuit quatrième en Sud, avec les \heartsuit partagés et la Dame de \diamond placée.

La main complète :

<p>\spadesuit D \heartsuit A 8 \diamond A 9 6 4 2 \clubsuit A R V 8 2</p>	<table 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		<p>\spadesuit R 6 4 \heartsuit R D 9 4 3 \diamond R V \clubsuit 5 4 3</p>	<p>\spadesuit AV 7 \heartsuit V 10 7 \diamond D 10 8 7 3 \clubsuit 9 7</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<p>\spadesuit 10 9 8 6 5 3 2 \heartsuit 6 5 2 \diamond 5 \clubsuit D 10 6</p>												

Dans la rencontre Chine/Monaco, la donne s'est soldée par une égalité : 6SA moins un dans une salle, et 6 \clubsuit chuté par la Chine dans l'autre.

A propos : comment jouez-vous 6 \clubsuit après la même entame ? Le Chinois Wang a cédé à une tentation malsaine, en voulant couper un \diamond .

Après le Roi de \spadesuit , le mieux était de jouer \clubsuit pour le Valet, de purger les atouts, et d'affranchir éventuellement un \heartsuit (si la couleur n'avait pas été partagée).

Peu de paires, toutefois, ont appelé un chelem sur la donne. Pour Hamman-Soloway, ce ne fut pas un succès, en parvenant à 6 \diamond ...

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