



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

Issue No. 12

Friday, 14 November 2003

Competitors Look for Second Wind



Each time you pick up a hand today, you will be benefiting from the hard work of the duplicating staff, three of whom are shown here: Samantha Anselmini, Ilaria Varesi and Eria Franco. But don't blame them for those 5-0 trump splits - that's the computer.

After nearly two weeks of fighting for tricks, those still playing are battling fatigue as well as their opponents. With the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup nearing the final stages, players must find that extra bit of energy they need to concentrate for a few more boards.

In the Venice Cup, which concludes today, players have 48 more boards. The Bermuda Bowl is a 128-board match, so it will continue through tomorrow afternoon.

Neither match is at a point where the winner can be projected. Italy is leading USA I in the Bermuda Bowl by 32 IMPs, while USA I in the Venice Cup has a 123.3-100 lead over China.

The Italians are looking particularly strong, but the Nick Nickell team is a veteran squad and two-time previous Bermuda Bowl champions.

Already looking forward to the medal ceremonies tomorrow are the Netherlands and USA II, bronze-medal winners in the Venice Cup and Bermuda Bowl, respectively.

Continued on Page 2...

VUGRAPH MATCHES

Program (subject to change)

Bermuda Bowl – Final – (Session 4) – 10.30

Italy v USA I

Bermuda Bowl – Final – (Session 5) – 13.20

Italy v USA I

Venice Cup – Final – (Session 6) – 16.40

China v USA I

Contents

Bermuda Bowl & Venice Cup Results	2
Transnational Teams Results	3
USA I v USA II Bermuda Bowl SF Session 4	4
Italy v Norway Bermuda Bowl SF Session 6	7
Italy v USA I Bermuda Bowl Final Session 1	9
Au Cœur Des Bleus	12
De Botton v Markowicz Transnational Match 15	13
Le Petit Écho de Monaco	15

No smoking, quiet please

Players are not permitted to smoke in any playing areas. This includes the Costa and Eiffel Rooms in the Hotel Hermitage, the Sporting d'Hiver and the Bellevue in the Café de Paris. Players violating this regulation will receive VP penalties.

Players are requested to enter and leave the playing areas quietly in order not to disturb the players from the Bermuda Bowl or Venice Cup who are playing on Vu-Graph.



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	23 - 20	0 - 0	0 - 0	0 - 0	111 - 79

Play-off

		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Total	
3	NORWAY	USA II	8 - 0	35 - 32	8 - 35	32 - 37	83 - 104

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	0 - 0	0 - 0	0 - 0	100 - 123.3

Play-off

		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Total	
4	USA II	NETHERLANDS	6 - 0	32 - 34	26 - 32	16 - 55	80 - 121

President's Press Conference

The WBF press conference is scheduled for today at 11:45 a.m. in the Salon Jardin d'Hiver at the Hotel Hermitage. WBF President José Damiani will answer questions and host a luncheon afterwards.

Playing cards

NBOs wishing to refresh their supplies of bar-coded playing cards may go to the WBF Secretariat (Salon Auguste in the Hotel Hermitage) to get a permit. Today is the only day this is possible. After today, the cards (used only at this tournament) can be picked up in the Sporting d'Hiver.

Transnational Schedule**Friday 14 November**

10.30 - 12.50	Semi-final Session 1
13.20 - 15.40	Semi-final Session 2
16.40 - 19.00	Final Session 1

By the way...

Those of you who read Eric Kokish's piece in the Wednesday Daily Bulletin about Francois Colin's work might be wondering how to get in touch with him about all the practice deals he has produced. Here's the information: his e-mail address is fcolin@ffbridge.net.

...Front Page Continued

The Netherlands women took a slim lead into the last of three sets against the Americans, but won that segment 55-16 to win the playoff in comfort. In the Bermuda Bowl playoff, USA II had a big second set to prevail, 104-83.

As this issue of the Daily Bulletin went to press, the World Transnational Open Teams was in the quarter-final stage. The leaders, by captain, were Jan Jansma, Malcolm Brachman, Reese Milner and Henky Lasut, with a set still to play.

The two-session semi-final round will be played today, followed by one final session this afternoon and two final sessions tomorrow.

Tournament note: We have word that Maurizio Di Sacco is ill and in hospital and is in need of your good wishes.

RESULTS AFTER 16 MATCHES**Transnational Teams**

Rank	Team	Category	Country	VPs	Rank	Team	Category	Country	VPs
9	ZIMMERMAN P.		SWI	268	42	WIGODER C.		ENG	233
10	MOSSOP D.		ENG	266	43	HUSSEIN A.		EGY	231
11	POPOVA D.	M	BUL	264	44	NADAR K.		IND	231
12	DHONDY J.		ENG	263	45	MIZEL J.		ENG	230
13	JACOB T.		NZL	261	46	MODALFA		NTH	229
14	SERF M.	SM	FRA	261	47	CLEMENT M.	L	FRA	228
15	GOTARD T.		GER	258	48	BARYLEWSKI M		POL	228
16	COMPUTERLAND		POL	257	49	ALBERTI A.		GER	227
17	HADI K.		PAK	255	50	ARNABOLDI S.		ITA	227
18	SZWARC H.	S	FRA	255	51	FERGANI K.		CAN	226
19	TERAMOTO T.		JPN	253	52	GREGSON C.	M	ENG	225
20	VAN HOOFF T.		NTH	253	53	DAUVERGNE B.		FRA	223
21	MIROGLIO		ITA	252	54	HUGON B.	M	FRA	222
22	JOAO L.	M	POR	251	55	ZEST		SWE	222
23	ISTUAN S.		HUN	249	56	QUITTNER J.		AUS	221
24	MARKOWICZ V.	S	USA	246	57	CONVERY C.		ZAF	219
25	JOURDAIN P.		ENG	245	58	KHAN T.		PAK	214
26	RAND N.	S	ISR	244	59	SCUDDER M.	L	AUS	214
27	WATERLOW T.		ENG	244	60	BENBASSAT M.		SWI	214
28	STAMATOV J.		BUL	243	61	RASMUSSEN J.	M	USA	212
29	ADAD P.	S	FRA	242	62	PANAHPOUR M.		ENG	210
30	GILLIS S.		ENG	239	63	SCHAEFER L.	L	USA	207
31	RYNNING E.		NOR	239	64	CONTERNO A.	M	PER	206
32	CHAMMAA I.		LEB	238	65	STRATAN D.		ROM	205
33	FORNACIARI E	M	ITA	238	66	SUPANDI H.		IND	205
34	BRIDGE PLUS	M	FRA	238	67	VOZABAL D.		CZE	204
35	SACUL D.		IND	237	68	SPRONG J.	M	ZAF	203
36	BJARNARSON G		DEN	236	69	DOUSSOT B.		FRA	200
37	DHONDY H.		ENG	236	70	RESTA G.		ITA	196
38	MARI C.	S	FRA	236	71	CROCI A.		ITA	192
39	VENKATESH G.		USA	235	72	PETROVIC I.		CRO	190
40	JACOBS G.		USA	235	73	MEEHAN P.	L	IRE	184
41	YE H C.		CHI	234	74	BORTOLETTI		ITA	161

Quarter-finals

		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Total
1	JANSMA	GAMRATH	0 - 0	39 - 37	0 - 0
2	BRACHMAN	DE BOTTON	0 - 0	52 - 3	0 - 0
3	ZHUANG	MILNER	0 - 0	8 - 25	0 - 0
4	LASUT	LAVAZZA	0 - 0	39 - 12	0 - 0

LOUIS VUITTON

Official sponsor of the World Bridge Championships

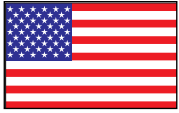
Welcomes all the bridge players to his boutique,
located between the Sporting d'Hiver and the Hotel de Paris

from 11 am to 7 pm

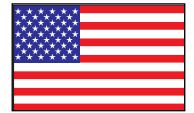
SEMI-FINAL

Bermuda Bowl

SESSION 4



USA I v USA II



Undone

With 48 boards left to play, USA II in the Bermuda Bowl had high hopes of advancing to the final. They trailed their American rivals by only 17.5 IMPs, having rallied after a poor first set.

It was not to be. For the first time in the tournament, Bobby Wolff and Dan Morse - rock solid on nearly every board - turned in a bad card and USA I took what turned out to be an insurmountable lead.

The bad news started on the third board.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wildavsky	Hamman	Doub	Soloway
Dble	1♥	Pass	1♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♦
All Pass			3NT



Adam Wildavsky, USA II

A heart lead would have defeated the contract, even if Paul Soloway had taken a first-round finesse in diamonds. The defense could then always take a spade, two hearts and two clubs for down one. Adam Wildavsky led a low club, however, and Soloway had his ninth trick. He played a diamond to the ace, entered dummy with the ♥A and finessed in diamonds; plus 400 for USA I.

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Wolff	Meckstroth	Morse
Dble	1♥	1♠	1♦
Dble	Pass	3NT	3♦
4♠	Dble	All Pass	Pass

Wolff and Morse defeated the contract, but by only one trick for plus 200 and a 5-IMP loss.

Bob Hamman and Soloway bid aggressively to the top spot on the following deal for an 11-IMP swing.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Wolff	Meckstroth	Morse
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Wolff had no difficulty taking 12 tricks for plus 480.

West	North	East	South
Wildavsky	Hamman	Doub	Soloway
Pass	1♣	2♣	2♠
3♣	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

The bidding gave Hamman all the information he needed to blast into the slam - double fit with South, likely not a lot wasted in clubs (not exactly true, but close) and the possibility of diamond ruffs.

Doub led the ♣A, not the best start for the defense, but it didn't make any difference. With spades splitting as they did and the heart honors onside, there was no stopping the slam. USA I had upped their lead to 123.5-86.

Aggressive bidding by USA I at both tables resulted in more IMPs for the leaders.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Wolff	Meckstroth	Morse
1♠	Dble	1♦	Pass
Pass	4♥	Rdbl	Pass
4♣	Dble	Pass	Pass
		All Pass	

Wolff might have bid 5♣, which was a maker. At worst, it would have forced Eric Rodwell or Jeff Meckstroth to save at the five level for plus 500. Such a decision is easy when you're looking at all the cards, of course, and Wolff was not, so he opted for what seemed to be his best shot for a plus. He did go plus, but it was only 200. It turns out that even if he had bid 5♣ and got to play there, his team was going to lose IMPs.



Dan Morse, USA II & Eric Rodwell, USA I

West	North	East	South
Wildavsky	Hamman	Doub	Soloway
1♠	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♠	4♥	2♥	Pass
		Dble	All Pass

Doub's 2♥ was a spade raise. Having passed with a hand that most players would open, Doub may have felt he had a bit of a surprise for Hamman. It was Doub who was surprised. He started with the ♦K, on which Hamman discarded the ♠10. A low diamond went to Wildavsky's queen, and Hamman threw his other spade. There was speculation that Wildavsky might give Hamman a losing option by switching to a low club, but he continued with a high spade. Hamman ruffed, cashed the two high hearts, noting with gratification that they split 3-2, then cashed the top clubs, claiming when Doub's queen fell. That was plus 790 and 11 IMPs to USA I.

The following deal was a major blow to USA II's chances.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wildavsky	Hamman	Doub	Soloway
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
All Pass			

Doub led the ♥6 and Hamman considered the finesse briefly. If it lost, a trump would certainly be returned and the contract would be in jeopardy. Hamman rose with the ace, played a club to the ace, ruffed a club, ruffed a heart, ruffed a club, ruffed a heart, cashed the ♠A and exited with a club. That was seven tricks, and Hamman still had the trump ace for plus 90.

Starting with Rodwell's opening bid with the West cards, things went much differently at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Wolff	Meckstroth	Morse
1♠	2NT	Dble	Pass
Pass	3♣	Dble	3♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

The defense was brutally accurate. Rodwell started with his low diamond, and Morse had to go up with the ace. If he played low, he would get no club ruffs. He cashed the ♣A, ruffed a club, on which Rodwell played the king, entered dummy with the ♠A,

then played a club to Meckstroth's queen. The ♡2 went to Morse's ace, and he played a spade to Rodwell's queen. The ♡J came back, and Morse discarded a club from dummy instead of ruffing. Meckstroth won the ♡K, and when he cashed the ♣J, Rodwell discarded his last heart. Now a heart return allowed Rodwell to ruff with the ♠Q as dummy had to follow with a low trump. Meckstroth still had the ♠K J 10. That was down four for plus 1100 and 15 IMPs in the bank for USA I.

There was more bad news for USA II on the next board.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wildavsky	Hamman	Doub	Soloway
	Pass	Pass	1♦
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

On the lie of the cards, the only way for the defenders to mess this up would be for them to crash spade honors together. That wasn't likely with Hamman and Soloway on the defense. Hamman led the ♠6 to the jack, queen and ace. Wildavsky played a spade to dummy's jack as Hamman ducked. Soloway won the ♠K and returned the ♣9, Hamman won when Wildavsky finessed, and the



Paul Soloway, USA I

♠Q was returned. When Wildavsky won that trick and tried to ruff a diamond to dummy, Hamman ruffed with the ♠Q and that was that, one down for minus 100.

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Wolff	Meckstroth	Morse
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Rodwell's 1♣ was Precision, and 2♦ showed a balanced hand with 8-10 high-card points. Rodwell could have checked on four-card majors but with his balanced shape he opted for the nine-trick game. Wolff led a low club to the nine and queen, and Rodwell immediately played a spade to the jack and king.

The contract was going down if Morse returned a club, but he put the ♦10 on the table instead. Rodwell seized his chance, ducking, and the ♦J was his ninth trick. That was another 12 IMPs to USA I.

The final score in the set was 67-5, and the net was 170.5-90 for USA I. There were still 32 boards to play, but USA I was a long shot to make up more than 80 IMPs against USA I. Their best hope for a medal, it was becoming clear, would be to win the play-off with the loser of the Italy-Norway match.



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.

SEMI-FINAL

Bermuda Bowl

SESSION 6



Italy v Norway



Getting Even

After the fifth set of their match with Norway in the Bermuda Bowl semi-final, the Italians were back on their heels, having seen Norway come from 52 IMPs down to only 14 with 16 boards to play. Would Norway prevail, as they did in the Bermuda Bowl semi-final in Paris two years ago?

It literally was not in the cards for the Norwegians, as a flat set of boards gave them little to work with, while the two Italian pairs played nearly error-free bridge on the way to a 31-9 win and a berth in the championship round.

The second deal gave 5 IMPs to Italy.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Saelensminde	Bocchi	Brogeland
		1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Giorgio Duboin was not inclined to try to improve the contract with his scant values. The contract could have been defeated if the defenders never led clubs, but Norberto Bocchi did manage nine tricks for plus 110.

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Lauria	Helness	Versace
		1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	All Pass

That's a lot of bidding with no fit and a paucity of high-card points. Lorenzo Lauria started with the ♣A, continuing with the ♣J to the king. Geir Helgemo played the ♥Q to Lauria's ace, and the ♦Q was returned. Helgemo discarded three hearts on the top diamonds and ♣Q, ruffed a diamond to hand and ruffed his next-to-last heart in dummy. He needed some luck in the trump suit (the ♠A10 with South, for example), but he didn't get it. When Helgemo played a good diamond from dummy, Alfredo Versace ruffed low. Helgemo overruffed with a low spot, but Lau-

ria was there with the ♠10. The trump return left Helgemo with a second heart loser and minus 100. That was only 5 IMPs to Italy, but it was Norway who needed the swings.

They simply weren't coming. Whenever Boye Brogeland and Erik Saelensminde tried to create action in the Closed Room, Bocchi and Duboin simply passed and took their plus scores.

At one point, there were four pushes in a row, not what Norway needed for the win. This was a tough one for Norway.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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



Erik Saelensminde, Norway

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Saelensminde	Bocchi	Brogeland
Pass	1♠	Dble	Pass
2♦	2♥	Pass	Redbl
Dble	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Saelensminde lead a low heart, and there was no stopping the notrump game as it was South with the ace, not North. The Italians easily scored up plus 630 despite Saelensminde's opening and free bid with 4 HCP.

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Lauria	Helness	Versace
1♦	2♦	Dble	1♣
Pass	2♠	3♦	All Pass

All the bidding with scant values did seem to slow down Helgemo and Helness, who settled for the diamond partial, which was an 11-IMP gain for Italy, looking more and more solid as the match wore on.

The following deal was a small gain for Italy, but it showed how things were going for Norway.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Saelensminde	Bocchi	Brogeland
	2♥	All Pass	

South, looking at his own cards, must have liked his partner's chances in 2♥, but Saelensminde managed only five tricks for minus 150.

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Lauria	Helness	Versace
Pass	3♠	All Pass	3♣

Versace's 3♣ showed a two-suiter with diamonds and spades. Lauria did well to go off one for minus 100, but it was still 2 IMPs to Italy, who were pitching a shutout until late in the match. By then, it was too late for Norway, whose medal hopes had turned from gold to bronze.

You've heard the voice now here's the face



You may not know her name, but if you've watched the VuGraph show presented by the French Bridge Federation at this tournament, you certainly know her voice.

"East, pass, North, pass - final contract . . . three spades," she says. When

the deal is concluded, she can be heard announcing the result: "Just made," or perhaps, "Plus one," meaning declarer made an overtrick. Then she announces the next deal, always in English with a pleasant French accent: "Board fifteen, dealer South."

For the past 13 years, Babette Piganeau has been the voice of the Bridgevision VuGraph show. She worked her first World Championship in Geneva in 1990.

Throughout the tournament, she never misses a session, taking her post at the corner of the table, with her face often obscured by the screen that dissects the table in the open room.

She uses two microphones, one for the VuGraph audience, another to relay each card played to Elizabeth Antelme, who works in the VuGraph auditorium on a computer that is used to show on the screen how the play is going.

Babette recalls that when the VuGraph show was conceived - it used to be called Bridge Rama - she and two other women were considered for the job of caller. Babette won out. Was it because her voice was better? Shyly, she replies, "Maybe."


Babette lives in Royen, near Bordeaux, and is married to a serious bridge player, Patrice Piganeau, whose team was in the World Transnational Open Teams. She also plays, but not very often. Mostly, she says, she goes to the beach and plays golf. She and Patrice have two daughters, Marie and Laure.

Babette says the biggest challenge she faces is maintaining concentration when the play grinds to a halt, as it often does. By this point in the tournament, Babette admits to being a bit tired. After all, she never misses a VuGraph presentation.

She says she enjoys working as the VuGraph caller because she likes to be around the top players, generally preferring the men to the women. Asked to name a favorite, she becomes a diplomat.


"I like the fast players," she says.

FINAL **Bermuda Bowl** **SESSION I**



Italy v USA I

Defending the Bridge



(With apologies to Thomas Babington, Lord Macaulay)

Sydney Lazard of Dallas
 By the Nine Gods he swore
 That the great house of Meckwell
 Should suffer wrong no more.
 By the Nine Gods he swore it,
 And named a trysting day,
 And bade his players ride forth,
 East and West and South and North,
 To summon his array.

In the annals of bridge history Italy v USA is always the classic contest. USA I started with 13 IMPs by virtue of the carry over, but Italy were heavy favourites, at least judging by the many wagers being struck on Internet betting sites. They struck at

once, when they bid 4♠ on these two hands on the first deal.

♠ J 10 8 3 ♥ Q 7 2 ♦ Q J 9 2 ♣ 10 5	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K 9 6 4 ♥ A 5 4 ♦ A 5 ♣ A K 9 6
--	---	--

South had both red kings, North the queen of spades, and ten tricks rolled home for 7 IMPs.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 7 6 4 ♥ K J 9 7 6 ♦ K Q 8 ♣ 10 3	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A K J 3 ♥ 10 ♦ 9 7 4 ♣ K Q J 8 7
♠ 10 9 8 5 2 ♥ A Q 8 2 ♦ A 10 6 ♣ 5	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ Q ♥ 5 4 3 ♦ J 5 3 2 ♣ A 9 6 4 2

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

A straightforward +420, and not a deal where you would expect a swing.

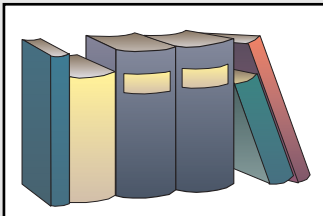
West	North	East	South
Versace	Nickell	Lauria	Freeman
		1♣*	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

With North on lead this contract was without hope, and declarer was two down, -100 and 11 IMPs for USAI.

On Board 3 neither East/West pair attempted Six Hearts on these cards:

♠ 8 ♥ A K Q 9 7 5 2 ♦ J 4 ♣ K 10 6	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J 9 5 3 ♥ J 10 4 ♦ A Q 8 7 ♣ A 9
---	---	---

World Championship Book 2003



The official book of these Championships should be available at the end of February 2004. The good news is that it will include a few more pages than previous years, the bad news is that, after keeping the same price for the last six years, there will be a 10% increase this time around to US\$33.

You can order an advance copy from **Elly Ducheyne** in the **Press Room**, which is in L'Hermitage Hotel, at a reduced price of **25 Euros**, including surface mail to anywhere in the world.

The book will include comprehensive coverage of the knockout stages of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, with analysis from Eric Kokish, Brian Senior and Barry Rigal, plus a round-up of the best of the round robin stages. There will also be an expanded section covering the Senior Bowl, a section on the Transnational Teams, and all the results plus many photographs.

The king of diamonds was onside.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

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

After the game forcing response of Two Clubs, North/South had plenty of time to explore and they reached a slam that was unlikely to be defeated. East led the ace of clubs and declarer was soon able to claim, +980.



Nick Nickell, USA

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

The on line commentary team were expecting North to move on, but when he passed Italy had gained 11 IMPs.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
Pass	INT	Dble	Pass
Dble	Rdble	Pass	2♣
2♠	2♦	Pass	Pass
	Pass	3♠	All Pass

There was a suggestion that South's pass was forcing North to redouble, but more likely was that when North did that he was promising a five card suit. Now North/South were out of danger the interest lay in how high East/West would go. They had a look, but stopped short. Declarer got everything right, +170.

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
2NT	Pass	1♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
	All Pass		

South led a heart for the queen, king and ace. Declarer cashed the ace of spades and played a club to the jack. North won and played back a heart. Declarer won in dummy and finessed in spades. He could draw the last trump and play two more rounds of spades before committing himself in clubs. Lorenzo got them right, and although we were following on the internet we suspect he may have got some applause in the VuGraph theatre, even though he was not 'live'.

On board 10 Nunes doubled the opening bid of One Heart with:

♠ A 3 2
♥ J 9 6
♦ K J 8 3
♣ A J 9

The online comment was that 'They like to be busy in the bidding.'

On Board 12 Rodwell and Versace had to lead against an enemy 3NT, their side having bid and supported hearts, with:

♥ A J 10 9 8 4

Versace led the ace, Rodwell the ten. It didn't matter, as partner had three small, and the other four were 2-2, but if they had been 3-1 with a singleton honour, Versace would have been on to a winner.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

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



Claudio Nunes, Italy

No problem, and you would expect a flat board.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Nickell	Lauria	Freeman
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♥
Redble	Pass	INT	Dble
All Pass		2♣	Dble

The late Terence Reese would have had plenty to say about the pointless nature of bidding with the East hand, but the modern way is not to miss any opportunity to enter the fray. Well, Two Clubs was carnage, and the penalty was -1400.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Fantoni	Meckstroth	Nunes
Pass	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♦*	1♠	INT	Dble
3♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	All Pass		

The defenders found the spade ruff, but that was only to hold declarer to his contract, +130.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Nickell	Lauria	Freeman
Pass	Pass	1♥	2♦
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

With West having no trump for the third round of hearts this was +400, and USA I had just managed to keep their nose in front.

IBPA Announcement

The International Bridge Press Association would like to thank the sponsors of its annual awards:

- Romex - Best Bid Hand
- ITES - Best Defense
- Digital Fountain - Best Played Hand
- OK Bridge - Best Junior Deal

AU CŒUR DES BLEUS

L'équipe de France Senior a remporté la médaille d'argent à la Senior Bowl. Elle est également championne d'Europe en titre, un joli parcours pour cette formation composée de grands et toujours jeunes champions.

Ce succès des Tricolores symbolise à merveille l'action conjuguée de la Fédération Française de Bridge et de son partenaire historique la Société Générale.

Depuis de nombreuses années la banque intervient dans différents domaines : développement du bridge chez les jeunes, sponsorship des équipes nationales, organisation de simultanés. Un soutien indispensable au bridge français, à ses champions actuels et futurs...

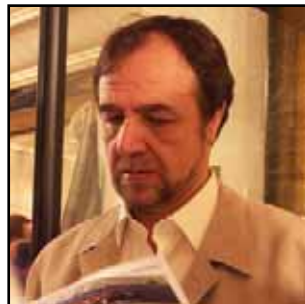
Le Basque bondissant



Port d'attache Biarritz pour Guy Lasserre, 56 ans, ce golfeur doublé d'un excellent tennisman, qui plus est champion de bridge. Un homme complet qui passe d'une discipline à l'autre avec autant de talent d'où son surnom : le Basque bondissant.

Les deux font la paire

Philippe Poizat, 57 ans, condisciple de Paul Chemla à Louis Le Grand ! C'est du côté de Montpellier qu'il enseigne notre discipline. Son épouse, Rokia, sa première supportrice, est également une excellente joueuse qui truste régulièrement les podiums des grandes épreuves.



Le Provençal



François Leenhardt, 63 ans, est passionné des voyages et Dieu merci de bridge, aussi !

Ce banquier vit à Marseille et appartient au groupe France Senior depuis plusieurs saisons. De quoi compléter un palmarès déjà conséquent en Open : champion d'Europe en 1974 et 3ème de la Bermuda

Bowl en 1975, plusieurs fois sélectionné en équipe nationale.

Le plus titré

Installé dans la Drôme, cet amoureux de la nature est



l'un des bridgeurs les plus talentueux de la planète. Christian Mari, 58 ans, triple champion du monde et champion d'Europe en Open. Il partage son temps entre ses recherches sur le bridge, plus particulièrement sur les enchères, et de longues balades avec ses chiens dans la

campagne drômoise. Sportif accompli, il fut longtemps classé troisième série au tennis.

Le chouchou des supporters

Premier à l'applaudimètre : Maurice Aujaleu, 68 ans, reçoit régulièrement des dizaines de messages qui lui sont adressés par ses nombreux supporters sur Internet. Ancien ingénieur chez IBM, ce Lyonnais collectionne les titres internationaux avec son partenaire Pierre Adad : des Olympiades au dernier championnat d'Europe seniors en passant par le titre européen seniors à Menton, en juin dernier.



Le Général



Pierre Adad, 65 ans, polytechnicien, il forme avec Maurice Aujaleu l'une des plus anciennes paires françaises. Membre du comité de sélection français, il s'implique également dans le bridge junior. Amateur de jeux de lettres, cet ancien militaire, il était ingénieur Général, devrait bientôt

prendre la direction des sous-bois pour assouvir une autre de ses passions : la cueillette des champignons, c'est la saison !

Le capitaine

Yves Aubry, 52 ans, capitaine non joueur, ce médecin breton est également élu à l'EBL et vice-président de la fédération française de bridge. A la tête de la formation senior depuis 2001, il a désormais accroché à son palmarès de capitaine les 3 couleurs de médailles !



MATCH 15

Transnational Open Teams



De Botton v Markowicz



Going into the final round of qualifying for the knockout stages of the Transnational Teams, England's DE BOTTON lay ninth, one place and 1 VP out of a qualifying spot. In Round 15 they met the American MARKOWICZ team, which lay tenth, 3 VPs further back. This match would be winner takes all, with the unpleasant third option that a tight finish might see neither side make it into the top eight.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sandqvist	Klukowski	Holland	Zaremba
Pass	Pass	Dble	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Zeligman	Justin H	Jeziro	Jason H
Pass	INT	Pass	1♠
All Pass			2♣

When Jerzy Zaremba's 1♠ opening came round to John Holland he doubled and Nick Sandqvist passed for penalties. Julian Klukowski ran to 2♥ and Sandqvist jumped to 3NT, ending the auction. A spade lead would beat 3NT as South has all the important spots and the ten was falling. However, the auction hardly suggested that the defence would be able to get the spades going very quickly and Klukowski led his own suit instead. Sandqvist had nine tricks easily enough now by playing on clubs; +400.

Justin Hackett found a very light INT response to the 1♠ opening and Jason's 2♣ rebid shut the opposition out of the auction; down two for -100 but 7 IMPs to DE BOTTON.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sandqvist	Klukowski	Holland	Zaremba
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Zeligman	Justin H	Jeziro	Jason H
	Pass	1♠	2♣
4♣	5♣	6♠	All Pass

Given a free run, Sandqvist/Holland discovered that there were two key cards missing so stopped safely at the five level. Klukowski tried the effect of a low diamond lead away from his ace and that allowed Sandqvist to make all of the tricks; +710.

Jason's 2♣ overcall led to a very different type of auction at the other table and, deprived of the opportunity to check on key cards, Jeziro guessed to jump to 6♠. Nobody had bid hearts at this table and Jason went for the simple approach of leading his



Justin Hackett, England

singleton, simply needing to find partner with a major-suit ace. Not this time, as the lead allowed Jezioro to take the first twelve tricks in the majors; +1430 and 12 IMPs to MARKOWICZ.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sandqvist	Klukowski	Holland	Zaremba
All Pass	Pass	2♥	2NT

West	North	East	South
Zeligman	Justin H	Jezioro	Jason H
Pass	3♠	Pass	Dble 4♠

Holland opened with a weak 2♥ bid and Zaremba made a heavy 2NT overcall, where he played. Sandqvist led the queen of clubs and Zaremba won the ace and played the ♥K to the ace. Back came the ♦J and he won to play ace then jack of spades to the queen. Zaremba won the next diamond lead and claimed nine tricks for +150.

Jason preferred to double 2♥ and raised to game when Justin could jump to 3♠. Jezioro led the jack of diamonds - very quickly, as though it were a singleton, in Justin's view. Justin won and played ace then jack of spades to the queen. When Jezioro switched to his club, Justin ducked and the club return, ruffed, was the setting trick; one down for -50 and 6 IMPs to MARKOWICZ, who led by 18-7 IMPs with four deals to play.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sandqvist	Klukowski	Holland	Zaremba
INT All Pass	Pass	Pass Pass	Pass 2♠

West	North	East	South
Zeligman	Justin H	Jezioro	Jason H
1♣ 1♠ Pass	Pass Pass Dble	1♦ 2♠ All Pass	Pass Pass Pass

Prospects were looking bleak for DE BOTTON after missing that opportunity, but they struck back on the next deal. Zaremba's 2♠ overcall showed five spades plus a four-card or longer minor, but Klukowski only remembered this after he had passed out 2♠. However, 2♠ proved to be OK for North/South. Sandqvist led a heart which ran to the eight and Zaremba played a spade to the king. Now Sandqvist switched to ace then ten of clubs and Holland got that right by withholding his king as declarer ruffed. The ♠J was won by the ace and another club allowed Zaremba to make his ♠8. He cashed the last spade and took his red winners for +140.

At the other table Zeligman/Jezioro found the four-three spade fit and Justin made a balancing double, hungrily passed out by Jason. Shalom Zeligman managed to come to five tricks but that was -800 and 12 IMPs to DE BOTTON, putting them into a 19-18 IMP lead.

Board 23 was a push but on Board 24 MARKOWICZ stopped in 3♥ on the East/West cards while DE BOTTON got to game. The declarer to make ten tricks proved to be the one in partscore - there were four top losers - and that meant 6 IMPs to MARKOWICZ, back ahead by 24-19.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sandqvist	Klukowski	Holland	Zaremba
All Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠

West	North	East	South
Zeligman	Justin H	Jezioro	Jason H
2NT All Pass	1♠ Pass	2♠ 3♣	Dble Dble

The final deal and a dramatic end to the qualifying stage for the DE BOTTON squad. Klukowski opened 2♥, hearts and another, weak, and Zaremba converted to 2♠, where he played. The ♦J was led to the king and ace and Zaremba led a heart up, the ace going in, perforce. Sandqvist gave his partner a diamond ruff, which did declarer no harm at all, and back came ace of clubs followed by a heart for Sandqvist to ruff. A further diamond lead was ruffed with the ace but Zaremba could ruff the next heart with his queen and lead a spade to the eight; eight tricks for +110.

Jeziro made a two-suited overcall at the other table and Jason smelled blood. He doubled 2♠ then doubled 3♣ and it was up to Justin to trust him or not. Though he had opened an eight-count at the one level and had a small singleton trump, Justin did have declarer's side-suit well held, and he showed a certain degree of faith in partner when he passed.

Jason led the ♠Q to the ace and Jeziro played the ♦K to Jason's ace. Jason thought for some time then played his second spade and Justin won then played his trump. When Jeziro ducked this to the queen, Jason found the best continuation, returning the ♣K to pin the ten and prevent any ruffs in dummy. Declarer won and played a heart to the ace then the jack of diamonds. When the queen did not appear, Jeziro ruffed then exited with a heart. Justin overtook the heart and led the ♠10 and declarer erred by ruffing. He was over-ruffed and that meant four down for -1100 when Jason played the ♦Q then let his partner get a couple of heart tricks on declarer's enforced lead, enabling him to pitch his small diamonds.

Declarer should have saved one trick as he has a club less than East so can keep on discarding until the defender is forced to ruff and lead into the ♣J8 at the end. The actual result meant 14 IMPs to DE BOTTON, who won the match by 33-24 IMPs, converting to 17-13 VPs. That proved to be just enough to take the eighth qualifying spot by a single VP.

Le petit écho de Monaco

par Guy Dupont

Solidarité

Hier matin, une minute de silence a été observée dans les salles de jeu, en hommage aux 18 carabinieri italiens victimes d'un attentat en Irak. Les joueurs de l'équipe italienne dans la Bermuda Bowl ont porté un brassard noir au cours de la journée, en signe de deuil, comme tous les représentants des fédérations sportives italiennes, partout dans le monde.

Le poids d'une couronne

Pour avoir droit aux points de Maître, un joueur doit avoir disputé au moins 120 donnes des éliminatoires de la Bermuda Bowl, et une joueuse au moins 100 donnes de celles de la Venice Cup. Pour avoir droit au titre de champion du monde, un joueur doit avoir disputé au moins 112 des 320 donnes des phases finales (quart de finale, demi-finale, finale) de la Bermuda Bowl, dont 64 en finale (soit la moitié). Pour avoir droit au titre féminin, une joueuse doit avoir disputé 112 des 288 donnes des phases finales, dont au moins 48 en finale (soit encore la moitié).

Entames

Aujourd'hui, jour d'entames. Vous êtes entre de bonnes mains:

1- Prenez la main de Jeff Meckstroth, en Sud, dans la deuxième séance des quarts de finale de la Bermuda Bowl, lors de la rencontre Etats-Unis 1-Chine :

Donne 26, Est donneur, tous vulnérables.

♠ A 10 6
♥ R D 5 3
♦ 10 6
♣ 10 8 7 2

O	N	E	S
Yen	Rodwell	Wu	Meckstroth
		1 SA	Passe
3 ♣ (Texas)	Passe	3 ♦	Passe
3 ♠ *	Passe	4 ♦	Passe
5 ♣	Passe	5 ♦	(Fin)

* Quatre cartes à ♥.

Quelle est votre entame ?

2- Prenez la main de Lorenzo Lauria, en Est, dans la cinquième séance des demi-finales de la Bermuda Bowl, lors de la rencontre Italie-Norvège :

Donne 9, Nord donneur, Est-Ouest vulnérables.

♠ 10 3
♥ R 10 3 2
♦ 4
♣ A 8 6 5 4 2

O	N	E	S
Versace	Saelensminde	Lauria	Brogeland
	Passe	Passe	1 ♦
Passe	1 SA	Passe	2 ♠
Passe	3 ♦	Passe	3 SA
(Fin)			

Quelle est votre entame ?

3- Prenez la main de Zia Mahmood, en Ouest, dans le premier match du Transnational par équipes, contre la formation de Babette

Championship Diary

Alexandre Gustav Eiffel was a talented and clever engineer who was most famous for his bridges and viaducts. Eiffel liked to work with new technology, which in his time involved using wrought iron. He designed the Eiffel Tower and the structure of the Statue of Liberty in New York. He was also responsible for the dramatic domed salon in the Hermitage Hotel!

Tony Forrester is the Bridge Columnist of the Daily Telegraph, Patrick Jourdain the Bridge Correspondent of the same newspaper. When they met in the Transnational Tony told Patrick, 'If you make a mistake I can show the World.' Patrick replied, 'But if you lose the match I can tell the world.' The result was 25-1, making one of them happy. (We are not going to tell you who won.)

You know by now that Bridgebase is attracting several thousand spectators for every session. However, just to show you how much work needs to be done in the promotion of bridge, the first game of the match between Gary Kasparov and the computer Fritz, played in New York on Tuesday, was followed on the Internet by more than 1,000,000 people!

Hugon (main relevée dans le reportage " in english " de mes confrères du Daily Bulletin - les donnes des premiers matches n'étant pas dupliées) :

Donne 19, Sud donneur, Est-Ouest vulnérables.

♠ 8 7 6
♥ A 5 2
♦ R 8
♣ AV 10 3 2

N
W E
S

O N E S
Zia Mme Hugon Levin Perez

Passe I SA 3 ♥
5 ♥ 5 ♠ (Fin)

Quelle est votre entame ?

SOLUTIONS

1- Avec la main de **Meckstroth**.

♠ RV 8 7
♥ 9 4
♦ 9 7
♣ 9 6 5 4 3

♠ D 5 3
♥ V 7 6 2
♦ ADV 8 4 2
♣ —

N
W E
S

♠ 9 4 2
♥ A 10 8
♦ R 5 3
♣ ARDV

♠ A 10 6
♥ RD 5 3
♦ 10 6
♣ 10 8 7 2

Avec l'arrêt à ♠ et à ♣, Est aurait sans doute conclu à 3 SA. S'il a préféré se replier à 4 ♦, après la connaissance du bicolore rouge d'Ouest, c'est qu'il ne doit pas garder l'une des deux couleurs noires. Vu de votre main, c'est plutôt à ♠ que vous l'espérez fragile. Faut-il alors entamer d'un petit ♠, sous l'As, en espérant trouver le Roi en Nord et ratissez une Dame troisième en Est, ou entamer de l'As de ♠ ? Meckstroth pencha pour la seconde solution (d'autant qu'il n'y avait peut-être que deux ♠ et un ♥ à réaliser pour son camp) - et avec une Dame troisième, Est aurait peut-être plus volontiers penché pour l'enchère de 3 SA. Après l'As de ♠, il rejeta le 10. Moins 1.

Dans l'autre salle, Nickell-Freeman avaient réalisé 3 SA + 3. Un swing de 13 imp.

2- Avec la main de **Lauria**.

♠ V 5 2
♥ D 7 6
♦ D 10 9 8 3
♣ V 9

♠ 9 8 7 4
♥ A 8 4
♦ 7 6
♣ D 10 7 3

N
W E
S

♠ 10 3
♥ R 10 3 2
♦ 4
♣ A 8 6 5 4 2

♠ ARD 6
♥ V 9 5
♦ ARV 5 2
♣ R

L'entame d'un petit ♣ aurait tourné à la catastrophe : dix levées pour le déclarant. Mais Lauria a préféré l'entame d'un petit ♥, et Versace a coopéré au mieux : il a pris de l'As et contre-attaqué à ♣. Moins 4. Oui, il tenait à peu de choses de passer de + 2 à - 4.

A noter que l'entame de l'As de ♣ donnait une deuxième chance à la défense.

Dans l'autre salle, Nunes avait joué et réussi 4 ♦ (130). Un swing de 8 pour l'Italie.

3- Avec la main de **Zia**.

♠ AV
♥ 8 7 4
♦ DV 7 2
♣ D 8 5 2

♠ 8 7 6
♥ A 5 2
♦ R 8
♣ AV 10 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ 5
♥ RDV 10 9 6 3
♦ 6 5 4 3
♣ 9

♠ RD 10 9 4 3 2
♥ —
♦ A 10 9
♣ R 7 4

Pas question de tenter de voir le mort, en encaissant l'As de ♥. Vous n'auriez qu'une vision très désagréable (et pour tout dire, raccourcie) de la situation : Sud couperait, purgerait les atouts et ne vous abandonnerait que le Roi de ♦ et l'As de ♣.

Zia a décidé de voir le mort en posant bravement l'As de ♣ sur la table, puis, tout bien pesé, il a rejoué ♣, coupé. Moins un, avec encore le Roi de ♦ pour la défense.

Dans l'autre salle, les Français ont gagné 5 ♥ contré. Zia a tout de même bien limité les dégâts : le coup ne lui a coûté que 13 imp.

Document réalisé sur matériel Xerox en partenariat avec le groupe OPTIMA

