Twenty-one nations qualified teams for the Round of 64 in the Vivendi Rosenblum Teams. All teams will play 56-board matches starting at 10.00 today.

Host France leads the list with 13 qualifiers, two more than the United States. Great Britain is next with 7, followed by Italy and Sweden with five. Denmark, Poland, and the Netherlands have three teams each. Two teams from Germany qualified.

The following countries qualified one team each: Switzerland, Greece, Indonesia, Israel, Brazil, Croatia, South Africa, Canada, Russia, India, Turkey and Australia.

By far the best performance by an individual team was turned in by the Polish squad captained by Zakrzewski. Their total of 314 Victory Points far outdistanced all others. Second with 302 was Chagas’ team from Brazil.

Polish pair leads Juniors

Poland holds three of the top five positions at the halfway mark of the Junior Pairs. The 66 pairs will play the final two sessions today.

In first place are I. Grzejdziak and U. Kielichowski of Poland with an average of 62.61 for the first two sessions. That puts them well ahead of R. Probst and M. Teletscher of Great Britain, who have a 60.98 average. T. Przyjemski and M. Zarema of Poland are third with 60.05.

IMPORTANT: Starting time for KOs – 10:00

Vivendi Rosenblum Teams and Louis Vuitton McConnell Teams

The top four teams in each of the 16 groups of the Vivendi Rosenblum Teams have qualified to compete in today’s Round of 64. The winner of Group A is seeded No. 1 and the fourth team in Group S is No. 64. Pairings have been set up accordingly for today’s matches.

All 32 matches will start at 10.00 and will consist of 56 boards, played in 14-board segments.

The top eight teams in each of the four groups of the Louis Vuitton McConnell Teams have qualified to compete in today’s Round of 32. The winner of Group W is seeded No. 1 and the eighth team in Group Z is No. 32. Pairings have been set up accordingly for today’s matches. All 16 matches will start at 10.00 and will consist of 56 boards, played in 14-board segments.

France and U.S. qualify 7 each in McConnell

Host France and the United States each qualified seven teams for play in today’s Round of 32 in the Louis Vuitton McConnell Women’s Teams. The American performance was quite strong, inasmuch as only eight U.S. teams entered the competition. Altogether 15 nations still are in the running. Italy has three, while Germany, South Africa and the Netherlands have two apiece. Nations with one team are Russia, Czechoslovakia, Tunisia, Denmark, Great Britain, Egypt, Israel, Austria and China.

The team captained by Karen Allison of the United States turned in the best team performance with 233 Victory Points.

Elf Seniors Swiss Teams

This two-day event, run as a Swiss Teams, is open to teams eliminated from the Vivendi Rosenblum Teams and the Louis Vuitton McConnell Teams. The teams will compete as two separate groups today. Then the teams will be realigned according to their Victory Point standings for the second day. The starting time is 10.00.

Lipton Ice Tea Junior Pairs

The final two sessions of the Lipton Ice Tea Junior Pairs will get underway at 10:45.
### VIVENDI ROSENBLOM CUP
(Round-Robin Final Standings)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Players</th>
<th>Scores</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>WALVIJK USA 286</td>
<td>CALDERWOOD GBR 273</td>
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<td>ARMSTRONG GBR 257</td>
<td>MAAS NLD 250</td>
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<td>YALCIN CHE 257</td>
<td>EKEBLAD USA 248</td>
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<td>PODDAR IND 247</td>
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<td>SCHOU DNK 250</td>
<td>CAPAYANINDIS GRC 237</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GAL HUN 242</td>
<td>AXA TEAM FRA 235</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SHIMIZU JPN 238</td>
<td>COUFTURIER FRA 224</td>
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<td>SVOBODA CZE 224</td>
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<td>FARABET FRA 220</td>
<td>BRESLAW REU 213.5</td>
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|       | WESTRA NLD 287.5 | ANGELINI ITA 285 |
|       | SPIJIK HRV 278 | KLAR USA 255 |
|       | BRAMLEY USA 251 | SOSLER USA 254 |
|       | JOFFE ZAF 248.5 | POLEYTO POL 244 |
|       | BO FRA 246.5 | LEVENDAAL NLD 242.5 |
|       | BOULE BEL 236.5 | REPS DEU 228.25 |
|       | MARSTON AUS 235.9 | BLUMENTHAL FRA 227 |
|       | DERRAFANDI FRA 228 | BOUHANNA FRA 224.5 |
|       | FAZLI PAK 228 | PARAIN FRA 224 |
|       | LEVENT TUR 212 | WALLIS AUS 220.5 |
|       | NA CHN 201 | KRETCHNER FRA 205.25 |
|       | EUING SWE 199.6 | UJING FRA 205.25 |
|       | CAWLEY LUX 182 |  |
|       | GALLAU FRA 167.5 |  |
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| D     |  |
|-------|---------|--------|
|       | WESTERHOF NLD 264 | BIRMAN ISR 262 |
|       | BURGAY USA 255 | WILDASVEY USA 256.5 |
|       | NILSSON SWE 265 | COVO FRA 246.5 |
|       | ADDA FRA 262 | FORNACIARI ITA 245.5 |
|       | MUNKSGAARD DNK 258.5 | ZOBLI TUR 222 |
|       | HOGENKAMP NLD 257.25 | BARBAROUX FRA 227 |
|       | WULFSON USA 256 | BROWNSTEIN USA 225 |
|       | TEAM PROKROM POL 245 | VANHOUTTE FRA 224.5 |
|       | DARNICHE FRA 224 | SPENCER GBR 213 |
|       | PIERER GBR 216 | LACROIX FRA 186 |
|       | SMITH USA 216 | BOURGEOIS FRA 173.5 |
|       | WEISS CHE 205 | NANNIADA JPN 156 |
|       | PROIRD FRA 198 |  |
|       | JIN CHN 196 |  |
|       | GHOSH IND 161 |  |
|       | GOLICHEF FRA 138 |  |
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<td>POLISCHER ARG 223.5</td>
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|       | ROSS USA 290 | WU |
|       | WER CHN 280 | GUNNELL USA 268 |
|       |  | GOODMAN GBR 264 |
|       |  | CONTE FRA 261 |
|       |  | DOUSOTT FRA 251 |
|       |  | HEVRI BEL 251 |
|       |  | PROTEGA SVN 243.5 |
|       |  | DE RAEMYMAKER IRL 217.5 |
|       |  | GILBOA ISR 208.5 |
|       |  | VARELA PRT 179.5 |
|       |  | PATEL IND 168 |
|       |  | BONNAUD FRA 152.5 |
|       |  | SARTEN AUS 147 |
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**Group W**

1. **MODICA** ITA 237
2. **WEI SENDER** USA 225.5
3. **VANDONI** ITA 220.5
4. **BLOQUIT** FRA 212.5
5. **VOLINA** RUS 203
6. **WEBER** DEU 202
7. **BERINGER** FRA 199.5
8. **KAPLAN** ZAF 198.5
9. **DE LAVILLE MONT** FRA 184
10. **NAKAKAWAJI** JPN 181.5
11. **TAJOWIJOYO** IDN 181.5
12. **WADDINGTON** GBR 177
13. **STEIN** USA 165.5
14. **CHORUS** NLD 147

**Group X**

1. **WOOD** USA 242
2. **BAHNIK** CZE 236
3. **BESSIS** FRA 227
4. **MORSE** USA 219
5. **BEN HASSINE** TUN 218
6. **FARHOLT** DNK 212
7. **MANSSELL** ZAF 208
8. **KITABGI** FRA 201
9. **POCOCK** CAN 193
10. **LECLERCQ** FRA 191
11. **MIRKOVIC** MNE 190
12. **SARAF** IND 186
13. **TAK TAK** MAC 185
14. **BOLLIER** FRA 134

**Group Y**

1. **LEWIS** USA 245.5
2. **FRANKEN** NLD 235
3. **SOLODAR** USA 229.5
4. **MC GOWAN** GBR 226.5
5. **AUKEN** DEU 210.75
6. **EL SHAFIE** EGY 203
7. **VARENNE** FRA 197.5
8. **ZUR-ALBU** ISR 191
9. **CHODOROWSKI** POL 188.5
10. **TAN** JPN 186.5
11. **LEGER** FRA 173
12. **ADRAIN** ZAF 170.75
13. **VINENSTOCK** AUS 150.5
14. **ZIADEH** JOR 100.5

**Group Z**

1. **ALLISON** USA 253
2. **ERHART** AUT 236
3. **TRUSSCOTT** USA 233
4. **LIU** CHN 221
5. **CIVIDIN DE SARTI** ITA 200.75
6. **LEGUILLIER** FRA 184
7. **FAYAS** FRA 182.25
8. **SPEELMAN** NLD 181
9. **GOTHE** SWE 179
10. **DEORA** IND 176
11. **BENHAMOU** FRA 174
12. **BIRR** DEU 166
13. **MARCHESSE** ARG 161.5
14. **LANGER** CHE 158

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**Standings after 2 sessions**

1. **GRZEDZIAK** I KIELUCHOWSKI U POL 125.22
2. **PROBST R** TELTSCHER M GBR 121.97
3. **PRZYJEMSKI T** ZAREBA M POL 119.65
4. **KAPLAN R** ZAF 119.25
5. **SCHWELLER M** FELMY M DEU 118.80
6. **GRANDEMANGE M** JOURDY P FRA 118.18
7. **LANGEVELD J** VUNDERINK J NLD 117.99
8. **PIASECKI J** JAGNIEWSKI R POL 117.88
9. **LIOU CHN** 117.54
10. **BARANOWSKI J** LUTOSTANSKI P POL 117.49
11. **BEHNCOCK G** MIRKOVIC NOR 117.36
12. **LECHENNE T** PELISSON S FRA 117.19
13. **KAPALA S** BURAS K POL 117.15
14. **AMBARD C** HADDAD F FRA 116.62

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**Schedule of events**

**Today**

10:00 Vivendi Rosenblum Cup (Round of 44)
10:00 Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup (Round of 32)
10:45 Lipton Ice Tea Junior Pairs (Third and fourth sessions)
11:00 Elf Senior Teams
10:45 Coralia Continuous Pairs

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**Tomorrow**

10:00 Vivendi Rosenblum Cup (Round of 32)
10:00 Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup (Round of 16)
10:45 Lipton Ice Tea Junior Indivdual (Triathlon)
11:00 Elf Senior Teams
11:00 Coralia Continuous Pairs
The team of Alan Mould, of Manchester, England, is not doing particularly well in the Rosenblum qualifying stage, but Alan has been in pretty good form himself, as these three examples illustrate. You hold:

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

What is your choice of opening lead after the following auction?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>North</th>
<th>South</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2NT</td>
<td>3♣</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3NT</td>
<td>4♣ (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4NT</td>
<td>5♣ (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) No four- or five-card major
(2) Natural
(3) Cuebid
(4) Cuebid

Alan led the ♠9 and this was the full deal:

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

Had declarer played low from dummy, Mike Alexander might have had to find a good play with the East hand. However, declarer assumed the lead to be from a collection of small cards and put in dummy's jack, hoping to confuse East as to the actual position. Now East had no reason not to play his queen, and he wasted no time in returning a club for one down. That was +13 IMPs as the result was 3NT+2 at the other table. Next you pick up:

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

How would you play?

The technical play is no doubt to win the heart in dummy and take an immediate club finesse. Alan decided, however, that he had not exposed his hand in the auction so he might do better to cash a lot of trumps before committing himself in clubs. He overtook the ♦J and cashed the rest of the suit. On the sixth round, RHO pitched a club. Alan cashed a top club and everyone followed. Next, he crossed to dummy by overtakeing the ♦K and led a club. When RHO followed small, he went up with the king and the queen duly obliged by dropping from his left. This time the swing was only 11 IMPs, the small slam being reached in the other room.

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

West led a club to the ten, jack and ace. Birdssall played three rounds of trumps, ending in the dummy, then played the ♦J to king and ace. Next he drew the last trump. A low diamond was won by the queen and West played a club to the queen and king. Back came a third club. If declarer ruffs this, he has ten tricks but cannot get at them because of the diamond blockage. Birdssall discarded a card from both hands to rectify the count for a squeeze. He ruffed the next club and, sure enough, West had to throw a diamond to keep the spade guard. Now Birdssall could throw the blocking ten of diamonds from dummy and cash two diamonds in hand for his contract.

There was no escape for the defence. Had East at any stage switched to a spade to break up the squeeze, declarer would have been able to unblock the diamonds and would still have had a trump entry to hand. Even an initial spade lead is no good as declarer cannot then be forced sufficiently often.

West NorthEastSouth

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

All Pass

When the opposition bid and raised Alan's singleton, he didn't bother with a game try. He just bid it and then tried to make it. The defence began with ace and another diamond, ruffed.

Alan led the ♦J to dummy's king then a heart to the jack and king. A second heart was won by the queen and West played a diamond, ruffed. When declarer ruffed a heart low in the dummy, the ace did not appear. Now, how were the clubs?

As East had already turned up with the ♦AQJ and ♦K, it seemed clear that both club honours would be offside. The opposition were French and were expected to be fairly sound in their overcalling style. It was also likely that West would have six diamonds. Alan decided to play West for 1-3-6-3 distribution, in which case he could take a club finesse now for an endplay without having to play another round of trumps. Sure enough, when he ran the ♦10, West was powerless. When he actually returned a club, declarer simply had to win and ruff his last heart in dummy. On a diamond return, he would have ruffed high in dummy while throwing a club from hand. Now a club to the ace and ruff the last heart with dummy's low trump would have resulted in the same ten tricks.

- West NorthEastSouth
- ♣ A K J 10 8 5
- ♥ K
- ♠ A K J 10 5

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

- Pass
- Pass
- Dble
- Pass
- Pass
- Pass
- 1♣
- Pass
- Pass
- Pass
- Pass
- Pass
- Pass
- Pass
- Pass
- All Pass

Jettison Squeeze

The final round of the Junior Teams competition featured a nice squeeze from British declarer, Gavin Birdssall. This was the deal:

- North South
- Pass
- Dble
- Pass
- Pass

West led a club to the ten, jack and ace. Birdssall played three rounds of trumps, ending in the dummy, then played the ♦J to king and ace. Next he drew the last trump. A low diamond was won by the queen and West played a club to the queen and king. Back came a third club. If declarer ruffs this, he has ten tricks but cannot get at them because of the diamond blockage. Birdssall discarded a card from both hands to rectify the count for a squeeze. He ruffed the next club and, sure enough, West had to throw a diamond to keep the spade guard. Now Birdssall could throw the blocking ten of diamonds from dummy and cash two diamonds in hand for his contract.

There was no escape for the defence. Had East at any stage switched to a spade to break up the squeeze, declarer would have been able to unblock the diamonds and would still have had a trump entry to hand. Even an initial spade lead is no good as declarer cannot then be forced sufficiently often.

Lipton Ice Tea sponsors
the Lipton Ice Tea Junior Triathlon
As I was entering the Grand Palais yesterday, Zia stopped me. 'I have a special hand for you from yesterday's round-robin. My thanks to Pietro Bernasconi for making it. If I had not gained some insight from the problems in the Par Contest, I never would have found the correct line. It was as if I was solving problem No. 13 in the contest. These were the North-South hands:

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<th>East</th>
<th>South</th>
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<td>INT</td>
<td>2♦</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>2♠</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>3♥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>4♠</td>
<td>Dble</td>
<td>All Pass”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"And this was the bidding:

West North East South

Dble Rdble INT 2♥
Pass 2♠ Pass 3♥
Pass 4♥ Dble All Pass”

Zia got a small diamond lead to the king that he ruffed. He led the 10, and West rose with the ace to fire back a second diamond, forcing him to ruff a second time. He knew East held all four of the missing trumps, and he already was down to just four. He saw that if he knocked out a heart, he would be forced to ruff again and wind up with fewer trumps than East.

He solved the problem as follows. He led the Q and overtook with the king so that he could lead another diamond, which he ruffed. He had deliberately shortened himself, but, because of the Par Contest, he was sure he was on the right track. Next he led a heart, and West, holding the king-queen, had to win. But what could West lead? A heart would set up the whole heart suit, and Zia planned to finesse the ♠ if West tried a club. And of course he could ruff a diamond in dummy now.

West finally led a heart, won with dummy’s jack.

At this point dummy still had three trumps and three clubs while Zia had the K-J-9 of trumps and A-10-9. East was down to four trumps to the queen-10 and two diamonds. Zia called for the ♣, and went East ruffed, Zia pitched a heart! What could East do? If he returned a trump, Zia would win with the 9, ruff a heart with the ace, finesse in trumps, cash the high trump and win the 10th trick with the A. If East led a diamond instead, Zia would pitch a heart, from hand and ruff in dummy. Then he would ruff a club, ruff his ♥ with the ♣, and then would have the king-jack of trumps over East’s queen-10. Making ♦ doubled for a big gain since ♦ doubled, not surprisingly, was beaten one trick at the other table.

This was the full hand:

West North East South

A 4 3 J 7 Q 5 2 K J 8 4 3

Bridge is in England

Experts say bridge computers fail on three counts. Firstly, it is a partnership game and computers partnering humans find their failings as difficult to deal with as anyone. Even two computers in partnership find that they do not always understand what the other is doing. Bridge partners are allowed to communicate only by the bids they make and the cards they play.

In chess, the entire game is visible and computers can calculate the consequences of every move. Bridge players see only their own cards and those of "the dummy". The skill is working out which player holds what cards by remembering the bids made, the cards played and when, and making informed guesses about each play. The less information there is, the more the players have to guess, which is where judgment comes in. Finally, chess always starts from the same positions but every hand of bridge begins differently.

The overall winner was the former Scottish international Michael Rosenberg, 44, who now lives in New York. Best-placed Briton, at fifth, was The Daily Telegraph Bridge columnist Tony Forrester.

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Such was the impact of this news that the paper also included the following Editorial comment:

"And this was the bidding:

West North East South

1♠

Dble Rdble INT 2♥
Pass 2♠ Pass 3♥
Pass 4♥ Dble All Pass"

A bridge too far

Bridge players round the world must reassess their bids. The computer is not yet quite good enough to beat the best, but yesterday Goren-in-a-Box, a programme named after Charles Goren, who popularised the game half a century ago, beat two-thirds of the 34 leading players in a contest to solve "fiendishly difficult" problems. Bridge requires a combination of analysis, inference and judgment and the computer did better with the first than with the other two qualities. But computers are getting smarter, and their partners are working on inference and judgment.

The skills needed for chess and bridge are similar, and both the male and female human winners in yesterday's bridge contest are highly-regarded chess players. The good news is that Deep Blue, the supercomputer that took a game off Gary Kasparov, can analyse 400 million moves, but there are more than 50 octillion (5x10^28) possible deals in bridge before a card is played. The bad news is that the bridge program was written to run on an off-the-shelf personal computer, and was good enough to beat all but 11 of the world’s best. Ordinary bridge players who fear they will be doomed forever to play Dummy to a disc should remember they can always pull the plug.

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The 40th anniversary of the birth of the World Bridge Federation was celebrated Tuesday evening at a banquet at the Lille City Hall. Many persons who have played a major part in the history of the World Bridge Federation were present.

Many of the officials who have made the WBF what it is today - persons who have served on the WBF Executive and others who have made contributions in many ways - were happy to greet each other once again. In addition, a large number of present and former world champions were on hand.

The banquet itself was very upscale, with fine entertainment and excellent food and wine.

Two speakers told of the history and achievements of the World Bridge Federation. The first was Jaime Ortiz-Patino, who was present when the WBF was formed in 1958, and who served as WBF president for 10 years starting in 1976. Patino told many of the circumstances of the founding, including information about many of the persons involved. He also gave a brief history of what has happened with the organization over the past 40 years.

The second speaker was WBF President José Damiani. The highlights of his speech follow:

Tonight we celebrate 40 years of the World Bridge Federation. This is a good time to remind ourselves why it is so important to have a vigorous and effective world organization.

Bridge is the world’s supreme social and intellectual game. It is also emphatically a participant game, by which I mean that it is a game people prefer to actually play rather than watch.

We should be proud of this, but it does have its downside. It makes it difficult for us to gain access to television, despite our efforts and, for the time being, our occasional successes. We are working on a dedicated worldwide satellite channel, possibly in different languages, using the pay-per-view system in order to overcome the huge financial disadvantage we have compared with games such as football, basketball, motor racing and so on. There are in fact hundreds of individual sporting figures who each earn more in a year than the entire annual budget of the World Bridge Federation.

Yet our membership grows in strength and we can be confident that it will continue to grow. Today we have 110 NCBOs (with another 15 potential ones) and 700,000 affiliated members. There are 1.5 million club members and 50 million bridge players throughout the world.

We also have a favourable image with the general public. Bridge players are recognized by the world at large as men and women who are socially and mentally active. These are qualities that will be increasingly valued by society as people live longer and have more leisure.

Today, however, we have to compete for public attention with a growing number of other leisure activities. To present our case, it is vital that bridge should have a vigorous and effective world organization. That is the reason why, on a long-term basis, we believe that the worldwide Bridge Teaching program in schools, which received the agreement of UNESCO, will provide a tremendous development for young people.

We can therefore be grateful for the foresight of the handful of delegates from the United States, Australia and Europe who, in 1958, founded the World Bridge Federation with Baron Robert de Nexon as president during the European Championships in Oslo.

The Baron was ideal for the purpose: president of the European Bridge League, a business leader and a charismatic figure as well. He also had vision. At first the Bermuda Bowl was the World Bridge Federation’s only trophy, but just two years later de Nexon launched the first World Team Olympiad which quickly became almost equally as prestigious.

1958 was a landmark year for two more reasons. For the first time the Bermuda Bowl contest, which hitherto had been a match between the United States and Europe, was joined by another continent, South America. Other zones soon followed and today we have complete world coverage.

In 1958, too, for the first time, the Bermuda Bowl was presented on Bridge-O-Rama, as it was then called. This was thanks to the initiative of the Federazione Italiana de Bridge, who in that year staged the Bermuda Bowl at Como. Later on we developed this technology to achieve the nearly perfect Bridge Vision that we have today.

It is easy to forget that in 1958 contract bridge was still a comparatively young game. The WBF’s founding delegates rightly believed that in order for it to flourish it must be governed by the same rules and ethics worldwide, and must hold prestigious annual championships to win public recognition and attract the best players from every country. These are still the two most important functions of the World Bridge Federation, although a number of other necessary activities have also been added.

The staging of the annual world championships has attracted many talented and selfless persons, and one man has played a starring role.

Jaime Ortiz-Patino became our president in 1976 and served for ten productive years. He is a man of quite exceptional determination, vision and drive. Jimmy took office at a time when our world championships badly needed a strong hand to ensure that they would remain above suspicion. Jimmy met the challenge head on, overcoming fierce opposition to the introduction of table screens, revising our statutes, and setting up new championship events that have proved highly successful.

Jimmy stepped down in 1986 and has since been our President Emeritus. He has also created in Spain a most wonderful golf course, one of the best in the world, demonstrating that his powers and urge to achieve remain undiminished.

Other presidents have also made great contributions, notably Julius Rosenblum of New Orleans, who was Jimmy’s predecessor. Julius realized that the World Bridge Federation needed an official medium of communication and, although in those days money was short, he launched ‘World Bridge News’, at first a weekly, but later a monthly, journal.

Other presidents have who have contributed include: Denis Howard, my great friend Ernesto d’Orsi who has organized so many championships, and Bobby Wolff who really made a great improvement in the appeals process.

A strong feature of most bridge organizations is that, unlike most other games, senior officials are often expert players also. The WBF is no exception. Most of our presidents, and many members of the Executive Council,
have been serious competitors at the world level at some time in their careers. This is one of the factors that has helped the WBF to win the confidence of its membership.

Bridge players tend to be more than usually computer-literate. Quite a number of you here tonight work in the higher echelons of computer technology and are full of ideas about how organized bridge can make use of this technology to overcome learning barriers as well as barriers of time and distance.

It is clear that our Worldwide Bridge Contest, which started with Epson and entered into the Guinness Book of Records, is a perfect example of the way bridge can be of benefit to telecommunications, in particular Internet, and to Bridge for Peace. People all over the world can play at the same time, without distinction of age, sex, race or religion.

And finally, thanks to you, the champions, we hope that we will meet the IOC requirements to get into the Olympic Games.

Next month we are going to have the first IOC Grand Prix in Lausanne, in the Olympic Museum, in the presence of Mr. Juan-Antonio Samaranch, president of the IOC.

This is clearly a great achievement for our policy and our strategy that should contribute to changing definitively our image with the public and in the media. This explains why to changing definitively our image with the policy and our strategy that should contribute to changing definitively our image with the public and in the media. This explains why

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It must have been tempting for West to come into the auction. They certainly had a lot of values, especially in the minors, and someone had to be very short in spades. He tried Blackwood to try to preempt any such intervention and quickly signed-off in 5♥ when Mark Chawner denied an ace. East/West found their heart ruff for down one; -50.

However, no matter - E/W now went -550 on 3♠, and the players had time to complete a couple of boards before he returned with a ruling.

The ruling was that West had not been alerted to the fact that South’s pass showed the weak type. Common sense said it did, but the myriad of variations played over multi-meaning bids places the onus on the user. So West decided not to go -350 in 3♣, and the bidding proceeded as follows:

**West North East South**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Meyer</th>
<th>Maybach</th>
<th>Corn</th>
<th>Schwenkreis</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>2♣</td>
<td>3♣</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass (4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>4NT</td>
<td>All Pass</td>
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**E/W Vul. Dealer South.**

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<th>♥ K 102</th>
<th>♥ 9</th>
<th>♥ 8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♥ A Q 10 65</td>
<td>♥ A 103</td>
<td>♥ J 972</td>
<td>♥ 963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♥ A 6 5 4 3</td>
<td>♥ Q 10 8 7 6</td>
<td>♥ –</td>
<td>♥ 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Howard Spencer thought that if he simply raised himself to 4♠ East/West would then come into the auction. They certainly had a lot of values, especially in the minors, and someone had to be very short in spades. He tried Blackwood to try to preempt any such intervention and quickly signed-off in 5♠ when Mark Chawner denied an ace. East/West found their heart ruff for down one; -50.

**Closed Room**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Chambers</th>
<th>Gobert</th>
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<tr>
<td>2♣</td>
<td>2♣</td>
<td>4♠</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4NT</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>5♦</td>
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Here Chris Chambers found the overcall which had been mysteriously lacking in the other room. Jim Gobert made a fit-showing jump of 4♠ and Chambers decided that he should use Blackwood. On discovering that there were two key cards missing, he settled for game. 5♦ was a comfortable make despite the 4-0 trump split; +600 and 11 IMPs to the SPENCER team.

### C'est la Vie!

This must be a strong candidate for the most amusing story of the Vivendi Rosenblum Teams. It happened when a powerful French team, Reiplinger (E/W), was opposed by one from Germany Engel, (N/S).

**Game All. Dealer South.**

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<th>♥ 10 9 8 6 3</th>
<th>♥ 10 7</th>
<th>♥ 9 5 4</th>
<th>♥ Q 4</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♥ A Q J 7 2</td>
<td>♥ K Q 9 5 3</td>
<td>♥ A Q</td>
<td>♥ –</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♥ 4</td>
<td>♥ 6</td>
<td>♥ K J 10 8 6 2</td>
<td>♥ K 9 8 5 2</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**West North East South**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Chawner</th>
<th>Spencer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>2♣</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Pass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Perhaps South’s unhappiness with the ruling persuaded him to get back into the auction. However, no matter - E/W now went -550 on a heart lead and the eventual cashing of the ♥A.

It must have been tempting for West to recall the director and ask if he could change his mind! Instead, with a shrug of his shoulders, he supplied the headline for this story.
Three-quarters of the way through the round-robin stage, Gabriel Chagas’ Brazilian team led Group E and just needed a series of solid results to be sure to qualify. Louis Gauthey’s French team, however, lay sixth, well in touch but in need of some good wins to make the top four.


West North East South
Campos Audebert Villabois Pham van Gang

2♥ Pass 4♥ Dble
All Pass

Christian Pham van Gang doubled primarily for takeout, but Pierre Audebert decided to let the double stand since he had two aces and no really good suit. Campos lost the obvious five tricks - two clubs and one in each of the other suits - so GAUTHEY was plus 500. But the bidding took a completely different turn at the other table.

West North East South
Metz Chagas Gauthey Branco

Pass Pass Pass 1NT

Gauthey decided his club holding was good enough to make defence a reasonable gamble, but it didn’t work out that way. West led the ♣ and continued the suit, Branco ruffing. He led the ♠, losing to West’s jack, then ruffing another diamond. He knocked out the ♥, and when a spade came back he let it ride to dummy’s 10. Now he had the rest of the tricks to make two overtricks - plus 580, a 12-IMP pickup.

The ♥ held the first trick, and South switched to his singleton diamond. That picked up the trump queen, and Villabois gave up a second spade. Villabois ruffed the club return, ruffed a spade and gave up a heart. Another club came back which he ruffed, and he cashed the ♦A. The ♦K came next, followed by the ♦J. He ruffed another club and then ruffing a heart to make nine tricks - plus 110.
His 4♣ was doubled, but he escaped for down one - minus 200. North led the ♠A and switched to a heart to partner’s ace. A heart return put North back on lead, and he led a spade. Campos went up with the ace and got rid of his losing spade on the ♦Q. As a result Campos managed nine tricks.

At the other table Branco was allowed to play in 3NT, and he managed 10 tricks for a 6-IMP gain.

Both teams got to a bad slam on the last deal, but one declarer came close to making it.

**Board 20. All Vul. Dealer West.**

- 1♠ Pass 1♦ Pass
- 1♥ Pass 4♠ (1) Pass
- 4♦ Pass 4♠ Pass
- 4NT Pass 5NT Pass
- 6♥ All Pass

(1) Splinter.

Campos won the diamond opening lead with the ace and cashed the trump ace, dropping the queen. Of course he shifted to a heart for overruffed and Branco in turn overruffed with good club, but Chagas ruffed with the 8. Metz also got a diamond lead, winning the trick. This was followed by his four king. Then he cashed two more diamonds, pitching a heart. This was followed by his four trump ace, dropping one and a push.

The Egyptian players are Hani Dagher & R.Alostaz.

**One Trick - Just Made!**

by Micke Melander

Here is a funny deal from the Vivendi Rosenblum Cup. The Swedish team Petrax with its captain PG Eliasson was playing against a Swiss team. The Swiss South opened an 11-14 1NT, PG doubled in the West seat and everyone passed.

**Love All. Dealer South.**

- ♠ J4
- ♥ 10 8 5 2
- ♦ A 8 4
- ♣ 9 7 5 2
- ♠ A10 9 10 7 6 4
- ♥ K 7 6 3
- ♦ J 10 6 3
- ♣ K 6 4

Eliasson, a simple man, decided to lead his longest and strongest - the ♦7. Declarer covered with the 8 and the trick was completed by the 9 and ace. Who would want to play this deal doubled with that start?

Declarer, who thought it best to try to get as many tricks as possible before the defence took too many, tried running the ♦J. That lost to Bjorn Wenneberg’s king. Wenneberg now had a long think and finally decided to return the ♦Q. That was the first good thing to happen for declarer. Alas! He covered with the king! PG won with his ace and led a low heart to Wenneberg’s jack.

Once again he had a long think, trying to work out what was happening. Finally he decided to play a low spade, another good thing for declarer. Alas for the second time!

Declarer, who thought it best to try to get as many tricks as possible before the defence took too many, tried running the ♦J. That lost to Bjorn Wenneberg’s king. Wenneberg now had a long think and finally decided to return the ♦Q. That was the first good thing to happen for declarer. Alas! He covered with the king! PG won with his ace and led a low heart to Wenneberg’s jack.

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The Par Contest - Problem 2

E/W Vul. Dealer North.

North
♦ A J 10 9
♥ Q 10 9 4 3
♦ A
♣ 6 5 4

South
♦ K 5 2
♥ 7 2
♦ 8 6 4
♣ A K 8 7 3

West North East South
1NT Pass 2♣ Pass 3♠ Pass 4♠ 6♣ All Pass

W E

West leads ♦J.
The final contract is overly optimistic, to say the least, but let's try to win it anyway. To succeed with the slam, a set of conditions bordering on a miracle has to be fulfilled.
The first condition is obviously to find trumps three-two.
The second condition is to make four tricks in the spade suit by finessing the queen the right way. That gives us eight tricks in the black suits, plus two red aces and a diamond ruff for a total of eleven. Where can the twelfth trick come from?

a) A second diamond ruff.
That will not work because of entry problems. Declarer can come to hand once with the king of spades and once with a high trump but will not be able to get off dummy after ruffing the last diamond. Here is the position (after having made the right guess on the queen of spades):

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

North to lead.
No East/West holding will allow declarer to win.

b) establish the heart suit after discarding the losing heart on dummy's fourth spade.

Now we are on the right track but serious entry problems again get in the way.

Three entries are needed: two to ruff out the hearts in order to set up the suit and a third to go back and cash the master heart, but only two are available: the ace of hearts and a diamond ruff.

It is therefore necessary to visualise a combination where an opponent will solve declarer’s entry problem by having to lead to the master heart himself. For that to happen, West must hold two blank honours in hearts (third condition).

Thus, the ace and the first heart ruff collect West's two honours; later declarer picks up East’s honour by pushing dummy’s ten through for a ruffing finesse, setting up the nine and leaving East with a small heart.

The only thing left to do is to strip East of all his other cards and to throw him in with the third trump and thus force him to put dummy in with his remaining small heart. Therefore, the fourth condition is that the three trumps must be held by East.

Finally, East must also hold four spades (fifth condition), otherwise he could ruff the fourth spade and exit with a diamond. In other words, East's initial distribution must be 4-4-2-3.

One final question remains: where should declarer look for the queen of spades? Obviously, probabilities strongly favour it being in the hand with four spades, in other words, he should finesse the queen through East. East’s hand has to be:

♠ Q x x x
♥ H x x x
♦ x x x
♣ x x x

All the above considerations lead to the only successful line of play.

Solution
At trick two, declarer leads the ♦J from dummy and lets it ride, then follows with the ten and lets it ride as well. Two rounds of trumps are drawn, the king of spades is unblocked and dummy re-entered with the ace of hearts. The ace of spades is cashed, south throwing his losing heart, a small heart is ruffed to reach the following four-card ending:

♣ –
♥ 10 9 4
♦ –
♠ 6

W E N S

A diamond is ruffed in dummy, the ten of hearts is led, covered by East and ruffed by South. Now declarer leads out his last trump to throw in his RHO, who has to concede the last trick to dummy’s nine of hearts. The full deal:

♠ 10 9 4
♥ A
♦ 6 5 4
♣ A K 8 7 3

The Par Contest - Problem 2

I was watching the match between the star-studded Walvick team (second in the Bermuda Bowl last year) and a modest team from my own country. The defence started with a small heart. Bob Hamman won in hand and played a club to the queen. East won and returned the ♦9... jack, ace, and West returned a second spade. East went up with the queen, but Hamman ducked. Hamman took the spade continuation and cashed the ♦K. Now he was at the crossroads. Would clubs be kind enough to break? Or was it a case of establishing diamond tricks while hoping that the last spade and the ♦A were not in the same hand.

Hamman had a long think and finally decided that clubs weren’t breaking. He played a diamond - 3NT just made.

But there was a nice defence of ducking the ♦A when the defence led the ♦9. Would Meckwell find it? I was desperate to find out, but kibitzing in the Closed Room is not allowed. After the match was over, I ran to my friends in the Closed Room and found that Jeff Meckstroth actually did duck to defeat the contract. I just missed watching this fine defence at the table...

Nice defence missed
by Murat Molva, Turkey

A nice defence was missed – not by the defenders, but by this reporter.


1NT Pass 2♣ Pass 2♦ Pass 3NT All Pass

West North East South

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

Vivendi sponsors the Vivendi Rosenblum Cup
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In Europe, Société Générale aims to offer a full range of services in the commercial banking, investment banking and capital markets sectors.

In the United States, Société Générale significantly strengthened its investment banking capability in targeted high-potential niches, in particular through the early 1998 acquisition of Cowen & Co, complementing commercial banking services.

In Asia, especially Japan, Société Générale's capital markets and investment banking businesses have expanded rapidly. The recent deregulation of the financial services industry has also created opportunities to extend the influence of Société Générale’s brokerage business, which has been Japan's leading European equities dealer for many years now.

In Southeast Asia, where all the business lines are now represented, the capital markets business achieved a breakthrough in the equities, interest rate and currency derivatives markets through positions taken to meet customers' hedging needs. Société Générale’s local investment banking capability - built around SG Asia and SG Crosby which is now wholly-owned - was significantly enhanced during 1997.

■ Americas Region
Regional Chief Executive :
Jean Huet
2,800 staff,
obinies in 27 cities.

■ Europe Region
Regional Chief Executive :
Jean-Pierre Lesage
3,900 staff,
obinies in 61 cities.
The Europe regional division covers Western and Eastern Europe, some African countries, the Near and Middle East and Central Asia.

■ Asia / Australasia Region
Regional Chief Executive :
Gilbert Pla
2,700 staff,
obinies in 31 cities.

A NEW BANNER FOR INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

From the beginning of April 1998, all of Société Générale's international operations are doing business under the SG brand.
Right Move - Wrong Table!

This deal from the Vivendi Rosenblum Teams Championship gave two defenders the chance to shine. Unfortunately the one who really needed to be on the ball missed his opportunity.

Love All. Dealer North.

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<td>A K</td>
<td>K 9 8</td>
<td>K 10 9 8 7 2</td>
<td>A 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q 10 8 5 2</td>
<td>J 7 3</td>
<td>W E</td>
<td>S K 8 6 2</td>
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<td>3 2</td>
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<td>6 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>J 10 9 7 4</td>
<td>9 6 4</td>
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West North East South

Dhondy Pass 1 Pagan
Pass 2 Pass Pass 4
Pass 3 Pass
All Pass

A strong club auction saw South arrive in 4♦. A club lead would have given declarer no chance but West not unnaturally selected his singleton diamond. Declarer put up the king and East won with the ace and continued with the jack. The spotlight was on West, but he missed his chance for glory when he failed to ruff and switch to a club. The contract would have been a sequel.

In the other room North-South came to rest in 3♦. The opening lead was the same, but declarer put on the jack. He now returned his small diamond singleton diamond. Declarer put up the king and East won with the ace and continued with the jack. Declarer was now faced with the problem of how to avoid the loss of two trump tricks.

He won the heart with dummy's king and ran the queen. West took the trick with the ten and exited with a heart. Reasoning that East, having overcalled on a four-card suit, was more likely to be 2-3-4-4, declarer advanced the ♦Q from hand. This collected the trump suit for no further loser and +110.

In the other room North came to rest in 1NT, a contract that failed by one trick when declarer tackled the spade suit by playing low to the queen. So the 'Welsh Chagas' earned 4IMPs for his team.

Intra Finesse discovered in Wales!

Patrick Jourdain is one of those people who can be found at every major championship. He is usually a member of the Bulletin staff, but here he is appearing in the role of a player. His squad had an excellent first day, winning all five matches, including a victory over the No.1 seed in their group.

It will be a change for Patrick to find himself featured in the Bulletin as the perpetrator of a fine play rather than as a reporter of one!

E/W Vul. Dealer West.

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<td>A 6 3</td>
<td>K 4 2</td>
<td>J 2</td>
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<td>7 3</td>
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<td>Q J K Q J 9</td>
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West North East South

Pass 1 1 1
2 2
All Pass

W E S

Pass 1 1 1
2 2
All Pass

West opened the defence by underleading his ♠A. East won with the jack and returned the ♦J to partner’s ace. Thinking East had overcalled on a five-card suit and worried that declarer might be about to discard a loser on the third round of clubs, West switched to the ♦9. East took the ace and cashed the ♦K before returning the ♦8. Declarer was now faced with the problem of how to avoid the loss of two trump tricks.

He won the heart with dummy’s king and ran the ♦Q. West took the trick with the ten and exited with a heart. Reasoning that East, having overcalled on a four-card suit, was more likely to be 2-3-4-4, declarer advanced the ♦Q from hand. This collected the trump suit for no further loser and +110.

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In passing it occurs to us that if East makes the strange looking play of the ♦J on the first round of the suit declarer may go wrong, playing him for ♦J10. Not perhaps as difficult as it looks when you know your only hope of further tricks lies in the trump suit.

It Might Have Been Worse

by Alan Truscott

Many years ago there was a player who on being told of some disaster invariably said: “It might have been worse”. Let’s call him Mr. Worse.

His friends got tired of this and finally cooked up a story that would prevent him from making his standard comment. When he arrived at the club he was told the following.

“How can it be worse? They’re all dead.”

“If he’d come on Monday he’d have found me.”

Since Jones and Smith were still alive there may have been a sequel. All this leads to the following lead problem from the last session of the Mixed Pairs:

E/W Vul. Dealer North.

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<tr>
<td>A Q 9 3 2</td>
<td>J 7</td>
<td>Q J 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q J 8 5 3</td>
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</table>

West North East South

Pass 1 1 1
2 2
All Pass

W E S

Pass 1 1 1
2 2
All Pass

W E S

Pass 1 1 1
2 2
All Pass

West opened with an atypical weak two-bid and pushed the opponents to seven clubs, missing a cashing ace. Unfortunately Barbara Kasle as East was looking at two aces. Not unnaturally, she assumed that the opponents had a void in hearts. She led the diamond ace, and South ruffed and made all 13 tricks.

“Jones went home and found Smith with his wife. He shot Smith, he shot his wife and he shot himself.”

“Well it might have been worse.”

“How can it be worse? We’re all dead.”

“If he’d come on Monday he’d have found me.”

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