DAILY BULLETIN

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BULLETIN 4

FRIDAY, 13 AUGUST 1999

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USA 2 rockets to second

Italy widened its lead over the field yesterday, but the big news was the stellar performance of **USA 2**. The Americans earned 73 of a possible 75 Victory Points with a blitz against **Hong Kong** and 24-6 victories over **Canada 2** and **Argentina**. As a result the Americans skyrocketed from tenth to second place, 13 VPs behind Italy.

The Italians suffered a major loss to **Canada I** in their first match of the day, but they came back with victories over **Canada 2** and **Chinese Taipei**. **Denmark** actually closed to within I VP of **Italy** after the first match, but the Danes just barely edged **Norway**, 16-14, and lost a blitz to **Australia**, 25-5.

The other big performance of the day was turned in by Israel, I Ith at the start of the day but now fourth, only I VP behind **Denmark**. Israel defeated **Australia**, **Brazil** and **Canada I**, scoring 67 out of a possible 75 VPS.

President Clinton salutes Juniors

We have just received a letter from United States President Bill Clinton in which he salutes the competitors and praises their skills. The letter appears in full, along with a photo of the President, on the back page.

Today's Program

Round-Robin (session 9)	10.30-13.20
Round-Robin (session 10)	15.00-17.50
Round-Robin (session 11)	21.00-23.50





VUGRAPH MATCHES

Chinese Taipei - Brazil 10.30 Australia - USA 2 15.00 Italy - Israel 21.00



RESULTS



ROUND ROBIN SESSION 6

	Match			IPs	VI	Ps
I	NORWAY	USA I	31	46	12	18
2	USA 2	CANADA 2	66	24	24	6
3	ISRAEL	BRAZIL	48	20	21	9
4	CANADA I	ITALY	49	8	23	7
5	ARGENTINA	DENMARK	27	75	5	25
6	CAC	HONG KONG	26	61	8	22
7	EGYPT	AUSTRALIA	48	61	12	18
8	CHINA	CHINESE TAIPEI	38	37	15	15

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 7

	Match			1Ps	VI	Ps
I	BRAZIL	USA I	46	80	8	22
2	CANADA 2	ITALY	33	77	6	24
3	NORWAY	DENMARK	61	66	14	16
4	USA 2	HONG KONG	101	37	25	3
5	ISRAEL	AUSTRALIA	81	51	21	9
6	CANADA I	CHINESE TAIPEI	46	81	8	22
7	ARGENTINA	CHINA	73	35	23	7
8	CAC	EGYPT	77	68	17	13

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 8

	Match			IPs	VI	Ps
- 1	USA I	HONG KONG	77	60	19	П
2	DENMARK	AUSTRALIA	33	81	5	25
3	ITALY	CHINESE TAIPEI	59	41	19	П
4	BRAZIL	CHINA	61	42	19	П
5	CANADA 2	EGYPT	55	69	13	17
6	NORWAY	CAC	49	22	21	9
7	USA 2	ARGENTINA	59	16	24	6
8	ISRAEL	CANADA I	87	24	25	3



TODAY'S PROGRAM

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 9

ı	CANADA I	USA I
2	ARGENTINA	ISRAEL
3	CAC	USA 2
4	EGYPT	NORWAY
5	CHINA	CANADA 2
6	CHINESE TAIPEI	BRAZIL
7	AUSTRALIA	ITALY
8	HONG KONG	DENMARK

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 10

	CAC	LICAL
ı	CAC	USA I
2	EGYPT	ARGENTINA
3	CHINA	CANADA I
4	CHINESE TAIPEI	ISRAEL
5	AUSTRALIA	USA 2
6	HONG KONG	NORWAY
7	DENMARK	CANADA 2
8	ΙΤΔΙΥ	BR A 7 II

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 11

CHINA	USA I
CHINESE TAIPEI	EGYPT
AUSTRALIA	CAC
HONG KONG	ARGENTINA
DENMARK	CANADA I
ITALY	ISRAEL
BRAZIL	USA 2
CANADA 2	NORWAY
	AUSTRALIA HONG KONG DENMARK ITALY BRAZIL



Thank you, Bridge Base

Thanks to Fred Gitelman of Bridge Base, Inc. in Toronto for the software used to present the shows in the vugraph theater. This is a new version of the program that

has several new features that have been entertaining the audience.

Fred is also the author of Learn To Play Bridge, a program that teaches anyone how to play our game. The program is available for a free download from the ACBL web site at http://www.acbl.org

Watch for an upcoming issue of Newsweek magazine featuring one of Fred's partners on the Microsoft Internet Gaming Zone (which Fred helped to develop). This special partner is none other than Bill Gates, head of Microsoft. Fred was interviewed for the article.

RANKING AFTER SESSION 8

	Country	VPs
- 1	ITALY	158
2	USA 2	145
3	DENMARK	135
4	ISRAEL	134
5	CHINESE TAIPEI	127
6	CHINA	126.5
7	AUSTRALIA	125.5
8	NORWAY	123
9	HONG KONG	117.5
10	BRAZIL	112
11	ARGENTINA	Ш
12	EGYPT	104
13	USA I	103
14	CANADA I	94
15	CAC	93.5
16	CANADA 2	90

TOMORROW'S PROGRAM

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 12

ı	USA I	ISRAEL
2	CANADA I	USA 2
3	ARGENTINA	NORWAY
4	CAC	CANADA 2
5	EGYPT	BRAZIL
6	CHINA	ITALY
7	CHN TAIPEI	DENMARK
8	AUSTRALIA	HONG KONG

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 13

ı	DENMARK	USA I
2	ITALY	HONG KONG
3	BRAZIL	AUSTRALIA
4	CANADA 2	CHN TAIPEI
5	NORWAY	CHINA
6	USA 2	EGYPT
7	ISRAEL	CAC
8	CANADA I	ARGENTINA

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 14

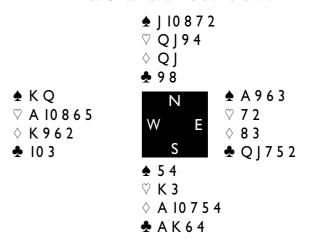
1	AUSTRALIA	USA I
2	HONG KONG	CHN TAIPEI
3	DENMARK	CHINA
4	ITALY	EGYPT
5	BRAZIL	CAC
6	CANADA 2	ARGENTINA
7	NORWAY	CANADA I
8	USA 2	ISRAEL

Two big swings

by Barry Rigal

Right at the end of the Round 4 match against Brazil, the Norwegians picked up two big swings. What would you bid with the West hand on Board 17 after 2 \diamondsuit (both majors 0-10), Pass, Pass?

Board 17. Dealer North. None vul.



Pedro Ceglia of Brazil tried 2NT and went for 800 in 3NT doubled on the minority of high card points (19).

Then came a slam which needed Q 10 9 8 5 2 facing A 6 3 to play for no losers. It did not produce the required miracle. The 13 IMPs left Norway 24-6 winners.

Meet Harley Bress

If you want to know which way the winds are blowing at ACBL headquarters - and here as well - just ask Harley Bress. Harley, who is assistant to Hospitality Chairman Charlotte Blaiss here, majored in meteorology at college.

Harley arrived at the ACBL office in a strange way. A native of Pittsburgh, he got his bachelor's degree from Cornell and then moved on to graduate studies at the University of North Carolina.

While all this was going on, Harley got interested in bridge. He went to the Junior Camp at Marco Island where he volunteered to help Charlotte with her organizational work. Last year he asked if he could be of help at the camp in Wisconsin, and his offer was eagerly accepted. However, something came up at the last moment and he was unable to go.

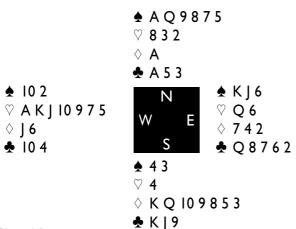
But when he called Charlotte to tell her he couldn't come, he asked if he could be considered if there ever was a job opening at ACBL - his interest in bridge was that strong. Not too long after that, one of the Education Department employees resigned, and Charlotte called Harley. As of November 1, 1998, Harley joined the ACBL Memphis staff as assistant to Charlotte on Junior bridge. His future looks clear and sunny.

Round 5

BRAZIL vs CANADA I

Brazil got off to a fast start by making a diamond game at one table and defeating a spade game at the other.

Board I. Dealer North. None vul.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brenner	Grainger	Pacheco	Nadler
	I♠	Pass	INT
3♡	3♠	DЫ	4♠
All Pass			

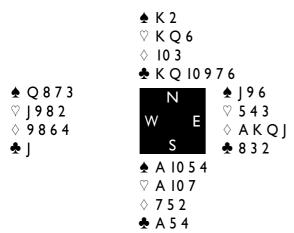
With both spade honors offside, David Grainger had to lose two spades and a heart off the top. He cashed the trump ace and ruffed one of his heart losers. Then he unblocked diamonds and used the \clubsuit K as an entry. But after pitching a heart on a good diamond, he saw West ruff the next diamond. He overruffed but had to lose a club for down one. If he had finessed in clubs, he would have made his game.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zeidenberg	P. Barros	Wolpert	J. Barros
	I♠	Pass	2◊
3♡	DЫ	Pass	4◊
Pass	5◊	All Pass	

Ben Zeidenberg started with the \heartsuit K, then switched to a club, ending all of Jose Barros' problems. It didn't matter, of course - the club finesse was always going to work. Brazil earned 10 IMPs. A double severely backfired on Board 2 in the Open Room.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S vul.



Grainger and Michael Nadler climbed to $5\clubsuit$ and scored it up easily. But this was the auction in the Open Room.

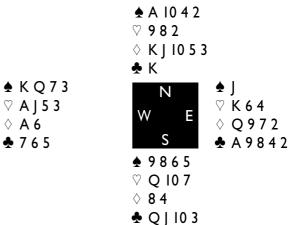
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wolpert	J. Barros	Zeidenberg	P. Barros
		Pass	♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	DЫ	All Pass

Zeidenberg of course had four sure diamond tricks - but he wasn't on lead. Wolpert guessed to lead a heart, and Paolo Barros quickly ran his 11 top tricks for plus 1150 and a 11-IMP gain. After two boards, Brazil led, 21-0.

(Note: This board was turned 180 degrees in the Open Room, which is why the order of names is different from the order listed in the rest of this article.)

Board 4. Dealer West. Both vul.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brenner	Grainger	Pacheco	Nadler
I♣	I	2♦	Pass (1)
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾ No ace or king of diamonds.

Grainger led the $\lozenge J$ to the ace, and Laila Brenner led a spade to the jack. A heart finesse worked, and she drove out the $\clubsuit A$. The $\clubsuit K$ was allowed to hold, and North was forced to shift, choosing to play a heart. Brenner cashed her hearts and the $\spadesuit Q$. When she then led a diamond, North could win and cash a spade, but had to lead a diamond to give Brenner her game-going tricks with the $\lozenge Q$ and the $\clubsuit A$.

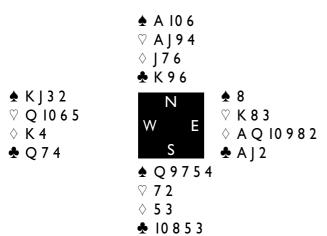
Hospitality gift bags

Every Junior competitor was given a hospitality gift bag upon arrival, compliments of the Friends of Bridge USA. Jayne Thomas was instrumental in collecting funds to cover the costs of the late-night snacks, orange juice, apples and candy, as well as the gift bags. Each gift bag contained a beanie baby, a cap, sunglasses, a pen, suntan lotion and a beach towel.

At the other table the auction was the same through 3♣, but Zeidenberg passed and Canada had to settle for plus 110 and a 10-IMP loss.

The situation was reversed on the next board, with Canada I bidding and making a game while Brazil settled in a partscore.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zeidenberg	P. Barros	Wolpert	J. Barros
	♣	I♦	Pass
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

With the diamonds running and with an extra trick coming from the heart opening lead, Zeidenberg chalked up plus 630.

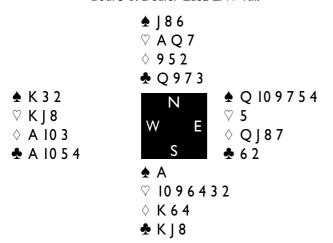
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brenner	Grainger	Pacheco	Nadler
	♣	I♦	Pass
IŸ	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♡	All Pass

Brenner certainly felt she had done all she could with her 2NT bid. Bruno Pacheco, not happy about his singleton spade, tried to steer the contract into a suit, but his diamond suit should have given him more confidence. The contract was made but Brazil lost the 10 IMPs it had gained on the previous board.

There was quite a disagreement on valuation on the next deal.

Board 6. Dealer East, E/W vul.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brenner	Grainger	Pacheco	Nadler
		2♠	Dbl
4♠	DЫ	All Pass	

With good controls and fine spade support, Brenner leaped directly to game. Grainger, looking at some defensive values, decided to go for the maximum and doubled. After winning the opening heart lead with the queen, Grainger led a club to dummy's ace. Pacheco crossed to his hand with a heart ruff and led a trump, forcing the ace from South. The Canadians pumped declarer at every opportunity, but Pacheco lost only a heart, a club and a trump - plus 790.

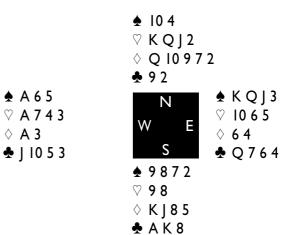
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zeidenberg	P. Barros	Wolpert	J. Barros
		Pass	IQ
INT	DЫ	Redbl (1)	Pass
2♣	DЫ	2♦	Pass
Pass	2♡	2♠	All Pass

(1) Relay to clubs.

The Canadians found the right strain but the wrong level. They actually took 11 tricks, but that still was a loss of 11 IMPs. Grainger made an excellent discard on Board 10, but it went for naught when his partner failed to cooperate.

Board 10. Dealer East. Both vul.



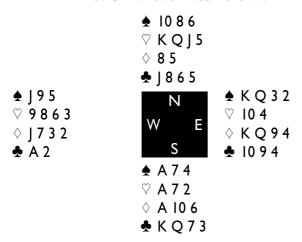
Brenner declared the hand in INT and Grainger started with the \heartsuit K. He switched to a diamond that went to the king and ace. Brenner cashed her four spade tricks and led a club. Michael Nadler rose with the king and fired back a heart. Brenner took her ace and led another club. At this point Grainger was down to the good \heartsuit Q and the Q-10-9-7 of diamonds. To make sure his partner wouldn't lead a heart - if he had one - Grainger pitched his good heart. He didn't want to win a heart return and be forced to give up a diamond to declarer if she had the jack.

Nadler won his ♣A and led a diamond. Grainger won the 9 and cashed the queen - but Nadler failed to unblock. So Nadler had to win the next diamond and give Brenner a club trick for her seventh trick and plus 90.

At the other table, Canada played in I &, making with an over-trick

Not too unnaturally, Canada stopped in INT on Board 14.

Board 14. Dealer East. None vul.



Nadler opened INT in the Closed Room, and Grainger of course passed. After a heart opening lead, Nadler collected nine tricks. But the auction took an altogether different turn in the Open Room.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zeidenberg	P. Barros	Wolpert	J. Barros
		Pass	INT
Pass	2♣ (¹)	Pass	2♦ (2)
Pass	2 ♠ ⁽³⁾	Pass	3♣ (4)
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

- (I) Puppet Stayman.
- (2) No five-card major.
- (3) "I have four hearts."
- (4) "I have a maximum with support."

Once again the opening lead was a heart, giving Jose Barros time to set up clubs before the defense could go after either diamonds or spades. Even a diamond or spade lead would not beat the contract because only a club plus three spades or three diamonds are available to the defense with both suits splitting evenly. 6 IMPs to Brazil.

The last six boards generated very little action, so Brazil wound up with a strong 21-9 victory.

Senior confrontation during Junior tournament

A special match between European Seniors and American Seniors will be staged today during the second match of the Junior championship (3 to 5:30 p.m.) The Seniors will play the same hands being played by the Juniors in their 10th-round matches.

The captain of the European team is Gianarrigo Rona, president of the European Bridge League. Joan Gerard, WBF vice president and chairman of the Appeals Committee here, is captain of the American team.

The confrontation will take place in the playing room.

Bulletins and hand records

Extra Daily Bulletins and hand records are available in the Press Room on the third floor.

Pauvre Thibaut

by Grand Danois

Here's a lead problem from Round 5 Wednesday evening. Your hand as West:

♠ K J 3	♡964		♣ A 9 4
West	North	East	South I♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♡
Pass	3 ♡ (I)	Pass	4♡
Pass All Pass	5♦ (2)	Pass	6♡

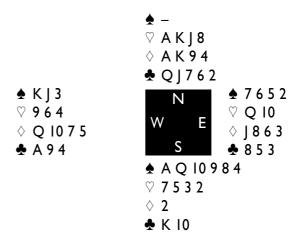
- (1) Game force.
- (2) Cuebid.

Your lead?

Poor Thibaut! In the match against Denmark Thibaut de Tessieres, CAC, tried to find the most passive lead and in fact found the worst one: a low heart.

This was the whole hand:

Board 7. Dealer South. Both vul.



After the heart lead it took declarer, Kasper Konow, only a few seconds to decide how to handle the trump suit. I2 tricks. Against Chinese Taipei, Alan Epley and Lisa Kow from USA I were the only other pair to reach $6\heartsuit$:

West	North	East	South ♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♡
Pass	4NT (1)	Pass	5♣ ⁽²⁾
Pass	5♦ (3)	Pass	6♣ ⁽⁴⁾
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

- ⁽¹⁾ 1430.
- (2) I or 4 aces.
- (3) Queen of hearts?
- $^{(4)}$ YES and the King of clubs.

Like Kasper, Alan received a heart lead, but unfortunately not until trick 2. West cashed the A before playing a low heart, and Alan didn't have the same clue as Kasper. One down.

Two more pairs bid slam, but... In the match between Norway and USA 2 Brogeland and Saur ended up in 6♠, and against Hong Kong the Egyptians Shams and Hisham tried 6NT — both in vain.



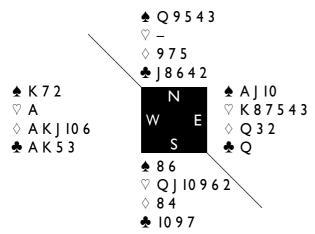
Tournament Appeals 1 & 2



Appeal #1

Round 2: Canada I vs. Egypt

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W vul.



West	North	East	South
Heshmat	Zeidenberg	El Dessouki	Wolpert
			2♦
Dbl	Redbl	Pass	2♡
Dbl	2♠	4♡	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♡	Pass
6◊	All Pass		

Facts: The redouble by North was explained as a relay to 2° on the North/East side of the screen. The redouble was explained as "bid your suit" on the South/West side of the screen. The North/South agreement was "bid your suit."

Director's Decision: The director determined that there was a mistaken explanation (Law 75) and misinformation (Law 21). The director determined that there was a reasonable possibility that East/West were damaged (Laws 40 and 84 E). West knew that South's suit was hearts while East was unsure and the meanings of East's and West's bids became confused.

The director adjusted the score according to Law 12 to the most unfavorable result that was at all probable for the offending side (7 \diamondsuit making 7).

In considering the adjustment for the non-offending side (the most favorable result that was likely), the director considered that several results were likely - $7\Diamond$ making, $7\Diamond$ down one, $6\Diamond$ making and defending $2\spadesuit$ doubled. While some are more likely than others, the director decided that $7\Diamond$ was sufficiently likely. Therefore $7\Diamond$ making was also the score for the non-offending side.

Committee Decision: The committee believed that East had to take action over 2♠ with incorrect information. This slightly disadvantaged his side's chances. There was no question that there was damage to East/West.

While there was some possibility that East did not make the best bid when he bid 4%, he did have a considerable problem as a direct result of misinformation (Laws 21 and 40).

The committee determined that E/W had the methods to reach $7 \lozenge$ in an auction when both sides of the screen had the same correct information. Some thought was given to awarding N/S somewhat less than the score for $7 \lozenge$ making, but the majority of the com-

mittee did not want to do that.

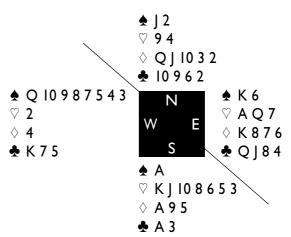
The committee changed the score to $7\Diamond$ making 7 - plus 2140 for E/W and minus 2140 for N/S.

Law 84 E, " If an irregularity has occurred for which no penalty is provided by law, the Director awards an adjusted score if there is even a reasonable possibility that the non-offending side was damaged..." and Law 12 C 2 were used in determining the decision.

Joan Gerard, USA, Chairman; Steen Moeller, Denmark; Barbara Nudelman, USA; Nissan Rand, Israel.

Appeal #2

Board I. Dealer North. None vul.



West	North	East	South
	Pass	♣	4♡
4♠	Pass	Pass	DЫ
Pass	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	DЫ	5NT	DЫ
6♣	DЫ	All Pass	

Facts: On the South/West side of the screen, South's double was Alerted and explained as penalty. On the other side of the screen, North paused and Alerted as an afterthought, writing that "it may be Lightner" as he shrugged his shoulders. E/W believed they were given misinformation.

Director's Decision: The director judged that no misinformation was given. North was not conveying an agreement but trying to be helpful in describing a call which had not been discussed. Per Law 21 A, the director ruled that the table result stood.

Committee Decision: The committee believed that no misinformation was given. There was, in the committee's opinion, nothing wrong with saying, "This may be Lightner." This does not mean that this is an agreement of the partnership. In fact, the committee believed that this information was given in an effort to be helpful. East/West misinterpreted what was said. Law 21 A states "A player has no recourse if he has made a call on the basis of his own misunderstanding."

The committee ruled that the table result stood - plus 1100 for N/S and minus 1100 for E/W. The deposit was returned. However, E/W were told that this was close to looking for a good result from a committee rather than a good result achieved at the table.

Bobby Wolff, USA, chairman; Joan Gerard, USA; Ernesto d'Orsi, Brazil; Barbara Nudelman, USA; Nissan Rand, Israel.

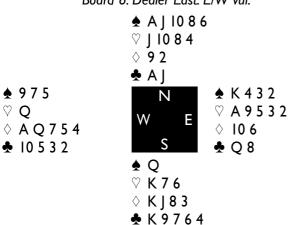
Round 6

ARGENTINA vs DENMARK

The Round 6 match between Argentina and Denmark rated to be solid. Both teams were still in contention for a semifinal berth. Denmark, lying third, was better placed than Argentina, which was sixth.

The first major blow to Argentina came on Board 6 when they reached into their convention bag of tricks and came out with an explosive instead of a toy.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W vul.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Madala	Hagen	Argerich	Bjarnarson
	J	2 ♦ (I)	Pass
2♠ All Pass	Pass	Pass	DЫ

(I) Majors

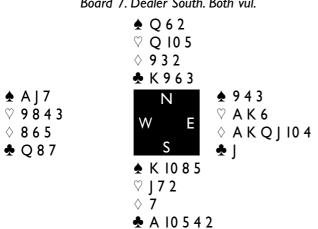
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Konow	Ravenna	Madsen	Pugliese
		Pass	Pass
Pass	l♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♡	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

With the unfavorable vulnerability the Argentines went for too many undertricks. They were minus 800 which gave the Danes +400 on the deal.

Board 7 had the potential of a swing either way, depending on who right-sided the notrump game.

Board 7. Dealer South. Both vul.

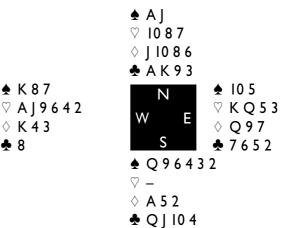


Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Madala	Hagen	Argerich	Bjarnarson Pass
Pass	Pass	 ♣ (1)	Pass
I ♦	Pass	2◊	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass
(I) Strong			
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Konow	Ravenna	Madsen	Pugliese Pass
Pass	Pass	IØ	Pass
INT	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Each room had its way of showing values, the Closed Room with the diamond bid and the Open Room with the notrump. It's a good thing they didn't bid the game in the latter. They were going to go down on a natural club lead from North. This swing of 10 IMPs went to the Argentines.

How do you get to play at the four-level in hearts and prevent your opponents from going to 44, which is a make? Konow found the answer on Board 8.

Board 8. Dealer West. None vul.



Classed Boom

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Madala	Hagen	Argerich	Bjarnarson
Ι♡	Pass	2♡	2♠
3♦	Pass	4 ♡	Pass
Pass	DЫ	All Pass	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Konow	Ravenna	Madsen	Pugliese
Ι♡	Pass	3◊*	3♠
4♡	4♠	All Pass	
*Bergen raise			

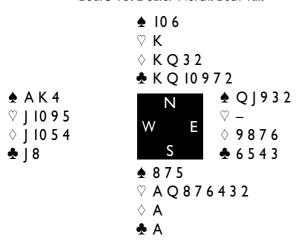
bergen raise

Oddly a 30 bid in each room worked to the Danish advantage. In the Closed room Konow wanted to try to buy the hand so he made a game try. His game was doubled and he went down two, but he still gained 4 IMPs for his side.

In the other room the 30 call meant that Pugliese had to bid his spades at the three-level, showing more than five in the suit. This let his partner, Ravenna, raise to game with his two honors. Pugliese made his game with an overtrick.

How high do you want to get with a hand that contains an eight-card suit headed by the A-Q, two side aces and your partner opens the bidding? At the very least you would be in game. This was true all over the room on Board 13. The only ones with pluses on this board were the defenders. One pair got to 16 hearts $(4\heartsuit XX)$ and another got to 12 hearts $(6\heartsuit X)$.

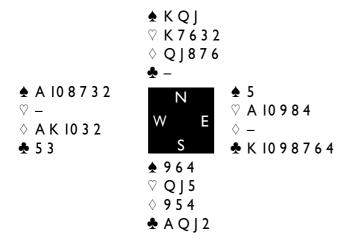
Board 13. Dealer North. Both vul.



Everyone went down on the lead of spade, spade, spade, promoting two trump tricks instead of one.

Board 18 was another strange one.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S vul.

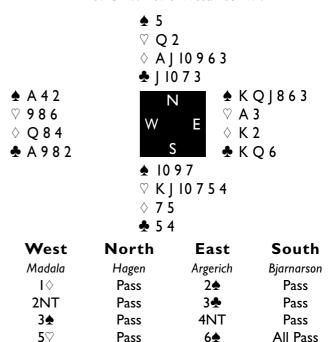


Correction

Barry Rigal wants it known that he can count. In an article yesterday under his byline, it said there were eight top tricks - but there were nine. The sentence was added by the editorial staff, so Barry is guilt-free.

In the other room the Argentines had a power auction to get to 4\(\Delta\) which was set two tricks undoubled. I2 IMPs to Denmark. On the last board Madala and Argerich got too high when Madala opened a nebulous diamond.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both vul.



This contract definitely had play possibilities. If the clubs split, or the jack 10 are doubleton, the slam was home, but this was not the day that Dame Fortune was smiling on our southern neighbors. The Danes stopped in game in the other room game, making five for a 13-IMP pickup.

Denmark won the match, 25-5.

Leaping into the breach

Marshall Hall, in charge of transportation here, was due to go to the airport to pick up the Norwegian team before the tournament. When he checked the flight time arrival, he discovered the flight from Newark to Fort Lauderdale had been canceled! What should he do? No doubt the Norwegians, at

the time flying from Norway to Newark, did not know about this, but they needed to know.

Hall got on the Internet and brought up OKbridge. He looked over the list of players, searching for name that looked Norwegian, and finally found one. The player couldn't help directly, but he knew the name of the president of the Norwegian Bridge Federation. Only the president wasn't available. But somehow Hall was able to get in touch with the president's mother. She was able to make the necessary arrangements to switch the Norwegian players' itinerary so that they could get to the tournament on time.

If Hall hadn't shown such extraordinary initiative, chances are Norway would not have been here for the opening match.



THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

August 4, 1999

Warm greetings to everyone gathered in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for the seventh World Junior Bridge Team Championship. I am pleased to welcome the outstanding competitors who have traveled from around the world to participate in this exciting event.

Bridge is a challenging game that tests the mental dexterity and observation skills of its players and requires years of practice to master. The World Junior Bridge Team Championship offers an excellent opportunity for some of the world's finest young players to display their skill and to share a memorable contest with others who share their love for this game.

I salute this year's competitors and extend best wishes to all for a memorable tournament.

