

DAILY BULLETIN

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BULLETIN 6

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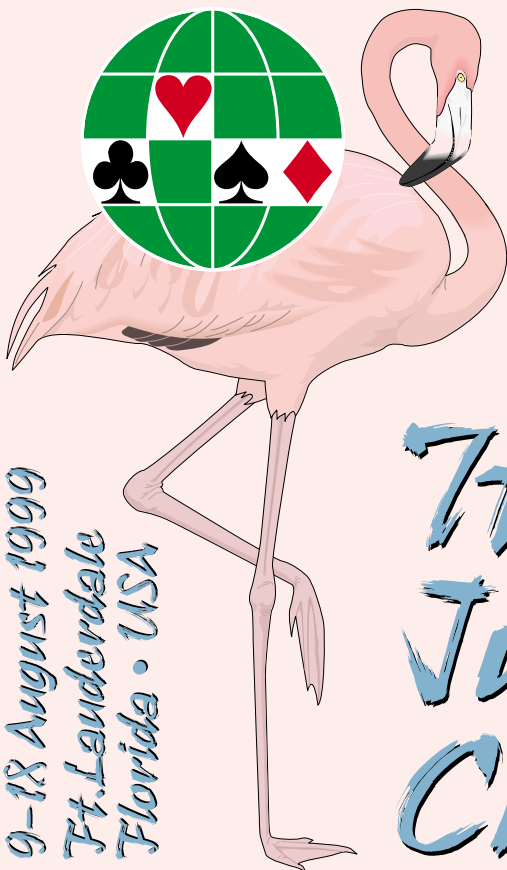
VUGRAPH MATCH

Italy - Norway

10.30

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Ft. Lauderdale
Florida • USA

Italy wins round-robin

It is virtually certain that the semifinalists in the *World Junior Team Championships* will be **Italy**, **USA 2**, **Chinese Taipei** and **Denmark**. **Israel** and **Norway** are still mathematical possibilities going into this morning's final round-robin match.

Italy won three more matches yesterday, defeating **China**, **Hong Kong** and **Egypt** with 66 of a possible 75 Victory Points. That guarantees **Italy** first place no matter what happens today. **Italy** has 286 VPS, and the best runner-up **USA 2** can do is wind up with 273. That means Italy will have its choice of its semifinal opponent. No matter whom Italy chooses, the Italians will have a major advantage as a result of the carryover formula – the Italians beat all three of the other likely qualifiers.

So what are the mathematical possibilities? **Israel** has 223 and **Norway** has 219. Israel's possible is 248 – that requires a blitz – and the best **Norway** can do is 244. **USA 2** needs only a single VP to guarantee qualification, **Chinese Taipei** requires four and **Denmark** needs seven.

The chances of one of these teams being blitzed while **Israel** or **Norway** score a blitz certainly are tiny at best.

USA 2 solidified its position by defeating **Canada 1**, **Egypt** and **Israel**. **Chinese Taipei** started the day poorly by losing to **Denmark**, but then came back with victories over **Canada 2** and **Hong Kong**. **Denmark** broke loose from the pack by beating **Chinese Taipei**, **USA 1** and **China**.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

(10.30-13.20 hrs)

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 15

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

7th World Junior Teams Championship



RESULTS



ROUND ROBIN SESSION 12

Match		IMPs		VPs	
1	USA 1 ISRAEL	28	42	12	18
2	CANADA 1 USA 2	21	60	7	23
3	ARGENTINA NORWAY	70	36	22	8
4	CAC CANADA 2	63	40	20	10
5	EGYPT BRAZIL	52	48	16	14
6	CHINA ITALY	52	70	11	19
7	CHN TAIPEI DENMARK	35	57	10	20
8	AUSTRALIA HONG KONG	42	65	10	20

RANKING AFTER SESSION 14

Country	VPs
1 ITALY	286
2 USA 2	248
3 CHINESE TAIPEI	245
4 DENMARK	242
5 ISRAEL	223
6 NORWAY	219
7 ARGENTINA	209
8 AUSTRALIA	207.5
9 CHINA	200.5
10 CAC	197.5
11 HONG KONG	188.5
12 CANADA 2	183.5
13 BRAZIL	178
14 CANADA 1	177
15 EGYPT	165
16 USA 1	158.5

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 13

Match		IMPs		VPs	
1	DENMARK USA 1	67	24	24	6
2	ITALY HONG KONG	83	33	25	5
3	BRAZIL AUSTRALIA	26	85	4	25
4	CANADA 2 CHN TAIPEI	62	66	14	16
5	NORWAY CHINA	69	34	22	8
6	USA 2 EGYPT	56	17	23	7
7	ISRAEL CAC	63	72	13	17
8	CANADA 1 ARGENTINA	17	48	9	21

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 14

Match		IMPs		VPs	
1	AUSTRALIA USA 1	30	42	13	17
2	HONG KONG CHN TAIPEI	23	90	2	25
3	DENMARK CHINA	47	29	19	11
4	ITALY EGYPT	83	47	22	8
5	BRAZIL CAC	57	36	19	11
6	CANADA 2 ARGENTINA	56	28	21	9
7	NORWAY CANADA 1	57	35	20	10
8	USA 2 ISRAEL	42	33	17	13

Non-simultaneous double squeeze

Ben Zeidenberg found a non-simultaneous double squeeze to bring in his contract of 6♠ on Board 2 in Round 2.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S vul.

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

West	North <i>Zeidenberg</i>	East	South <i>Wolpert</i>
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♣	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

Zeidenberg won the ♦K opening lead, pitching a club from dummy. When he led the jack of trumps, West took his ace and continued with a diamond to the ♦Q. Zeidenberg trumped this in dummy and cleared trumps. East pitched two diamonds. Next he cashed the ♣A and ♣K, learning about the bad break in that suit. West pitched a heart and declarer a diamond on the second club.

Next Zeidenberg led the ♣9, ruffing in hand as West threw another heart. When he led the ♦9, East was squeezed into throwing a heart to maintain control of the clubs. The ♣Q was next, and now West was choked - he had to save the ♦J to cover the 10, so he was squeezed into pitching a heart. Since he no longer needed the ♦10, Zeidenberg pitched it, keeping just his three hearts. And of course he had the last three tricks since both opponents had been forced to come down to two hearts each.

Right and Wong

by Grand Danois

In Round 9 I saw a good declarer play by a Dane in Denmark's match against Hong Kong, but when I compared with the result from the Closed Room it was a push. Who was the declarer? Wong.

In Round 12 the very same thing happened. I had to check the tournament program, but I was right – Wong again!

Round 9. Board 10. Dealer East. Both vul.

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

East played in 4♥ at both tables.

With Morten Madsen as declarer in the Open Room the defense started with three rounds of diamonds, thereby killing declarer's diamond trick. After two trump tricks East played a club to the ace and gave North a club trick. Back came a spade, but now East was in control. He ruffed a club and cashed his trumps, squeezing South in the black suits. 10 tricks.

In the Closed Room Chi Kwong Wong received the only killing lead from South, the ♠Q, but both defenders blew their chance to defeat the contract. Declarer won in dummy and cleverly asked for the ♦9. By playing second hand low, North missed his chance (♦K and a spade shift in due time would establish a spade trick for the defense).

In with the ♦A it was South's turn to fail. A diamond to the king and a third diamond kills declarer's diamond trick, and 4♥ is defeated if North, when he gets in with a club later on, remembers to break the squeeze by shifting to spades. However, at trick 3 South played a club and declarer was home and dry. A push.

At some tables West was declarer, and several North players

found the spade lead after which declarer had no hope with best defense. At three tables North led the ♠K to the ace, and every time West made 10 tricks. As far as I can see 4♥ always makes after a club lead.

In Round 12, Denmark vs. Chinese Taipei, Wong did it again.

Round 12. Board 6. Dealer East. E/W vul.

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

In both rooms West reached 3NT. Dummy had shown 5-4 in the majors and West had indicated a balanced hand. Including a diamond trick and a heart finesse declarer has only seven tricks. Kaspar Konow received a club lead to the jack and thereby got one more, but what about number nine?

Spades seems to be the best chance, so a low spade went to North who played back the ♣Q to the king. A spade to the ace and a third round of spades brought the bad news about that suit, and North cleared the clubs. After a heart to the jack and a diamond to the queen, West cashed the ♥A, continued with a heart to the king and endplayed South in hearts. The ♦K became declarer's ninth trick.

In the Closed Room Wong – it was Jay this time – received no gift at trick one as North led the ♥Q to the ace. A low spade went to South's ♠8, and the ♦J was covered with the queen while North erred by playing the ♦8! Another spade was ducked to South's queen and, assuming North had the ♦7, South escaped with a low diamond. But West won with the 7, played a heart to dummy and cashed the ♠A. Then he made the same endplay against South as in the Open Room. Nine tricks and a push.

The unknown champion or "No hard feelings"

At the Cleveland Regional Jo Anne Casen, a North American champion, was playing in the Morning Knockouts with Linda McGarry. In the middle of a hand a man pulled up a chair between Jo Anne's LHO and Linda. He glanced at both hands, then proceeded to read the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*.

Prior to the next board, Jo Anne requested that he look at only one hand. The bidding began and it appeared to Jo Anne that the anonymous kibitzer was looking at both hands again. "You are barred!" said Jo Anne.

The astonished kibitzer asked, "Why?"

"I don't want to get into an argument," said Jo Anne. I have the right to bar one kibitzer without cause." The kibitzer quietly arose and left the playing area.

Between the Morning KOs and the start of the two-session Flighted Swiss Teams, Linda became ill. Jo Anne's teammates, Mary

Chilcote and Dennis McGarry, began looking for a partner for Jo Anne for the first session - Linda was going to sit out to give herself a chance to recuperate.

Jo Anne found her new partner - you guessed it! It was the anonymous kibitzer whom she had banned that morning!

Not only did they have a pleasant afternoon - they proceeded to win the event with the fabulous score of 216 on a possible 240 - 90%!

At the San Antonio NABC last month Jo Anne heard someone say, "Zia won the Mixed Teams and the Gabriel team was second."

"Who's the Gabriel team?"

Jo Anne interrupted. "I know him! He's a terrific player from Chicago. We just won the Swiss in Cleveland with none other than Richard Gabriel."

Guess Gabriel isn't anonymous any more.

Round 9 Israel vs Argentina

The Israelis were well placed at the start of Round 9. They were in fourth place and their opponents, Argentina, were further down in 11th place, but only 16 Victory Points separated them.

The Israelis drew first blood on Board 2 when they made 4♠ on their 5-4 fit in the Open Room. The Argentines got to 4♥ on their 5-3 fit and went down two tricks in the Closed Room.

The next wound came on Board 6 – Israel got to the slam and Argentina did not.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 9 7	♠ K 9 7
♥ 6 3	♥ 6 3
♦ 6 5	♦ 6 5
♣ Q J 8 6 5 3	♣ Q J 8 6 5 3

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Liran	Ravena	Levinger	Pugliese
		1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♥	All Pass

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Remondi	Amit	Romanin	Zack
		1♥	Pass
INT	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Either system or hand evaluation played a role here. Whichever it was it cost Argentina 13 IMPs.

On Board 7 both teams got their strong notrump in, but only one side got to game.

Board 7. Dealer South. Both vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Liran	Ravena	Levinger	Pugliese
			Pass
Pass	Pass	INT	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Remondi	Amit	Romanin	Zack
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♥
1♠	Pass	INT ⁽¹⁾	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾ Strong notrump.

Both declarers took the same nine tricks. If you move that ♦A to the South hand, the luck would have gone the other way, but this time it cost Israel 10 IMPs.

On Board 13 each declarer had to guess the position of an ace and queen to bring in his 4♥ contract.

Board 13. Dealer North. Both vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

♠ K 10 9 8 4	♠ K 10 9 8 4
♥ 9	♥ 9
♦ Q 9 4	♦ Q 9 4
♣ K 9 3 2	♣ K 9 3 2

In the Closed Room the opening club lead went to the ace. The ♣J was led back and trumped. The play is not recorded after two rounds of trumps, but one can only surmise that East went wrong in the diamond suit and lost to the two outstanding honors. He might have taken an inference from the play to trick two and gone right. In the Open Room the ♠10 went to the ace and a spade came back to the queen. Ravena switched to the ♦2 and put Levinger to the guess right away. Levinger thought for quite a while and finally got it right by playing the king. That earned Israel 12 IMPs.

The Israelis' 23-7 victory moved them into a tie with USA 2 for second place after nine of the 15 round-robin matches.

No recriminations

Your editors have watched a lot of bridge at this tournament. Disasters? There have been many. But not once have we seen a player criticize his partner for making a costly error.

Round 11

Italy vs Israel

by Barry Rigal

On Thursday we had seen Israel produce a splendid card against their Canadian opponents. On Friday night it was Israel's turn to suffer. Italy produced a near faultless display against them – in fact, it was only two carding accidents that allowed Israel to score even a single IMP! After three well-played boards, Italy broke on top when a simple overcall jammed the Israeli works.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both vul.

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

Italy bid unopposed to 4♥ (1♦ - 1♠ - 2♦ - 2♥ - 4♥). This contract can be beaten either on diamond ruffs or repeated trump leads. In fact, the only thing you can't do is lead the ♣A-K. However, Israel conceded 620. On vugraph Israel received the normal 1♠ overcall and could not find the heart fit. Asaf Amit as East passed for penalties initially and then doubled 2♠ (which would have been minus 870). When Yaniv Zack pulled the double to 3♦, Amit tried 3NT for minus 200, giving Italy a 13-0 lead.

The score was only 18-0 after 10 boards, but then things started to slip. Even though Board 11 was flat, it was not without interest.

Board 11. Dealer South. None vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	INT ⁽¹⁾	Pass
3♣ ⁽²⁾	Pass	3NT	All Pass

⁽¹⁾ 15-17. ⁽²⁾ Five-card Stayman.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dbl	1♠	3NT	1♦ All Pass

The Open Room was unlucky that South neither opened nor overcalled – it's hard to reach clubs now. Mario D'Avossa's 3NT looks undisciplined. Both tables conceded 150 in undertricks.

When Eran Shaham-Amir Levin contracted for a hopeless slam on the next deal, the margin rose to 31 IMPs. A missed game (which could have been defeated on an unlikely combination of defensive plays) made the margin 37. Board 19 was the final nail in the Israeli coffin.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W vul.

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

Shaham-Levin had a great result, buying the hand for 3♥, making plus 170 when 5♦ was laydown for E/W. Amit and Zack sold out to 4♥ and Zack led the ♥8, depriving his partner of the chance for a brilliancy. On the lead of the ♦A, playing standard signals, follow with the queen - suit preference and discouraging. If West does not shift to spades... find a new partner!

At least one pair managed this play, though using different signaling methods. Juan Carlos Castilla and Juanita Ochoa of CAC play systematically that in this position one follows with the second highest honor on the ♦A... so the ♦Q promises the king. The ♦K is reserved for a "wake-up call!" Juanita duly followed with the ♦K under the ace against 4♥ and Juan Carlos dutifully played a spade for down one. Well done!

Israel scored their only big pickup of the set on Board 20.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both vul.

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

Intonti led the ♠A against 4♥ after an auction of 3♥ - 4♥. That meant 10 tricks for declarer. Since the same contract had gone down one in the other room on a club lead to ace and a spade shift, Israel climbed to lose only 21-9.

Round 11

Canada 1 vs USA 2 by Barry Rigal

The match started quietly, but Board 5 appeared to be a very unlucky break for USA II.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S vul.

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

After

West	North	East	South
	2♥ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl.	All Pass

⁽¹⁾ Both majors.

It looks normal to make eight tricks for 670. You ruff one heart and bingo! Eight top tricks. But on a trump lead Joel Wooldridge put up the ace and played A♥ and another heart. When a trump came back he finesse. . . now the defense could get in to lead a third trump before he could ruff a heart. In the Open Room after 1♠ - Pass - 2♠ - Dbl, David Granger upped the ante by bidding 3♠. When Chris Willenken bid 4♣, he conceded minus 50 and 6 IMPs.

Greco found a nice play to pick up a game swing for his side on the next deal. He reached 3NT after Willenken had shown five spades and four hearts in a game forcing hand. He won the club lead with the jack, ducked a spade, won the ♣Q shift and played ♠A, spade. If Grainger cashed the top spade he would concede the ninth trick, so he cleared the clubs. Greco guessed in hearts, played a diamond to the king, cashed the top heart, then endplayed South with the 13th heart. In the two-card ending South had to lead from the ♦A and Greco had his ninth trick.

A number of flattish boards ensued: both N/S pairs overbid/misbid their cards to a series of games going down, and after 10 boards Canada had their reps in front. It would all change in the second half: a good game reached by Wooldridge-Carmichael meant 6 IMPs. Then came Board 13.

Board 13. Dealer North. Both vul.

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

Wooldridge overcalled 2♥ over 1♦ and Ben Zeidenberg made a dubious negative double and Darren Wolpert an equally iffy pass. Plus 500 against a vulnerable small (or even grand) slam ensued. Greco-Willenken had a controlled auction to identify that the ♣K was missing and recorded 1390 for 13 IMPs.

Boards 18 and 20 summed up the luck in the match. Would you open the East cards? And if so, whom would you expect to get higher, the E/W pair who opened, or the ones who passed the East cards?

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
	Greco		Willenken
1♦	Pass		
1♥	1♠	Dbl ⁽¹⁾	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾ Support.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
	Zeidenberg		Wolpert
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾ Drury.

Greco heard his partner make a non-serious slam try and settled for game – that's a commentary on their opening bids in itself!

Zeidenberg made three slam tries despite facing a passed partner. The third was excessive, but even so 5♥ was not the worst contract you've ever seen! But it had to go one down. On Board 20 both tables bid the N/S cards 1♦, 1♠, 2♣. Wooldridge found four spades and a minimum opposite and tried 4♠ – not a happy spot it would seem, but the lie of the clubs and spades made the game possible. Nadler passed 2♠. 10 IMPs away was a harsh penalty – it meant a 23-7 win for USA 2.

Plus 650

by Peter Gill, Australia

In Round 8, the Australian pair of Nic Croft and Luke Matthews seemed to be experimenting with all the different ways to score plus 650.

Board 1. Dealer North. None vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
	Matthews		Croft
	1♥	Db1	4♥
5♣	5♥	Pass	Pass
Db1	All Pass		

It certainly doesn't look like 650, but Luke ruffed the club lead, drew trumps while stripping clubs, and played a spade to 7 and 10. East erred by continuing with the ♠K, resulting in plus 650. Two of dummy's diamonds were pitched on the spades. This was a 13-IMP gain since the same contract was defeated a trick at the other table.

The next 650 was of the undoubled variety.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S vul.

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

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

Thank you, Jo Ann

Jo Ann Casen is very much a part of the vugraph show, but you never see her. She sits in the Open Room and relays all the necessary information about bids and plays to the computer operator in the vugraph room.

West	North	East	South
	Matthews		Croft
	1♠	4♦	4♠

All Pass

A heart was led, producing a score of plus 650. Perhaps West should have bid 5♦, but the partnership's preemptive style seemed to be very aggressive, making 5♦ less attractive to West. At the other table, Kylie Robb overcalled 4♦ over North's strong 1♠, South doubled, and Leigh Gold correctly upped the ante to 5♦. This was passed to South who bid 5♥, a contract that was defeated after the lead of the ♣K. Another 13 IMPs to Australia.

The third variety of 650 arrived on the very next board.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
	Matthews		Croft
		1♠	2♦
3♦	Pass	4♠	5♦
Db1	All Pass		

Croft's 5♦ bid showed his keen eye for the vulnerability. The unlucky West chose to lead the ♣K, resulting in an overtrick and another plus 650. This one was worth 15 IMPs when the bidding was the same up to 4♠ at the other table. But South did not bid 5♦, which looks like a sensible risk at the vulnerability. Eric Kokish said later that he almost commented on vugraph that some poor West might lead an unfortunate ♣K against the 5♦ save. How right he was!

(Editor's note: Matthews and Croft didn't have the opportunity to score 650 the hardest way - you know, down 13 undoubled, not vul.)

Anybody seen Murry Hayes?

Chances are nobody has seen Murry Hayes. He spends just about all his time isolated in one of the hotel rooms here. His task: to duplicate all the boards for every round of play. As closely as we can figure, that means he will duplicate 3238 hands before the tournament is over.

When Murry isn't duplicating boards, he works in the ACBL warehouse, preparing supplies for tournaments throughout North America.

Round 12

Denmark vs Chinese Taipei

Both teams were very much in the battle for semifinal qualification as this match got under way. Chinese Taipei was in second place after an excellent record the day before. Denmark was tied for fourth, the last qualifying position.

Chinese Taipei got to an odds-against slam on Board 2 - and the odds prevailed.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wong	Nohr	Cheo	Kristensen
Pass	2♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♥	All Pass	3♥

The opening lead of a club saw Mik Kristensen going up with the queen to eliminate a loser in that suit. He took a finesse to the ♥10, losing to the king, but eventually he still had to lose a trump. He also lost a spade, making five.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Konow	Yang	Madsen	Wu
Pass	2♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	5♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			6♦

Jim Wu, South, chose to rebid 3NT instead of 3♥. When Tony Yang then leaped to 5♦, Wu felt he was good enough, with all his controls, to go to six. The opening spade lead went to the queen and ace, and declarer immediately took a losing heart finesse to the queen. He gave up a spade to the king to set up a pitch for his club, but he still was one down for a 13-IMP loss.

Player and editor

Boye Brogeland, one of the mainstays of the Norway team, recently purchased the Norway bridge magazine from Tommy Sandmark, former president of the International Bridge Press Association.

After a series of boards with no particular points of interest, Yang and Wu ran into trouble on Board 9.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W vul

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

Kristensen played a prosaic 3♣ in the Closed Room, making three. The action was in the Open Room where Wu was declaring 2NT. He won the opening lead of the ♦Q with the ace and finessed the ♥J, losing to the queen. The defenders collected their four diamond tricks, then switched to spades. With the queen in the gate and with dummy down to the stiff 9, the defense took four spades to inflict a four-trick defeat. Seven IMPs to Denmark.

It was Denmark's turn to go overboard on Board 10.

Board 10. Dealer East. Both vul.

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

In the Open Room Yang and Wu stopped in 4♦, just making. However, this was the bidding in the Closed Room.

West	North	East	South
Wong	Nohr	Cheo	Kristensen
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♥

Wong found the spade lead that let the defense take the first four tricks. When the diamond finesse lost later on, Kristensen was two down since he also lost a club. That was 8 IMPs back to Chinese Taipei.

Board 11. Dealer South. None vul.

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

Konow's heart preempt backfired here. Wu opened 1♣ as South, and Konow leaped to 3♥. Yang felt he had enough to go to the four level in clubs, and Wu thought he had enough in reserve to go to game. He was right! He lost only a heart and the ace of trumps. This was worth a gain of 6 IMPs because Denmark stopped in a club partial in the Closed Room.

On Board 12, once again there was a fairly normal result in one room and a disaster in the other.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S vul.

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

In the Open Room Wu played in 3♠. Konow started with a diamond to the jack, and Morten Madsen cashed his ♥K before shifting to a spade, which rode to the jack. Wu crossed to the ♣A and cashed the ace of trumps before putting East in with the ♠K. Madsen cashed the ♦A and ♣K, the last tricks for the defense. Down one. The story was a lot different in the Closed Room.

West	North	East	South
Wong	Nohr	Cheo	Kristensen
2♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	2♥ ⁽²⁾	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Dbl	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

⁽¹⁾ Multi.

⁽²⁾ Pass or correct.

Cheo had a very fine hand indeed, but he decided to take it easy over his partner's Multi. This worked fine - it gave him the chance to exact a major penalty. Wong led a diamond to Cheo's jack, and Cheo took his ♥K. Next came the ♦A and a third dia-

mond. Declarer sluffed a heart as Wong ruffed. Wong attempted to cash his ♥A but declarer ruffed. Declarer led a spade to the jack and Cheo's king, and Cheo got out with the ♦Q, ruffed. Declarer cleared trumps but eventually had to give up a club for minus 800 - a 12-IMP loss.

Chinese Taipei really missed the boat on Board 13.

Board 13. Dealer North. Both vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wong	Nohr	Cheo	Kristensen
2♥	Pass	1♦	1♥
3♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
		3NT	All Pass

Cheo scored up 660, but he was not at all happy about it. The result in the Open Room shows why.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Konow	Yang	Madsen	Wu
3♥ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	1♦	1♥
4♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
5♠ ⁽²⁾	Pass	4NT	Pass
6♣	Pass	5NT	Pass
		7♦	All Pass

⁽¹⁾ Splinter - singleton or void.

⁽²⁾ Three of five controls.

A fine auction to a reasonable grand slam - declarer needed to find ♣K onside - and he did. The opening lead was the ♠K to the ace. Madsen drew two rounds of trumps and took the club finesse. He ruffed a spade and finessed clubs again. He cashed the ♣A and ruffed a club - and the defense conceded. 16 IMPs to Denmark.

If you decide to open these cards third hand, what do you open?

♠ A K 7 3	♥ A 7 2	♦ 6 5 3	♣ 6 5 2
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Even if you're playing five-card majors, 1♠ stands out. There is no guarantee your side is going to declare this hand, so at least you're giving your partner an idea of where your strength is. Yang got into a bit of trouble when he opened 1♣. Chinese Taipei played in 2♣ down two. At the other table, North passed with those cards, and it was East who opened 1♠ in fourth hand!

Wang responded INT, made with an overtrick.

On Board 17 E/W were cold for 6♥, but neither pair came close to that contract.

Board 17. Dealer North. None vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wong	Nohr	Cheo	Kristensen
	3♣	3♥	All Pass

Nohr's preempt sure did its work. But does 3♥ really portray Cheo's hand? He had a multitude of tricks in his own hand, and he needed practically nothing to make game and not much more for slam. He had no problem making plus 230 with the ♥Q singleton, but he wasn't happy about it.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Konow	Yang	Madsen	Wu
2♥	3♣	4♦	5♣
Dbl	All Pass		

The Danes probably thought they lost heavily here where they scored 300 for beating 5♣ two tricks. They must have been mighty surprised to learn they actually had gained 2 IMPs.

Again on Board 19 the Danes in the Open Room probably were sure they had lost bushels of IMPs when they failed to get to their heart slam. But it didn't work out that way.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Konow	Yang	Madsen	Wu
2♣	4♠	Dbl ⁽¹⁾	Pass
4NT ⁽²⁾	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♦ ⁽³⁾	Pass	5♥	All Pass

⁽¹⁾ Usually two controls and no biddable suit.

⁽²⁾ Pick a suit

⁽³⁾ Diamonds and hearts.

Konow figured he had done all he could and passed 5♥. But things got totally out of control at the other table.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wong	Nohr	Cheo	Kristensen
Dbl	3♠	4♥	3♣
4NT	5♠	Pass ⁽¹⁾	Pass
7♥	7♠	Dbl	Pass
7NT	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾ Shows one key card.

Nohr started slowly merely bidding 3♠ over Wong's takeout double. When Cheo was able to bid 4♥ freely, Wong trotted out Blackwood. Nohr interfered with 5♠ and Cheo showed his one control. That was all Wong thought he needed – he leaped to 7♥. This was destined to go one down because there is no way to avoid a club loser. But Nohr thought the chances were good that the grand slam would make – he had nothing for defense and his partner had preempted. So he bid 7♠. Cheo of course doubled this, but Wong thought the IMPs lost by defending 7♠ would be too great. After a bit of thought, he put the 7NT card on the table.

Nohr led the ♠K to the ace, and Wong played two rounds of hearts, ending in dummy. He led a diamond and was happy when his 10 took the trick. He took the rest of his hearts, ending in dummy, and led another diamond. This time Kristensen put in the jack, forcing the king. Wong hopefully cashed the ♦A – no luck. He cashed the ♣A and gave up the rest – down 300. That was 14 more IMPs to Denmark en route to their 20-10 victory.

How does it work?

Kent Burghard, a member of the Memphis ACBL staff, and his wife Chyah are manning the computers for the vugraph show here. They take the reports from the Open and Closed Rooms, enter them on the computer and send the data to the screen for the benefit of the spectators and the commentators. The material they gather also is used to report the championship on the Internet.

Another scribe arrives

Jody Latham of the ACBL Bridge Bulletin staff arrived yesterday to gather the material she will need to report this tournament in the ACBL magazine.