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BRIDGE MIXED
CHAMPIONSHIPS

16th-22nd
MARCH 2002
MEDIACENTER
OOSTEND-BELGIUM

PARASCHEN

DAILY BULLETIN

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Bulletin 6

Thursday, 21 March 2002

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Photos: Ron Tacchi

Team Grenthe Sets a Furious Pace



However the match did not finish amicably as they could not agree the score!

The French team that started yesterday in fourth place swept to the top of the table with 180 VP. They are pursued by **Popova's** Bulgarian/Turkish/Israeli tripartite squad on 171 VP. Third place is held by Italy's **Fornaciari** on 167 VP. Fourth place is occupied by yet another transnational outfit, the Norwegian/Polish combination, **Mali** with 164 VP.

These four teams are in the box seats, but the chasing pack includes several of the fancied teams, including those captained by **Stoppa, Willard, Lavazza** and the holders, **Auken**.

PLAYING SCHEDULE

Today, Thursday, March 21

MIXED TEAMS

- 10.00** 4th session (3 matches, 10 boards)
16.30 5th session (2 matches, 10 boards)
Semifinal (32 boards)

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The Morning Session



Dorthe Schaltz, Denmark

The most interesting match drawn for Round 5 seemed to be the encounter at table 6, where the defending champions from Denmark were to face a strong team from the Netherlands. As two (grand) slams came along in these 10 boards, it proved to be an excellent match to watch.

First blood went to the Dutch when the weak NT put the Danish off the right defensive track.

Board 11. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Prooijen	Schaltz	Hoogweg	Schaltz
Pass	Pass	3♦	INT
3NT	All Pass		Pass

As you can see, a heart lead followed by a spade switch will easily beat 3NT, but with nothing to guide him, who can blame Peter Schaltz for selecting the ♣J as his opening lead? When the ♣Q scored the first trick, the rest was easy when South, having opened INT, had to win her ♦K at the first attempt.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Auken	Maas	Auken	Vriend
2♣	2♥	3♦	1♥
			All Pass

After a natural 1♥ opening bid, the Auken did not come anywhere near to bidding 3NT and settled for a more normal 110. VRIEND +7 IMPs.

With very little in the next few boards, we had to wait till near the end for something substantial.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Prooijen	Schaltz	Hoogweg	Schaltz
6NT	Pass	INT	Pass
	All Pass		

A sensible, swift auction to the best contract, one would say. VRIEND +990.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Auken	Maas	Auken	Vriend
2♠	Pass	INT	Pass
4♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	4♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
		7♦	All Pass

2♠ showed (among others) a strong balanced hand and 5NT confirmed the aces and asked for extra values. Both the fifth diamond and the ♥J proved sufficient extras, even more so when a

low heart to the jack at trick three saw the contract home. AUKEN +1440 and 10 IMPs to take the lead 16-7. This also was the final score of the match.

The next two boards were flat, but by no means without interest.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

One would expect most pairs to end up in 3NT on the E/W cards and go two down. This is what happened in our match, but anyone for 4♥ in the Moysian fit?

The next board was another grand slam, and this time a good one, very well bid at both tables.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Prooijen	Schaltz	Hoogweg	Schaltz
Pass	2♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♥	Pass	5♦
Pass	7♦	All Pass	6♦

This auction needs much explanation. 2NT showed a balanced 15-18. 3♣ enquired and 3NT was the minimum range, 15-16. 4♦ set trumps and 4♥ was a cuebid. 5♣ then was a Danish asking in clubs, 5♦ denying any club control (very useful information in view of North's void). 5♥ then was another asking bid and

6♦ showed second-round control as well as three aces. That's all North needed to know. Well bid!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Auken	Maas	Auken	Vriend
Pass	2♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	5NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	7♦	All Pass	6♦

A much more natural auction in which the 4♦-cue denied club control. So Maas could check the aces and ask for kings with 5NT, the one king shown by 6♦ being the much needed king of hearts. Now Anton could count at least 13 tricks with diamonds as trumps. Well bid too.

Needless to say that a few pairs managed to reach the grand slam, but in the wrong denomination. With the spades not behaving, 7♠ has no play. Unlucky?

For the second round of the morning, we chose a match at table 4. Here, yet another Italian team would play a transnational team from Bulgaria and Israel. It might have been a spectacular match, but the boards this time did not cooperate very well. Still, there were some interesting problems for the players.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mariani	Gumev	Buratti	Popova
2♦	Dble	Pass	1♥
Pass	5♣	All Pass	Dble

The play presented no problems. POPOVA +400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zobu	De Falco	Haramati	Olivieri
Pass (!)	1♠	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	INT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	2NT



Dano De Falco, Italy

When Zobu did not judge his hand worth a vulnerable two-level overcall, the Italians soon were in trouble. For systemic reasons, they could not show the clubs as a natural suit, so De Falco could think of nothing better than having a shot at 4♥. This is not a bad contract, but with the hearts not behaving, declarer got fatally shortened on continued diamond leads. POPOVA another +50 and 10 IMPs.

The difference in approach between the sides might have created another swing.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mariani	Gumev	Buratti	Popova
All Pass	Pass	Pass	4♠

West led the ♦J, covered and ruffed. From then on, there was no defence. Of course, a club lead and heart shift beats 4♠ with 4♥ cold. So the Italians had lost a chance. POPOVA +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zobu	De Falco	Haramati	Olivieri
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

After the Multi, 3♣ showed a minimum hand with hearts, and 3♠ did not necessarily show a willingness to play in that suit. 4♦ was a feature and 4♥ then became the correct final contract for a flat board.

Popova led 14-1 which also became the final score, when this board arrived:

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

3NT by East was the contract at both tables and both Souths led a spade. Both Norths won the jack and returned the suit, but from there the paths diverged.

In the Open Room, Buratti ducked in dummy, giving up her chance to make the contract. The loss of two red aces and a club can no longer be avoided.

In the Closed Room, Haramati gave herself a chance by winning the ♠A and leading two rounds of diamonds. North has to duck these, and now declarer can play four rounds of clubs, leaving North on play. She played a third diamond to North, however, who returned the ♣7. If declarer wins this and plays off three more rounds, North will be in again, having to open up the heart suit to present declarer with her contract. When declarer ducked the ♣7 instead, she could no longer recover. So no swing, but another missed chance...

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A Short Problem on Bidding

In Round 8 one hand resulted in swings all over the place:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

The simple problem for North/South is to reach Six Spades.

We know at least one International who considered the South hand to be worth an opening bid of Four Spades after three passes.

One less fortunate pair heard their opponents bid:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♠*
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

There is no reason why this should not have been off two cashing aces, but South's heart void was an undeserved bonus for North.

This was a better effort:

West	North	East	South
	<i>Gunev</i>		<i>Popova</i>
Pass	1♦*	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2♠	Pass	5♥*
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

Two Hearts was a transfer to spades, setting the suit, and Five Hearts was (we think) Exclusion Blackwood. An excellent practical shot that led to the top spot.

DID YOU ENJOY THE NEW "SIC" CARDS?

All players enjoyed playing with new cards that the EBL, as well as the WBF, have ruled must be used in official championships. Previously, only the backs of the cards were symmetrical, now the faces are also. Just look how the three of hearts or the ace of clubs have been changed!

But that is not the only improvement; for the comfort of players clubs are grey whilst spades remain black, diamonds are orange and hearts continue to be red. So, even short sighted players should not confuse a diamond with a heart.



For those of you who are watching in Black and White the Diamond is in the middle.

PARTICIPANTS OF THE MIXED TEAMS

Alberti (GER)	Alberti A.	Langer D.	Gwinner H.H.	Bausback N.		
Alla (ICE)	Haraldsdottir Maria	Nielsen Ragnheidlir	Sigurdsson Valure	Sigurdsson Isak Orn		
Allix (FRA)	Raczynska	Rees	Leger	Oursel	Mauberquez	Allix
Al-Shati (BUL)	Al-Shati Anni	Mircheva Ralitzza	Hristov Trayan	Georgiev Stefan	Georgieva Draganka	Al-Shati Valentin
Auken (DEN+GER)	Schaltz Dorthe	Schaltz Peter	Auken Sabine	Auken Jens		
Backstrom (FIN)	Backstrom Sue	Backstrom Jari	Koistinen Raija	Koistinen Kauko		
Bamberger (AUS)	Redermeier A.	Telderer C.	Wohlfatt H.	Bamberger Q.		
Barr (ISR)	Herbst Ilan	Baar Ronnie	Barel Michael	Tal Noga		
Beccuti (ITA)	Mortarotti T.	Beccuti E.	Corchia R.	Matricardi G.		
Blondal (GER)	Schneider	Smykalla	Kasimir	Malchios		
Blouquit (FRA)	Blouquit	Das	Lejuste	Kremer	Bompis	Masse
Bonori (ITA)	Bonori Marisa	Gavelli Gabriele	Mazzadi Adriana	Mazzadi Francensco	Baneszkiwicz Eva	Kowalski Apollinaire
Brekiesz (POL)	Brekiesz Monika	Kopren Dariusz	Kater Eva	Surek Piotr		
Bruchhauser (GER)	Bruchhauser Karin	Mavtidis Georg	Tetal Casima	Amann Klaus		
Budd (ENG)	Lipton Alan	Simon Sue	Budd Maria	Harris Malcolm		
Budzik (POL)	Budzik Roman	Budzik Yolanta	Kusion Andrej	Lenicka Barbara	Witkowski Piotr	Skopinska Eeva
Burgay (ITA)	Arrigoni Gianna	Burgay Leandro	Olivieri Gabriella	De Falco Dano	Buratti Monica	Mariani Carlo
Chodorowska (POL)	Chodorowska Irena	Chodorowska Jan	Krogulska Jolanta	Walczak Piotr	Brewiak Grazyna	Piasecki Jaroslaw
Churlin (RUS)	Khazanov Igor	Gromenkova Svetlana	Mochalova Yulia	Chorlin Igor		
Damiani (FRA)	Damiani Jose	Lise	Lesniewski	Harasimovicz	Faigenbaum	Delors
De Botton (ENG)	De Botton Janet	Sandqvist Nick	Dhondy Heather	Burn David		
De Graeve (BEL)	De Graeve Mario	Ooghe Katrien	De Cabooter Kurt	De Cloedt Elsje		
Dehaye (BEL)	Dewasme Isabelle	Liegeois Sophie	Dehaye Bernard	Vandervorst Mike		
Ditetova (CZE)	Ditetova Eva	Fort Tomas	Grosmanova Tana	Grosman Zdenek		
Eginton (ENG)	Eginton Steve	Nelson Catherine	Teltscher Kitty	Teltscher B. L.		
Falay (TUR)	Falay Faik	Ozan Eren	Demirbas Naci	Tokcan Merih		
Farholt (DEN)	Farholt Stense	Caspersen Henrik	Krefeldt Camilla	Hammelev Johan		
FIGB 1 (ITA)	Capriata Emanuela	Masucci Nino	Franzos Marina	Zenari Fabio		
FIGB 2 (ITA)	Francisci Rosanna	Maggio Mario	Salvemini Daniela	Scriattoli Francesco	Saccavini Claria	Rosati Fabio
Fornaciari (ITA)	Gigliotti Donatella	Fornaciari Ezio	Peirce Roberta	Caiti Stefano	Rossano Enzo	Vivaldi Antonio
Garthwaite (ENG)	Garthwaite R.	Hobson H.	Latham A.	Latham J.		
Gotard (GER)	Gotard Tomasz	Gotard Barbara	Bohnsack Suzanne	Bohnsack Henning	Gramberg Wiltrud	Schilmart Norbert
Grenthe (FRA)	Duguet Marlene	Duguet Michel	Vanhoutte Francoise	Vanhoutte Philippe	Grenthe Dominique	Grenthe Patrick
Hardeman (BEL)	Hardeman Annemie	Serras Jan	Campana Yves	Campana Francine		
Harris (WAL)	Favager Eric	Favager Annie	Harris Diana	Gagné Paul		
Henri (BEL)	Collet Christine	Henri Jacques	Charrault Mireille	Lafourcade Jean-Pierre		
Hocheke (POL)	Hocheke Danuta	Cichocki Miroslaw	Pasternak Malgorzata	Araszkiwicz Konrad	Jeleniewska Malgorzata	Jagniewski Rafal
Huijben (NET)	Huijben Ingrid	Berendregt Carel	Van Zwol Wietske	Bertens Huub		
Ivardsdottir (ICE)	Olgeirsson Omar	Thorsteindottir Bryndis	Jonsson Thorkkur	Ivandsdottir Anna		
Johnson (BEL)	Johnson David	Angelini Laetizia	Calas Damien	Marechal Nicole	Bolle Michel	Petit Frederique
Jonsson (ICE)	Jonsson Birkir	Mariusdottir Gudlang	Benediktsson Stefan	Stefansdottir Inga Jona		
Juhas (YUG)	Juhas Anamarija	Talijan Biljana	Parezanin Darko	Vucic Aleksandar		
Juuri-Oja (FIN)	Niemisto Pekka	Niemisto Ritva	Juur-oja Pirjo	Juur-oja Erkki		
Kaplan (FRA)	Tsur Campanile Migri	Hugon Elisabeth	Abecassis Michel	Kaplan Lewis		

Kitabgi (FRA)	Kitabgi	Nahmias	Beaumier	Beaumier		
Kondoch (GER)	Kondoch Hartmut	Zarkesch Flora	Caesar Karin	Boeddeker Robert		
Kostur (SWI)	Witek Marek	Sautaux Monika	Mierzejewska Aleksandra	Kostur Jacek		
Labaere (BEL)	Labaere Valerie	Labaere Alain	Jeunen Veronique	Jeunen Frans	Vandenbossche Caroline	Van Middeltem Guy
Langston (SCO)	Langston P.	Langston M.	Williams E.	Williams K.		
Lavazza (ITA)	Lavazza M. Teresa	Duboin Giorgio	Versace Alfredo	Cuzzi Monica	Erhart Maria	Ferraro Guido
Leitner (AUS)	Lorenz Birgitt	Unger Shelley	Leiter Martin	Leitner Peter		
Mali (NOR+POL)	Malinowski Artur	Sarniak Anna	Thoresen Siv	Winciorek Tomasz		
Marsal (GER)	Marsal F.	Miroszaw W.	Wenning U.	Wenning K.		
Mavromichalis (ENG)	Hackett Paul	Hackett Jason	Hackett Justin	Smith Nicola	Mavromichalis Brigitte	Cronier Benedicte
Maybach (GER)	Gladiator Anne	Schreckenberger Ulrike	Maybach Robert	Oelker Clemens		
Mayda (TUR)	Ariman Mayda	Kandolu Ozlem	Ozdil Mahmut	Uzumcu M. Fahir		
McGloughlin (IRE)	Lillis Heidi	McGloughlin Michael	Pippet Clare	O'Lubaigh Sean		
McGowan (FRA+SCO)	McGowan Liz	Baxter Ken	Chomer Daniel	Dechemaud Francois		
Meehan (IRE+ENG)	Meehan Patsy	Power John	Leighton Morris	Dennison Maureen		
Meyer (FRA)	Meyer Michele	Meyer Jean Paul	Bein�x JC	Dutilloy Nicole	Dutilloy Bruno	
Miszewska (POL)	Miszewska Ewa	Zalewska Joanna	Romanski Jacek	Golebiowski Stanislaw		
Popova (ISR+BUL+TUR)	Zobu Ahu	Haramati Ofer	Popova Dessy	Gunev Rossen		
Porteous (IRE)	Keaveney Gay	Maguire Pauline	Maconville Miriam	Porteous Paul		
Renoux (FRA)	Renoux M. F.	Mari C.	Leenhardt M.	Leenhardt F.		
Resta (ITA)	Severgnini Maddalena	Resta Guido	Gentili Luigina	Maci Giovanni	Pizza Ettore	De Crescenzo Marilena
Riberol (FRA)	Riberol	Ricard	D'Elbee	Lasserre	Lalanne	Pacault
Russo (ITA)	Paoluzi Simonetta	Guerra Enrico	Golin Cristina	Moritsch Massimo		
Sagiv (ISR)	Sagiv Stella	Popilov Lilo	Sagiv Yuda	Polilov Matilda		
Samy (FRA)	Samy Alain	Grand Michele	Samy Brigitte	Azoulay Ives		
Sanglier (FRA)	Sanglier Jacques	Sussel Patrick	Gaviard Danielle	Brochot Claude	Lahayne Anne	
Senior (ENG+BUL)	Penfold Sandra	Senior Brian	Senior Nevena	Stamatov Jerry		
Sigurjonsd (ICE)	Sigurjonsd Erla	Thordars Sigfus	Snorag Kristjan	Gudnap Alda		
Sin Deut (NOR)	Blaagenstad Lise	Bones Tutid	Hons	Sin Deut		
Smykalla (ICE)	Sigurjonsdottir Hjordis	Blondal Kristjan	Baldursdottir Ljosbra	Thorvaldsson Matthias		
Sterkin (RUS)	Kurichkova Oxsana	Sterkin Alexei	Panina Larisa	Rozenblum Mihail	Shur Arseni	Kelina Marina
Stoppa (FRA)	Avon D.	Serf M.	Stoppa J. L.	Stretz F.		
Thordarson (ICE)	Thordarson Jorundur	Skuldottir Hraenhildur	Sigurdsson Thordur	Jonsdottir Agusta		
Tisserand (FRA)	Frances Jacques	Tisserand Sabine	Nermel Pascal	Conter Anne Marie		
Tobias (ENG)	Tobias Jacqui	Jones Gary	Oram Celta	Oram Derek		
Toffier (FRA)	Toffier Ph.	Van Poperinge W.	Faivre Elisabeth	Zuker Pierre	Davic Jean-Yves	Colombaro Anne Marie
Uisk (SWE)	Karlsson Uisk Ylva	Uisk Anto	Evelius Nohren Jenny	Nohren Ulf		
Ulla Koch (DEN)	Koch Ulla	Bjarnarson Gregers	Kalkerup Bettina	Hecht-Johansen Peter		
Van der Neut (NET)	Van der Neut Jaap	Bello Isabelle	Schippers Henk	Schippers Elly		
Van Woerden (NET)	Van Woerden Tom	Klerks A.	Seisener	Van Hoof		
Vechiatto (GER)	Weber Elke	Weber Fred	Vechiatto Claudia	Engel Berthold	Nehmert Beate	Yuen Michael
Vives (FRA)	Vives Catherine	Curetti Nicole	Vives Jean-Louis	Le Poder Jean		
Volina (RUS)	Volina Victoria	Gromova Victoria	Gromov Andrew	Kholomeev Vadim		
Vriend (NET)	Vriend Bep	Maas Anton	Hoogweg Femke	Van Prooijen Ricco		
Weir (ENG)	Weir Grahame	Robson Sharleen	Tarster Paul	Lane Sue		
Willard (FRA)	Willard Sylvie	Levy Anne-Frederique	Levy Alain	Mouiel Herve		
Xtrouble (DEN+NET)	Brink Sjoert	Hecht-Johansson Gitte	Dekker Astrid	Groosman Bart		
Zimmermann (FRA)	D'Ovidio C.	Bessis V.	Moretti R.	Bessis M.	Saporta P.	Zimmermann P.

2002 World Bridge Contest

The 2002 World Bridge Contest will be held on Friday 7th and Saturday 8th June 2002 and the WBF is hoping for a really big participation from all the European Countries

Board 13 from last year's contest provided an opportunity for the excellent commentator, Eric Kokish, to highlight the differences in bidding systems

Board 13. Game All. Dealer North.

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

In The Netherlands everyone and his cousin will open the North hand with 2♠, spades and a minor. In Poland, 2♦ will be the popular choice, a two-suiter with at least one major. All over the world there will be some way to strike the first blow with that black five-five, but not everyone will have the right gadget, so pass, as they say in the litigious US of A, will be a logical alternative.

At those tables East will open 1NT or 1♦. West will often, but not always, use Stayman over his partner's strong notrump. If he simply jumps to 3NT he will keep North out of the bidding, but over 2♣ North will be tempted to come in with 2♠. If he does, the bidding might well continue Pass-Pass-Double-All Pass. There are several chances to negotiate an 800-point penalty and North will regret his decision to pass initially, which led him to act later at greater risk.

If West does not look for a heart fit South is likely to lead the suit and give declarer a third heart trick. He will take at least two spades, three hearts, two diamonds and three clubs for ten tricks and a reasonable score.

After 1♦-Pass-1♥, North will have a variety of ways to enter the auction: double, 1NT, 2NT (both showing length in the black suits), and perhaps one or two different cue-bids. 1NT looks just right to me, showing five-five without risking the three-level. If E/W can initiate a penalty suggestion they may find themselves defending 2♣ doubled, which won't be pretty for declarer. But it's a potential trouble hand for N/S so -800 won't be a bottom and -500 might be a near top. That's one of the beauties of comparison scoring – your counterparts can get into trouble as easily as you can.

A two-level opening by North opening will usually convince East to risk a 2NT overcall and West will get his side to 3NT sooner or later. At these tables South is not going to lead a heart. On a spade lead, North splitting his honours, declarer can duck or win with relative safety. By working on diamonds he can come to two spades, two hearts, three diamonds and three clubs for ten (slightly different) tricks.

The Contest provides an exciting, enjoyable and challenging game to the participants. The rare opportunity to join a major event and compete with players from so many other countries provides a stimulating experience and the commentary booklets give everyone a chance to discuss the hands afterwards. Add to this the enjoyment of watching the scores change as new results come in, the fun of adding your own comments to the site and this becomes an event not to be missed.

The contest is also seen as contributing to the growth of bridge by offering organisers at every level a great opportunity to attract media attention and this should be exploited as much as possible; this in turn will help to encourage more people to learn duplicate bridge in order to participate in these tournaments.

For more information about the World Wide Bridge Contest, please go to www.ecatsbridge.com or contact Anna Gudge, The Old Railway Station, Long Melford, Suffolk CO10 9HN, England. Tel: +44 1787 881920; Fax: +44 1787 881339; email: anna@ecats.co.uk

Merci Beaucoup!

As Chairman of the EBL Tournament Directors Committee I wish to thank in particular all the TDs working here in Ostend, led magnificently by Max Bavin and Antonio Riccardi. Not only have they shown great competence in their work, but they have also accepted the additional task of changing the boards in the team matches. Thanks again and I promise you lots of caddies next time!

They have been helped in this task by the duplication team who also for the first time in a Swiss tournament have duplicated boards for all the matches. My thanks also to them.

Jean-Claude Beineix

Chairman EBL Tournament Directors Committee

The Tipster

Several members of the Bulletin Team are keen students of the turf, so it is only natural that there has been some discussion as to who might enter the winners circle on Friday. One pundit selected the following eight teams to follow before play started - their standings after four matches are in brackets.

Volina (2)	Damiani (66)
Lavazza (10)	Mavromichalis (58)
Auken (11)	Stoppa (34)
Burgay (23)	Zimmererman (33)
Willard (32)	

World Bridge Championships - Montreal August 16 - 31 2002

Flights , Hotels and Reservations

Air Canada is the official carrier for the Championships, and is offering 15% and 20% discounts off air fares from outside North America, 5% to 15% within North America. Please quote Convention N° CV 664436

Hotel reservations must be made through the 2002 World Bridge Championship Housing Bureau:

Tel: +1 514 844 0848; Fax: +1 514 844 6771; Email: reservations@tourisme-montreal.org

Please note that the number of rooms at the venue hotels is limited and **you are advised to book early** if you wish to stay in either of the venue hotels - The Queen Elizabeth is already sold out for 15th & 31st August and you are urged to make your reservations as soon as possible.

Prices are per room (double or single occupancy), per night and payable in Canadian dollars. The rates shown do not include 7% Canadian tax, 7.5% Quebec tax and a \$2 per room per night guestroom tax. (At the present time the 7% rate is refundable to non-Canadian visitors). Conversion to US\$ is calculated on the basis of US\$1 = Cnd \$1.60. On the list below, US \$ prices are shown in brackets.

Hotels	Walking Distance	Standard Rooms	Deluxe Rooms	Concierge	Suites	Cutoff date for reservations	Remarks
Host Hotels							
Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel	0 mins	\$173 (\$108)	\$194 (\$121)	\$234 (\$146)	\$294 (\$184)	15 July	Tournament Venue
Montreal Bonaventure Hilton	0 mins	\$213 (\$133)	\$267 (\$167)		\$450 (\$281)	15 July	Tournament Venue
Nearby Hotels							
Château Royal Hotel Suites	9 mins	\$135 (\$85) \$189 quad (2br) (\$118)				01 July	Apartment style hotel
Day's Inn	10 mins	\$119 (\$75) \$129 triple (\$81) \$139 quad (\$87)				15 July	10 th night free after 9 nights
Hotel du Fort	15 mins	\$160 (\$100)	\$185 (\$116)			15 May	Complimentary taxi once a day to venue
Le Cantile	8 mins	\$165 (\$103)				15 May	
Le Nouvel	12 mins	\$155 (\$97)				15 May	Free Parking for at least 10 nights' stay
Novotel	6 mins	\$159 (\$99) \$174 triple (\$109) \$189 quad (\$118)				2 July	
Marriott	2 mins	\$195 (\$122)					Available for 28/31 Aug

Schedule of Events

Fri	16 August	Invitation Par Contest		Opening Ceremony	
Sat.	17 August	Mixed Pairs - qualifying 1/2			
Sun	18 August	Mixed Pairs: 3rd qualifying & 1st Final Sessions	Zonal Mixed Pairs		
Mon	19 August	Mixed Pairs 2nd & 3rd Sessions Final	Zonal Mixed Pairs		
Tue	20 August	Rosenblum/McConnell		Junior Teams	
Wed	21 August	Rosenblum/McConnell		Junior Teams	
Thur	22 August	Rosenblum/McConnell		Junior Pairs	
Fri	23 August	Rosenblum (64)/McConnell (32)	Zonal Teams	Junior Pairs	Senior Teams
Sat	24 August	Rosenblum (32)/McConnell (16)	Zonal Teams	Junior Individual	Senior Teams
Sun	25 August	Rosenblum (16)/McConnell (8)	Pairs Qualifying		Senior Teams
Mon	26 August	Rosenblum (8)/McConnell (4)	Pairs Qualifying		Senior Teams
Tue	27 August	Rosenblum (4)/McConnell (2)	Pairs - Semi Final	Zonal Pairs	Senior Pairs
Wed	28 August	Rosenblum (2)	Pairs - Semi Final	Zonal Pairs	Senior Pairs
Thur	29 August		Pairs - Final	IMP Pairs *	Senior Pairs
Fri	30 August		Pairs - Final	IMP Pairs *	Senior Pairs
Sat	31 August		Pairs - Final	Closing Ceremony	

* Will declare Open and Senior winners

An ACBL Regional Tournament will be conducted in conjunction with the World Championships.
It will begin at 8pm on **16 August** with a 1-session mixed pairs event and end on **02 September 2002**

Entry Fees

Event	Price US\$	Length of event
Mixed Pairs	240	Three days
Open and Women's Pairs	400	Four days
Players not qualifying for the Semi Finals may play free of charge in Zonal Pairs		
Open and Women's Pairs Final	80	2 1/2 days
Rosenblum and McConnell Teams	800	10/11 days; teams are guaranteed to play at least 5 days
Senior Teams **	640	Four days
Senior Pairs	320	Four days
IMP Pairs (50% discount to participants from the Open & Women's Pairs)	160	Two days
Juniors in Junior World Championship events	free	Six days
Can-Am Regional (per Player/per Session)	10	Every day

** Senior players qualified for the Zonal Teams may enter the Senior Teams for an fee of \$320 instead of \$640

Further Information

Please visit the WBF website at www.bridge.gr or www.ecats.co.uk

2002 EUROPEAN WOMEN'S BRIDGE FESTIVAL

PALERMO - SICILY - ITALY - 21 TO 26 MAY 2002

Hotel

The venue for the Women's Bridge Festival will be the four star Jolly Hotel. It is situated on the seaside at Palermo, near the historical centre. It has restaurants - bar - swimming pool - parking - air conditioning - and TV and minibar in all rooms.

Packages

Special packages have been arranged for the whole period, valued in EURO.

You will find all the details on the **Registration Form** on the back of this brochure.

Please complete this form very carefully, and return it to:

Borzi Viaggi di Palermo, via Serradifalco 2C-90145, Palermo, Italy
Tel: +39 091 225511; Fax: +39 091 6820269

Email: antonella@borziviaggi.it or sonia@borziviaggi.it

Entry Deadline

Entries must be made to Antonella or Sonia **not later** than 25 March 2002, and must be accompanied by a deposit equivalent to 180 Euro per person. Late entries can only be accepted if there is sufficient accommodation available in the Hotels.

Registration - Hospitality Desk

As soon as participants have registered in the Hotel Jolly and unpacked, they are invited to go to the Registration - Hospitality Desk, located in the same hotel, the Festival venue, to register, pay the balance of their package costs and the bridge entry fees and receive their hospitality files and badges and a convention card to be used by all the players in the Individual Tournament. This is a very simple system, available in English, French, Italian and Spanish..They will also be able to obtain information and details about any excursions as well as about the Festival itself.

Bridge Entry Fees

The entry fees for the Bridge Competitions, to be paid at the Hospitality Desk, are as follows:

Individual Tournament (1 Session)	16 Euro per player
Pairs Tournament (3 Sessions)	40 Euro per player
Both Tournaments (4 Sessions)	50 Euro per player

PLEASE NOTE that all additional costs, including the cost of the package, bridge entry fees, extras, coupons etc. cannot be paid by credit card. Only EURO (€) can be accepted either in cash or as a Euro cheque.

Extras

If anyone who is not on the "package" deals wishes to attend the Closing Banquet, the sightseeing in Palermo or the full day excursion to Agrigento and Segesta he or she should enquire at the Hospitality desk about availability and prices.

Bidding Boxes

Bidding boxes will be used throughout the Bridge Tournaments. However, participants who have never used them before will be shown how to do so on the Tuesday evening after dinner (please ask the organisers during the welcome party).

Prizes

There will be many prizes in kind, objets d'art and other lux-

ury goods.

Awards will be as follows:

Individual Tournament	First 3 places
Pairs Tournament	First 3 places
Festival (combined classification)	First 6 places
"Women's Bridge Festival Champion"	First position only

European Master Points will be awarded to the leading five pairs from Europe in the Pairs Tournament.

NOTE Obviously the Lady players who do not compete in both individual and pairs tournaments, will not have the right to receive the prizes for the Festival (combined classification)

Prize Giving Ceremony

This will take place during the closing banquet on the Saturday night.

Coupons

In order to make it easier to purchase various items (drinks, cakes, coffee, tea, etc), Coupons will be available in blocks from the Hospitality Desk. One coupon will be required for each item purchased. Money will not be refunded for coupons not used.

General Information

Smoking: The International rules for smoking will be followed.

Rubber Bridge: There will be optional rubber bridge available after dinner each evening.

Weather: 22/25 degrees - usually no rain

Shopping: What to buy? Dresses, clothes, bags and shoes in all price ranges; folk art objects, ceramics, typical Sicilian hand-carts and marionettes, very special and unique sweets and candies.

Companions

If you wish your husband, your family or your friends accompany you to Palermo, there is no problem. We will arrange side games for them if numbers are sufficient and, of course, if they are with you on the package deals offered, they will be able to accompany you on the tours and to the banquet. If they are not, please read the item "Extras"

All Alone? No Partner?

Don't worry - This is no problem: We will arrange it all for you! We will be your guardian angels and will not leave you, not even for a moment!

DO COME AND JOIN US FOR THE EUROPEAN WOMEN'S BRIDGE FESTIVAL IN PALERMO!

Plan to take your Bridge Holiday with us and please, please, book in good time as space is limited and will be allocated on a first-come/first-served basis. As Sicily is such a wonderful region, if you wish to prolong your holiday, just ask the organisers - they will be very pleased to help you!

ORGANISATION: ITALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION
EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE
BORZI VIAGGI DI PALERMO

PROGRAMME

1st day (21.05.2002. Tuesday)				
	Arrival in Palermo			These areas are unique in the world, being a perfect combination of nature at its best, ancient sites and a magic atmosphere
16.00-18.30	Registration			
19.15	Welcome drink in Hotel Jolly followed by dinner and a friendly pairs tournament			
2nd day (22.05.2002. Wednesday)				
	Three hour sightseeing tour of Palermo	15.00		4th day (24.05.2002. Friday)
09.00	Individual Tournament (one session)	20.30		
15.00				Morning free
				Pairs Tournament (first session)
				Pairs Tournament (second session)
3rd day (23.05.2002. Thursday)				5th day (25.05.2002. Saturday)
	Full day tour	14.30		Morning free
08.30	Visit to the famous and enchanting "Temples Valley" in Agrigento and the Greek Temple in Segesta. Lunch included and professional guides will take you round the archaeological sites and monuments.	20.30		Pairs Tournament (third session)
				Prize-giving ceremony and Victory Banquet
				6th day (26.05.2002. Sunday)
				Departure after breakfast

REGISTRATION FORM

Surname First Name
 Address City
 Country Post Code
 Phone Fax.....
 Email

I will share my room with:

Surname First Name
 Arrival Date Time Of Arrival..... Flight Number
 Departure Date Time Of Departure Flight Number

Please arrange a transfer for me (free of charge, Arrival and departure). **Yes / No.**

The hotel price is per person (based on two people sharing a double/twin room)

Package price: 530 Euro

Hotel Jolly****

Single occupancy 230 extra

The site of the tournament

The package price includes 5 nights accommodation in double room, with full American breakfast / brunch; welcome drink; dinner on Tuesday 21 May, visit to Palermo (3-hour tour) full day trip to Agrigento and Segesta (lunch included), transfer from and to the airport, services and taxes

Special needs (e.g. Vegetarian)

I wish to reserve accommodation as indicated above

- I will pay the deposit amount when you send me the form with all the bank details
Please note that all expenses and charges in relation to the transfer of the deposit are to be paid by the person making the reservation.
- I authorise you to charge my credit card with 180 Euro. Note only the following cards may be used: American Express/Visa/Eurocard mastercard/Diners Club/Carta si

Card number Expiry Date

Name on card

Signature Date.....

Please type or use block letters and return this form not later than 25 March 2002 to Borzi Viaggi di Palermo, via Serradifalco 2C-90145, Palermo, Italy - Tel: +39 091 225511; Fax: +39 091 6820269 - Email: antonella@borziviaggi.it or sonia@borziviaggi.it

IMPORTANT: You can purchase plane tickets at a special price through the Borzi Viaggi di Palermo - please contact Antonella or Sonia

Appeal No. 14

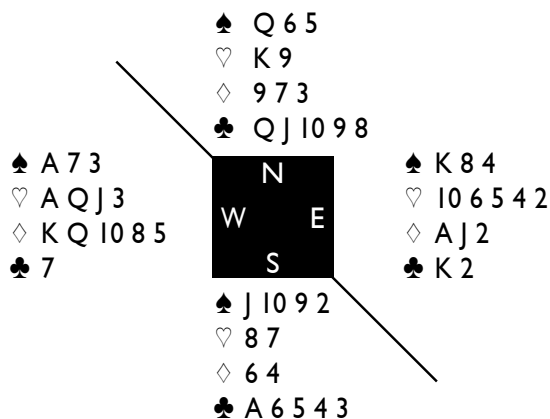
Italy v Russia

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Grattan Endicott (England)

Mixed Teams Round 2

Board 9. Dealer North. East/West Vulnerable.



West	North	East	South
<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Guerra</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Paoluzzi</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	INT	Dble	2♣
2♦	Pass	3♦	3♠
Pass	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Contract:

Three No trumps, played by East.

Lead: Jack of Spades.

Result: tricks, N/S +200.

The Facts:

North intended his INT to show a Club one-suiter, but South explained it as a two-suiter (not both Majors). Over a two-suiter, a Double by West over 2♣ would be for penalties, but on a one-suiter it would be Take-Out. East/West called the Director, claiming that the different explanations had prevented them from reaching Four Hearts

The Director:

Ruled that East/West had been misinformed and that they had been damaged as a result.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to 4♥+1, N/S -650.

Relevant Laws:

Law 75A, 40C, 12C2.

North/South appealed.

Present:

All players.

The Players:

North explained his mistake. He had not noticed that the opponents were playing Polish Club, and thought it was Strong Club. Over a Strong Club, his INT does indeed show a Club suit. South did realize that 1♣ was Polish, and her explanation was correct. North/South were able to show the first meaning on their Convention Card, the second one was explained as a logical consequence of an unusual NT in a position protected by an initial Pass (they had a method to show Majors).

East/West explained their methods, the gist of which is explained in the Committee's reasoning below.

North/South explained why they appealed. In their opinion, East/West had had ample opportunity to introduce the Heart suit, and the fact that they did not was a consequence of North/South's busy bidding, not of the misexplanation.

The Committee:

Considered that North had indeed made a bidding mistake. Consequently, West had received a correct explanation and no redress could be made on that side of the screen.

East had not received a correct explanation though, and her actions could be considered in the light of misinformation.

The Committee summarized what they had learnt of East/West's system.

East's double showed points under both explanations. Two Hearts would not have been forcing.

In West's point of view, where INT had been explained as a two-suiter, 2♣ was a run-off, and a Double would be for penalties. Needing to bid something to show his extra point strength, 2♦ was a normal forcing bid, not necessarily showing a very unbalanced hand. When the bidding came back to him, he made a forcing pass and when partner decided to play 3NT that was OK to him.

In East's point of view, 2♣ was a natural acceptance of the suit North had shown. Since West then had a Take-Out Double available, 2♦ had to show an unbalanced hand. East then took the choice of not introducing the bad Heart suit and preferred to support partner's diamonds. On the next round, 3NT seemed a good choice. East may have expected six diamond tricks and a few aces and stoppers.

If East had received the same information as West had, she would have realized that West was not necessarily unbalanced, and she might have introduced her Heart suit.

The Committee concluded that the misinformation had indeed influenced East's choice of bid.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit:

Returned.

Afternoon Impressions

At the start of Wednesday's afternoon session, our reporting team went back to table 1, hoping to see a good match between the leaders at the time, GRENTHE from France, and Italy's FORNACIARI, a six-player squad that did not play their captain in this match.

Those who would expect good bridge at this table 1 match may consider thinking twice now before reading on, but a good match it certainly was. Below, we compiled most of the highlights - in every respect, that is to say.

After an easy slam bid at both tables this was board 2:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

At both tables, 4♠ was the final contract. As we can see from the diagram, there is no real way to land ten tricks, but with a little help from our friends... Say East leads a top diamond and switches to her singleton club, one of the suits bid by her partner. Declarer wins the king in dummy, plays a trump to his ace (felling the queen) and leads a cunning ♣9 from hand. If you ruff and next cash the ♥A the contract will be made, so you better discard...

Anyway, a substantial swing to FORNACIARI, as the proper defence was found only once.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

In the table 1 match, 3NT was made at both tables when the best defence was missed. North leads the ♠Q, West wins, unblocks the ♣A and leads a diamond off dummy. South should hop

up with her ace now and continue spades. If she does not, declarer wins his ♦K, cashes just one more top club and establishes his diamonds.

If South grabs her ♦A, declarer unblocks the king and now has to read the position well to succeed. He should win the next spade and cash the diamonds, throwing a spade, a heart and two clubs. He then exits with a losing spade to North, throwing another club. What can North do? On the last diamond he has a choice of evils. He can either keep two spades and ♥Q10, thus parting with his last club and allowing himself to be thrown in with a spade, or he can blank his ♥Q in which case declarer can win by laying down the ♥K from dummy. Several declarers found either winning play against this optimum defence.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Vivaldi	Vanhoutte	Rossano	Vanhoutte
1♥	1♠	Pass	Pass
5♦	Dble	2♣	4♠
Pass	Dble	5♥	Pass
		All Pass	

When East did not judge her hand worth a vulnerable opening pre-empt, E/W had given themselves a free run to what might be the wrong contract. After a spade lead into the tenace, North grabbed his ♣A at trick two and continued the ♦A! Dummy was an entry short now, so when South ruffed the third club from her doubleton, there was no way to make the contract. Down two, GRENTHE +500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Grenthe	Caiti	Grenthe	Peirce
3NT	All Pass	3♣	Pass

The club suit may well be too good for a three-level pre-empt and 3NT might make when partner has some support in diamonds. When North led a low diamond, the contract was doomed with four diamond tricks and the ♣A. Still 9 IMPs for GRENTHE, but it might have been a 18-IMP swing had they bid and made 6♣.

On the next board, we again saw the squeeze mechanism in operation.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

After a 1♠-opening by South, both Wests reached 4♥ and both Norths led the ♠Q and switched to a trump. Both declarers next led a low diamond from dummy. In the Closed Room, Peirce grabbed the ♦K, cashed the ♠A and returned a trump. Now declarer had time to ruff out the diamonds (the suit breaking a lucky 3-3) with the ♣A still there as an entry to dummy. Ten tricks.

In the Open Room, South ducked the low diamond and North won the jack. He returned a club to remove the entry, an essential play. Vivaldi won the ace and led the ♠J from dummy. South won this and now tried to cash the ♣K first instead of simply playing a second trump. Dummy was dead already, so a possible club winner cannot run away. Vivaldi was quick to seize his chance: he ruffed, ruffed a spade and played off all the trumps, squeezing North in diamonds and clubs and South in diamonds and spades. Well done for a flat board.

The next board is included as a warning to all of us.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

On this one, West, playing at notrumps, managed to make two spade tricks when North led a spade at trick one. We cannot tell you more...

The final score was 19-17 to FORNACIARI, a 16-14 win in V.P.

In the second match of the afternoon, once again the table 4 match is focused. It would be WILLARD from France v. MALI, a Polish combination with some Norwegian flavour in it.

On board 1, which in the Closed Room actually was the 6th board to be played, Hervé Mouïel was not happy.



Hervé Mouïel, France

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Winciorek	Mouïel	Sarniak	Willard
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	2♦	Dble
All Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥

Mouïel felt that his partner might have bid 4♥ immediately over 2♥. In a sense, he was right as he emerged with ten tricks on a diamond lead and continuation, but...

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Malinovski	Levy	Thoresen
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

When Alain Levy found the spade lead from the West seat, he had secured the spade ruff for his partner. Well done for another +50 or 6 IMPs to the French.



Anne-Frederique Levy, France

On the following board, the Polish equalised:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ 10 8 6 5 3										
	♥ K 9 5 2										
	♦ -										
	♣ K 10 5 2										
♠ K Q J 9	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A 7 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ Q J 10 7 3		♥ 8 4									
♦ J 7 5		♦ K 9 8									
♣ 9		♣ A Q J 7 6									
	♠ 2										
	♥ A 6										
	♦ A Q 10 6 4 3 2										
	♣ 8 4 3										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Malinovski	Levy	Thoresen
		1♣	1♦
1♥	1♠	2♣	2♦
All Pass			

The French sold out rather cheaply here, each of them holding something in reserve. The contract duly went one down, but...

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Winciorek	Mouiel	Sarniak	Willard
		INT	3♦
Dble	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Here, E/W made it easy going for themselves by starting off with a strong notrump. On the lead of the ♦A nine tricks were quickly made. MALI +400 and 7 IMPs back.

Then, a slam decision:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

	♠ 7 4										
	♥ K Q 5 2										
	♦ A Q 6 3										
	♣ 10 3 2										
♠ 10	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A 3
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ A 7 6		♥ J 10 9 8 4 3									
♦ K 10 9 5 2		♦ 8 4									
♣ J 9 6 5		♣ 8 7 4									
	♠ K Q J 9 8 6 5 2										
	♥ -										
	♦ J 7										
	♣ A K Q										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Malinovski	Levy	Thoresen
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Holding quite a lot of useful values in reserve, Malinovski had an automatic raise over 4♠. When West did not lead his ♥A but a spade instead, declarer had to perform a standard show-up squeeze on him to make sure of his contract. MALI +1430.

In the other room, East made some noise:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Winciorek	Mouiel	Sarniak	Willard
Pass	Pass	2♦	Dble
Pass	Pass	2♥	4♠
All Pass			

Maybe South should have taken stronger action. Maybe, North should have taken stronger action. When West led the ♥A, declarer could quickly claim 12 tricks for a loss of 13 IMPs.

Once again, the equaliser came on the next board.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

	♠ A Q 10 9										
	♥ Q 7 4										
	♦ A 7 6 3										
	♣ 9 6										
♠ 5	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; text-align: center;"> <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		♠ 8
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 10 9 8 6 3		♥ A									
♦ K Q 4 2		♦ J 10 9 8 5									
♣ 10 7 5		♣ A K 8 4 3 2									
	♠ K J 7 6 4 3 2										
	♥ K J 5 2										
	♦ -										
	♣ Q J										

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Winciorek	Mouïel	Sarniak	Willard
	1♦	2♣	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

When East did not compete any further at her second opportunity, N/S had a free run to 620.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Malinovski	Levy	Thoresen
	1♦	2♣	2♠
3♣	4♠	5♣	5♠
All Pass			

Please note that 5♣ will be beaten only on a spade lead and diamond continuation. East does not hold the ♣9 and thus will pick up the trumps for no loser. This would have been a great save, but beating 5♠ turned an 11-imp swing into a 12-imp one.

The score stood at 20-18 to the Polish (Norwegian) and remained unchanged for four rather dull boards. On the last board, we once again saw far too little action at either table, this time resulting in a partscore swing to the French:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Malinovski	Levy	Thoresen
	???	Pass	Pass
1♥			

What would you bid with the North hand? Malinovski did not know the reply and passed. So did everybody else. The contract was made on the lead of the ♣10. WILLARD +80.

At the other table, Mouïel was faced with the same problem.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Winciorek	Mouïel	Sarniak	Willard
	???	Pass	Pass
1♥			

He improvised with 1♠ and there it rested. With his usual careful play, he managed no less than ten tricks and thought he had missed a game and lost the board. Not quite. WILLARD scored an unexpected 6 IMPs on this one to win 24-20 or 16-14.V.P.

Lucky in Love

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Demirbas		Tokcan	
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♥*	Pass	6♦	All Pass

Merik Tokan immediately thought in terms of a slam once West had opened the bidding. It seemed like a good idea to inhibit a club lead, hence her cunning bid of Three Clubs. Four Diamonds set the trump suit, and Four Spades showed a control in spades but not in hearts.

Declarer knew she would probably need to have to have some luck with partner's heart holding, and in the event, with a club lead by South now impossible to find, she had to guess the heart position.

Still, as she said herself, 'I'm always lucky in  games.'

Thursday 21st March

Quick Menu of the Day

Steak Peper met Frietjes

13,00 Euro

Steak with Pepper Sauce and Chips

Traduttore Tradittore (or not)

When a Belgian player translated his familiar "Deux Faible" into "Two Weak", he was unwittingly right. After the contract went three light, it really was a case of "Too Weak".

MIXED TEAMS

Results after 9 matches

1 Grenthe	180.0	47 Kaplan	135.0
2 Popova	171.0	48 Sin Deut	134.0
3 Fornaciari	167.0	49 Falay	134.0
4 Mali	164.0	50 Bonori	134.0
5 Stoppa	163.0	51 Russo	133.0
6 Alla	162.0	52 Johnson	132.0
7 Willard	160.0	53 Van Woerden	132.0
8 Lavazza	157.0	54 Tisserand	132.0
9 Blouquit	154.0	55 Sterkin	131.0
10 Auken	154.0	56 Ditetova	131.0
11 Kitabgi	153.0	57 Kostur	130.0
12 De Botton	152.0	58 Vechiatto	129.0
13 Labaere	151.0	59 Tobias	128.0
14 Vriend	150.0	60 Renoux	128.0
15 Dehayé	150.0	61 Sanglier	126.0
16 Vives	150.0	62 Barr	126.0
17 Volina	149.0	63 Brekiesz	126.0
18 Riberol	148.0	64 Bamberger	126.0
19 FIGB 1	147.0	65 Garthwaite	125.0
20 Blondal	146.0	66 Churlin	124.0
21 Zimmermann	146.0	67 Juhas	123.0
22 Van der Neut	146.0	68 Toffier	123.0
23 Senior	146.0	69 Sagiv	122.0
24 Damiani	145.0	70 Meyer	122.0
25 Uisk	145.0	71 Mavromichalis	122.0
26 Hocheke	144.0	72 Miszewska	122.0
27 Huijben	143.0	73 Chodorowska	122.0
28 Kondoch	143.0	74 Thordarson	121.0
29 Gotard	143.0	75 Harris	120.0
30 Porteous	143.0	76 Resta	119.0
31 Burgay	142.0	77 FIGB 2	119.0
32 Henri	142.0	78 Weir	118.0
33 Ulla Koch	142.0	79 Xtrouble	118.0
34 Al-Shati	142.0	80 Sigurjonsd	117.0
35 Bruchhauser	141.0	81 McGloughlin	113.0
36 Jonsson	140.0	82 Samy	112.0
37 Maybach	139.0	83 Hardeman	112.0
38 Allix	139.0	84 Smykalla	110.0
39 Marsal	139.0	85 Budzik	109.0
40 Eginton	137.0	86 Leitner	109.0
41 Beccuti	137.0	87 Alberti	107.0
42 Ivarsdottir	137.0	88 De Graeve	103.0
43 Farholt	136.0	89 Langston	101.0
44 McGowan	136.0	90 Budd	96.0
45 Backstrom	135.0	91 Meehan	95.0
46 Juuri-Oja	135.0	92 Mayda	86.0

Hélas, trois fois hélas...

Par Colette GROSFILS

Un joli coup technique réalisé par Jean Pierre Lafourcade et qui ne sert à rien... Dommage.

3ème Séance Par Équipes - Donne 13

Nord Donneur - Tous Vul.

Lafourcade

♠ 6 5
♥ D 10 5
♦ V 10 6 2
♣ R 6 5 2

♠ A D V 10 7
♥ 8 3 2
♦ R 9 8
♣ A D

	N	
O	E	
	S	

♠ R 9 8 3
♥ A V 6
♦ 7 5 4
♣ V 7 4

Charrault

♠ 4 2
♥ R 9 7 4
♦ A D 3
♣ 10 9 8 3

Ouest	Nord	Est	Sud
	Passe	Passe	Passe
INT	Passe	2♣	Passe
2♠	Passe	4♠	Passe
Passe	Passe		

Jean Pierre Lafourcade entame atout. Le déclarant prend puis réjoue atout vers le mort et tente l'impasse à ♣ qui échoue. Nord revient ♦ pour l'As de Mireille Charrault qui retourne du 3 de Carreau pris par le Roi d'Ouest.

Le déclarant débloque l'As de ♣ et revient au mort avec un atout maître. Il présente alors le Valet de ♣ sur lequel il défausse un ♦ et rejoue son troisième ♦ qu'il coupe.

A quatre cartes de la fin, la situation est la suivante, quand Ouest présente le 8 de ♥. Quelle carte Nord doit-il jouer?

♠ –
♥ D 10 5
♦ –
♣ 6

	N	
O	E	
	S	

♠ 8
♥ A V 6
♦ –
♣ –

Il voit un ♠ et trois ♥ au mort et connaît la main d'Ouest qui possède également encore un ♠ et trois ♥.

Sur le 8 de ♥, Nord a fourni la Dame, carte obligatoire si Ouest possède le 9 de ♥.

Hélas, tout cela ne servait à rien puisque le 9 de ♥ se situait dans la main de sa partenaire.

D'autant plus beau, que c'était inutile!