



Daily Bulletin

WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS
22nd OCTOBER - 5th NOVEMBER

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Issue No. 3

Tuesday, 25 October 2005

TEAMS IN OVERDRIVE



Pretty Renaults all in a row. Renault is one of the tournament sponsors.

Day two of play in the three main events produced some surprises - and one more or less expected happening as Italy moved to the top of the Bermuda Bowl round-robin standings. This Italian team has never won the Bermuda Bowl and are looking to make up for their narrow miss in Monte Carlo two years ago.

The favored Italian team posted three impressive victories on Monday to replace first-day leader Brazil, who were dispatched with surprising ease by Egypt 67-6. With the victory, Egypt moved to second place, while Brazil dropped down to third. USA2 maintained their place in fourth despite losing a well-played match to USA1.

China, day one leader in the Venice Cup, kept their position,

14 Victory Points clear of France, with England close behind. USA2 was in fourth place.

In the Seniors Bowl, the Netherlands, undefeated through six matches, maintained their hold on first, with Indonesia, Pakistan, Poland and Portugal all within shouting distance.

While the three main events go on today, the 9th annual World Computer Bridge Championship will begin today. The tournament this year is dedicated to the late Alan Truscott, bridge editor of The New York Times, who inspired the event.

Top programs from around the world will compete. Jack, created in the Netherlands, has won three years in a row and will be playing in Estoril.

VUGRAPH MATCHES

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 7 – 10.00
Australia v Brazil

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 8 – 14.00
England v USA2

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 9 – 17.30
USA1 v Poland

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TODAY'S PROGRAM



Bermuda Bowl

ROUND 7 10.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	NETHERLANDS	ARGENTINA
2	INDIA	PORTUGAL
3	U.S.A.1	SOUTH AFRICA
4	JAPAN	POLAND
5	CANADA	EGYPT
6	ITALY	GUADELOUPE
7	CHINESE TAIPEI	RUSSIA
8	AUSTRALIA	BRAZIL
9	JORDAN	U.S.A.2
10	CHINA	SWEDEN
11	NEW ZEALAND	ENGLAND

Venice Cup

ROUND 7 10.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	U.S.A.2	EGYPT
13	ENGLAND	FRANCE
14	PORTUGAL	AUSTRALIA
15	AUSTRIA	VENEZUELA
16	GERMANY	NETHERLANDS
17	ARGENTINA	INDIA
18	CANADA	CHINA
19	SINGAPORE	PAKISTAN
20	MOROCCO	U.S.A.1
21	BRAZIL	SWEDEN
22	JAPAN	NEW ZEALAND

ROUND 8 14.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	ARGENTINA	INDIA
2	EGYPT	U.S.A.1
3	SOUTH AFRICA	JAPAN
4	POLAND	CANADA
5	BRAZIL	ITALY
6	GUADELOUPE	CHINESE TAIPEI
7	RUSSIA	AUSTRALIA
8	ENGLAND	U.S.A.2
9	SWEDEN	NEW ZEALAND
10	PORTUGAL	NETHERLANDS
11	CHINA	JORDAN

ROUND 8 14.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	FRANCE	PORTUGAL
13	INDIA	AUSTRIA
14	VENEZUELA	GERMANY
15	NETHERLANDS	ARGENTINA
16	CHINA	PAKISTAN
17	CANADA	SINGAPORE
18	U.S.A.1	JAPAN
19	MOROCCO	BRAZIL
20	SWEDEN	NEW ZEALAND
21	AUSTRALIA	U.S.A.2
22	EGYPT	ENGLAND

ROUND 9 17.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	JAPAN	EGYPT
2	CANADA	SOUTH AFRICA
3	ITALY	RUSSIA
4	CHINESE TAIPEI	BRAZIL
5	AUSTRALIA	GUADELOUPE
6	U.S.A.2	SWEDEN
7	ENGLAND	CHINA
8	NEW ZEALAND	JORDAN
9	NETHERLANDS	INDIA
10	PORTUGAL	ARGENTINA
11	U.S.A.1	POLAND

ROUND 9 17.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	ENGLAND	AUSTRALIA
13	PORTUGAL	EGYPT
14	AUSTRIA	NETHERLANDS
15	GERMANY	INDIA
16	ARGENTINA	VENEZUELA
17	SINGAPORE	CHINA
18	PAKISTAN	CANADA
19	SWEDEN	U.S.A.1
20	BRAZIL	JAPAN
21	NEW ZEALAND	MOROCCO
22	U.S.A.2	FRANCE



TODAY'S PROGRAM

Seniors Bowl

ROUND 7 10.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
23	BANGLADESH	CANADA
24	EGYPT	PAKISTAN
25	INDONESIA	BRAZIL
26	POLAND	NEW ZEALAND
27	MOROCCO	DENMARK
28	NETHERLANDS	PORTUGAL
29	AUSTRALIA	ITALY
30	USA2	ISRAEL
31	FRANCE	GUADELOUPE
32	SWEDEN	GERMANY
33	JAPAN	USA I

ROUND 8 14.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
23	DENMARK	BANGLADESH
24	ITALY	INDONESIA
25	ISRAEL	POLAND
26	NETHERLANDS	MOROCCO
27	USA2	AUSTRALIA
28	SWEDEN	PORTUGAL
29	USA I	GERMANY
30	GUADELOUPE	CANADA
31	FRANCE	PAKISTAN
32	BRAZIL	EGYPT
33	NEW ZEALAND	JAPAN

ROUND 9 17.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
23	JAPAN	BRAZIL
24	BANGLADESH	NEW ZEALAND
25	INDONESIA	NETHERLANDS
26	POLAND	ITALY
27	MOROCCO	ISRAEL
28	PORTUGAL	USA2
29	AUSTRALIA	SWEDEN
30	FRANCE	USA I
31	CANADA	GERMANY
32	PAKISTAN	GUADELOUPE
33	EGYPT	DENMARK

Second Hand Story

By Ron Klinger

Try this problem:

Dealer South. None Vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT(i)

(i) 22-23 balanced

You lead the ♥5 to the nine, ten and queen. South plays ♣A: five—two—three (reverse count), followed by the ♣8. How would you defend?

This deal also arose in the pre-tournament practice match between the Seniors teams from Denmark and Australia. The full deal:

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

The auction at the other table went 2NT — 3NT and both Wests led the ♥5. Both Souths won and played ace and a second club. To defeat 3NT you must rise with the ♣K and switch to the ♦2. If you duck the second club, dummy wins and declarer scampers home with nine tricks.

Counting points, West can tell that partner can have 4 HCP at most. West knows that declarer will always have access to dummy's clubs, since declarer must have either the ♠A or the ♠Q. The only useful 4 HCP that partner can have is the ♦A. End of story.

Swan Games Internet broadcast



Bermuda Bowl	China v Sweden	10.00
Bermuda Bowl	Poland v Canada	14.00
Seniors Bowl	Egypt v Denmark	17.30

RESULTS

Bermuda Bowl

ROUND 4

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	SWEDEN	PORTUGAL	14	93	1	25
2	ENGLAND	NETHERLANDS	14	51	7	23
3	JORDAN	INDIA	41	46	12	16
4	RUSSIA	SOUTH AFRICA	61	34	21	9
5	BRAZIL	POLAND	56	6	25	5
6	GUADELOUPE	EGYPT	26	48	10	20
7	ARGENTINA	ITALY	18	39	11	19
8	CHINESE TAIPEI	AUSTRALIA	31	69	7	23
9	NEW ZEALAND	USA1	46	60	12	18
10	JAPAN	USA2	55	47	16	14
11	CHINA	CANADA	44	39	16	14

ROUND 5

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	NETHERLANDS	JORDAN	84	69	18	12
2	EGYPT	RUSSIA	67	29	23	7
3	SOUTH AFRICA	BRAZIL	16	74	4	25
4	POLAND	GUADELOUPE	65	46	19	11
5	ITALY	AUSTRALIA	59	20	23	7
6	ARGENTINA	CHINESE TAIPEI	26	32	14	16
7	USA1	CHINA	16	56	7	23
8	NEW ZEALAND	JAPAN	25	48	10	20
9	USA2	CANADA	37	13	20	10
10	INDIA	SWEDEN	39	54	12	18
11	PORTUGAL	ENGLAND	63	44	19	11

ROUND 6

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	ENGLAND	INDIA	40	34	16	14
2	JORDAN	PORTUGAL	21	46	10	20
3	RUSSIA	POLAND	61	23	23	7
4	BRAZIL	EGYPT	6	67	3	25
5	GUADELOUPE	SOUTH AFRICA	48	29	19	11
6	CHINESE TAIPEI	ITALY	17	50	8	22
7	AUSTRALIA	ARGENTINA	30	50	11	19
8	USA 2	USA 1	15	30	12	18
9	JAPAN	CHINA	27	43	12	18
10	CANADA	NEW ZEALAND	55	24	21	9
11	SWEDEN	NETHERLANDS	26	12	18	12

Ranking after 6 rounds

1	ITALY	120
2	EGYPT	114
3	BRAZIL	104
4	USA 2	99
5	ARGENTINA	98
6	CHINA	97
7	PORTUGAL	94
	JAPAN	94
9	USA 1	93
	AUSTRALIA	93
	RUSSIA	93
12	ENGLAND	92
13	INDIA	91
14	NETHERLANDS	85
15	SWEDEN	84
16	CHINESE TAIPEI	82
17	GUADELOUPE	81
18	NEW ZEALAND	75.5
19	CANADA	75
20	SOUTH AFRICA	71
21	POLAND	69.5
22	JORDAN	64



BANCO ESPIRITO SANTO

Help Bridge Players All Over The World

By helping BBO to broadcast a second match, each round.

For that they need volunteer operators. If that appeals to you please contact Hervé in the Rama room



RESULTS**Venice Cup****ROUND 4**

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 BRAZIL	NEW ZEALAND	37 37	15 15
13 AUSTRIA	PORTUGAL	54 31	20 10
14 GERMANY	USA2	19 35	11 19
15 ARGENTINA	ENGLAND	40 33	16 14
16 NETHERLANDS	MOROCCO	19 53	7 23
17 INDIA	SWEDEN	35 52	11 19
18 VENEZUELA	JAPAN	19 41	10 20
19 CHINA	EGYPT	38 31	16 14
20 SINGAPORE	FRANCE	27 33	14 16
21 PAKISTAN	AUSTRALIA	31 20	17 13
22 USA1	CANADA	55 53	15 15

ROUND 5

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 PORTUGAL	GERMANY	34 57	10 20
13 USA2	ARGENTINA	28 24	16 14
14 JAPAN	NETHERLANDS	38 19	19 11
15 MOROCCO	INDIA	27 24	16 14
16 SWEDEN	VENEZUELA	51 16	23 7
17 AUSTRALIA	CHINA	20 53	7 23
18 EGYPT	SINGAPORE	37 15	20 10
19 FRANCE	PAKISTAN	28 29	15 15
20 NEW ZEALAND	USA1	31 25	16 14
21 CANADA	BRAZIL	43 39	16 14
22 ENGLAND	AUSTRIA	87 20	25 1

ROUND 6

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 ARGENTINA	PORTUGAL	12 53	6 24
13 NETHERLANDS	SWEDEN	25 21	16 14
14 INDIA	JAPAN	24 30	14 16
15 VENEZUELA	MOROCCO	53 17	23 7
16 CHINA	FRANCE	16 22	14 16
17 SINGAPORE	AUSTRALIA	41 63	10 20
18 PAKISTAN	EGYPT	28 44	11 19
19 USA 1	BRAZIL	8 29	10 20
20 NEW ZEALAND	CANADA	44 31	18 12
21 AUSTRIA	USA 2	34 38	14 16
22 GERMANY	ENGLAND	26 37	13 17

Ranking after 6 rounds

1 CHINA	122
2 FRANCE	108
3 ENGLAND	107
4 USA 2	102
JAPAN	102
6 GERMANY	99
CANADA	99
8 USA 1	97
9 SWEDEN	95
10 NEW ZEALAND	89
11 PAKISTAN	86
12 PORTUGAL	85
13 MOROCCO	84
14 ARGENTINA	81
INDIA	81
SINGAPORE	81
AUSTRALIA	81
18 NETHERLANDS	79
19 BRAZIL	78
AUSTRIA	78
21 EGYPT	73
22 VENEZUELA	62

**No need
to go hungry**

Playing bridge can make you hungry. Luckily, there are several options at the Centro de Congressos. There is a cafeteria with hot food on the ground floor of the facility, and there is a snack bar on the first floor with sandwiches, snacks, soft drinks and cakes.

**Symmetrical
Playing Cards**

The WBF will be selling symmetrical cards. They will be available at the Hospitality Desk from Monday, 24th October. Minimum quantity will be 10 decks at €1 per deck.



RESULTS

Seniors Bowl

ROUND 4

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
23	CANADA	PAKISTAN	41	34	16	14
24	INDONESIA	BANGLADESH	34	51	11	19
25	POLAND	EGYPT	25	30	14	16
26	MOROCCO	JAPAN	8	48	6	24
27	NETHERLANDS	GUADELOUPE	40	15	21	9
28	ITALY	FRANCE	40	48	13	17
29	ISRAEL	GERMANY	35	36	15	15
30	USA2	NEW ZEALAND	35	37	15	15
31	PORTUGAL	DENMARK	44	24	20	10
32	AUSTRALIA	BRAZIL	39	8	22	8
33	USA1	SWEDEN	28	38	13	17

ROUND 5

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
23	BANGLADESH	POLAND	31	65	7	23
24	EGYPT	MOROCCO	42	45	14	16
25	GERMANY	NETHERLANDS	40	49	13	17
26	GUADELOUPE	ITALY	20	38	11	19
27	FRANCE	ISRAEL	29	16	18	12
28	BRAZIL	USA2	10	108	0	25
29	NEW ZEALAND	PORTUGAL	21	71	4	25
30	DENMARK	AUSTRALIA	16	23	14	16
31	PAKISTAN	USA1	57	18	24	6
32	SWEDEN	CANADA	37	41	14	16
33	JAPAN	INDONESIA	3	59	3	25

ROUND 6

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
23	MOROCCO	BANGLADESH	32	34	15	15
24	NETHERLANDS	FRANCE	49	29	20	10
25	ITALY	GERMANY	17	40	10	20
26	ISRAEL	GUADELOUPE	28	35	14	16
27	USA 2	DENMARK	15	40	9	21
28	PORTUGAL	BRAZIL	50	28	20	10
29	AUSTRALIA	NEW ZEALAND	37	18	19	11
30	USA 1	CANADA	27	28	15	15
31	PAKISTAN	SWEDEN	14	11	16	14
32	INDONESIA	EGYPT	44	21	20	10
33	POLAND	JAPAN	37	15	20	10



Ranking after 6 rounds

1	NETHERLANDS	122
2	INDONESIA	109
3	PAKISTAN	107
4	POLAND	106
5	PORTUGAL	102
6	ITALY	95
7	USA 2	94
	FRANCE	94
9	SWEDEN	93
10	AUSTRALIA	92
11	DENMARK	91
	USA 1	91
13	CANADA	89
14	ISRAEL	88
	JAPAN	88
16	GERMANY	87
17	BANGLADESH	82
18	MOROCCO	81
19	EGYPT	80
20	NEW ZEALAND	74
21	GUADELOUPE	68
22	BRAZIL	34

Appreciation

The signs are promising. The three championships have started well, but there will be a more conclusive statement later.

Meanwhile, it must be said of the players after two days that you have behaved splendidly. There have been no cell phones ringing, hardly a cigarette has been detected in the congress centre and the use of the Bridge-mate has gone almost flawlessly.

We are really making progress and you, the players, should be praised for that.

Thanks!

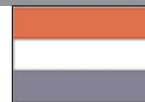
Ton Kooijman

ROUND 3

Bermuda Bowl



Italy v Netherlands



Rematch

In his pre-match interviews, Mark Horton asked Giorgio Duboin to enlighten him about three rumors surrounding the Italian team. The first concerned the team's preparation and the suggestion that they were employing the services of a voice coach, one Luciano Pavarotti. The second concerned the coffee machines which all carry the logo Lavazza Blue — is this in tribute to the team? Finally, was it true that Alfredo Versace wears only suits designed by Armani?

Giorgio was able to confirm that the first two suggestions have no foundation in fact, but as a member of the family, Alfredo naturally stays loyal to the Versace label!

When it was the turn of Jan Jansma, he informed the audience that despite the team's obvious connection with the phrase 'the future's bright, the future's Orange', it had proved impossible to obtain sponsorship from the Orange mobile phone network. He was not worried about the prospect of next year's World Cup being won by England (!) and in response to a question suggested by Sabine Auken, he said that if the team didn't qualify he would play in the Transnational event — as long as it was with Sabine!

On a more serious note, the third-round match between Italy and the Netherlands featured two teams with something to prove. Italy, the betting favourite to win the Bermuda Bowl, had just suffered a loss to India. The Netherlands, losing finalist (to Italy) in last year's Olympiad Teams, were nowhere near what was expected of them in 2005.

The Dutch did not help themselves, dropping the match to Italy 36-9 (21-9 in Victory Points).

Italy gained 32 of their 36 IMPs on three boards, starting with the fourth board of the match.

In the Open Room, Italians Norberto Bocchi and Giorgio Duboin reached 3♠ on the North/South cards. The bad splits limited Bocchi, declarer as North, to eight tricks for minus 100. They could hardly have imagined that it was an 11-IMP pick-up, but the Dutch had a serious accident at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Versace	De Wijs	Lauria	Muller
Pass	1♣	1♥	Dble
4♥	Dble	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

The 5♦ bid by Simon De Wijs clearly was not understood by his partner, Bauke Muller, although they were booked for a bad result just being at the five level, even if Muller had corrected to 5♠. The same bad splits that made spades a bad proposition, made the 4-3 diamond fit a disaster. De Wijs finished six down and could be thankful that he wasn't doubled.

The next swing came in a more conventional manner — an expert defensive play by Lorenzo Lauria that was missed in the Open Room.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Bocchi	Verhees	Duboin
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Louk Verhees started with the ♥10, ducked all around. He continued with the ♥Q, ruffed by Bocchi. At trick three, Bocchi led a low club from hand and, when Verhees played low, Bocchi put in dummy's ten. Jan Jansma exited with the ♦J, taken by declarer with the ace. Bocchi cashed the ♦K and ruffed the ♦5 in dummy with the jack. Jansma discarded a club instead of overruffing, but there was nothing the defense could do. Jansma was eventually thrown in with a choice of leading into the club tenace in dummy, allowing Bocchi to discard his losing diamond, or playing a heart, which establishes dummy's king for the diamond pitch. That was plus 420 for Italy.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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



At the other table, De Wijs also played in 4♠ from the North seat. The play went along similar lines but, when De Wijs led a club from hand, Lauria as East put in the queen. De Wijs could still have succeeded had he known the exact layout of the opponents' cards, but without a peek he played along normal lines and finished one down — 10 IMPs to Italy.

The final swing resulted from some ugly bidding but beautiful play by Duboin.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

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

2♣ showed a balanced hand with 18-19 high-card points; 2♥ showed at least four spades; 2NT showed six or more spades.

This ugly contract, played from the South side, had the virtue of being cold. All Duboin had to do was figure out the way to 12 tricks.

Jansma started with a trump, won by the ace in the South hand. The ♠Q was next, followed by a heart to dummy's jack. From Duboin's point of view, if the heart finesse was right, he could ruff out the king and discard one of dummy's diamonds on the ♥10 — and then he could try to guess clubs.

When the ♥J held, Duboin cashed the ace and played the ♠K, then entered his hand with a diamond to the ace. When Duboin played the ♥Q, Jansma covered. There was speculation that had Jansma refused to cover, Duboin might have discarded a diamond, still planning to try to guess the club suit. As it happened, Duboin ruffed the ♥K and returned to hand with the ♦K when the queen of that suit fell, he could claim.

There was a reaction from the vugraph audience to Duboin's expert play, prompting commentator Paul Chemla to remark: "We should applaud the way (the contract) was played, but not the way it was bid."

Italian partisans might have agreed with that comment, but they might have added: "The proof is in the pudding."

It Didn't Happen But . . .

By Ron Klinger

Try this problem:

Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A Q 9 7
♥ 7 3
♦ K J 9 2
♣ 7 6 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 8 6 5 3
♥ 8 2
♦ A 5 4
♣ K Q 10

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♣	1♠
2♦(i)	2♥(ii)	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦(iii)	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

- (i) Transfer to hearts
 - (ii) Strong spade raise
 - (iii) Game-try, values in diamonds
- Lead: ♥K

East overtakes with the ace and shifts to the ♣3: king, two, four. You draw trumps in two rounds and exit with a heart. West wins cheaply and plays the ♣J to East's ace, and you win the next club, West discarding a heart. How would you continue?

With 18 HCP missing, West has turned up with six already. That leaves 12 for East's opening bid. As the normal diamond finesse will fail, cross to dummy in trumps and lead the ♦J. If East plays low, you run it. If East covers, you capture the ♦Q with the ace and finesse the ♦9.

In the pre-tournament practice match between the Seniors teams from Denmark and Australia this play meant only an overtrick since both sides played in a spade partial. East did have:

♠ J 4
♥ A J 6
♦ Q 7 3
♣ A 9 8 5 3

The alternative line of ♦A, ♦K gains only against Q-10 doubleton with East, much less of a chance.

ROUND 4 Seniors Bowl
France v Italy

France has always done well in Seniors events, while Italy features two of the game's all-time greats in Benito Garozzo and Pietro Forquet. Both teams would be hoping for and expecting a place in the knockout stages here in Estoril, and this match was an important one along the way to achieving that goal.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dechelette</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>De Falco</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	2♠	4♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Poizat</i>	<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Lasserre</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Dble	4♠
4NT	Dble	5♦	Dble
5♥	Dble	All Pass	

Benito Garozzo's Drury 2♣ response allowed François Leenhardt to show his two-suited hand very cheaply, but that was not sufficient to encourage Nicolas Dechelette to try an excursion to the five level. Dechelette led the nine of hearts against 4♠, and Dano De Falco rose with the ace, pitching a club from hand, then led a diamond off the table. Leenhardt took the ace and played back a low heart, which De Falco ruffed. Declarer threw clubs on the diamond winners, then led to the king of clubs, ruffed. De Falco ruffed the heart return and laid down the king of spades, pinning the queen, after which he had no further problems; +420.

Philippe Poizat's 2NT response was a game-forcing raise, and Silvio Sbarigia could double to show a take-out hand, though presumably this did not have to be purely two-suited as at the other table. That convinced Carlo Mosca to compete with 4NT, two places to play, and the Italians eventually wriggled their way into 5♥, where they were doubled. Poizat led a low spade and Mosca thought about running it to the bare queen before finally taking dummy's ace and playing a trump. Poizat won and played two more rounds of trumps, Guy Lasserre throwing a card from each side suit. Though it was hard for

him to see, that was to cost the defence a trick. Mosca won the third heart and took a losing diamond finesse. He ruffed the spade return and led a second diamond. Had Poizat discarded, declarer could have won with the ace, drawn the last trump and given up a diamond. In practice, Poizat ruffed with his low trump, but now the king of diamonds fell under the ace. Had South kept all his diamonds, the defence could have taken both the ruff and the ♦K. There was still a spade to be cashed, but that was just three down for -500 and 2 IMPs to France.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dechelette</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>De Falco</i>
		Pass	1♥
Dble	3♥	3♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Poizat</i>	<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Lasserre</i>
		Pass	1♥
Dble	3♥	3♠	4♥
Dble	Pass	4♠	All Pass



Philippe Poizat, France

Four Spades is very simple – either the trumps come in or they don't. No doubt the Italians would also have stopped in 3♠ had not Lasserre bid 4♥. When he did so Mosca doubled and Sbarigia judged to play in the spade game because of his fifth trump; +420 to Italy but only +170 for France and 6 Italian IMPs.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 9 8 ♥ A J 8 5 4 ♦ 4 ♣ K 10 5 4	♠ K J 2 ♥ Q 2 ♦ Q 5 3 ♣ J 9 7 3 2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 10 7 6 5 4 3 ♥ K 7 6 ♦ K 7 2 ♣ A	♠ A ♥ 10 9 3 ♦ A J 10 9 8 6 ♣ Q 8 6
---	--	---	--

West	North	East	South
<i>Dechelette</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>De Falco</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	1♦
Pass	3♦	3♥	2♦
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
All Pass			All Pass
West	North	East	South
<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Poizat</i>	<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Lasserre</i>
1♥	Dble	Rdbl	1♦
Pass	3♦	3♥	2♦
All Pass			4♦



Dano De Falco, Italy

Where Leenhardt showed his long but weak spades in response to the 1♥ overcall, Sbarigia preferred to follow a route that concentrated on hearts. Four Spades is not a good contract but it could have been making on a better day. Today, it had no chance as the cards lay. De Falco led a club to the ace and at trick two won with his spade ace. He switched to a low heart for the queen and king, and Leenhardt tried a second spade. Garozzo won, cashed the other spade winner and switched to a diamond; down two for -200.

Where spades were never mentioned, it became a partscore battle in the red suits, with Lasserre eventually declaring in 4♦. Mosca led a club to his partner's ace, and Sbarigia switched to the king then six of hearts. Mosca won and played then a third heart, forcing dummy to ruff. Lasserre tried the ♦Q next and, when it did not attract a cover, rose with the ace. He had to lose a diamond and a club now for two down; -100 and 7 IMPs to Italy.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ Q 7 6 ♥ K J 3 ♦ A K 10 3 ♣ 10 6 5	♠ A J 4 ♥ Q 7 2 ♦ 9 8 5 2 ♣ A K 8 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 10 8 5 2 ♥ 9 8 5 4 ♦ J ♣ J 9 7 2	♠ K 9 3 ♥ A 10 6 ♦ Q 7 6 4 ♣ Q 4 3
--	--	---	---

West	North	East	South
<i>Dechelette</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>De Falco</i>
1♦	Dble	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Poizat</i>	<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Lasserre</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
INT	All Pass		

Sbarigia hated to pass 1♦ when looking at a singleton and so tried the effect of a 1♥ response. That kept his opponents out of the auction and Mosca had the unappetising task of trying to make seven tricks in INT. Poizat led a top club, then switched to a heart for the ace, and back came a second heart to the jack and queen. Poizat led his low club to the queen, and Lasserre switched to the queen of diamonds, pinning the bare jack in dummy. On another day that could have been the way to take the maximum, but today it just speeded up the play as Mosca could cash his three diamond winners, then exit with a club. Poizat won and switched to a low spade for the king. That was down three for -300, good for Italy if their teammates could bid and make the vulnerable game at the other table.

Garozzo doubled the opening bid at the other table and Italy did indeed get to 3NT. Dechelette led a club and De Falco won in dummy, then played the ♦9 to the jack, queen and king. With the defence having no entry to the thirteenth club,

in the fullness of time De Falco could establish a diamond trick and also lead towards both the ♠J and ♥Q to come to nine tricks; +600 and 7 IMPs to Italy.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dechelette</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>De Falco</i>
1♥ Pass	Pass 1♠ 3♦	Pass 2♥ All Pass	1♦ 2NT

West	North	East	South
<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Poizat</i>	<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Lasserre</i>
1♥ All Pass	3♦	3♥	1♦ 3NT

Garozzo laid claim to the spade suit, after which it was a matter of who won the partscore battle. De Falco played it in 3♦, where the friendly trump position provided ten easy tricks for +130. That, however, proved to be insufficient, as Lasserre bid an aggressive 3NT and that just required diamonds to play for five tricks; +600 and 10 IMPs to France.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dechelette</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>De Falco</i>
INT 2♠ Pass	Pass Pass 4♣	Pass 2♥ Pass All Pass	Pass Pass 3♣

West	North	East	South
<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Poizat</i>	<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Lasserre</i>
1♦ Dble	Pass 5♣	Pass 1♠ 5♦	Pass 2♣ All Pass

After the French transfer auction to 2♠, De Falco balanced with 3♣ and Garozzo could hardly not raise to four. The defence just had to be careful never to lead hearts and duly came to three tricks in that suit to go with one spade for down one; -50.

Mosca's 1♦ opening led to a quite different auction. When Lasserre could overcall 2♣ despite lacking the top three cards in the suit, Poizat judged that he would have good playing strength to compensate (in the context of a passed hand, of course), and put on the pressure by jumping to 5♣. That caught Sbarigia with undisclosed diamond support and he felt obliged to show it. And right he was. Poizat cashed a top club then switched to a heart for the king and ace. Mosca ruffed his club loser and played a diamond to the king, crossed to the queen of spades and led a second diamond. Lasserre won the ace but was powerless to prevent declarer from drawing the last trump and running the spades; +600 and 11 IMPs to Italy. (To defeat the contract, Poizat must lead a spade at trick one — not very likely.)

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dechelette</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>De Falco</i>
Pass Rdbl Pass	Pass Pass Pass	1♦ Pass Dble	Pass Dble 1♠ All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Poizat</i>	<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Lasserre</i>
1♣ 1♥ INT	Pass Pass Pass	1♦ 1♠ 3NT	Pass Pass All Pass

Mosca opened the West hand and it was natural for Sbarigia to drive to game. Poizat led the ♣Q, getting the ten from Lasserre, and continued with the ♣8 to the ace. All that was required was for Lasserre to clear the suit but he, rather obscurely, cashed the ♥A before playing a third club. Now Mosca had nine tricks for a very useful +600.

Dechelette did not open the uninspiring eleven-count, but redoubled at his next turn and was happy to defend against 1♠ doubled. Dechelette led the queen of diamonds followed by the jack, which Leenhardt overtook to switch to his club. De Falco took the club ace and played a spade to the ace. Then came the ten of spades and, when Leenhardt ducked, South went up with queen, then switched his attention to clubs. The defence could come to two spades, two hearts and a club from here, but that was just one down for -200 and 9 IMPs to Italy, who led by 40-12 IMPs.

That was to be the last Italian swing of the match, the French counterattack beginning on the very next deal.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dechelette</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>De Falco</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	1♥
3♥	Dble	Rdbl	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Poizat</i>	<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Lasserre</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	2♥
3♦	3♥	4♦	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Both East/West pairs played in 5♦ on a heart lead. Mosca ruffed in hand and played ace and another diamond. Poizat took the king and switched to the queen of clubs; down one for -50.

Dechelette splintered in support of the better-minor 1♦ opening and that gave Garozzo an easy way into the auction. However, De Falco was not interested and East/West exchanged cuebids before settling in the diamond game. De Falco led the queen of hearts, Leenhardt ruffed in hand then cashed the ace of diamonds. Before relying on the position of the ace of clubs, Leenhardt tested the spade suit. He played the ♠K then the ♠9 to the ace and, when the queen fell, could cross to hand with a heart ruff to lead his remaining spade to dummy's seven. The ♠J and ♥A now provided two discards for two club losers; +400 and 10 IMPs to France.

As Barry Rigal reports, in the Venice Cup match between USA and Canada, Jill Levin played in identical fashion to bring home the game. Barry suggests that, had South dropped the ♠Q on the first round, declarer might well have gone wrong,

running the nine next and losing to the ten for one down. Being of an even more twisted mind, could I also suggest that it would be interesting to drop the queen from ♠Q10x when the ace of clubs is inside all along. (If only I could find those plays at the table.)

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dechelette</i>	<i>Garozzo</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>De Falco</i>
	Pass	1♥	3♣
3♠	5♦	Pass	Pass
5♥	Pass	5♠	6♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Mosca</i>	<i>Poizat</i>	<i>Sbarigia</i>	<i>Lasserre</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dble	Pass	2♦	3♣
4♠	5♦	Dble	All Pass

Leenhardt opened the East hand and De Falco had an easy way to describe his hand in one go, overcalling 3♣ to show the minors. When Dechelette showed his spades, Garozzo jumped to 5♦, and De Falco subsequently took the save in 6♦ over 5♠. De Falco was correct up to a point, in that 5♠ would have been made. However, 6♦ doubled cost more than the opposition's game. Leenhardt had an automatic heart lead, after which it was routine for the defenders to come to all the five tricks that were their due; four down for -800.

Sbarigia did not open and that left Lasserre to open in third seat. Though Poizat could not raise immediately - 1♦ might have been only three cards - when Lasserre introduced the clubs at his second turn, Poizat had to save in 5♦ as game was very likely to be making in one direction or the other. Lasserre ruffed the spade lead and played ace and another club. Mosca won and played a second spade, ruffed. When he won the next club, on which Sbarigia threw an unhelpful ♥6, Mosca had a second long thought before cashing the ace of hearts; down only two for -300 and 11 IMPs to France.

France picked up three medium-sized swings over the remaining boards to come through to win by 48-40 IMPs, or 17-13 VPs.

ROUND 4

Bermuda Bowl



Canada v China



The Battle Goes On

Monday's first match on vugraph featured two struggling teams hoping to improve themselves in the round-robin standings — China and Canada.

At the start of the second day of play, China found themselves in 17th place out of 22nd. Canada was in a three-way tie for last with Jordan and Portugal.

Canada scored 2 IMPs on the first deal — the difference between 4♠ down one at one table and down one doubled at the other — but China scored big on the next one.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Both sides have 20 high-card points, but East/West have the boss suit, and the friendly division of the North/South spades makes 4♠ a lock.

West	North	East	South
<i>Dai</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Yang</i>	<i>Mittelman</i>
		Pass	2♥
Dble	3♥	3♠	All Pass

The 2♥ opener was intermediate, perhaps influencing Jian Ming Dai and Li Xing Yang to stop short of game. There was nothing to the play, and Yang finished at plus 170.

For Canada, in the Open Room, Allan Graves and Boris Baran were never in the auction.

West	North	East	South
<i>Baran</i>	<i>Fu</i>	<i>Graves</i>	<i>Zhao</i>
		Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Baran started with a low trump, won in dummy with the queen. When Jie Zhao played a second heart from dummy, Graves followed with the discouraging ♠2. Zhao won with the ♥A and started playing on diamonds. Baran could have ruffed in with the ♥K on the third diamond and played the ♠A and a spade to his partner's king to assure defeat of the vulnerable game, but he did not and Zhao romped home with plus 620 and 13 IMPs for his team.

Both teams missed a chance, albeit an obscure one, to score a game on the following deal.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dai</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Yang</i>	<i>Mittelman</i>
3♦	Pass	3NT	4♥
5♦	All Pass		

As you can see, the lead of the ♣Q assures defeat of the contract, but Hobart started with a normal low heart. The contract can now be made, but only if West can see all the cards: ♦A, ♠9 to the ace and ten, low spade to the queen and king, ♠5 to the seven, then discard two clubs on the major-suit aces. Easy, right? Dai did play low from dummy on the opening lead, ruffing and cashing the ♦A, but then he simply exited with a low diamond, hoping that whoever won would have to do something helpful. Hobart won and quickly had the ♣Q on the track. One down.

West	North	East	South
<i>Baran</i>	<i>Fu</i>	<i>Graves</i>	<i>Zhao</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	2♥
3♦	3♥	5♦	All Pass

Baran also received the opening lead of a low heart, but he took his discard immediately, throwing a spade from hand, then cashed the ♦A and led a club up to the king and was quickly down one for a push.

Canada took the lead on the next deal.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Baran	Fu	Graves	Zhao
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Zhao was strangely silent with such good shape and favourable vulnerability after opening 1♦. The opening lead of the ♥8 did not trouble Baran in the least, nor did the 4-0 trump split as he waltzed in with plus 680.

At the other table, Mittelman liked his hand much more than Zhao.

West	North	East	South
Dai	Hobart	Yang	Mittelman
	Pass	1♥	2♦
3♦	Pass	3♥	4♣
4♦	5♦	Dble	All Pass

Mittelman played skilfully to emerge with a fine result. He ruffed the opening spade lead and played the ♦Q from hand, correctly going up with the ace — he did not want East in the lead. Declarer then played the ♣7 from dummy, and when Yang played the three, Mittelman ducked. Dai started unblocking by winning with the ♣Q. West returned a spade, ruffed by South. Next came the ♣A, and again Yang unblocked by playing the king. This had the effect of making a winner out of dummy's ♣10 but, when Mittelman played a third round of clubs, East could ruff with the ♦K and push a heart through. That was minus 300 and a 9-IMP gain for Canada.

China went back into the lead on the next deal as Yang made a nice defensive play.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Baran	Fu	Graves	Zhao
Pass	2♥	All Pass	1♠

Graves started well by leading the ♦7 rather than the king or queen. Baran won the ♦A and switched to the ♣7. Fu went up with the ace and played the ♠10 to the king and ace. He cashed the ♠Q, pitching a diamond, then played a low club to the 8 and Graves' king. The way Fu had played the contract, it could not be defeated, but Graves got out with his ♦K rather than a low one, and Fu ended up with two overtricks for plus 170.

West	North	East	South
Dai	Hobart	Yang	Mittelman
Pass	2♦*	1♦	1♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	2♠
		All Pass	

Yang started with the ♥J, won by North. The ♠10 went to the king and ace, and diamonds were discarded on the ♠Q and ♠7. A low diamond was led to West's ace. North ruffed and played three more hearts, putting East on lead. Had Yang played the ♦K, he would have been able to cash another diamond as North discarded clubs, but he would then have been forced to play into North's club tenace or to give him the good dummy. Instead, Yang exited with a low diamond to West's jack, and on the club return he won with the king and could cash two more diamonds for two down. A well-earned 9 IMPs for China.

Canada took the lead again when China bid a good slam that went down on a bad trump break while Baran and Graves stopped in game.

China increased their lead of 33-27 when they judged well in competitive auctions in both rooms.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Baran	Fu	Graves	Zhao
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♥	3♣	3♠	4♣
4♦	5♣	Pass	Pass
5♥	Dble	All Pass	

Zhao did not err in selecting his opening lead — the ♠K. Fu ruffed dummy's ace, and declarer could not avoid two more spade losers for one down and minus 100.

West	North	East	South
Dai	Hobart	Yang	Mittelman
2♠	3♦	1♥	1♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Dble	All Pass		

East/West did well on this deal not the bid on, collecting plus 300 for a 9-IMP gain.

Canada closed to the final margin of 5 IMPs when the Chinese bid a slam off an ace and the trump queen, going down for an 11-IMP loss.

Sports News

Baseball

Chicago White Sox rallied from a 4-2 deficit in the seventh inning to prevail 7-6 over Houston Astros and take a 2-0 lead in the World Series. Scott Podsednik's walk-off home run in the bottom of the ninth inning sealed a thrilling win for the hosts. Slugger Paul Konerko had transformed the game with a grand slam with the bases loaded to make it 6-4. But the Astros hit back with two runs at the top of the ninth to level it before Posednik's decisive homer.

American Football

Kansas City 30-20 Miami; Green Bay 20-23 Minnesota; Indianapolis 38-20 Houston; Detroit 13-10 Cleveland; Pittsburgh 27-13 Cincinnati; New Orleans 17-28 St. Louis; San Francisco 17-52 Washington; San Diego 17-20 Philadelphia; Dallas 10-13 Seattle; Baltimore 6-10 Chicago; Tennessee 10-20 Arizona; Buffalo 17-38 Oakland; Denver 23-24 NY Giants.



Golf



PGA Tour rookie Lucas Glover capped a fine first year in the top flight with victory in the Funai Classic at the Disney resort in Florida. Glover's final round of 65 propelled him up the leaderboard at the rain-hit event after officials brought play forward with hurricane Wilma threatening to wreak havoc with conditions. Glover made his play late, picking up five shots in the

last eight holes including birdies at the final two as he edged into a narrow lead. Britain's Justin Rose looked to be homing in on his first victory in the US but dropped shots at the 16th and 18th saw him fall into a tie for third with four other players. It was left to Tom Pernice to try to force a play-off but he could only make par at each of the last eight holes to finish one off the lead.

Leading Scores

L Glover -23, T Pernice -22, J Rose (GB) -21, G Ogilvy (Aus) -21, R Palmer -21, H Frazar -21, R Beem -21.

Rugby League



Australia half-back Andrew Johns will miss the remainder of the Gillette Tri-Nations Series due to a persistent knee injury. Johns aggravated the injury during the recent 28-26 victory over New Zealand and after undergoing scans has been ruled out of the British leg of the competition.

The Pakistani Teams Are Here Despite The Catastrophe

The entire world must have viewed the trail of massive destruction caused by the devastating earthquake that rattled Northern Pakistan on 8th October '05. The damage seems to be incalculable. The magnitude of destruction has been so colossal that it might even surpass that of the Tsunami disaster in certain respects. Nearly 100,000 are believed to have lost their lives so far, along with millions more left without shelter under the open skies in the approaching treacherous winter, staring at death with the diminishing supply of food and drinking water. The impending epidemic amidst the stench of unknown numbers of bodies still buried under the rubble compound their miseries.

The tragedy has shaken the conscience. Aid has been pouring in from all over, but the hazardous terrain still poses a challenge to the rescue efforts. Roads and bridges have been completely destroyed and the rugged mountain slopes are preventing helicopters with relief supplies from reaching many of the victims.

Amidst all this pall of gloom and despair engulfing the entire nation, it was truly a testing time for the Pakistan Bridge Teams for the Venice Cup and the Seniors Bowl to turn up for the championships here. Bravo, Pakistan! You have kept to your commitment to participate from Zone 4.

M. Azwerul Haque
Secretary, BFAME (Zone-4)

Championship Diary

Phillip Alder accosted Benito Garozzo outside the Congress Centre and immediately thrust a piece of paper under his nose. '30 years ago playing with Giorgio Beladonna you bid 4NT on this hand. Did it show a heart control?' Dano de Falco quickly interjected 'Don't ask him, he can't even remember the hands from yesterday!'

The human brain is a wonderful organ; it starts working the minute you wake up and doesn't stop until you get to the bridge table.

At the risk of boring some of our readers, we are reminded by Barry Rigal that the BBC Radio show 'I'm sorry I haven't a clue' usually contains an item at the end where the panel are invited to give their list of late arrivals to a particular ball.

To give you an idea of what is meant, take the example of a late arrival to The Mad Scientist's Ball: Mr & Mrs Tube and their daughter, Tess Tube.

Barry invites you to come up with your late arrivals to the vugraph commentator's ball — and we start you off with these examples:

Mr & Mrs Analysis and their daughter, Miss Analysis.

Mr & Mrs Keycard and their Italian cousin, Roman Keycard.

Mr & Mrs s'Fork and their son Morton s'Fork.

A VERY DEEP FINESSE

by Mark Horton

It's inevitable that the vast majority of what is included in a championship bulletin will consist of match reports. But there is always an element of luck involved, as the boards may not cooperate, thus making it difficult to find anything of interest to write about — as you have doubtless noticed.

The better stories tend to be the ones told to you by the players, and luckily I still have enough friends who are prepared to take the time to report something special.

You may know that story about London buses, you wait for ages and then two of them come along at the same time. Well, sometimes it's the same with bridge deals — ones with the same theme follow each another, as in the case of these two examples from the very first round:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Lund</i>		<i>Moller</i>
2NT	Dble	3♦	1♠
3♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

In the Seniors Bowl, Denmark's Steen Møller found himself in Four Spades doubled after West had advertised a decent hand with both minors and, apparently, a three-card heart fragment. West cashed three red winners, then exited with a club. Steen won with dummy's ten and played the six of spades. When East, in perfect tempo, followed with the four, Steen contributed the two!

Not too shabby for day one, as I am sure you will agree, and thanks to Peter Lund for providing us with that gem.

Within a few minutes this was on my desk:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Teltscher</i>		<i>Brock</i>	
1♥	1♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	2♦	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

England's Kitty Teltscher did well to reopen with a double, but North immediately got out of trouble by taking evasive action. When East showed some values West made another good decision by removing the double — Two Diamonds is an easy make, probably with an overtrick.

North found one of the leads to put 3NT in jeopardy: the queen of diamonds. Declarer won in hand with the king and played an innocent-looking three of spades. When North followed with the two, Kitty called for dummy's four! Now she could arrive at nine tricks via the black suit finesses. Perhaps North/South should switch to reverse signals?

Shopping

There are several stalls on the ground floor selling, amongst other things, bridge books, wine and objets d'art. Well worth a visit. When you come into the building through the main entrance, turn right and keep walking; do not go up the slope to the first floor.



TRANQUILIDADE