# MORE SHOCKS THAN WIMBLEDON 

There were some surprises when the knockout stage of the Mixed Teams Championship got under way yesterday. None bigger than the defeat of the number I seeds, Jacobs, who lost by IIMP to Kirstan. Welland went down to Praha and Kowalski was upset by De Botton. In one of the toughest match ups Passarinho prevailed over Harazimowicz.
In the round of 16 the two biggest wins were recorded by Gitelman and Armstrong, and you may recall that they both had to emerge from the swiss repecharge - perhaps they are teams of destiny? Meanwhile Erichsen scored a good win over Gromova, Herbst dealt with Kirstan, Goldberg edged out Passarinho, De Botton saw off Popova and Brigada accounted for Glasson.
So, with eight teams standing the odds on a European victory are 7-1 - but will the bookmakers come out on top?
The draw has worked out in such a way as to produce four intriguing quarterfinals,
with the winners of each being hard to predict. After an all too brief survey we discover that the smart money is on Herbst, Erichsen, Levy and Goldberg, but we would not advise you to put your shirt on on any of these predictions - especially if it is an EBL Championship one!
The Mixed Pairs Championship got under way last night - too late for any results to appear in today's bulletin, but rest assured that you will miss nothing of interest, including detailed results in tomorrow's edition.

## TO ALL MIXED TEAMS

$$
\text { Playing } 1 / 4-1 / 2 \& \text { Final }
$$

Registration for Mixed Pairs today
Tuesday 21 June from 20:00-21:00 in
Room Cibeles


The Lavazza girls provide a winning smile in the official EBL Championship shirts, a perfect souvenir for Eurol 5 (or even better two for Euro25).

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## Schedule of Play

| 10.30 | Mixed Pairs Qualifying 2nd <br> Session |
| :---: | :--- |
| 10.30 | Mixed Teams Quarter-Fi <br> nals |
| 15.30 | Mixed Pairs Qualifying 3rd <br> Session |
| 16.00 | Mixed Teams Semi-Finals |

16.00 Mixed Teams Semi-Finals


## PRESS OUTING

The EBL is to host a trip for members of IBPA and other media people on Friday 24th June to the nearby island of La Gomera.The boat will leave at 9 a.m. and return at 17.30 and lunch is included. The trip will be limited to thirty people so you must register and can find more details in the Press Room.
The trip clashes with the EBLAssembly but there is no bridge on that day until 2100 hours.

## Swiss Round 2

What could be more appropriate music for a Swiss system than Rossini's William Tell overture? It was of course the theme tune of an early Western TV series, a fact not lost on your reporter. Plans to include a free CD featuring this and other famous overtures in every copy of today's Bulletin were vetoed by the EBL Treasurer.
Once again the Lone Reporter, along with his faithful Australian companion Sue, watched the fight for qualification in Tenerife. Return with us now to those thrilling days of yesteryear. The Lone Reporter rides again!
It was Germany v Poland/France under the spotlight, but the match was very tight and there were few swings of note. Still, there were a few interesting moments.

Board 9. Dealer North. None Vul.

|  | ¢1085 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A 94 |  |  |
|  | $\diamond 9$ |  |  |
|  | \&KJ9832 |  |  |
| வA9732 | N |  | Q 6 |
| $\bigcirc 76$ |  |  | Q 832 |
| $\checkmark$ KJ 4 |  | $E \quad \checkmark$ A | $\diamond$ A Q 107 |
| 2765 | S |  | \& ${ }^{\text {Q }}$ Q 4 |
|  | Q K J 4 |  |  |
|  | ๑KJ 105 |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark 86532$ |  |  |
|  | 210 |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Lesniewski | Weber | Harasimowicz | Weber |
|  | Pass | INT | Pass |
| 2『* | Pass | 2 L | Pass |
| 2NT | Pass | 3NT | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | All Pass |  |

North speculated on the slow nature of the auction and doubled. South led the ten of clubs and North put on the jack, declarer winning with the queen. She crossed to the jack of diamonds and tried a spade to the queen. South took the king and played back a diamond. Declarer won in hand with the ten and played a spade to the ace and a spade. South won and switched to the five of hearts. North won and played back the nine of hearts. Declarer ducked and South had to overtake. She cashed the king of hearts for one down, +100 .

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gromoeller | Voldoire | Schreckenberger | Peyrot |
|  | Pass | $1 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $1 \&$ | $2 \&$ | All Pass |  |

East led the queen of spades and declarer was allowed to win with the king. He played a club and East won and played a second spade. West won and gave his partner a ruff, but declarer took the right view in hearts to make the contract, +90 and a push.


| Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - 462 |  |  |  |
| $\bigcirc 983$ |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark$ AJ 1087 |  |  |  |
| Q $\mathrm{Q}^{2}$ |  |  |  |
| ¢K Q 93 | N |  |  |
| $\bigcirc J$ |  |  | 7642 |
|  |  |  |  |
| \&KJ8753 S ¢ ¢ 964 |  |  |  |
| ¢ J 854 |  |  |  |
| $\bigcirc$ A Q 105 |  |  |  |
| $\diamond$ K 543 |  |  |  |
| \& 10 |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Lesniewski | Weber | Harasimowicz | Weber |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| 19** | $1 \diamond$ | 18 | 2)* |
| Pass | $3 \checkmark$ | All Pass |  |

The South hand looks suitable for discussion by a bidding panel. Once partner has overcalled what should South bid? INT? Double? 3 $\checkmark$ ? $2 \mathbb{2}$ ? Answers on a postcard to Daily Bulletin, Tenerife. Meanwhile South found a fifth alternative with her choice of 2 .
East led the ten of spades and declarer ducked, won the second spade, cashed the ace of diamonds, played the jack of diamonds to the king and a club. West hopped up with the king and played his top spades. Declarer ruffed the second of those, ruffed a club and cashed the ace of hearts, claiming his contract when the jack appeared, +110 .

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gromoeller | Voldoire Schreckenberger Peyrot |  |  |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| 180 | $1 \diamond$ | 18 | 14 |
| Pass* | Pass | 20 | $2 \diamond$ |
| 48 | All Pass |  |  |

Declarer had to lose four top tricks, -50, 4 IMPs for Weber.

| Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Q |  |  |
| ¢K 5432 |  |  |
| $\checkmark$ K 63 |  |  |
| \&K 10875 |  |  |
| ¢K 8752 | N | ¢ A Q 943 |
| $\bigcirc$ Q 10 | W E | ๑9876 |
| $\diamond$ J 10752 | W E | $\diamond 94$ |
| -3 | S | \& AJ |
| Q J 106 |  |  |
| $\bigcirc \mathrm{AJ}$ |  |  |
| $\checkmark$ A Q 8 |  |  |
| \& Q 9642 |  |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lesniewski | Weber | Harasimowicz | Weber |
| Pass | Pass | le | Pass |
| 49 | All Pass |  |  |

South gave some thought to bidding over East's opening bid, but with such a poor suit she was surely theoretically right to pass. Alas, the difference between theory and practice is sometimes unkind. Four Spades had to fail, but +50 was not exactly par for North/South.

| $\begin{array}{c}\text { West } \\ \text { Gromoeller }\end{array}$ | North |  | Voldoire Schreckenberger |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | \(\left.\begin{array}{c}South <br>

Peyrot\end{array}\right]\)

How unlucky was that for East/West? Who knows, if North had bid 49 over South's 4e they might even have bid the slam. Still it was a big swing, the only one of the match.

Board I3. Dealer North. All Vul.

|  | Q 10 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc 43$ |  |
|  | $\diamond$ AJ 1075 |  |
|  | ¢7432 |  |
| ¢K 954 | N | 4 82 |
| QJ 62 |  | ¢K98 |
| $\checkmark$ K Q 643 | W E | $\checkmark 82$ |
| \%K | S | \& A 1096 |
|  | , Q 763 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A Q 1075 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 9$ |  |
|  | \&Q 85 |  |


| West <br> Lesniewski | North <br> Weber | East <br> Harasimowicz | South <br> Weber |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Pass | 12** | I 8 |
| 14 | Pass | INT | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass |  |  |

Assuming you would all lead a heart, which card should/would you choose? With no certain reentry the ace is surely out of the equation, so the choice is the queen, ten, or just a small card. If declarer has something like『K9xx and dummy the jack then you will be poorly placed whatever you choose, so you should probably worry more about declarer having the king and dummy the jack. If memory serves the queen is the theoretical card but there is a lot to be said for leading a low one.

Okay, having given you something to think about I'll tell you what happened. South led the queen of hearts and declarer won in hand and played a diamond to the king and ace. North returned a heart and South won and cleared the suit. Declarer overtook the king of clubs with the ace and played the jack of clubs, hoping North would have to win.When South produced the queen the contract was one down, - 100.

| West <br> Gromoeller | North <br> Voldoire Schreckenberger | East <br> Peyrot |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Pass | INT | $20 *$ |
| Dble* | All Pass |  |  |

When South came in to show the majors and West's double promised 10+. North/South were in trouble and in a sense they did well to stop where they were.
According to the play record West led the king of clubs and switched to a spade. East won and played ace of clubs and a club. South won and played a spade and West won and returned the jack of hearts for the three, king and ace. That looks like two down, but something - sorry I can't tell you what - happened and declarer made a seventh trick, so was only -200, still a loss of 7 IMPs.
The match score was II-I2 IMPs, I5-I5VP.

## STEERING CLEAR SPADES

by Ace Ventura

Cristina Golin and Massimo Lanzarotti in Team Allegra must have had a bad experience playing spades contracts recently. When they faced Kowalski in round four of the Swiss, for some reason they avoided spade-fits. Well, see for your self. Would nine spades be enough for Golin/Lanzarotti? The answer is: no!

| Board 4 Dealer West All Vul. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ¢ AK 754 |  |  |  |
| $\bigcirc 1087$ |  |  |  |
| $\diamond 1063$ |  |  |  |
| * 109 |  |  |  |
| Q 109 | N |  | Q Q |
| $\bigcirc 64$ |  | ®KJ 93 |  |
| $\diamond$ J 84 |  | $\diamond$ K 975 |  |
| \&KJ532 | S | \& 8764 |  |
|  | 4 8632 |  |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A Q 52 |  |  |
|  | $\diamond$ A Q 2 |  |  |
| $\Leftrightarrow$ A Q |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Rosenblum | Lanzarotti | Panina | Golin |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | $1 \diamond$ |
| Pass | 14 | Pass | INT |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Buratti | Tuszynski | Paoluzi | Sarniak |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | $1 \%$ |
| Pass | 15 | Dble | 49 |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

I $\diamond$ was natural, unbalanced or a balanced hand with I8-20 HCPs. INT showed the balanced hand and Lanzarotti tried 3NT. Golin liked her three tenaces and passed despite four spades. When 4s needs a little help from the defence, you can see that 3NT is a perfect contract.
Michail Rosenblum led the three of clubs to the queen. Three rounds of spades followed and West cleared the club suit.After two high spades declarer has to choose which red suit to finesse, but as the card lay it did not matter. Golin went for the heart finesse and when it held the trick she cashed out; Allegra +400 .
In the Closed Room Simonetta Paoluzi, seated East, led an unlucky heart, which gave declarer three heart tricks - just enough to make the contract and that was worth I IMP

to Kowalski
3NT was played at only 4 of 36 tables. All the rest reached 49, defeated at 18 of them.


It might come as a big surprise BUT of course Golin/Lanzarotti's II-I4 HCPs no trump opening may contain five cards in a major. This time they had ten spades together and again made the right move, to avoid continuing bidding spades. $4 \%$ is a nice contract for East/West but Rosenblum corrected to $4 \circlearrowleft$. The Italians did the right thing when they doubled $4 \checkmark$.
With open cards $4 \diamond$ can be made by playing a heart to the eight, but in practice it is more likely for declarer to play trump ace and a trump up towards dummy in order to see which card North shows up with. When Lanzarotti led a very helpful eight of diamonds Rosenblum easily made his doubled contract. Declarer won with dummy's ten, unblocked the king and crossed to the ace. The spade loser was pitched on the ace of diamonds. The defence now only had three winning tricks, two in hearts and the ace of clubs; Kowalski +790.
At the other table 3s went two down after the lead of the king of clubs; -200 and that was another II IMPs to Kowalski.
Allegra scored on just one deal. This one:
Board 8 Dealer West None Vul.

- Q J 52
$P$ A Q 1086
$\diamond A$
\& 106

| $\wedge$ AK 84 |
| :--- |
| $\diamond 9732$ |
| $\diamond 9732$ |
| 54 |


$\checkmark 73$
$\diamond$ K Q 85 \& 48732
10976
『KJ 92
｣ 1064
$\stackrel{0}{\circ}$

| West <br> Rosenblum | North <br> Lanzarotti | East <br> Panina | South <br> Golin |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pass | 18 | 29 | $4 \bigcirc$ |
| Dble | Pass | 4NT | Pass |
| 5\% | Dble | All Pass |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Buratti | Tuszynski | Paoluzi | Sarniak |
| Pass | 18 | 2s | 38 |
| Dble | Pass | 48 | All Pass |

Here Golin/Lanzarotti again ignored spades, quite understandably since this time they had nine hearts. In $4 \checkmark$ a correct defence will win the first five tricks (singleton spade to A-K, spade ruff, a club to the king and another spade ruff). North/South were not left to play there, instead Larysa Panina's 4NT kept the auction alive. Rosenblum preferred to play in clubs and Lanzarotti expressed his doubts by doubling. The defence got their four tricks; 300.

Tuszynski/Sarniak did the right thing when they let Buratti/Paoluzi play in 4\%; down one for a score of - 50 but that was still 6 IMPs to Allegra.

Kowalski won the match 20-10 (23-6 IMPs). Both teams qualified easily to the 16 th finals from their 12 th place in the Swiss.


## Testing Declarer

The Popova team finished on top of Group L, defeating the runners up, Hirchenaut 17-13 in the last round. Declarer failed to pass her test on this deal:

Board I6. Dealer West. E/W Vul
Q Q 942
995
$\diamond 1083$
A 96

| ¢K 107 | N |  | 63 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc$ AJ 102 | N |  | Q 873 |
| $\diamond$ K Q J 9 |  | E |  |
| ¢84 | S |  |  |
|  | ¢ A 8 |  |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 6$ |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark 75$ |  |  |
|  | \% K Q | 075 |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Gunev |  | Popova |  |
| $1 \diamond$ | Pass | 18 | Pass |
| 2 | Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ | All Pass |

South led the king of clubs, continued with the queen and switched to a spade.

Imagining South had the sAKQ declarer naturally placed the ace of spades with North and played low.
How many of you got it right by putting up the king?

## The Sunday Swiss, Round 3: Herbst v. Gromova by Jos Jacobs

After two rounds, a few teams had done extremely well in scoring 50 and 46 VP Behind them, there were many teams with between 36 and 40 VP. Two of these, Herbst and Gromova, had to play each other at table 4. In the Closed Room, not very much seemed to be happening, but in the Open Room it was action all the time, and some very interesting bridge too. It started right on the very first board:

| Board I7. Dealer North. None Vul. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ¢) 8643 |  |  |
| $\bigcirc \mathrm{A} 4$ |  |  |
| $\diamond 108$ |  |  |
| ¢ Q J 86 |  |  |
| ¢K 7 | N | 49 |
| $\bigcirc 876$ | W E | ¢KJIO932 |
| $\checkmark$ A Q 743 |  | $\diamond{ }^{\text {d }}$ |
| ¢972 | S | 910543 |
| \& Q 1052 |  |  |
| QQ 5 |  |  |
| $\checkmark$ K 965 |  |  |
| \& A |  |  |

## Closed Room:

| West <br> Herbst | North <br> Gromov | East <br> Michielsen | South <br> Gromova |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All Pass | $2 \boldsymbol{~ P a s s}$ | $4 \Phi$ |  |

When Gromov opened his rather weak two-suiter, the spade game was quickly reached. East, with nothing to guide her, had to find a lead and came out with the $\vee J$. When the queen in dummy held, ten tricks were very easy. Gromova +420 .
Open Room:

| West <br> Dubinin | North <br> Van Cleeff | East <br> Ponomareva | South Ettinger |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $3 \diamond$ | Pass | $2 \diamond$ | Dble |
| All Pass | $3 \uparrow$ | Pass | $4 \uparrow$ |

Once Jan van Cleeff elected not to open his famous "Muiderberg" 24 (Polish-style weak two-suiter but the minor need not be a fivecard suit) EW were offered the chance to produce some noise, and they duly did. After the Multi $2 \triangleleft$ West could show his values by jumping to $3 \rrbracket$. This of course did not deter North from introducing his spade support, so the final contract became a normal enough 44.

The difference with the proceedings at the other table was that East had something to guide her in selecting the best opening lead. So out came the $\diamond$, a little speculative maybe, but a very good shot with the actual layout. Careful defence will beat the contract now, and careful declarer play might make the defenders' life a little more difficult.
There are four possible losers: two diamonds, a heart and a trump trick. The heart can go on the top clubs, but declarer cannot come to hand in time after unblocking dummy's top clubs. So West should win the first diamond trick and play a heart immediately. If declarer covers the $\diamond J$ with the king,
the switch is almost automatic, so better play is to duck the opening lead. Now West has to overtake with the $\diamond Q$ and switch to a heart.
At the table the $\diamond J$ was covered with king and ace after which West played a heart. One down. Gromova +50 and the first 10 IMPs.
On board 18 both teams overbid to a hopeless $4 \checkmark$, down two, and might even consider themselves lucky that nobody doubled this. No score.
Next came a slam that proved too difficult for most of the playing room:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

|  | ¢1063 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | ¢K 842 |  |
|  | $\diamond 8754$ |  |
|  | ¢ 52 |  |
| ¢KQJ 954 | N | ¢ A |
| $\bigcirc$ - |  | QJ 10976 |
| $\checkmark$ K 96 | W E | $\checkmark$ A 32 |
| ※KQJ 6 | S | \& 1097 |
|  | ¢ 872 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ AQ 53 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ Q J 10 |  |
|  | 2843 |  |

Open Room:
West North East South
Dubinin Van Cleeff Ponomareva Van Ettinger

|  |  |  | Pass |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 15 | Pass | 2 | Pass |
| 30 | Pass | 49 | Pass |
| $4 \checkmark$ | pass | 49 | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 5 | Pass |
| 79 | All Pass |  |  |

Very well done indeed. The key to the grand is of course East's raise to 4\%, bypassing 3NT in what still remained a fully natural auction.
The same auction was produced by Louk Verhees and Anneke Simons (team Pasman) in their match against the Hecht Johansen team. However, when Dorte Cilleborg and Lars Blakset also reached 7e (auction unknown but mainly the same, one assumes), this board was a very honourable, but also a remarkable push in that match.

Why remarkable? Well, it turned out that in most matches, reaching a small slam was enough for a swing in your favour. So why should Herbst/Michielsen feel unhappy about their sequence at the other table of this match?
Closed Room:

| West <br> Herbst | North <br> Gromov | East <br> Michielsen | South <br> Gromova |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| 14 | Pass | 2 | Pass |
| 34 | Pass | 4\% | Pass |
| $4 \checkmark$ | Pass | 49 | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 5\% | Pass |
| 64 | All Pass |  |  |

When Ilan Herbst chose to rebid 3s the club fit was lost. Marion Michielsen did well to proceed with a cuebid over 34, so getting to 6s was easy enough. Their combined efforts would have won the board for them in
most other matches, but in their actual match it cost them 12 IMPs. Gromova led 22-0 now. On the next board, Van Cleeff reached a thin game when he opened a 15-17 HCP. INT on a 14-count:

| Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | ¢K 107 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A 8 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ A 1084 |  |
|  | * Q 92 |  |
| ¢ A Q 32 | N | ¢ 985 |
| QJ654 | W E | ¢K 1032 |
| $\checkmark 76$ | W E | $\diamond$ Q J 93 |
| 9K106 | S | ¢ 54 |
|  | 4 J 64 |  |
|  | QQ9 7 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ K 52 |  |
|  | \& A 873 |  |

Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dubinin | Van Cleeff | Ponomareva Van Ettinger |  |

With everything well-placed for declarer, he could not go wrong. The $\vee 2$ was led to the jack and ace and a club honour went to the king. A heart came back, East ducking and the clubs were cashed. Next came the 创. When West grabbed his ace and the hearts proved to be 4-4, a successful finesse of the $\$ 10$ saw declarer home. Herbst +600 .
Closed Room:

| West <br> Herbst | North <br> Gromov | East <br> Michielsen | South <br> Gromova |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pass | l2 | Pass | INT |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

In the Closed Room NS were less ambitious and eight tricks were made on a heart lead.

Another slam, but an easier one, came next:
Board 21. Dealer North. N/SVul.

- K Q 854
$\checkmark$ AK
$\diamond$ A J
9K 865

|  | -K 86 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4) 92 | N | ¢ 63 |
| $\bigcirc 63$ |  | $\bigcirc 1087$ |
| $\diamond 8543$ | W E | $\diamond 10962$ |
| 2Q974 | S | - AJ 32 |
|  | - A 107 |  |
|  | QQJ9542 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ K Q 7 |  |
|  | -10 |  |



Victoria Gromova, Russia

## Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dubinin | Van Cleeff | Ponomarev | Van Ettinger |
|  | 2NT | Pass | 3 |
| Pass | 38 | Pass | 4980 |
| Pass | 6\% | Pass | 68 |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

$3 \checkmark$ was a transfer and 4 either a cuebid or a second suit. The strange thing is that the spades never entered the picture. It might have been possible to refuse the transfer, not an attractive idea when the doubleton heart is AK if you are at all playing this special agreement. On this board, it did not really matter, but the heart slam (and the spade slam too) is a shade inferior to 6 NT , certainly at matchpoints.
An overtrick was made when East led a spade rather than his A.

## Closed Room:

| West <br> Herbst | North <br> Gromov | East <br> Michielsen | South <br> Gromova |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $1 \$$ | Pass | 2 |
| Pass | $2 \uparrow$ | Pass | $3 \uparrow$ |
| Pass | $4 N T$ | Pass | $5 \$$ |
| Pass | $6 N T$ | All Pass |  |

The Strong Club solved the problems quite well. $2 \backsim$ was a game force with hearts, and 2 was natural and showed a fivecard suit. Once South could raise spades, North was in full control and selected the correct final contract without any hesitation. Well done.
The board earned the Israeli-Dutch team I IMP when Michielsen led the A - it turned out to be the only way to score a trick with it.
The next board saw a partscore swing of 5 IMPs go the Russian way when at both tables they set their opponents by one trick in 3 of a major.


Jan van Cleef,The Netherlands

Then came the penultimate board, a subtle lesson in defence.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul. , A
『KJ8432
$\diamond 753$
\& 43
$\Delta 75$
$\diamond 97$
$\diamond A K 942$
$\& 1985$

©K Q J 632
QQ 105
$\diamond$ Q J
$\stackrel{\circ}{ } 6$
$\bigcirc$ A 6
$\triangleleft 1086$
\& 1072
Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dubinin | Van Cleeff | Ponomareva Van Ettinger |  |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| Pass | 18 | 1, | Dble |
| Pass | $2 \boxtimes$ | Pass | Pass |
| Dble | Pass | 24 | All Pass |

With all these soft values, East wisely refrained from an immediate 24, but when West doubled $2 \boxtimes$ quickly became inevitable.

You lead the $\triangle A$ against 24 and what next?
If you simply continue the suit on partner's encouraging signal, North will win the king and play the $\vee 2$ for you to ruff in front of dummy. The rest should be easy: c (!) and a club, followed by another heart. Declarer can ruff this high and cross to dummy to lead a spade felling the ace, but after that another heart will create a third defensive trump trick after all for down two, vulnerable.
This nice scenario was no longer possible, however, when a trump was returned at trick 2.

## Closed Room:

| West <br> Herbst | North <br> Gromov | East <br> Michielsen | South <br> Gromova |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| Pass | I $\vee$ | 19 | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | Pass | INT |
| Pass | $2 \vee$ | All Pass |  |

EW did well to avoid getting to $24 . \ln 2 \triangleleft$ North had no trouble in coming to the eight tricks that were always there for him.
So another partscore swing, 6 IMPs this time, for the Russians who won the match $35-11$ or $23-7 \mathrm{VP}$.

## Championship Diary

Saturday I9 June 2005
Having been asked more than once just what is involved in being Editor here is a sample day. I have omitted the names of countless well meaning individuals who visit the office on a variety of pretexts.
07.30 An early start, planning to write a more complex piece on the practicalities of reporting bridge deals when all your reporters watch the same hands.
07.45 After a quick breakfast head down to the office for a Lavazza and spot that the paper has arrived. I was expecting the Bulletin to stand alone today, so that is a surprise. So is the absence of four pages that we proof read until late into the night. Plans for article suspended.
07.50 Jean-Paul - always up with the larks - tells me the playing times advertised on page I are wrong, and there are six rounds today, not five. I could spend much time deliberating whose fault that is but the important thing is to make sure it doesn't happen again.
08.15 Check email to the sound of Freddie Mercury \& Monserat Caballe's Barcelona via the hotel's piped music.
08.35 Jean-Paul suggests we check the Internet version. Eureka! Well at least our worldwide readers have got the full monte.
09.30 We spot our favourite antipodean tournament director who is bearing up manfully under the constant ribaldry pointed in his direction as the Australian cricket team currently touring England stumbles from one defeat to another. His latest excuse is that it is a deliberate ploy to improve the odds on Australia retaining the ashes.

IO.15 I spot Tacchi reading a copy of The Hands of Time, and ask him if he is enjoying it. 'I don't know, I keep getting interrupted,' is his enigmatic reply.
II. 30 While I am waiting for Match 2 to start I tune in to Radio 4 to listen to the cricket. Meanwhile Tacchi, who has no interest in the game prefers music. When I ask him who he is listening to he replies 'Spencer Davies.' 'Has he just hit a boundary?' I enquire. 'No, he's just potted the pink in the middle.' (I know this is complicated for our non sporting readers, but these are long days and we have to do something to keep our spirits up.)

I2.00 Round 2 beckons, and once again Sue Grenside is my aide de camp. I ask Max Bavin to tell Tacchi whom I am watching and to take a picture of the table. Tacchi refuses and instead takes a picture of the players.
14.00 Some of you must have seen or at least heard of the movie Ace Ventura, Pet Detective. We could not afford Jim Carey's fee but we do have the services of our own Ace, Peter Ventura, Bridge Detective.
I5.00 The excitement is too much for Tacchi, who has to go for a lie down.
19.00 England defeat Australia at cricket - the perfect way to wind up this Diary, even though our day will go on for several more hours.


## SYSTEMS

or Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup only．The conditions of contest will give full details of systems regulations and registration，
but players should note that it will be a requirement that all systems are registered in advance via email to Anna Gudge：
anna＠ecats．co．uk（see page18）．

## THE VENUE





In accordance with the provisional schedule，the play will start
daily at $10.00 / 10.30$ a．m．and finish at $7.30 / 8.30$ p．m．，except on
Oct $31^{\text {a }}$ and Nov $3^{d}$ when play will be extended to $11.00 / 11.30$ p．m．
The $5^{\text {ti }}$ World Transnational Open Teams Championships is a is open to teams composed of players coming from different － It is a great opportunity for players to participate in a
isnderful bridge tournament while at the same time having n unique opportunity to experience all the atmosphere and Venice Cup and watch some of the greatest players in the enice Cup and watch some of the greatest players in
world on the first class vugraph presentation．Players
wishing to compete in this championship should contact their
 no quota，and NBOS may nominate as many teams as they wish
to compete in this great tournament．
Players eliminated from the Round Robin of the Bermuda Po compete in this great tournament．Robin of the Bermuda
Players e eliminated from the Round
Bowl \＆Venice Cup，as well as those from the Seniors Bowl will Bowl \＆Venice Cup，as well as those from the Seniors Bowl will
be able to enter the World Transnational Open Teams

The World Transnational Open Teams will take place during
the second week，starting in the evening at 8.00 p．m． The World Transnational
the second week，starting in the evening at 8.00 p．m．
on Monday $31^{11}$ October．The format will be Swiss Teams．It is normally played as 10－board matches（ 3,4 or 5 per day）for 15 qualifying rounds（150 boards）．
The Quarterfinals will start on Thursday late afternoon，the
Semi－finals will be played on Friday $4^{\text {s }}$ November and the Final

## ELIMINATORIAS DELTORNEO MIXTO

32 equipos de los 70 iniciales lograron pasar finalmente a las eliminatorias del Torneo Mixto por Equipos, jugadas a 28 manos. Entre ellos, el equipo Ventín (clasificado el $7^{\circ}$ del suizo A) y el equipo Passarinho (clasificado el $22^{\circ}$ del suizo A). Quedaron emparejados contra los equipos Fornaciari (Italia) y Harasimowick (Francia), respectivamente.
La mano 4 es muy instructiva desde el punto de vista del declarante (girada para comodidad del lector):

Dador Sur. Todos vulnerables.

| Sur <br> IST | Lambardi Norte | Armin |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| IST | Todos pasan |  |
|  | ¢ 43 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A 72 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 953$ |  |
|  | 4 A 9862 |  |
|  | N |  |
|  | W E |  |
|  | S |  |
|  | 4K1076 |  |
|  | ¢K Q J 9 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ J 102 |  |
|  | 2K 5 |  |

Lambardi sale del $\diamond$ K, que gana baza. Continúa con la $\diamond \mathrm{Q}$, que vuelve a ganar $\mathrm{y} \diamond$ para el $\diamond$ A de Este, que cobra el último $\diamond$, donde usted descarta un $\uparrow$. Oeste un $\vee y$ el muerto un trébol. Viene ahora el 49 , para el $\uparrow 10, \mathrm{Q}$ y el $\uparrow 3$. La vuelta del 810 le deja a usted en su mano. ¿Y bien?
Todo esto es muy raro. ¿Por qué Oeste ha salido de un palo tercero? Seguramente tendrá una 4-3-3-3, pero en ese caso, ipor qué no ha salido del palo $4^{\circ}$ ? Jugamos todos los corazones (el palo estaba originalmente 3-3) y Oeste descarta 2 pics (el segundo es el 48 ) mientras su compañero descarta un trébol.
El misterio debe ser que Oeste tenía efectivamente una 4-3-3-3 con el palo $4^{\circ}$ a pic encabezado de $A Q$, tenencia desde la que no es aconsejable salir. Probablemente se ha secado

el $\uparrow$ A está aguantando con 3 tréboles de Dama. Sólo hay que subir al muerto con el 2A jugar ©, superando la carta de Este. INT $=$, para +90 .


La mano 19 presentó un problema muy interesante para la defensa.

Dador Sur. Este-Oeste vulnerables.

| Oeste | Norte | Este | $\underset{\text { Sur }}{\substack{\text { St }}}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Doblo 4\% | Paso | 34 | Paso |
|  | Paso | $4{ }^{1}$ | Todos pasan |
|  | -10 |  |  |
|  | 8J742 |  |  |
|  | ¢J 1087 |  |  |
|  | -9832 |  |  |
| -AK <br> Q9653 <br> $\diamond$ A Q 62 <br> - AK 6 | N |  | - 187542 |
|  |  |  | PA 108 |
|  | W |  | $\diamond 953$ |
|  | S |  | -5 |
|  | -Q963 |  |  |
|  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{KQ}$ |  |  |
|  | $\diamond$ K 4 |  |  |
|  | - Q J 10 |  |  |

Parece que el declarante tenga que perder 2 triunfos y 2 bazas en los palos rojos, pero a veces en el bridge ocurren cosas sorprendentes, ¿no?
Después de la salida de la Q , el declarante ganó en el muerto, arrastró 2 veces (Norte descartando un trébol), adelantó el \& K (descartando un diamante y NO un corazón) y fallado. Vino ahora un triunfo para el 9 de Sur, descartando tanto el muerto como Norte un corazón.
Norte está en una posición peligrosa, ya que es el que aguanta el diamante $y$ el tercer corazón. No lo vió así Sur, que adelantó su QQ firme (el muerto descartando un diamante $i$ ? y permitiendo así un descarte desesperado del $\diamond \mathrm{J}$ de Norte, pidiendo una vuelta a ese palo) y "escapó" con el en esta posición:


El muerto descarta un corazón y Norte
está muerto. Si descarta corazón, el declarante blanquea uno de ambas manos, mientras que si descarta diamante, los 3 del muerto proporcionan 3 bazas después de impasar a Sur. Contrato cumplido, aunque Sur bien hubiera podido arreglar la situación si hacía caso al compañero y jugaba $\diamond$, rompiendo el squezze.
A una posición parecida se llegó en otra mesa, donde mi compañero Barry Rigal seguía ese partido. Veanla en su reportaje y comparen las posiciones; sólo tienen en común la desesperación de Norte mientras le cumplían el contrato.
La siguiente mano no produjo ningún swing en el partido del equipo Passarinho, pero demostró la diferencia entre multar pasiva y activamente:

Dador Este. Este-Oeste vulnerables.

| Oeste | Norte $\begin{gathered}\text { Este } \\ \text { Paso }\end{gathered}$ | Sur <br> 18 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Paso | $2 \triangleleft$ Paso | $2 \bigcirc$ |
| Paso | 3\% Paso | 3ST |
| Todos pasan |  |  |
| ¢943 |  |  |
| $\bigcirc$ Q |  |  |
| $\diamond$ AKQ 54 |  |  |
| 2Q 975 |  |  |
| ¢ A 65 | N | ¢ 182 |
| ®K 9865 | W E | ¢12 |
| $\diamond 7$ |  | $\checkmark 109862$ |
| \& AK 63 | S | ¢1084 |
|  | 4 K Q 107 |  |
|  | ¢A 10743 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ J 3 |  |
|  | \&) 2 |  |

Mientras en una mesa la salida era del $\diamond 7 \mathrm{y}$ el declarante hacía lo que podía para conseguir 8 bazas a su aire (se puede ganar acertando el trébol o bien el corazón, pero son jugadas en contra de la probabilidad), en la mesa de Joao Passarinho no hay tanta paciencia cuando se trata de multar mangas.
Joao escogió la salida del 3 , para el 7 , 8 y Jer. El declarante adelantó 4 bazas a diamante (lamentando la mala distribución) y dejó correr el $\$ 9$ para el $\uparrow$ de Joao. Ya tiene 9 bazas $y$ su único problema es que antes de poder cobrarlas la contra consiga 5 . Todo esto es difícil de ver en la mesa, pero Joao tenía preparada su última arma de la mano.
¡Volvió del 6, de nuevo bajo AK! El declarante no imaginó tanta osadía y jugó el eq, confiando en que su salida hubiera provenido de un palo que originalmente era 2AI063 ó \&KI063.3ST-I, después de hacerse 3 bazas en trébol, el $\diamond 10$ y el $\wedge$ A.
Finalmente, el equipo Passarinho venció por 22 IMPS y en el momento de escribir esta crónica están luchando para conseguir su pase a cuartos de final contra el equipo Goldberg (Suecia), mientras que el equipo Ventín cayó eliminado al perder por 9 IMPS. Esta noche ( 20 de junio) empieza también el Torneo de Parejas Mixtas con varias parejas españolas, del cual les mantendremos informados.

# MIXED TEAMS ROUND of 32 <br> Final Results 

| Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| JACOBS | KIRSTAN | $47-50$ |
| GROMOVA | MIZEL | $73-25$ |
| LEVY | TOKCAN | $68-35$ |
| HARAZIMOVICZ | PASSARINHO | $54-77$ |
| POPOVA | WEBER | $94-39$ |
| BRIGADA | CALLAGHAN | $76-70$ |
| VENTIN | FORNACIARI | $50-59$ |
| WELLAND | PRAHA | $35-49$ |
| ARMSTRONG | PERRY | $57-28$ |
| BAREL | GITELMAN | $57-65$ |
| PENFOLD | GLASSON | $40-77$ |
| KOWALSKI | DE BOTTON | $38-90$ |
| O'ROURKE | GOLDBERG SWE | $34-47$ |
| HAUGE | GOLDBERG USA | $37-50$ |
| ALLEGRA | ERICHSEN | $48-76$ |
| HERBST | TEAM PASMAN | $72-46$ |

## MIXED TEAMS ROUND of 16 Final Results

| KIRSTAN | HERBST | $36-56$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| GROMOVA | ERICHSEN | $26-58$ |
| LEVY | GOLDBERG USA | $64-40$ |
| GOLDBERG SWE | PASSARINHO | $54-46$ |
| POPOVA | DE BOTTON | $27-60$ |
| BRIGADA | GLASSON | $77-60$ |
| GITELMAN | FORNACIARI | $129-34$ |
| PRAHA | ARMSTRONG | $33-97$ |

CONSOLATION SWISS FINAL RESULTS

| Rank | Team Name V | VPs | Rank | Team Name | VPs |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | BIRMAN | 102 | 11 | VERDURMEN | 65 |
| 2 | PETER HECHT JOHANSEN |  | 12 | DIX | 52 |
| 3 | MCGOWAN | 87 |  |  |  |
| 4 | PBW | 84 | 13 | BRUNNER | 47 |
| 5 | COLAMARTINO | 82 | 14 | ROSSARD | 47 |
| 6 | NAVEH | 82 | 15 | UZUMCU | 44 |
| 7 | HIRST | 76 | 16 | HIRCHENAUT | 43 |
| 8 | ZACH | 75 |  |  |  |
| 9 | SALLIERE | 73 | 17 | SERF | 38 |
| 10 | JENSEN | 67 | 18 | HETZ | 33 |

## MIXED TEAMS Quarterfinal

I HERBST ARMSTRONG

2 ERICHSEN

3 LEVY
GITELMAN BRIGADA

GOLDBERG SWE DE BOTTON

Those of you who were in Menton no nothing about the temperature there - remember that we had a fixed pairing for the K.O-phase, which meant that the strongest teams in the Swiss A had to start against the strongest teams in the Swiss B who were ranked 28 to

# 32. That was not considered to be a fair 

 approach. P.O Sundelin suggested to change the format and to do what theSwedish Federation does in a similar event: simply let the highest ranked teams just pick their opponents from the lower ranked teams. So that is what we are doing here, in the mixed and the open teams. There was a nice atmosphere on Sunday evening, with Alfredo Versace expressing his amazement about the choices by some of the opponents and suggesting better ones. Some of the teams had such a wealth of choices that it seemed difficult to decide.
With this format, assuming that the teams 28 to 32 are chosen as late as possible, which appeared to be the case here, the pairing in the next round would cause the same problem of very strong teams meeting each other. So we decided to put the matches involving these teams in the position 9 to 13 in the brackets.

Ton Kooijman

## Side Games

If you would like to take part in the side games (they start at 21.15 from today) there is no need to pre-register, simply make your way to the Minerva room (opposite the Information Centre at the Cleopatra hotel) and take a seat. There are eleven events in total and in principle each will comprise 24 boards. The entry fee is Euro 25 per pair and there will be prizes and EBL Masterpoints for each session. There will be an overall prize based on an individual players best five results.
There will be no side game on 24 June and I\& 2 July.

