

Who will win the race to victory?



This race car and others can be seen outside the Casino

It's not how you start but how you finish, and competitors in the three main events - Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Senior Bowl - got down to business yesterday, all with the goal of having their figurative engines running at their best when the round-robin phase of the tournament runs its course Saturday night.

For the Seniors, the end of the round-robin will be the end of the road. Whoever is on top next Monday will win.

Teams in the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup are striving to finish in the top eight after the preliminary rounds.

In the Bermuda Bowl, both teams from the USA were doing well, especially USA II, who were leading after four rounds.

In the Venice Cup, USA I had a slim lead over former champions the Netherlands and surprising Venezuela. In the Senior Bowl, Indonesia led after two rounds.

In a pleasant development for locals, Monaco were holding their own in the Bermuda Bowl, enjoying being on center stage in the VuGraph show late Monday against China. They lost a close match, 25 to 17.

Reminder to Seniors - your match starts at 10 a.m. today.

VUGRAPH MATCH

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 5 – 10.30
USA I v USA II

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 6 – 13.20
Pakistan v Italy

Venice Cup – ROUND 7 – 16.10
USA II v Germany

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No Smoking

This is your reminder that the Sporting d'Hiver and the Bellevue are *non-smoking areas*. Despite that, the management of these facilities have complained about finding cigarettes on the floor and in other areas where smoking is forbidden.

If you wish to smoke you *must go outside* the building. Fines will be imposed for breaches of this regulation.

PROGRAM

Bermuda Bowl**ROUND 5 10.00**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	New Zealand	Sweden
2	USA II	USA I
3	India	Spain
4	Norway	Poland
5	Brazil	Egypt
6	Australia	Uruguay
7	Italy	South Africa
8	Bulgaria	Pakistan
9	Canada	Monaco
10	Bermuda	Chinese Taipei
11	Indonesia	China

ROUND 6 13.20

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	USA I	New Zealand
2	Spain	USA II
3	Poland	India
4	Egypt	Norway
5	Uruguay	Brazil
6	South Africa	Australia
7	Pakistan	Italy
8	Monaco	Bulgaria
9	China	Canada
10	Chinese Taipei	Sweden
11	Indonesia	Bermuda

ROUND 7 16.10

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	New Zealand	Spain
2	USA II	Poland
3	India	Egypt
4	Norway	Uruguay
5	Brazil	South Africa
6	Australia	Pakistan
7	Italy	Monaco
8	Bulgaria	Canada
9	USA I	Chinese Taipei
10	Sweden	Indonesia
11	Bermuda	China

Venice Cup**ROUND 3 10.00**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	Venezuela	Italy
13	Pakistan	South Africa
14	Germany	Chinese Taipei
15	Brazil	Sweden
16	India	USA II
17	USA I	Egypt
18	England	Canada
19	Netherlands	Indonesia
20	China	Australia

ROUND 4 13.20

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	South Africa	Venezuela
13	Chinese Taipei	Pakistan
14	Sweden	Germany
15	USA II	Brazil
16	Egypt	India
17	Canada	USA I
18	Indonesia	England
19	Australia	Netherlands
20	China	Italy

ROUND 5 16.10

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	Venezuela	Chinese Taipei
13	Pakistan	Sweden
14	Germany	USA II
15	Brazil	Egypt
16	India	Canada
17	USA I	Indonesia
18	England	Netherlands
19	South Africa	China
20	Italy	Australia

Senior Bowl**ROUND 3 10.30**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	USA II	Pakistan
2	Japan	Polynesia
3	Denmark	Indonesia
4	Monaco	Brazil/Arg
5	France	Guadeloupe
6	Israel	USA I
7	Egypt	Jordan
8	Italy	Australia

ROUND 4 15.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	France	Brazil/Arg
2	Guadeloupe	Denmark
3	Polynesia	USA I
4	Egypt	Israel
5	Indonesia	Monaco
6	Jordan	Italy
7	Australia	Pakistan
8	Japan	USA II

RESULTS

Bermuda Bowl

ROUND 1

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	NEW ZEALAND	CHINA	23	54	8	22
2	USA II	CHINESE TAIPEI	24	18	16	14
3	INDIA	INDONESIA	21	40	11	19
4	NORWAY	BERMUDA	87	2	25	0
5	BRAZIL	SWEDEN	39	41	15	15
6	AUSTRALIA	USA I	37	45	13	17
7	ITALY	SPAIN	55	29	21	9
8	BULGARIA	POLAND	8	45	6	24
9	CANADA	EGYPT	37	36	15	15
10	MONACO	URUGUAY	28	28	15	15
11	PAKISTAN	SOUTH AFRICA	37	44	14	16

ROUND 2

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	CHINESE TAIPEI	NEW ZEALAND	22	28	14	16
2	INDONESIA	USA II	15	43	8	22
3	BERMUDA	INDIA	25	71	5	25
4	SWEDEN	NORWAY	4	58	3	25
5	USA I	BRAZIL	33	35	15	15
6	SPAIN	AUSTRALIA	18	55	6	24
7	POLAND	ITALY	33	17	19	11
8	EGYPT	BULGARIA	32	9	20	10
9	URUGUAY	CANADA	42	48	14	16
10	SOUTH AFRICA	MONACO	47	31	19	11
11	CHINA	PAKISTAN	15	44	8	22

ROUND 3

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	NEW ZEALAND	INDONESIA	32	26	16	14
2	USA II	BERMUDA	97	17	25	0
3	INDIA	SWEDEN	12	26	12	18
4	NORWAY	USA I	41	53	12	18
5	BRAZIL	SPAIN	21	75	3	25
6	AUSTRALIA	POLAND	45	56	13	17
7	ITALY	EGYPT	18	15	16	14
8	BULGARIA	URUGUAY	57	29	22	8
9	CANADA	SOUTH AFRICA	63	16	25	4
10	MONACO	PAKISTAN	51	33	19	11
11	CHINESE TAIPEI	CHINA	17	34	11	19

ROUND 4

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	BERMUDA	NEW ZEALAND	31	19	18	12
2	SWEDEN	USA II	16	36	10	20
3	USA I	INDIA	36	23	18	12
4	SPAIN	NORWAY	23	37	12	18
5	POLAND	BRAZIL	54	30	21	9
6	EGYPT	AUSTRALIA	18	64	5	25
7	URUGUAY	ITALY	27	59	7	23
8	SOUTH AFRICA	BULGARIA	18	23	14	16
9	PAKISTAN	CANADA	40	33	16	14
10	CHINA	MONACO	25	17	17	13
11	CHINESE TAIPEI	INDONESIA	47	20	21	9

Bermuda Bowl
Ranking after 4 rounds

1	USA II	83
2	POLAND	81
3	NORWAY	79
4	AUSTRALIA	75
5	ITALY	71
6	CANADA	70
7	USA I	68
8	CHINA	66
9	PAKISTAN	63
10	INDIA	60
10	CHINESE TAIPEI	60
12	MONACO	58
13	EGYPT	54
13	BULGARIA	54
15	SOUTH AFRICA	53
16	SPAIN	52
16	NEW ZEALAND	52
18	INDONESIA	50
19	SWEDEN	46
20	URUGUAY	44
21	BRAZIL	42
22	BERMUDA	23

RESULTS

Senior Bowl

ROUND 1

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	FRANCE	INDONESIA	44	58	13	17
2	DENMARK	MONACO	63	53	17	13
3	GUADELOUPE	BRAZIL/ARG	40	41	15	15
4	USA I	AUSTRALIA	36	39	15	15
5	EGYPT	USA II	76	65	17	13
6	FR. POLYNESIA	ITALY	44	107	4	25
7	BYE	JAPAN	0	0	0	18
8	PAKISTAN	ISRAEL	41	53	13	17

ROUND 2

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	AUSTRALIA	EGYPT	66	43	19	11
2	USA II	ITALY	69	37	21	9
3	PAKISTAN	FR. POLYNESIA	112	32	25	1
4	ISRAEL	JAPAN	94	77	18	12
5	INDONESIA	GUADELOUPE	100	28	25	2
6	BRAZIL/ARG	DENMARK	46	53	14	16
7	MONACO	FRANCE	35	119	1	25
8	USA I	BYE	0	0	18	0

Senior Bowl Ranking after 2 rounds

1	INDONESIA	42
2	FRANCE	38
3	PAKISTAN	37
4	ISRAEL	35
5	ITALY	34
5	USA II	34
7	AUSTRALIA	33.5
8	USA I	33
9	DENMARK	32.5
10	JAPAN	30
11	BRAZIL/ARG	28.5
12	EGYPT	27.5
13	GUADELOUPE	17
14	MONACO	14
15	FR. POLYNESIA	4

Venice Cup Ranking after 2 rounds

1	USA I	44
2	NETHERLANDS	43
2	VENEZUELA	43
4	CHINESE TAIPEI	42
5	ENGLAND	39
6	ITALY	38
7	CHINA	36
8	CANADA	33
9	GERMANY	32
10	INDIA	28
10	SOUTH AFRICA	28
12	USA II	27
13	AUSTRALIA	25
14	BRAZIL	19
14	INDONESIA	19
16	SWEDEN	16
17	PAKISTAN	12
18	EGYPT	10

LOUIS VUITTON

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World Bridge Championships

6, avenue des Beaux-Arts, Monte Carlo

from 11 am to 7 pm

RESULTS

Venice Cup

ROUND 1

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
12	VENEZUELA	AUSTRALIA	58	18	24	6
13	PAKISTAN	CHINA	13	61	4	25
14	GERMANY	ITALY	35	41	14	16
15	BRAZIL	SOUTH AFRICA	16	21	14	16
16	INDIA	CHINESE TAIPEI	13	23	13	17
17	USA I	SWEDEN	74	4	25	1
18	ENGLAND	USA II	8	15	14	16
19	NETHERLANDS	EGYPT	61	23	24	6
20	INDONESIA	CANADA	14	42	8	22

ROUND 2

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
12	CHINA	VENEZUELA	22	39	11	19
13	ITALY	PAKISTAN	48	17	22	8
14	SOUTH AFRICA	GERMANY	18	30	12	18
15	CHINESE TAIPEI	BRAZIL	72	27	25	5
16	SWEDEN	INDIA	48	49	15	15
17	USA II	USA I	21	40	11	19
18	EGYPT	ENGLAND	8	55	4	25
19	CANADA	NETHERLANDS	15	32	11	19
20	AUSTRALIA	INDONESIA	38	22	19	11

ROUND 1 **Bermuda Bowl**



Sweden v Norway



Scandinavian Slaughter

Next year, not so far away now, the European Championships will be staged alongside a huge bridge festival in Malmö, Sweden. Here in Monaco, the second round of the Bermuda Bowl featured an all Scandinavian encounter between the country that will host the Championships and their neighbours, Norway, runners-up in this event last time. I happen to know that a lot of the smart money is on Norway going one better this time and, as you will see from this report, they were in no mood to take prisoners.

A flat board - as it was in the Venice Cup match between Germany and South Africa - but there both teams bid Six Diamonds!

The first board gave a subtle hint of what was to follow:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

[K 10 9 6] Q 10 9 4 { 10 7 } K 8 7		[A 2] 8 { Q 9 5 3 2 } A Q 10 9 4	[J 4 3] A J 7 6 3 2 { J } 6 5 2
---	--	---	--

West	North	East	South
<i>Gustawsson</i>	<i>Sælensminde</i>	<i>Morath</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
	Pass	1{	1]
2]*	3]	4}	Pass
5{	All Pass		

Not a great slam, but one that makes; +420

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
	Pass	1{	1]
1[	1NT	2}	2]
3]	Pass	4}	Pass
5{	All Pass		

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

[K 9 6 3] 5 3 { 8 } Q J 8 7 5 3		[A 10 4 2] K Q 10 2 { K 9 } K 9 2	[8 5] J 8 6 { A Q 10 7 4 2 } 6 4
--	--	--	---

West	North	East	South
<i>Gustawsson</i>	<i>Sælensminde</i>	<i>Morath</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
	Pass	1NT	Pass
3{		3NT	All Pass

South led the queen of spades and declarer failed to divine the diamond position, finishing one down; -50.

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
		1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		



Geir Helgemo, Norway

Follow the 36th Bermuda Bowl, the 14th Venice Cup and the 2nd Senior Bowl on Internet through the WBF official web site:

www.worldbridge.org

Same contract, same lead. Helness ducked the first spade, won the second, and played a heart to the jack. When that held he played a second heart and South thought for a very long time before ducking. In isolation that is a mistake, as declarer can now arrive at nine tricks by picking up the diamonds. Of course, he was not going to do so, but imagine East had been holding {K98. So, another flat board, but the flood gates were about to open.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

[A Q 9] A 3 { K Q J 7 4 } 6 4 2	N W E S	[J 8 7 6] 7 { 9 5 3 2 } A J 5 3	[K 10 5] K J 10 9 8 6 4 { -- } K Q 7
--	--------------------	--	---

West	North	East	South
<i>Gustawsson</i>	<i>Sælensminde</i>	<i>Morath</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
1NT	Pass	2{*}	Pass
2]	Pass	3]	Pass
3[	Pass	4{*}	Dble
Pass	Pass	Rdbl	Pass
4[	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5]*	Pass	6]	All Pass

The duplication of values in diamonds was annoying, but on this auction West knew all about it, and one might question his decision to bid Four Spades. Slam was tolerable, without being great, but to have any chance declarer had to take an unlikely view in hearts, and of course he did not, -100.



Peter Fredin, Sweden

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
1NT	Pass	2{*}	Pass
2]	Pass	4{*}	Dble
4]	All Pass		

Declarer was soon claiming eleven tricks and 13 IMPs. It was not long before the Norwegians added a second slam swing:

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

[10 8] Q J 3 2 { K 8 3 2 } K 8 3	N W E S	[A K 3] A K 7 4 { J 9 6 } A 10 2	[J 9 7 4 2] 9 8 { 10 7 5 4 } 9 4
---	--------------------	---	---

West	North	East	South
<i>Gustawsson</i>	<i>Sælensminde</i>	<i>Morath</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
Pass	1]	Pass	1}
Pass	6NT	All Pass	1NT

With the clubs behaving declarer did not need any red suit miracles; +990.

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
Pass	1]	Pass	1}*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	1NT

Facing a nebulous club and a limited rebid it was not unreasonable for North to simply bid game but it cost 11 IMPs.

The next deal saw a sensational swing:

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

[A J 10 9 8 6 5] A { -- } K Q 10 7 6	N W E S	[K 4] Q 10 9 8 4 2 { J 3 } 9 5 4	[Q 7 3 2] K J 3 { Q 8 5 } A J 2
---	--------------------	---	--

[--] 7 6 5 { A K 10 9 7 6 4 2 } 8 3
--

West <i>Gustawsson</i>	North <i>Sælensminde</i>	East <i>Morath</i>	South <i>Brogeland</i> 3NT* All Pass
5[	Pass	7[

South's pre-emptive effort reaped a reward beyond expectations when East/West, deprived of bidding space, found that it is sometimes better to bid hopefully than to arrive.

West <i>Helgemo</i>	North <i>Lindkvist</i>	East <i>Helness</i>	South <i>Fredin</i> 3NT*
4[	All Pass		

Helness gave it a long look, but eventually took the conservative view - and racked up another double figure swing.

This was quite a tough match for the commentators, as apart from having to contend with a number of tough deals they also had to cope with a scenario where one room raced ahead of the other, which meant there were no comparisons available.

On Board 26, holding [1084]KJ32 {KJ6 }J83 Peter Fredin, after the auction 1{ - 1[- 1NT - 3NT led the } 3 against 3NT, prompting Barry Rival to remark that 'When I see Peter's leads I realise that we think differently about the game.' I may have imagined it but I thought I detected a murmur of assent from the Swedish members of the audience.

Things were already going badly for Sweden and matters were not improved by this deal:

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

[5 4		
] J 10 8 7 4		
{ Q J 9 7		
} 4 2		
[8 7 3	N	[Q J 10 9 2
] 2	W	] A Q 9 5
{ 8 6 5 4 3 2	E	{ K 10
} J 7 5	S	} A 6
[A K 6		
] K 6 3		
{ A		
} K Q 10 9 8 3		

West <i>Gustawsson</i>	North <i>Sælensminde</i>	East <i>Morath</i>	South <i>Brogeland</i>
3{!	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

I have seen this kind of bidding in junior events but this, gentle readers, is the Bermuda Bowl, where such frivolity is surely out of place? This effort cost -500.

West <i>Helgemo</i>	North <i>Lindkvist</i>	East <i>Helness</i>	South <i>Fredin</i>
Pass	Pass	1[	Dble
Pass	1NT	Pass	3}
Pass	3]	Pass	4]
All Pass			

Lindkvist took the opening lead of the queen of spades in dummy and played a top club. East won and played a second spade. Declarer won, cashed the master club and played a third club, ruffing with the ten of hearts. The simple defence is for East to discard a spade, after which he is in complete control whatever declarer tries. However, Helness overuffed, and now made a potentially fatal error by playing a third spade. If declarer ruffs this with the eight or seven of hearts and then plays East for the nine of hearts he can make the contract, but he ruffed with the four. Now he played the eight of hearts and East can again ensure a one trick defeat by covering with the nine of hearts as that blocks the trump suit. However, he followed with the five and declarer missed his last chance by going up with the king. The game of ping pong was over, and when declarer carelessly played another heart he was three down, -300.

Norway had dominated the match, and won by 58-4 IMPs, 25-3 VP, to go to the top of the table with maximum points.

Josephine Morcos

Josephine Morcos, a founding member of the Egyptian women's bridge team, died July 13. She made her debut with the Egyptian women's Olympiad team in 1960 and led the squad to victory.



Morcos, who lived in the Cairo suburb of Heliopolis, played for Egypt in international competition every year after she first played in the Olympiad in Turin, Italy.

Josephine was taught to play bridge by her husband, Youssef, in 1943. In an interview published during the Olympiad in Maastricht, Netherlands, in 2000, Josephine recalled that her bridge lessons occurred while she and Youssef were engaged. She recalled that Youssef told her, "You must learn bridge. Otherwise we will not have a happy life together."

As a player, Josephine earned the respect of other experts, including Omar Sharif, who has represented Egypt many times.

Sharif, in fact, recruited Morcos twice in the past to play on his team in the Open series - in 1968 in Deauville, France, and in New Orleans, USA, in 1978. Both times the team was four-handed.

"Josephine is a wonderful player," Sharif said during the Maastricht tournament.

Her daughter, Aida Morcos, paid tribute to her mother as "the main pillar and founder on which the ladies bridge in Egypt started and is still going. She is the symbol of dedication, love and real talent. I am sure that all those who played with or against her all over the world will agree with me that she deserves the right and proper recognition."

ROUND 1 **Senior Bowl**

France v Indonesia

Two years ago in Paris the first Senior Bowl featured just seven teams, while here in Monte Carlo there is a field of sixteen as this event takes its place alongside the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup as a true World Championship, with every WBF zone represented for the first time.

Round One saw a match between France, who have had great success in European Senior competition, and Indonesia, a team that I fancy to be in the medals at this tournament. The Senior Championship is being played as a straight round robin with no knockout stage, each match being played in two 12-board segments. The match started with a bang for North/South with back-to-back slams to bid on the first two deals.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

[10 8 5] K Q 7 { K 6 } Q 10 6 5 2 [9] 8 5 4 2 { Q J 8 7 4 2 } K 9	<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		[7 6 4 3] J 10 6 { 5 3 } J 8 7 4 [A K Q J 2] A 9 3 { A 10 9 } A 3	
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Budirahardia</i>	<i>Adad</i>	<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Aujaleu</i>
	Pass	Pass	2{
Pass	2]	Pass	2NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	6[
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Mari</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
	Pass	Pass	2{
Pass	2]	Pass	2NT
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

Both Souths began with an artificial 2{ opening then showed about 22-23 balanced with their rebid. Pierre Adad made an invitational raise to 4NT and Maurice Aujaleu accepted, suggesting the alternative spot of 6[. Looking at a doubleton diamond and three trumps, Adad passed 6[out so the French pair reached the best contract on the deal. After the lead of the queen of diamonds, Aujaleu won in dummy, cashed two rounds of trumps then led up to the {A and ruffed his diamond loser; +980.

Henky Lasut simply raised the 2NT rebid to 6NT. This is still a decent contract, of course, but significantly inferior to the spade slam. However, with the clubs lying as they were, Eddy Manoppo could not go wrong; +990 and a flat board.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

[A K J 10 9 8 4 3] A 6 4 { 10 } A [Q 7 5 2] 8 5 { Q 6 } Q J 9 7 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 7 2 { K 9 8 7 5 2 } K 5 4 [6] K Q 10 3 { A J 4 3 } 10 8 6 3	
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Budirahardia</i>	<i>Adad</i>	<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Aujaleu</i>
		Pass	Pass
Pass	2}	2{	2NT
Pass	3[	Pass	4{
Dble	4]	Pass	5{
Pass	6[	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Mari</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
		Pass	Pass
Pass	4[	All Pass	

Lasut made the lazy opening bid of 4[, where he played for +680, giving an opportunity to France. Sure enough, Adad/Aujaleu took advantage, bidding to the cold small slam. Two Clubs was game-forcing and when Adad followed up by showing a powerful spade suit Aujaleu was prepared to cuebid despite his small singleton spade. I am not sure why his second cuebid was again in diamonds, but it got the job done as Adad jumped to 6[; +1430 and 13 IMPs to France.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

[K 9 6 2] K 6 4 { 10 8 } A 6 4 2 [7] A 5 3 2 { K Q 6 5 3 } 10 8 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		[Q J 10 3] Q 10 9 { A J 9 7 } Q 7 [A 8 5 4] J 8 7 { 4 2 } K J 9 5	
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Budirahardia</i>	<i>Adad</i>	<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Aujaleu</i>
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1{	Pass
1]	Pass	Pass	Dble
2]	2[	Pass	Pass
3{	Pass	3]	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Mari</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1{	Dble
1]	1[	Pass	Pass
3{	All Pass		

Denny Sacul's 1{ opening was Precision, promising only two cards in the suit if balanced with five clubs. Still, Arwin Budirahardia's decision to repeat the hearts before showing diamonds was a distinctly odd choice and it convinced Sacul that his partner would have a fifth heart, hence the correction to 3] over 3{.

Adad led a spade against 3] and Aujaleu won the ace and switched to a trump. Budirahardia ran that to the king and back came a second trump for the ten, jack and ace. Declarer could not get a club ruff in dummy so his only hope was the ruffing spade finesse. He crossed to the queen of hearts and ran the spade, pitching a club, but that lost and the defence took two club tricks for down one; -100.

Francois Leenhardt's 1{ opening might have been three cards in the other room but it would usually be four and it was easy for Christian Mari to support the suit at his second turn. The defence cashed two rounds of clubs then switched to a trump. Leenhardt ruffed the club loser, drew the remaining trumps and took the double heart finesse for nine tricks; +110 and 5 IMPs to France.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	[9 7 6 5 3		
	] Q 9 3		
	{ 8		
	} A K Q J		
[10 4		[A J 8 2	
] J 10 7 5 4		] K 2	
{ K Q		{ 10 9 6 3 2	
} 10 7 5 2		} 6 4	
	[K Q		
	] A 8 6		
	{ A J 7 5 4		
	} 9 8 3		

West	North	East	South
<i>Budirahardia</i>	<i>Adad</i>	<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Aujaleu</i>
		Pass	1{
Pass	1[	Pass	1NT
Pass	2}	Pass	2{
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Mari</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
		Pass	1{
Pass	1[	Pass	1NT
Pass	2}	Pass	2{
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Both Souths declared 3NT on the lead of a low heart. Aujaleu put up dummy's queen and ducked when that was headed by the king. Sacul returned a heart and the suit was cleared. Aujaleu played the [Q to the ace and Sacul switched to a diamond for the ace and king. Aujaleu cashed the king of spades then the clubs and conceded down two for -100.

Mari also led a low heart but Manoppo played low from dummy, winning the king with his ace. Manoppo played a spade honour and Leenhardt won and switched to the {10 for the ace and queen. Manoppo cashed the spade then crossed to a club to play another spade. There was still time for the defence to switch back to hearts but when a diamond was continued and declarer played low he had his ninth trick; +400 and 11 IMPs to Indonesia.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

	[A J 9 5 2		
	] K 10 9 4		
	{ 9 6 3		
	} 3		
[K Q 8 4		[7	
] J 8 5		] 7 6 2	
{ A J		{ K Q 10 8 7 4	
} 9 8 7 4		} J 6 5	
	[10 6 3		
	] A Q 3		
	{ 5 2		
	} A K Q 10 2		



Christian Mari, France

West	North	East	South
<i>Budirahardia</i>	<i>Adad</i>	<i>Sacul</i>	<i>Aujaleu</i>
Pass	Pass	3{	Dble
Pass	4{	Pass	4]
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Mari</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Leenhardt</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2}	2{	Pass
3{	Dble	All Pass	

Sacul opened 3{ in third seat, which looks a middle of the road action to me, and Aujaleu doubled. Adad's decision to cuebid rather than commit to spades led to Aujaleu playing a delicate four-three fit. Budirahardia led out ace then jack of diamonds and Sacul overtook to play a third round. Aujaleu ruffed with the queen then played ace of hearts followed by a heart to the ten. It was good news when the]10 held the trick but more good fortune was still needed and it duly materialized. Aujaleu cashed the]K then led to the ace of clubs and continued with the }K and }Q. The fall of the jack enabled declarer to cash two more club tricks for +650.

Leenhardt did not open in third seat but came in at his next turn. When Mari raised to 3{, Lasut doubled, ending the auction. The Indonesians had no difficulty in taking the first seven tricks but that was that and three down for -500 was worth 4 IMPs to France.

The first half ended with France leading by 23-11 IMPs. In the second half there was quite a bit more action as Indonesia recovered to take a 58-44 IMP win, converting to a 17-13 VP win.

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Championship Diary

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Those of you who attended the European Open Championships in Menton may be amused to know that last Friday the town was hit by one of the worst storms in its history, with torrential rain causing vast floods to sweep through the town.

A special hello to America's Betty Ann Kennedy, who is here representing USA1 in the Venice Cup. She was a member of the team that won the Venice Cup contest in 1974, and is the only person here in Monaco to have taken part in that historic first contest.

May we remind you that the last place to look for a Bulletin is in our office. Like you, we have to pick them up from one of the distribution points in the morning.

If you are looking for a supermarket, you will find a small one located in the shopping center that forms part of the Metropole Hotel complex. It is through the glass doors (the small ones, not the entrance to the Galleries.) immediately next to the Patisserie - we recommend the tartes aux fraises.

.....

Spots Before Your Eyes

by Mark Horton

If you want to follow the VuGraph match from the comfort of your hotel room all you have to do is log on to www.Bridgebase.com - they are transmitting from several tables during the round robin stage - or www.e-bridge.com.

I was loosely following the exciting Round 3 Bermuda Bowl match between USA1 and Norway - along with close to 1,000 other spectators - when I noticed a deal where an inattentive defender might make a mistake.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	[K 10 8 7		
	] K 8 5 2		
	{ K J		
	} Q 10 7		
[J 4		N	[A Q 3 2
] 9 4		W] --
{ 10 9 8 5 4		E	{ A 7 6 3 2
} K J 6 4		S	} 9 8 3 2
	[9 6 5		
	] A Q J 10 7 6 3		
	{ Q		
	} A 5		

West	North	East	South
<i>Grotheim</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Aa</i>	<i>Soloway</i>
			1]
Pass	3{*	3]*	3[
4}	4]	5}	5]
All Pass			

At the other table East/West had taken the 'phantom' save in Five Diamonds - I say phantom because, as you are about to discover, one might allow South to emerge with ten tricks in hearts.

West led the jack of spades, which was covered by the king and ace. East took his time, (I know what he was thinking about) and eventually cashed the queen of spades and then played the three of spades. West ruffed and, imagining that the three of spades was a low card, he switched to a club, enabling declarer to escape for one down.

It was brilliant play on the part of Paul Soloway to conceal the two of spades, especially as it was in East's hand!

Profile of the Dutch Ladies

BEP VRIEND

Bep Vriend, a bridge teacher from Amstelveen, is married to Anton Maas. She learned bridge in 1965. With her partner Carla Arnolds she won the European Ladies Pairs in 1993 and the World Ladies Pairs in 1994. Since 1994 she has partnered Marijke van der Pas. Bep Vriend is an honorary member of the Dutch Bridge Federation and in April 1998 received a Royal decoration in recognition of her great contribution to bridge. Bep has played in six Olympiads and fourteen European Championships. Following her participation in Perth 1989 (silver), Yokohama 1991, Tunisia 1997, Bermuda 2000 (gold) and Paris 2001, Monte Carlo is her sixth Venice Cup appearance.

MARIJKE VAN DER PAS

Marijke van der Pas lives in Utrecht together with Jaap Trouwborst. She has been playing bridge since 1967. She first played in the Dutch Ladies team in 1979. With her previous partner Elly Schippers she won the European Ladies Pairs in 1980. Marijke is a bridge journalist and works for the Dutch Bridge Magazine. Since 1994 she has partnered Bep Vriend. Marijke has played in six Olympiads and thirteen European Championships. Monte Carlo is her sixth Venice Cup appearance following Perth 1989 (silver), Yokohama 1991, Tunisia 1997, Bermuda 2000 (gold) and Paris 2001.

JET PASMAN

Jet Pasman comes from Broek in Waterland, a small village north of Amsterdam. She started playing bridge in 1974. From 1989 to 1993 Jet was captain of the Dutch Ladies team for three European Championships, one Olympiad and two Venice Cups. Since 1979 she has been partnering Anneke Simons. Jet is a sports teacher and is married to the coach of the Ladies team Chris Niemeijer, a former player in the Dutch Open team. Jet has played in three Olympiads and seven European Championships. After Tunisia 1997, Bermuda 2000 (gold) and Paris 2001, Monte Carlo is her fourth appearance as a player in the Venice Cup.

ANNEKE SIMONS

Anneke Simons, a personnel manager, lives in Amsterdam together with Kees Tammens a bridge journalist. They have a son, Bas, aged 20.

Anneke learned bridge at the age of 20 and since 1979 she has been playing with Jet Pasman. In 1988 she gave up bridge for six years. Anneke has played in three Olympiads and seven European Championships. Following Tunisia in 1997, Bermuda in 2000 (gold) and Paris 2001, Monte Carlo is her fourth appearance in the Venice Cup.

WIETSKES VAN ZWOL

Wietske van Zwol lives in Tilburg and is married to Carel Berendregt. She has a degree in business economics and works at the Tilburg University as a controller. Apart from bridge, music is her great hobby. She likes to sing and to play



the guitar. Wietske also likes sports: jogging, skating, skiing, if she can find the time. In 1982 she learned to play bridge. Wietske has played in two Olympiads and five European Championships. Following her participation in Tunisia 1997, Bermuda 2000 (gold) and Paris 2001, Monte Carlo is her 4th appearance in the Venice Cup. Her partner since 2000, Femke Hoogweg is expecting a baby, therefore she forms in Monte Carlo a partnership with Carla Arnolds.

CARLA ARNOLDS

Carla Arnolds is a bridge teacher and journalist from Tilburg and is married to Jan Kolen. They have four children, Martijn (11), Sandra (9), Astrid (8) and Ingrid (7). Carla learned to play bridge in 1981. With partner Bep Vriend she won the European Ladies Pairs in 1993 and the World Ladies Pairs in 1994. Then she switched from bridge to raising kids. Carla has played in two Olympiads and three European Championships. After Perth 1989 (silver) and Yokohama 1991, Monte Carlo is her third appearance in the Venice Cup.

ED FRANKEN lives in Haarlem (west of Amsterdam). He has been the Team Manager and Captain of the Dutch Ladies Team since early 1995. He captained the team during two Olympiads and five European Championships. Under his leadership the Dutch ladies won the Venice Cup in Bermuda, 2000. Monte Carlo is his fourth Venice Cup as a captain.

CHRIS NIEMEIJER has been the coach of the Dutch Ladies Team since 1987. He is married to Jet Pasman and is a former player of the Dutch Open team. Chris was coach during eight European Championships and five Olympiads and coached the team that won the Venice Cup in Bermuda 2000. Monte Carlo is his fifth Venice Cup.

ROUND 1 **Venice Cup**
 **England v Egypt** 

England started with a narrow loss in Round One while Egypt had suffered something rather more serious. Both would be keen to get a solid win under their belts when they met in Round Two. On the first board the Egyptian E/W pair outbid their English counterparts but actually lost 2 IMPs for their pains.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

[Q 8 7 5] K 5 { A K 8 6 4 } J 3	<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 2] 8 { Q 9 5 3 2 } A Q 10 9 4	[K 10 9 6] Q 10 9 4 { 10 7 } K 8 7
	N											
W		E										
	S											
[J 4 3] A J 7 6 3 2 { J } 6 5 2												

West	North	East	South
<i>Choukry</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Assouad</i>	<i>Penfold</i>
	Pass	1{	2]
Dble	3]	4}	Pass
4]	Pass	4[	Pass
5{	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Dhondy</i>	<i>Khoury</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Khalil</i>
	Pass	1{	1]
Dble	Rdbl	2}	Pass
2]	3]	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass		



Lucette Assouad, Egypt

Lucette Assouad's aggressive 4} bid persuaded Mona Choukry to cuebid but, despite a return cuebid from Assouad, Choukry was not prepared to go on to slam. Six Diamonds is on the club finesse after the actual heart lead and a bit worse on a spade lead. Here, of course, the finesse won and there were twelve tricks for +420.

Lily Khalil's simple overcall put the English E/W pair under less pressure but this actually worked out badly for the English in that they did not get committed to a suit contract and alighted in 3NT instead. After a heart lead, 3NT usually requires the club finesse, just as does the diamond slam, so is clearly the wrong contract. However, this was Dhondy's lucky day as the winning club finesse gave her twelve tricks and +490 for 2 IMPs to England.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

[A Q 9] A 3 { K Q J 7 4 } 6 4 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		[K 10 5] K J 10 9 8 6 4 { -- } K Q 7	[J 8 7 6] 7 { 9 5 3 2 } A J 5 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Choukry</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Assouad</i>	<i>Penfold</i>
1NT	Pass	3]	Pass
3[	Pass	4{	Pass
4]	Pass	6]	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Dhondy</i>	<i>Khoury</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Khalil</i>
1NT	Pass	3]	Pass
3[	Pass	4{	Dble
Pass	Pass	Rdbl	Pass
4]	Pass	4[	Pass
5]	All Pass		

The double of Nicola Smith's 4{ cuebid helped the English pair to stay out of slam as she could then confirm first-round control by redoubling and, when Heather Dhondy could not bid slam herself, Smith was prepared to trust her and stop off at the five level. Even with hearts coming in, 6] would not be secure as the } A might be offside, so the slam is against the odds; +650.

Sandra Penfold did not double the cuebid at the other table and that left her opponents with fewer options. Assouad jumped to slam and now the opening lead was critical. Had Penfold attempted to cash the ace of diamonds, figuring that she had a

trump trick to come, it would have been ruffed and declarer's clubs would all have gone away on the established diamonds. But Penfold was convinced that declarer, who had cuebid diamonds then jumped to slam without using Blackwood, would have a void. She led a club and Nevena Senior won the ace and returned the suit. Assouad won the second club and led a heart. She paused for some time, thinking about playing Penfold for queen third because the club lead looked to be from a short suit. Finally, however, she went up with the ace and was down one for -100 and 13 IMPs to England.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

[A J 10 9 8 6 5] A { -- } K Q 10 7 6	N W E S	[K 4] Q 10 9 8 4 2 { J 3 } 9 5 4	[Q 7 3 2] K J 3 { Q 8 5 } A J 2
[--] 7 6 5 { A K 10 9 7 6 4 2 } 8 3			

West	North	East	South
<i>Choukry</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Assouad</i>	<i>Penfold</i>
Dble	All Pass		5{
West	North	East	South
<i>Dhondy</i>	<i>Khoury</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Khalil</i>
Dble	3{	4[	Pass
4NT	Pass	5{	Pass
6[	All Pass		

There was a serious difference of opinion between the respective South players as Penfold opened two levels higher than Khalil. Five Diamonds is surely too much at this vulnerability, particularly as 4{ was available as a natural pre-empt. Choukry's double would not have occurred to me, I have to confess, and it looks normal for Assouad to pass with her defensively oriented hand.

Choukry led the king of clubs and Assouad overtook to return the } J then a third round, ruffed by Penfold who cashed the ace of diamonds, discovering the three-nil break. She continued with a low heart and Choukry played the ace at the speed of light, followed by the ace of spades. The winning play now would have been to discard, as West must play something that allows declarer to pick up the {Q, and the tempo of the [play of the] A did perhaps suggest the three-one split. But the play is by no means automatic and does require declarer to play West for the actual unlikely 7-1-0-5 distribution. Penfold ruffed and played a second heart and Assouad won and cashed her other heart winner. She rather lost the plot now and returned a diamond, enabling Penfold to finesse and get out for three down, when a spade back would have seen her forced to ruff and lead from hand for down

four; -800.

The Egyptian N/S pair play transfer pre-empts and Lily Khalil opened 3} , doubled by Dhondy. She must have been somewhat surprised when Smith could jump to 4[. Dhondy checked on key cards then bid the small slam; an easy +1430 and 12 IMPs to England.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

[8 2] Q 10 4 { J 4 2 } Q J 10 7 2	N W E S	[A K J 4] A J 8 3 2 { A 8 } 6 5	[10 5] 9 7 5 { K Q 9 7 6 } 9 4 3
[Q 9 7 6 3] K 6 { 10 5 3 } A K 8			

West	North	East	South
<i>Choukry</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Assouad</i>	<i>Penfold</i>
Pass	1]	Pass	1[
Pass	3[	Pass	4}
Pass	4{	Pass	4]
Pass	4NT	Pass	5{
Pass	5]	Pass	6}
Pass	6[	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
<i>Dhondy</i>	<i>Khoury</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Khalil</i>
Pass	1]	Pass	1[
Pass	2NT	Pass	3}
Pass	4[	Pass	4NT
Pass	5}	Pass	6[
All Pass			



Sandra Penfold, England

Both N/S pairs bid easily to the small slam, though different hands took control and used RUCB in the two auctions. Seven requires four heart winners so is not good enough and, while both declarers made all the tricks, they could be content to have reached the correct contract; a push at +1010.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

	[Q 10 2] 6 3 { A Q 10 8 3 } K 8 3											
[J] 8 7 5 { K 4 2 } A Q J 6 4 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		[A 7 6 5] A J 10 4 { J 6 5 } 10 7	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	[K 9 8 4 3] K Q 9 2 { 9 7 } 9 5											

West	North	East	South
<i>Choukry</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Assouad</i>	<i>Penfold</i>
	1NT	Pass	2}
Dble	2{	Pass	2[
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Dhondy</i>	<i>Khoury</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Khalil</i>
	Pass	Pass	1]
2}	2{	Dble	Pass
3}	Dble	Pass	3{
All Pass			

It seems normal to upgrade the North hand and that is what Senior did to open a weak no trump - they open almost every 11-count at this vulnerability. Penfold used Stayman then showed a weak five-four hand and was left to play 2[. Choukry led the jack of spades to the queen and ace and Assouad switched to the ten of clubs to the ace. Choukry returned the } Q to dummy's king and Penfold led a heart to her queen then took the diamond finesse to lead a second heart up. Assouad won the heart ace and returned the jack of diamonds but Penfold had the rest for +170.

Press Room Hours

The Press Room will be open from 9.30 a.m. to 8 p.m. (approximately) and until 10.30 p.m. on evenings when there is late play.

If IBPA members need access at other times, they should make special arrangements with the Press Room manager

Maud Khoury did not open the North hand, leading to a very different auction when Lily opened light in third seat. When Smith could double 2{ to show values, Dhondy was happy to repeat her clubs and Maud's competitive double got her side to 3{. Smith led the } 10 to the ace and Dhondy switched to her spade. Smith won the ace and returned a spade for Dhondy to ruff. The defence came to a second spade ruff and a trump trick to go with the ace of hearts for down two; -100 and 7 IMPs to England.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

	[A 10 7] 8 5 { 8 7 6 5 } 10 6 5 3											
[K 8] Q J 10 2 { A K J 4 } Q 9 8	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		[J 9 6 5 4] K 6 4 { Q 10 9 3 } 4	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	[Q 3 2] A 9 7 3 { 2 } A K J 7 2											

West	North	East	South
<i>Choukry</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Assouad</i>	<i>Penfold</i>
	Pass	Pass	1]
1NT	2}	2[	3}
All Pass			




Nevena Senior, England

West <i>Dhondy</i>	North <i>Khoury</i>	East <i>Smith</i>	South <i>Khalil</i>
	Pass	Pass	1}
1NT	Pass	2]	Pass
2[	All Pass		

England benefited from playing four-card majors as Penfold's 1} opening promised four cards while Lily's did not, permitting Senior to make a thin raise while Maud had to pass. That in turn allowed Penfold to compete to 3} while Dhondy was left in 2[.

Dhondy lost three trump tricks plus two aces but made 2[comfortably enough for +110. Choukry led two top diamonds against 3} and Penfold ruffed then ducked a heart. Choukry won the]10 and her switch to the [K did not, as they say, exactly paralyse declarer. Penfold might have made an overtrick from here but the important thing was that she made her contract for another +110 and 6 IMPs to England.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

	[9 5 4		
	] 10 8 5		
	{ A K J 7 6 2		
	} 2		
[K J 10 8 7 3		[Q 6	
] 7		] K Q 9 3 2	
{ 5		{ Q	
} Q J 10 8 3		} A K 9 6 5	
	[A 2		
	] A J 6 4		
	{ 10 9 8 4 3		
	} 7 4		

West <i>Choukry</i>	North <i>Senior</i>	East <i>Assouad</i>	South <i>Penfold</i>
		1]	Pass
1[	3{	4}	5{
6}	All Pass		

West <i>Dhondy</i>	North <i>Khoury</i>	East <i>Smith</i>	South <i>Khalil</i>
		1]	Pass
1[	2{	3}	3{
5}	Pass	Pass	5{
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Maud made a simple overcall and Lily a single raise. However, when Dhondy jumped to the club game Lily went on to 5{, doubled by Smith. After a club lead and spade switch, there was just one loser in each side suit; down one for -100. Senior's weak jump overcall saw Penfold raise directly to game and that caught Choukry with a huge fit for her partner's second suit. She bid 6} and that ended the auction. Penfold cashed the two major-suit aces then tried a second spade instead of a diamond so the diamond loser went away on the spades; still down one, however, for -50 and 4 IMPs to England.

England ran out convincing winners by 55-8 IMPs, 25-4 VPs.

Le petit écho de Monaco

par Guy Dupont

Toujours les mêmes !

C'est la troisième fois que la Bermuda Bowl a lieu à Monaco. La première fois, c'était en 1954, et les Etats-Unis l'avaient emporté. L'équipe était composée de Bishop, Ellenby, Mathe, Oakie, Rosen, Stenn, avec Benjamin Jonhson comme capitaine non joueur. La deuxième, c'était en 1976, et les Etats-Unis avaient encore gagné. Décidément, Monaco sourit aux Américains. Deux survivants de l'équipe de 76 disputent actuellement leurs chances dans cette troisième édition monégasque: Paul Soloway et Dan Morse (qui était capitaine non joueur en 76) - les autres vainqueurs étant Eisenberg, Hamilton, Paulsen, Ross, Rubin. Mais un seul des deux pourra prétendre à la victoire en 2003. Car Soloway joue dans l'équipe des Etats-Unis1, et Dan Morse dans celle des Etats-Unis 2.


Le purgatoire de l'Archange

Pour un événement, c'est un événement. Voilà des décennies que Gabriel Chagas représentait le Brésil dans la Bermuda Bowl, et cette fois, il ne joue que dans la Senior Bowl. Caramba ! Que s'est-il passé ? Voici l'explication : son équipe a bien gagné la sélection brésilienne pour Monaco, mais pour différentes raisons personnelles, trois des six membres se trouveront indisponibles aux dates du championnat (Brenner, son partenaire, par exemple, se marie ces jours-ci, et entre Gabriel et sa future épouse, il a dû choisir - et il a choisi). Ainsi, l'équipe qui a terminé seconde de la sélection brésilienne s'est-elle retrouvée qualifiée pour la Principauté (renforcée de Marcelo Branco, membre de l'équipe victorieuse).

L'explication

C'est un problème de défense qui s'est posé dans la première séance des championnats. Prenez place en Nord :

Donne 15, Sud donneur, Nord-Sud vulnérables

	[10 9 4		
	] 10 7 4 3		
	{ R 9 7 2		
	} R 7		
		[AV 8	
		] ARD 9 6	
		{ V 6	
		} 10 9 8	
O	N	E	S
1 SA	Passe	2 {(Texas)	Passe
2]	Passe	4 SA	Passe
5 {	Passe	6]	(Fin)

4 SA est quantitatif, et Ouest répond qu'il détient un As. Vous entamez du 10 de [. Le déclarant prend de l'As (le 2 en Sud) et joue } pour le 3 et la Dame. Vous encaissez du Roi. **Que rejouez-vous ?**

L'heure est grave. Le déclarant a répondu qu'il avait un As.

Mais lequel ? Dans un match de la Bermuda Bowl, Nord, considérant que les adversaires n'étaient pas passés par les contrôles, et convaincu qu'Ouest détenait As-Dame de }, a estimé urgent de contre-attaquer à {. Mais, petit péché de gourmandise, il a déposé le Roi de { sur la table. Catastrophe !

[RD 7 5		[AV 8
] V 5 2		] AR D 9 6
{ AD 5		{ V 6
} DV 2		} 10 9 8
	[10 9 4	
	] 10 7 4 3	
	{ R 9 7 2	
	} R 7	
	[6 3 2	
	] 8	
	{ 10 8 4 3	
	} A 6 5 4 3	

Comme on peut le constater, le Roi de { constituait le seul retour qui permettait au déclarant de parvenir à douze levées. Ainsi, les deux perdantes à } purent s'envoler sur un { et un [. Même sur le retour d'un petit {, impossible d'éliminer une seconde perdante à }.

Voilà l'explication aux interrogations des commentateurs du bridgevision, surpris de constater sur les écrans des résultats que le seul déclarant à avoir réussi douze levées était celui qui avait appelé le chelem ! Comme quoi la politique de demander le contrat que l'on a envie de réussir a du bon.

Merci au joueur qui m'a raconté lui-même ce coup de défense dont il était le malheureux auteur. !

Le grand derby

Ce fut la donne du plus gros swing de la deuxième séance. Voyons-la au bridgevision. Prenez la place du Norvégien Tor Helness, en Est, dans le grand derby des pays nordiques Norvège/Suède :

Donne 23, Sud donneur, tous vulnérables.

[D 7 3 2
] RV 3
{ D 8 5
} AV 2

Le début de la séquence:

O	N	E	S
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
			3 SA

4 [Passe ?
Quelle est votre enchère, en Est ?
 Après une mûre réflexion, Helness finit par passer.
 Ce ne fut pas un succès. Constatez plutôt :

	[R 4	
	] D 10 9 8 4 2	
	{ V 3	
	} 9 5 4	
[AV 10 9 8 6 5		[D 7 3 2
] A		] RV 3
{ --		{ D 8 5
} R D 10 7 6		} AV 2
	[--	
	] 7 6 5	
	{ A R 10 9 7 6 4 2	
	} 8 3	

6 [est, en effet, aussi solide que la glace de la banquise par une nuit de Noël.

On peut discuter de l'opportunité des enchères d'Ouest et d'Est sur le coup. Dans les équipes où le chelem fut manqué, on n'a pas fini d'en parler !

Toujours est-il que la paire norvégienne s'attendait à déboursier 14 imp sur le coup. Quelle ne fut pas sa surprise, au moment des comptes, d'en gagner 13 !

Car dans l'autre salle :

O	N	E	S
<i>Gustawsson</i>	<i>Saelensminde</i>	<i>Morath</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
			3 SA
			(Fin)

5 [Passe 7 [(Fin)
 Les espoirs du déclarant de trouver les [partagés furent de courte durée. Moins un. Un coup qui déplaçait 27 imp.

Le grand derby tourna au mieux pour la Norvège, qui l'emporta par 25 à 3. Et un départ de rêve pour elle, dans cette épreuve, avec 50 points à son compteur après deux matches.

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