

Bulletin 2

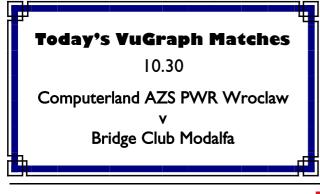
Saturday 9th October 2004

WHO IS GOING TO PLAY ITALIANS IN THE FINAL TONIGHT?

Early in the day it had already become clear that in both sections, the Italian teams would easily make it to the semis. And so it proved. According to the Rules and Regulations, this also means that Allegra and Parioli, the two eventual section winners, will have to meet in the semis today. Tonight, we will know which of the strong Italian teams here did best. Will Parioli hold on to go through or will Allegra take over the Italian supremacy?

With Italian victories pretty certain long before the last matches, the more interesting issue was the battle for the second qualification berth in both sections. In section B, the Polish team from Wrocław went through easily enough by beating Parioli 21-9 in the last match. In section A, the fight was much closer. Herkules Stockholm and Modalfa Amsterdam had met in the 4th match, the Dutch emerging winners by 20-10, so a Dutch win would see them through for sure. As it happened, the Dutch lost 12-18 to Denmark but the Swedes could not capitalise the advantage built up by them early in the match against, who else, Allegra. They eventually beat the Italians 19-11, but as a result, just stranded 3 V.P. short of their target. But would it have been a just result, keeping in mind the score in the direct encounter?

Anyway, our congratulations to Modalfa and AZS on playing for the right to meet any strong Italian Team tonight and tomorrow. We will keep you in touch in our next issue.





Bridge Club Modalfa v Bridge Klub Herkules

Programme & Schedule of play

Saturday 9th October

- 10.30 Semi-Final 1st session (12 boards)
- 12.30 Lunch
- I3.30 Semi-Final 2nd session (12 boards)
- 15.50 Semi-Final 3rd session (12 boards)
 - 17.50 Semi-Final 4th session (12 boards)
- 20.30 Dinner
- 21.30 Final 1st session (12 boards)

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| Butler ranking after Round Robin | 10 |

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Results

| | | ROUND 3 | | | |
|------------------------------|---|------------------------------|------|---|------|
| | | Group A | | | |
| Bridge Club Allegra | - | Bridge Club Modalfa | 23 | - | 7 |
| One Eyed Jacks | - | All England Bridge Club | 20 | - | 10 |
| Karlsruher Bridge Sport Club | - | Bridge Klub Herkules | 9 | - | 19 |
| | | Group B | | | |
| Bridge House Barcelona | - | Bridge Club Tofas | 13 | - | 17 |
| France Société Générale | - | Computerland AZS PWR Wroclaw | 11 | - | 19 |
| Tennis Club Parioli Angelini | - | Zenith Moscow | 24,5 | - | 0,5 |
| | | ROUND 4 | | | |
| | | Group A | | | |
| All England Bridge Club | - | Bridge Club Allegra | 10,5 | - | 19 |
| Bridge Club Modalfa | - | Bridge Klub Herkules | 20 | - | 10 |
| One Eyed Jacks | - | Karlsruher Bridge Sport Club | 10 | - | 20 |
| | | Group B | | | |
| Computerland AZS PWR Wroclaw | - | Bridge House Barcelona | 21 | - | 9 |
| Bridge Club Tofas | - | Zenith Moscow | 11 | - | 19 |
| France Société Générale | - | Tennis Club Parioli Angelini | 8 | - | 22 |
| | | ROUND 5 | | | |
| | | Group A | | | |
| Bridge Club Allegra | | Bridge Klub Herkules | 11 | - | 19 |
| All England Bridge Club | | Karlsruher Bridge Sport Club | 11,7 | - | 16,3 |
| Bridge Club Modalfa | | One Eyed Jacks | 12 | - | 18 |
| | | Group B | | | |
| Bridge House Barcelona | | Zenith Moscow | 17 | - | 13 |
| Computerland AZS PWR Wroclaw | | Tennis Club Parioli Angelini | 21 | - | 9 |
| Bridge Club Tofas | | France Société Générale | 9 | - | 21 |
| | | | D | | |
| GROUPA | | GROUP | | | |
| Final Ranking | | Final Rank | ing | | |
| Pridao Club Allogra | Ċ | Toppis Club Parioli Angoli | | | |

| Bridge Club Allegra | 96 | |
|------------------------------|------|--|
| Bridge Club Modalfa | 83 | |
| Bridge Klub Herkules | 80 | |
| One Eyed Jacks | 73 | |
| Karlsruher Bridge Sport Club | 63,3 | |
| All England Bridge Club | 50,2 | |

| Final Ranking | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Tennis Club Parioli Angelini | 100,5 |
| Computerland AZS PWR Wroclaw | 95 |
| France Société Générale | 79 |
| Bridge Club Tofas | 62 |
| Zenith Moscow | 52,5 |
| Bridge House Barcelona | 50 |

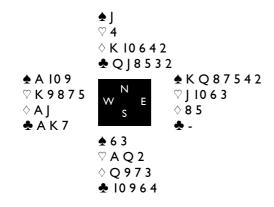
BC Modalfa v BC Allegra

by Jos Jacobs

After the first day, BC Modalfa from Amsterdam, the Netherlands with 44 V.P. and BC Allegra from Turin, Italy with 43 V.P. were at the top of the rankings in section A of the Round Robins. As the third-ranked team, BK Herkules from Stockholm, Sweden, at this stage were already 12 V.P. behind the leaders, the match scheduled in Round 3 between Allegra and Modalfa should be an interesting match anyway, both teams no doubt wanting to keep their chances of qualification intact.

After an easy small slam in any minor suit on the first board and a partscore hand on which neither NS pair could possibly find their diamond fit on board 2, there was more action on the next board:

Board 3. Dealer South, EW Vul.



Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
|------------|----------|---------|---------|
| Bakkeren | D'Avossa | Bertens | Ferraro |
| | | | Pass |
| \square | 2NT | 4♣ | 5◇ |
| 5NT | Pass | 6🙅 | Pass |
| 6 ♡ | All Pass | | |
| | | | |

4. showed a good hand with a heart fit. Ferraro's choice to show his diamond fit first enabled Bakkeren to explore the possibilities of a grand slam, but Bakkeren would have nothing of that, as you can imagine. When declarer made the normal play of finessing for the $\heartsuit Q$ he had 12 tricks easily enough. Modalfa +1430.

Open Room:

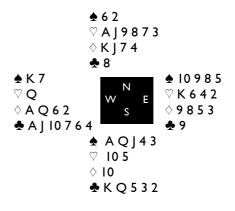
| West | North | East | South |
|------------|-----------|---------|----------|
| Lanzarotti | Paulissen | Buratti | Nab |
| | | | Pass |
| \square | 2NT | 4♣ | 5 🛧 |
| 5 ◇ | 6秦 | 6♡ | All Pass |

Here, after the fit-showing $4\clubsuit$, Nab elected to go for clubs first, giving Lanzarotti all the room he might

need to express his hand. When Paulissen raised to $6\clubsuit$ over the 5 \diamond cuebid, Buratti was in an less comfortable position than his Dutch counterpart. He correctly judged to go to $6\heartsuit$ though, so the only problem left was to bring home the beacon. Influenced no doubt by the violent intervention, Lanzarotti elected to play a low heart to the king which led to a swift one down and 17 IMPs to Modalfa.

The difference between the Weak Two and the Multi approach made itself felt on this one:

Board 5 Dealer North, NS Vul.



| Closed Roc | om: | | |
|------------|----------|---------|------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Bakkeren | D'Avossa | Bertens | Ferraro |
| | 2♡ | Pass | 4 ♡ |
| 5 ᆇ | Pass | Pass | Dble |
| All Pass | | | |

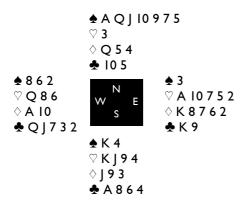
When Ferraro boldly raised his partner's weak two to game the pressure was on West. 4NT might have been an alternative, but that would not have worked either; only a double would have hit the jackpot. As it was, Bakkeren went down five on the lead of the $\Im A$ and a spade switch. Allegra +1100.

| Open Room | ו: | | |
|------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Lanzarotti | Paulissen | Buratti | Nab |
| | 2♢ | Pass | 2♡ |
| 3♣ | All Pass | | |

Well, here too South might have considered a leap to the four-level, but when he stayed quiet, Lanzarotti had all the time in the world to describe his good hand. Luckily enough for him, Buratti had nothing to contribute so it came to rest at a not too unsafe level. Modalfa +50 but 14 IMPs to Allegra who thus made up most of the deficit.

One board later:

Board 6. Dealer East, EW Vul.



Closed Room:

| West | North | East South | |
|----------|----------|------------|---------|
| Bakkeren | D'Avossa | Bertens | Ferraro |
| | | Pass | INT |
| Pass | 2♡ | 2♠ | Pass |
| 2NT | 4♠ | All Pass | |

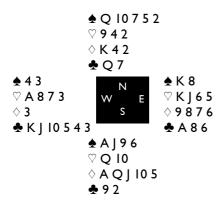
24 showed a twosuiter and 2NT was suggesting some fit. On this revealing auction, Bakkeren led the \heartsuit A. All would have been well had he found the diamond shift, but when a continued another heart, declarer could no longer go wrong once he called for dummy's nine. Allegra +420.

Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
|------------|-----------|----------|-------|
| Lanzarotti | Paulissen | Buratti | Nab |
| | | Pass | 📥 |
| Pass | 4♠ | All Pass | |

Against this unrevealing auction, Buratti knew he had to make an aggressive lead, so out came the $\otimes 8$. When Lanzarotti won the ace and returned the 10, the ruff was there for the defence. Buratti had in fact returned the $\otimes 7$ for his partner to ruff, but as the $\heartsuit A$ could not run away Lanzarotti secured a second undertrick by returning a club. Well done. Allegra +100 and 11 more IMPs to take a lead they were never to lose any more.

Board 9. Dealer North, EW Vul.



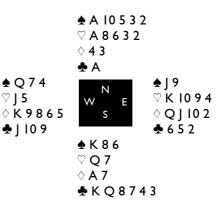
| Closed Room: | | | | | |
|--------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| South | | | | | |
| Ferraro | | | | | |
| I \diamond | | | | | |
| 2♠ | | | | | |
| All Pass | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Double-dummy you can even make Four Clubs by dropping both doubleton queens. Bakkeren went down two, however, when he took both finesses in the rounded suits. Please note that hearts were never mentioned. Allegra +200.

| Open Room | : | | |
|------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Lanzarotti | Paulissen | Buratti | Nab |
| | Pass | Pass | $ \diamond$ |
| Pass | ♠ | Pass | 2♠ |
| 2NT | 3♢ | 4 ♡ | 4♠ |
| All Pass | | | |

Lanzarotti's slow approach worked out well as the double fit easily came into the picture when he showed his twosuiter had the second attempt. On a heart lead to the ace and a club shift, declarer went two down when he for reasons only known to himself refrained from taking an immediate spade finesse. As it was, it did not really matter very much. Allegra another +100 here and 7 IMPs.

Board 12. Dealer West, NS Vul.



| Closed Roor | n: | | |
|-------------|------------|----------|---------------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Bakkeren | D'Avossa | Bertens | Ferraro |
| Pass | ♠ | Pass | 2 🙅 |
| Pass | 2 ◇ | Pass | 3♠ |
| Pass | 4♣ | Pass | 4 \diamond |
| Pass | 4 ♡ | Pass | 4♠ |
| Pass | 5 秦 | Pass | 6 🙅 |
| Pass | 6♠ | All Pass | |

2 was general relay and $2\Diamond$ showed a minimum. Trumps were established and a series of cuebids followed. Well, maybe, slam is not a good contract, but the play was relatively simple after the $\Diamond Q$ lead. Win the $\Diamond A$, unblock the $\clubsuit A$, play two rounds of trumps ending in dummy and hope.

With the clubs behaving there are just enough parking places for all the red losers. Well well. Allegra ± 1430

| West | North | East | South |
|------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| Lanzarotti | Paulissen | Buratti | Nab |
| Pass | ♠ | Pass | 2 뢒 |
| Pass | 2♡ | Pass | 2♠ |
| Pass | 3 📥 | Pass | 4♠ |
| All Pass | | | |

2 was game forcing and 2 was a relay. When Paulissen showed a minimum with $3 \clubsuit$ and also denied club support in the process, Nab was no longer interested, so the Dutch reached a more normal contract in which 11 tricks were easily made. Modalfa +650 but 13 more IMPs to Allegra who were well in the lead now: 46-18.

Another not unlucky board for the Italians was board 18. Elsewhere in this issue, Pete Ventura has described what happened on this board at the two tables in the Tofas-Barcelona match. Mainly the same thing happened in our match, the Dutch staying in a sensible partscore of INT making nine tricks and the Italians reaching the very, very thin game for a 6-IMP gain.

On the final board of the set, for once the Dutch self-restraint paid off:

Board 20. Dealer West, All Vul.

| | ♠ Q 5 ♡ A K 8 ◇ J 10 7 5 3 ♣ J 10 9 | |
|---|--|--|
| ▲ A 4 3 ♡ J 10 7 4 ◇ A 8 4 2 ◆ 4 3 | W E S | ▲ K J 7 ♡ 9 5 3 ◊ K 9 ▲ Q 8 7 6 5 |
| | 🚖 109862 | - |
| | ♡ Q 6 2 | |
| | ◊ Q 6 | |
| | 📥 A K 2 | |

Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------------|---------|---------|
| Bakkeren | D'Avossa | Bertens | Ferraro |
| Pass | $ \diamond$ | Pass | ♠ |
| Pass | INT | Pass | 2♣ |
| Pass | 2 ◇ | Pass | 2NT |
| All Pass | | | |

Once North opened the bidding, his side was destined to end up too high. On the normal heart lead,

declarer lacks time to establish his 8th trick even though the club finesse is right. Modalfa +100.

| Open Room: | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Lanzarotti | Paulissen | Buratti | Nab |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | |
| Pass | INT | All Pass | |

Paulissen's "forcing" INT on a passed hand worked well, as opener will only pass with a minimum or less. Making seven tricks presented far less problems, so the Dutch added another +90 to recoup 5 IMPs and save a precious V.P. Allegra had won 65-24 which converted into 23-7 V.P.

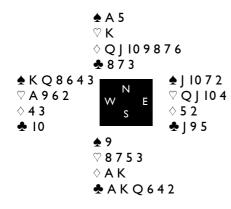
| Semifinals |
|------------------------------|
| |
| Semifinals A |
| Tennis Club Parioli Angelini |
| v Bridge Club Allegra |
| Computerland AZS PWR Wroclaw |
| v Bridge Club Modalfa |
| Semifinals B |
| France Société Générale |
| One Eyed Jacks |
| Bridge Klub Herkules |
| v Bridge Club Tofas |
| Semifinals C |
| Karlsruher Bridge Sport Club |
| v Bridge House Barcelona |
| Zenith Moscow |
| v All England Bridge Club |

Bridge House v Bridge Club Tofas

by Peter Ventura

Time was running quickly for the hosting team, Bridge House Barcelona, since on the first day they scored only 11 VPs in all. Bridge Club Tofas, Turkey, still had some chances to take one of the two top positions.

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open Room: West North

| VVest | North | East | South |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|----------|
| Zorlu | Pont | Assael | Graupera |
| | $ \diamond$ | Pass | 2♣ |
| 2♠ | 3♢ | 3♠ | 4NT |
| Pass | 5◇ | Pass | 6◇ |
| All Pass | | | |
| | | | |
| Closed Ro | om: | | |
| West | North | East | South |
| Lara | Atabey | Fernandez | Kolata |
| | 3⊘ | Pass | 5◇ |
| Dble | All Pass | | |
| | | | |

I do not know where Lara found enough tricks on his hand to double 5 \diamond , but it for sure kept Atabey/ Kolata away from the slam which was bid by Pont/ Graupera in the other room. Zorlu/Assael were active up to the three-level and it made life a bit harder for N/ S to find the slam. Graupera asked for aces and bid the slam when his partner responded 5 \diamond , showing one ace, although it was uncertain whether North had a control in hearts or not. Graupera could tell from his cards – and the fact that E/W bid spades – that North must have some HCPs in hearts and that was worth 7 IMPs for Bridge House Barcelona. Board 3. Dealer West. E/W Vul. ۹J ♡4 ♦ K 10642 🛧 Q | 8 5 3 2 A 10 9 **▲** K Q 8 7 5 4 2 Ν ♡K9875 ♡ | 10 6 3 \٨/ ◊ A J 8 5 5 🛧 A K 7 **6**3 ♡ A Q 2 ◊ Q 9 7 3 10964 Open Room: West North South East Zorlu Pont Assael Graupera 20 2♦ Pass Pass 2NT Pass 3♡ Pass 3♠ Pass 5♠ Pass 6♠ All Pass Closed Room: West North East South Kolata Lara Atabey Fernandez Pass $I\heartsuit$ 2NT **4**♡ **5**◇ 60 Pass Dble Pass **7** \diamond Pass Dble All Pass

In the Open Room Pont/Assael bid up to 6 \clubsuit without any interference. 2 \Diamond was Multi and 3 \heartsuit transfer to spades.

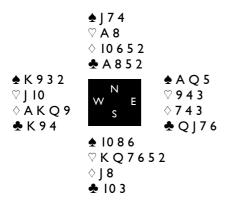
I can hardly imagine South to lead \heartsuit A if East would have become declarer. The slam is therefore in practice cold with South on lead but... North had a much more attractive lead: his singleton heart. Pont found South with \heartsuit A and got his ruff for one down and -100.

Bridge is a wonderful game. Here at one table N/ S sat quietly and with exactly the same cards the very same side played the final contract – at the seven-level!!! Well, even though 7 \diamond was a sacrifice it is an example of how exciting bridge sometimes can be.

2NT showed a two-suiter in the minors and when Lara jumped to 6° over South's sacrifice. Kolata thought for a while and doubled. 6° will succeed though when South holds A-Q in hearts, so Atabey made the right decision to correct to 7° .

When Lara led a heart the losing spade could be thrown for only three down; -500 and 12 IMPs to the Spaniards.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

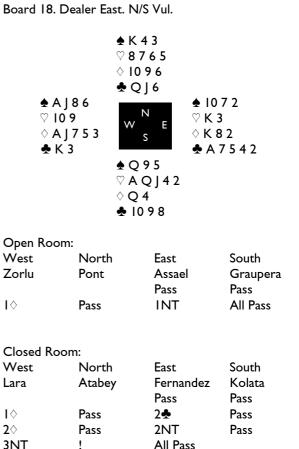


Open Room:

| e pen neeenn | | | |
|--------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Zorlu | Pont | Assael | Graupera |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| INT | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Closed Roon | n: | | |
| West | North | East | South |
| Lara | Atabey | Fernandez | Kolata |
| | , | Pass | Pass |
| INT | Pass | 2NT | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass | | |
| | | | |

After a diamond lead to the king Fernandez could only count to six tricks. Even if spades and diamonds would split 3-3 he was in need of one or more club tricks, so at trick two he tried a club to the jack, which held the trick. Fernandez now played a club to dummy's king and North's ace, a line without fantasy. Better would have been to enter the dummy in diamonds and run another club towards the hand. If North plays low, declarer only needs either diamonds or spades to split evenly. Atabey won the club ace then played \heartsuit A. When he got a positive signal from his partner he continued in hearts and the defence had an easy way to collect seven tricks; Tofas +150.

In the Open Room Zorlu won the diamond lead with the ace. Since he was pretty sure that the defence would attack the heart suit as soon as they won A, he let the defenders tumble in darkness as he in tempo played \heartsuit J!! North was not on his toes, playing low. Voilà – the heart suit was now blocked when South won the queen. Zorlu's operation had succeeded and that was worth +430 and 11 IMPs for Tofas.



Zorlu/Assael performed a sensible auction in the Open Room and they made an overtrick in INT; Tofas +120.

At the other table Lara bid as he had seen the bidding box for the first time. 3NT is an ugly contract, but we have seen worse. With a little help from the opponents the contract has a chance. In fact, all declarer needed was for South to lead a heart. Kolata led $\heartsuit Q$ and now declarer made his game since $\diamondsuit Q$ appeared on the second round the suit was played; +460, when both of the defenders gave up their spades, and 8 IMPs to Barcelona.

Bridge Club Tofas was the strongest team but they managed only to win 53-41 IMPs or 17-13 in VPs.



Société General v Computerland

by Pedro Rubiés - Mary Carmen Babot

El tercer partido del torneo ha enfrentado en el vugraph a Balicki-Zmudzinski en N-S, sala cerrada, contra Rombaud-Palau y Starkowski-Olanski en abierta en posición E-W contra Quantin- Multon.

Dejemos constancia de que jugándose a primera hora de la mañana (10:30) contábamos con escaso número de espectadores.

Cabe destacar otro hecho, mucho más relevante, como ha sido la desconexión de la red durante aproximadamente media hora lo que ha obligado a parar el juego en ambas salas.

En la mano I y sin tiempo de precalentamiento la pareja N-S en sala cerrada tras una apertura muy débil de I \diamond , primero de mano, llegan a un excelente slam que los franceses no juegan en la otra mesa.

La mano 3 supone la curiosidad de la ligada a dos palos (ricos) el corazón con 9 cartas y el pic con 10 en E-W. Se gana slam a \heartsuit (con A+Q tercero y colocado) pero no a \clubsuit encontrando la salida de semifallo. No ha sido el caso en ninguna de las mesas ya que ambas han preferido doblar el contrato de 5T a sus oponentes.

La mano 5 nos presenta las siguientes 13 cartas en sur:

El compañero abre de 2^{\heartsuit} (monocolor débil). En la mesa sur ha subastado 2ST y a la izquierda de esta mano han dicho 3. ¿Estamos seguros ahora de querer jugar la manga? Los franceses al parecer sí, yendo dos multas con una contra en la que Starkowski ha decidido no refallar el ataque del compañero y con K 6 4 2 ha conseguido hacer dos bazas a triunfo.

En la mano 7 una excelente defensa a 5 \diamond o incluso a 6 \diamond contra la manga a \bigstar (que puede batirse con una alucinógena salida a \heartsuit), vulnerable, de E-W, no la ha sabido encontrar ninguna de las dos parejas en N-S.

Llegamos a la mano 12 en la que se ha perdido la conexión y hemos tenido que "suponer" lo que iba sucediendo. Como somos meros cronistas no comentaremos sobre un par o tres de manos que no hemos visto.

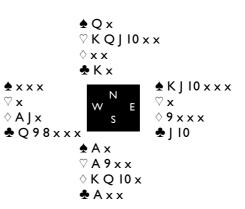
La mano 15 permite apuntar al mismo equipo en ambas mesas. Polonia gana $2\Diamond$ doblados en sala cerrada mientras que en abierta E-W cartea IST para una multa.

Sorpresa y exceso de prudencia en la mano 16. Ambas líneas N-S juegan contratos a ST. En abierta parcial a nivel de 2 y en cerrada manga en ataque. Usted tiene estas cartas:

| • | Κ | Q | J | 10 | 9 | 5 |
|--------------|---|----|---|----|---|---|
| \heartsuit | Α | 10 | 9 | | | |
| \diamond | А | 43 | 3 | | | |
| ÷ | 3 | | | | | |

La pregunta: ¿Encontramos excesivo el riesgo en doblar 3ST ? Realmente baza extra no parece que puedan hacernos... El jugador francés no lo ha visto así y ha dejado jugar "sin dolor".

Por último un bonito slam en la mano 19 subastado únicamente en sala abierta por la pareja polaca.



Con salida a pic desde W la mano no puede ganarse. Sin embargo, no siempre se acierta, y la elegida ha sido el 4. Sur da un arrastre y juega, desde el muerto, \diamond para el K de su mano que W toma de As. Vuelta a . ¿Cómo seguimos? Es más probable el impasse al J \diamond (que no sale) permitiéndonos descartar el segundo . del muerto. Resultado final: -I y II IMPS para Francia.

Victoria del equipo polaco por 50-31 que esta tarde a primera hora se enfrenta al equipo hispano.

T.C. Parioli Angelini v Société General

by Jos Jacobs

The penultimate round in section B of the Round Robins included a match between two well-placed teams at the time: Parioli Angelini from Rome, with 69.5 V.P. the leaders by a big margin, and Société Générale from France who were on 50 V.P. at the time.

Board 5. Dealer North, NS Vul.

| | ≜ A C ♡ I0 ◇ K C ♣ 9 7 | 9 5 4 3 9 6 2 | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| ♠ 8 2 ♡ Q 8 ◊ J 9 4 ♣ 10 8 | s s | ● K J ♡ 9 3 ◇ 10 8 ◆ A K | 2 |
| | ♠ 6 | | |
| | ♡ A K | . J 6 | |
| | ♦ A 7 | 53 | |
| | 📥 Q J | 64 | |
| Closed Room | ו: | | |
| West | North | East | South |
| Versace | Sebbane | Lauria | Thuillez |
| | ♠ | Pass | 2 📥 |
| Pass | 2 ◇ | Pass | 3♢ |
| Pass | 3♠ | Pass | 3NT |
| Pass | 4♠ | All Pass | |

As the situation was already forcing to game, there is much to be said for passing 3NT. With the AK out and the trumps stacked behind him, Sebbane had no chance in 4a and quietly went down two. Parioli +200.

Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
|---------|------------|--------|----------|
| Quantin | Angelini | Multon | Sementa |
| | ♠ | Pass | 2♣ |
| Pass | 2 ◇ | Pass | 2NT |
| Pass | 3♠ | Pass | 3NT |
| Pass | Pass | Dble | All Pass |

In spite of the game-forcing character of the situation 3NT might well have gone down, and a spade lead certainly was about the only way to help partner in finding the winning defence if it existed, which is actually the case.

Quantin duly led the \bigstar 8, which was covered by the nine and ten. Multon then played a low club, the queen winning. Sementa now crossed to the \Diamond K and played another club, taken by Multon's king. When he switched to a heart next, Sementa could run this to dummy's ten. Quantin won the queen and returned a spade, but nine tricks were there now: a spade, three hearts, four diamonds and a club. Parioli +750 and 14 IMPs, the first major swing of the match.

But what if Multon switches to a heart at trick two? If declarer ducks this to West's queen, a spade will

come back to put an end to all squeeze possibilities and set the contract. If declarer wins and goes after the clubs himself, EW will end up with their hearts established.

Very little happened, the French getting back a few IMPs on the odd overtrick, until seven boards later, when both teams had their chances again.

Board 12. Dealer West, NS Vul.

| ▲ 10 6 ♡ A 10 ◊ 8 5 ▲ Q 6 Closed Room | 052 642 | | 6 4 3 E | ▲ K J ; ♡ 9 ◇ J 3 ▲ K J 7 6 2 | |
|---|-------------|----|------------|---|----------|
| West | North | | East | | South |
| Versace | Sebbar | | Lauria | | Thuillez |
| Pass | Pass | le | | | Dble |
| 1 ass 2♠ | 1 ass 3♡ | | Pass | | 4⊘ |
| 2 ∞ Pass | 3⊽ 4♡ | | Pass | | 4NT |
| | | | | | |
| Pass | 5 🙅 | | Pass | | 6◇ |
| All Pass | | | | | |

Even though the defenders did not find their heart ruff, there was no suitable parking place for the losing club as the only entry to dummy, the $\Diamond A$, will necessarily be gone before the hearts are established. This even applies if the suit breaks 3-2. Anyway, Parioli just scored +100.

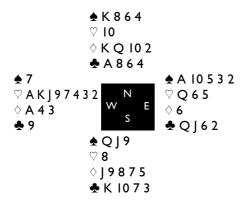
| Open Roor | n: | | |
|-----------|----------|------------|---------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Quantin | Angelini | Multon | Sementa |
| Pass | Pass | l ≜ | Dble |
| 2♠ | Pass | 3♠ | 5◇ |
| All Pass | | | |

When Angelini did not bid on his first occasion after the double, he also put an end to Sementa's possible aspirations. Sementa thus settled for $5\diamond$ and easily made it on a spade lead by drawing trumps first and conceding a heart and a club later. Parioli +600 and 12 more IMPs to double their lead to 24, but a chance missed by the French to save the board.

Then, we saw another string of quiet boards, the French picking up just 4 IMPs on a misdefence. When the end of the match came in sight, things livened up again:

3rd EUROPEAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONS CUP

Board 18. Dealer East, NS Vul.



| Closed Roor | n: | | |
|-------------|----------|------------|----------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Versace | Sebbane | Lauria | Thuillez |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| I ♡ | Dble | 2NT | 3♢ |
| Dble | Pass | 3♠ | Dble |
| Pass | 4♠ | Dble | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 5 ◇ | Pass |
| 6♡ | All Pass | | |

According to the various Italian commentators, EW were on thin ice here, as Lauria's double of 4 ♠ might have been "for penalties" as well, suggesting spade strength rather than first-round control. When Lauria showed an ace, Versace bid the slam with some confidence after all, and this once again proved the right thing to do. Parioli +980.

| Open Room: | | | |
|------------|----------|--------|---------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Quantin | Angelini | Multon | Sementa |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| 4 ♡ | All Pass | | |

We all know that in third position everything is different, but this 4° opening bid certainly was far off target this time. Another 11 IMPs out for the French to trail by 31 now.

On the last board, Parioli scored another 3 IMPs so the final score was 45-11 to them, or 22-8 V.P.

| | | Butler ranking afte | er Round | I R | lot | oin | | |
|------|-------|---|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Rank | Score | Name | Team | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I | 2,17 | Alfredo VERSACE - Lorenzo LAURIA | Tennis Club Paroli | | | 1.86 | 1.94 | |
| 2 | 0,75 | Fredrik NYSTROM - Peter BERTHEAU | BK Herkules | -0,14 | 1,78 | 1,05 | 0,67 | 0,40 |
| 3 | 0,67 | Wojtek OLANSKI - Wlodzimierz STARKOWSKI | Computerland AZS | -0,03 | | 1,31 | | 0,72 |
| 4 | 0.65 | Stainislaw GOLEBIOWSKI - Mariusz KWIECINSKI | Computerland AZS | | 0.75 | | 0,57 | 0,62 |
| 5 | 0,59 | Norberto BOCCHI - Giorgio DUBOIN | BC Allegra | | -0,04 | | 0,50 | |
| 6 | 0,54 | Fulvio FANTONI - Claudio NUNES | Tennis Club Parioli | | 0,04 | 2,20 | | -0,62 |
| 7 | 0,51 | Andrea BURATTI - Massimo LANZAROTTI | BC Allegra | 0,68 | 1,35 | 0,43 | | -0,40 |
| 8 | 0,49 | Mario d' AVOSSA - Guido FERRARO | BC Allegra | | | 1,50 | 0,47 | -0,50 |
| 9 | 0.42 | Francesco ANGELINI - Antonio SEMENTA | Tennis Club Paroli | | | | -0,01 | -0,72 |
| 10 | 0,39 | Gert Jan PAULISSEN - Bart NAB | BC Modalfa | | 0,46 | | | -0,55 |
| 11 | 0,32 | Cezary BALICKI - Adam ZMUDZINSKI | Computerland AZS | -0,13 | | -0,16 | | |
| 12 | 0.21 | Lionel SEBBANE - Laurent THUILLEZ | | | 1.49 | | -1.94 | 1,08 |
| 13 | 0,20 | lean-Christophe OUANTIN - Franck MULTON | Société Générale | 1,90 | | -1.31 | 0,01 | |
| 14 | 0,13 | Yalcin ATABEY - Suleyman KOLATA | BC Tofas | | -0,04 | 0,31 | | |
| 15 | 0,10 | Larissa PANINA | BC Zenith Moscow | | | | 0,87 | |
| 16 | 0.10 | Dennis KOCH-PALMUND - Klaus ADAMSEN | One Eyed lacks | | 0.04 | | -0,75 | |
| 17 | 0.03 | lerome ROMBAUT - Jean-Jacques PALAU | Société Générale | | -0,46 | | | 0,65 |
| 18 | -0,01 | Ton BAKKEREN - Huub BERTENS | | | 0,87 | | | |
| 19 | -0,05 | Tom TOWNSEND - David GOLD | All England DC | | 1,15 | | -0,47 | |
| 20 | -0.09 | Ian NICOLAISEN - Thorvald AAGAARD | One Eyed lacks | -0,09 | -1.35 | 0,67 | -0,34 | |
| 21 | -0.11 | Michael ROSENBLUM | BC Zenith Moscow | 0.23 | | | 0,87 | -0,77 |
| 22 | -0,13 | Tomasz GOTARD - Josef PIEKAREK | Karlsruher Bridge | | -0,46 | | 0,75 | |
| 23 | -0,23 | Salvador ASSAEL - Nafiz ZORLU | BC Tofas | 0,03 | | | -0,87 | -0,65 |
| 24 | -0.31 | Iose Manuel LARA | Bridge House | | | -0.31 | | |
| 25 | -0,34 | | Karlsruher Bridge | | | | 0,34 | |
| 26 | | Per-Olof SUNDELIN - Johan SYLVAN | BK Herkules | 0.09 | -1.15 | | -1.87 | |
| 27 | | Michael ELINESCU - Entscho WLADOW | Karlsruher Bridge | | | -1,05 | | 0,54 |
| 28 | | Carlos FERNANDEZ | Bridge House | | | -0,31 | | |
| 29 | -0,66 | Juan Carlos VENTIN | Bridge House | -3,30 | | | -0,57 | |
| 30 | | luan PONT | Bridge House | | | -0.56 | | -0.06 |
| 31 | | Vladimir REKUNOV | BC Zenith Moscow | | | -2,20 | | |
| 32 | -0,74 | | BC Zenith Moscow | | | -2,20 | | -0,77 |
| 33 | -0.96 | lustin HACKETT - Jason HACKETT | All England BC | -0,60 | -1.78 | | -0.50 | |
| 34 | | David BAKHSHI - Andrew ROBSON | All England BC | -1.91 | | -0.52 | | -0.54 |
| 35 | | Ozcan PEHLIVAN - Dogan UZUM | BC Tofas | | -1,57 | | | -1,08 |
| 36 | | Jose CREUHERAS | Bridge House | -1,99 | -1,49 | | -1,23 | -0,06 |
| 37 | -1,23 | Evgueni SOLNTSEV | BC Zenith Moscow | -1,90 | | -1,86 | | 0,06 |
| 38 | | lavier GRAUPERA | Bridge House | -1,99 | | -0,56 | -1,23 | |
| 39 | -1,88 | Arseni SHUR | BC Zenith Moscow | -1,90 | | -1,86 | | |