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DAILY BULLETIN

WORLD BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

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REQUIEM FOR A HEAVYWEIGHT



Some of the 54 volunteers from the Shanghai International Studies University.

There will be a new Bermuda Bowl champion in 2007. A team from South Africa that barely qualified for the quarter-final round pulled one of the biggest upsets in the history of the event on Monday, defeating the powerful Italian team 184.7-167.

South Africa's next challenge will be USA I in the semi-final round, while Norway and the Netherlands play in the other match.

South Africa earned the final qualifying spot on the last deal of the round robin and, with their carryover, stormed out to a 95.7-36 lead after two sets in their head-to-head with the defending Bermuda Bowl champions.

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VUGRAPH MATCHES



Semi Final Session 1 (11.00-13.20)

VG:	Table 21	USA I - China Global Times	(VC)
BBO 1:	Table 41	USA I - USA 2	(SB)
BBO 2:	Table 22	France - Germany	(VC)
SWAN:	Table 1	Norway - Netherlands	(BB)
OurGame:	Table 2	USA I - South Africa	(BB)

Semi Final Session 2 (14.20-16.40)

To Be Decided

Semi Final Session 3 (17.10-19.30)

To Be Decided

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RESULTS



Bermuda Bowl

Quarter Final

		Carry-Over	Boards	Boards	Boards	Boards	Boards	Boards	Total
			1 - 16	17 - 32	33 - 48	49 - 64	65 - 80	81 - 96	
1	Italy	South Africa	0 - 5.7	7 - 43	29 - 47	32 - 27	33 - 6	14 - 24	52 - 32 167 - 184.7
2	USA 1	Australia	16 - 0	13 - 13	73 - 13	40 - 10	25 - 49	23 - 27	26 - 12 216 - 124
3	Netherlands	Sweden	0 - 3.7	17 - 32	85 - 1	38 - 16	41 - 16	57 - 20	36 - 19 274 - 107.7
4	Norway	China SMEG	8 - 0	21 - 7	45 - 11	50 - 13	27 - 40	18 - 15	39 - 30 208 - 116

Venice Cup

Quarter Final

		Carry-Over	Boards	Boards	Boards	Boards	Boards	Boards	Total
			1 - 16	17 - 32	33 - 48	49 - 64	65 - 80	81 - 96	
1	USA 1	Egypt	16 - 0	21 - 29	34 - 21	45 - 7	35 - 6	67 - 3	42 - 19 260 - 85
2	China Global Times	England	0 - 1	21 - 14	25 - 32	16 - 19	34 - 25	42 - 19	80 - 18 218 - 128
3	Germany	Canada	0 - 5.3	46 - 23	29 - 23	33 - 29	36 - 52	45 - 25	35 - 36 224 - 193.3
4	USA 2	France	0 - 16	24 - 14	36 - 60	9 - 13	23 - 32	50 - 6	36 - 38 178 - 179

Senior Bowl

Quarter Final

		Carry-Over	Boards	Boards	Boards	Boards	Boards	Boards	Total
			1 - 16	17 - 32	33 - 48	49 - 64	65 - 80	81 - 96	
21	Canada	Brazil	0 - 3	34 - 8	19 - 34	20 - 23	49 - 36	28 - 42	21 - 52 171 - 198
22	Poland	Indonesia	16 - 0	15 - 43	50 - 39	14 - 35	16 - 62	53 - 8	6 - 57 170 - 244
23	USA 2	Italy	0 - 1.7	34 - 23	71 - 30	64 - 3	31 - 38	24 - 12	0 - 0 224 - 107.7
24	France	USA 1	0 - 13.7	35 - 10	52 - 37	31 - 21	29 - 30	12 - 51	16 - 52 175 - 214.7



TODAY'S PROGRAM

Semi-Final Sessions 1-3 (11.00, 14.20, 17.10)



Bermuda Bowl

Home	Visiting	c/o
1 Norway	Netherlands	9 - 0
2 USA 1	South Africa	9 - 0

Venice Cup

Home	Visiting	c/o
21 China GT	USA 1	0.3 - 0
22 France	Germany	2.3 - 0

Senior Bowl

Home	Visiting	c/o
41 USA 1	USA 2	6 - 0
42 Indonesia	Brazil	3 - 0

VENICE CUP

Quarter-Final - Session I



USA 1

v

Egypt



by Brian Senior

USA has won the Venice Cup more often than any other country, while this was a first appearance in the knock-out stages for Egypt. The Americans, who won the round robin qualifying stage, were heavy favourites going into the match, their cause not being harmed by the fact that they had the maximum permitted 16 IMP carry-over advantage to this match. The first big swing, however, went to the underdogs.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Stansby	Omar	Rosenberg	Eldin
		2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	6♥	Dble
6NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Maud	Levitina	Lily	Narasimhan
		2♣	2♥
Pass	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	6♣	All Pass

Nessrine Eldin did not come in with the South hand over the strong, artificial 2♣ opening, which you may guess would not be my style. JoAnna Stansby responded with a negative/waiting 2♦ and Debbie Rosenberg showed first her clubs then the spades over the 3♦ enquiry. When Stansby now jumped to 4NT, did Rosenberg respond to Key-card, showing the void? If so, she described her hand very well but went past the best slam in the process. Stansby converted to 6NT, ending the auction.

Eldin had doubled for a heart lead and she duly got one, but now she found that she would have been better off not having hearts led. Had she won with the ace of hearts, she

would have set up twelve tricks for declarer – though there is no immediate entry to the West hand, so the defence would still prevail on a minor-suit switch from South, this play would have been fatal had West held the ♠10 or ♦Q. But Eldin ducked the heart to Stansby's king. Stansby ran the ten of diamonds, then played a second diamond to the jack and cashed her winners, conceding the last two tricks; -50.

Hansa Narasimhan did come in over 2♣, but only with 2♥, which put no pressure on the Egyptian East/West pair. Maud Khouri passed and Lily Khalil cuebid 3♥, avoiding the risk of a take-out double being left in when she had a void. Maud responded 3NT and Lily leapt to 6♣, ending the auction.

Narsimhan led her singleton diamond to the ten, queen and ace, speeding up the play. Lily drew trumps and gave up a spade; +920 and 14 IMPs to Egypt.

Someone went off in 6♣ in one of the other matches, but it does look to be cold. On a passive trump lead you would cash a second trump, intending to claim if the suit broke two-two. When clubs prove to be three-one, you play to ruff two diamonds in the dummy and, with the minor-suit lengths being together, that produces twelve tricks.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Stansby	Omar	Rosenberg	Eldin
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Maud	Levitina	Lily	Narasimhan
			1♣
Pass	1NT	Dble	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

Eldin passed the South hand, a little cautious for my taste, and heard her opponents bid smoothly to 4♥. She took her club winners and that was that; +650.

Narasimhan opened 1♣ and, after Irina Levitina's INT response, East/West were only looking to compete for the partscore, though Maud's 2♥ response to the double looks again to be a little conservative. She made only ten tricks for +170 and 10 IMPs to USAI.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Stansby</i>	<i>Omar</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Eldin</i>
	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Maud</i>	<i>Levitina</i>	<i>Lily</i>	<i>Narasimhan</i>
	1♣	1♠	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Dble	4♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

It was Noheir Omar's turn to pass a borderline opening bid, though she had the excuse of being vulnerable. This time the conservative approach should have led to a substantial gain. Rosenberg/Stansby bid uncontested to 2♠, which had six losers. Eldin led the ♦7 to her partner's ace, Rosenberg dropping the queen. Now it was necessary for Omar to switch or a trick would run away. No, she returned a diamond, won in dummy as Eldin played an honest nine. The contract could now be made if Rosenberg took a club discard on the diamonds. No, she led the ♠J and ran it. Now the contract was beatable again if Eldin won and led a heart or a club. Once again, no, as she ducked the spade. Finally, Rosenberg decided that it was time to stop this nonsense. She cashed a diamond for a club discard before repeating the trump finesse and had eight tricks; +110.

Levitina opened the North hand and Narasimhan, looking at a 13-count, drove to game. Had she chosen to bid 3NT at her second turn, she would have found that she had nine tricks because the ♠A was where it rated to be and Levitina had fast tricks for her. But 5♣ was hopeless. There were four inescapable losers in the side-suits for down two; -200 and 3 IMPs to Egypt.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Stansby</i>	<i>Omar</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Eldin</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Maud</i>	<i>Levitina</i>	<i>Lily</i>	<i>Narasimhan</i>
INT	Pass	Pass	2♣
2♦	Dble	All Pass	

Stansby decided to upgrade her 16-count to rebid 2NT, showing 18-19 balanced. With the diamond suit not providing a single trick, this was not a success. Omar led the ten of spades, which Stansby ducked. North switched to a club and Stansby won in hand, then laid down the king of diamonds, losing to the ace. A second club was won in dummy and Stansby cashed the other club winner, then led a diamond, losing to the eight.

Omar cashed the clubs, then three rounds of hearts and there was also a diamond for down five; -250.



JoAnna Stansby, USA I

Maud opened INT, passed round to Narasimhan, who overcalled 2♣ to show the majors. Now Maud bid her six-card diamond suit and Levitina doubled.

Levitina led her spade to Maud's ace. Maud played three rounds of clubs, throwing a heart from hand, then a diamond, running it to the eight. Levitina led a heart to her partner's ace and the ♠Q came back, allowing North to ruff away the king. North played the ♥K, ruffed, won the next diamond play and cashed her last diamond. There was still a spade to come for down one; -100 but 4 IMPs to Egypt.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Stansby	Omar	Rosenberg	Eldin
1♠	2NT	Pass	3♣
Dble	Pass	3♠	Pass
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Maud	Levitina	Lily	Narasimhan
4♦	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Narasimhan opened an undisciplined weak two and Maud showed her major two-suiter. The 2♦ bid had done its job, pushing East/West way beyond their comfort level. In the Bermuda Bowl, Glen Holman of South Africa doubled 4♣ with the South hand after having opened 2♦ and collected a juicy +500. Maud's contract drifted the same three off but for only -150.

Eldin did not open the South hand and heard her partner overcall 2NT to show a two-suiter other than hearts and diamonds. Eldin gave preference to clubs. Omar had extra shape, so competed to 4♣ over 3♠, ending the auction.

Stansby cashed the black aces, then finding herself awkwardly placed, guessed to switch to the king of diamonds, on which Rosenberg dropped the jack, a costly play as it turned out. Eldin won with the ♦A and led her heart. Stansby played low and the contract would have made comfortably had declarer put up the king, which was perhaps the play indicated by the auction and early play. However, Eldin put in the jack and now a trump return would have left her with no play. But Rosenberg won with the ♥Q and re-

turned a diamond, and declarer was able to put in the eight, cash the ♦Q for a heart discard, ruff a diamond, ruff a heart and throw the last heart on the ♠Q. It remained only to ruff a spade low to get to dummy and the top three clubs won the last three tricks for +130 but 1 IMP to USA I.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Stansby	Omar	Rosenberg	Eldin
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
Pass	2♠	3♣	4♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Maud	Levitina	Lily	Narasimhan
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
Pass	2♠	3♣	3♠
3NT	Pass	4♣	All Pass

After identical starts to the two auctions, Narsimhan competed with 3♠ on the South cards, while Eldin bid a very aggressive 4♠. Eldin's 4♠ ended the auction, while Maud bid a very optimistic 3NT over 3♠, and Lily ran back to the relative safety of 4♣, ending the auction.

Four clubs was hopeless. Despite the even breaks in both clubs and hearts, there were five unavoidable losers; two down for -100.

Stansby led the king of clubs against 4♠, then switched to the six of hearts. Rosenberg won with the heart king and cashed the ace, Stansby following with the four. After some thought, Rosenberg continued with a third heart, allowing Eldin to get rid of a club from hand. When declarer drops the ♥Q, shouldn't West play the seven, to make it crystal clear that she is not ruffing hearts, just in case partner thinks that declarer is falsecarding? Anyway, 4♠ could now be made double dummy, but was hardly likely to be so at single dummy. Sure enough, Eldin played ♠K and a spade to the ace, then switched her attention to diamonds. She hooked the ten on the third round, so had a discard for the remaining club loser, but there was a trump loser - one down for -100 and 5 IMPs to USA I.

The set ended with Egypt having halved their deficit, and they now trailed by 29-37 IMPs.

BERMUDA BOWL

Round 2 I



Chinese Taipei

v

South Africa



The Final Deals

by Phillip Alder

At the end of the first day in the Bermuda Bowl quarter-final between Italy and South Africa, the more southerly nation enjoyed a comfortable 54.7 IMP lead. But with two boards to play in the qualifying stage, South Africa would not have been playing.

With these two deals to go, they trailed Chinese Taipei by 11 IMPs, or 13-17 in victory points. They had to gain at least 4 IMPs.

South led his spade seven, Juei-Yu Shih (East) taking North's spade jack with his ace and playing the diamond queen, losing to North's ace. A low-spade return was won by declarer's ten, and he continued with the diamond ten. South won and the defense had to come out on top. At first glance it looked as though, after declarer drew trumps and played the ace and another heart, South would have to open up clubs to East's advantage. But drawing trumps squeezed the dummy and East went down one.

Plus 100 and plus 100 gave South Africa a vital 5 IMPs. They had to avoid conceding two IMPs on the final deal.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Shen</i>	<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Yeh</i>
Pass	1♠	2♦	Pass
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Shen</i>	<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Yeh</i>
1♣	1♦	1♠	2♦
2♠	3♦	3♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Yang</i>	<i>Cope</i>	<i>Shih</i>	<i>Holman</i>
Pass	1♠	2♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Yang</i>	<i>Cope</i>	<i>Shih</i>	<i>Holman</i>
2♣	2♦	2♠	3♦
4♦	Pass	4♠	5♦
All Pass			

In the open room, Chih-Kuo Shen (North) rebid in his four-card heart suit when two diamonds was passed back to him. Chen Yeh gave preference to spades. Chris Bosenberg (East) led a diamond, declarer winning with his ace and playing a heart toward the king, but he could not get to eight tricks, eventually going down one.

In the closed room, Tim Cope (North) doubled when two diamonds came around, allowing for the possibility that his partner had a penalty double of that contract. And indeed, Glen Holman did pass, turning the takeout double into one for penalties.

In the open room, Bosenberg (East) bought the contract in three spades. Yeh (South) led the diamond five. The contract could have been defeated by a trick, the defenders lost their way, letting declarer get home. (Sadly, the recorder only gave the first trick.)

At the other table, Holman, when his opponents got to four spades, took out insurance, bidding five diamonds. This was surprisingly allowed to escape undoubled by East.

Declarer got the trumps right, of course, so he lost two spades and one club to go down one.

Plus 140 and minus 50 gave South Africa 3 IMPs and put them into the quarterfinals. But if Shen and Yeh had defeated three spades, South Africa would have been out and Brazil in. It was that close.

A Bridge Player's Inferno

by Gemma Tan

Surely the agony that a Venice Cup declarer went through in this deal is worthy of one of Dante's Hells.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♥	Pass	INT
Pass	Dble	2NT	Pass
		All Pass	

On the opening lead of the spade four, declarer played dummy's jack, taken by North's queen. The heart-two shift was won by South's ace, and the heart-three return went to the eight and (incorrectly) queen, declarer discarding a diamond. North cashed the diamond ace, then continued with the diamond jack, covered by the queen and king.

North-South had taken the first five tricks, so South could have cashed the spade ace to defeat the contract. But hoping for more than plus 100, she led her last diamond.

Phoebe Lin from the Philippines ran her diamonds to bring about the following end-position:



Phoebe Lin, Philippines

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

The last diamond squeezed South in three suits. She chose to pitch a heart, so declarer crossed to the club king and took the two hearts, squeezing South again.

Two notrump doubled and made for plus 590.

Computer Championships

by Al Levy

The round robin of the World Computer Bridge Championship ended on Sunday with WBridge 5 finishing first and defending Champion Jack close behind.

The 64 board semi-final pits WBridge 5 against Q-Plus and Jack against Bridge Baron.

The matches take place in room 5J. Kibitzers are welcome.

An example of bad bidding and excellent play occurred when Bridge Baron reached 6NT by West on the following deal from Round 9 of the human events:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Bridge Baron correctly won the opening lead of the king of spades, cashed three hearts and five clubs, and played a diamond to the ace. Now the jack of spades endplayed North. Note that if the opening lead is ducked, 6NT cannot be made.

Cherchez La Femme?

by Jim Gordon

When one scans the results on a board and sees all tables playing in 3NT and most ending with minus scores, it seems probable that there's a story behind the few plus scores. This deal occurred in round 20 of the qualifying stage.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Every table in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Senior Bowl played in 3NT. In the Bermuda Bowl, 13 declarers were down in 3NT after a spade lead, and the same number failed in the Venice Cup on the same lead.

When North was declarer, a diamond lead allowed declarer to take at least nine tricks. When South was declarer – and at the tables where East led a spade – there were only two plus scores for North South.

In the Senior Bowl, Lew Stansby of USA 2 and Adolfo Daniel Madala of Argentina found the winning line. Rather than banking on the diamond finesse, Stansby and Madala won the spade lead, knocked out the ♣A, won the spade return in hand and played off their club winners.

Both declarer noticed West's discomfort on the play of the clubs, so they led a diamond to the ace and exited with a spade. In the end, West had to play away from the ♥Q, providing declarer with his ninth trick.



Missing a friend



We were saddened to learn that our President Emeritus, Jaime Ortiz-Patiño, expected to arrive on Monday, is unable to join us here in Shanghai due to ill health. We have sent him our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Greek Gift Accepted

by Patrick Jourdain

The International Bridge Press Association has an annual award for Best Defence of the Year. The Award ceremony for last year's deals was yesterday (Monday) at 12.30 in the WBF Meeting Room, but Michelle Brunner of the England women's team here in Shanghai has made an early entry for next year's Award. This was deal 26 of the second session of the quarterfinal match between England and China:

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brunner	Yi Qian Liu	Goldenfield	Wenfei Wang
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♣
Pass	5NT	Pass	7♣
All Pass			

1♣ was strong, 1♦ a negative, and 5NT a grand-slam try, which East must have accepted because of her fifth trump.

When the result of the other room came through it showed the England North-South pair had stopped in 4♣. (Their auction, starting with a strong two, was 2♠-3♣-4♣-4♠-Pass. The three club negative cut out a level of the auction, causing the premature end. The home supporters expected a big gain if their pair reached six clubs, and more if they reached seven because declarer has no entry to dummy to take the trump finesse and must lay down the ace, very luckily dropping the king.

The Chinese did indeed reach seven clubs. Rhona Goldenfield led the heart jack. Declarer put the queen ... and it held. Declarer gratefully took the opportunity for the trump finesse, but was less grateful when she discovered how she had been conned.

England gained 13 IMPs instead of losing 17.

BERMUDA BOWL

Quarter-Final - Session 1



Italy

v

South Africa



by Brian Senior

Italy came into their 96-board quarter-final with South Africa as hot favourites to progress to the next stage. While the South Africans had battled through the round robin, only sneaking back into the eighth as described on page 6, Italy had headed the qualifiers in their usual imperious fashion.

The first set did not quite follow the script, as South Africa extended their 5.7 IMP carry-over lead to 41.7, taking the set by 43-7. Much of the South African lead came from three deals on which Glen Holman and Tim Cope failed to show many-time world champions, Alfredo Versace and Lorenzo Lauria, the respect that they would believe to be their due, doubling them for significant penalties while their teammates produced sound results from the other table.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Eber	Fantoni	Bosenberg	Nunes
	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Dble	Pass	3♦	Pass
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Versace	Cope	Lauria	Holman
	2♥	Pass	3♥
Dble	Pass	4♦	Dble
All Pass			

Claudio Nunes opened INT, 12-14 balanced but sometimes including a singleton. Fulvio Fantoni transferred and Nunes completed the transfer. Neville Eber now doubled with the West hand and Chris Bosenberg bid his four-card diamond suit. Three diamonds would have gone for a significant penalty but that was not easy for North/South to appreciate, and Fantoni competed to 3♥, ending the auction.

Eber cashed the ace of clubs and switched to a low spade for the queen and king. When Nunes played the ♣J, Eber won with the king and played a diamond to his partner's ace. A spade through gave Eber two winners there; nicely defended for one down, -50.

Holman raised Cope's weak-two opening to the three level and, in a position where several other players went quietly, Versace chose to double. When Lauria responded 4♦, Holman suspected that his opponents had misjudged and thought it only fair that they should be given the bad news as quickly as possible. He doubled, ending the auction.

Holman led the jack of clubs. Lauria won with the king and played a heart, which Cope won with the jack to push a diamond through, the ten losing to the queen. Holman switched back to clubs and Lauria, needing something good to happen, finessed the ten, losing to the queen. Now Cope gave his partner a club ruff, and Holman played ace of hearts, then a spade. That was not best, of course, but neither North nor South realised what the trump position was. The contract went four down for -800 and 13 IMPs to South Africa - the perfect start.



Tim Cope, South Africa

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ A K 3 ♥ Q 2 ♦ K J 9 5 4 2 ♣ K 10	♠ 10 ♥ K 9 7 ♦ A Q 10 8 ♣ 9 7 4 3 2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 8 6 4 2 ♥ 10 8 5 4 ♦ 7 6 ♣ A Q 8
---	--	--	---

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
INT	Pass	Pass	2♣
2♦	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Cope</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Holman</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	4♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Eber opened a strong no trump and, when Nunes overcalled to show the majors, introduced his diamond suit. Two Diamonds ended the auction. Fantoni led a club, so Eber cashed three rounds, pitching a heart from hand, then led a diamond to the king and ace. Fantoni led a heart to the ace, and Nunes switched to a low spade for declarer's ten. Eber played a low diamond, losing to the eight, ruffed the heart return and played another diamond. He had to lose a spade at the end for down one; -50.

Versace opened 1♦ then rebid 2NT, showing 16-18 with a long diamond suit. When Lauria raised to game, Cope doubled because of his diamond holding. Lauria ran to 4♦ and Cope was even happier to double that contract, ending the auction.



Claudio Nunes, Italy

Cope led his singleton spade to Versace's ace. Versace played three rounds of clubs to get rid of a heart loser but, like other declarers in diamond contracts, found that there was no way to avoid the loss of four trump tricks, a heart and a spade; down three for -500 and 10 IMPs to South Africa.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A J 6 4 2 ♥ A 10 9 6 2 ♦ K 7 ♣ A	♠ K ♥ K J 5 4 3 ♦ 6 ♣ K Q J 5 4 3	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 8 5 3 ♥ Q 7 ♦ J 10 5 4 ♣ 9 8 6 2
---	--	--	---

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
1♠	2♠	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Cope</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Holman</i>
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Nunes had no systemic option available to him to open the South cards, so Eber was left to open 1♠ and Fantoni overcalled 2♠, showing hearts and clubs. Nunes gave preference to clubs. Against 3♣, Eber cashed the ace of clubs and ace of spades, then switched to the king of diamonds. Nunes won with the ♦A and played a heart to the jack and queen. Bosenberg's trump return left him a trick short; -50.

Holman opened an off-centre weak 2♦, in a generally constructive style. Versace showed his major two-suiter, then raised Lauria's spade preference to game. The 2♦ opening had made East/West guess and Holman now took the view that perhaps they had guessed wrongly. He doubled, ending the auction.

Holman led the ten of clubs to dummy's ace, Cope dropping the king. Lauria played a heart towards his queen, but Cope went in with the king and gave Holman a heart ruff. Lauria ruffed the club return and led the nine of hearts, throwing a diamond from hand. Holman ruffed and played ace and another diamond. Cope ruffed with the ♠K and gave Holman another heart ruff; down three for -500 and 11 IMPs to South Africa.

The Search for Perfection

by Mark Horton

It sometimes happens that a board catches your eye because it presents a problem that the players may struggle to overcome.

This deal, from the third session of the quarterfinals was a classic example:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

The only game that can be genuinely made on the North/South cards is 4♥, but that is surely impossible when an opponent has overcall proclaiming a five card holding in the suit!

I was commentating when the deal appeared on YuGraph.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Zhuang</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♥	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

North/South had no shortage of heart stoppers in 3NT, but West had a second string to his bow and a club lead gave the defense the first five tricks.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhao</i>	<i>Saelensminde</i>	<i>Fu</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♥	INT	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

When South bid 4♣ North took an eternity before bidding 5♦ - it was clear he was considering bidding 4♥, but couldn't quite bring himself to do it.

Mind you, 5♦ can only be defeated if West takes the unusual view of leading the suit he has bid (have you noticed how often a player bids a suit hoping partner will lead it but then fails to do so themselves?).

Perhaps East should have doubled 5♦, gambling that West would have a fast entry for a second heart ruff?

Whatever, when West led a trump declarer was not hard pressed to take eleven tricks.

When I searched the records from the other tables I found that one Senior pair had reached 4♥, in the match between Poland and Indonesia:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Russyan</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Lasocki</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣*
INT*	Dbl	2♣	2♦
3♣	3♥	4♣	4♥
All Pass			
INT	♠+♦ or ♥+♣		

West had not overcalled in hearts, but the effect was much the same, so it was a fine effort to reach the major suit game.

East led the king of clubs and continued with the four, forcing dummy to ruff.

When declarer played the nine of hearts West went in with the king and played another club, forcing dummy to ruff with the ace of hearts. Declarer tried two rounds of spades but West ruffed and exited with a club, this time forcing declarer to ruff.

Declarer could not avoid the loss of another trump, down one.

One winning line is to cash the ace of hearts at trick three, confirming the 5-0 split. Then declarer, making the reasonable assumption that West is 5-5, cashes a spade trick and plays on diamonds. West can ruff, but dummy will overruff and a club ruff puts declarer in hand when another diamond serves to neutralise West's trump holding.

4♥ was reached at only one other table, in the Bermuda Bowl match between Netherlands and Sweden:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>de Wijs</i>	<i>Cullin</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Upmark</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣*
1♠*	2♦*	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

1♠ 5♥ (normal though inverted overcall) or 4♠+5 other minor, 7-10

With South as declarer West led the nine of spades.

Declarer won in hand and led the nine of hearts, running it when West played low, East discarding the two of diamonds. Now declarer played on diamonds. West ruffed the third round but declarer overruffed and crossed to the ace of hearts.

The queen of diamonds left West with no answer, +620.

That brilliant piece of bidding, backed up by sound declarer play earns my first nomination for the 2008 IPBA awards.

BERMUDA BOWL Quarter-Final - Session 4



Italy

v

South Africa



Tall Order

by Brent Manley

South Africa's performance against Italy in the quarterfinal round of the Bermuda Bowl was unexpected, considering that the former just barely made it to the knockout stage. Through the halfway point of the match, however, the South Africans were giving the defending champions reason to regret their choice of opponents for the quarter-final round. With 48 boards to play, South Africa held a lead of 122.7 to 68.

The question was whether the lead would hold up. Italy picked up an overtrick IMP on the first deal, then earned two more with excellent bidding judgment and card play in the open room.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Versace	Cope	Lauria	Holman
		Pass	Pass
1♠	INT	Pass	3NT
4♥	Dble	All Pass	

Tim Cope's INT overcall got them to the right spot – the vulnerable notrump game. The only problem was that Alfredo Versace wasn't about to let them play 3NT with his shapely hand. Lots of tricks are available to North-South in a notrump contract, but Cope's double of 4♥ ended the auction. Cope started with the ♣A, and Versace ruffed the third round of the suit. He played the ♠10 to Glen Hol-



man's ace, won the trump return in hand, and played the ♠Q, covered and ruffed. Versace ruffed a diamond to hand and ruffed out the ♠J. He lost one spade, one heart and two clubs for minus 100.

West	North	East	South
Eber	Bocchi	Bosenberg	Duboin
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Norberto Bocchi started with the ♦A, ruffed by Neville Eber, who played the ♠9 to the ace. Giorgio Duboin won and switched to clubs, and the Italians collected two tricks in that suit, forcing a ruff by declarer. Now Eber, without the INT overcall to guide him, ruffed the ♠4, playing the ♥J back to his ace, followed by a second spade ruff. Declarer then played a heart to his king and played another spade. Bocchi won the ♠K, pulled declarer's last trump with the queen and put a diamond on the table. Eber finished down three for minus 150 and 2 IMPs to Italy.

The following deal ended up as a push, but it could have been a big gain for South Africa.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Versace	Cope	Lauria	Holman
			1♣
1♠	Dble	2♦	All Pass

In the closed room, Bocchi took nine tricks in 3NT after Duboin opened 1♣ as South and West overcalled 2♠. That was plus 400 for Italy. Holman started with a low heart, taken by Cope with the king. A club went to declarer's jack and South's queen, and a second heart put Cope in again. Holman won the club return and played a third round. Lorenzo Lauria discarded a

spade from dummy as Cope ruffed. Cope then cashed the ♠A and exited with a trump. Lauria ended with four tricks for minus 400. Would Lauria or Versace have run if Cope had doubled 2♦? If not, plus 400 would have turned into plus 1100.

Italy managed a gain on this deal.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

In the closed room, Eber played in 3♥ with the East cards, losing five tricks for minus 50.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Cope	Lauria	Holman
	1♣	Pass	1♦
1♥	Pass	Pass	1♠
3♥	3NT	All Pass	

This lousy contract had six top tricks and no more. There was nothing Cope could do to generate anything extra. It was minus 300 and 8 IMPs to Italy.

On this deal, the defenders had chances for a small gain, but both sides missed out.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Versace	Cope	Lauria	Holman
	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♠	3♦	Dble	Redbl
4♥	Pass	4♠	5♦
Dble	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Eber	Bocchi	Bosenberg	Duboin
	1♦	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♦	Dble	All Pass

At both tables, the opening lead was a high spade, followed by the ♥K and ♥Q. Another spade was ruffed. In the closed room, Bocchi ran his trumps, squeezing Eber in hearts and clubs. Cope claimed after ruffing the second round of spades, stating his line of play. The result was minus 100 in both rooms and no swing. There were two ways to defeat the contract two tricks – West could overtake East's second heart and return the suit, or East could switch to a club after cashing the two hearts. Either way, there would be no squeeze.

The final deal of the set produced just the kind of outcome South Africa hoped to avoid in their quest to upset the powerful Italian team.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Eber	Bocchi	Bosenberg	Duboin
1♣	1♠	2♥	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♣	Dble
5♥	All Pass		

Duboin started with the ♠A, giving Bocchi a club ruff at trick two. Duboin still had a club trick coming, so Bosenberg was one down for minus 100.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Cope	Lauria	Holman
1♣	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♥	4♠	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	Pass
Pass	5♠	Dble	All Pass

Versace started with the ♥A, continuing the suit at trick two. Holman ruffed, cashed the ♠A and played on diamonds. There were three losers in that suit to go with the trump king, so Holman finished three down for minus 500 and a 12-IMP swing to Italy, who had closed the gap to 128.7 to 101 with 32 deals to play.

Championship Diary



Joe Manjoe, following the tournament from Bangalore sent the following message:

Read your writeup on the exciting finish of the Bermuda Bowl Round Robin. Nice article, one of your better efforts I must say 😊

Joking aside though, one of the main reasons why there was so much excitement afoot in the last round was due to two teams, Chinese Taipei and New Zealand. Neither had anything at stake. Chinese Taipei didn't even stand a theoretical chance, while New Zealand was somewhere near the South Pole in the overall ranking. It would have been all too easy for these teams to decide to relax for such an inconsequential encounter. If that had happened, South Africa would have qualified without too much heartburn. Also, Japan would have probably qualified too. You forgot to salute these two teams who respected the game above everything and played the last round of a perhaps disappointing Bermuda Bowl with as much competitive spirit as they played the first. Both teams won their last encounter to head out with their heads held high! They are the true sportsmen and women of our game whom we often forget in the melee of rushing to congratulate the winners. In this world of match fixing, drug-tainted athletes and what not, your article would truly have risen above the mundane by applauding their never-say-die spirit.

For when the last Great Scorer comes

To write against your name

He'll ask not if you lost or won

But how you played the game

I was lucky enough to have breakfast with the stunning Daniela von Arnim. Discussing Germany's prospects for the second half of their quarterfinal with Canada I suggested that if she played as good as she looked there would be no problem. 'That will be difficult.'



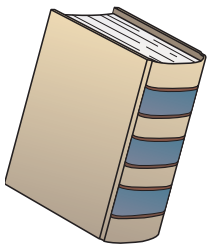
Tacchi was complaining about the lack of brown toast in his hotel. When he asked for some the waiter said it would arrive in a moment. 10 minutes elapsed before it appeared. Joan Gerard, working on an Appeal, suggested the delay might have been caused by the weather.

'It wasn't raining between the breakfast room and the kitchen,' said Tacchi.

You may get to see a deal where declarer had to drop a singleton king of clubs offside to make 7♣. Paul Chemla told Sabine Auken that he had noticed a neat defensive possibility. If the defense start with the jack of hearts dummy will put up the queen (from ♥Q6) and if the defender holding ♥K843 refuses to cover, declarer will be able to take a losing finesse. Impressed, Sabine asked if anyone had found the play.

'No,' said Paul, 'I wasn't playing.'

World Championship Book 2007



The official book of these championships will be available around the end of March. On publication the official retail price will be £22 Sterling plus postage. You can pre-order a copy at the championships at the reduced price of US\$30 (225 Rmb) including surface mail, by seeing Jan Swaan in the Press Room on the third floor of the Convention Centre.

There have been some problems with copies of last year's book being lost in the post. If you bought a copy in Verona and it has still not reached you, speak to Brian Senior in the Daily Bulletin Office, also on the third floor, and I will arrange to send another copy when I get home. I will be looking at a different way of sending out the individual copies this year in the hope of reducing these problems to a minimum.

The 2007 book will consist of 336 large pages. There will be substantial coverage of all events, including every board of the final and semi-finals of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, with full results listings, Butler rankings, photographs etc. Eric Kokish is taking a year off, alas, so principle analysts will be Brian Senior and Barry Rigal, with guest writers including John Carruthers (Senior Bowl) and Cathy Chua (BB and VC Round Robin stages). If you have a possible hand for inclusion, do feel free to contact John or Cathy, as appropriate.

VENICE CUP Quarter-Finals 4

China Global Times v England and Canada v Germany

by Brian Senior

As the quarter-final matches moved into the second half, still with 48 deals to play, the closest match was the one in which England led China Global Times by 66-62, after three close sessions. Meanwhile, Germany had won all three sessions against Canada but led by only 108-80.3. With a relatively inexperienced team including one completely scratch partnership, the Canadians were doing better than most neutrals had expected and, as we were to see, their excellent performance was to continue in this fourth set.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Canada v Germany

West	North	East	South
Auken	Cimon	v Arnim	Fajgelzon
	1♦	2♣	2♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Summers-C	S-Meuer	Smith	Alberti
	1♦	2♣	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

For Germany, Anja Alberti jumped to 3♥, showing hearts and diamonds, over the 2♣ overcall, and Mirja Schraeverus-Meuer raised to game. Alberti passed that and made 11 painless tricks for +450.

In the other room, Julie Fajgelzon bid a simple 2♥ and Francine Cimon raised to game. Now Fajgelzon went on with a 4♠ cuebid and, when Cimon co-operated with a 5♦ cuebid, jumped to the small slam.

Sabine Auken led a club to the queen, king and ace. Fajgelzon cashed the ace of spades, then played the ♥Q to Daniela von Arnim's ace. Von Arnim returned the ♣10, covered by the jack and ruffed. Though Fajgelzon dropped the ♦Q, that was one down for -50 and 11 IMPs to Germany.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

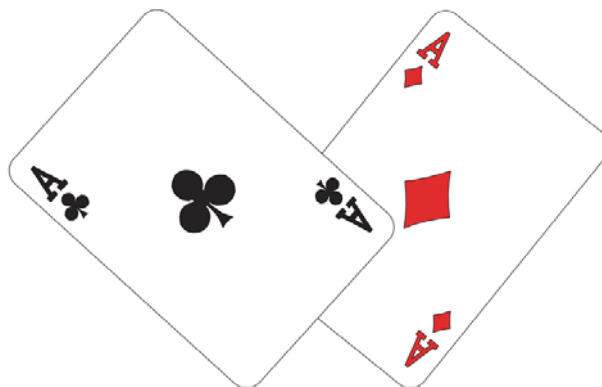
♠ Q 10 9 6 4 3 ♥ A K 9 7 5 ♦ — ♣ Q 10	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K J 5 2 ♥ Q 4 3 ♦ A 9 5 ♣ A J 4	♠ 7 ♥ J 10 8 2 ♦ K J 6 3 2 ♣ 9 6 2
	N											
W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

China Global Times v England

West	North	East	South
Liu	Dhondy	Wang	Smith
		Pass	Pass
1♠	INT	Pass	3NT
4♥	Dble	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
Brunner	Zhang	Goldenfield	Gu
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

By bidding 3♦, Rhona Goldenfield showed a heart raise with diamond values. Michelle Brunner had extra major-suit distribution and judged that this would outweigh the misfit, the bulk of partner's values rating to be wasted opposite her void. Goldenfield was completely minimum for her action and dummy left Brunner requiring a fair amount of good fortune if she were to bring home her contract.

Tipped off by the auction, Yalan Zhang led ace and another club to Ling Gu's king. Gu continued with a third club,



which Brunner ruffed. She played the ♠10 from her hand and Zhang attempted to win with the jack, only to see Gu overtake to play a trump through. That combination of plays seemed to have simplified declarer's task a little but, of course, Brunner assumed that the king of spades was also on her right to justify the overtaking play. She won the heart switch and played a low spade, ruffed in dummy, then the ♥J to her king. She played the ♠Q next but, when Zhang played low smoothly, ruffed it, ruffed a diamond back to hand, and played a spade. Zhang won with the ♠K, cashed the ♥Q, and played ace and another diamond, dummy taking the last trick for down three; -150.

In the other room, Heather Dhondy overcalled INT with the North hand and Nicola Smith raised to game. Yiqian Liu bid her hearts now and Dhondy doubled, ending the auction.

Dhondy could see that declarer must be very two-suited, in which case she would wish to ruff spades in the dummy. She therefore decided to lead a trump, even though that would often give up a trump trick.

Yiqian won the heart with dummy's jack and led the ♠7 to the ten and jack. A second heart ran to declarer's nine and she led the queen of spades to tempt a cover. When none was forthcoming, she ruffed in dummy, dropping the ace, played dummy's last trump back to hand, and led the ♠9. Dhondy won with the ♠K but the defence had only two clubs to come; +590 and 12 IMPs to China.

Canada v Germany

West <i>Auken</i>	North <i>Cimon</i>	East <i>v Arnim</i>	South <i>Fajgelzon</i>
1♠	INT	Pass	Pass
All Pass		Pass	3NT
West <i>Summers-C</i>	North <i>S-Meuer</i>	East <i>Smith</i>	South <i>Alberti</i>
1♠	Pass	INT	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	Pass
3♥	4♣	4♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Cimon overcalled INT and was raised to game. Auken did not bid out the West hand, so that ended the auction.

Von Arnim led a low diamond round to Cimon's nine, Auken throwing the ♠10, suit preference. Cimon played a club to the king and back to the queen and ace, took the ♣J and ♦A, then crossed to the ace of spades to cash the remaining clubs. She did not take the slight risk of the spade finesse, so had to settle for nine tricks; +600.

Schraverus-Meuer did not overcall, a matter of personal style, but that is a pretty empty North hand and totally minimum for INT, so hard to criticise. Isabelle Smith responded INT, effectively ending any prospect of North/South playing in 3NT. Alberti overcalled 2NT, minors, and Sylvia Summers-Caley passed as West, but then introduced her hearts when the 3♣ preference came

around. Schraverus-Meuer in turn competed to 4♣ and Smith went on to 4♥, which Schraverus-Meuer doubled.

Like Zhang, Schraverus-Meuer found the killing lead of the ace of clubs, but she then found the disastrous switch to a low trump. Summers-Caley won in dummy and led a spade to South's ace, and Alberti played king and another club, ruffed. Declarer led the queen of spades to the king and ruff, came back to hand with a trump, and played North for the ♠J; ten tricks for +590 and a huge 15 IMPs to Canada.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

China Global Times v England

West <i>Liu</i>	North <i>Dhondy</i>	East <i>Wang</i>	South <i>Smith</i>
2♥	1♣	Pass	1♠
	All Pass		
West <i>Brunner</i>	North <i>Zhang</i>	East <i>Goldenfield</i>	South <i>Gu</i>
2♥	INT	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
	Dble	All Pass	

Liu made a simple 2♥ overcall and was left to play there. Dhondy cashed the ace of clubs, then continued with the jack, Liu ruffing. She cashed one top heart, then exited with a diamond to Smith's nine. Smith returned a diamond to Dhondy's ace and she switched to a spade, which ran to declarer's ten. Liu cashed the king of hearts now and had eight tricks for +110.

Brunner also made a simple overcall but, when Gu reopened with a double, raised herself to 3♥ as she was always going to compete over whatever her opponents bid, so wanted to make life more difficult for them. Zhang doubled for penalties and led the ace and king of clubs, ruffed. Brunner cashed a top heart, then exited with a diamond to the ten and queen, and back came a club. Brunner threw her remaining diamond loser so Zhang won but, while there were two trumps to be lost, there was no need for a spade guess any more as the third spade could be discarded on the ♣10; down one for -100 and 5 IMPs to China.

Canada v Germany

West	North	East	South
<i>Auken</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>v Arnim</i>	<i>Fajgelzon</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♠
4♥	Dble	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Summers-C</i>	<i>S-Meuer</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Alberti</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♠
2♥	Dble	Pass	2♠
3♥	All Pass		

Auken went for the full-blooded overcall of 4♥, where she was doubled. The play went club, club, ruffed, heart ace, diamond, spade switch from North; down two for -300.

Summers-Caley overcalled 2♥ and Schraeverus-Meuer made a support double. Summers-Caley competed to 3♥ over 2♠, but there was no double. She received a spade lead to the jack, queen and king, and cashed a top heart before exiting with the ♣Q. Back came a spade to the ten and there the play record ends. Declarer came to nine tricks, so my best guess is that she cashed the third spade then exited with a diamond and was forced to ruff a club, exited again and was given another ruff, after which North lost one of her trump tricks. Anyway, the end result was +140 and 10 IMPs to Canada.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

	♠ A K J 6											
	♥ Q 8 5 2											
	♦ K 5											
	♣ A J 5											
♠ Q 9 3	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><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		♠ 10 5	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♥ 10 9 4		♥ J 7 6										
♦ A Q J 9 7 6 4		♦ 10 3 2										
♣ —		♣ 9 7 6 4 3										
	♠ 8 7 4 2											
	♥ A K 3											
	♦ 8											
	♣ K Q 10 8 2											

China v England

West	North	East	South
<i>Liu</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Smith</i>
	1♣		
3♦	Dble	4♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Brunner</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Goldenfield</i>	<i>Gu</i>
	1♣		
3♦	Dble	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Smith opened a natural 1♣ and Liu overcalled 3♦, raised to 4♦ by Wenfei Wang over Dhondy's negative double. When that came back around, Dhondy doubled again, ending the auction.

Dhondy cashed the king of spades, then switched to the ace of clubs, ruffed. Liu played the queen of spades, so Dhondy won the ace and continued with the jack of clubs, again ruffed. Liu ruffed her last spade in dummy and passed the ten of diamonds to Dhondy's king. Dhondy exited with a club and, in the fullness of time, the defence came to three heart tricks; -800.

Gu opened a Precision 2♣ and Brunner overcalled 3♦, negative-doubled by Zhang. Gu showed her spade suit so Zhang cuebid, then passed the 4♠ sign-off. Not wishing to risk adverse ruffs, Gu won the heart lead and cashed the top spades, so made only 11 tricks; +650 but 4 IMPs to England.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

China Global Times v England

West	North	East	South
<i>Liu</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Smith</i>
	1♦	1♠	2♦
2♠	3♠	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Brunner</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Goldenfield</i>	<i>Gu</i>
	1♦	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♦	Pass	Pass
5♠	All Pass		

Wang made a down-the-middle simple overcall of 1♠, then bid game when she received spade support, while Goldenfield preferred 4♠. When Dhondy saved in 5♦, Liu had reason to imagine that she was facing an all-round strong hand, so doubled. At the other table, Brunner had not yet shown her spade support and had considerably less reason to think that her side had sufficient defence to defeat 5♦. She saved in 5♠, ending the auction.

Against 5♦ doubled, Wang cashed the queen of spades, switched to the king of hearts and continued with the queen of hearts. She then reverted to spades. Dhondy

ruffed and rattled off all the diamonds, squeezing Liu between hearts and clubs; down one for -100.

Gu led a diamond against 5♠. Zhang won and switched to ace and another club; down one for -100 and 5 IMPs to China.

Canada v Germany

West	North	East	South
Auken	Cimon	v Arnim	Fajgelzon
	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♦	3♦	4♣	5♦
Pass	Pass	5♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Summers-C	S-Meuer	Smith	Alberti
	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♠	3♠	4♣	5♣
Dble	5♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Here both Easts overcalled 1♠. Von Arnim knew she was facing values and a heart suit, so went on to 5♠ over 5♦. Fajgelzon led a diamond, which Cimon won and switched to two rounds of clubs; down one for -100.

Summers-Caley raised to 2♠ as West, and Smith raised herself to game. When Alberti went on to the five level, Summers-Caley started doubling. Smith led ace of spades, then king and queen of hearts against 5♦ doubled. Her next play was the ten of clubs. That tangled declarer's entries for the squeeze, so Schraeverus-Meuer had to go two down for -300 and 9 IMPs to Canada.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Canada v Germany

West	North	East	South
Auken	Cimon	v Arnim	Fajgelzon
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Summers-C	S-Meuer	Smith	Alberti
	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
INT	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Fajgelzon/Cimon had a very straightforward four-card-major auction to 2♠ which drifted one off for -100. In the other room, Alberti's 1♣ opening permitted Summers-Caley to overcall 1♦, and Smith showed her hearts in response. The Canadians struggled up to 3NT, and Schraeverus-Meuer led the ten of clubs to declarer's jack. This was an ugly contract. Declarer led the queen of hearts to South's ace, and back came a spade to the ten and jack, ducked. The spade continuation was won with the ace, and the ten of hearts led to the jack and king. Declarer tried to split the hearts now, and when they proved to be four-two, the contract fell apart. Summers-Caley ended up four down for -400 and 11 IMPs to Germany.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

China Global Times v England

West	North	East	South
Liu	Dhondy	Wang	Smith
		INT	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Brunner	Zhang	Goldenfield	Gu
		INT	All Pass

Both Easts opened INT. Gu passed the South hand, so Goldenfield was left to play there. Gu led the seven of hearts. Goldenfield won in dummy to lead a club to the jack and queen, and Gu found the switch that speeded up the play considerably of king then jack of diamonds. Zhang



Lost Mobile Phone

We have a mobile phone in the WBF office, that was left in the Vu-Graph theatre. To claim it, please come and see Anna Gudge in the WBF Secretariat.

won with the $\diamond A$ and cleared the suit. Goldenfield cashed the ace of hearts, then tried a low club in the hope of dropping a doubleton ace. Zhang won cheaply and cashed the diamonds, then ace of clubs and declarer had to make two black tricks for down two; -100.

Smith found an aggressive $2\heartsuit$ overcall and, when that ran around to Wang, she reopened with a double as she held a good weak no trump with only a doubleton heart. Looking at two trump tricks, Liu left in the double and led a diamond to Smith's jack.

Smith played a heart. Liu went in with the queen and switched to a low spade for the nine and ace, and Wang returned a spade to the king. Smith played ace of clubs and ruffed a club, then a trump, which ran to Wang's ace. She returned a diamond to declarer's king, and Smith played the jack of spades. Liu won the $\spadesuit Q$, cashed the $\heartsuit K$ and exited with her small heart. Smith had eight tricks for +470 and 9 IMPs to England.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

<p>\spadesuit K Q 9 7 \heartsuit Q 9 3 2 \diamond K 10 6 \clubsuit Q J</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>\spadesuit 5 4 2 \heartsuit A 6 5 4 \diamond 7 5 4 3 \clubsuit 8 6</p>	<p>\spadesuit J 6 3 \heartsuit K 10 8 \diamond A 9 2 \clubsuit A 10 5 2</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Canada v Germany

West	North	East	South
Auken	Cimon	v Arnim	Fajgelzon
			Pass
INT	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Summers-C	S-Meuer	Smith	Alberti
			$1\clubsuit$
Pass	$1\heartsuit$	Pass	INT
Pass	$2\diamond$	Pass	$2\heartsuit$
Pass	$2\spadesuit$	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

After Fajgelzon passed a perfectly respectable 12-count, Auken's mini-no trump stole the pot. Cimon led the two of hearts to Fajgelzon's king, and back came the ten of hearts to the jack and ace. Auken played a club to her king, then a club back to Cimon's jack. Cimon switched to a low diamond to the ace, and now Fajgelzon switched to jack and a low spade. Auken won the second round and played the $\diamond J$, but that was won by the king. However, the defence failed to unravel their tricks and gave Auken one more winner at the end; down three for -150.

Alberti opened the South hand and soon found herself in 3NT. The opening lead of the jack of hearts did not, as they say, exactly paralyse declarer, and Alberti soon had ten tricks for +630 and 10 IMPs to Germany.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

<p>\spadesuit K 9 \heartsuit A Q 7 6 \diamond A 6 4 \clubsuit 9 4 3 2</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>\spadesuit 2 \heartsuit K 10 4 3 2 \diamond K J \clubsuit A J 10 8 5</p>	<p>\spadesuit Q J 7 4 3 \heartsuit J 9 5 \diamond Q 10 9 5 3 \clubsuit —</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

China v England

West	North	East	South
Liu	Dhondy	Wang	Smith
$1\diamond$	$1\spadesuit$	$2\heartsuit$	$4\spadesuit$
$5\heartsuit$	Pass	$6\heartsuit$	$6\spadesuit$
Dble	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Brunner	Zhang	Goldenfield	Gu
INT	Pass	$2\diamond$	Pass
2NT	Pass	$3\diamond$	Pass
$3\heartsuit$	Pass	$4\heartsuit$	All Pass

Brunners's weak no trump led to an uncontested auction to $4\heartsuit$. The queen of spades was led to the ace and a spade returned to declarer's king. Brunner drew trumps then played on clubs and lost two clubs and the spade; +620.

Liu opened $1\diamond$ and that led to a quite different auction. Dhondy overcalled $1\spadesuit$ and Smith raised to game then, when her opponents bid the heart slam, saved in $6\spadesuit$. That was a big position to take in front of partner, and might have been easier to avoid had she been able to make a fit-jump of $4\clubsuit$ instead of the simple $4\spadesuit$ raise at her previous turn.

England had missed an opportunity for a big gain by defending the hopeless slam, but it remained to be seen if they would have a modest gain or modest loss on the board.

Wang led the king of diamonds and continued with the jack. She should now have received a ruff, but Liu played low on the second diamond, losing to the queen. Dhondy led the queen of spades, losing to the king, and there was a heart to lose also; down three for -500 and 3 IMPs to England.

China won the session by 34-25 to lead England by 96-91 IMPs with two sets to play, while Canada won the set by 52-36 but still trailed Germany by 132.3-144. Both these matches looked to be going down to the wire.

High School Visit



Yesterday, WBF President Jose Damiani, along with WBF Vice-presidents Patrick Choy and Gianarrigo Rona, and several top players, visited the Wusong High School. Also on the visit were two Vice-presidents of the tournament organising committee, Mr. Fan Guang Sheng and Mr. Qiu Wei Chang. Students welcomed the WBF delegation and special guests with flowers in the lobby of the teaching building.



The welcoming ceremony featured speeches from Ms. Li Yuan, a leader of the local Baoshan District, and from leaders of the Shanghai Sports Administration and the headmaster of Wusong High School. Mr Damiani gave a speech of thanks for the honour and the opportunity to visit the High School, and all the special guests were introduced.

After the more formal part of the visit had been concluded, Mr Damiani, the WBF officials and top players played bridge with the enthusiastic High School students, who appeared to greatly enjoy the experience, as indeed did the WBF representatives.



...continued from front page

Italy rallied to close the gap, and they actually took the lead during the deciding sixth set, but South Africa regained the lead on board 27. Swings on the last two boards accounted for most of the final margin.

There was also drama in the Venice Cup as France survived a 50-6 loss in the fifth set of their match with USA 2 to emerge with a 179-178 win. Semi-final matchups in that event will pit USA 1 against China Global Times and Germany against France.

In the Senior Bowl, USA 1 came from behind against France in the final two sets to win relatively easily. They will face USA 2 in the semi-final, while Brazil and Indonesia tangle in the other match.

Also on Monday, the Transnational Open Teams got under way with nearly 150 teams. Scores and team rosters will be published in Wednesday's Daily Bulletin.

