



4th EUROPEAN OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS Sanremo, Italy, June 2009

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Issue No. 13

Thursday, 25 June 2009

And the Winners Are:



European Open Team Champions **Netherlands White**
Sjoert Brink, Coach Anton Maas, Bauke Muller, NPC Eric Laurant, Bas Drijver, Simon de Wijs



European Open Women Team Champions **CBC Milano**
Marilina Vanuzzi, Maddalena Severgnini, Annalisa Rossetta, Mietta Preve, Luigina Gentili, Gloria Colombo Brugnani



European Open Senior Team Champions **Miroglio**
Jacek Romanski, Guilio Bongiovanni, Amedeo Comella, Andrea Buratti, Apolinary Kowalski

DATES TO REMEMBER

PHILADELPHIA 2010

Mixed Pairs

October 2nd - October 4th

Rosenblum and McConnell

October 5th - October 13th

Open, Ladies and Senior Pairs

October 9th - October 16th

Today's - Schedule

10.30 O/W/S Pairs Semi-Final A&B (3rd)

15.30 O/W/S Pairs Semi-Final A&B (4th)



Gestetner

TIPOGRAFIA **pime** EDITRICE Srl



OPEN TEAMS

FINAL

		1st	2nd	3rd	total
I	HERBST	26	36	27	89
	NED WHITE	56	19	19	94

WOMEN TEAMS

FINAL

		1st	2nd	3rd	total
I	CBC MILANO	33	32	30	95
	DUTCH BLUE	16	31	23	70

SENIOR TEAMS

FINAL

		1st	2nd	3rd	total
	BULGARIA SENIORS	28	18		46
I	MIROGLIO	70	51		121

Duplimate Discounts

The Duplimate dealing machines used at these championships will be sold at the end of the event at a 20% discount. Visit the Jannersten Bookshop on the first floor.

Thanks

The Greek players wish to extend a big thanks to the staff at the San Remo Hospital. The way that they handled a serious health problem of a member of the team was professional, efficient, and, at the same time, friendly and understanding. The case had a happy ending and we will always be indebted to the good doctors and nurses!

EBL President's Press Conference

Friday June 26 at 11.00am in the Hotel Nazionale, Corso Matteotti 3 Sanremo (6th floor).

Agenda

- 1 Results of Sanremo
- 2 EBL's plans for the future
- 3 Questions

National and International Journalists are invited. Please report to the Press Room Manager, Jan Swaan if you plan to attend the Press Conference.

PAIRS PRIZE-GIVING AND CLOSING CEREMONY



The Pairs Prize-Giving and Closing Ceremony will be held on Saturday 27th June at 20.00, on the 3rd floor of Palafiori Palace. A buffet will follow.

Awards:

1. Medals and titles will be awarded to the 3 pairs best classified in Final A of each category.
2. Plaques will be presented to the first 3 pairs classified in Final B of the three categories.
3. Challenge Trophies will be assigned to the Presidents of the Federations to which the first European Pairs in each category belong. Replicas will be presented to the first, second and third classified pairs. This only applies to those European pairs where both players are from the same country.

The Trophies are:

Paul Magerman Trophy for Senior category
 AnnaMaria Torlontano Cup for Women category
 Giorgio Belladonna Trophy for Open category.

**Would the players confirm their
 participation in the Closing Ceremony at the Hospitality Desk
 not later than Thursday 25th June**

Points for the cash prizes in the Open Pairs (reg. 37.3)

Open/Women/Senior Pairs Final A							
1	4500	15	2541	28	1495	42	844
2	4320	16	2439	29	1435	43	810
3	4147	17	2342	30	1377	44	778
4	3981	18	2248	31	1322	45	747
5	3822	19	2158	32	1269	46	717
6	3669	20	2072	33	1219	47	688
7	3522	21	1989	34	1170	48	661
8	3382	22	1909	35	1123	49	634
9	3246	23	1833	36	1078	50	609
10	3116	24	1760	37	1035	51	584
11	2992	25	1689	38	994	52	561
12	2872	26	1622	39	954	53	539
13	2757	27	1557	40	916	54	517
14	2647			41	879		
All Pairs Final B							
1	916	17	477	33	248	49	129
2	879	18	458	34	238	50	124
3	844	19	439	35	229	51	119
4	810	20	422	36	219	52	114
5	778	21	405	37	211	53	110
6	747	22	389	38	202	54	105
7	717	23	373	39	194	55	101
8	688	24	358	40	186	56	97
9	661	25	344	41	179	57	93
10	634	26	330	42	172	58	89
11	609	27	317	43	165	59	86
12	584	28	304	44	158	60	82
13	561	29	292	45	152	61	79
14	539	30	280	46	146	62	76
15	517	31	269	47	140		etc
16	496	32	258	48	134		
Top Women Pair in Final B: 1760 etc							
Top Senior Pair in Final B: 1989 etc							

These are the points attributed to the winners of the Pairs Competitions.

These points are added to those from the Mixed Teams and Mixed Pairs, and the Open/Senior/Women's teams.

In order to obtain a cash prize, a player has to have participated in at least three events (a fourth result will be dropped). Only the points obtained in the appropriate category will count for that category.

Pairs Events Final (Barometer movement)

Open

The final A will be played with 54 pairs in four sessions (26,28,26, 26 boards).

From the semifinal A 46 pairs will qualify together with 6 pairs from the semi final B and 2 pairs from the teams final.

Women

The final A will be played with 32 pairs in four sessions (24,24,24, 21 boards).

The semifinal A delivers 24 pairs, 4 pairs come from the semifinal B and 4 pairs from the teams final.

Seniors

The final A will be played with 28 pairs in four sessions (21,21,21, 18 boards).

22 pairs come from the semifinal A, 4 pairs from the semi final B and 2 from the teams final.

Carryover

In all three events the carryover has a weight of two sessions with the percentage received in the semifinal A.

The pairs from the semi final B get a percentage equal to the last qualifying pairs from semifinal A.

The winners of the teams final get a percentage equal to the pairs ranked 15th in the open semifinal A.

The losers get the same percentage as pair 23 in the open semifinal A.

Championship Diary

We have news of a new free online bridge magazine. On the one hand the site consists of bridge puzzles, -quizzes and -problems (the 'do'-part), on the other hand it features bridge articles, -columns and stories (the 'read'-part). The makers invite visitors of the site to submit their own stories, the best of which will be published. Check it out at:

www.bridgevaria.com

There is no shortage of sportsmanship (and sports-womanship) in these Championships.

Joe Grue and Geoff Hampson spotted that on Board 23 of yesterday's first session in the Open Pairs they had been credited with a score of +110. They did not hesitate to point out the director, Anda Enciu, that in reality they had only scored +90.

Under 21 European Champions Kamila Szczepanska and Marta Maj had a similar experience – an award of +110 when they had actually finished one down – off they went to the director to get the result changed.

On Tuesday, Zia refused to accept a revoke, telling his opponent to take his card back.

Bravo to them all!

Open Teams Round of 16 Angelini v. Netherlands White

by Jos Jacobs

To the disappointment of many fans, this match had come out of the draw rather early. The winner of it might have to play the Welland team next... A match between either two of these three teams would be worth a final – on pre-tournament paper that is, of course...

This eighth-final match between two teams that have regularly met over recent years, was decided over a very few boards. On the first of them, Fantoni-Nunes found a very good defence but declarer should still have prevailed:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ A 10 7 5 ♥ K 7 2 ♦ K 8 6 5 ♣ 10 6	♠ K 6 3 2 ♥ 10 3 ♦ 9 4 ♣ Q 9 7 4 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N <hr style="width: 100%;"/> W E <hr style="width: 100%;"/> S </div> ♠ 9 4 ♥ A J 8 5 4 ♦ Q J 3 ♣ J 8 5	♠ Q J 8 ♥ Q 9 6 ♦ A 10 7 2 ♣ A K 3
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E/W in 3NT at both tables. On a club lead, there is no problem as South holds both the diamond stopper and the ♥A but only three clubs. Win the second club and take the



Francesco Angelini, Italy

spade finesse first.

On the ♥10 lead from North, you have to play dummy's queen to prevent South from returning the suit. This is easy enough. If South shifts to the ♠9, however, you should go up with the ace first and establish your diamonds before paying attention to getting some extra spade tricks. If you duck ♠9, you are down.

However, when you are frequently playing Fantunes, you may not notice in time that they change their defensive card play agreements from time to time. This is why Bauke Muller did not hold up the clubs even once... for a surprise one down. Angelini + 12 IMPs.

A few boards later, Simon de Wijs found the winning action:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ 10 9 7 6 4 3 ♥ A J 5 4 ♦ 10 3 ♣ Q	♠ A Q J 2 ♥ 9 ♦ K J 8 4 2 ♣ 8 7 4	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N <hr style="width: 100%;"/> W E <hr style="width: 100%;"/> S </div> ♠ K 8 5 ♥ Q 8 3 2 ♦ A ♣ A K 9 5 2	♠ — ♥ K 10 7 6 ♦ Q 9 7 6 5 ♣ J 10 6 3
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
Pass	2♦	Dble	5♦
Dble	All Pass		

Down three, NL White +500

Closed Room


West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Angelini</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	1♦	Dble	5♦
5♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Versace was definitely unlucky to find the spades 4-0 – the only distribution he could not handle in his vulnerable game. On repeated diamond leads, dummy will have to ruff and North will come to three trump tricks.

One down, NL White another +200 and 12 IMPs back.

The next board was a matter of systems:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West <i>De Wijs</i>	North <i>Fantoni</i>	East <i>Muller</i>	South <i>Nunes</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♠	2♠	4♠
Dble	All Pass		


De Wijs had few options to describe the nature of his initial Strong Club. Muller had no reason to bid either so the Dutch had to be content with collecting +500 for down three.

Closed Room

West <i>Versace</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>Angelini</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
	Pass	Pass	2♠
Dble	4♠	Dble	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

Versace once again did quite well to bid on. His 4NT offered a choice of games and 5♥ was made easily enough. Angelini +650 and 4 IMPs back to them.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

On the next board, Fantoni-Nunes were over-optimistic.

Open Room

West <i>De Wijs</i>	North <i>Fantoni</i>	East <i>Muller</i>	South <i>Nunes</i>
		Pass	1♣
3♦	3♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

3♥ was a transfer and as 3♠ now by Nunes would have been forcing, he had to find something else. Though Bauke Muller was kind enough not to double 4♠, the Dutch still collected a useful +300.


Closed Room

West <i>Versace</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>Angelini</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
		Pass	1♣
1♦	1♥	Pass	2♣
All Pass			

After 1♦ by Versace, the Dutch were out of trouble. 1♥ promised spades but everybody sold out to 2♣, which made with an overtrick. NL White another +110 and 9 precious IMPs.

On board 12, there was an accident:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West <i>De Wijs</i>	North <i>Fantoni</i>	East <i>Muller</i>	South <i>Nunes</i>
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Dble	Redble	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♣
3♠	All Pass		

Just made, NL White +140.

Closed Room

West <i>Versace</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>Angelini</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
Pass	1♥	1NT	Dble
2♥	Pass	2♠	Dble
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
3♠	Pass	Pass	3NT
Dble	4♣	Dble	All Pass

2♥ here also showed spades. Versace led a heart, taken

with dummy's ace. A heart was returned, Angelini hopping up with the queen to return a diamond. When this ran to the jack, the hand was effectively over. A trump return at this point would have made life extremely difficult for declarer.

NL White thus got an unexpected +710 to gain another 13 IMPs. They led 39-16 at halftime.

For the second half, Lauria came in to replace Angelini. The boards were very flat, however: on only one of them did anything at all happen. This was board 20:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nunes</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	Pass	2♣	2♦
2♠	3♦	All Pass	

2♣ was Fantunes: Precision style but just under the strength of a normal opening bid. Bas Drijver might have tried 2NT over the natural 2♠ but it was no longer easy for N/S to assess their combined strength. NL White +130 when ten tricks were made.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>DeWijs</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Versace</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♠	INT	2♠	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

When Muller did not open (for obvious reasons), Versace got the chance to show a good opening hand by a second-round double. That was just the assist Lauria needed. When Muller led a spade, his partner's suit, rather than a heart, nine tricks were there. Angelini +600 and 10 IMPs back.

Near the end, an unsuccessful double of 4♠ brought Angelini another 5 IMPs to bring down the gap to 7 IMPs with three to play but an extra undertrick on the next board made it 10 again and there it stayed: 43-33 to NL White and Angelini was out. NL White would have to face Welland next, who duly won their match against Il Fante di Fiori.

A Cunning Plan

by Mark Horton

In the classic TV Comedy series *Blackadder*, Baldrick (although singularly lacking in intelligence) could always be relied upon to come up with a cunning plan.

Here is an example from the first episode of the final series, *Blackadder Goes Forth*.

Blackadder: Baldrick, what are you doing out there?

Baldrick: I'm carving something on this bullet sir.

Blackadder: What are you carving?

Baldrick: I'm carving "Baldrick", sir.

Blackadder: Why?

Baldrick: It's a cunning plan, actually.

Blackadder: Of course it is.

Baldrick: You see, you know they say that somewhere there's a bullet with your name on it?

Blackadder: Yes?

Baldrick: Well, I thought if I owned the bullet with my name on it, I'd never get hit by it, 'cos I won't ever shoot myself.

Blackadder: Oh, shame.

Of course, a bridge player may have need of a cunning plan, as on this deal from the match Payen v Monaco Open Teams Swiss R7:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Soulet</i>		<i>Lebel</i>	

1♣	2♦*	Pass	Pass
Dble*	4♠	Pass	2♠
		5♣	All Pass

Four Spades should go down – on the lead of a top club declarer can ruff and play a diamond to the queen, but West wins and switches to the jack of hearts, subsequently overruffing dummy on a third round of the suit.

However, it was entirely reasonable for East to go on to Five Clubs, and North led the jack of diamonds. When that held the trick, he played another diamond and declarer won with the ace. He then played a subtle ten of hearts and when North ducked it was all over.

Declarer drew three rounds of trumps, played the jack of hearts, covered by the king and ace, cashed the queen of hearts discarding a spade, ruffed a heart and then exited with the king of spades. North had to win, but now the enforced spade exit gave declarer a ruff and discard. Rather more successful than any of Baldrick's ideas, one must say.

Open Teams Quarterfinal Lengy v. Texan Aces, second half

by Jos Jacobs

At halftime, the score in his match stood at 28-26, so we already had visions of yet another nerve-racking tie-break for the Texan Aces. Or rather their opponents, one should say, as the Aces could by now be described as experienced tiebreakers...

On board 17, however, Prabhakar showed his real intentions:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ K Q 2 ♥ J 6 4 2 ♦ 9 8 7 ♣ 10 8 5	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100%; background-color: #008000; color: white;"> <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	♠ 9 7 6 5 4 3 ♥ 10 9 8 5 ♦ K 6 ♣ A	♠ J 8 ♥ 7 ♦ Q J 4 2 ♣ Q J 7 6 3 2
N						
W E						
S						
♠ A 10 ♥ A K Q 3 ♦ A 10 5 3 ♣ K 9 4						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sundarram</i>	<i>Birman D.</i>	<i>Sridhar</i>	<i>Birman A.</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

David Birman showed minor-suit interest with 3♣ and then signed off in game. One overtrick, Lengy +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lengy</i>	<i>Tewari</i>	<i>Bareket</i>	<i>Prabhakar</i>
	3♣	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

When Tewari considered the North hand worth a club pre-empt, Prabhakar simply raised to slam. Wouldn't you have done the same, maybe after checking aces?

Though East led a cunning ♦6 the contract was made easily as declarer quickly realised he needed the diamond finesse anyway. Texan Aces +920 and 11 IMPs.

Three boards later, they scored their IMPs at the other table:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K J ♥ K 9 7 4 ♦ K 6 ♣ A Q J 8 7	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100%; background-color: #008000; color: white;"> <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 6 4 ♥ A Q 6 3 ♦ 8 2 ♣ 10 9 4 3	♠ Q 10 9 8 7 3 ♥ J 8 2 ♦ A 7 5 ♣ 6
N						
W E						
S						
		♠ 5 2 ♥ 10 5 ♦ Q J 10 9 4 3 ♣ K 5 2				

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sundarram</i>	<i>Birman D.</i>	<i>Sridhar</i>	<i>Birman A.</i>
INT	Pass	2♥*	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	All Pass

The off-shape INT was extremely well timed by Sundarram as it paved the way for him to become declarer in 4♠. With North on lead, there is no defence, even less so when North led a club. Texan Aces +620.



Rajeshwar Tewari, India

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lengy	Tewari	Bareket	Prabhakar
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Once Lengy opened 1♣ and Bareket showed his spades in natural fashion, there was no longer a way out unless E/W had contracted for 3NT. Against 4♠, South led the ♥10 to put an end to any E/W hopes. Texan Aces +100 and 12 IMPs.

And the next board:

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

	♠ K Q 6										
	♥ A J 10 6										
	♦ A K 9										
	♣ K 7 6										
♠ J 10 8 4 3 2	<table border="1" style="margin: 0 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		♠ 9 5
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ Q 9 7 3		♥ K									
♦ —		♦ J 10 6 5 3									
♣ Q 8 5		♣ A 10 9 4 2									
	♠ A 7										
	♥ 8 5 4 2										
	♦ Q 8 7 4 2										
	♣ J 3										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sundarram	Birman D.	Sridhar	Birman A.
	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Dble	4♥	All Pass	

A normal enough Puppet auction but against these breaks, there was no cure. Down two, Texan Aces +100

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lengy	Tewari	Bareket	Prabhakar
	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

Lengy knew he would find a singleton heart in dummy but he no doubt expected a few more spades. On the actual layout, he had to go down three whilst realising the opponents had no game...Texan Aces another +500 and 12 more IMPs to suddenly lead by 40.

The final margin: 71-29 to the Texan Aces, a long way away from needing yet another tiebreak! They would meet the other Israeli team (Herbst) in the semis.

Belgian deception

by Herman De Wael and Rutger Van Mechelen

Eric Debus and his junior partner, Rutger Van Mechelen have scaled the heights of the Belgian scene in recent years, but they thought they were team players, not pairs experts.

So they were among the most surprised this year when they won their first Belgian championship in the national pairs event.

Thus far here in Sanremo, they had the moderate success of being on the only Belgian team that made it to the A-Swiss, and they are currently lying in the top-10 of the Pairs' Qualification.

This board helped them to a 60% score in the third session:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ A K 2										
	♥ A Q J 6										
	♦ K J 5 4										
	♣ J 3										
♠ Q 10 9 7	<table border="1" style="margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J 6 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 9 8 4		♥ 5 2									
♦ Q 8 7		♦ 10 2									
♣ A 8 4		♣ K Q 10 6 5 2									
	♠ 8 5 3										
	♥ K 10 7 3										
	♦ A 9 6 3										
	♣ 9 7										

West	North	East	South
Debus	Malinowski	Van Mechelen	DeBotton
			Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

The lead was the ♣K, which shows an even number if not from AK, something which Eric could read, so he took the Ace. He switched to spades, and declarer drew trumps, cashed the ♠K and threw West in with the spade.

Eric could see that the ruff and discard would cost nothing, but he knew North knew this. Eric also had a count of the points, knowing that North held the ♦KJ.

But Eric switched to a diamond anyway. Artur Malinowski knew that his opponents knew the distribution and believed West would not be so stupid as to play diamonds unless he had nothing in the suit. So he played East for ♦Q10 and was one down.

Night and day

by Brent Manley and Jos Jacobs

The match between the Roy Welland and Netherlands White looked to be a good one because of the strength of the two squads, and the contest lived up to expectations – at least for the first half.

NL White scored on the first deal.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Both tables played 4♣ by North, Welland on a club lead and Bas Drijver on a spade lead. In the end, it came down to the heart guess, which Welland got wrong for minus 50 and 5 IMPs to NL White.

The next deal was one of those that occur in your nightmares – everything goes wrong.



Roy Welland, USA

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

3NT, a perfectly reasonable contract, was played from different sides at the two tables, with a heart opening lead both times. No finesse worked, so it didn't matter what either declarer did – three down was the result.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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


Once again, 3NT was the contract, and once again it was played from a different side both times.

Welland played it from the North hand on a spade lead, winning the second round with his queen and taking the diamond finesse. A heart was returned to the queen and king, and Bauke Muller could have assured a better score for his side by continuing with hearts, but he cleared the spade suit. When the club finesse failed, Welland was one down, losing two spades and one trick each in the other suits.

At the other table, South played 3NT on a heart lead, resulting in two down. That was 2 IMPs to Welland.

NL White's best gain of the set was on board 5.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West <i>De Wijs</i>	North <i>Welland</i>	East <i>Muller</i>	South <i>Zia</i>
	INT	Dble	3♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass		


Muller's double showed a strong hand, and he was not deterred by Zia Mahmood's preemptive bid in diamonds. Had Simon de Wijs converted Muller's double of 3♦ to penalty, perfect defense would have netted them plus 1100, but de Wijs cuebid to find their best fit, which was accomplished. De Wijs did not struggle to take 11 tricks, with the trumps 2-2 and the king onside.

At the other table, Drijver was allowed to play 2♥, which went one down. That was 8 IMPs to NL White.

The Dutch got another 3 IMPs when de Wijs went one off in 2NT from the West seat, while Christal Henner-Welland was two down in 3NT played from the other side.

Welland gained 5 IMPs on board 11, but it took a call to the director to sort out the final result.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Henner-Welland, West, played in 4♦, losing three tricks for plus 130. At the other table, there was some confusion.

West <i>De Wijs</i>	North <i>Welland</i>	East <i>Muller</i>	South <i>Zia</i>
			Pass
1♦	2♣	2♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣	Dble
Pass	Pass	Redble	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♦	All Pass

Muller's 2♠ bid showed hearts, and he pointed at the bidding card as an alert, but Welland did not see it and did not ask for an explanation. Welland led a club, ruffed by Zia, who returned a heart. That allowed de Wijs to get rid of one of his losing spades, so he made 11 tricks for plus 400.

Welland called for a director and argued that he would have led a high spade had he known that 2♠ showed hearts. Zia, who had been told the meaning of 2♠, said he returned a heart because he was certain Welland would have led the ♠K if he held both high honors in the suit.


The result was eventually changed to 5♦, down one, which resulted in a 5-IMP swing to Welland.

There was only one other small swing – 3 IMPs to NL White – and the first half ended with the Dutch in front by 12 IMPs, 19-7.

Whereas the first half of the match was relatively quiet, with the exception of the director call, the second half was a bad dream for the Americans, as reported by Jos Jacobs.

Not very much happened during the first half of the second segment except for this one, a major American disaster.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room			
West <i>Garner</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>Weinstein</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
			Pass
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

With every finesse working and without a heart lead, 12 tricks were easy: NL White +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Welland</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Zia</i>
Pass	3NT	All Pass	INT

When Welland did not launch Stayman, North/South were committed to 3NT. West led from his only four-card suit...NL White +100 and 13 IMPs very much out of the blue.

It was not until five boards from the end that the action began:

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Garner</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Another straightforward game contract for 11 tricks and +450 to the Dutchies.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Welland</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Zia</i>
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

Zia was more ambitious here, opposite a 2NT opening bid. The slam might well make as it only depends on the trump break, if played by North. East, looking at what very likely was a trump trick, led his ♥A, and that meant a swift one down. NL White +50 and 11 IMPs more to their credit.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Garner</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
	4♠	All Pass	

For reasons only known to himself, Howard Weinstein (East) led a diamond (OK) and persisted with that suit (not OK) when given the lead again as declarer ducked a spade to him. ♠A and diamonds...away went the heart loser/setting trick. NL White a surprise +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Welland</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Zia</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♠
	4♠	All Pass	

Once Muller led the ♥A, the defence were never in trouble. NL White +50 and 10 IMPs more. It was all over with three boards to go.

The Americans, however, went down in a blaze of glory as these were the two final boards:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Garner	Drijver	Weinstein	Brink
			1♣
Pass	1♥	3♦	Dble
4♦	5♦	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♣	Pass	6♦
Pass	6♥	Pass	7♣
All Pass			

Once Drijver could afford 5♦, Brink knew he would find some useful cards in dummy. As we saw before: on a good day, this grand might well make; it's better than 50%. Tuesday was not such a day. Welland +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Welland	Muller	Zia
			1♣
Pass	1♥	3♦	Dble
5♦	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

No such frivolities from Welland, so the Americans reached a solid 6♥ for 12 easy tricks, +980 and 14 IMPs back to them.

And then:

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Garner	Drijver	Weinstein	Brink
1♥	Pass	1NT	2♠
3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

With both red suits lying very well for declarer and the clubs never a real threat, going down in this thin 3NT was very difficult. On a spade lead, Weinstein played hearts from dummy, thus conceding two tricks in the suit, but he never was in real danger. Welland +400.



Zia Mahmood, USA

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Welland	Muller	Zia
1♥	Pass	Pass	1♠
2♥	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

Opposite a limited opening bid, Muller could pass 1♥, but this gave room to North/South to exploit their fit, a process in which they shut out East/West effectively from too much further action. West led the ♠A and returned a heart into declarer's tenace, thus allowing him to even make his contract! Welland thus scored another +140 and gained 11 IMPs but their rally had come too late, the final score being 55-35 to Netherlands White, who would go into the semis trying to do better against Vito than their Red fellow-countrymen.

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Woman Teams Final, Segment 2 Dutch Blue v. CBC Milano

by Jos Jacobs

The host team (Milano) went into the second segment with a 33-16 lead. They thus had the upper hand but by no means a substantial advantage yet. After the first board, one had every reason to change this pre-segment opinion:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Severgnini</i>	<i>Verbeek</i>	<i>Gentili</i>	<i>Van Zwol</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Well, not very much wrong with this auction except that N/S did not realise that the solidity of South's heart suit might well make 6♥ or even 6NT a safer spot. When the clubs did indeed break 4-1, the Dutch got severe punishment for a not too big crime. Milano +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van der Salm</i>	<i>Colombo</i>	<i>Wijma</i>	<i>Preve</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

An equally smooth auction to the best contract. Twelve tricks, +990 and 14 IMPs to Milano who thus nearly doubled their lead.

Two boards later, this spirit of Dostoyevski appeared

again, for the second time in succession.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van der Salm</i>	<i>Colombo</i>	<i>Wijma</i>	<i>Preve</i>
			Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

After a 2♣ game-forcing response, we saw a natural auction by the Dutch which led them to a fully acceptable



Claudia van der Salm, Netherlands

spot. If you are in need of quick swings, you might attempt 6♣ but this contract is not really recommendable. When the trumps broke 3-3, declarer could even afford to lose two diamond tricks and thus scored +650.

thus once again missed out on the top spot. When, after the obvious diamond lead, the spade finesse worked, again the punishment for this a rather more serious crime was just the odd IMP. Milano +600.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Severgnini	Verbeek	Gentili	Van Zwol
			Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

When partner is 5-5 in the pointed suits, 3NT does not look a safe landing spot at all. With the club finesse right, declarer had some nervous moments but made her contract with an overtrick, Milano +630. Their punishment: 1 meagre IMP.

And then:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Van der Salm	Colombo	Wijma	Preve
1♣	1♥	Dble	Pass
1♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Once again, a simple Dutch auction to the proper contract. The play problem was not so much the bad trump break (we had got used to it by now, in Sanremo) but rather the threat of the club suit getting blocked. Both hurdles were overcome in routine fashion: Dutch Blue +620.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Severgnini	Verbeek	Gentili	Van Zwol
1♣	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

This time, a wheel came off in the Italian auction. They even managed not to bid spades at any opportunity and

After some flattish boards, it was crime time again on board 25:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Severgnini	Verbeek	Gentili	Van Zwol
	Pass	Pass	Pass
INT	All Pass		

Opposite West's weak NT, East refrained from Stayman but quietly passed. Well done, no danger of getting overboard in spades, Milano +120.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Van der Salm	Colombo	Wijma	Preve
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

The spade fit soon came into the picture in the Dutch auction, and so came punishment. This time, bidding on over the invitational raise to 3♠ cannot possibly be considered a crime, not even a minor one, but punishment arrived nevertheless when it turned out there was no legitimate play for the contract. After, let's say, the ♣K lead, South can always hop up with her ♥K to lead a diamond through in time. Only an early heart from dummy to declarer's nine might give her a chance, at the table...

One down, Milano another +100 and 6 more IMPs to lead by 38.

On the next board, the Dutch recouped 5 IMPs when, for a change, the Italians got a little overboard. This board was much more spectacular in the Open Teams final and will be reported there (I assume...).

Next came:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ — ♥ A 5 4 3 2 ♦ K 8 7 ♣ K 8 6 5 4	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K 10 8 7 ♥ K J 6 ♦ 4 3 ♣ 10 9 7 3
N					
W E					
S					
♠ A Q 5 4 2 ♥ 9 ♦ A Q J 10 6 2 ♣ Q					

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Severgnini</i>	<i>Verbeek</i>	<i>Gentili</i>	<i>Van Zwol</i>
1♥	Dble	2♥	1♦
All Pass			4♠

After the quiet 1♥ overcall, the Dutch soon were in the proper contract, only to find out that trumps 4-0 under the AQ and the ♥K were too many hurdles to overcome. So no good deed goes unpunished either...+50 to Milano.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van der Salm</i>	<i>Colombo</i>	<i>Wijma</i>	<i>Preve</i>
2NT	Dble	3♣	1♦
All Pass			3♠

After Van der Salm's aggressive intervention, the Italians had little room for exploration. To me, it looked as if 3♣ was an underbid but on the other hand, 4♠ may be a little exaggerated as well. What is more: on an auction like this



Maddalena Severgnini, Italy

bad breaks are normal so extra caution is required. Anyway: well done by Preve, so no punishment but a reward of +140 and 5 more IMPs.

Some more quiet boards before the grand finale of this second segment:

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ A 9 7 5 ♥ A 8 7 2 ♦ 8 6 ♣ A J 6	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K J 8 3 ♥ Q J 4 3 ♦ K 7 4 ♣ 9 5
N					
W E					
S					
♠ Q 10 6 2 ♥ 10 ♦ A 9 5 2 ♣ Q 8 4 3					
♠ 4 ♥ K 9 6 5 ♦ Q J 10 3 ♣ K 10 7 2					

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Severgnini</i>	<i>Verbeek</i>	<i>Gentili</i>	<i>Van Zwol</i>
INT	All Pass		Pass

Two rounds of hearts followed by a neat diamond shift from North left declarer to guess well in spades for her contract after winning the second round of diamonds. She played a club to the jack, the ♠A and a spade to the queen...one off. Dutch Blue +50, a minor punishment for the Italians who missed out on the best spot.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van der Salm</i>	<i>Colombo</i>	<i>Wijma</i>	<i>Preve</i>
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	All Pass		Pass

The natural approach immediately brought the best spot, the spade fit, to light. Nine easy tricks, Dutch Blue +140 and 5 IMPs back.

The last board was a more serious case of punishment again:

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ A J 4 ♥ 10 4 ♦ A K 8 7 5 ♣ 10 8 6	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K 9 ♥ 9 6 5 3 2 ♦ 10 4 3 2 ♣ K Q
N					
W E					
S					
♠ 10 8 7 2 ♥ A K Q ♦ Q J 9 6 ♣ 9 3					
♠ Q 6 5 3 ♥ J 8 7 ♦ — ♣ A J 7 5 4 2					

The opening shot

by Brent Manley

Two squads who stormed into the Open Teams final sat down to play on Wednesday morning, both seemingly with momentum on their side.

The Dutch team Netherlands White – Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, Simon de Wijs and Bauke Muller – had dispatched the Roy Welland team handily in the quarterfinal round, then defeated a Bulgarian Vito team to reach the championship round.

At the same time, the Israeli Herbst team – Ophir and Ilan Herbst, Yaniv Zack and Michael Barel – made it to the final with significant margins against Villa Fabbriche and the Texan Aces.

Both teams have former Open Teams champions as members: Herbst and Herbst from the first Open European Championships in Menton, France, in 2003. Muller and de Wijs were on the winning team in Tenerife in 2005.

There was a swing on the very first deal.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ Q 7 6 4 ♥ Q J 4 ♦ A 10 2 ♣ Q 10 2	<table style="width: 100%; height: 100px; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white;"> <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 ♥ A 8 7 5 3 2 ♦ 9 7 6 3 ♣ K 7	♠ K 9 8 3 ♥ 9 ♦ K Q J 5 4 ♣ A 9 5
N						
W E						
S						

West <i>Barel</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>Zack</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
	Pass	2♦*	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Yaniv Zack's 2♦ was Multi, and Sjoert Brink had a near textbook takeout double when East's suit was revealed to be hearts. Bas Drijver bid what he thought he could make. Zack started with the ♥A and switched to the ♣K, which might have been the killing thrust on a different day. With such an imposing diamond suit in dummy, he thought something dynamic was called for. Declarer won in dummy and played on spades. He lost two tricks in that suit but was not taxed to take 10 in all for plus 420.

West <i>Wijs</i>	North <i>O. Herbst</i>	East <i>Muller</i>	South <i>I. Herbst</i>
	Pass	2♥	Dble
3♥	3♠	All Pass	

Perhaps Ophir Herbst didn't like his heart values, surely wasted opposite partner's presumed shortness. At any

rate, both players took a conservative view, resulting in a 6-IMP swing to the Dutch.

The Israelis took the lead on the next board with excellent judgment in the bidding.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ Q 3 ♥ A K 10 9 7 6 ♦ A ♣ K J 7 2	<table style="width: 100%; height: 100px; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white;"> <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	♠ K J 9 7 ♥ 8 4 ♦ Q 8 3 2 ♣ 10 8 6	♠ 10 8 4 ♥ Q J 5 2 ♦ 10 9 5 ♣ Q 9 4
N						
W E						
S						

West <i>Barel</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>Zack</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♦	1♥	Dble	2♦
2♠	4♥	Pass	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Drijver started with the ♦A and underled his heart honors to put partner in for a diamond ruff. They still had a club trick coming, but that was all – a very unsatisfying plus 100 for the Dutch.



Ilan Herbst, Israel

West <i>Wijs</i>	North <i>O. Herbst</i>	East <i>Muller</i>	South <i>I. Herbst</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♦	Dble	2♦	Pass
3♦	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

The Dutch lost the spade suit in the auction, and although they got all their tricks against 4♥, there were only three of them. Plus 620 and 11 IMPs to Herbst.

The Dutch were chipping away – an IMP here, an IMP there – but were trailing 19-9 when this deal came along.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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



West <i>Barel</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>Zack</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
		Pass	1♣
1♥	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			



Sjoert Brink, Netherlands

Michael Barel started with a low heart to the queen and ace. Brink played a diamond to dummy's jack, then a spade to the queen. West took the ♠K and exited with a spade, won by Brink in hand. He played a second diamond, winning the king with the ace, then took advantage of his heart spots by playing the 7 and letting it run to West's 10.

Barel played a low club, and Zack took the 8 with the king and was helpless. If he cut declarer off from his hand by playing a diamond, Brink could cash his two diamond winners and play a club to the 9. East could win the ♣Q but would have to play a black card to dummy, which would be high.

As it was Zack exited with a spade, taken in dummy with the jack. Brink then knocked out the ♥K, won the club return with the ace and claimed with three red winners. Well played for plus 600.

West <i>Wijs</i>	North <i>O. Herbst</i>	East <i>Muller</i>	South <i>I. Herbst</i>
		Pass	1♦
1♥	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Simon de Wijs also led a low heart. Ilan Herbst won the ♥A and played a club to the 8 and East's queen. On the spade return, declarer ducked, West won and played another round of the suit. Herbst played the ♦10, which held, and a second diamond to the king and ace. He cashed the ♦J, played a spade to his ace, then played a club to dummy's 9. East won the king and cashed two spades for one down and 12 IMPs to Netherlands White.

That was the second board of a 36-0 run that put the Dutch well in front.

The Dutch methods – not to mention their judgment – helped them to a great result on this deal.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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



West <i>Barel</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>Zack</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
3♦	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Whether 4♦ showed hearts or was just looking for another place to play, North/South landed in the right spot.

Barel led the ♣Q to Brink's ace. He played a spade to dummy's ace and ruffed a spade low, pleased to see the ♠K from West. Now a heart to the ace and a spade ruff with the 10 saw him home. He played another heart to dummy and started running spades. East could take the ♥Q at his leisure, but declarer had 11 tricks for plus 650.

West	North	East	South
Wijs	O. Herbst	Muller	I. Herbst
3♦	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

De Wijs started with the ♦Q to his partner's king, declarer playing low. A low club at trick two went to West's queen. On the club return, East played the jack, and declarer ducked again. Now a diamond from East cleared the suit. Herbst played the ♣A and a club to East's king. Dummy was all majors at that point, so Bauke Muller played the ♠J to the queen and waited for his heart trick, number five for the defenders. That was 13 IMPs to NL White.

The Israelis missed a chance for a gain on the following deal, instead suffering another loss.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

In the closed room, North played 3♦, taking nine tricks with relative ease thanks to the friendly lie of the spades.

West	North	East	South
Barel	Drijver	Zack	Brink
Pass	3♦	Pass	1♥
All Pass			

Barel started with the ♣A, and made the killing switch to the ♥9, a card that East apparently could not read. Had East played the king, a continuation would have resulted in East/West taking the first five tricks. Instead, East played low. Brink won and put the ♣10 on the table. The blockage in hearts prevented the defenders from taking more than four tricks. Plus 600 was worth another 7 IMPs.

The Dutch had landed the first punch, ending the set in front 56-26, but with 32 more deals to play, the issue was far from settled.

Listen to the Bidding

by Mark Horton

This deal from the fourth session of the Open Pairs Qualification provided at least a couple of interesting stories:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
De Botton		Malinowski	
		1♥	3♣
Dble	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♠*	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

With a seven-card suit East was happy to pretend he held the queen of trumps as well as 'two' aces and West, rightly wanting to avoid a lead through her king of spades went for the match point top.

South led the queen of clubs and declarer won in hand, cashed the king of diamonds and played a diamond to the queen.

The carding in diamonds combined with South's overcall made declarer think it was highly possible that hearts would be 4-0, so he advanced the nine of hearts and ran it when North played low. That collected all the matchpoints.

At another table, another English pair also had an adventure on this deal. Andrew Robson and Alexander Allfrey managed to bid all the way to Six Diamonds (but are not prepared to reveal how!) When South made what was clearly a Lightner double, Allfrey ran to Six Hearts – and he was not hard pressed to get the trump suit right!



São Paulo 2009

THE WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

São Paulo, Brazil

August 29 to September 12

Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Ernesto d'Orsi Seniors Bowl
World Transnational Open Teams Championships

HEAD-QUARTERS AND PLAYING AREA:
HOTEL TRANSAMERICA

Opening ceremony

August 29th - to be held at the "teatro alfa" (connected to the hotel); the ceremony will be followed by a musical show at the theatre and by a cocktail/dinner at the hotel.

The Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Senior Bowl

The Round Robin for all three Championships will start on Sunday 30th August and finish on Saturday 12th September, with the knock-out stages starting on Sunday 6th.

The Quarter Finals for each of these events will end before the start of the Transnational Open Teams, thus enabling players eliminated from the main Championships to participate Transnational Championship.

The World Transnational Open Teams Championship

The 7th World Transnational Open Teams Championship is a prestigious and most enjoyable event. Being Transnational, it

is open to teams composed of players coming from different countries, nominated by their National Bridge Organisation and approved by the WBF Credentials Committee.

It is a great opportunity for players to participate in a wonderful Bridge tournament while at the same time enjoying a unique opportunity to experience the atmosphere and excitement of the final stages of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup and watch some of the greatest players in the world on the first class vugraph presentation. Players wishing to compete in this Championship should contact their NBO and request nomination by the end of July 2009. There is no quota, and NBOs may nominate as many teams as they wish to compete in this special tournament.

Players eliminated from the Round Robin of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl will be able to enter the World Transnational Open Teams Championship free of charge if they enter as a complete team.

The **World Transnational Open Teams** will take place during the second week, starting in the late afternoon on Monday 7th September. The format will be Swiss Teams. It is normally played as 10-board matches (3, 4 or 5 per day) for 15 qualifying rounds (150 boards). The Quarter Final will start on Thursday late afternoon, the Semi Final will be played on Friday 11th September and the Final will end on Saturday 12th September.

REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION OF TEAMS

- Bermuda Bowl / Venice Cup 15th May
- D'Orsi Seniors Bowl 15th May
- World Transnational Open Teams 1st July

REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS NAMES

- Bermuda Bowl / Venice Cup 1st June
- D'Orsi Seniors Bowl 1st June
- World Transnational Open Teams 1st August

PAYMENT OF ENTRY FEES

- Bermuda Bowl / Venice Cup US\$ 4,000 1st July
- D'Orsi Seniors Bowl US\$ 4,000 1st July
- World Transnational Open Teams US\$ 1,500 1st August

Players eliminated from the Open, Women's or Senior Teams may form new Open teams and will receive free entry provided no players who have not participated in these events are added.

In the event that a team is made up from players who have not participated in the three main events, with players from these events added to the team, the charges will be as follows:

- A team with 4 new players & 1 or 2 eliminated players: \$1,500
- A team with 3 new players & up to 3 eliminated players: \$1,200
- A team with 2 new players & up to 4 eliminated players: \$800
- A team with 1 new player & up to 5 eliminated players: \$400

REGISTRATION OF SYSTEMS

- Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & D'Orsi Seniors Bowl 7th July

ENTRIES must be sent to:

The World Bridge Federation
40, rue François 1^{er}
75008 Paris - France
francin@worldbridgefed.com

SYSTEMS

For **Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Senior Bowl**, the conditions of contest will give full details of systems regulations and registration, but players should note that it will be a requirement that all systems are registered in advance via e-mail to Anna Gudge: anna@ecats.co.uk

HUM systems or Brown Sticker conventions are not permitted in the Round Robin stage of the Bermuda Bowl or Venice Cup, or at any stage of the Senior Bowl.

Pairs wishing to register HUM systems or Brown Sticker conventions for use in the Knockout phase of the Bermuda Bowl or Venice Cup must register these, together with the relevant HUM or BS forms no later than 7th July 2009. No extension to this deadline will be accepted. Teams using HUM systems or BS conventions lose their seeding rights when they play against teams that do not use such methods.

THE VENUE

São Paulo is one of the biggest cities in the world, having over 17 million inhabitants, and it is the most important Brazilian city.

Quite often São Paulo intimidates people because of its size, its constant pedestrian and vehicle traffic, ethnic and cultural multiplicity. But it is this very "city-in-a-hurry" tempo that makes the city entertaining, attractive, diversified and unique.

To think of São Paulo as merely a business destination, although the largest in Latin America, would be inaccurate. After all, what business capital has 280 movie theatres, more than 70 shopping malls and 12,000 restaurants featuring every sort of international cuisine. Feel like seeing a Broadway-style play? This is the place. Or would you rather max out your credit card at some charming street boutiques? São Paulo has so many of them, from the simplest and cheapest to the most sophisticated and expensive.

As for art - the offerings are many and varied, including "MASP" The Art Museum of São Paulo, the Museum of Brazilian Art, the Museum of Modern Art to name just three; in addition there are also important architectural works.

The Championships will take place at the Transamerica Hotel, a wonderful deluxe five-star hotel, located near the most important business, shopping, and gourmet areas of the city. The hotel

has free internet access (wifi and intranet) and offers very comfortable, well equipped rooms, two restaurants, a bar, tennis courts, soccer field, three-hole golf course, jogging lane, fitness center, heated pool, dry sauna and steam rooms, pool tables, etc.

HOTEL INFORMATION

HOTEL TRANSAMERICA

Double-room (single or double occupancy): **US\$180.00**

(tax included) per night, breakfast-buffet included. 3 nights payment in advance is required for reservations, refundable for cancellations only until June 30. A 5% discount is offered if reservations are made for 12 or more nights, paid totally in advance, with no reimbursements in the event of an early checkout. Suites can be reserved at prices to be arranged with the hotel.

Reservations can be made directly with the hotel:

- Group Sales Department by e-mail: grupos@transamerica.com.br
 - or phone (+55 11) 5693-4092/5693-4098/5693-4972
- Hotel web-site: www.transamerica.com.br

Economic alternative Hotel:

TRANSAMERICA FLAT NACOES UNIDAS

Located at 4 km (2.5 miles) distance from the main hotel (shuttles will be provided)

Double-room (single or double occupancy): **US\$110**

(tax included) per night, breakfast-buffet included. Triple room, with rollaway bed, subject to availability: US\$140 (tax included) per night. 3 nights in advance required for reservations, refundable for cancellations only until June 30.

Reservations can be made directly with the hotel

- by e-mail: rsnunididas@transamericaflats.com.br
- or phone (+55 11) 5187-2955/5693-4952

Hotel web-site: www.transamericaflats.com.br

Alternatively, reservations can be made directly with the organization by e-mail: contact@brazilbridge2009.com.br

Championship Official Site: www.brazilbridge2009.com.br

Zonal Qualified teams for BB, VC and E. DOrsi SB

Zone 1	6	Zone 5	1
Zone 2	3	Zone 6	3
Zone 3	3	Zone 7	2
Zone 4	2	Zone 8	2

If any Zone does not fill its quota the first berth will be offered to Zone 1, the second one to Zone 6

Not Quite so Simple

by Mark Horton

In Bulletin 10, the industrious Jos Jacobs mentioned this deal from the match between the Texan Aces and Mesbur.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Jos reported that at one table Four Hearts was the normal contract and brought an easy +450.

However, Four Hearts deserves a much closer inspection, as you will see.

In the featured match, West decided to lead a trump, which proved to be ineffective.

Suppose West leads the king of spades and then continues the suit? East must win the trick and switch to diamonds to be certain of defeating the contract.

If West is allowed to win the second spade he will probably switch to a trump or a club. Declarer will win, (unblock the ace of clubs if necessary) and go to dummy with a trump. He cashes the top clubs to arrive at this position:

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

When declarer ruffs dummy's last club what can West do? A diamond is obviously fatal.

If West discards his last spade declarer can draw the outstanding trumps and then play the king of diamonds. If West takes the ace he must then lead into the split tenace.

How about underruffing?

Then declarer draws the last trump and once again advances the king of diamonds. This time if West wins he is left between a rock and a hard place – a diamond is still fatal and a spade is a ruff and discard.

A backwash squeeze – not exactly an easy way to make Four Hearts!

Bessis-Netherlands White

(Swiss, Revisited)

We have already seen elsewhere, as reported by David Stern, that Bessis had broken on top with a 14-IMP swing. There was only one other IMP movement of any significance

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Both tables reached 3NT from the West seat after East had shown a minor-suit oriented hand with short spades. On the lead of the ♠6 (against Michel Bessis) South put up the king and was allowed to hold the trick.

Back came the ♠J and now Bessis could win and clear clubs and could not be prevented from establishing either a heart or spade for her ninth trick. Clearly the defence should have shifted to ♠5 at trick two - that would have sunk the game, since North has the side-entries to the spades.

In the other room where Hoffman had led ♠6 after an equally revealing auction, Ginossar put in ♠J at trick one. West took this trick and now he was doomed. When North won the third club, South could discard a suit-preference ♥J for the spade play to set the game two tricks and gain 13 IMPs for team Bessis.

COSE DI CASA NOSTRA

by Franco Broccoli

Clap clap clap. Lo so che non rende l'idea, ma la parola scritta è silenziosa. Vi chiedo un minimo di fantasia per far corrispondere questo applauso ad una standing ovation dal vivo per la celebrazione dei due bei successi di casa nostra nel femminile e nel senior.

Ecco, nell'ordine, attrici e attori:


CBC MILANO - Gloria Colombo, Luigina Gentili, Mietta Preve, Annalisa Rosetta, Maddalena Severgnini e Marilina Vanuzzi.

MIROGLIO - Giulio Bongiovanni, Andrea Buratti, Amedeo Comella e la partecipazione straordinaria di Apolinary Kowalski, Jacek Romanski.

Altroché "Zero tituli".....

C'è un detto popolare per cui "chi mena per primo, mena due volte". In estrema sintesi questo elegante (!) suggerimento vorrebbe sottolineare il fatto che a volte non conviene giocare di rimessa. Nell'esordio della finale femminile la squadra milanese si è strettamente adeguata alla regola.

Board 1. Dich. Nord - Tutti in prima

<p>♠ A 10 5 2 ♥ R 10 6 ♦ 8 ♣ F 8 6 4 3</p>		<p>♠ D 7 6 4 ♥ D F 4 ♦ A 10 2 ♣ D 10 2</p>	<p>♠ F ♥ A 8 7 5 3 2 ♦ 9 7 6 3 ♣ R 7</p>
	<p>♠ R 9 8 3 ♥ 9 ♦ R D F 5 4 ♣ A 9 5</p>		

Sala Aperta

Ovest <i>Van Zwol</i>	Nord <i>Severgnini</i>	Est <i>Verbeek</i>	Sud <i>Gentili</i>
	passo	2♦	passo
2♥	passo	passo	contro
3♥	4♠	fine	

Il contro ritardato di Luigina Gentili mostra le picche in quanto un contro immediato sarebbe stato informativo sulla eventuale sottoapertura a picche, e perciò con le cuori. Mi sono annodato, me ne sono accorto, ma l'importante è partecipare. Per battere 4♠ ci vuole l'attacco quadri, perciò riveste fondamentale importanza il lato dal quale vengono chiamate in quanto se ad Ovest può sembrare abbastanza percorribile l'attacco di singolo, per Est lanciarsi da quattro cartine quando c'è stato un colore appoggiato è sicuramente più arduo. Ecco, volevo dire, a proposito di colore appoggiato, lo stile olandese di sottoapertura può essere più aggressivo rispetto a quello mostrato 10 righe sopra e questa attitudine ha frenato Ovest dall'esibirsi in un 4♥ diretto (passa o correggi). Torniamo ai fatti e al loro brutto difetto di essere ostinati e incontrovertibili. Est ha attaccato Asso di cuori e, visto il morto, è andata a cercare le prese del down a fiori, piegando il Re. La buonanima di Ron Andersen, l'uomo che ha trasformato il bridgerama in spettacolo, avrebbe detto: "Questo ritorno non paralizza il dichiarante". In presa con l'Asso di fiori del morto Maddalena Severgnini ha giocato picche per la Dama e picche. Wietske van Zwol è entrata con il 10 e ha rigiocato fiori. Che dire, ha provato a mettere un po' di pressione, non che avesse più tante scelte. La dichiarante, infatti, fin dall'attacco iniziale era candidata al successo. E così è stato. Il 10 di fiori impegnato da Nord ha fatto la presa, una ulteriore picche è scesa


sul tavolo con la sana intenzione di forzare l'Asso d'atout, e la mano si è avviata speditamente alla sua conclusione di mantenuto impegno.

Facciamo un salto in Sala Chiusa, tanto per non avere curiosità residue.

Ovest <i>Preve</i>	Nord <i>Wijma</i>	Est <i>Colombo</i>	Sud <i>Van der Salm</i>
	passo	2♦	3♦
4♦	contro	4♥	4♠
fine			

Ecco, vedete la piega che hanno preso i cartellini in questa sala? Per forza di cose le picche sono uscite da Sud e Mietta Preve ha attaccato singolo di quadri condannando il contratto sul nascere. Infatti la dichiarante ha perso l'Asso d'atout, l'Asso di cuori (comunicazione con Est), un taglio a quadri e per finire la levée del down è uscita dalla mancanza di vincenti necessarie agli scarti delle perdenti, che alla fine erano tre (due fiori e una cuori). 10 imp per Milano.

Board 2. Dich. Est - N/S in zona

<p>♠ D 3 ♥ A R 10 9 7 6 ♦ A ♣ R F 7 2</p>		<p>♠ R F 9 7 ♥ 8 4 ♦ D 8 3 2 ♣ 10 8 6</p>	<p>♠ A 6 5 2 ♥ 3 ♦ R F 7 6 4 ♣ A 5 3</p>
	<p>♠ 10 8 4 ♥ D F 5 2 ♦ 10 9 5 ♣ D 9 4</p>		

Sala Aperta

Ovest <i>Van Zwol</i>	Nord <i>Severgnini</i>	Est <i>Verbeek</i>	Sud <i>Gentili</i>
		passo	passo
1♦	contro	2♦	passo
3♦	3♥	passo	4♥
fine			

Sembrerebbe una licita abbastanza normale con Ovest che apre di 1♦, Nord contra ed Est che appoggia il colore della compagna. Ecco, quest'ultimo è il punto topico del bivio che vedremo in seguito. Il gioco non ha comportato problemi e Maddalena Severgnini ha allineato le dieci prese previste cedendo una fiori e due picche.

Sala Chiusa

Ovest <i>Preve</i>	Nord <i>Wijma</i>	Est <i>Colombo</i>	Sud <i>Van der Salm</i>
		passo	passo
1♦	contro	1♠	passo
2♠	3♥	passo	4♥
4♠	contro	fine	

Vedete? Gloria Colombo sull'apertura della compagna ha anticipato la quarta di picche e la mano ha di colpo virato al tricolore. La difesa già è ottima di per sé, in quanto non si può andare più di un down, ma uno scivolone difensivo ha consentito alla dichiarante di realizzare il contratto. 15 imp per Milano.

OPEN PAIRS - SEMI FINAL A (AFTER 2 SESSIONS)

1	WLADOW - ELINESCU	60,99	71	GROMOV - DUBININ	49,87
2	WESTRA - RAMONDT	60,93	72	DUDZIK - NOWOWIEJSKI	49,73
3	CORNELL - BACH	60,47	73	YADLIN - FRIEDLANDER	49,67
4	BRUNNER - HOLLAND	59,64	74	LOUCHART - CRESTEY	49,63
5	JANSMA - PAULISSEN	59,26	75	GIGLI - GIOVE	49,61
6	BOMPIS - QUANTIN	58,80	76	TEMBOURET - KILANI	49,45
7	FALLENIUS - FREDIN	58,64	77	MISZEWSKA - ZAKRZEWSKI	49,39
8	FURUNES - HALLBERG	57,85	78	SMILGAJS - SHUDNEV	49,39
9	LUNGU - MICESCU	57,11	79	TREDAFILOV - RADKOV	49,39
10	SUWIK - RADZIAK	56,67	80	PAZUR - ZAWISLAK	49,32
11	ASKGAARD - BJARNARSON	56,47	81	KRAVCHENKO - SHOKHAN	49,30
12	MARTENS - JASSEM	56,16	82	ZANONI - MORELLI	49,15
13	BOCCHI - MADALA	55,93	83	BLAZENCIC - RASE	48,94
14	MULTON - ZIMMERMANN	55,52	84	FISHER - GERSTNER	48,87
15	MAURINS - BALASOV	54,76	85	KROEJGAARD - KROEJGAARD	48,80
16	KRZEMINSKI - WALINSKI	54,49	86	KHVEN - RUDAKOV	48,79
17	HARDING - HOYLAND	54,48	87	TESLA - STANICIC	48,74
18	GIROLLET - FLEURY	54,47	88	NOWOSADZKI - WIANKOWSKI	48,74
19	JACOB - REID	54,35	89	BAKKEREN - VAN WEL	48,61
20	BESSIS - BESSIS	54,31	90	SZTYRAK - JANISZEWSKI	48,59
21	YILMAZ - GUR	53,92	91	KANE - SHIELDS	48,54
22	RATYNSKI - OHRYSKO	53,75	92	MAKARUK - NIEDZIELSKI	48,38
23	GOLFARELLI - NATALE	53,58	93	CARCASSONNE - LABAERE	48,26
24	VOLDOIRE - SAPORTA	53,51	94	HONTI - HARANGOZO	48,22
25	ROBSON - ALLFREY	53,35	95	LAKATOS - SZALAY	48,10
26	ARONOV - STEFANOV	53,35	96	DEBUS - VAN MECHELEN	48,08
27	HOILAND - BREKKA	53,01	97	VERHEES Jr - PROOIJEN	48,02
28	BAREKET - LENGY	52,99	98	ROTARU - STIRBU	47,90
29	FRANZEL - KRIFTNER	52,94	99	SAELENMINDE - AUSTBERG	47,57
30	AUKEN - ARNIM	52,88	100	FANTONI - MISTRETTA	47,51
31	FILIP - VELECKY	52,88	101	DUGUET - RIEHM	47,43
32	TISLEVOLL - LINDQVIST	52,77	102	DESMOULINS - COUNIL	47,33
33	EIDI - VROUSTIS	52,76	103	HELNESS - HAUGE	47,31
34	MUZZIO - ANGELERI	52,55	104	DRIJVER - GROENENBOOM	47,27
35	NEDKOV - TENEV	52,55	105	SOULET - TCHENIO	47,20
36	VOLHEJN - KOPECKY	52,49	106	POTIER - BO	47,15
37	FITZGIBBON - MESBUR	52,40	107	KALITA - RUSSO	47,11
38	GIERULSKI - SKRZYPCZAK	52,38	108	TOP - PETERS	47,08
39	GUNEV - POPOVA	52,26	109	GWINNER - MARGOT	47,05
40	TUSZYNSKI - STARKOWSKI	52,25	110	UGGERI - ASTORE	46,86
41	KALISH - PODGUR	52,24	111	BAUSBACK - LOEFGREN	46,81
42	MOLENAAR - VERBEEK	52,21	112	LEBEL - CHEMLA	46,80
43	AGGELOPOULOS - OIKONOMOPOULOS	52,17	113	BRUNET - ANCESSY	46,40
44	VERSACE - ANGELINI	52,11	114	AASAN - JOHANSEN	45,86
45	GUSTAWSSON - SYLVAN	52,10	115	ROMBAUT - TIGNEL	45,79
46	ARGELAZI - BIRMAN	52,06	116	SCHILHART - BUCHLEV	45,78
47	GIUBILO - BONAVOGLIA	52,02	117	KARAIVANOV - RUSEV	45,68
48	CAITI - PATTACINI	51,99	118	RINGSETH - STOKKVIK	45,63
49	HANLON - CARROLL	51,96	119	ZUCCO - TRAPANI	45,52
50	THUILLEZ - ROBERT	51,83	120	KEAVENEY - THOMAS	45,47
51	PALAU - GUILLAUMIN	51,82	121	TACIUC - MARINA	45,42
52	FERGUSON - HOLLMAN	51,80	122	ZHURAVEL - KARBANOVICH	45,41
53	SIMONSEN - SKJETNE	51,78	123	IONITA - FLORIN	44,91
54	CLEFF - KENDRICK	51,62	124	TOFFIER - SAINTE MARIE	44,77
55	BERTENS - BAKKEREN	51,33	125	KLIMACKI - KOPRON	44,77
56	SOLNTSEV - VOROBEL	51,30	126	GINOSSAR - PACHTMAN	44,66
57	GUARINO - CARPENTIERI	51,26	127	LEWACIAK - BELING	44,66
58	SADEK - HUSSEIN	51,11	128	SEBBANE - VOLCKER	44,59
59	GROMOELLER - KIRMSE	51,06	129	AUKEN - CHRISTIANSEN	44,00
60	GRUE - HAMPSON	50,99	130	KOPSTAD - HOMME	43,77
61	MORATH - EFRAIMSSON	50,76	131	GAROZZO - MARTINI	43,54
62	SMIRNOV - PIEKAREK	50,62	132	POPOV - SKORCHEV	43,27
63	HARARI - TESSIERES	50,58	133	LEVIN - FOHRER	42,90
64	MAAT - MEER	50,45	134	NILSSON - OLOFSSON	42,89
65	KIRCHHOFF - DRENKELFORD	50,44	135	BURAS - LASZCZAK	42,37
66	BARANTIEV - PEICHEV	50,39	136	DELIMPALTADAKIS - DIONYSOPOULOS	41,88
67	CHMURSKI - PUCZYNSKI	50,22	137	DOXIADIS - KONTOMITROS	41,85
68	KWIECIEN - JAGNIEWSKI	50,18	138	URBANSKI - WOLINSKI	41,35
69	ENGEL - WEBER	50,12	139	MCINTOSH - SANDQVIST	39,33
70	RUBINS - BETHERS	49,96	140	LOHAY - HENC	39,14

OPEN PAIRS - SEMI FINAL B (AFTER 2 SESSIONS)

1	PIETRASZEK - UKRAINSKI	61,67	71	BOSS - JOHNSON	50,07
2	IVANOV - IVANOV	58,62	72	FAIGENBAUM - ZALESKI	50,01
3	VAINIKONIS - OLANSKI	57,99	73	STAVRACHE - KOVACS (2)	49,80
4	ZIVKOVIC - MOSSOP	57,98	74	CAPPELLER - SCHINZE	49,70
5	LANZAROTTI - VENTIN	57,51	75	BUDKIN - MAYANTZ	49,68
6	GOLEBIOWSKI - SIELICKI	56,92	76	VANDERVORST - FRENCKEN	49,55
7	LEVI - STAVRINOS	56,83	77	MATISONS - ALFEJEVA	49,30
8	FILIPOWICZ - CIESLAK	56,63	78	PENCHARZ - DHONDY	49,13
9	OURSEL - DUGUET	56,60	79	COLDEA - TEODORESCU	49,06
10	NARKIEWICZ - INGIELEWICZ	56,43	80	CLAIR - TOTARO	49,04
11	ZLOBICH - HAPONAVA	56,24	81	BREWIAK - STASIAK	48,96
12	ZOZIS - KOUKOUSELIS	56,11	82	JASKIEWICZ - TOKARZ	48,95
13	KOVALCHUK - KOLYADENKO	56,07	83	CIMA - MIOZZI	48,95
14	LORENZINI - GROSSET	55,99	84	UYSAL - SIRIKLIOGLU	48,88
15	LACROIX - PIGNOL	55,94	85	KALIDA - KWIAKOWSKI	48,70
16	SVENDSEN - BERG	55,52	86	ZAMPERETTI - PIGARELLI	48,69
17	GODED - VINCENT	55,31	87	BROGELAND - GILLIS	48,53
18	VAINIKONIS - ARLOVICH	55,25	88	CIRILLO - BUSSOTTI	48,49
19	FEBER - CERNAT	54,96	89	NEGOESCU - IGNATESCU	48,35
20	SAUVAGE - BOGACKI	54,85	90	PULKRAB - KRASA	48,27
21	PIEDRA - CAPONI	54,80	91	ANFINSEN - SOLHEIM	48,26
22	NOVAK - AMBROZ	54,79	92	LIPNITSKI - RAMANOVICH	48,26
23	LEBATTEUX - COUDERT	54,76	93	FISCHER - SAURER	48,23
24	ERBIL - PEYRET	54,67	94	VERBEEK - BRANTSMA	48,17
25	HOMONNAY - WINKLER	54,60	95	CORSICO PICCOLINO - GOBBI	48,12
26	CIECHOMSKI - CZUBAK	54,59	96	VOINESCU - MANDRUTA	47,69
27	ZHUKOV - TIMAKHOVICH	54,42	97	FRONTAURA - MULLER	47,31
28	LAUER - SPALOVSKY	54,24	98	VALIMARESCU - OJOGA	47,30
29	ALLIX - LIBBRECHT	54,16	99	VANDERET - DEVIGNE	47,08
30	GOTARD - LESNICZAK	53,98	100	KOLATA - KANDEMIR	47,07
31	MASCARUCCI - BORLA	53,74	101	GILBOA - WAX	47,01
32	HEGEDUS - SZEGEDI	53,72	102	PASSI - BELLINI	47,00
33	DUMBOVICH - GOTTHARD	53,66	103	BOGEN - HOLAND	46,92
34	ZAREMBA - ZAK	53,64	104	WITTEVEEN - WARENDORF	46,91
35	DOBRIN - CHERNYAK	53,64	105	LHUISSIER - FRANCESCETTI	46,83
36	DOBRYNSKI - DZIKOWSKI	53,55	106	CHAMBERS - GOBERT	46,78
37	POSKA - JANKAUSKAS	53,53	107	MAZALU - VIDAMI	46,70
38	CIVGINER - SEN	53,47	108	AVCIOGLU - OZTURK	46,51
39	ANDREEV - ERSHOV	53,40	109	MAI - CHIARO	46,34
40	ASH - McPHEE	53,33	110	McGUIRE - RAILING	46,29
41	JELENIOWSKI - WACHNOWSKI	53,33	111	PAUNCZ - FOSSI	46,28
42	SIRAKOPOULOU - LIOSSIS	53,32	112	PETRUNIN - STERKIN	46,25
43	KHAZANOV - LEBEDEVA	52,90	113	EIJCK - HERMANS	46,18
44	ASSUERO - BONAVERA	52,78	114	CEREDA - MEARINI	46,18
45	MARINI - CATA	52,67	115	GOMEROV - ZAPADINSKIY	46,07
46	MALINOWSKI - DE BOTTON	52,56	116	MCLEISH - MCLEISH	46,06
47	HACKETT - ALEXANDER	52,33	117	STAHL - FAEHR	46,02
48	FORGE - VENTOS	52,32	118	MARMONTI - MASSA	45,91
49	FERRAMOSCA - SALVADORI	52,28	119	RADULESCU - STEGAROIU	45,83
50	GRZELCZAK - STASIOLEK	52,22	120	KITA - GLASEK	45,73
51	KASIMIR - JOKISCH	51,99	121	PONT - FRUTOS	45,05
52	LIN - CHIEN	51,94	122	FERANCHUK - GODUN	44,78
53	THORESEN - OVESEN	51,94	123	ZARA - ELIAN	44,34
54	STIENEN - BOSKLOPPER	51,74	124	COLINET - MEYER	44,26
55	BOS - BERKERS	51,74	125	KRYSZTOFCZYK - KRYSZTOFIK	44,25
56	CALDARELLI - CAPORALETTI	51,61	126	MAGRI - BARTOLOTTI	44,25
57	GOWER - APTEKER	51,55	127	MIRAGLIA - NATTA	43,26
58	CSATLOS - HITTMANN	51,53	128	MARRO - SANT	43,14
59	CHARLSEN - HOFTANISKA	51,40	129	MONTIERI - LATTUNEDDU	42,94
60	TATARKIN - SHANURIN	51,24	130	RYAN - BEIJDRORFF	42,82
61	BEAUMIER - PELISSON	51,21	131	SALTELLI - MASOERO	42,19
62	MARTYNEK - SLEMR	50,83	132	PAPADOPOULOS - THEOTOKIS	41,97
63	PATELLI - PAROLARO	50,64	133	ULUG - ULUG	41,75
64	MICHELIN - FEIGENBAUM	50,43	134	ZADEL - MIKIC	41,26
65	GLOYER - LAUSS	50,40	135	PATTENIER - KAMERBEEK	40,37
66	TOMASZEK - MODRZEJEWSKI	50,29	136	MUNTEANU - MUNTEANU	40,32
67	RINALDI - DE MICHELIS	50,24	137	CHANDRA - WOJCIECHOWSKI	39,89
68	TUNSANU - TEODORECI	50,23	138	NINCHKA - ANNUSHKA	39,37
69	HUGONY - CERRETO	50,18	139	DEVINCENZO - MORINO	38,27
70	ZARKESCH - BOEDDEKER	50,10			

SENIOR PAIRS - SEMI FINAL B (AFTER 2 SESSIONS)

1	SERGEANT - THABAULT	60,81	12	BEGAS - GROSMANN	49,25
2	MCGOWAN - LIGGAT	58,31	13	PARVIAINEN - KELHA	49,23
3	UISK - PETTERSSON	57,41	14	BRAV - KAPLAN	48,83
4	VIVALDI - SAVELLI	56,65	15	JUURI-OJA - JUURI-OJA	47,05
5	BLAKEY - BLAKEY	56,40	16	BARZAGHI - LEONARDI	46,83
6	NELSON - NELSON	54,58	17	HOFFMAN - HARPER	45,07
7	TUWANAKOTTA - BORM	53,12	18	DENNISON - LEIGHTON	43,82
8	MIRAN - ISPAHANI	53,05	19	COUPERE - LUMBROSO	43,27
9	SCHNEIDER - UHLMANN	52,82	20	LINNAMAGI - LEIS	42,38
10	PARNIS-ENGLAND - DIX	49,91	21	ARCIERI - ALFANI	41,99
11	MACKENZIE - QUINN	49,77	22	FERNANDEZ - BONANNO	40,33

SENIOR PAIRS - SEMI FINAL A (AFTER 2 SESSIONS)

1	KLUKOWSKI - JEZIORO	60,04	24	KLAPPER - SZMAKFEFER	49,89
2	BUER - MUNKVOLD	58,38	25	CEDOLIN - DALLACASAPICCOLA	49,17
3	LASOCKI - RUSSYAN	57,62	26	MOUIEL - CLARAC	49,14
4	LUCENO - SCHWARZ	55,71	27	HIRST - HASSETT	48,91
5	SZENBERG - MILASZEWSKI	55,67	28	BETTINETTI - MARINO	48,70
6	FORNACIARI - MARIANI	54,68	29	BIGAT - YALMAN	48,65
7	GRENTHE - VANHOUTTE	53,31	30	MATTSSON - KOCH	48,44
8	MEJANE - PEREZ	53,08	31	SERF - FOUASSIER	48,29
9	RAMER - MELMAN	53,02	32	MAGLIETTA - FERRARA	48,03
10	LUCKO - ZADROGA	52,98	33	BARONI - RICCIARELLI	47,76
11	SPENGLER - BOESIGER	52,96	34	TROUWBORST - DOREMANS	46,07
12	PY - PIGANEAU	52,95	35	LOND - KOBOLT	46,06
13	LUND - TOBIASEN	52,74	36	ZELIGMAN - MARKOWICZ	46,05
14	JOURDAIN - TEDD	52,31	37	NORDBY - HANSEN	45,94
15	BENNETT - SMITH	52,09	38	SCHWARTZ - SHEINMAN	45,59
16	BAKKE - TROLLVIK	51,98	39	AVON - WAKSMAN	45,50
17	CARZANIGA - GIULIANO	51,97	40	OTVOSI - BILSKI	44,82
18	KIERZNOWSKI - WALA	51,93	41	LAGOURANIS - PANOPOULOS	44,53
19	STRATER - KRATZ	51,89	42	MARI - WALTER	44,51
20	MILNER - GRANOVETTER	51,81	43	EICHHOLZER - OBERMAIR	44,49
21	ADAD - SALLIERE	51,79	44	VERED - AMIR	42,70
22	POCHRON - LEW	51,20	45	HACKETT - HARPER	39,00
23	BONIFACIO - VANNUCCI	50,12			

WOMEN PAIRS - SEMI FINAL A (AFTER 2 SESSIONS)

1	WORTEL - MICHIENSEN	57,74	27	SPANGENBERG - SPANGENBERG	50,46
2	BAKER - McCALLUM	56,34	28	REMN - BREIVIK	50,42
3	GLADIATOR - WEBER	55,90	29	YANEVA - PANCHEVA	50,25
4	PASMAN - SIMONS	55,45	30	MALINOWSKI - VIST	50,07
5	GROMOVA - PONOMAREVA	55,26	31	BABAC - GUMRUKCUOGLU	50,06
6	KHONICHEVA - NIKITINA	54,78	32	VRIEND - ARNOLDS	49,91
7	SZCZEPANSKA - MAJ	54,65	33	COLONNA - CIVIDIN DE SARIO	49,83
8	PAOLUZI - SACCAVINI	54,43	34	NEVE - ROSSARD	49,19
9	CHUBAROVA - VOROBAYCHIKOVA	54,37	35	BROGELAND - HELNESS	48,92
10	CRONIER - WILLARD	54,11	36	LESLIE - SHEASBY	48,87
11	SJOBERG - RIMSTEDT	53,57	37	CANONNE - ROBERT	48,52
12	BROCK - SMITH	53,51	38	VERPE - ERIKSEN	47,76
13	NEHMERT - GIAMPIETRO	53,42	39	GIANNINI - DIAMANTI	47,41
14	ALONSO - BALDASSARE	53,16	40	FENESS - HOMME	46,87
15	PUILLET - CARBONNEAUX	53,15	41	CLIFFORD - LOGUE	46,66
16	ATALAY - ZAIM	52,83	42	LANGER - NIKITINE	45,96
17	KAZMUCHA - JAROSZ	52,57	43	DAN - FARKAS	45,94
18	HODEROVA - JANKOVA	52,51	44	NAB - DEKKERS	45,88
19	BRKLJACIC - MARTINOVIC	52,45	45	TAMBURELLI - DUBOIN	45,34
20	DELESTRE - BOURDIN	52,17	46	BRIKMANE - VEKSA	45,01
21	SMEDEREVAC - HANSEN	52,17	47	CESARI - MASINI	43,27
22	PENFOLD - SENIOR	52,06	48	PECCOUD - SAPORTA-TWORZYDLO	42,80
23	PALANCA RELLA - COSIGNANI FALA	51,46	49	SOKOLOW - JOEL	42,59
24	BALDI - GARRONE	51,02	50	GIANARDI - SCALAMOGNA	39,59
25	ZUR-CAMPANILE-ALBU - VARENNE	51,00	51	FOCARDI - GAMBERUCCI	38,93
26	SAWICKA - HARASIMOWICZ	50,48	52	ROVERA - MAGLIONE	38,50

WOMEN PAIRS - SEMI FINAL B (AFTER 2 SESSIONS)

1	TAGLIAFERI - AGHEMO	59,81	17	LEON - CASTELLS-CONRADO	50,60
2	BESSIS - HUGON	59,31	18	JOYCE - KENNY	49,69
3	O'FARRELL - MEEHAN	56,96	19	VIOLA - DESTEFANIS	48,29
4	ARAMI - SCHWARTZ	56,36	20	HOLCZER - LEVANON	47,61
5	CLEARY - FINN	56,25	20	MOEN - FOSSAN	47,61
6	GERSTEL - WAELCHLI	55,45	22	KOCH - PEDERSEN	47,42
7	ROMANOVSKA - SOBOLEWSKA	54,05	23	KOTRONAROU - POLITOU	47,31
8	GAMIO - SALDZIEVA	53,67	24	SZIMANSKI - KNOLL	47,12
9	HACKETT - DELLA MONTA	53,52	25	CAPPABAVA - DUBOIN	46,81
10	TEKELI - AKIN	53,44	26	BENN - BEN NISSIM	46,06
11	RIGNEY - KULCHYCKY	53,29	27	NORDBJORK - TORSTENSSON	44,46
12	CASSAI - GANDINI	53,06	28	NEGRI - BOCCALETTI	43,52
13	BIANCHERI - BRACCO	52,04	29	LERCARI - TONON	43,06
14	CECCONI - PARELLI	51,66	30	NIKA - MOLFETTA	43,03
15	MEZEI - CSIBY	51,55	31	EDGAR - IMPICCIATORE	42,23
16	PANELLA - FRANCO	51,36	32	AZARAVA - ANKUDINOVA	33,25