

World Bridge Productions
Presents the
C  **avendish**_{wbp}
Invitational

Bulletin Number 4

Saturday, May 7, 2005

Editor: Rich Colker
Contributing Editor: Barry Rigal

Levin-Weinstein Lead Cavendish Pairs After Day One

With two solid sessions (+739 and +480) Bobby Levin and Steve Weinstein hold a 219 cross-imp lead in the 2005 Cavendish Pairs over top selling Norberto Bocchi and Giorgio Duboin, who finished Day One with an even 1000 cross-imps. Indeed, the top seven placers were all among the top nine money getters in Thursday night's auction. In third place are Cezary Balicki and Adam Zmudzinski with 953 cross-imps. Other high-placing notables are Hamman-Zia (fourth), Greco-Hampson (fifth), Buratti-Lanzarotti (sixth) and Elahmady-Sadek (seventh). Top session scores were posted by Piotr Bizon-Michal Kwiecien (1052 in Session One) and Buratti-Lanzarotti (1081 in Session Two).

Sam Lev and Jacek Pszczola, last year's winners, are experiencing tough times in this year's event. They are presently in 29th place with -276 cross-imps. Last year's runners up, the always-dangerous Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes, are not in quite as bad shape. They are presently in 22nd place with 168 cross-imps.

The complete Day One standings may be found on p 3.

Brunch, Bidding and Bridge

Don't forget to join us this morning for the WBP Brunch, beginning at 10:30 am in Pavilion's 10 & 11 (near the playing site). The WBP Auction will follow at 11:00 am and the two pair games will start today, as the Cavendish Pairs did yesterday, at 12:30 pm. If everyone isn't in their seat promptly, Solly threatens to pull his hair and rend his garments, neither of which, as we all know only too well, he can afford. So please be on time.

Special Notice: World Bridge Productions Pairs Pre-Auction

In order to generate interest and facilitate the live WBP Pairs auction, to be held on Saturday morning, May 7, provisions have been made to accept bids prior to the start of the live auction. Here's how it will work:

Arrayed around the Registration Desk will be preliminary owners' cards for all expected participants. (Not all of these pairs may attend, but the vast majority are expected.) If you wish to bid on a pair you may do so by entering the amount of your bid on the pair's card and signing your name opposite the bid amount (minimum bid

= \$1000). These bids will be considered binding, just as if they were made in the live auction. If your bid is not topped in either the pre- or live auctions you will become the owner of the pair and have all of the attendant rights and responsibilities. Remember, each pair must buy back 10% of their purchase price and may buy back up to 40% of themselves if they are so inclined.

Please confirm your bids with the appropriate parties at the Registration Desk.

Conditions of Contest: Expansions and Clarifications

In general, it is our intent to allow methods with which other contestants are expected to be familiar. It is also our intent to allow reasonable artificiality in auctions where the bidding side has guaranteed sufficient (high-card) values to invite game. Along with the current "prize-pool only" team format there will be no minimum play requirement for individuals; however, teams should make certain that all team members are listed on the entry before play commences. If you have any questions about your own or your opponents' methods, the person to see is Barry Rigal.

Schedule

Day/Date	Time	Activity	Location
Saturday, May 7	10:30 AM	WBP Brunch	Pavilion 10 & 11
	11:00 AM	WBP Auction	Pavilion 10 & 11
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, Pairs	Pavilion 1 & 5
	12:30 PM	1 st Session, WBP Pairs	Pavilion 8
	7:30 PM	4 th Session, Pairs	Pavilion 1 & 5
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, WBP Pairs	Pavilion 8
Sunday, May 8	10:30 AM	5 th Session, Pairs	Pavilion 1 & 5
	10:30* AM	3 rd Session, WBP Pairs	Pavilion 8
	2:30 PM	Closing Party	Pavilion 3 & 4 (or outside)

* provisionally

Entrants for the WBP Pairs 2005

(Unofficial, based on information available at press time. Updates will be published as they become available.)

Pair #	Pair #
1 Jerry Weinstein – Sue Weinstein	17 Jim Murphy –
2 Kerry Sanborn – Steve Sanborn	20 Wafik Abdou – Connie Goldberg
3 Marc Jacobus – Lou Ann O'Rourke	21 Fared Assemi – Ed Wojewoda
4 Lynn Baker – Kay Schulle	22 Terri Casen – Larry Cohen
5 Allan Falk – Peter Friedland	23 Mark Bartusek – Marshall Miles
6 Jim Mahafey – Barnett Shenkin	24 Roger Lord – Jacqueline Sincoff
7 Barry Schaffer – Colby Vernay	25 Simon Kantor – Murry Melton
8 Dan Jacob – Bryan Maksymetz	26 Bill Doroshow – Nate Ward
9 Chris Compton – Gaylor Kasle	27 Hemant Lall – Justin Lall
10 Sheila Ekeblad – Michael Seamon	28 Leo Bell – John Jones
11 Kent Mignocchi – Beverly Perry	29 Rob Crawford – Joe Kivel
12 Espen Erichsen – David Stern	30 Marinesa Letizia – Carlyn Steiner
13 Bob Morris – Eddie Wold	31 Fred Hamilton – John Jeffrey
14 Leanord Ernst – Mike Shuman	32 Wojcieh Kurkowski – Greg Novak
15 Danielle Birman –	33 Blair Seidler – Kevin Wilson
16 Mike Cappelletti, Jr. – Doug Levene	

2005 Cavendish Pairs: Standings After Day One

Rank	Score	Pair #	Pair	Auction Price
1	1219	37	Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein	\$43K
2	1000	33	Norberto Bocchi – Giorgio Duboin	\$58K
3	953	42	Cezary Balicki – Adam Zmudzinski	\$42K
4	931	6	Bob Hamman – Zia Mahmood	\$39K
5	919	25	Eric Greco – Geoff Hampson	\$34K
6	902	41	Andrea Buratti – Massimo Lanzarotti	\$45K
7	831	39	Walid Elahmady – Tarek Sadek	\$31K
8	806	9	Piotr Bizon – Michael Kwiecien	\$23K
9	805	19	Perry Johnson – Jeff Meckstroth	\$17K
10	723	13	Peter Fredin – Magnus Lindkvist	\$29K
11	618	24	Gary Cohler – Chris Willenken	\$16K
12	605	10	David Berkowitz – Billy Pollack	\$14K
13	471	12	Barry Goren – Gavin Wolpert	\$12.5K
14	338	23	Russ Ekeblad – Ron Rubin	\$13K
15	306	44	Seymon Deutsch – Paul Soloway	\$13K
16	286	11	Gilad Altschuler – David Birman	\$17K
17	266	21	Billy Cohen – Ron Smith	\$21K
18	254	31	Franck Multon – J C Quantin	\$24K
19	252	22	Pablo Lambardi – Juan Ventin	\$12.5K
20	251	36	Neil Chambers – John Schermer	\$15K
21	199	29	Steve Garner – Howard Weinstein	\$23K
22	168	35	Fulvio Fantoni – Claudio Nunes	\$45K
23	147	2	Bart Bramley – Sidney Lazard	\$15K
24	140	14	Linda Lewis – Paul Lewis	\$12.5K
25	99	17	Fred Gittleman – Brad Moss	\$28K
26	-47	15	Garey Hayden – Mark Lair	\$18K
27	-97	4	Michael Cornell – Michael Rosenberg	\$13K
28	-204	32	Alejandro Bianchedi – Hector Camberos	\$12.5K
29	-276	1	Sam Lev – Jacek Pszczola	\$37.5K
30/31	-497	28	Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey	\$15K
30/31	-497	5	Bjorn Fallenius – Roy Welland	\$29K
32	-563	8	Drew Casen – Jim Krekorian	\$21K
33	-599	20	Alex Dubinin – Andrei Gromov	\$20K
34	-626	16	George Jacobs – Ralph Katz	\$12.5K
35	-715	18	Gene Freed – Chris Larsen	\$12.5K
36	-737	30	Krystoff Lasocki – Eric Wieleman	\$12.5K
37	-869	36	Gunnar Hallberg – Charles Wigoder	\$12.5K
38	-948	40	Pierre Saporta – Pierre Zimmermann	\$12.5K
39	-950	27	Ross Grabel – Jon Wittes	\$20K
40	-1055	34	Amos Kaminski – Shaya Levit	\$12.5K
41	-1174	7	Christal Henner-Welland – Mike Kamil	\$12.5K
42	-1212	26	Dennis Dawson – Eric Rodwell	\$12.5K
43	-1286	43	Curtis Cheek – Joe Grue	\$19K
44	-1287	3	Michael Moss – Antonio Sementa	\$16K

Auction Total: \$963,500

Gamblers Non-Anonymous

Those players intending to gamble at the Rio during their stay are implored to register at the Total Awards desk, located in the casino area. It will be in your own best interest and that of the WBP if you do so.



Overall and Session Awards Cavendish Pairs



Place	1 st	2 nd	Session			(From	Overalls	
			3 rd	4 th	5 th	Players' Pool	Auction	Players
1 st	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$12,000	(\$5,000)	\$230,152	\$23,240
2 nd			\$2,500	\$2,500	\$ 8,000	(\$3,000)	\$147,954	\$14,940
3 rd			\$1,000	\$1,000	\$ 5,000	(\$2,500)	\$ 98,636	\$ 9,960
4 th					\$ 3,000		\$ 73,976	\$ 7,470
5 th							\$ 65,758	\$ 6,640
6 th							\$ 57,540	\$ 5,810
7 th							\$ 49,318	\$ 4,980
8 th							\$ 44,098	\$ 4,150
9 th							\$ 32,878	\$ 3,320
10 th							\$ 24,660	\$ 2,500

I Had a Dream

by Sam Leckie

A funny thing happened to me on the first day of the John Roberts Teams. In the first round I watched my favorite pair, Zia-Hamman, and their team got blitzed. I then transferred my allegiance to a fellow Scot, Michael Rosenberg, and his team lost heavily. Where to now?

Leading the field by a big margin was Jim Mahaffey's team, which included my old pal Barnet (haircut) Shenkin. So I moved to support them and they too were badly beaten. So I did the obvious in the evening—I didn't come. Instead, I had an early night and that's when it happened, I had a dream.

In my dream, the Cavendish became Saturday's Kentucky Derby with all 44 pairs running in it. As I watched the



race unfold I was amazed when my selections finished in the first five places. This was the result:

- (1) Bocchi–Duboin
- (2) Levin–Weinstein
- (3) Elahmady–Sadek
- (4) Balicki–Zmudzinski
- (5) Dubinin–Gromov

A few minutes after the race Barry Rigal and a number of his friends lifted me on their shoulders and carried me all the way to the Hoover Dam—and threw me in! A few minutes after I awoke I realized how impossible the dream was. I know Barry is a popular fellow, but where was he going to find enough friends to carry me that distance after I've spent a full week at the refreshment table!

The 2005 Cavendish Pairs: Day One

Session One:

Operation successful...well, one out of two ain't bad. Part of the secret of winning at the Cavendish is to bid to bad contracts and bring them home. Joe Grue and Curtis Cheek managed the first part, by bidding to 3NT on two of the first three deals. And they did give both contracts the best play...

Bd: 2	♠ J953		
Dlr: East	♥ K74		
Vul: N/S	♦ A3		
	♣ AK54		
♠ K1064		♠ A2	
♥ A63		♥ J105	
♦ 942		♦ QJ108765	
♣ Q102		♣ 8	
	♠ Q87		
	♥ Q982		
	♦ K		
	♣ J9763		
West	North	East	South
<i>Lazard</i>	<i>Grue</i>	<i>Bramley</i>	<i>Cheek</i>
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	3♦	Dbl
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

On the ♦Q lead Grue correctly inferred that Bramley figured to have majors plus diamonds, hence short clubs. So he won the ♦K and led the ♣J. Lazard covered and when the ♣8 appeared Grue needed to cross to the ♥Q, finesse in clubs, and eventually drop the ♥A. Unlucky. The ♥A refused to cooperate and when Lazard cleared the diamonds and the ♥J10 was not doubleton, Grue was down four.

Bd: 3	♠ 54		
Dlr: South	♥ KQ6		
Vul: E/W	♦ Q874		
	♣ QJ104		
♠ A1086		♠ KJ732	
♥ A9875		♥ 103	
♦ J		♦ K532	
♣ 973		♣ 82	
	♠ Q9		
	♥ J42		
	♦ A1096		
	♣ AK65		
West	North	East	South
<i>Lazard</i>	<i>Grue</i>	<i>Bramley</i>	<i>Cheek</i>
			1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

This 3NT was equally poor. If you don't count the first six tricks the defense might have on a spade lead, just consider that on a heart lead declarer needs to win the ♥Q and find a bare ♦K on his right or a bare ♦J on his left—and guess which it is! On the ♥7 lead Cheek was in dummy, as Bramley dropped the ♥10, and made no mistake, leading the ♦Q to pin the jack and emerging with ten tricks.

Bd: 7	♠ A1095		
Dlr: South	♥ ---		
Vul: Both	♦ KJ63		
	♣ Q10975		
♠ K872		♠ 64	
♥ AQ62		♥ KJ97543	
♦ 10954		♦ 2	
♣ K		♣ 432	
	♠ QJ3		
	♥ 108		
	♦ AQ87		
	♣ AJ86		

This is a very tricky hand to bid. Unopposed Bramley-Lazard bid: 1♦-1♠; 2♠-3♦; 3♠-4♠. Obviously, 5♣ (or even 6♣) is a better spot. Cornell gave Lazard his first respite when he led a diamond to dummy's ace. Lazard ran the ♠Q, ducked, and the ♠J was covered by the king and ace. When Lazard took the losing club finesse Rosenberg underled his ♥A and Lazard thoughtfully pitched a diamond. Cornell won and returned a low heart, which Rosenberg was forced to win as Lazard pitched another diamond. Now Rosenberg was on lead (so no club ruff was possible). He did his best by playing a third heart but Lazard correctly discarded another diamond from hand as he ruffed in dummy, then came to hand with a diamond to draw trumps and make ten tricks.

Had Cornell led the ♥K at his second turn, Lazard would have had to ruff (fearing the club ruff), then lead winning clubs. Rosenberg can't ruff in to give a ruff-and-discard as declarer can ruff in dummy and play a diamond to hand to draw the last trump. So he discards diamonds at every turn.

	♠ 10		
	♥ ---		
	♦ KJ		
	♣ Q		
♠ 87			
♥ 62		immaterial	
♦ ---			
♣ ---			
	♠ 3		
	♥ ---		
	♦ Q87		
	♣ ---		

In the four-card ending above (after two rounds of spades, two rounds of hearts, one round of diamonds and four rounds of clubs) declarer leads a diamond. Rosenberg ruffs and leads a heart for a ruff-and-discard, letting Lazard pitch his last diamond, ruff in dummy, and then lead a diamond to neutralize the last trump.

In the same contract of 4♠, on an auction in which clubs had been bid, Hamman won the diamond lead and advanced the ♣Q, rising with the ace in tribute to Zia (if they don't cover, they don't have it), his partner, for a painless +650.

Since Gunnar Hallberg played the 2-0 heart fit (having splintered with 3♥ and then rebid 4♥), Fantoni-Nunes played 3NT, and countless E/W pairs were allowed to play 4♥ doubled, this is obviously a more challenging hand to bid than you might have realized.

Bd: 12	♠ AQ		
Dlr: West	♥ K2		
Vul: N/S	♦ Q9652		
	♣ 10654		
♠ 743		♠ 2	
♥ A1074		♥ J98653	
♦ 73		♦ KJ4	
♣ AK82		♣ J93	
	♠ KJ109865		
	♥ Q		
	♦ A108		
	♣ Q7		

Defeating 4♠ here turned out to be far more difficult than one would realize. Only Billy Pollack (as far as we know) found the absolutely killing defense of a top club lead and a diamond shift (necessary if declarer is 8=1=2=2, which was possible on an auction where Billy's partner had preempted in hearts and declarer had shown long spades).

At one of the tables we were watching, West lead a top club against Zia and shifted to a spade—obviously a heart or a second top club would have been fatal. Declarer led a heart to the queen and ace, East not giving count, so the defenders failed to cash their second club winner, and it went away on the ♥K. Zia still needed to guess diamonds, but since at his table West had opened 1♣ and East had not preempted in hearts (he had simply bid 1♥ over 1♦) East was marked with some values. So Zia led the ♦Q and held his diamond losers to one.



Bd: 14	♠ AJ		
Dlr: East	♥ A8		
Vul: None	♦ KQ107		
	♣ Q9653		
♠ Q8743		♠ 65	
♥ K1042		♥ J765	
♦ 3		♦ AJ865	
♣ AJ10		♣ 87	
	♠ K1092		
	♥ Q93		
	♦ 942		
	♣ K42		

Seymon Deutsch played 3NT here on a diamond lead to dummy's nine. Next came: club to the jack and queen, club to the ten, ♣A, spade to the jack, club (two diamonds and a spade pitched), ♠A, club (a heart and two spades pitched). With the lead in dummy at trick nine (and declarer having taken six tricks) this was the position:

	♠ ---		
	♥ A8		
	♦ KQ10		
	♣ ---		
♠ Q		♠ ---	
♥ K1042		♥ J7	
♦ ---		♦ AJ6	
♣ ---		♣ ---	
	♠ K		
	♥ Q93		
	♦ 4		
	♣ ---		

On the ♦K Fallenius won and played the ♥J but Deutsch covered and his ♥8 was enough to build a ninth trick. If Fallenius ducks the ♦K declarer has only eight tricks.

By contrast, Sidney Lazard (along with Linda Lewis) found the heart switch when in with the ♣10. He continued with the ♥10 on winning the third club and now declarer had only eight tricks.

When Norberto Bocchi declared 3NT on a diamond lead he won cheaply in hand and continued with the ♦K. East took the ace as West pitched a discouraging spade. It was not so easy to find the heart switch now, was it? In fact the defense played a club and declarer had no problem making his game. Had East returned a heart to the ten and ace at trick three declarer would give up a club to West, but the defense can now get their five tricks one way or another.

But declarer's options have not yet been fully exhausted. In fact, the only legitimate winning line after a diamond lead is to win the ♦9 in dummy, finesse the ♠J, cash the ♠A, and lead a club to dummy's king. The defense must win the ace

and since a club exit is futile (as indeed is everything else, although that is not so obvious)—he just gets thrown back in with the third club—West tries the ♠10 which rides around to dummy's queen. Declarer simply cashes the ♠K pitching a diamond, setting up two spade tricks for the defense in the process, then ducks a club to West. He can cash his two spade winners as North pitches his diamonds, but North's hand is now high: He takes three clubs, three spades, two hearts and one diamond.

Bd: 17	♠ A982		
Dlr: North	♥ K10753		
Vul: None	♦ 9		
	♣ 742		
♠ K7		♠ Q1053	
♥ Q82		♥ A96	
♦ J10653		♦ AQ87	
♣ AJ8		♣ Q6	
	♠ J64		
	♥ J4		
	♦ K42		
	♣ K10953		

As West, Mike Kamil declared 3NT against a heart lead to the queen. He took the diamond finesse and Roy Welland won and cleared hearts, leaving Fallenius with the ♠A and the hearts to run. Is there a case for leading the ♠K at trick two—or a spade to the queen? If the diamond finesse succeeds you always have nine tricks, so maybe this line has something going for it.

Willenken, North, also defended 3NT and also led a heart to the queen. Declarer advanced the ♦J and guessed to go up with the ace when Willenken followed with the nine. Now on a spade to the king Willenken ducked smoothly and declarer cleared the diamonds. Cohler won the ♦K and drove out the ♥A, allowing declarer to run the diamonds. Cohler discarded the ♣10 (odd-even) on his first pitch (showing a preference for spades over clubs) so declarer decided to play Willenken for the ♠K. He ran the diamonds, reducing to this position:

	♠ A		
	♥ K107		
	♦ ---		
	♣ 74		
♠ 7		♠ Q105	
♥ 8		♥ 9	
♦ 3		♦ ---	
♣ AJ8		♣ Q6	
	♠ J64		
	♥ ---		
	♦ ---		
	♣ K95		

West cashed his last diamond, fondly imagining he was strip

squeezing North into letting go a losing spade or baring his ♠K. When Willenken pitched a club declarer cashed the ♣A and led another club, expecting to take a spade winner in the ending. No luck!

Bd: 23	♠ 985		
Dlr: South	♥ A953		
Vul: Both	♦ KQ32		
	♣ 52		
♠ J432		♠ A7	
♥ 64		♥ K1082	
♦ A9865		♦ 104	
♣ J10		♣ K9863	
	♠ KQ106		
	♥ QJ7		
	♦ J7		
	♣ AQ74		

Playing 3NT on the auction: 1NT-2♣; 2♠-3NT, Bart Bramley won the diamond lead with the jack, led a diamond back to queen, and finessed the ♠9 losing to the jack. On the heart return he played low and unblocked the jack from hand as East won the king. He won the heart return with the queen, gave up a spade to the ace, finessed in clubs, then cashed his two remaining spades. This was the ending before the final spade was cashed:

	♠ ---		
	♥ A9		
	♦ Q3		
	♣ ---		
♠ 4		♠ ---	
♥ ---		♥ 108	
♦ A98		♦ ---	
♣ ---		♣ K9	
	♠ 10		
	♥ 7		
	♦ ---		
	♣ 74		

The ♠10 executed a strip squeeze on East, who had to concede the ninth trick.

Note the importance of the heart unblock at trick four. If South does not make the play, East can exit with a heart when he wins the ♠A, cutting declarer off from dummy, and declarer would have to lose two clubs in the end.

Session Two:

The second board of the evening session caught some of the field still digesting their dinners and not focusing well on essentials.

Bd: 2	♠ ---		
Dlr: East	♥ 1094		
Vul: N/S	♦ Q632		
	♣ A65432		
♠ KQ9765		♠ 1043	
♥ Q75		♥ AJ6	
♦ KJ		♦ A9874	
♣ K8		♣ QJ	
	♠ AJ82		
	♥ K832		
	♦ 105		
	♣ 1097		

At one table Roy Welland, declaring 4♠ from the West seat, received a diamond lead to his jack and played a low club at once (maybe the king was a better play). Mark Lair won and in response to his partner's ♣10 led the ♥10. Garey Hayden took his ♥K and exited with a club. In hand, Welland overtook the ♦K with the ace, led a spade to the king, overtook the ♥Q with the ace, and played a trump and was in no danger. Even had Lair played a diamond instead of a heart, declarer could have survived running this to his hand if he follows up with the ♣K, then the ♠K. South ducks and declarer leads the ♥Q from hand next. If South wins this declarer has two heart entries to dummy to play trumps; if South ducks declarer leads a low trump from hand to the ten and jack, eventually using the ♥A as the entry to dummy to cash the ♦A and pitch his heart loser.

Cezary Balicki led the ♥9 against 4♠ and you can hardly blame declarer for flying up with the ace (well, maybe you can...). He was now dead in the water. He led a spade to the king, the ♣K, ducked, and then played his second club, won by Balicki who then led the ♥10, ducked to the queen. Now there was only one dummy entry to make the two trump plays necessary to bring home 4♠.

Bd: 6	♠ A		
Dlr: East	♥ K53		
Vul: E/W	♦ A96		
	♣ AK10965		
♠ J76		♠ KQ103	
♥ QJ1064		♥ 9872	
♦ J102		♦ 84	
♣ J2		♣ Q43	
	♠ 98542		
	♥ A		
	♦ KQ753		
	♣ 87		

Franck Multon, East, and Jean-Christophe Quantin, West, showed that they could play them as well as they bid them. Their unopposed auction was: P-1♣; 1♠-2♦; 4♦-4NT; 5♠-7♦. Easy to bid, but maybe not so easy to play on a top spade lead? Not so, as Franck demonstrated. He won the

♠A, unblocked the ♥A, cashed the ♦KQ, came to the ♣A, pitched the second club on the ♥K, then ruffed a club, drew the last trump and claimed. (Of course since half of the field stopped in game you may well ask whether their journey was really necessary...)

Bd: 10	♠ AQ9632		
Dlr: East	♥ 3		
Vul: Both	♦ Q		
	♣ Q8743		
♠ ---		♠ KJ107	
♥ J9765		♥ AK8	
♦ KJ108643		♦ 2	
♣ A		♣ KJ1052	
	♠ 854		
	♥ Q1042		
	♦ A975		
	♣ 96		

4♥ here was a fascinating contract. Chris Willenken was fortunate enough to receive the ♠A lead after his LHO had made a weak jump in spades. So he was not hard pressed to lead a trump to the king and a diamond to the king. When that held he had four plain-suit winners and only needed six trump tricks, which was not a problem.

Ralph Katz and Ron Smith, among others, led their singleton heart. Declarer won in dummy, led a diamond to the queen, got a club shift, and now had no practical chance to succeed.

Jon Wittes played 4♥ on the ♠A lead. He ruffed, crossed to the ♥K, and led a diamond to the jack and queen. Back came a club so he won the ace and passed the ♦J to South's ace. Back came a heart so he won the eight, cashed the ♣K and achieved the following ending:

	♠ Q9		
	♥ ---		
	♦ ---		
	♣ Q87		
♠ ---		♠ J10	
♥ J9		♥ K	
♦ 1086		♦ ---	
♣ ---		♣ J10	
	♠ 8		
	♥ Q10		
	♦ 97		
	♣ ---		

Now he had to guess whether North—who had not preempted but had bid spades twice—was 7=1=1=4 or his actual 6=1=1=5. He guessed wrong when he led a club, letting South ruff with the ♥Q and return a trump, leaving him with a diamond loser. If he had guessed to ruff a spade he could then have cashed the ♦10, ruffed a diamond with the

♥K, and eloped with the ♥J at trick twelve.

Bd: 11	♠ Q108754		
Dlr: South	♥ J54		
Vul: None	♦ A102		
	♣ 8		
♠ AK		♠ 932	
♥ K86		♥ A10	
♦ J97653		♦ K84	
♣ K10		♣ Q9432	
	♠ J6		
	♥ Q9732		
	♦ Q		
	♣ AJ765		

the ace and cleared spades. In this position:

	♠ Q1087		
	♥ J54		
	♦ A10		
	♣ ---		
♠ ---		♠ 9	
♥ K86		♥ A10	
♦ J9765		♦ 84	
♣ K		♣ Q943	
	♠ ---		
	♥ Q9732		
	♦ ---		
	♣ J765		

The field was struggling in 3NT, down on either a spade or a heart lead. Howard Weinstein got to play 2NT doubled on the auction:

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1NT	2♠	2NT(1)	Dbf
All Pass			
(1) Lebensohl			

the ♣K squeezed North: A diamond would obviously be fatal and a heart discard (found at the table) let Howard cash the ♥AK and exit with a third heart for two more tricks in clubs.

If North instead pitches a spade on the ♣K declarer goes to dummy with the ♥A to cash the ♣Q and squeeze another spade out of North (if he pitches a heart the same endplay works on South, and a diamond pitch allows declarer to establish diamonds). Once North has pitched two spade winners declarer then leads the ♥K and a second heart. If North wins he has to concede a diamond at the death; if South wins he must concede trick 13 to the ♣9.

On a spade lead to the queen and king he led a diamond to the king and believed the ♦Q to be a true card. So now he led a low club intending to put in the ten. South went up with

Viva, Las Vegas!

(with an Italian flavor)

