



Co-ordinator: Jean-Paul Meyer – **Editor:** Brent Manley – **Assistant Editors:** Mark Horton, Brian Senior & Franco Broccoli – **Layout Editor:** Akis Kanaris – **Photographer:** Ron Tacchi

Issue No. 7

Friday, 16 June 2006

Testa a Testa a Verona



The hard-working members of the Duplication team.

It's time for the competitors in the Rosenblum Cup to go "testa a testa" – that's Italian for head to head – as knockout play begins today with the round of 64.

In the McConnell Cup, the women have the day off and will begin their round of 16 on Saturday.

There were no major surprises at the end of the qualifying rounds in either event as a large contingent of strong teams will fight it out for the right to ascend the podium as gold-medal winners next week.

There are several star-studded American squads still in the Rosenblum, including the three-time Bermuda Bowl champion Nick Nickell squad.

Four members of the current Bermuda Bowl champions – Italians Fulvio Fantoni, Claudio Nunes, Lorenzo Lauria and Alfredo Versace – are also in the round of 64 as members of the Angelini team.

The other two members of the Bermuda Bowl squad, Norberto Bocchi and Giorgio Duboin - are part of the tough Lavazza team, including Argentine prodigy Agustin Madala.

TODAY'S PROGRAMME

Time	Rosenblum Cup	
	Round of 64	
10.30	Boards 1-14	Seniors Teams 4x10-Board Matches Swiss Plate 6x8-Board Matches
13.40	Boards 15-28	
16.05	Boards 29-42	
18.25	Boards 43-56	

Contents

Results by Ranking	2-3
Cose di Casa Nostra	4
Be Stingy on Lead	5
Bridge at the Movies, the Masterpoint Edition	5
WBF Congress	6
Rosenblum Cup – Round 7	7
There are no Uninteresting Hands	9
More by Luck than Judgement	10
A new Bridge Game	11
The Law of Total Injustice	11
Making a move	12
The Good, the Bad and the Ugly	14
Mixed Pairs Plate – corrected final standings	16

ROSENBLUM CUP

Round-Robin Final Standings (After 11 Rounds)

GROUP A		GROUP B		GROUP C		GROUP D	
1 Bessis	208.00	1 Nickell	216.00	1 Russia	213.00	1 Mullamphy	204.00
2 Lynch	199.00	2 Iceland	214.00	2 Akgul	202.00	2 Herbst	204.00
3 Clair	194.00	3 Vasilev	196.00	3 Milner	196.00	3 Izisel	196.00
4 Cope	192.00	4 Agressor	183.00	4 Hadi	171.00	4 Morath	196.00
5 Hauge	186.00	5 Oz-One Kanektar	182.00	5 Gordon	167.00	5 Madsen	190.00
6 Drenkelford	163.00	6 Kendrick	181.00	6 Chateau Rossenovo	167.00	6 Markowicz	189.00
7 Simson	162.00	7 Forrester	173.00	7 Smith	165.00	7 Johnson	165.00
8 Bel2	153.00	8 Aubonnet	142.00	8 Adad	161.00	8 Haagensen	147.00
9 Nader	138.00	9 Izmir Buyuksehir Belediyesi	133.00	9 Warendorf	144.00	9 Atay	133.00
10 Panahpour	118.00	10 Fioretti	117.00	10 Passarinho	143.00	10 Lol	110.00
11 Clark	107.00	11 Dohnert	69.00	11 T.C.Parioli - Angelini Junior	104.00	11 Venit	81.00
GROUP E		GROUP F		GROUP G		GROUP H	
1 Ekeblad	218.00	1 Welland R	226.00	1 Meltzer	197.00	1 Jacobs	233.00
2 Assemi	183.70	2 Hecht-Johansen	214.00	2 Team PharmaService	191.00	2 Jokisch	192.00
3 Nadar	180.50	3 Villa Fabbriche	195.00	3 Berg	183.00	3 Szilagy	181.50
4 Tananbaum	175.00	4 Bareket	178.00	4 Borevkovic	182.00	4 Altshuler-Shaham	177.50
5 O'Briain	173.00	5 Otvosi	165.50	5 Hackett	180.00	5 Computerland	177.00
6 Gosney	172.50	6 Kvangraven	159.00	6 Kokten	179.00	6 Onstein	173.00
7 Mossop	171.00	7 Oz-One Nagy	159.00	7 Bigat	178.00	7 Tudor	156.00
8 Auken	165.50	8 Lara	145.50	8 Barbosa	174.00	8 Ingham	154.00
9 Pauncz	140.00	9 Poddar	134.00	9 Kirilenko	150.50	9 Dhampur Sugar Mills	147.00
10 Colectivo 06	135.30	10 COOK & Buddys	123.00	10 Corsica	132.00	10 Blumenthal	132.00
11 Mayantz	102.50	11 Malaspina	108.00	11 Abate	59.50	11 Sarten	103.50
GROUP I		GROUP J		GROUP K		GROUP L	
1 Yadlin	232.00	1 Soulet	160.00	1 Allfrey	182.00	1 Chang	168.00
2 Romania	197.00	2 Popova	160.00	2 Grenthe	165.00	2 Belgium I	166.00
3 de Botton	187.00	3 Lavazza	159.00	3 Angelini	158.00	3 Gillis	156.00
4 Zimmerman	181.00	4 11 diamonds	140.00	4 Teltscher	141.00	4 Strul	148.00
5 Gardiner	176.00	5 Colchamiro	136.00	5 Hamaoui	134.00	5 Noble	134.00
6 Sakura Krakow	163.00	6 Brenn	126.00	6 Freed	130.00	6 Triantafyllis	134.00
7 Piekarek	152.00	7 Ruia	124.00	7 Muzzio	122.50	7 Van Helsing	133.00
8 Shen Zhen Qiao You	151.00	8 Sundelin	123.00	8 Geely Auto	119.00	8 West VIP	125.00
9 San Marino	149.00	9 Hargreaves	119.00	9 Bartley	92.00	9 Read	88.00
10 Lewis	146.00	10 Slovenija	93.00	10 Goenka	88.50	10 Dohet	81.00
11 Mori	96.00						
GROUP M		GROUP N		GROUP O		GROUP P	
1 Tornay	197.00	1 Gwinner	204.00	1 Cornell	207.00	1 Henner	223.00
2 China SMEG	191.00	2 Orange	195.00	2 Chagas	195.00	2 Canada	195.50
3 Allana	185.00	3 Mahaffey	192.00	3 Gartaganis	190.00	3 Robinson	185.00
4 Bridge+	184.00	4 Pont	190.00	4 Schwartz	180.00	4 Texans	177.00
5 Furuta	182.00	5 Alizee	179.00	5 Quinn	174.00	5 Shanghai Heng Yuan Xiang	175.50
6 Mragowia SI	180.00	6 Moers	175.00	6 Bausback	173.00	6 Schneider	171.00
7 Spector	179.00	7 Rayner	172.00	7 Rogoff	172.00	7 Indonesia	152.00
8 Philogene	144.50	8 Arcelor Stainless india	155.00	8 Allix	165.00	8 Cuevas	145.00
9 Smykalla	139.00	9 Smilgajs	143.00	9 Gerin	162.00	9 Tangues	143.00
10 Tolani Shipping Team	128.00	10 Harper	116.00	10 D.M.R.	125.00	10 Kitabgi	135.50
11 Beauchamp	125.00	11 Datloff	108.00	11 Jung	69.00	11 Morimura	125.00

McCONNELL CUP

Round-Robin Final Standings (After 9 Rounds)

GROUP Q		GROUP R		GROUP S		GROUP T	
1 Westheimer	162.00	1 Poland	160.00	1 Narasimhan	178.00	1 Radin	165.00
2 McGowan	153.00	2 DanGer	155.00	2 Steiner	159.00	2 Sver	162.00
3 Levy	151.00	3 China Global Times	151.50	3 Bessis	146.00	3 Gruppo Midi	156.00
4 Venezuela	149.00	4 Baker	147.50	4 Katt-Bridge	144.00	4 Netherlands	147.00
5 Jacobs	136.00	5 Pollack	139.00	5 Viaggi e Sapori	134.40	5 Philippines	138.00
6 Canada	134.00	6 Rossard	132.00	6 Martel	128.60	6 Morse	131.00
7 Penfold	130.00	7 Swartz	127.00	7 Gmur	118.00	7 Hammerli	125.00
8 Bistoquet	126.00	8 La Cucina Italiana	122.00	8 Deora	117.00	8 Wood	118.00
9 Axelrod	102.00	9 San Marino Ladies	111.00	9 Cocogirls	108.00	9 Renoux	114.00
10 Gwinner	100.00	10 Makiko	97.00			10 Goodman	80.00

Senior Teams

The Senior Teams is a four-day event. The first two and a half days are used to qualify eight teams for the knockout phase, played in 24-board encounters – the quarterfinal round on day three and the semifinal and final rounds on day four.

The teams not qualified will get a free afternoon on day three and play a Swiss event in a board-a-match style the four day (six rounds of seven boards).

The qualification is played as a Swiss with four, four and two rounds of 10 boards each.

NOTE: To be eligible for this event, you must be 57 years old by Dec. 31 of this year.

Rosenblum Cup Round of 64

1 Nickell	Texans
2 Angelini	Schwartz
3 Lavazza	Pont
4 Jacobs	Bridge+
5 Welland R	Strul
6 China SMEG	Teltscher
7 Chagas	11 Diamonds
8 Meltzer	Altshuler-Shaham
9 Ekeblad	Borevkovic
10 Henner	Bareket
11 Milner	Tananbaum
12 Zimmerman	Morath
13 Gillis	Gordon
14 Lynch	Agressor
15 Orange	Cope
16 Russia	Robinson
17 Bessis	Gartaganis
18 Mullamphy	Mahaffey
19 Yadlin	Allana
20 Soulet	de Botton
21 Allfrey	Szilagy
22 Chang	Berg
23 Tornay	Villa Fabbriche
24 Gwinner	Nadar
25 Cornell	Izisel
26 Iceland	Vasilev
27 Akgul	Clair
28 Herbst	Canada
29 Assemi	Belgium I
30 Hecht-Johansen	Grenthe
31 Team PharmaService	Popova
32 Jokisch	Romania

World Championship Book 2006

The official book of these championships in Verona will be available before the end of the year at a price of US\$34. However, for those present in Verona, the book can be pre-ordered at the very special reduced price of US\$25 or 20 Euros, including surface mail to anywhere in the world (Airmail is extra).

To order and pay for your copy, please see Jan Swaan in the Press Room – go through the door marked Staff and Guests only, one floor down from the main playing area, and the Press Room is through the Bulletin Room. Please, when you fill in the form, write your name and address very clearly in capital letters, as every year I have to guess at several addresses.

The book will be 336 large pages, its usual size, and will include a full results listing and many photographs. There will be coverage of every championship, with the principal analysts being Eric Kokish and Brian Senior. Barry Rigal is taking a year off, but there will be one or two special guest contributors to look forward to.

McConnell Cup Round of 16

33 Baker	Katt-Bridge
34 Netherlands	Venezuela
35 Westheimer	Gruppo Midi
36 Narasimhan	Bessis
37 Poland	China Global Times
38 Radin	Levy
39 McGowan	Sver
40 DanGer	Steiner

COSE DI CASA NOSTRA

Nel quinto match del round robin la formazione tutta italiana di Villa Fabbriche (Attanasio/Failla in sala aperta, Pulga/Rinaldi in chiusa e Lo Presti/Mazzadi in panchina) ha incontrato la squadra molto transnazionale di Cook & Buddys (Usa, India, Cina, Italia), allestita al volo dopo il misto, perciò con qualche coppia nuova di zecca. Una di queste, Julie Zhu e Alfredo Bellio, si è schierata in aperta in N/S contro i siciliani.

Dopo qualche mano di riscaldamento, è capitata una di quelle situazioni paradossali che creano un'atmosfera di buonumore.

Prova a indovinare, se ci riesci....

Board 4. Dich. Ovest. Tutti in zona.

♠ 9 7 4 2
♥ 10 7
♦ A K Q
♣ A 7 6 4

♠ A 5 3
♥ A 5 2
♦ J 5 4
♣ 10 9 5 2

N
O E
S

♠ K 6
♥ K Q 9 8 6 4 3
♦ 10 2
♣ K J

♠ Q J 10 8
♥ J
♦ 9 8 7 6 3
♣ Q 8 3

Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud
Failla	Bellio	Attanasio	Zhu
Passo	Passo	1♥	Passo
2♣	Passo	4♥	Fine

Prima le spiegazioni di chi ha vinto la licita, poi il resto. Il 2♣ di Failla è Drury, mostra il fit e chiede se l'apertura del compagno, terzo di mano, è seria. Attanasio, come vedete, non ha faticato tanto per confermare. Ora torniamo indietro. Avete notato le carte di Nord? Avete notato che ha l'apertura ed è passato? Il fatto è che Alfredo Bellio, nel momento di licitare, si è accorto di aver lasciato il suo giubbotto nell'altra sala e, preso dal pensiero di recuperarlo, ha messo un passo automatico. Non essendo previsto il rewind, nel prosieguo ha deciso di restare in finestra, anche se con qualche minimo dubbio, qualche accenno di esitazione. Contro la manche avversaria Julie Zhu, in Sud, ha attaccato con la Dama di Picche e Dario Attanasio ha preso con il Re della mano. Occhio, bisogna indovinare le fiori. Ora, se Nord avesse aperto, una seria ipotesi sull'Asso di fiori nelle sue mani si poteva anche mettere. Ma Nord non si è manifestato. Il problema, perciò, c'è. Dario ha proseguito con il Re di cuori, 9 di cuori per l'Asso e fiori per il Re. Perché? "Perché anche se sbaglio non è finita - ha detto -. Possono continuare a picche, provare ad incassare la picche dopo l'altra presa a fiori oppure filare la fiori. E poi c'era qualcosa...". Sì, questa atmosfera "giubbotto" si è un po' percepita.

Nell'altra sala E/O si sono fermati a 3♥ realizzando le surlevee.

Promozione

Board 10. Dich. Est. Tutti in zona.

♠ K 3
♥ Q J 10 2
♦ K Q 4
♣ Q 9 7 6

♠ Q 8 5 4
♥ A K 7 6 3
♦ 6 5
♣ A 3

N
O E
S

♠ A 9
♥ 9 8
♦ 10 9 7 3 2
♣ J 8 4 2

♠ J 10 7 6 2
♥ 5 4
♦ A J 8
♣ K 10 5

Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud
Failla	Bellio	Attanasio	Zhu
1♥	Passo	Passo	Passo
Passo	Contro	ISA	Passo
Fine		Passo	2♠

Considerando che di Senza Atout se ne fanno 2 in N/S, il contro di protezione di Bellio, nella fattispecie, era senza dubbio azzeccato. Inoltre, in linea di principio, negherebbe le picche. Ma bisogna considerare che la coppia in N/S è fresca di giornata, appena costituita per l'occasione e Sud non se l'è sentita di trasformare, preferendo virare al parziale a picche. Giuseppe Failla ha attaccato Asso di cuori e ha proseguito con due giri di fiori. In presa con il 10 della mano la dichiarante ha giocato picche per il Re. A seguire: Asso di picche, Fante di fiori (preferenziale) per il taglio, Re di cuori e cuori tagliata di 9 e surtagliata di 10. Questo gioco di squadra ha portato altre due atout nel cestino di Ovest.

2♠ - 2, pari a 200 per E/O.

Lungimirante contro d'attacco

Board 12. Dich. Ovest. N/S in zona.

♠ 8 7 3 2
♥ 8
♦ Q J 5
♣ 10 8 4 3 2

♠ Q
♥ Q 9 7 6 3
♦ A 7 3 2
♣ K 7 5

N
O E
S

♠ A K 10 6
♥ A J 10
♦ 10 9
♣ A Q J 6

♠ J 9 5 4
♥ K 5 4 2
♦ K 8 6 4
♣ 9

Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud
Failla	Bellio	Attanasio	Zhu
1♥	Passo	2♣	Passo
2♦	Passo	3♥	Passo
4♥	Passo	4♠	Passo
5♣	Passo	5♦	Contro
Surcontro	Passo	5♥	Fine

Spiegazioni partendo da Ovest, nell'ordine: naturale, chiede, naturale, vorrei giocare piu' della manche, io no, insisto e ho la cuebid a picche, se proprio insisti ho quella a fiori ed Assi dispari, sono licitativamente compresso perche' voglio andare avanti e non posso dire 5♥ che mostrerebbe la mancanza di 2 carte chiave...E qui c'e' il capolavoro di Zhu che, pur non avendo una forte tenuta a quadri (diciamo il Re quarto scartinato sotto schiaffo), indica con il contro a 5♦ l'unico attacco che batte lo slam. A beh, in tal caso frenata, principio di retromarcia e parcheggio nel contratto sicuro.

Per informazione, mano pari.



Alfredo Bellio, Italy

Be Stingy on Lead

by Pamela Granovetter

I learned to be stingy on opening lead during my days of rubber bridge at the Mayfair and Cavendish Club in New York City. This deal from the Mixed Pairs in Verona was a perfect example.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1♠	2♦	Pass	1♥
All Pass		Pass	3NT

Most West players led a low spade, hoping to retain a spade in partner's hand. This would have worked if spades were 5-3-3-2 around the table. Not this time, however. Declarer won and played the ♦K, claiming 10 tricks.

My partner, Bob Hamman, led the ♣9 on the go. It was a great lead. Declarer finessed, losing to my king. I returned a spade to Bob's king, and he led a second round of clubs, killing the ace in dummy.

Now declarer tried a diamond to the king, but it held and he went two off. In retrospect, I might have returned the ♣J at trick two, just in case my partner did not hold the ace of spades.

Notice that a top spade lead works just as well. West can now shift to clubs and declarer is finished.

Bridge Today Digest Daily is edited by Pamela and Matthew Granovetter. Subscriptions or comments by return email to info@bridgetoday.com

Bridge at the Movies the Masterpoint Edition

Following the Championships from Toronto, Ray Lee of Masterpoint Press fame has sent in some movie quotes – here are the ones we have space for (Ray did not nominate anyone for his selections, but we are sure you will have no problem putting a name to each quote:

'Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn.'

Rhett Butler (Clark Gable) - in the ultimate Mixed Pairs, 'Gone with the Wind'

'May the force be with you.'

Obi-wan Kenobi (Sir Alec Guinness) 'Star Wars'

'Show me the money!'

Rod Tidwell (Cuba Gooding Jr.) 'Jerry Maguire'

'Well, nobody's perfect.'

Osgood Fielding III (Joe E. Brown) 'Some Like it Hot'

'Well, here's another nice mess you've gotten me into.'

Oliver (Oliver Hardy) 'Sons of the Desert'

And his personal favourite:

"You've got to ask yourself one question - 'Do I feel lucky?' - well, do ya, punk?"

Harry Callaghan (Clint Eastwood) 'Dirty Harry'

This quote was the source of David Silver's famous convention, Eastwood, in which a 4NT bid in a slam auction asks partner, 'Do you feel lucky?' (featured in A Study in Silver).

Plus one that just came to mind.

'I'll be back.'

Cyberdyne system model 101, a T800 (Arnold Schwarzenegger) The Terminator

Lorezo Lauria, Monaco 2003 (and he was, in Estoril 2005!)



WBF Congress



This important meeting took place yesterday morning and contained a great deal of interest and importance for those delegates who were able to attend.

Those who did not should make sure they bring to the attention of their Federations the key points to emerge from the meeting.

After a welcome from the President of the Congress, Marc Hodler, WBF President, José Damiani presented a detailed report which highlighted the following:

The revision to the Laws is ongoing, and should be completed in 2007.

Unfortunately, many countries (and not always the smaller ones) are still staging high-level contests without screens, bidding boxes and duplicated deals. In addition they are not using the specially designed symmetrical cards that are ethically important and also provide more visual comfort, given their distinctive colours of black Spades, red Hearts, orange Diamonds and grey Clubs.

Imagine playing football tennis and golf with balls of different sizes!

Licenses will be given to card manufacturers throughout the world, and the WBF is counting on Federations to use these cards that can be bought at the end of the championships (which some federations have already done). Imagine the new resources NBOs and the WBF might get from selling these cards to some 60 million bridge players.

New members were announced: Cuba, Macedonia, Mongolia & Nigeria.

Under the banner 'Bridge, together with music, is the only Universal language.' there was a detailed presentation of how bridge can be promoted and developed. (The materials are available from the WBF.)

A key element is to harness the power of the Internet.

A proposal has been put to the Executive Council (but no decision has yet been reached) to reduce the number of Zones from the current 8 to 5 to conform to the 5 rings of the IOC. This would result in the combining of Zones 2, 3 and 5 and Zones 4 and 6.

WBF dues have not been increased since Maastricht in 2000 but a graduated increase from \$0.50 to \$1.00 for 2008 onwards has been agreed and was ratified by the Congress.

The IMSA (International Mind Sports Association) was created in April 2005 in Berlin and representatives from Chess, Go and Draughts elected the WBF President as President of this institution.

The General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF) is keen to support our project and its President, Hein Verbruggen, who is also President of the Liaison Committee with the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games (BOCOG) has informed the Executive Commission of the IOC and its president of this.

In October 2008 the intention is to organize the first Intellympiad in Beijing where it is hoped to be able to invite the Junior teams (and possibly the Open & Women's teams) and provide them with free board and lodging while the Seniors and Mixed will face the usual charges.

At that time, it is hoped 120 countries will compete rather than 80 as is the case today.

The WBF has decided to give financial aid to a certain number of federations to send their teams to the University Championships in Tianjin later this year, as well as a certain number to the Junior and Schools Championships in Bangkok.

The failure of several very large countries, not to say the largest, to send teams to the university or junior championships, resembles the death knell for bridge and cannot be allowed to go unchallenged.

There was a presentation for Tianjin and if any Federation is still in a position to form a team and to cover half the costs the WBF will provide the other half.

This will demonstrate to FISU – with whom the WBF enjoys an excellent relationship – that bridge indeed is a sport that merits their support.

Encouraging the young to play bridge is so important that the WBF will help the small federations to participate in Bangkok, and possibly in Nashville 2007 and will pay the full costs in Beijing 2008.

After the Treasurer's well received report there were presentations of forthcoming Championships:

- 2006 FISU University championships, Tianjin
- 2007 Bermuda Bowl & Venice Cup, Shanghai
- 2008 Olympiad (and Intellympiad), Beijing

It was clear from these presentations that all these events will enjoy outstanding facilities, and television coverage of the 2007 World Championships is already assured.

Finally there were presentations of the new game, aBRIDGEd (using the slogan 'Bridge night is back. '), and the tests Play Bridge.

Round 7

Rosenblum Cup

by Brian Senior

Round 7 of the Rosenblum qualification phase saw a key match-up between Nick Nickell's multi-world championship winning squad and the Anglo-American team captained by Tony Forrester.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ J 5 4		♠ A 10 9 8 2									
♥ 9 7		♥ A K 5 4 2									
♦ Q 10 7 2		♦ 8									
♣ K J 4 2		♣ 8 5									
	<table border="1" style="width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ K 7 6									
		♥ 8									
		♦ A J 9 5 4 3									
		♣ A 10 3									

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Moss	Soloway	Forrester
Pass	1♥	1♠	1♦
2♠	3♦	3♥	2♦
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
All Pass			4♦

West	North	East	South
Townsend	Rodwell	Gold	Meckstroth
Pass	1♥	1♠	1♦
2♠	2NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♦	3♥	3♣
3♠	All Pass		Pass

A complex auction saw David Gold declare 3♠, a perfectly reasonable spot but for the five-one heart break. Jeff Meckstroth led his singleton heart to the nine, ten and ace and Gold led a club, judging correctly to put up the king. Next he led a low diamond off the table and Eric Rodwell hopped up with the king to lead a trump through. That was ducked to the king and a spade came back to queen and ace. Gold tried to cash the king of hearts now but it was ruffed and Meckstroth played ace and another club. Gold ruffed but had three losing hearts and only one trump left in dummy; two down for -200.

Paul Soloway also reached 3♠ but Forrester went on to 4♦, where he played. Bob Hamman led the nine of hearts to the ten and king and Soloway switched to his trump to the nine, ten and king. Forrester led the queen of hearts, ruffing out the ace, then tried the ♠K, ducked, and a spade to the queen and ace. Back came a heart, on which he threw the ten of clubs as Hamman ruffed. It didn't matter what Hamman did now, he was only due one more trick; down one for -50 and 6 IMPs to NICKELL.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ -		♠ 6 4 3									
♥ 6 2		♥ K 8 7 3									
♦ A J 10 8 6 5 4		♦ 7 3 2									
♣ J 8 6 4		♣ A Q 3									
	<table border="1" style="width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ A K J 10 8 2									
		♥ 10 5									
		♦ Q 9									
		♣ 10 7 5									

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Moss	Soloway	Forrester
Townsend	Rodwell	Gold	Meckstroth
3♦	Dble	4♦	4♠
All Pass			

Both Souths declared 4♠ but on different opening leads. Hamman led the six of hearts and Forrester finessed to the king. Now it seems that West is a big favourite to hold the ace of diamonds, in which case a diamond switch for a club through would defeat the contract, unless West held eight diamonds. But Soloway returned a heart, hoping to give partner a ruff. There were a couple of reasons why that plan was unsuccessful. Forrester drew trumps and had three discards on dummy's hearts; +650.

Tom Townsend cashed the ace of diamonds at trick one, took a look at dummy, and switched to a club. Meckstroth played low, holding his club losers to two, but there was no way to avoid the losing heart finesse; down one for -100 and 13 IMPs to FORRESTER.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 9 5 3		♠ K 6									
♥ Q 10 5 4		♥ K 2									
♦ K		♦ Q J 10 7 6 2									
♣ 6 4 3 2		♣ K Q J									
	<table border="1" style="width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ J 8 7 4 2									
		♥ J 8 7 3									
		♦ 5									
		♣ 10 9 5									

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Moss	Soloway	Forrester
2♣	2♦	INT	Pass
		Dble	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Townsend	Rodwell	Gold	Meckstroth
		INT	All Pass

Both Easts opened INT. Townsend was happy to let that go as West, and Gold played there on a spade lead to the ten and king. Gold played a diamond to the king and ace and Rodwell returned the suit, Gold winning the queen. He played the queen of clubs to Rodwell's ace, won the club return and tried the king of hearts. That was ducked, so Gold cashed his minor-suit winners then played a heart to the ten and ace and Rodwell had to give dummy the ♠Q at the end for an eighth trick; +120.

In the other room, Hamman decided to look for a major-suit fit and Moss made a fairly horrible overcall of 2♦, a contract about which Soloway was happy to express an opinion. Soloway led the king of clubs, ducked, followed by the ♣J to the ace. Moss exited with a club to the queen and now Soloway switched to the king of spades, Hamman having followed two, four, six, suggesting that he had equal interest in both majors. Moss won the ♠A and exited with the ten to Hamman's queen. He ducked the heart switch to the king and won the next heart with the ace. Moss exited with his last heart and Soloway had to ruff and play a low diamond to the king and ace. Moss exited with the ♦9 and had to come to the eight at the end for down three; -500 and 9 IMPs to NICKELL.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Moss	Soloway	Forrester
			Pass
2♣	Dble	2♠	4♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♥	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Townsend	Rodwell	Gold	Meckstroth
			Pass
INT	Pass	2♥	Dble
2♠	Pass	2NT	3♦
Pass	4♥	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

Mike Moss doubled the natural 2♣ and Soloway introduced his spades, over which Forrester jumped to the heart game. When Moss did not double 4♠, Forrester introduced his

longer diamond suit but Moss put him back to 5♥. With two top clubs to lose this one came down to the diamond position. Hamman led three rounds of clubs and Forrester ruffed high in dummy, drew trumps and led a diamond to the king followed by a diamond to the ace; +650.

Tom Townsend's slightly off-centre INT opening made for a different auction. Rodwell did not have sufficient distribution to come in with the North cards but Meckstroth was able to make a rather risky double of the 2♥ transfer and now Rodwell had a clear 4♥ call. Gold saved in 4♠, and Meckstroth doubled. There were five top losers and Meckwell had no problem in taking them; -500 but 4 IMPs to FORRESTER.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Moss	Soloway	Forrester
INT	Pass	2♣	2♥
Pass	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Townsend	Rodwell	Gold	Meckstroth
1♥	Pass	1♠	2♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
2♠	All Pass		



Mike Moss, USA

Hamman/Soloway did well to bid to the club game. Only an opening club lead might defeat 5♣ but, for some reason, Forrester didn't find it. (I suppose that in fantasy land a low heart lead would have been interesting, but if the defender is allowed to find that lead, then declarer should be allowed to put up dummy's jack.) Moss could lead a club when in with a spade, but it was too late; +400.

Townsend/Gold never mentioned clubs – unless your methods permit East to bid 3♣ over 2♦ to show this handtype, the rather ugly outcome is perhaps understandable. Meckstroth cashed the ace of hearts and continued with a low one, which caught Gold, who played low from dummy and had to ruff in hand. He led a club to dummy, Meckstroth discarding a diamond, ruffed a heart, crossed to the ace of diamonds and ruffed another heart as Rodwell discarded a club when a diamond would have been better, cashed the king of diamonds to bring the total up to six tricks, then tried a low club. Meckstroth ruffed that and there was only the ace of trumps to come; down one for -50 and 10 IMPs to NICKELL.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Moss	Soloway	Forrester
Pass	INT	2NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♦	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Townsend	Rodwell	Gold	Meckstroth
Pass	INT	3♣	All Pass

Gold overcalled 3♣ and played there. On the auction it was routine to get the trumps right so Gold made eleven tricks for +150.

Soloway showed the minor two-suiter and Hamman liked his club cards and four-card diamond support sufficiently to jump to 4♦. Soloway had a bit to spare so went on to game, where he won the heart lead and played ace and another diamond then ruffed out the club; +400 and 6 IMPs to NICKELL.

There was a slam swing to NICKELL on Board 13 but that deal features in a separate article by Mark Horton. It gave NICKELL 13 IMPs when it could have been 12 to FORRESTER, and helped NICKELL to a 48-23 IMP, 21-9 VP victory. At the end of the second day, NICKELL lay second in their group and were looking reasonably comfortable, while FORRESTER lay fourth and had plenty of work to do.

There are no Uninteresting Hands

by Herman De Wael

One of the bonuses of having these championships in Verona is that there are so many terraced restaurants. This means that after you've had your own dinner, you can join some other table for digestifs. That's what I did yesterday evening, and inevitably there are hand records on the table. 'Look at hand 26', the player facing me said. We did, and this is what we saw:

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Immediately my left hand neighbour started telling what had happened at her table. South had cashed the ace and king of spades. 'Probably she hadn't even noticed that the ten had appeared'. Most people felt that after seeing the ten one should finesse. There is no question of restricted choice, of course, but I believe that if the ten is judged to be an honest card, there are 12 places to put the queen to the left, and only 10 to the right. So the chances are 12 against 10 for the drop.

Now I remarked that it was very seldom seen that someone pointed out a deal on which the hands are no less wild than 5-3-3-2. 'But you're looking at the wrong session', she said, 'I was talking of the first session.'

So this was the board she really wanted to talk about:

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

She had been South, and East had opened 1♦. What would you do? I said I would overcall INT, and that had been exactly what she had done too. Three down was not a success though.

Notice that both deals have two 4-4-3-2's and two 5-3-3-2's. Who ever said that only freak hands are worth talking about?

We can assure Hans that there is no bug in the dealing program. Deal 26 of the third session duly contained a seven card suit and two singletons.

More by Luck than Judgement

by Mark Horton

I suspect there is a conception that being a VuGraph commentator is an easy life. After all, you can arrive just a few moments before play starts, settle into a comfortable chair with coffee and water to hand, and only have to make a few remarks for a couple of hours.

Of course there is the small matter of having to read many different system cards – and remember the information at a critical moment.

Explaining the auction can be a problem, especially if one or both pairs use a lot of gadgets.

The most awkward scenario is when a complex play problem surfaces. You don't have long to analyse, because although your audience will contain some of the best players in the world, those who want you to tell them what is likely to happen will also inhabit it. This is even truer when you are commenting on the Internet. Sometimes, just as in the VuGraph theatre, you suggest a contract can be made without really having had a chance to give it serious thought.

Bridgebase has started its coverage of the Rosenblum and I like to keep one eye on what is happening in case a significant deal crops up.

Just before the deal I feature in this article appeared, one of the commentators, clearly having made some rather clever comment, declared that he felt himself to be invincible.

As this deal flashed up on the screen I typed in 'So make Seven Clubs on this.'

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Before we move on, here is the auction from the Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Townsend	Rodwell	Gold	Meckstroth
	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♥*	Dble	3NT
All Pass			

Three Hearts disclosed North's hand type. West led a heart and declarer ducked the queen, won the next heart with the jack, cashed the king of clubs, played a club to the ace and took a diamond finesse. In typical style he claimed eleven tricks, +660.

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Moss	Soloway	Forrester
	1♠	2♥	3♦
Pass	4♣	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Rather than indulge in any scientific manoeuvres, South bid what he hoped his partner would make.

East led the king of hearts and declarer won, West following with the four. He crossed to the ace of clubs, finessed in diamonds, cashed the ace and ruffed a diamond as East discarded the eight of hearts.

A club to the king was followed by a diamond, ruffed and overruffed, and declarer cashed his diamond to reach a three-card ending, West having discarded the six of hearts and the two of spades, East the two, three and seven of hearts and the five and six of spades.

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

While declarer was pondering his next move the co-ordinator mentioned that a French pair had bid and made Seven Clubs.



Franck Multon, France

Almost at once Norway's Jon Sveindal asked me if I knew how. Without giving it much thought I punched in a few lines involving playing winning diamonds through West.

We'll come back to that in a moment.

At our featured table declarer had three possible plays:

Finesse in spades; play East to have blanked the king of spades; endplay East with a heart.

If declarer believed the plays in the heart suit the suit was divided 3-6, (would Soloway have overcalled on $\heartsuit KQ732?$) and in that case the endplay was ruled out, but nevertheless that is the line declarer finally went for.

Okay, how do you make Seven Clubs?

The French declarer, Franck Multon was favoured by the lead of the ten of clubs. (The bidding sequence to the grand slam is best consigned to the dustbin of history.)

He won in hand, finessed in diamonds, set up the suit with a ruff, drew trumps, crossed to the ace of hearts, cashed the diamonds and finessed in spades – an effortless +2140.

The play on the lead of the king of hearts is much more difficult – any declarer who found their way home would surely walk away with the IBPA hand of the year award. You win with the ace, cross to a high trump (seeing the ten) and take the diamond finesse. Now you must finesse in spades. You can then set up the diamonds, ruff a spade and play a winning diamond. West has to ruff, you overruff, ruff a spade and play a diamond. West is helpless – if he ruffs you overruff, draw the last trump and cash two spade winners.

So Jon – I was right – after a fashion – but more by luck than judgement.

A new Bridge Game

Notice was given in Estoril of the birth of a new bridge game. It was aBRIDGED which is bridge, but without the bidding.

It was launched at the American Toy Fair in New York in February last to acclaim by the trade. This was, of course, gratifying to its inventor, Maureen Hiron, and the licensees, Out of the Box Publishing Inc.

Out of the Box are America's fastest-growing games company. Their lead game, Apples to Apples, won the 2005 U.S. Game of the Year award, during which time they sold over one million sets. Out of the Box is a company with a social conscience. Although not one of its directors is a bridge player, they all have older relatives who are, and they took on board Hiron's concerns for the future of bridge that, especially in the West, far too few young people are coming to the game, a threat to the long-term future of bridge.

ABRIDGED retains all of the beauties of the card play of bridge – but dispenses with the bidding. Its rules can be assimilated in just a few minutes and is already proven to be compelling to non-bridge players. It is obviously not a game for the bridge players here, but it is just right for younger family members, or for friends who have not been prepared to devote the necessary time to getting to grips with bridge.

The very first sets of aBRIDGED – hot off the press – have been flown into Verona for these championships and are for sale at a special price of 10 EUROS per set, in the Players' Plaza.

The Law of Total Injustice

By Peter Rogers (Australia)

In round eight of the Rosenblum, all vulnerable, you hold

♠ J
♥ A J 8 7 6 2
♦ A K Q 10 7
♣ 9

and take part in the following auction (you are East):

West	North	East	South
1♣	1♠	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	?	

West's 5♥ shows two key cards without the trump queen and very probably only three-card support. What to do?

Most players will shrug and pass – a key card and the trump queen missing makes slam roughly 50-50.

However, the Law of Total Injustice states that bad bridge begets bad luck, so the real decision is which pair has played worse and hence deserves the bad luck, too.

Using the Law is tricky, because accurate analysis of the previous 12 boards is needed. Replaying those 12 boards over in your mind reveals one obvious clanger by your partnership but three or four by the opponents. The Law indicates your opponents are very strong favorites to suffer bad luck, so you call a confident 6♥. The full deal:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

The Law holds.

Ralph Cohen Poster

If you care to sign a poster offering condolences to the family of Ralph Cohen, you will find it in the playing area at the scoring table for sections A to E. The poster with all the signatures will be delivered to Joan Cohen, Ralph's widow, after the Verona tournament.

Making a Move

by Brent Manley

Going into the seventh round of the McConnell qualifying, the Lynn Baker team – a squad full of world champions – was tied for fourth in their group and were hoping for a big game to solidify their position as qualifiers for the knockout stage.

Their opponents were a French team captained by Martine Rossard that lay in eighth place out of 10 teams, although not that far out of a qualifying spot. Baker prevailed, but it wasn't easy against the tough Rossard team. The match basically swung on a grand slam bid by Sabine Auken and Daniela von Arnim, ending at 25-19 for Baker (16-14 in VPs).

The first swing went to Baker when Rossard and Johanna Raczynska bid one more than Lynn Deas and Beth Palmer in a heart partial. Two down versus one down was 2 IMPs to Baker.

Another 2 IMPs went to Baker on the following deal.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ A 8 ♥ J 8 ♦ A J 6 5 ♣ A 6 5 4 3</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		<p>♠ K 10 9 7 2 ♥ K 3 ♦ 10 7 ♣ K Q J 10</p>	<p>♠ J 6 4 3 ♥ A 10 9 6 4 ♦ Q 4 ♣ 8 7</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
		<p>♠ Q 5 ♥ Q 7 5 2 ♦ K 9 8 3 2 ♣ 9 2</p>										

West	North	East	South
Rossard	Auken	Raczynska	von Arnim
1♣	1♠	Dbf	Pass
Pass	2♣	Pass	Redbf
All Pass			2♠

East led the ♣8, which went to the 2, ace and jack. The ♥J was ducked to the queen, and a heart went to the king and ace. Auken ruffed the heart continuation and guessed to play the ♠10 and let it ride. Rossard won the ♠A and played a spade to the queen. Now came a heart ruff, the ♠K and ♣K, the last trick Auken would take. That was two down for Minus 100.

West	North	East	South
Deas	Blouquit	Palmer	Fishpool
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	All Pass

Catherine Fishpool, South, started with the ♣9, ducked to North's 10. The ♣K was returned to dummy's ace. Now Beth Palmer played the ♠A and another spade. North erred by playing the king, dropping partner's queen. Palmer ruffed the ♣J with the ♥9, South discarding a diamond. Now came the

♦Q to the king and ace, the ♦J and a low diamond ruffed. Now when Palmer played the ♠6 from hand, South ruffed with the ♥Q and returned a heart to the jack, king and ace. Palmer finished with 10 tricks and a ragged Plus 170.

The fifth board of the set represented a 5-IMP gain for Baker and might well fall into the category – at least at the Auken/von Arnim table – of a sow's ear being made into a silk purse.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ 3 ♥ J 7 6 5 4 2 ♦ K 8 5 ♣ A J 6</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		<p>♠ A Q 7 6 ♥ K Q 10 8 3 ♦ 6 ♣ 8 7 4</p>	<p>♠ K J 9 8 4 ♥ A 9 ♦ Q 9 4 3 ♣ 10 9</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
		<p>♠ 10 5 2 ♥ – ♦ A J 10 7 2 ♣ K Q 5 3 2</p>										

West	North	East	South
Rossard	Auken	Raczynska	von Arnim
	1♥	1♠	2♦

All Pass

Von Arnim's 2♦ was non-forcing. Rossard started with her partner's suit, and von Arnim took some time to assess the awkward contract. She played dummy's ♠A and followed with a low club to the 10, king and ace. Rossard considered her next play for a time before she exited with a heart. Von Arnim played the ♥K and ruffed East's ace, continuing with the ♣Q and a low club (East pitched her other heart).

West was not happy to be in again, and she got out with the ♦8, ducked by East to declarer's 10. Now von Arnim cashed the ♦A (double-dummy, West should unblock the king) and played a low diamond. Now on lead with nothing but hearts, Rossard had to play one. Von Arnim inserted the 10 and discarded a spade when East ruffed with the ♦Q. Now all East could do was cash the ♠K. The inelegant contract had come home for Plus 90.

An even more awkward contract was reached at the other table and illustrates, perhaps, why von Arnim eschewed the negative double – where do you go if North rebids 2♥?

West	North	East	South
Deas	Blouquit	Palmer	Fishpool
Pass	1♥	1♠	Dbf
	2♥	All Pass	

After South showed the minors with the negative double, INT by North seems more reasonable than the rebid of a five-card suit.

Blouquit did well to come up with seven tricks in her 5-0 fit. Palmer led the ♣10 to the king and ace. Blouquit won the spade switch with the ace and played the ♥Q to East's ace. The ♣9 was taken by dummy's queen. Declarer cashed the ♦A and ruffed a diamond then played a low club from hand. Deas won the ♣J and exited with a heart. Blouquit inserted the 10, then played a low spade from hand. In the end, Deas had too many trumps and could not get out of her own way. Still, Minus 100 was a 5-IMP loss for Rossard.

This deal put Baker up by the score of 23-1.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rossard	Auken	Raczynska	von Arnim
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	4NT
All Pass			7♥

Von Arnim started with a strong 1♣, and there was no stopping them from there. Over the key-card asking 4NT, Auken's 5NT showed two key cards plus a void, which had to be in spades. There was nothing to the play. After winning the trump opening lead in hand, Auken drew two more rounds of trumps, claiming when she cashed the ♣A and the queen fell (West had discarded a club on one of the hearts – not that it mattered). That was a very efficient Plus 2210. The auction was not as good at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Deas	Blouquit	Palmer	Fishpool
Pass	2♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	5♥	Pass	4NT
All Pass			6♥

Blouquit's response to Blackwood showed two key cards but did not reveal the void, so the grand was not reached and Baker gained 13 IMPs.



Rossard got 12 IMPs back on this deal, however.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Deas	Blouquit	Palmer	Fishpool
2♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass	3♠	Pass

Fishpool started with a low trump, taken by Palmer with dummy's king. She played a diamond to the king and ace and won the trump continuation in hand with the ♠9. She then cashed the ♦Q and ruffed a diamond – and all hope of making the contract was gone. Declarer lost two diamonds and two hearts to finish one down.

West	North	East	South
Rossard	Auken	Raczynska	von Arnim
2♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass	2♦	Pass

Von Arnim also started with a low trump, taken by Raczynska in hand with the 9. At trick two, she set about building a heart trick – clearly one diamond ruff was the most she could hope for.

Von Arnim went up with her ♥K at trick two when declarer played one from hand. Instead of continuing with a trump, von Arnim played the ♥J, covered by the queen and ace. Back came a third round of hearts, but declarer was in control. She ruffed with the ♠J, played a club to the ace and a diamond to the king and ace. Von Arnim played a second round of trumps, but declarer won in dummy, played a diamond to the queen and ruffed a diamond. She played the good ♥10, discarding her losing diamond, and could claim her contract when von Arnim was unable to ruff. A fine result for the Rossard team.

On the lie of the cards, the contract can always be made, but a counterintuitive play must be made in the heart suit to achieve 10 tricks.

On a trump lead – indicated by the auction – declarer can even play a second round, so long as she leads a heart at trick three. If South goes in with the ♥K and continues with the jack, declarer must play low – allowing North in at that point will lead to a third round of trumps, and declarer will have to lose two diamonds and two hearts. Of course, that is a play one would make only if looking at all the cards. If North has the doubleton spade, for example, it would be fatal to the contract to play low. If South wins the ♥K and switches to another suit, declarer must

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

by Ron Klinger

The Good:

Round 3: Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North <i>David Wiltshire</i>	East	South <i>Kieran Dyke</i>
	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Lead: ♠A

The defence took the first three spade tricks and West shifted to the ♣2: queen – seven – five. Wiltshire crossed to the ♥A, cashed the thirteenth spade and then ran the hearts. This was the position with one heart to go:

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

Wiltshire played his last heart and everyone threw a diamond. Wiltshire now had the choice of playing West to be down to ♣A and ♦K-x, but he picked the position perfectly and played the ♦A to drop the singleton king.

The Bad:

In another match, after the same auction, East at one table led the ♣J to the ace. West returned the ♣2, won by North who took the diamond finesse next. West ducked smoothly and declarer ran home for nine tricks.

At the other table, after a similar auction (3♦ rather than 3♥), East began with ♠A, followed by ♠K. West unblocked the ♠Q to allow East to run five spades. Oops. No swing.

The Ugly

Round 4: Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	1♠	2♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
3NT	Pass	Rdble	All Pass
Pass	Pass		

Lead: ♥5

No doubt South was hoping for a little more from North's vulnerable overcall opposite a passed hand and doubled because of his favourable club holding. The heart lead went to the ten and queen and West ran the ♣10 to the jack. Back came the ♠10, won by the king, North playing ♠7. South won the next club and agonised whether to play another spade or to lead a heart to reduce the loss to 'just' 1000.

He opted for the ♥J return. Hoping against hope that South might have ♦Q-x-x (where was West's opening bid in that case?), North ducked and declarer had the rest for +1200.



Kieran Dyke, Australia

MIXED PAIRS PLATE**Corrected Final Standings**

Rank	Names	Total		Total	
1	Danielle AVON - Jean-Michel VOLDOIRE	62.23	59	Andrea MULIAR - Martin SCHIFKO	53.63
2	Irene BARONI - Enrico GUERRA	61.44	60	Simonetta PIVA - Maurizio CASATI	53.52
3	Catherine RITTER - Sartaj HANS	61.25	61	Joann GLASSON - Bob GLASSON	53.50
4	Renata MULLER - Mario ZELJKO	60.44	62	Nina ANIDJAR - Diego BRENNER	53.34
5	Jo MORSE - George TORNAY	60.41	63	Christine DUCKWORTH - Brian CALLAGHAN	53.33
6	Marlene KIRSTAN - Tobias TORNQVIST	60.21	64	Anna LICURSI - Gianpaolo CENTIOLI	53.22
7	Bruna BERTACCINI - Ruggero BONVICINI	59.92	65	Beverly PERRY - Kent MIGNOCCHI	53.16
8	Diana BUDKIN - Mario MAYANTZ	58.79	66	Anna ONISHUK - Karl De RAEYMAEKER	53.09
9	Monica MAINOLDI - Camillo GADDI	58.76	67	Gloria PESTON - Mike MOSS	52.97
10	Marita MAI - Enrico LONGINOTTI	58.74	68	Eija MULTIMAKI - Jari BACKSTROM	52.82
11	Blanka MEDLINOVA - Jiri MEDLIN	58.51	69	Milka IVANCIC - Zoran BOHACEK	52.72
12	Thea WILLEMSE - Michel JIALAL	58.16	70	Sue GRENSIDE - Paul WEINSTOCK	52.71
13	Ann Karin FUGLESTAD - Geir BREKKA	58.10	71	Caren GRENZ - Kai ROHLK	52.55
14	Marie Louise DAS - Pierre d' OVIDIO	57.92	72	Sahar OUDA - Hans KREUNING	52.54
15	Linda GORDON - Robb GORDON	57.72	73	Iman Assassa - Michael FERNOLEND	52.42
16	Judith SHULMAN - Joel DATLOFF	57.52	74	Fulvia GATTESCHI - Giuseppe BAU	52.34
17	Maggie SHENKIN - Barnet SHENKIN	57.17	75	Benedicte CRONIER - Moza PANAHPOUR	52.28
18	Maija ROMANOVSKA - Karlis RUBINS	57.12	76	Sharon OSBERG - Bill GATES	52.28
19	Karin WENNING - Ulrich WENNING	57.10	77	Despina GEORGAS - Brent GIBBS	52.24
20	Eva DITETOVA - Tomas FORT	57.06	78	Marinella CANESI - Franco CEDOLIN	52.23
21	Vanessa TORIELLI - Simon FELLUS	56.95	79	Gio PEYRON - Amedeo COMELLA	52.14
22	Susanna GROSS - Espen ERICHSEN	56.81	80	Guillaume GRENTHE - Sabine BERG	52.09
23	Linda MALONEY - Piotr KLIMOWICZ	56.73	81	Tina TESSARO - Allan COKIN	52.08
24	Cinzia AGRILLO - Diego CARDENAS	56.70	82	Laurence DUC - Stephan MAGNUSSON	51.98
25	Madeleine SWANSTROM - Tommy GULLBERG	56.68	83	Giovanna BANCI - Gianni BALBI	51.98
26	Sandra FRASER - Douglas FRASER	56.53	84	Marilyn NATHAN - Arthur MALINOWSKI	51.93
27	Dorota TOKAJ-WOJTCZUK - Rafal WOJTCZUK	56.12	85	Dominique PORTAL - Patrice MARMION	51.82
28	Virginia CHEDIAK - Ronny JORSTAD	55.96	86	Lucy PHELAN - John PHELAN	51.77
29	Ulrike SCHRECKENBERGER - Michael GROMOELLER	55.90	87	Anna GRECO - Galielo De MICHELE	51.71
30	Dolores GIULIANI - Piero MORI	55.88	88	Iva MATIJEVIC - Jurica CARIC	51.63
31	Malgorzata SCHROEDER - Michael SCHROEDER	55.83	89	Anna KOVACHEVA - Trajan HRISTOV	51.60
32	Pierre-Jean LOUCHART - Muriel CLEMENT	55.75	90	Renate HANSEN - Heinrich BERGER	51.50
33	Alexandra NIKITINA - Sergei SYTSEVICH	55.69	91	Brigitte AUBONNET - Jean-Marc BOULICAUT	51.43
34	Claudia Valerie GAMIO - John JONES	55.61	92	Francoise GUENOUN - Raphael GUENOUN	51.41
35	Kath NELSON - Steve EGINTON	55.55	93	Janet DE BOTTON - Nicklas SANDQVIST	51.39
36	Martine ROSSARD - Philippe TOFFIER	55.44	94	Emanuela GANDINI - Marco G CORAZZA	51.34
37	Aude DE RUSSE - Luc MORIN	55.33	95	Gisela SMYKALLA - Michael SCHNEIDER	51.31
38	Donatella PINNA - Sergio PELA	55.20	96	Eva BAHNIKOVA - Petr BAHNIK	51.31
39	Florence DELEFLIE - Michel DELEFLIE	55.19	97	Fiorenza BELLUSSI - Luca BELLUSSI	51.25
40	Isabelle BELLO - Jaap Van Der NEUT	55.07	98	Barbara KASLE - Haig TCHAMITCH	51.24
41	Linda WIENER - David BROWER	55.01	99	Carla Pa ARSLAN - Paolo CLAIR	51.23
42	Rita MUCHA - Alexandru PANA	54.92	100	Raffaella MICHELOTTI - Giovanni LUCCHESI	51.06
43	Marina PILIPOVIC - Dubravko DIKLIC	54.90	101	Francesca DE LUCCHI - Giancarlo MARINI	51.03
44	Iman CHAMAA - Krzysztof MARTENS	54.69	102	Aliye UGUR - Sermed BASARAN	51.01
45	Dianne BALCOMBE - Keith BALCOMBE	54.61	103	Vigdis THOREN - Erik RYNNING	51.00
46	Tonia Di LORENZO - Giuseppe BUFFARDO	54.58	104	Zeynep ALP - Okay GUR	50.97
47	Aida de Vries SALDZIEVA - Gerben DIRKSEN	54.55	105	Nicole JOST - Patrick JOST	50.96
48	Darina LANGER - Hans-Herman GWINNER	54.52	106	Rita PASQUARE - Orlando BIANCHI	50.88
49	Teresa DAL BEN - Paolo COMIRATO	54.51	107	Virginia GIZA - Stephen GOLDSTEIN	50.87
50	Fabienne PIGEAUD - Lewis KAPLAN	54.44	108	Vita WINESTOCK - Derek MALTZ	50.86
51	Ellen KLOSSON - Peter BOYD	54.39	109	Rozalia RONEN - Jacek KALITA	50.83
52	Daniela HNATOVA - Otakar SVOBODA	54.13	110	Marina CALZONI - Giorgio STUPPIONI	50.80
53	Lila PANAHPOUR - Tony FORRESTER	54.05	111	Ruth NIKITINE - Roger KUTNER	50.73
54	Fay KIRK - Clive KAYE	54.02	112	Laura TIDONE - Domenico CHIARO	50.68
55	Inez Van EIJCK - Willem Van EIJCK	53.89	113	Gianna ARRIGONI - Guido RESTA	50.58
56	Veronique VENTOS - David FORGE	53.75	114	Cate HUGHES - Stanislav NEDKOV	50.53
57	Raffael GREPPI - Gabriele PELIZZARI	53.75	115	Judi RADIN - Jim MAHAFFEY	50.36
58	Annette HENRY - Stephen BLACKSTOCK	53.63	116	Katalin MEZEI - Laszlo HONTI	50.20
			117	Rosanna GENTILE - Ennio RIZZO	50.12

118	Carole KLEIN - Michael SCHLEIFER	49.95	176	Leda PAIN - Gabriel CHAGAS	46.61
119	Ruth STOBBER - Joe GRUE	49.90	177	Loukia TRIANTAFYLLI - Petros TRIANTAFILLIS	46.60
120	Cathy STRAUCH - Riggs THAYER	49.68	178	Shirley BATEMAN - Bill BATEMAN	46.51
121	Brid KEMPLE - Terry WALSH	49.63	179	Barbara DESSI - Riccardo GIORDANO	46.44
122	Margherita ZANIERI - Alessandro GALARDINI	49.59	180	Arijana DUIC-PETRIC - Zvonko PETROVIC	46.29
123	Zdena ZOUCHOVA - Zbynek LAVER	49.54	181	Caroline GREGSON - Victor SILVERSTONE	46.28
124	Morella PACHECO - Steve HAMAOU	49.51	182	Irmeli SALONEN - Marc VERDURMEN	46.18
125	Cynthia TREVISANI - Claudio BIANCHINI	49.45	183	Susan INGHAM - Terry BROWN	46.08
126	Maria PANADERO - Joao PASSARINHO	49.37	184	Miriam McCONVILLE - Paul PORTEOUS	46.04
127	Jeroo MANGO - B.n. PARASRAMPURIA	49.32	185	Sandy DAVIES - Tom GISBORNE	45.98
128	Angela DOSSENA - Paolo CHIZZOLI	49.31	186	Lillian MORGANTI - Ugo MORGANTI	45.92
129	Helen ABBOTT - Dan ROMM	49.28	187	Fiammetta BONNANO - Pietro FORCISI	45.87
130	Dilek YAVAS - Yusuf KAHYAOGLOU	49.19	188	Linda MCGARRY - Dennis MCGARRY	45.86
131	Elena PRAHIN - Michael PRAHIN	49.05	189	Alessandra MORI - Giancarlo MANNATO	45.68
132	Pavla SVOBODOVA - Petr VRKOC	49.04	190	Adele GOGOMAN - Christian ZACH	45.64
133	Pernilla ANDREASSON - Kjell HOLMGREN	48.91	191	Grete SKAFTE - Bob PRICKAERTZ	45.47
134	Elizabeth ADAMS - David BEAUCHAMP	48.91	192	Aleksandra JESENICNIK - Tolja ORAC	45.45
135	Jeanne BURNS - Wilson MCLEOD	48.87	193	Gila EMODI - Doron YADLIN	45.37
136	Wendy KRAUSE - Arnie KRAUSE	48.85	194	Beryl CAMPBELL - Allan GORDON	45.27
137	Anna KRAUSOVA - Milos BAHNIK	48.81	195	Alessandra URBANI - Rocco LATORRE	45.06
138	Nicole SCHULMANN - Jacques GONFREVILLE	48.68	196	Sanja ZAGAJSEK - Branko REFI	44.94
139	Mine BABAC - Aydin UYSAL	48.56	197	Giorgia BOTTA - Corrado GAIA	44.94
140	Christine BOYLSON - Stephen BURGESS	48.39	198	Janice RANGLES - Terry RANGLES	44.72
141	Laura MELCHIORRI - Massimiliano MOSCONI	48.38	199	Joan COOK - Maurice EMOND	44.69
142	Valerie GARDINER - Peter GILL	48.37	200	Barbara GOTARD - Tomasz GOTARD	44.66
143	Pauline MAGUIRE - Gay KEAVENEY	48.31	201	Fiammetta TRALLO - Giancarlo NOTARI	44.56
144	Elda BUSI - Sergio RICCI	48.24	202	Louise MITCHELL - Diarmuid REDDAN	44.45
145	Ester BECCUTI - Antonio MORTAROTTI	48.20	203	Marie-Francoise GERMAIN - William AUDIBERT	44.38
146	Daniela BALDASSIN - Giancarlo PRINCIPE	48.13	204	Francoise MONDOR - Fred MONDOR	44.37
147	Ellie FITZGERALD - James FITZGERALD	48.11	205	Kitty TELTSCHER - Willie COYLE	44.07
148	Ylva KARLSSON-UIISK - Ahto UIISK	48.05	206	Carole COVENEY - Michel COVENEY	44.02
149	Elisabeth DELOR - Romain ZALESKI	48.04	207	Mary Ann BERG - Bruce FERGUSON	43.72
150	Beatrix KUZSELKA - Gareth BARTLEY	47.97	208	Angiolisa FRATI - Franco BARONI	43.48
151	Anna MATWIJOW - Bernard JADCZAK	47.89	209	Vera SCHULZOVA - Zdenek LASTOVICKA	43.40
152	Louise SOLOMON - Warner SOLOMON	47.78	210	Usha KOTHARI - Sunil MACHHAR	43.34
153	Anne-Marie COLOMBARO - Jean-Yves DANIC	47.71	211	Perla SLIMAK - Paolo PASQUINI	43.01
154	Dagmar NEUMANN - George BILSKI	47.68	212	Shalh MOFAHKAMI - Giorgio ODELLO	42.97
155	Netsy SAYER - Zahary ZAHARIEV	47.68	213	Catherine CAPLAN - Paul CAPLAN	42.88
156	Sally WOOLSEY - Kit WOOLSEY	47.60	214	Livia ORRU' - Stefano MATTANA	42.73
157	Nurit GRAIZER - Shimshon HORVITZ	47.56	215	Miny TANANBAUM - Teddy CHIMION	42.71
158	Jane DAWSON - Bobby RICHMAN	47.51	216	Maria Rosa STERZA - Gustavo TERNULLO	42.31
159	Roz WOLFARTH - Valentin Dgiasim AL-SHATI	47.35	217	Alexandra BERTRAM - Paul WENS	22.71
160	Donatella GIGLIOTTI - Ezio FORNACIARI	47.28	218	Delia COSTA - Juan Jose LAGOMARSINO	41.91
161	Elisabeth FANOS - George FINIKIOTIS	47.26	219	Carla PORTANTI - Mauro SCANCARELLO	41.79
162	Paola MONTELLA - Mario AGRILLO	47.21	220	Beatrice DELLE COSTE - Pierfrancesco PAROLARO	41.60
163	Lucia BETTI PILI - Ruggero PIAZZA	47.18	221	Mari RETEK - George RETEK	21.78
164	Enma CASTRO DE LOMELI - Frankie FRONTURA	47.13	222	Angela GRAMBERG - Norbert SCHILHART	41.22
165	Francesca CARNICELLI - Carlo MANTEGAZZA	47.11	223	Fulvia GHIA - Franco DURANTE	40.42
166	Mary FINN - Sean O'LUBAIGH	47.04	224	Vanna MENDITTO - Mario CAJANO	40.30
167	Else Van EIJDHOVEN - Branislav PROTEGA	47.03	225	Catherine BEARPARK - Steve BEARPARK	39.63
168	Margaret PARNIS-ENGLAND - Mario DIX	46.99	226	Aneta JARMOCIK - Michal SZELAGOWSKI	39.32
169	Barbara STEWART - Michael ROCHE	46.99	227	Jamie STEEN - Mac STEEN	39.06
170	Kotomi ASAKOSHI - Tadashi IMAKURA	46.85	228	Rosa Yb LUI - Robert Sb LUI	38.40
171	Tihana BRKLJACIC - Miro TESLA	46.84	229	Gloria SILBERSTEIN - Giulio BOVE	37.12
172	Despina KANELLOPOULOU - Thanos KAPAYANNIDIS	46.79	230	Suchithra VAZIRANI - Shashikant SHAH BAHRAT	37.03
173	Rosetta AMIRATA - Alejandro BIANCHEDI	46.76	231	Nawal FENWICK - John HARRISON	36.92
174	Debbie FELDMAN - John RAYNER	46.75	232	Hilary HALL - Walter HALL	35.48
175	Bettina ARTMER - Andreas BABSCH	46.71			

