



World Bridge Productions

Presents the

C♠avendish^{wbp}

Invitational

Bulletin Number 4

Saturday, May 12, 2001

Editor: Rich Colker

Contributing Editor: Barry Rigal

Duboin-Ferraro Lead Cavendish Pairs

At the end of Day One, Giorgio Duboin and Guido Ferraro, with two solid sessions totaling 1348 imps, hold a narrow 19-imp lead over Claudio Nunes and Fulvio Fantoni's 1329 imps. In third place with 1306 are Bob Hamman and Nick Nickell. First-session leaders Bart Bramley and Sidney Lazard had a slightly negative second session to fall to fourth place with 1160. The complete rankings can be found on page 3.

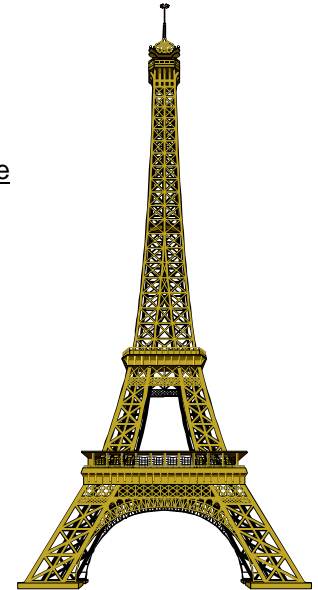
Anybody Speak French?

by Sam Leckie

I hope you all noticed that the top three auction prices were in my fancied six and that my selections brought in almost a quarter of the total pool. I trust the winning owners will remember who advised them first when they collect their cash on Sunday evening.

After the first two sessions, the standings of my chosen six are shown at right. Don't read too much into the current placings—it's still early. All Chemla said to me about it when I spoke to him was, "Ce la vie." How was I supposed to know the guy'd been ill?

<u>Pair</u>	<u>Place</u>
Chemla – Levy	39 th
Kwiecien – Pszczola	9 th
Levin – Weinstein	14 th
Nickel – Hamman	3 rd
Rodwell – Fleisher	29 th
Weinstein – Garner	36 th



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 12, 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 is 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 been 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. If you have any questions about your own or your opponents' methods, the person to see is Barry Rigal.

WBP Pairs Conditions of Contest

WBP Pairs contestants should be aware that the Conditions of Contest in effect for the Cavendish Pairs will also apply to that event except that any details which are dependent on the number of tables (such as the total or average number of cross-imps available on each board, or the movement) will be scaled back to take into account the number of tables in the WBP event.

Schedule

Day	Time	Activity	Location
Saturday, May 12th	10:30 AM	WBP Brunch (all invited)	St. Croix A&B
	11:00 AM	WBP Auction	St. Croix A&B
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, Pairs	Montego A, B & C
	12:30 PM	1 st Session, WBP Pairs	Montego D, E & F
	7:30 PM	4 th Session, Pairs	Montego A, B & C
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, WBP Pairs	Montego D, E & F
Sunday, May 13th	12:30 PM	5 th Session, Pairs	Montego A, B & C
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, WBP Pairs	Montego D, E & F
	5:00 PM	Awards Ceremony and Closing Cocktail Party	St. Croix A&B

It Could Have Been A Lot Worse

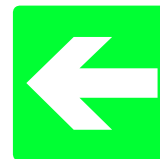
by Sam Leckie

There is no truth in the story going round that when Barnett Shenkin spent some time back home in Scotland recently he was fined £20 under the road traffic act for driving too slowly and that when a former partner heard about it he told him to look on the bright side.

"What bright side?" Barnett asked angrily.

"Well, look at it this way. If that judge had been considering the speed at which you play bridge, you'd probably have got the electric chair!"

How do I know the story is not true? Well, that's easy. We don't have the death penalty in Scotland.



**DON'T EVEN THINK
OF SMOKING HERE**

The Sponsors request that the hallway around the scoring desk outside the playing room (Montego A, B & C) be kept a smoke-free area. Anyone wishing to smoke is asked to remove themselves at least 100 feet (30 m) down the hallway in either direction.

Thank you for your cooperation

The Cavendish Pairs: Standings After Day One

Rank	Score	Pair	Auction Price	Rank	Score	Pair	Auction Price
1	1348	Giorgio Duboin – Guido Ferraro	\$27K	27	-142	Gary Cohler – Richard Finberg	\$10K
2	1329	Fulvio Fantoni – Claudio Nunes	\$10K	28	-177	Drew Casen – Richard Schwartz	\$11K
3	1306	Bob Hamman – Nick Nickell	\$28K	29	-253	Martin Fleisher – Eric Rodwell	\$31K
4*	1160	Bart Bramley – Sidney Lazard	\$20K	30	-292	Steve Levinson – Barnet Shenkin	\$12K
5	1097	Michel Abecassis – J-C Quantin	\$24K	31	-314	Seymon Deutsch – Paul Soloway	\$11K
6	1007	Bjorn Fallenius – Roy Welland	\$18K	32	-348	Pyotr Gawrys – Amos Kaminski	\$11K
7	799	Eddie Wold – John Mohan	\$26K	33	-350	Roger Bates – Dan Mordecai	\$13K
8	791	Jan Jansma – Louk Verhees	\$14K	34	-372	Rose Meltzer – Peter Weichsel	\$12K
9*	747	Michel Kwiecien – Jacek Pszczola	\$46K	35	-388	Ross Grabel – Jon Wittes	\$20K
10	727	Mark Lair – George Steiner	\$16K	36	-425	Steve Garner – Howard Weinstein	\$36K
11	636	Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey	\$19K	37	-448	Bill Pollack – Rozanne Pollack	\$10K
12	620	Magnus Lindkvist – Michael Moss	\$16K	38	-462	Valerio Giubilo – Alfredo Versace	\$12K
13	610	Amadeo Llopart – Juan Ventin	\$10K	39	-501	Paul Chemla – Alain Levy	\$40K
14	602	Robert Levin – Steve Weinstein	\$44K	40	-528	Albert Faigenbaum – Christian Mari	\$21K
15	581	Grant Baze – Mike Whitman	\$10K	41	-660	Brad Moss – Fred Gitelman	\$31K
16	506	Boye Brogland – Espen Erichsen	\$22K	42	-681	Mark Feldman – Sharon Osberg	\$10K
17	433	Gaylor Kastle – Bobby Wolff	\$14K	43	-683	Chris Convery – Craig Gower	\$11K
18	416	Anton Mass – Vincent Ramondt	\$16K	44	-745	Steve Robinson – Peter Boyd	\$21K
19	405	Ron Smith – Billy Cohen	\$22K	45	-773	Linda Lewis – Paul Jay Lewis	\$10K
20	392	Gene Freed – Jim Robison	\$10K	46	-804	Malcolm Brachman – Mike Passell	\$10K
21	331	Ashley Bach – Michael Cornell	\$10K	47	-946	Bob Blanchard – Ralph Katz	\$15K
22	194	Geir Helgemo – Sam Lev	\$38K	48	-983	Russ Ekeblad – Michael Seamon	\$27K
23	82	Curtis Cheek – Billy Miller	\$24K	49	-1043	Chris Compton – John Onstott	\$14K
24	-68	Adam Wildavsky – Dan Morse	\$13K	50	-1074	Perry Johnson – Jeff Meckstroth	\$27K
25/26	-68	Eric Greco – Geoff T. Hampson	\$35K	51	-1112	Billy Eisenberg – Zia Mahmood	\$27K
25/26	-84	Ishmael Del'Monte – Neville Eber	\$12K	52	-1395	Larry Robbins – Harry Tudor	\$13K

*Session Top



Overall and Session Awards



Cavendish Pairs

Place	Session						Overalls	
		1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	Auction	Players
1 st		\$5,000	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$227,934	\$30,940
2 nd			\$2,500	\$5,000	\$ 7,500	\$12,000	\$146,529	\$19,890
3 rd				\$2,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 97,686	\$13,260
4 th					\$ 2,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 73,265	\$ 9,944
5 th						\$ 2,500	\$ 65,124	\$ 8,840
6 th							\$ 56,983	\$ 7,734
7 th							\$ 48,843	\$ 6,630
8 th							\$ 40,702	\$ 5,526
9 th							\$ 32,562	\$ 4,420
10 th							\$ 24,422	\$ 3,316

Entrants for the WBP Pairs 2001

(Based on information available at press time. This is unofficial. Updates will be published as they become available.)

- 1 Rob Crawford – Dan Jacob
- 2 Jeff Roman – Glenn Lublin
- 3 L'Ecuiller – Menachi
- 4 Nell Cahn – Bill Cook
- 5 Mickey Friedman – Harold Lilie
- 6 Lou Ann O'Rourke – Mike Cappelletti, Sr.
- 7 Reese Milner – Marc Jacobus
- 8 David Seibert – Alan Seibert
- 9 Jill Levin – Larry Cohen
- 10 Wayne Chu – Ya Nong Han
- 11 Leonard Ernst – Gene Simpson
- 12 Disa Cheek – Judy Wadas
- 13 Joe Jabon – John Garrison
- 14 Shelia Ekeblad – Mark Molson
- 15 Roger Lord –
- 16 Phil Becker – Kumar Bhatia
- 17 Srikanth Kodayam – Leszek Rabiega
- 18 Lynn Baker – Irina Levitina
- 19 Cary Keller – Bob Morris

- 20 Barry Schaefer – Colby Vernay
- 21 Russ Samuel – Shawn Samuel
- 22 Louise Childs – Derrell Childs
- 23 Ina Demme – Sheri Weinstock
- 24 Nels Ericksen – Marjorie Michellin
- 25 Ken Kranyak – Keith Wolff
- 26 Richie Coren – Fred Hamilton
- 27 Flo Rotman – Dan Rotman
- 28 Bob La Fleur – Jan George
- 29 Diana Miller – H Lussky
- 30 Bob Crossley – Roger Passat
- 31 Pinhas Romik – Stellio di Bello
- 32 Bill Doroshow – Nate Ward
- 33 Simon Kantor – Murray Melton
- 34 Petra Hamman – Nancy Passell
- 35 Bruce Ferguson – Carlton Buckley
- 36 Marshall Miles – Vic Chernoff
- 37 Jo Morse – Kyle Larsen

The Cavendish Teams: Another Look

When you are the only pair in the field to bid a slam, you deserve some kudos. Probably when your assets consist of two completely balanced 14-counts, you would expect to gainimps. So it proved for Woolsey-Stewart in this deal from Thursday's Match Nine.

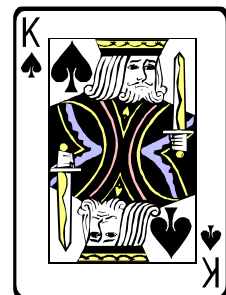
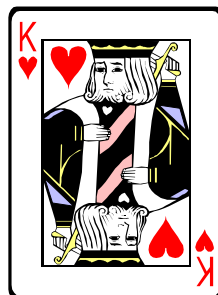
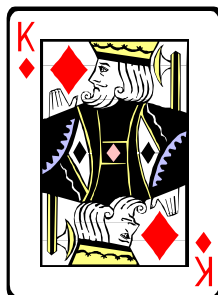
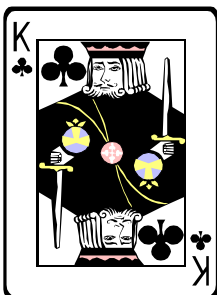
They bid:

Bd: 25	♠ AK	♠ 876
Dlr: North	♥ A532	♥ 10984
Vul: E/W	♦ Q52	♦ 743
	♣ J973	♣ KQ8
♠ QJ1092		
♥ QJ6		
♦ J1086		
♣ 4		
	♠ 543	
	♥ K7	
	♦ AK9	
	♣ A10652	

West	North <i>Woolsey</i>	East	South <i>Stewart</i>
	1♦(1)	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣(2)	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Dbl	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT(3)
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

(1) Precision; (2) Typically 13-15 BAL; (3) Last train

Stewart won the spade lead and crossed to hand to take the percentage play in clubs, by finessing, and that was 10 imps to the good guys.



Two From Session One

by Paul Linxwiler

Bd: 11	♠ AK852		
Dlr: South	♥ 10		
Vul: None	♦ K985		
	♣ 842		
♠ QJ43		♠ 97	
♥ K5		♥ AJ98764	
♦ 643		♦ 10	
♣ A1065		♣ J97	
	♠ 106		
	♥ Q32		
	♦ AQJ72		
	♣ KQ3		
West	North	East	South
<i>Cheek</i>	<i>Levinson</i>	<i>Miller</i>	<i>Shenkin</i>
			1NT
Pass	2♥(1)	Pass	2♠(2)
Pass	Pass	3♥	Pass
Pass	Dbf	All Pass	
(1) Transfer to spades; (2) Denies four spades			

Over Shenkin's weak notrump, Levinson decided to settle for a partscore when opener couldn't super-accept, then doubled to show his maximum which ended the auction. When the opening ♠10 lead went to the queen and king, the layout of the spade suit was clear to everyone. Levinson could see that if he continued with ace and another spade to give his partner a ruff, declarer could just discard a diamond loser. So he played the ♦K hoping to cash his side's diamond winners (South to give count) before returning to spades. But this line fails on the actual layout since, as only one diamond cashes, N/S need to set up a club winner for their fifth trick. Moreover, they can't afford to give East the hand entries to pick up trumps when he wins the ♣A. Thus, an immediate club shift is necessary. But none of this mattered as Shenkin misread the diamond shift and overtook to continue the suit as Miller ruffed.

Then, since Levinson was already known to hold the ♠AK and the ♦K, Shenkin was marked with the remaining high cards. And since the notrump bidder was already known to have a doubleton spade, he must have started with three (or four) hearts to the queen. The only way to avoid a trump loser was if the suit lay as in the diagram, so Miller placed the ♥J on the table and let it ride when Shenkin followed low, to lose only two spades, one diamond and one club; +530.



Bd: 21	♠ A8		
Dlr: North	♥ AK4		
Vul: N/S	♦ AKQJ		
	♣ A1096		
♠ J943		♠ KQ105	
♥ 1095		♥ Q62	
♦ 2		♦ 943	
♣ Q7432		♣ KJ8	
	♠ 762		
	♥ J873		
	♦ 108765		
	♣ 5		
West	North	East	South
<i>Greco</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Schwartz</i>
			All Pass
	3NT(1)		
(1) 25-26 HCP			

Auctions don't get any simpler than that.

Hampson led a ruse ♠Q, Greco following with the three and declarer ducking. Geoff then continued with a low spade to the jack and ace. Casen cashed four diamonds, Hampson parting with a club on the last one. Next came the ♥A as the following position was reached:

	♠ ---		
	♥ K4		
	♦ ---		
	♣ A1096		
♠ 94		♠ K7	
♥ 9		♥ Q2	
♦ ---		♦ ---	
♣ Q43		♣ KJ	
	♠ 7		
	♥ J87		
	♦ 10		
	♣ 5		

Casen could now succeed by cashing the ♣A and continuing with a low club. If Hampson wins the trick he is endplayed after cashing his spade winners; if he unblocks the ♣K under the ace declarer will later score a club trick by force. But Casen played another high heart, hoping for the doubleton queen, and finished one down.

Note that the defense has several ways to foil declarer's winning line. One is for West to retain a high spade by playing low on the second round of the suit. Another is for East to discard a spade on the fourth round of diamonds, keeping a low club for an exit card.

The Cavendish Pairs: Day One

Session One:

Bd: 2	♠ Q8763		
Dlr: East	♥ 42		
Vul: N/S	♦ A10952		
	♣ J		
♠ 52		♠ A10	
♥ Q753		♥ K1096	
♦ QJ		♦ K864	
♣ KQ1082		♣ A74	
	♠ KJ94		
	♥ AJ8		
	♦ 73		
	♣ 9653		

Kit Woolsey, sitting in the West chair, had the chance to start the set with a bang against his regular teammates, Boyd and Robinson. He reached 4♥ after making a short-suit trial bid of his small doubleton spade (thus silencing his opponents and putting them off the best lead) and received the ♣J lead. The easy way to make the hand would be to win the ♣A and lead a heart toward the queen. But Woolsey won in hand to lead a heart to the king, quite reasonably. When the defense won, took the club ruff, and cashed the ♦A Woolsey quite logically misguessed trumps by cashing the queen. As far as I can see only a couple of pairs made game here.

Bd: 4	♠ KJ5		
Dlr: West	♥ ---		
Vul: Both	♦ 872		
	♣ AKJ9542		
♠ 42		♠ A109	
♥ KJ86		♥ 97532	
♦ AKJ106		♦ Q43	
♣ 108		♣ Q3	
	♠ Q8763		
	♥ AQ104		
	♦ 95		
	♣ 76		
West	North	East	South
<i>Seamon</i>	<i>B. Pollack</i>	<i>Ekeblad</i>	<i>R. Pollack</i>
1♥	2♣	2♥	Pass
Pass	3♣	3♥	3NT
Pass	Pass	Dbf	Pass
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

In the battle of the strong clubs, the Pollacks took on Russ Ekeblad and Michael Seamon. Ekeblad doubled 3NT to scare his opponents out of what in fact would have been an unhappy spot. When Billy ran to 4♣ Ekeblad led the ♥9 (3rd & 5th) and now Pollack had to decide whether to finesse (to try for two quick discards) or to play for the trump split and

fly with the ♥A. He misguessed by finessing the ♥Q and when that was covered by the king he ruffed and advanced the ♠K. If Ekeblad could have brought himself to duck he would have set the hand, but he won and led a second spade. Pollack won his jack, cashed the top clubs, and collected +170.

Bd: 8	♠ KQ984		
Dlr: West	♥ ---		
Vul: None	♦ AQJ53		
	♣ 1092		
♠ J103		♠ A62	
♥ AQ75		♥ KJ9864	
♦ 962		♦ 8	
♣ K84		♣ AQ6	
	♠ 75		
	♥ 1032		
	♦ K1074		
	♣ J753		
West	North	East	South
<i>Schwartz</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Nickell</i>
Pass	1♠	2♥	Pass
2♠	3♦	3♠	4♦
4♥	All Pass		

In a sense this was a missed opportunity for Hamman and Nickell, the winners of this event in 1998. When Schwartz bid 2♠ rather than jump to 4♥ that let Hamman introduce his second suit at a convenient level. Casen's 3♠ bid announced ownership of the hand, but Nickell bid only 4♦ and Schwartz bought the hand at 4♥. Had Nickell jumped to 5♦ he would certainly have done better since the sacrifice costs only 300. And while Schwartz would not have doubled 5♦, both he and Casen might have been tempted to try 5♥ might they not?

When Quantin held the South cards against Cohler-Finberg he did bid 5♦ at his second turn to speak. His opponent erred by bidding on to 5♥ for a huge swing to the French.

Bd: 11	♠ AK852		
Dlr: South	♥ 10		
Vul: None	♦ K985		
	♣ 842		
♠ QJ43		♠ 97	
♥ K5		♥ AJ98764	
♦ 643		♦ 10	
♣ A1065		♣ J97	
	♠ 106		
	♥ Q32		
	♦ AQJ72		
	♣ KQ3		

The majority of the field were unable to get to 5♦ here, which has some play. They defended 3♥ or tried 3NT without success. But Mari reached 3NT after his to-remain-nameless opponents had preempted to 3♥. The ♥K lead received discouragement and West shifted to a club to the jack. Mari ducked this and in return the defense ducked the second club. This was the ending as Mari cashed his last diamond:

	♠ AK852		
	♥ ---		
	♦ ---		
	♣ 8		
♠ QJ3		♠ 97	
♥ 5		♥ AJ9	
♦ ---		♦ ---	
♣ A10		♣ 7	
	♠ 106		
	♥ Q3		
	♦ 2		
	♣ Q		

On the fifth diamond E/W both threw clubs. That in itself was not fatal but it let Christian lead his low spade. When West rather sleepily played low so did Christian, and though East could win and cash his ♥A, the club winners had got away.

Bd: 12	♠ 1085		
Dlr: West	♥ Q95		
Vul: N/S	♦ 73		
	♣ K7654		
♠ ---		♠ KQ642	
♥ AJ10843		♥ K72	
♦ AKJ2		♦ Q1086	
♣ Q93		♣ 8	
	♠ AJ973		
	♥ 6		
	♦ 954		
	♣ AJ102		

Zia achieved his first reportable coup of the set here (and what took him so long, you might ask). Zia, West, opened 1♥ and Billy Eisenberg jumped to 3♣ (limit with four trumps or an unbalanced three-card raise). Zia tried a delicate 6♥ and Espen Erichsen led a spade to the king and ace. Now, when Zia advanced the ♣Q Erichsen won the ♣K to play a second spade. Now Zia had to find the ♥Q. He reasoned that Erichsen's decision to win the ♣K and return a spade (as opposed to a trump) or as opposed to letting his partner win the ♣A meant that he had the ♥Q. So Zia ruffed the spade return and ran the ♥J to make his slam..

Del'Monte and Eber got to defend 6♦ doubled here but declarer misguessed hearts, turning approximately 500

cross-imps in the process! Wolff also made the slam against Robinson and Boyd after the defense cashed the ♣A and tried to cash the ♠A.

Bd: 17	♠ Q10853		
Dlr: North	♥ 6		
Vul: None	♦ Q52		
	♣ AJ75		
♠ J4		♠ AK72	
♥ AJ1095		♥ KQ43	
♦ 9		♦ 86	
♣ Q9863		♣ K102	
	♠ 96		
	♥ 872		
	♦ AKJ10743		
	♣ 4		
West	North	East	South
<i>Mari</i>	<i>Wolff</i>	<i>F'genb'm</i>	<i>Kasle</i>
	Pass	1NT	3♦
3♥	5♦	5♥	All Pass

With 5♦ likely to escape for down one, Faigenbaum's aggressive 5♥ bid left a lot of imps hanging in the balance. Wolff led a thoughtful ♦Q, Kasle gave an equally thoughtful true count ♦3, and Wolff cashed the ♣A and gave Kasle the ruff. Nicely done!

Bd: 19	♠ J932		
Dlr: South	♥ J10542		
Vul: E/W	♦ Q6		
	♣ 107		
♠ AQ1084		♠ 7	
♥ AKQ8		♥ 76	
♦ 2		♦ AJ10753	
♣ KJ2		♣ AQ65	
	♠ K65		
	♥ 93		
	♦ K984		
	♣ 9843		

Is any slam good here? Clearly only 6♣ has play, and on a trump lead it does not look to be a great spot. Nevertheless, you can scramble a lot of tricks with the aid of the spade finesse. But the five-two heart split spells curtains. Jansma-Verhees bid 1♠-2♦; 2♥-2NT; 4NT-Pass and on a club lead Verhees won the jack and led a diamond to the ace and a low diamond, bringing in eleven tricks without incident. Brad Moss and Fred Gitelman reached 6♣ after 1♠-2♦; 2♥-2NT; 3♣-3NT; 5NT (pick a slam)-6♣, a very thoughtful auction. Unlucky, down one! After a non-trump lead all you need is for hearts to behave.

Bd: 21	♠ A8	
Dlr: North	♥ AK4	
Vul: N/S	♦ AKQJ	
	♣ A1096	
♠ J943		♠ KQ105
♥ 1095		♥ Q62
♦ 2		♦ 943
♣ Q7432		♣ KJ8
	♠ 762	
	♥ J873	
	♦ 108765	
	♣ 5	

The field played 3NT here, which should of course be defeated on careful defense. Billy and Rozanne Pollack found their way to 5♦—with a little help from their friends! Billy, North, opened a Precision 1♣ and when his LHO overcalled 1♠ Rozanne passed to show 0-5 HCP. When his RHO raised to 3♠ he decided 3NT was unlikely to be right. Instead, he doubled and over 4♦ he cue-bid 4♠, then gave up in 5♦. Rozanne could draw trumps, ruff a spade in dummy, and establish a heart trick for her contract.

Elsewhere in 3NT a few defenders left wishing they could have a “rewind” on the deal. For example, against Roy Welland the defense started with ♠K and a spade to the jack, blocking the suit. (Both the shift to the low spade and the play of the ♠J look like errors. By comparison, when Lazard and Bramley were defending, Lazard played the ♠10 at trick two.) Welland cashed three diamonds on which his RHO threw two hearts, so he played off the ♣A, then the ♥A. Now the last diamond squeezed his LHO into pitching a spade in the following position.

	♠ ---	
	♥ K4	
	♦ ---	
	♣ A1096	
♠ J4		♠ Q
♥ ---		♥ Q6
♦ ---		♦ ---
♣ Q743		♣ KJ8
	♠ 7	
	♥ J87	
	♦ 10	
	♣ 5	

Welland exited with the ♣10 and the defense could not untangle their winners. Either his LHO would have to concede two hearts at the end or his RHO would have to overtake a club honor and set up a club winner for Welland in the process.

Bd: 23	♠ Q108	
Dlr: South	♥ 9	
Vul: Both	♦ 62	
	♣ AK87532	
♠ J964		♠ A73
♥ K86		♥ AQJ542
♦ KQJ85		♦ A103
♣ J		♣ 6
	♠ K52	
	♥ 1073	
	♦ 974	
	♣ Q1094	

The perfect fit slam here is far from easy to reach. With just 26 HCP there are a few wasted jacks, and still exactly twelve top tricks. Bach and Cornell victimized Fleisher-Rodwell here. When Bach opened 1♦ Rodwell jumped to 3♣, Cornell bid 3♥, and Fleisher bid 4♣ to take away the cue-bid raise from Bach. Unluckily for him, Bach was only going to bid 4♥ anyway and the tempo of the auction actually worked to Cornell's advantage. Over his partner's 4♥ bid, which in the context of a weak notrump system showed real diamonds or extras, he simply used Blackwood and bid the cold slam. But as you can see, if the West hand were a little stronger and the East hand a little weaker, Fleisher's approach might well have scored a goal. When, as happened at many tables, the West hand passed, reaching slam was impossible. Brogland and Erichsen also reached slam on the identical auction to that of Cornell and Bach for a handy pickup.

Session Two:

Bd: 1	♠ 8	
Dlr: North	♥ KQ	
Vul: None	♦ KQ98532	
	♣ J82	
♠ AK93		♠ J1076542
♥ J8532		♥ A107
♦ ---		♦ 6
♣ K1075		♣ A4
	♠ Q	
	♥ 964	
	♦ AJ1074	
	♣ Q963	

6♠ is a fine spot here, but when North opens 1♦ E/W are unlikely to work out they can make slam. One pair in contention, Welland-Fallenius, helped their opposition unwittingly by opening 3♦. The auction proceeded: 3♦-3♠-5♦-6♠. Ferraro-Duboin also suffered when their opponents reached 6♠, but Katz-Blanchard did even better with the E/W cards. Their North opened 1♦ and the auction proceeded:

West	North	East	South
<i>Katz</i>	<i>Robison</i>	<i>Blanchard</i>	<i>Freed</i>
	1♦	1♠	3♦
4♦	5♦	5♠(1)	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

With the ♥KQ doubleton onside all the elimination plays (and there is a wide choice) worked fine; +1210.

Bd: 5	♠ Q64		
Dlr: North	♥ 965		
Vul: N/S	♦ A62		
	♣ Q873		
♠ KJ10985		♠ A7	
♥ A872		♥ KQ3	
♦ Q74		♦ J983	
♣ ---		♣ J642	
	♠ 32		
	♥ J104		
	♦ K105		
	♣ AK1095		

Careless talk costs lives, they say, and it was certainly true here. Most E/W pairs bought the hand in spades, making about nine tricks. But when Ron Smith overcalled 1♠ he heard his LHO bid 1NT. This is how the auction developed:

West	North	East	South
<i>Smith</i>		<i>Cohen</i>	
	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♠	1NT	Dbl(1)	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dbl	All Pass	
(1) Values			

On a club lead West ruffed and passed the ♠J at once. Then he led a trump to the ace and a diamond to the queen. This is technically the right play since South is marked with two spades and five clubs. So the only danger comes when South has four hearts. But in that case he will also hold a doubleton diamond honor. Otherwise, if diamonds are three-three hearts are sure to be splitting.



Bd: 8	♠ 4		
Dlr: West	♥ J95		
Vul: None	♦ K1086		
	♣ AQ972		
♠ A107		♠ J86532	
♥ K8742		♥ 3	
♦ A7		♦ QJ2	
♣ K84		♣ 1063	
	♠ KQ9		
	♥ AQ106		
	♦ 9543		
	♣ J5		

When the auction starts (1♥)-2♣-(Pass) to you, there is something to be said for *not* jumping to 3NT at once. After all, you would like a heart lead would you not? Ishmael Del'Monte did jump to 3NT and Peter Boyd led a heart anyway. Del'Monte won in hand, led a diamond to the king, and then passed a club to the jack and king. Perhaps Boyd would have done best to exit with a club but he actually cashed the ♦A on which Robison played the ♦Q, making the position clear to Del'Monte, who just gave up a heart and claimed nine tricks when the clubs behaved.

At another table, Ron Smith led a low spade on the same auction. Declarer took the jack with the king and advanced the ♣J. When Smith covered with the king the winning line was to duck. With spades six-three and the actual diamond blockage, the East hand can never get in to play a spade through. But declarer took the first club and finessed a heart to Smith, who got out with a second club. Now he could force an entry to Cohen's hand and set the contract by force.

Bd: 15	♠ Q732		
Dlr: South	♥ AK76		
Vul: N/S	♦ AQ4		
	♣ 42		
♠ K9		♠ 65	
♥ 104		♥ QJ985	
♦ 9763		♦ KJ8	
♣ A9753		♣ 1086	
	♠ AJ1084		
	♥ 32		
	♦ 1052		
	♣ KQJ		

If ever there was a reason not to open light, this board is it. Where I was watching Amos Kaminski passed the South hand and a transfer auction to 4♠ saw Gawrys have no problems on a club lead. Both Helgemo and Stewart opened the South hand, the one fueled by youthful exuberance, the other by a strong club system. After a game-forcing trump raise both played 4♠ on a diamond lead to the jack. Both Levy and Welland at their respective tables found the

devastating trump shift. Declarer took his ace but had lost his hand entry. He tried the ♣K but both Chemla and Fallenius continued the good work on defense. They ducked the first club, won the second, and played a second diamond. Declarer rose with the ace and played ♠A, ♥K, and ruffed a heart high to get back to hand. No such luck! West overruffed and led to the ♦K for down one. Pszczola and Kwiecien also found this defense for down one.

Bd: 16	♠ ---	
Dlr: West	♥ AK984	
Vul: E/W	♦ K8753	
	♣ Q97	
♠ AKQ9852		♠ J3
♥ 53		♥ Q102
♦ 64		♦ QJ
♣ J2		♣ K108654
	♠ 10764	
	♥ J76	
	♦ A1092	
	♣ A3	

Opinions varied sharply as to how to deal with the N/S cards after a 3♠ preempt, the standard action with the West cards. Lev doubled 3♠ and Helgemo sat, collecting only 200 when Jansma guessed clubs after Lev cashed the ♥AK and shifted to a club. By contrast, Bates overcalled 4♥ and found himself in 6♥ after Mordecai moved on—rather aggressively I think.

After Gene Freed opened 3♠ Bart Bramley also played 6♥. He ruffed the spade lead, cashed the ♥AK, ♦K, ♦A, ruffed a second spade, crossed to the ♦10 as Robison pitched and ruffed another spade. If Robison discards the slam comes home as Bramley crosses to the ♦9 and then endplays Robison in trumps to lead a club. But Robison alertly overruffed and exited with a club, giving declarer a club trick but still leaving him with a club loser. (Bramley said the hand was exceptionally irritating because, while you can unblock the ♦10 or ♦9 under the king, that leaves North an entry short to dummy because the ♦2 isn't an entry.) Mohan and Wold got it just right: Mohan doubled 3♠ and Wold jumped to 5♦, raised by Mohan to six. Maybe John Lowenthal, if he were still alive, would have found the ♣J lead but being only mortal, West kicked off with a top spade and declarer ruffed. Now he could draw trumps without any restricted choice problems since it was East who was likely to be long in trumps. A heart to the ace and a low heart towards the jack now ensured twelve tricks.

The typical auction here (see next column) saw West open a minor and when North jumped to 4♥ East could double, letting West convert to 4♠. On a top heart lead I saw Fallenius win and play two top spades from hand. When the suit split four-one he advanced the ♣Q, which Grabel took with the ace to make the natural heart play. Fallenius ruffed and led a low club from hand and Wittes took his king. Now, whether he returns a club or a heart declarer can force an

entry to dummy for the diamond finesse.

Bd: 20	♠ 10	
Dlr: West	♥ KQJ8762	
Vul: Both	♦ 8	
	♣ K863	
♠ KQJ8		♠ A753
♥ 4		♥ A109
♦ A753		♦ QJ10
♣ QJ75		♣ 1094
	♠ 9642	
	♥ 53	
	♦ K9642	
	♣ A2	

If Grabel returns a club at trick five and takes his ruff, then gets off play with a trump, declarer can still make—one way or another he establishes a club as a home for the third heart. However, if Grabel returns a low trump when he wins the ♣A, the contract cannot be made (try it). Of course it can always be made if declarer does not cash a second high spade at trick three but instead plays on clubs. Mind you, 4♥ doubled has only eight tricks if the defense get two rounds of trumps in at once. Maybe that is an easier way to get a good score on the deal.

Bd: 23	♠ AKQ9	
Dlr: South	♥ Q109	
Vul: Both	♦ KQ7	
	♣ A86	
♠ 72		♠ J10853
♥ 742		♥ KJ5
♦ 10532		♦ A
♣ Q1075		♣ K943
	♠ 64	
	♥ A863	
	♦ J9864	
	♣ J2	

When Roy Welland declared 3NT after a 19-20 2NT opening he was fortunate enough to receive a low spade lead to his nine. He then made the natural play of the ♦Q from hand and Erichsen won his bare ace. At this point it seemed to me that he could count on declarer scoring four spade tricks, the ♣A, ♥A, and three diamond tricks if left to his own devices. Therefore, he had to play his partner for the ♣Q10 and shift to a club at once; as the cards lie, this beats the hand. But on the passive spade continuation nine tricks were easy. After a club shift there is still some play for declarer. For instance, Jon Wittes won the third club and advanced the ♦K, ding the bad news as East pitched a spade. He then advanced the ♥Q, covered all around, cashed his top spades forcing West to pitch his club, then exited with a heart. But there was no endplay when East showed up with the ♥J.