



World Bridge Productions

Presents the

C[♠]avendish^{wbp}

Invitational

Bulletin Number 5

Sunday, May 12, 2002

Editor: Rich Colker

Contributing Editor: Barry Rigal

Joanne and Lew Stansby Lead 2002 Cavendish Pairs

What a difference a day makes. They started the day in thirty-third place, but after a sound third session (+682 imps) and a massive fourth-session (1530.5 imps) they vaulted into the lead with 2173.50 imps and only one session to go. In second place with 2028.61 imps are Bart Bramley and Sidney Lazard. The only other pair to exceed 2000 imps, Russians Andrei Gromov and Aleksander Petrunin, are in third place with 2004.61 imps. Fred Gitelman and Brad Moss, with 1853.0 imps, are in fourth place while Egyptians Walid Elahmady and Tarek Sadek are in fifth place with 1808.61 imps. In sixth through tenth places are Levy-Mouiel, Helgemo-Wold, Hanlon-McGann (yesterday's leaders), Duboin-Ferraro, and Hayden-Onstott. The complete Day 2 standings along with the overall and session prize awards can be found on page 3.

Schaffer-Vernay Lead 2002 WBP Pairs

Barry Schaffer and Colby Vernay scored 1043 imps in the first session, then added another 122-plus imps in the second session to lead the WBP Pairs with 1165.64 imps. In second place with 1007.71 imps are Rob Crawford and Dan Jacob, the only other pair to score over 1000. In third place with 860.01 imps are Paul Erb and Leonard Ernst. Rounding out the top five are George Mittelman and Peter Nagy (678.94 imps) and Derrell Childs and Louise Freed (550.36 imps). The complete Day 1 standings and overall and session prize awards can be found on page 2.

Gamblers Non-Anonymous

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

New Appeals Procedure

This year appeals will be conducted without the Appeals Committee knowing the identities of the parties involved. All information will be conveyed to and from the AC by a Director. Points and counterpoints will be in writing, if so requested by any party to the appeal.

However, the ultimate goal of the appeal is to arrive at

the best possible decision. If the AC decides that face-to-face contact with the involved parties is necessary, it will be free to arrange it.

We hope this new procedure will prove satisfactory to everyone involved. We invite your cooperation.

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.

Schedule

Day	Time	Activity	Location
Sunday, May 12`	12:30 PM	5 th Session, Pairs	Miranda Ballroom
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, WBP Pairs	Pavilion 6
	5:00 PM	Closing Cocktail Party	Miranda Veranda

Entrants for the WBP Pairs 2002

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

Rank	Score	Pair	Auction Price	Rank	Score	Pair	Auction Price
1	1165.64	Barry Schaffer – Colby Vernay	1,600	17	23.01	Sheila Ekeblad – Mark Molson	1,000
2	1007.71	Rob Crawford – Dan Jacob	1,500	18	-66.35	Fred Hamilton – Rhoda Walsh	1,800
3	860.01	Paul Erb – Leonard Ernst	1,000	19	-77.86	Les Amoils – Disa Cheek	1,800
4	678.94	George Mittelman – Peter Nagy	2,700	20	-91.42	Richard Coren – Billy Eisenberg	2,000
5	550.36	Derrell Childs – Louise Freed	1,100	21	-114.84	Steve Scott – Haig Tchamitch	1,200
6	422.70	Gavin Wolpert – Darren Wolpert	1,600	22	-123.64	Chris Compton – Daniel Klein	1,000
7	399.49	Larry Cohen – Richard Rogers	1,300	23	-266.65	Marty Baff – Phil Becker	1,000
8	358.08	Kyle Larsen – Jo Morse	1,800	24	-271.93	Leszek Rabiega – Edward Wojewoda	1,800
9	343.35	Mike McNamara – David Yates	1,000	25	-283.08	John Jeffrey – Marjorie Michelin	1,200
10	265.65	Brenda Keller – Rick Whitworth	1,000	26	-289.15	Lynn Baker – Kerri Sanborn	1,300
11	200.64	Kent Mignocchi – Beverly Perry	1,000	27	-584.71	Bill Jacobson – Keith Woolf	1,000
12	121.99	Peter Grover – Richard Halperin	1,000	28	-599.65	Roger Lord – Jcqueline Sincoff	1,000
13	99.71	Roy Hoppe – Mike McCarthy	1,000	29	-676.79	Jim Robison – Jerry Weinstein	1,200
14	57.43	Jon Greenspan – Krzysztof Jassem	2,300	30	-699.71	Russ Samuel – Shawn Samuel	1,000
15	43.35	Victor Chernoff – Nels Erickson	1,500	31	-778.21	Bill Doroshow – Nate Ward	1,000
16	24.28	Leonard Holtz – Renee Mancuso	1,500	32	-988.35	Bruce Ferguson – Brenda Jacobus	1,000

Auction Total: \$43,200

Overall and Session Awards



WBP Pairs



Place	Session			Overalls	
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Auction	Players
1 st			\$1,500	\$11,776	\$5,376
2 nd			\$750	\$ 7,360	\$3,360
3 rd				\$ 5,520	\$2,520
4 th				\$ 4,048	\$1,848
5 th				\$ 3,312	\$1,512
6 th				\$ 2,576	\$1,176
7 th				\$ 2,208	\$1,008

2002 Cavendish Pairs: Standings After Day 2

Rank	Score	Pair	Auction Price (in K)	Rank	Score	Pair	Auction Price (in K)
1	2173.50	Joanna Stansby – Lew Stansby	12	31	40.21	Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey	17
2	2028.61	Bart Bramley – Sidney Lazard	21	32	-34.61	Ross Grabel – Jon Wittes	15.5
3	2004.61	Andrei Gromov – Aleksander Petrunin	28	33	-178.61	Gunnar Hallberg – Nick Sandquist	18
4	1853.00	Fred Gitelman – Brad Moss	26	34	-244.39	Rose Meltzer – Peter Weischel	10
5	1808.61	Walid Elahmadi – Tarek Sadek	13	35	-334.39	Steve Landen – Pratap Rajadhyaksha	12.5
6	1735.75	Alain Levy – Herve Mouiel	30	36	-346.79	David Berkowitz – Larry Cohen	41
7	1696.5	Geir Helgemo – Eddie Wold	36	37	-348.75	Russ Ekeblad – Michael Seamon	17
8	1630.68	Tom Hanlon – Hugh McGann	11	38	-404.21	Drew Casen – Bill Pollack	11
9	1581.21	Georgio Duboin – Guido Ferraro	23	39	-434.21	Bjorn Fallenuis – Roy Welland	18
10	1533.39	Garey Hayden – John Onstott	10	40	-457.61	Luis Lantaron – Juan Ventin	10
11	1339.39	Bob Hamman – Zia Mahmood	30	41	-505.79	Steve Beatty – George Steiner	10
12	1294.61	Paul Chemla – Philippe Cronier	29	42	-515.61	Steve Levinson – Barnet Shenkin	10
13	1143.25	Curtis Cheek – Billy Miller	26	43	-592.00	Marc Jacobus – Gaylor Kasle	15
14	993.61	Michal Kwiecien – Jacek Pszczola	39	44	-655.75	Linda Lewis – Paul Lewis	10
15	950.79	Peter Fredin – Magnus Lindkvist	30	45	-834.00	Piotr Gawrys – Amos Kaminsk	10
16	948.61	Boye Brogeland – Espen Erichsen	25	46	-837.61	Antonio Frances – Jose Torres	10
17	923.11	Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein	30	47	-840.21	George Jacobs – Ralph Katz	11
18	874.21	Jim Krekorian – Rick Zucker	13	48	-1062.00	Fulvio Fantoni – Claudio Nunes	10
19	790.39	Doug Doub – Adam Wildavsky	10	49	-1107.04	Pierre Saporta – Pierre Zimmerman	10
20	781.39	Eric Greco – Geoff Hampson	33	50	-1256.39	Andrew Robson – Rita Shugart	10
21	641.00	Michel Abecassis – Michel Eidi	17	51	-1271.21	Mike Cappelletti, Jr. – Mike Passell	17.5
22	619.00	Perry Johnson – Jeff Meckstroth	23	52	-1311.61	Bob Blanchard – Sam Lev	25.5
23	512.61	Steve Garner – Howard Weinstein	33	53	-1527.50	Grant Baze – Michael Whitman	10
24	324.39	Gary Cohler – Mark Lair	15.5	54	-1618.50	Chuck Berger – Michael Moss	13.5
25	261.39	Billy Cohen – Ron Smith	22	55	-1711.96	Ishmael Del'Monte – Neville Eber	10
26	218.50	Jared Lilienstein – Glenn Milgrim	10	56	-2231.79	Christian Mari – Herve Vinciguerra	12
27	184.61	Mike Cornell – Lionel Wright	10	57	-2254.50	Gene Freed – Jeff Olson	10
28	134.61	Brian Glubok – Jim Mahaffey	10	58	-2577.25	Michael Courtney – Charles Wigoder	10
29	115.89	Roger Bates – John Mohan	29	59	-2717.68	Seymon Deutsch – Paul Soloway	10
30	53.75	Marty Fleisher – Eric Rodwell	20.5	60	-3065.21	Hector Camberos – Pablo Lambardi	11



Overall and Session Awards Cavendish Pairs



Session= Place	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	(From Player's Pool)	Overalls Auction	Overalls Players
1 st			\$7,500	\$12,500	\$20,000	(\$5,000)	\$243,967	\$32,760
2 nd			\$5,000	\$10,000	\$12,000	(\$3,000)	\$156,193	\$21,060
3 rd			\$2,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 8,000	(\$2,500)	\$104,129	\$14,040
4 th			\$2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 5,000		\$ 78,097	\$10,530
5 th			\$2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500		\$ 69,419	\$ 9,360
6 th							\$ 60,742	\$ 8,190
7 th							\$ 52,064	\$ 7,020
8 th							\$ 43,387	\$ 5,850
9 th							\$ 34,710	\$ 4,680
10 th							\$ 26,032	\$ 3,510

Anybody Want a Lucky Number?

by Sam Leckie

Roulette is my poison, and 17 my lucky number. Although I back plenty of other numbers on each spin, my biggest bet is always on number 17. So when I registered at Bally's last Monday and they gave me Room 1717, I almost jumped with joy. This had to be it!

I thought that by the time the Cavendish started I'd have won enough money that when Seymon invited me to dinner I'd surprise him and pay my own way. (Remember, I'm Scottish.)

However, by the time you all arrived the only 17 I'd seen was the one that lit up in the elevator when I pushed it for my floor.

How could I recover my losses?

Two years ago I followed Zia and Hamman and appeared to bring them luck. Indeed, that year they finished second. So buying 1% of them this year, I figured, would just about cure my losses—provided they win. Then I had a better idea. I would look to see who was Pair #17 on the official list and if it was a reasonable pair I'd back them. You won't believe this but Zia and Hamman are #17. I just had to take the plunge.

Before play started I told Bob this story. "Sam, with your luck we'll finish seventeenth." he replied.

At the moment that would be a good result for them!

Images of Our game



"If you can spend \$1,200 on that pair, I'm going shopping!"



"Is this the Lotto line?"



Puttin' on the Ritz

The Cavendish Pairs: Day One Revisited

Session Two:

Bd: 20	♠ A983		
Dlr: West	♥ AKJ1092		
Vul: Both	♦ J8		
	♣ 9		
♠ Q102		♠ 5	
♥ 5		♥ 764	
♦ A2		♦ KQ1076543	
♣ AK76542		♣ J	
	♠ KJ764		
	♥ Q83		
	♦ 9		
	♣ Q1083		

You'll note when we referred to this deal yesterday that we never said Miller's diamond shift at trick two was *sufficient* to beat the hand—only that it was necessary. If declarer assumes that clubs are not splitting, which seems rational on the defense, he could and should make the hand. He runs all the diamonds; on the final round of the suit this is the ending:

	♠ 98		
	♥ AKJ		
	♦ ---		
	♣ ---		
♠ Q10		♠ ---	
♥ ---		♥ 764	
♦ ---		♦ 3	
♣ AK7		♣ J	
	♠ KJ		
	♥ ---		
	♦ ---		
	♣ Q108		

South must pitch a spade, so declarer throws the ♣7 from dummy, crosses with a club, leads a spade, and takes the last two tricks with dummy's other top club and ♠Q. Maybe an initial trumps lead is good enough to set the hand as the spade menace is no longer isolated.

Note that at trick two, to set 5♦ legitimately, the defense has to play a club. That breaks up the squeeze. Fleisher-Rodwell defended 5♦ doubled after bidding and raising spades. Fleisher led the ♠K and now the contract has no play on a trump shift.



Bd: 26	♠ J532		
Dlr: East	♥ ---		
Vul: Both	♦ AQJ74		
	♣ Q1086		
♠ 97		♠ KQ84	
♥ J5		♥ AQ8732	
♦ K10865		♦ 9	
♣ K432		♣ 95	
	♠ A106		
	♥ K10964		
	♦ 32		
	♣ AJ7		

On the last round of the day I stopped off to watch the session leaders, Hanlon-McGann, take on the Egyptians, Elahmadi-Sadek. The Irish pair found an enterprising auction to catch Sadek in 2♥ doubled, then backed their judgment with very accurate defense.

West	North	East	South
Elahmadi	McGann	Sadek	Hanlon
		1♥	Pass
1NT	Dbl	2♥	Dbl
All Pass			

McGann was unhappy to pass 2♥ doubled, but what else could he do? After a diamond to the jack and the ♠5 to the king and ace, Hanlon found the ♥K shift! This may look like routine technique, but not everybody managed it. Nevertheless, declarer was still in with a chance as George Jacobs demonstrated at another table. Win the ♥A, play the ♠Q and ruff a spade, ruff a diamond, lead a club to the king (South must duck the ♣A) and lead a low club. If North fails to rise with the queen he endplays his partner (in a way) on this trick. The best he can do is get out with the ♥10, which is still good enough to set the hand. But at Jacobs's table the (nameless) defender exited with a third club. That let Jacobs ruff and now he was down to ♥Q87 and a losing spade. He led the spade, forcing the defense to ruff their winner, and now Jacobs had two trump tricks in the ending for +670.

Billy Pollack showed the right way to defend this hand. On the diamond lead he won and shifted to a club to the ace, for Casen to play the ♥K. Declarer won, led a club to the king, then a spade to the king and ace. Back came a heart and declarer won the jack, ruffed a club, then played the ♠Q (Casen unblocking the ten!) and a low spade. Alas for the defense, Casen's ♠6 was just too big. Pollack had to duck this so Casen led a diamond, ruffed by declarer, who now had seven tricks.

The 2002 Cavendish Pairs: Day Two

Session Three:

Reaching slam was the exception rather than the rule on this deal. At this table N/S's aggression got the better of them.

Bd: 3	♠ 92		
Dlr: South	♥ 7		
Vul: E/W	♦ A1084		
	♣ Q76532		
♠ AJ653		♠ ---	
♥ K9862		♥ A10543	
♦ 72		♦ KQ965	
♣ J		♣ A108	
	♠ KQ10874		
	♥ QJ		
	♦ J3		
	♣ K94		
West	North	East	South
Hayden	Levinson	Onstott	Shenkin
			1♠
Pass	1NT(1)	2♠	Pass
4♥	5♣	5♥	Pass
6♥	Dbf	All Pass	

Levinson led the ♦A and Hayden claimed a couple of tricks later. Of course without the ♠5 bid Onstott would have been hard-pressed to bid on. But even as it was, East and West did well here.

Bd: 4	♠ A		
Dlr: West	♥ A8654		
Vul: Both	♦ J103		
	♣ KQ106		
♠ J1098		♠ Q652	
♥ 1097		♥ Q3	
♦ KQ652		♦ A8	
♣ 8		♣ 97543	
	♠ K743		
	♥ KJ2		
	♦ 974		
	♣ AJ2		

4♥ was the normal spot here. Against the Egyptians, Lionel Wright had a tough defensive play. Cornell kept his side in the game by leading the ♦A and continuing the suit. Wright cashed his diamond winners (Cornell pitching the ♣5, discouraging) and now the defense has to play a fourth diamond to promote the ♥10 via the uppercut. But he played a spade (worried that declarer could pitch a losing spade if he had a 1=5=3=4 shape with the ♥Q), and that was back to +420. Should West work out that without the ♥Q East might ruff the third diamond if he had the ♠A to cash, or encourage

a club with the ♣K10?

The only table where 4♥ was beaten legitimately was where Glubok could pitch a discouraging ♠2, and Mahaffey then played a fourth diamond. Well done, Jim.

Sadek was in the hot seat on the next deal as well when once again he declared 4♥.

Bd: 5	♠ 5		
Dlr: North	♥ K964		
Vul: N/S	♦ Q532		
	♣ K832		
♠ Q1096		♠ A843	
♥ A10		♥ 832	
♦ 106		♦ A84	
♣ QJ1064		♣ 975	
	♠ KJ72		
	♥ QJ75		
	♦ KJ97		
	♣ A		

Cornell did well to lead a trump after the auction 1♦-1♥; 3♥-4♥. Sadek took the second trump in hand and led a spade. Cornell won his ace to play a third trump, but declarer had ten tricks now when diamonds behaved. If Cornell had ducked the spade declarer would guess the suit right, ruff a spade back to hand, cross to the ♣A, ruff a second spade, pitch the last spade on the ♣K and make five. The only lead to beat 4♥ by force is a low diamond as the defense can now obtain a diamond ruff.

Bd: 8	♠ J72		
Dlr: West	♥ A1043		
Vul: None	♦ 7		
	♣ AQ943		
♠ Q1083		♠ AK964	
♥ KQ6		♥ J5	
♦ AJ8		♦ Q64	
♣ 1085		♣ J72	
	♠ 5		
	♥ 9872		
	♦ K109532		
	♣ K6		

Lionel Wright achieved some sort of a coup here. (Is this a winkle, a stepping stone, or some variation of the two?) After West opened a 12-14 HCP notrump East bid 2♥ (transfer) and West jumped to 3♠ (four spades and a minimum). East raised to game. Our unnameable North led a trump. Wright won in dummy to pass the ♥J. North won and back came a trump. Wright won, cashed two top hearts to pitch a club,

and led a low club up. North played a reflexive ♣Q and now found he could not set the hand. He shifted to a diamond and Wright won his jack and led another club. What was North to do? If he took his ace, crashing his partner's king, dummy's losing diamond would go on the ♣10. If he ducked, his partner would be endplayed.

Roy Welland and Bjorn Fallenius were not among the leaders early on, but they picked up an unlikely swing here.

Bd: 12	♠ A105		
Dir: West	♥ J543		
Vul: N/S	♦ 4		
	♣ KJ1095		
♠ Q87		♠ J9642	
♥ A876		♥ Q2	
♦ 1075		♦ AK2	
♣ 862		♣ Q43	
	♠ K3		
	♥ K109		
	♦ QJ9863		
	♣ A7		
West	North	East	South
	Fallenius		Welland
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♦
2♠	Dbl	Pass	3♥!
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Welland won the spade lead with the ace and led a diamond. East rose with the ace and pressed on with spades. Welland won the king and ran the ♦Q, pitching dummy's last spade as East won the king. A spade back would have been best, but East played a club into the tenace. Welland won and led a heart to the ten and ace (again perhaps not best), then ruffed the spade return in dummy to lead a heart to the queen and king. Now West had two trumps while declarer and dummy had one each. All Welland had to do was cash his ♣A and ♦J. This was the three-card ending.

	♠ ---		
	♥ J		
	♦ ---		
	♣ KJ		
♠ ---		♠ 96	
♥ 87		♥ ---	
♦ ---		♦ ---	
♣ 8		♣ Q	
	♠ ---		
	♥ 10		
	♦ 98		
	♣ ---		

When a diamond was led declarer could not be prevented from taking the rest.

Bd: 13	♠ A84		
Dir: North	♥ Q10		
Vul: Both	♦ Q432		
	♣ J976		
♠ K65		♠ Q972	
♥ A8653		♥ 74	
♦ A1097		♦ KJ	
♣ 10		♣ AKQ52	
	♠ J103		
	♥ KJ92		
	♦ 865		
	♣ 843		

3NT is a fascinating contract, but there are simply too many variations to fit them into the margin of this column (as the famous mathematician Pierre Fermat might have said). When 3NT was declared by Bates, as West, Pollack led a diamond to dummy's jack. Bates played a spade to the jack, king and ace and now the ♥Q shift might have set it. But Pollack returned a diamond and declarer had +630.

By contrast, Joanna Stansby declared 3NT from the other side. She ducked the heart lead to the queen, won the heart return with the ace, and played four rounds of clubs. North won top play a diamond, best, but Joanna took the jack, cashed the club (on which North pitched a diamond), and overtook the ♦K to play a third diamond. North was in and had to concede two of the last three tricks. If North pitches a spade instead of a diamond declarer can unblock the ♦K without overtaking and lead the ♠Q. North wins and exits with a spade but declarer has nine tricks.

Pratap declared 3NT as East on the ♠J lead. He won it in hand and passed the ♦J to North's queen. North cashed the ♥Q, then led the ♥10 to South's jack. Best is to take this and cash the diamonds and clubs before leading a spade up to the king. Pratap ducked the second heart, won the third (yes, a club might have been better to break up the squeeze), and ran the diamonds. This squeezes North in the black suits. He bared his ♠A and Pratap pitched his low clubs and ducked a spade to the ace to take nine tricks.

Bd: 20	♠ 10862		
Dir: West	♥ Q43		
Vul: Both	♦ A102		
	♣ AQ6		
♠ 97543		♠ J	
♥ K82		♥ A95	
♦ Q9		♦ K8753	
♣ K108		♣ 9543	
	♠ AKQ		
	♥ J1076		
	♦ J64		
	♣ J72		

When regular partner's meet at the table as opponents, there is more than the usual amount at stake. N/S bid to 3NT (1♣-1♥; 1NT-3NT) and Hamman led a diamond. Zia put up the queen (should one play partner for AKxxx or K10xxx?) and Andy Robson won the ace, went to the ♠A, and led a heart. Zia hopped up with the king—nice play—and cleared the diamonds, and Robson had only eight tricks. If Zia ducks the ♥K declarer has his ninth winner via the club finesse in due course. Doug Doub also found the play of rising with the ♥K.

Bd: 21	♠ J32		
Dir: North	♥ AJ105		
Vul: N/S	♦ K84		
	♣ K85		
♠ K97		♠ Q85	
♥ 832		♥ K96	
♦ AJ965		♦ 10732	
♣ 76		♣ J93	
	♠ A1064		
	♥ Q74		
	♦ Q		
	♣ AQ1042		

Miller and Cheek did excellently here in the auction to reach 4♥ rather than 3NT, which will go down unless you somehow play it from the side with the bare ♦Q. Their auction was: 1♣-1♠; 1NT-2NT (relay to 3♣); 3♣-3♠ (4=3=1=5); 4♥.

On a diamond lead and ♠7 shift to the queen, Miller had a really tough decision. If the ♠7 was the top of a doubleton, he might have to duck. But if it was from K97 he had to win. It is far from clear what to do. Billy got it right when he won the ♠A and took the heart finesse.

Bd: 23	♠ J1098753		
Dir: South	♥ 1096		
Vul: Both	♦ K6		
	♣ 9		
♠ K642		♠ Q	
♥ Q		♥ AJ542	
♦ AJ93		♦ 872	
♣ AK52		♣ Q863	
	♠ A		
	♥ K873		
	♦ Q1054		
	♣ J1074		
West	North	East	South
Lew	Erichsen	Joanna	Brogeland
			Pass
1♦	3♠!	Dbl	All Pass

Lew Stansby judged well to sit out the double, dummy going down with such a huge hand that after the ♦2 lead to the nine and king, Joanna virtually had to have the rest of the

deck. Declarer led a diamond to the ten and jack and at trick three Lew returned the ♥Q and Joanna won and returned a low heart for the ruff, letting Lew put her in with the ♣Q for a second ruff and +500.

By contrast, Ron Smith overcalled only 2♠ (there's a surprise) and was allowed to play there doubled when his Westerly opponent went head-hunting at too low a level. On a diamond lead to the king Ron returned a spade, then cut the defenders' communications by leading a club. All E/W could get was one trick in each suit and a heart ruff or a second natural heart trick; +670 for N/S.

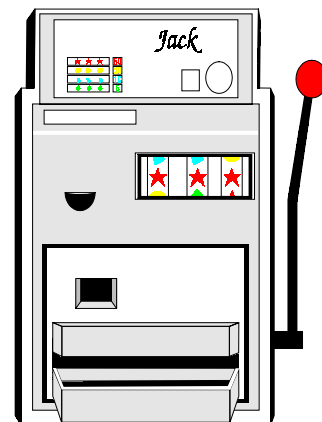
Session Four:

Board 6 was a slam hand that was hard to bid, but easy to play.

Bd: 6	♠ 432		
Dir: East	♥ Q984		
Vul: E/W	♦ AJ74		
	♣ A9		
♠ J98		♠ K	
♥ KJ106		♥ A7532	
♦ Q106		♦ K8532	
♣ 1053		♣ J2	
	♠ AQ10765		
	♥ ---		
	♦ 9		
	♣ KQ8764		

Some pairs opened the South hand with the black six-six two suiter 1♣ and lost the spades. Some ran into a 1♥ opening in front of them and got preempted to make life hard. But quite a few pairs got there. Lew and Joanna Stansby bid:

West	North	East	South
	Lew		Joanna
		Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT(1)	Dbl	4♣
Pass	4♦(2)	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♠
All Pass			
(1) Forcing; (2) Cue-bid			



The leaders at the end of the third session, Bramley and Lazard, were one of many pairs to run into huge problems on this horrible misfit.

Bd: 7	♠ AJ96	
Dir: South	♥ AQJ973	
Vul: Both	♦ A4	
	♣ 4	
♠ Q10874		♠ 532
♥ K4		♥ 10852
♦ 983		♦ 652
♣ K97		♣ J83
	♠ K	
	♥ 6	
	♦ KQJ107	
	♣ AQ10652	

Their auction quite reasonably started: 1♦-1♥; 2♣-2♠; 3♣-3♥; 4♣-4♦; 4♥-4♠. At this point Lazard, South, jumped to 5NT to offer a choice of slams. Bramley thought this was a Grand Slam force and jumped to 7♥, down only one on the fortunate lie of the hearts. (On a different day this could have been doubled for 500.)

Still, everyone was going to have problems here. Perhaps 6♦ is best: On a spade lead you win, play ♣A and ruff a club high, draw trumps, and rely on a favorable club position. 6♥ looks to be somewhat less attractive, but appears to be a 50% contract (or so).

Chemla-Cronier bid: 1♣-1♥; 2♦-2♥ (forcing); 3♦-3♠; 3NT-4♦; 4NT (Key Card)-5♣; 6♦. Declarer ruffed a club in dummy and found the cards cooperating.

Mike Moss also reached 6♦ against the Stansbys. He won the trump lead and finessed in clubs. Then he won the trump return, drew trumps, and now had to get the hearts right to make. The finesse seemed to be better odds (three-three hearts or four-two with the king onside as opposed to three-three hearts with the king wrong) but Mike took the ruffing finesse and went down two.

Bd: 8	♠ K109	
Dir: West	♥ A	
Vul: None	♦ AQ109532	
	♣ 84	
♠ 8643		♠ AQ2
♥ K		♥ J108765
♦ J76		♦ ---
♣ AK975		♣ J632
	♠ J75	
	♥ Q9432	
	♦ K84	
	♣ Q10	

If the auction goes:

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

would you be annoyed to discover slam making when you wrap up 400? Would you be more surprised to discover it is your opponents who have play for slam? 6♣ on the E/W cards has play, but at several tables 3NT made on the lead of a low club, which is hard to criticize except on the grounds of its lack of success.

Bd: 12	♠ A74	
Dir: West	♥ Q976	
Vul: N/S	♦ J7654	
	♣ 6	
♠ KQ86		♠ ---
♥ AJ4		♥ K532
♦ 108		♦ A32
♣ J985		♣ AKQ432
	♠ J109532	
	♥ 108	
	♦ KQ9	
	♣ 107	

How many defenders lost their diamond trick against 6♠? (We could tell you a couple but it pays to be discreet from time to time.) When Steve Weinstein reached 6♣ (P-1♣; 1♠-2♥; 3♦ [club raise]-4♣; 4♥-4♠; 5♣-6♣) he won the diamond lead in hand, crossed to the ♠J, and led a low spade from dummy. When the defender with the ♠A went up with it that brought a premature end to the defense.

Bd: 17	♠ 52	
Dir: North	♥ J7	
Vul: None	♦ 9642	
	♣ KJ752	
♠ AK976		♠ J84
♥ K1096		♥ AQ53
♦ 5		♦ AKQJ8
♣ A109		♣ 8
	♠ Q103	
	♥ 842	
	♦ 1073	
	♣ Q643	

Bramley and Lazard were on the wrong end of the Grand Slam this time. Abecassis and Eidi sitting E/W constructed a sophisticated sequence here: 1♦-1♠; 2♥-3♥; 3♠-4♣ (Dbl); 4♦-4NT (RKCB); 5♠-7♣ (pick a Grand); 7♥. After a club lead Eidi ruffed a club early, drew trumps, cashed the ♠AK, and played for a spade-diamond squeeze if necessary. Maybe ruffing a third club in hand instead of drawing the third trump might have been a better line, but it did not matter; +1510 was a nice result for the French.

