

China in Women's final; Other matches are close

Please note: today's matches start at 10:30. Captains: make sure your teams are in position on time.

For the first 16 boards, the vugraph show will feature the Women's match between Austria and the United States. The participants in the second show will be selected based on the standings of the matches going into the final 16 boards.

One match is all but over but the other three semifinals are still very much in contention.

In the Women's Olympiad, China is assured of its first finalist berth in history. The Chinese won each of the four 16-board segments by a wide margin, and they lead Canada by 180 IMPs going into today's last 32 boards. China Open and Women's teams have advanced to the playoffs many times in the Olympiad, the Bermuda Bowl and the Venice Cup, but they never have reached the final. Playing for China are Gu Ling, Zhang Yalan, Sun Ming, Wang Hong Li, Wang Wen Fei and Zhang Yu.

Some old-timers will remember that Chinese Taipei reached the Bermuda Bowl final in 1969, shocking the bridge world by finishing second. The star of that team 27 years ago was one Patrick Huang. And now here he is again in Rhodes, spearheading his team in the Open semifinal against France. After the first 32 boards, it looked as if it was going to be all France – the French actually led by 66 at one point. But Chinese Taipei has slowly cut into that lead, and going into today's play they trail France by only 11 IMPs, 133-122. It's the closest of the four matches. Don't forget that the French are the defending champions – it's not going to be an easy road for Chinese Taipei.

In the other Open semifinal, Indonesia has a 34-point lead on Denmark, but that is not a big lead when there are still 32 boards to play. Nevertheless, the possibility definitely exists that the Open final will be an all Far East affair – Indonesia and Chinese Taipei.

In the other Women's match, defending champion Austria and the United States have been exchanging the lead back and forth. The Americans came up with a strong fourth segment, gaining 35 to overcome a 22-point deficit and take the lead by 13, 188-175.

Mixed Teams

A French team captained by Mrs. C. Nahmens and an Icelandic team captained by Heather Dhondy, who happens to be from Great Britain – don't forget, this event is transnational – are tied for first place in the Mixed Teams with 156 Victory Points. Another French team captained by Mrs. E. Faivre scored a blitz in their final match last night to climb from seventh to third, only three points behind the co-leaders. Altogether 86 teams are playing in this new WBF world championship.

World Junior Championship set for Canada in 1997



The contract for the 1997 World Junior Championships was signed yesterday. Taking part in the ceremony were **George Holland**, representing the host Canadian Bridge Federation, and WBF President **José Damiani** in front, with **Panos Gerontopoulos**, chairman of the WBF Youth Committee, and Executive Committee member **George Retek** of Canada.

It is now official – the 1997 World Junior Teams Championship will be held in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada August 4-13. That was the decision of the WBF Executive here in Rhodes, and the contract was signed yesterday.

Panos Gerontopoulos, chairman of the WBF Youth Committee, will be the WBF official in charge. The local chairman will be **John Carruthers**, who has been active in Canadian Junior bridge for many years. He has captained the last two Canadian teams that have played in the World Championships.

Present plans call for 18 teams to take part. Once again there will be a round-robin, and the top four teams will qualify for the semifinals.

Here is the breakdown of teams according to zone: Zone 1 (Europe) 4, Zone 2 (North America) 3, Zone 3 (South America) 2, Zone 4 (Asia, the Middle East and Africa) 2, Zone 5 (Central America-Caribbean) 2, Zone 6 (Far East) 2, Zone 7 (South Pacific) 2. If the field does not fill to 18, the Far East will be awarded a third spot.

Semi-final Scores

OPEN

Country	1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	4th Session	Total
INDONESIA	52	25	40	44	161
DENMARK	42	31	29	25	127
CHINESE TAIPEI	8	28	42	44	122
FRANCE	51	31	26	25	133

LADIES

Country	1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	4th Session	Total
AUSTRIA	57	64	26	30	175
UNITED STATES	75	33	15	65	188
CHINA	59	37	89	83	269
CANADA	34	11	6	38	89

A far-sighted play

Vittorio DiSilvio of Italy made a very far-sighted play on this deal from the Mixed Teams.

Love All. Dealer East.

<p>♠ 5 ♥ 9 8 7 6 2 ♦ 9 8 7 2 ♣ J 10 9</p>	<p>♠ A K Q 6 ♥ 5 4 3 ♦ A 4 ♣ A Q 8 6</p>	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <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>♠ J 9 8 3 ♥ K Q J 10 ♦ 6 3 ♣ K 7 5</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<p>♠ 10 7 4 2 ♥ A ♦ K Q J 10 5 ♣ 4 3 2</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">West</td> <td style="text-align: center;">North</td> <td style="text-align: center;">East</td> <td style="text-align: left;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">3♥ Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1♣ 4NT 6♣</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1♥ Pass All Pass</td> <td style="text-align: left;">Dble⁽¹⁾ 5♦</td> </tr> </table>	West	North	East	South	3♥ Pass	1♣ 4NT 6♣	1♥ Pass All Pass	Dble ⁽¹⁾ 5♦			
West	North	East	South									
3♥ Pass	1♣ 4NT 6♣	1♥ Pass All Pass	Dble ⁽¹⁾ 5♦									

⁽¹⁾ 9-11 HCP, four spades.

DiSilvio won the opening ♥K lead and led a spade. When West played the five, DiSilvio called for the six! This lost to the eight, of course, but now there was no way for the defense to take another trick. A fine safety play.

There's bridge in Nafsika

By A. Nonymous

Tables 40 to 43 of the Mixed Teams, reserved for the lowest of the lowly, are in the Nafsika Room, near the vugraph theater. This morning I told some of my Irish friends I was going to be playing there.

"Don't worry," one said, "there's another room upstairs."

"I know – we just came down from there."

After seven consecutive losses, we finally made it to the ultimate – Table 43.

Have you ever seen a bidding sequence of 2♣ – Pass – 4♣? Of course you have, but perhaps not on hands like the following:

Board 21. North/South Game. Dealer North.

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

That 2♣ by North showed 5-10 HCP and 5-5 in the minors – with the ♥3 among the diamonds, of course. 4♣ was natural.

After a diamond lead, declarer played the ♥A-K and ruffed a heart. At least he thought he did. Oops – that diamond was a heart. The declarer caught himself just in time, to our great chagrin. There went our last chance to win a match.

After eight straight losses we will still be in the Nafsika Room – and it looks as if we're permanent residents of Table 43.

The Gala Dinner

We are sure that you will all be pleased to know that the wine will flow freely at Saturday's Gala Dinner. For the moment, however, we must ask you for a little help so that the organisers can provide roughly the right numbers of each choice for the main course of the dinner.

The regular dish is Bon Fillet Medaillons of Beef with a Mushroom Sauce. However, as we appreciate that this may not be to everyone's taste, there are two alternatives. One is Chicken with Almonds and the other a Vegetarian dish.

Please, when you collect your invitations today from the Hospitality Desk, let them know if you would like one of the alternative dishes.

Thankyou for your co-operation.

Transnational Swiss?

By Onno Eskes

The World Mixed Teams is a transnational Swiss tournament. Isn't that a "contradiction in terms", by the way? It sounds to me like a multicolored red opening or something. Anyway, if you want to see some action in a Swiss tournament, just grab a chair at Table One, the battlefield of the leading teams in the Swiss. In Round 2, the truly transnational Bradley team (two Americans, a Swede and a Norwegian) faced the favourite Stansby squad. Swede Ulf Nilsson and Julie Bradley of the USA showed some nice defensive cooperation on this deal:

East/West Game. Dealer South.

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

<p>West Nilsson</p> <p>Pass Pass Pass</p>	<p>North L. Stansby</p> <p>INT 2NT 4♥</p>	<p>East Bradley</p> <p>Pass Pass All Pass</p>	<p>South J. Stansby</p> <p>1♠ 2♣ 3♥</p>
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Low Stansby (South) was able to bid out his distribution, after which Joanna Stansby placed the contract in 4♥. Nilsson found the trump lead, after which declarer played ♠K to the ace. East did well to continue trumps, on which Nilsson threw ♣Q to clarify the club position. Stansby won in hand and played ♦A, diamond ruffed, and started to play on spades. Although spades broke 3-3, he still ended up a trick short, because Julie Bradley ruffed the fourth spade and knew it was safe to play a club now, thereby cutting declarer off from his fifth spade winner before trumps were drawn. At the other table the Bradley team made 3NT, thus gaining 10 IMPs on the board. The teams balanced out on the rest of the deals, and Bradley eventually won the match 17-13.

Double dummy experts

By Barry Rigal

The vugraph spectators yesterday laughed at Lars Blakset of Denmark in his 4♥ contract. He went down by losing four trump tricks when he had a 5-4 trump fit – including the ace and king.

To be fair (and we rarely are), Lars' line fails only when clubs are 6-0 and his RHO has both the ♥Q and the ♥J. In practice the cards were just like that, but Blakset was guarding against a 4-0 trump split with the club finesse offside.

At the very least it is close as to which line is better, but it is easy to see the winning line when you see all four hands! Sorry Lars!

BY QUESTION AND ANSWER

This article is written in appreciation of Terence Reese, who was recognised as being the greatest bridge writer of his generation – and perhaps of all time. One of his books carried the title "by Question and Answer."

One of the joys of a tournament like this is the number of people who approach you with the air of someone who has an interesting hand (or at least a hand they consider to be interesting).

Sometimes the story-teller is looking for sympathy but on other occasions they will be looking for absolute ("It should have been obvious when I played the 9 that I wanted a heart switch." - you know the sort of thing). Then again they may really have something good to report and once in a while it may involve a fine play by partner

This one involves – as they often do – a what do you bid scenario.

You are looking at the following hand:

♠ –
♥ 7 5 2
♦ A 8 6 4 2
♣ A K 6 4 3

and you see the bidding go:

West	North	East	South
1♠	INT	2♠	?

"Well, what do you bid?" was the time-honoured inquiry.

"A take out double might work out well if partner has good spades."

"Perhaps, but the vulnerability was wrong and in any case I thought it quite likely that we would have a good fit in a minor."

"Yes, you might, but partner could be 4-3-3-3 or even 4-4-3-2."

"So I bid 4♣, obviously showing both minors."

"Well I'm not so sure about that."

"And partner bid 4NT."

"How many tricks did she make?"

"So I decided to see it through and bid 6♣."

Needless to say this tour de force worked a treat. The opening lead was a small heart and this was how declarer saw things:

♠ A Q 8 4
♥ A Q 6 3
♦ Q 5
♣ Q 10 7

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ –
♥ 7 5 2
♦ A 8 6 4 2
♣ A K 6 4 3

The heart finesse was right, the diamonds were 3-3 with the king on side and the ♣J fell in two rounds.

I hope Terence would have approved.



VICTORY BANQUET

Captains are kindly requested to come to the hospitality desk today **before 8.00 p.m.** in order to get their team players' invitations to the Victory Banquet. Invitations will be given for the team members **today**. If there are additional requirements, these will be accommodated if possible and Captains must go to the hospitality desk on Friday to collect any additional tickets that may be available.

Officials and Delegates must also register at the Hospitality Desk **today before 8.00 p.m.**

Journalists wishing to attend the Victory Banquet should register in the Press Room **today before 8.00 p.m.**

Staff tickets will be distributed by the Department Chiefs who should advise the Hospitality Desk of the number of tickets they require for their staff **today before 5.00 p.m.**

What's the problem?

By P.O. Sundelin, Sweden

Attending a championship as a pure tourist and kibitzer and commentator and spectator and bystander has its advantages. You can sleep longer in the mornings, stay longer at night and enjoy Greek food, drink, music and dancing without any feelings of guilt.

You can play most hands without much effort – it is so much easier when you see all four, as in the vignette.

I was looking forward to a period of rest and relaxation. Then Daily News No. 4 arrived with Pietro Bernasconi's problem. Let me remind you:

♠ J 9 4
♥ K
♦ Q J 10 9
♣ A 9 5 4 3

♠ A 8 2
♥ 4 3 2
♦ A 7 3 2
♣ K Q 2

Find the East/West hands which allow you to make exactly 3NT, 4♣, and 6♦. West leads. The defense is always perfect. There went my rest. I had to work.

Observe the ♠4, 8, and 9, the ♦7, and the ♣9. They must be important or else Pietro would not put them there. The following should satisfy the requirements:

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 8 2
♥ 4 3 2
♦ A 7 3 2
♣ K Q 2

In 3NT the defense can win four heart tricks. The rest belong to declarer.

In 4♣ East/West can lead and exit trumps and later hearts. There is no endplay so declarer will lose two spade tricks.

In 6♦ a heart, a club or a trump lead allows declarer to take two ruffs in dummy, finesse in diamonds, and still have an entry to his hand to draw the third trump (the seven). This adds up to one spade trick, two ruffs, four trump tricks and five club tricks – just made.

A small spade will test declarer's ability a little more. East must split his honors. Declarer overtakes a club honour to finesse in trumps. After three rounds of diamonds and all the clubs this will be the position:

♠ 10 7 ♥ Q J ♦ – ♣ –	♠ J 9 ♥ K ♦ 9 ♣ –	♠ K 3 ♥ A 8 ♦ – ♣ –
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	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ –
♥ 4 3 2
♦ 7
♣ –

Both East and West must keep two spades or else declarer will play the ♠J or ♠9 and ruff it to establish a spade trick. Consequently they must both come down to a doubleton heart. East will then be thrown in with the ♥A. He can't play a spade for obvious reasons, but a heart is just as fatal since declarer's last heart will become established.

So, finally, what happens if West starts with the ♠10? In principle the ending is the same as above. The first trick will go ♠10, J, Q, A. The end position will be:

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

♠ –
♥ 4 3 2
♦ 7
♣ –

Again both defenders must hold on to two spades each, and East will be thrown in to be forced to help establish either the ♠J or the long heart in South's hand. It is essential that East have the ♥A – otherwise West could pin dummy's nine, leaving declarer with one more loser.

I asked Pietro if he had any difficult problems ... Unfortunately he gave me one. Looks as if I will be busy for months.

From the Mixed Teams

Board 20. Game All. Dealer West.

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

West	North	East	South
DuPont	Brogeland	Garozzo	Midskog
1♣	Pass	1♥	1♠
Pass	Pass	2♥	All Pass

Catarina Midskog of Sweden opened the ♠K to dummy's ace, and Benito Garozzo immediately went after a spade discard – an effort that did not work out too well. He pitched a spade on the third club, but Midskog ruffed, cashed a spade and led a third spade which Boye Brogeland of Norway ruffed with the queen and Garozzo won by overruffing with the ace. Declarer led a low trump to Brogeland's king, and Brogeland made the key play of the ♣J. Garozzo ruffed with the ten, but Midskog didn't overruff – she pitched a diamond. She won the diamond switch and got out with the ♠J, ruffed. Garozzo took the ♦K in dummy, but had to lose the last two tricks because Midskog had the ♥J-7 over his ♥9-5. Down one – 5 IMPs to Midskog who eventually won the Swiss match 25-5.

Board 33. Love All. Dealer North.

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

West	North	East	South
Bausback		Alberti	
	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♣	4♣	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Nikolas Bausback of Germany led a spade to Anja Alaberti's ace, and after some thought she returned a club right into the ace-queen. But declarer won this in hand with the king and led a trump, guessing wrong and putting up the queen. Alberti won this and led a second club, effectively preventing declarer from ever getting pitches on the good clubs. Declarer came back to hand to ruff another spade, but there was no way to avoid losing two trumps, a spade and a diamond. Declarer was unable to get discards on the clubs to avoid the diamond loser.

It certainly pays to watch the spots.



Board 25. East/West Game. Dealer North.

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

West	North	East	South
Assael	Snepvangers	Zobu	Mommers
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West opened the ♣K and switched to a diamond to his partner's ace. She continued diamonds to Matt Mommers' king. Mommers cashed a top spade and carefully noted that West followed with the nine. He tried the ♥J, covered by the queen and taken with the king. Next came the ♥A and another heart, ruffed with the ♠K, to set up the suit. He led a spade now to the queen to pick up West's jack. Then the ♠8 dropped East's six, and Mommers claimed with good hearts. Plus 420

Things went quite differently at the other table. This was the auction:

West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	1♠
2♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

West led the ♠A and continued with the king. East played the eight followed by the six, showing three. But when West led a third club, declarer feared that the signal was false, so she ruffed with the queen. Then she led a trump and finessed the ten, losing to the jack. Declarer went down two, losing two diamonds, two clubs and a spade. That was 11 IMPs to Mommers – but it wasn't enough. They lost the match, 14-16.

Richard Dubrovsky of the United States reported two interesting deals.

East/West Game. Dealer South.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	INT ⁽¹⁾
Pass	4♣ ⁽⁴⁾	All Pass	3♠ ⁽³⁾

⁽¹⁾ 10-12 HCP

⁽²⁾ Artificial game force

⁽³⁾ Shows five hearts

⁽⁴⁾ Partner forgot it showed hearts

So there was Dubrovsky playing in his 3-3 spade suit. He won the opening diamond lead with the king and finessed the ♠Q successfully. He cashed the ♣A and led a third club. East ruffed with the four and Dubrovsky overruffed with the five. He got back to dummy with the ♦A so he could lead a fourth club. This time East ruffed with the six, so he overruffed with the seven.

Next came the ♥A and a heart ruff. He called for dummy's last club and ruffed it with the queen. West overruffed with the ace, but Dubrovsky had eight tricks in already, and the top two trumps were still in dummy.

Making 4♠ was worth an IMP because the opponents played in 3NT at the other table, just making.

Dubrovsky's other offering was a slam bid on only 22 HCP – of course there was an eight-card suit to go with those points.

North/South Game. Dealer South.

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

West	North	East	South
			1♦
3♣	Pass	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

West cashed the ♠A at trick one, but Dubrovsky ruffed the continuation. He led a diamond to the ten, ruffed a club and crossed to the ♥A. Then came the parade of diamonds.

The defenders didn't sort things out perfectly – it's sometimes hard to do. West thought he had to keep spades, so he threw hearts since he had to hold a high club. So East had to hold onto a high heart. This was the position with four tricks to go:

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

Dubrovsky led his last diamond. West had to hold his club, so he threw a spade. The ♣10 was no longer of any use so Dubrovsky discarded it. But East had to hold onto his heart, so he too was forced to pitch a spade.

That allowed Dubrovsky to take the last three tricks with his spades. At the other table North/South played in 3NT making five, so that was a gain of 12 IMPs.

Austria v USA

Women's Semifinal – Set three

By Tony Gordon

The USA had led by 20 IMPs after the first 16-board session, but Austria had triumphed by 31 IMPs in the second session to take the lead by 11 IMPs.

Although China scored 89 IMPs against Canada in the third session, the cards did not really lend themselves to large swings and only 41 IMPs changed hands in the other semifinal.

Board 1. Love All. Dealer North.

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bamberger	Levitina	Fischer	Blanchard
	Pass	Pass	2♣
Dble	3♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Deas	Erhart	Chambers	Weigkricht
	Pass	Pass	2♥ ⁽¹⁾
2NT	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾Weak two in spades or 5-5 in hearts and a minor

In the Open Room, Gabi Bamberger doubled Jill Blanchard's weak 2♣ and then doubled again when Irina Levitina's raise to 3♣ came back to her. She correctly guessed to remove Doris Fischer's 3NT and the auction then proceeded inevitably to 4♥. Levitina led a spade and Bamberger won in the dummy and ran the ♣J to Levitina's queen. It might have been better for Blanchard to have played the ♣K, but the club ruff stayed in the picture because Levitina now returned the suit. However, she then ducked the ♥K and declarer was home; +420 to Austria.

In the Closed Room, Lynn Deas could have doubled Terry Weigkricht's two-way opening to show a takeout of spades, but she decided to overcall 2NT instead. After a spade lead, she knocked out the ♥A and Maria Erhart continued spades. Careful defense then led to one down and 10 IMPs to Austria.

Board 4. Game All. Dealer West.

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bamberger	Levitina	Fischer	Blanchard
Pass	1♣	Pass	INT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Deas	Erhart	Chambers	Weigkricht
2♠	All Pass		

Once Bamberger had passed in the Open Room, the auction proceeded normally to 2♠. Fischer led the ♣K and Levitina won with the ace and led a spade from dummy. Bamberger rose with the ace and continued with the ten. Eventually Levitina made four spade tricks, three heart tricks and one club trick for +110 to the USA.

In the Closed Room, Deas decided to open 2♠ and there the matter rested. She lost three hearts, a heart ruff, four trumps and a club for four down and another 7 IMPs to Austria.

Board 5. North/South Game. Dealer North.

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bamberger	Levitina	Fischer	Blanchard
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dble	1♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Deas	Erhart	Chambers	Weigkricht
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dble	All Pass		

In the Open Room, Levitina played peacefully in 1♠ which she made on the nose; +80 for the USA.

In the Closed Room, Weigkricht's 1♦ was Blue Club. Even though this tends to deny a four-card major, Erhart's pass of the takeout double seems off-centre and was heavily punished. Deas led ace and another diamond and Weigkricht eventually went three down for +800 and 13 IMPs to the USA.

Austria led 19-13 at this point, but the only other significant swing came on the last board.

Board 16. East/West Game. Dealer West.

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bamberger	Levitina	Fischer	Blanchard
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♥	2♥	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Deas	Erhart	Chambers	Weigkricht
Pass	1♦	1♠	Dble
2♥	All Pass		

In the Open Room, Blanchard had a chance in her 3♦ contract when Bamberger began with three rounds of hearts. However, she misguessed trumps and went one down. +50 to Austria.

In the Closed Room, Weigkricht made the right decision when she passed out 2♥. After a club lead and trump switch, Deas had to go two down for +200 and 6 IMPs to Austria.

Austria won the session by 26-15 IMPs to double their lead.

Next Olympiad set for the Netherlands

The Netherlands will be the host to the next Olympiad in 2000. The Executive Committee of the WBF made the decision at their deliberations here this week. A contract between the WBF and the Netherlands Bridge Bond is expected to be signed in The Hague during the

European Pairs Championships in March.

The host city will be Maastricht, a picturesque town in the very south of the Netherlands. The venue is excellent – play will take place in the high tech MECC Building Complex, and all the hotels are nearby. There will be buses

free of charge to transport all guests to the lovely old centre of Maastricht and its beautiful surroundings.

The experienced staff of the Netherlands Bridge Bond is ready to make the preparations for the Olympiad.

Iceland v Indonesia

Open Quarterfinal – Set Three

Down 43 at half-time, Iceland needed a good start in the third quarter to get back into the match, but the first significant swing went the way of Indonesia.

Board 35. East/West Game. Dealer South.

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

	N		
W		E	
	S		

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

Slam is, of course, completely solid for North/South. Eddy Manoppo and Gudmundur Arnarson both opened 1♠, which must have been something of a surprise to their respective partners. Thorlakur Jonsson contented himself with a 4♥ splinter response and passed Arnarson's sign-off. Henky Lasut used everyone's favourite convention and bid 6♣ when he discovered two key cards. The club singleton was the key to slam and it has to be said that Lasut was lucky in that regard; 11 IMPs to Indonesia.

Board 36. Game All. Dealer West.

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

	N		
W		E	
	S		

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

In the Closed Room, Jonsson/Arnarson had a free run to 5♣ via a 1NT opening and Stayman enquiry. Arnarson tried for a favorable heart position and fell back on the diamond finesse when a heart to the king lost and a heart came back. That meant two down, losing a spade, a diamond and two hearts.

Sevar Thorbjornsson opened the West cards 1♠ and Lasut overcalled 2♣. Jon Baldursson made a pre-emptive raise to 3♠ and Manoppo bid 5♣. Baldursson led a spade and Thorbjornsson switched to a club. Lasut won in hand, ruffed a spade, played a club to hand and ruffed the last spade. Now he played a heart to the king and



Matthias Thorvaldsson, Iceland

ace and back came the ♦10. The opening bid pretty well marked the position of the missing queen so Lasut won his ace, cashed the ♥Q and ran the clubs. Thorbjornsson was squeezed in the red suits and Lasut had eleven tricks. Another example of what Cornel Matei wrote about in a recent bulletin; too much aggressive bidding gives a lot of information to declarer. Anyway, that was worth another 13 IMPs to Indonesia.

Board 39. Game All. Dealer South.

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

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

	N		
W		E	
	S		

♠ Q 8 7	
♥ J 10 9 5	
♦ 10 9	
♣ 10 5 4 2	

The Closed Room bidding was not very exciting: 1♠ from Jonsson, 1NT overcall from Sacul and 2♠ from Jonsson. And that contract was just made as East found the defense rather difficult; +110.

In the other room, Baldursson doubled 1♠. Thorbjornsson responded 1NT, showing 0-6 HCP and Baldursson bid 2NT, natural. Thorbjornsson tried 3♠ to offer a choice of games and Lasut doubled. 3NT from Baldursson was also doubled, this time by Manoppo who thought it would go down on a normal spade lead. He was mistaken. Lasut led ♠K then a small spade and Manoppo unblocked the queen. Thorbjornsson played a diamond to the ace and a club to the king and ace. Lasut would have played king from K 10 doubleton, of course, but Thorbjornsson got it right by finessing the ♣7 next and now only needed the heart finesse for his ninth trick; +750 and 13 much needed IMPs to Iceland.

Board 41. East/West Game. Dealer North.

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

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

	N		
W		E	
	S		

♠ K J 6 4 3	
♥ 7 3	
♦ J 7	
♣ J 6 4 2	

After 1♦ – Pass – 1♠, Karwur overcalled 2♥ and played there for +110. Thorbjornsson preferred a take-out double and, when Baldursson responded 1NT, natural in this sequence, raised to game. Manoppo led ♦J and Baldursson took his king and tried to split the hearts. When they proved to be 4-2, he had nowhere to go and simply gave up a heart, settling for two down when diamonds were 5-2; –200 and 7 IMPs to Indonesia.

Board 42. Game All. Dealer East.

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

	N		
W		E	
	S		

♠ J 7	
♥ A K Q 8 6 4	
♦ Q 9 5	
♣ 7 6	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Thorbjornsson	Lasut	Baldursson	Manoppo
1♠	2♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♥	2♠	3♥
		All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karwur	Jonsson	Sacul	Arnarson
2♥	3♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	4♥
Pass	Dble	All Pass	Pass

Thorbjornsson's choice of a simple overcall left him with the final decision and he chose to defend 4♥. He led a diamond to the king and ace and Baldursson returned the ♦J. Manoppo won the queen and ruffed his third diamond then cashed the ♥J, followed with ♣K and, when that was ducked, the ♣Q to the ace. Thorbjornsson didn't bother to underlead the ♠A to try to beat the contract as he was sure Manoppo would get it right even if he had the guess. He played ace other spade and Manoppo soon had ten tricks; +620.

In the other room, Karwur's choice of a Michaels Cuebid left Sacul with the final decision over 4♥ and he decided to save. The play went well for Sacul and he lost just one trick in each suit for –200 but a 9 IMP gain for Indonesia.

Board 43. Love All. Dealer South.

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

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

	N		
W		E	
	S		

♠ 6 4 2	
♥ J 7 6 4	
♦ 7 5	
♣ 10 8 5 2	

Both auctions began 1NT – Dble – 2♣. For Manoppo



Eddy Manoppo, Indonesia

po that showed clubs and any other suit, while for Arnarson it was clubs and a major. Both Norths converted to 2♦. Baldursson saw that a penalty double would merely allow North to redouble for rescue and the defense would have a better chance of finding the best lead against an eventual 3NT contract, so he jumped to 3NT now, expecting partner to have some values as he had not bid over 2♣ to show weakness. Sure enough, Manoppo led a diamond and Baldursson eventually took eleven tricks; +460.

Sacul passed over 2♦ and Arnarson bid 2♥. Karwur doubled but Sacul removed to 3♦, feeling he did not have a defensive hand. When Karwur passed 3♦, the good game had been missed. +130 meant 8 IMPs to Iceland.

Board 46. Love All. Dealer East.

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

Both Easts declared 4♣. Lasut led ♥J against Thorbjornsson and he won in hand and drew trumps then tried a club to the nine and jack. Back came a diamond to the king and ace and Lasut returned the ♦10, trying to conceal the true position in the suit. Declarer won and led a second club and Lasut rose with the ace and exited with a third club, ruffed. I thought Thorbjornsson might finesse the ♥9 now, given that South seemed to be marked with the club length for North's club plays and so rated to be shorter in hearts, but he got closer than that, perhaps being suspicious of the true diamond position. He played a heart to the king then led the nine and....put the queen up; one down.

At the other table, the lead was a trump. Karwur sniffed out the heart position and made his game and that was 10 IMPs to Indonesia, ahead by more than 70 with two boards to go in the set.

Iceland picked up an overtrick IMP on the next board then a badly needed 11 IMPs on Board 48.

Board 48. East/West Game. Dealer West.

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

Lasut/Manoppo bid one strong club, 1♠ natural positive, 1NT rebid and a jump to 4♣ from Manoppo. He played for a squeeze in the endgame and made only eleven tricks; +450.

Jonsson opened 1♦, natural, and rebid 2NT over the 1♠ response. Arnarson rebid a forcing 3♣ then a self-agreeing cuebid of 4♣ over 3NT. When that got him a 4♦ cuebid, he checked for key cards then bid the slam. On the lead of the ♥7, Arnarson put in the jack and that solved his only problem; +980 and 11 IMPs.

Despite that last board, Iceland had a mountain to climb in the last quarter, 62 IMPs behind and only 16 boards to go.

True Confessions

By Matthew Granovetter
editor of Bridge Today

Bridge Today Magazine has a new contest this year called True Confessions. Readers are asked to submit interesting deals in which they made an error. As most of us like to blame our partner, I am still waiting for the first submission. In the meantime I will select one of my own many True Confessions.

This deal took place during a US Team Trials. I was South:

Love All. Dealer East.

♠ Q ♥ A J 9 x ♦ A K Q x x x ♣ A Q	<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		♠ x x x ♥ Q x x x x x ♦ J x ♣ x x	West 3♣ ⁽¹⁾ Pass Pass	North 3NT 5♣ 6♥	East Pass Pass All Pass	South Pass 4♥ 5♥
	N														
W		E													
	S														

⁽¹⁾ This preempt was made after a full minute hesitation. The player was the sponsor of the opposing team, not a very good tournament player but a clever rubber bridge player.

Opening lead: ♦x

After I got over the shock of reaching the six-level, I won the diamond with the jack and considered why West had taken a full minute to preempt. Perhaps he had a strong preempt. Perhaps he had a four-card major (indeed, it appeared that he held four spades, because East failed to open 2♣).

So my plan was to cash the ♥A and run diamonds, playing West for 4-1-1-7 shape. But, just to give myself an extra edge, I would lead the ♥Q, so if he held K-x, he might cover. Uh-oh, I was thinking too long. While I was thinking I noticed that West moved a card from one location to another in his hand. Then I led the queen and he had the low heart ready to play before my queen hit the table. Did this change things? Should I have altered my plan?

The answer is yes!

♠ A x x x ♥ K x ♦ x ♣ K J 10 x x x	<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		♠ Q ♥ A J 9 x ♦ A K Q x x x ♣ A Q	♠ K J x x x ♥ x ♦ x x x x ♣ x x x
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Bridge Today Magazine can be purchased by subscription from me here at the tournament with special discounts on selected books as well.

After the tournament contact me (Matthew) at:

email: gran@netvision.net.il

or fax: 972 9 342235 in Israel.

And please give me a true confession from this tournament!

USA v Netherlands

Women's Quarterfinals Series

The United States won their quarterfinal match against the Netherlands. Here are a couple of key hands from that match.

Board 48. East/West Game. Dealer West.

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

♠ Q J 10 9 7 4 3 ♥ A 8 6 4 ♦ 7 ♣ 6	West Zwol Pass Pass Pass Pass All Pass	North Chambers 1♦ 2NT 4♣ 4♠ 5♣	East Gielkens Pass Pass Pass Pass	South Quinn 1♠ 3♠ ⁽¹⁾ 4♥ 4NT 6♠
---------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------

⁽¹⁾ Forcing, shows a good hand.

Wietske van Zwol led the ♣Q to the ace, and Shawn Quinn led the ♠K to drive out the ace. A club came back, and Ine Gielkens set up the ending by rising with the king, ruffed. After running a few spades, Quinn cashed the top diamonds. Then when she led her last trump, West was in dire trouble because she had to protect both hearts and clubs – and she couldn't. She had tried to mislead declarer earlier by discarding a heart well before the end position, but declarer wasn't fooled. East also was squeezed – she had to save diamonds, so she too couldn't have held onto hearts. When Quinn led the last trump, she ditched the last club from dummy and saved the hearts to make the last three tricks and her slam. This represented an 11-IMP gain for the Americans because the Dutch stopped in game at the other table.

Juanita Chambers was the heroine on the next offering.

Board 36. Game All. Dealer West.

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

♠ 6 ♥ Q 9 3 2 ♦ K J 5 ♣ Q 10 9 8 6	West Zwol 2♣ All Pass	North Chambers 3♣	East Gielkens 4♣	South Quinn 5♣
---------------------------------------------	--------------------------------	-------------------------	------------------------	----------------------

Gielkens led a spade to partner's king, and Chambers ruffed the spade return. After drawing trumps, she led a heart to the jack, king and ace. Another spade came back which Chambers ruffed, and she carefully cashed the ♥Q, preparing for a Vienna Coup. Then when she ran trumps, she was able to pitch hearts from dummy, saving her 8 as a threat against West's jack. West also had to guard diamonds – and of course couldn't keep all the necessary red cards – three diamonds and the ♥J. So Chambers scored up her club game.

Canada v China

Women's Semifinal – Set One

China had shown excellent form in this championship to date, including a pretty straightforward win over Israel in the quarterfinal. Meanwhile Canada had just beaten reigning Venice Cup holders, Germany, in their last match. This one looked as though it would be a close hard fought match. 96 boards would decide which of these teams would reach their first world championship final.

Board 2. North/South Game. Dealer East

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

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

In the Closed Room, Sun Ming opened a Precision 1♦ in third seat and Rhoda Habert overcalled 1♥. Wang Hong Li made a negative double and Beverly Kraft raised to 2♥. Sun Ming passed and Habert made a try with 2NT. This was raised to 3NT by Kraft. 4♥ is a better game as you may get the chance to try both black finesses. In 3NT you will only have time for one after a diamond lead. Sure enough, the defense started with two rounds of diamonds. Habert played two rounds of hearts then the psychological play of the ♣J. When that wasn't covered, Habert rose with the ace and relied on the spade finesse. All that meant was that she went two down instead of one; -200.

At the other table, Francine Cimon opened a weak 2♦ in third seat and Zhang Yalan doubled. Barbara Saltsman raised to 4♦ and, after two passes, Zhang doubled again. Gu Ling bid 4♥ in response and played there. A spade lead would beat 4♥, but why should Cimon lead one? In practice she led a trump and Gu was able to draw trumps and give up a club to establish a spade discard; +620 and 13 IMPs to China.

Board 3. East/West Game. Dealer South.

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

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

North Habert	South Kraft
1♠	1♦ (1♥ overcall by West)
2♦	INT
3♦	2NT
3NT	3♣
6♦	4♣
	Pass

North Zhang	South Gu
1♠	1♣
2♦	2♣
3NT	3♦
6NT	4♣
	Pass



Dianna Gordon, Canada

Kraft showed 15-17 balanced, denied three spades in response to the 2♦ enquiry, then admitted to a top honor doubleton in the suit. Habert offered 3NT as a possible contract but Kraft judged that she had very good cards and moved with 4♣. That was all Habert needed and she jumped to the good slam. Though trumps were 4-1, everything else was fine and Kraft soon had +920.

The strong club auction in the other room seemed to be going smoothly along until Zhang leaped to 6NT, presumably to protect the heart position. But hearts didn't need protecting and the ruffs available in 6♦ were vital. A club lead saw 6NT go three down for -150 and 14 deserved IMPs to Canada.

Board 4. Game All. Dealer West.

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

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

Sun Ming opened the West hand 1♠ and Habert made a takeout double. Kraft jumped to 4♥ and played there with the lead of a low club. She won and drew three rounds of trumps then led the ♦J from hand. It was covered, so she had only three diamond tricks (perhaps leading the ten first is better as it gains a trick when West fails to cover from ♦Q x). Kraft took her diamonds then led a low spade and Sun put in the jack. Kraft covered and quickly lost four tricks; -100.

Cimon did not open the West hand so the Chinese had a free run to 4♥ by North after a transfer auction (Zhang broke the transfer). Here the lead was a diamond so there was no possibility of slipping anything past for four tricks in the suit. The queen lost to the ace and Zhang drew trumps and cashed her diamonds. Now she played a club to the ace, ruffed the last diamond and exited with a club, hoping something good would happen. It did, the defense being unable to cash their three spade tricks once declarer refused to play the queen on the first round; +620 and 12 IMPs to China.

Board 5. North/South Game. Dealer North.

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

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

Both North/South pairs played 4♣ but from different sides. Sun led ♦9 against Kraft (South). Declarer won the ace and played ace and ruffed a heart, a spade to the ace and ruffed the last heart then played the ♠J, which Wang covered. Kraft cashed the ♠8 and led winning clubs until Wang ruffed. She had to lose two diamonds but had ten tricks; +620.

Saltsman led her singleton club against Zhang. She won and cashed two top spades then reverted to clubs. Saltsman could ruff the second club and cash the ♠Q before exiting with ♥K. Declarer had only one heart ruff now and eight tricks in all; a poor line, we think, and 13 IMPs to Canada.

Board 7. Game All. Dealer South.

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

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

Kraft opened 3♣ and Sun doubled. Wang responded 3♥, ending the auction. Kraft led three top clubs and Wang ruffed with the queen, Habert overruffing. She cashed ♦A and had to make a second trump trick for one down; -100.

Gu opened with a gambling 3NT and Cimon doubled. Everybody was happy with that and it all came down to the opening lead. Alas for Canada, Cimon picked the wrong ace. After the ♥A, the contract was unbeatable. Cimon saw the only remaining chance was to play her partner for at least ♠K 10 8 x and switched to the ♠J. But the ♠10 was in the wrong hand and when the jack was covered and Saltsman won and returned the suit Gu had an overtrick; +950 and 13 IMPs to China.

Board 8. Love All. Dealer West.

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

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

Wang opened a multi on the East hand and rebid



Zhang Yu, China

2NT to show 22-24 balanced, which appears to be an underbid as well as a misdescription of her pattern. Sun transferred, Habert doubled for a heart lead, and Wang closed proceedings with a jump to 4♠. She made twelve tricks, of course, and a stream of Chinese from the other side of the screen suggested that Sun thought this to be a bad result. It was, but she need not have worried. In the other room, Saltsman opened an artificial strong 2♣ and Gu doubled to show clubs. Cimon bid 2♦, Zhang tried 2♥ and Saltsman leaped all the way to 7♦. The losing club finesse doomed that to one down; -50 and 11 IMPs to China.

What was going on in the Canadian auction? They play control showing responses and Cimon forgot that the first two steps were now pass and double so, while she was trying to show 0/1 control, Saltsman correctly interpreted 2♦ as showing 3 controls, hence the leap to seven.

Board 15. North/South Game. Dealer South.

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

Kraft opened 1♠ and Sun made a Michaels Cuebid. Habert first showed a limit raise via 2NT but when it went 4♣ (for correction) - Pass - 4♥ to her she bid 4♠. Wang tried again with 5♣ and Sun converted to 5♦. Now Habert bid 5♠ and that ended the auction. The lead was a heart to the ace and Kraft drew trumps, ruffed a heart and played ♦J off the table. Wang needed to duck that, allowing Sun to win and lead a club through, and the Michaels Cuebid should really have indicated that the duck was safe, but she rose with the ace and returned a diamond and now the ball was in Kraft's court. She ruffed, ruffed a heart, ruffed the last diamond and then the last heart. She had slightly mistimed the hand and was in dummy, when she would have liked to have been in hand to lead a club to the ten. Being in dummy, she did the next best thing, leading the ♣10 and ducking Wang's jack to endplay her; +650.

In the other room, Saltsman preferred a simple 2♥ overall to allow her to show the disparity in suit length and quality. When Gu bid 4♠ and that came back round to her, Saltsman bid 5♦. Gu bid a fifth spade and Cimon doubled. Zhang timed the hand better, winning the heart lead and ruffing a heart at trick two before playing ♦J. Again, surely the 5♦ bid indicates that it is safe to duck this, but Cimon did not see the dangerous endgame and took her ace. Zhang was able to endplay her and that was +850 and 5 IMPs to China.

At the end of a lively set China had a useful lead; 59-34 IMPs.

Farewell To Beloved Rodos

By Nissan Rand

Since I had to depart early yesterday morning, I wanted to bid farewell to all the wonderful people behind the scenes of the Rhodes Teams Olympiad. We have had a great time in Rhodes, mostly thanks to our wonderful Greek hosts who managed to present us with the Mediterranean Autumn sun and weather through the beginning of November. Special thanks to E. Nartis, president of the HBF, my old friend and rival, G. Karlaftis, vice-president of the HBF, and my best friend in Greece, Panos Gerontopoulos.

I would like to express my gratitude to my colleagues in the Daily News, Henry Francis, Brian Senior and Stelios Hatzidakis, and the same to my colleagues in the Appeals Committee for bearing with my straight approach. I must admit that I learned some important lessons at the Appeals Committee from the two great chairmen, Bobby Wolff and Edgar Kaplan.

Last but not least, I want to thank the WBF President, José Damiani, a leader of men who has proven his fairness and reputation for the quest of peace through the game of bridge.

I must admit that winning the title of VWorld Bridge Journalist champion was one of the highlights of my bridge achievements. I owe a great deal of appreciation to my partner, Uri Gilboa, and to the foresight to have him join the IBPA in Cardiff in July of this year.

Uri took the helm in the following hand which gave us a top score in the prestigious tournament which enabled us, after three tries, to finish ahead of Tommy Sandmark, one of the top competitors of all time.

Board 7. Game All. Dealer South.

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

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

2♦ was a multi and 2♥ a non-forcing relay. East showed his 4-4-4-1 shape with 16+ HCP, then his singleton heart. Gilboa, West, showed superb judgement in selecting the final contract.

North started with the ♥K and shifted to diamonds. Gilboa won with the king and played two rounds of clubs. He lost the ♠Q to South's king and claimed the rest, pitching his losers on dummy's high spades.

9th European Open and 4th Senior Pairs Championship

The Netherlands Congress Centre

The Hague, The Netherlands

17th - 22nd March 1997

Organised by the European Bridge League in collaboration
with the City of The Hague and the Nederlandse Bridge Bond.

Total Prize Money: Swiss Francs 120,000

Open Pairs:	Total Prize Money:	Swiss Francs	100,000
	First Prize (per pair):	Swiss Francs	10,000
Seniors Pairs:	Total Prize Money:	Swiss Francs	20,000
	First Prize (per pair):	Swiss Francs	2,500

The Open Pairs will consist of 9 sessions - 3 qualifying rounds, 3 semi-final rounds (with two groups, A & B, with repechage) and a 3 session Final (and Consolation Final) with Barometer Scoring.

The **Seniors Pairs**, which will be a **transnational** event, will consist of 6 Sessions

-
3 qualifying rounds and a 3 Session Final (one session per day).

The Championship will start on the **Monday evening** and end with a **Prize Giving Cocktail** on the **Saturday evening**.

Chinese Taipei v France

Open Semifinal – Set Two

During the first 16 boards of this match, it was quite close most of the way. But then France started piling up double-digit swings. As a result France carried a 43-IMP lead into the second set of boards. The first of many pushes that deserve attention occurred on the very first deal.

Board 17. Love All. Dealer North.

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

West	North	East	South
Levy	Huang	Mouiel	Kuo
	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Although there are only three sure losers, this is not an easy contract. France had scored up the game in the Closed Room, and now it was up to Patrick Huang to duplicate the feat.

The opening lead was the ♣2, and after careful consideration, Huang went up with the ace. He crossed to the ♦A and led a second diamond. Levy overtook his partner's queen with the king to lead a trump. Mouiel cashed the ♥A before leading a second trump to the jack. Next Huang called for a small club, and when the king came up he was home – he could get rid of two of his diamonds on the ♣Q and the ♥K. There was still a trump in dummy to ruff the fifth diamond. A push board.

Board 19. East/West Game. Dealer South.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Huang	Mouiel	Kuo
Pass	2NT	3♥	2♠
3NT	All Pass		Pass

Brave bidding – neither East nor West had anything like a diamond stopper. The defenders quickly took their eight tricks to inflict a 400-point set. What would happen at the other table?

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Huang	Mouiel	Kuo
			2♥ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	2♠	3♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾ Spade suit or hearts and a minor

Yes, it happened again. And once again the defense quickly took five diamonds, two clubs and a spade – another of the unusual pushes that highlighted this match. The American Women's team did not fare as well here – the Austrian North doubled when the U.S. got to 3NT, and of course that was beaten 1100.

Board 21. North/South Game. Dealer North.

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

West	North	East	South
Levy	Huang	Mouiel	Kuo
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Both Wests declared 3NT here. H.S. Lin was beaten one trick in the Closed Room. In the Open Room Huang surprised the vugraph spectators by leading the ♣10 – they thought he would lead a heart based on the auction. The club lead gave up a valuable tempo. Levy won in dummy with the ace and went after diamonds, leading the ace and another. Che-Hung Kuo ducked so the queen won. Another diamond went to the jack. After considerable thought Kuo cashed the other diamond and led the ♠9. Huang was able to take two spade tricks, but Levy had the rest for his game and an 11-IMP pickup.

An opening heart lead would have given the defense time to set up a couple of heart tricks to set the contract. The lead at the other table had been a heart.

Board 24. Love All. Dealer West.

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

Chinese Taipei bid and made 4♥ with an overtrick in the Closed Room, but for a while Huang and Kuo were on their way to beating 4♥.

West	North	East	South
Levy	Huang	Mouiel	Kuo
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Kuo got off to an effective lead – the ♦A – then shifted to a club. The vugraph commentators were unanimous that Levy would rise with the king – but he didn't! He put in the jack and lost to the queen. At this point, Huang can practically guarantee setting the contract by leading a second club to partner's ace. Probably declarer would have taken the heart finesse, since he was missing four, and that would have been the setting trick.

But Huang decided to play partner for a singleton diamond – he returned a diamond to the jack. Levy was quick to unblock the ♠A and lead a heart to his ace. The fall of the king was an unexpected bonus. After drawing trumps he was able to get rid of his losing club on a good spade. Another push.

Board 25. East/West Game. Dealer North.

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

West	North	East	South
Levy	Huang	Mouiel	Kuo
	1♦	Pass	1♠ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♥ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

⁽¹⁾ Splinter

The question is: what is the best way to play the slam? The simple way after getting the ♥Q lead is just to take the club finesse. As you can see, that loses.

Another line is to win the ♥A, ruff a heart, cross to a trump, ruff another heart and draw the rest of the trumps. Next you drive out the ♦A – and everything is all right as long as the player with the ♦A doesn't have another heart! As you can see this line works.

Kuo thought about this for quite a long time, then finally took the simple approach, finessing in clubs. Down one – 11 more IMPs to France since the French stopped in game at the other table. Now France held a 61-IMP lead.

Board 26 presents an interesting question. After hearing three passes, what do you do in the pass-out seat? You hold:

♠ K 8 5
♥ 10 9 8 7 6
♦ K
♣ A 10 6 3



Photograph courtesy of Kodak's new digital camera

Alain Levy, France

The Danish Open Team

By Steen Moeller, Denmark

Surprisingly many players and journalists have approached me, astounded that Denmark reached the Open quarterfinals. Admittedly the team succeeded only after a close finish with New Zealand, but if you look in the bridge history books, you will find that Denmark is the **only nation** to have qualified every time since the format with a round-robin followed by a play-off was first introduced in Valkenburg 1980.

I believe that there are two main reasons for this. The first is that our most important national team tournament is played as a round-robin with long matches among the 12 best teams, ending with a four-team play-off. The two bottom finishers of the round-robin are replaced for the following year by number one and two from the second division.

If you want to get rid of a player or a pair from your team and add someone else, you have to retain a majority of the "old" players to keep the team for the following year; otherwise you will have to start in a lowly division, and it will take you some years to reach the prime division again. This way the teams and the partnerships tend to stick together, and you will try to be with, and stay with, a strong team with teammates and a partner you really like and who are also your **buddies**.

The other main reason is the way that our national team is selected. We have a selecting committee, but the reality is that the chairman, npc Jens Kruuse, has an almost dictatorial right to pick the team, and trials are only played when he is in doubt and only to observe the pairs. He tends to combine actual form with international experience and to try to select at least two pairs from the same team in the prime division, as he knows that they can function as a team and are buddies, which is important in a long tournament like the Olympiad where you cannot avoid losses and crises.

Thus, you will often see Danish international teams that are not made up of three pairs who happened to be best over some weekends a long time before the international championships, and there might be a better pair or two who were not selected, but you can almost always be sure that we will have a team.

This year npc Kruuse had his doubts about the third pair. "Trials" were played, observations were made, some of the pairs played in the EU teams, some in the Nordic teams, in both cases with terrible results. Final-

ly a pair was chosen, number four in the "trials", designated to be an assistant pair, but surprisingly the pair has until now played far better than expected and might well have been our best pair:

Lauge Schäffer, Copenhagen, 37 years, a research chemist employed by a well-known medical firm Novo Nordisk (diabetes). Some international experience, but few national successes.

Morten Andersen, Copenhagen, 38 years, a bridge consultant and teacher. Some international experience, has won a couple of Danish Championships.

It was easy for npc Kruuse to pick the two other pairs of which the first of which has been together for three years:

Lars Blakset, Copenhagen, 35 years, a chief consultant in a personal recruiting company. For the last decade a regular member of the Danish team, has won many national titles.

Søren Christiansen, Copenhagen, 41 years, a bridge consultant and teacher. Played in the team in Killarney 1991 and Villamoura 1995, has won some Danish Championships.

By far the most experienced pair, however, was formed eight years ago:

Dennis Koch-Palmund, 37 years, a computer software developer, married to world champion Charlotte. Started playing on the Danish team in Bordeaux 1985 and has been there almost every time since then. Has won many national titles, and international results include winning the Europa Cup in Paris 1986 and being runner-up in Menton 1993 and in Cap Volmac 1995.

Jens Auken, Copenhagen, 47 years, business lawyer and partner in the second largest law firm in Denmark. Member of the EBL and the WBF Executive Committee and married to world champion Sabine. Holds many national titles and his international successes are the same as Dennis', but he can among other good results add a bronze medal from Seattle 1984.

Npc Jens Kruuse, Copenhagen, 59 years, owns a lumber agency. He has been the captain more than twenty years and this is his sixth Olympiad.

Coach Bent Stuhr, Copenhagen, 58 years, owner of a consulting engineer firm.

Physical coach **Tom Olczyk**, Copenhagen, 37 years, reflexologist and former professional football



Henri Szwarc, France

Well, do you open or do you pass? Huang passed and Christian Mari opened 1♥. He bought the contract for 2♥ and actually took 11 tricks. The defense slipped a bit, but this was one time it was right to open. The deal was passed out at several tables in the semifinals. And of course there are very good reasons to pass – you certainly don't want partner to lead a heart with certain holdings if he eventually has the opening lead. In addition, it's entirely possible the spade suit belongs to the opponents.

Board 28. North/South Game. Dealer West.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lin	Mari	Shen	Bompis
INT	Pass	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

Marc Bompis lost a trick in each suit – making 3♥ exactly – plus 140.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Huang	Mouiel	Kuo
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♥
3♠	All Pass		

Declarer went up with the ace on the opening club lead and led a trump to his king. When he led a second spade, the roof fell in. Huang drew the rest of the trumps, then shifted to a heart that rode to the king. But on the club return Huang rose with the king, and the defense quickly cashed the rest of their hearts. Declarer won the last three tricks in diamonds, but still was beaten three tricks – minus 150. Still another unusual push.

Victory Point analysis

By Herman De Wael

Herman De Wael has carefully gone through all the results from the round-robin and figured out the average number of Victory Points per match each team earned. Then he put the totals of the Open and Women's teams together to see which countries did the best overall. Surprisingly, the United States came out first, just ahead of Israel.

COUNTRY	Women's	Open	Total
USA	19.45	17.71	37.16
ISRAEL	18.30	18.39	36.69
FRANCE	16.75	19.79	36.54
AUSTRIA	19.45	16.91	36.36
ITALY	16.55	19.77	36.32
CHINA	19.72	16.54	36.25
NETHERLANDS	18.05	18.09	36.14
GR BRITAIN	17.80	18.17	35.97
POLAND	17.35	18.35	35.70
CANADA	19.05	16.03	35.08
DENMARK	16.81	18.09	34.90
SWEDEN	17.14	17.56	34.70
NEW ZEALAND	16.48	18.06	34.54
GERMANY	19.33	14.55	33.88
STH AFRICA	17.00	16.71	33.71
SPAIN	16.19	17.32	33.51
INDONESIA	13.81	19.37	33.18

COUNTRY	Women's	Open	Total
CHINESE TAIPEI	13.98	18.83	32.81
BRAZIL	15.38	17.39	32.77
RUSSIA	14.00	18.43	32.43
INDIA	16.55	17.17	32.37
AUSTRALIA	14.80	16.34	31.14
BELGIUM	14.65	16.37	31.02
FINLAND	14.85	15.97	30.82
JAPAN	13.10	17.18	30.28
HUNGARY	14.71	15.54	30.25
ARGENTINA	13.55	16.21	29.76
GREECE	14.05	15.31	29.36
TURKEY	12.85	15.41	28.26
MOROCCO	12.81	14.94	27.75
CROATIA	13.55	13.94	27.49
MONACO	13.19	13.89	27.08
MEXICO	15.81	10.74	26.55
SAN MARINO	13.00	13.41	26.41
HONG KONG	11.52	14.39	25.91
VENEZUELA	12.02	14.80	24.82
PAKISTAN	8.90	15.71	24.61
THAILAND	13.45	11.00	24.45
COLOMBIA	12.00	11.64	23.64
PHILIPPINES	9.57	13.74	23.31
JORDAN	12.30	10.46	22.76
MALAYSIA	10.60	10.03	20.63

MIXED TEAMS OLYMPIAD

STANDINGS AFTER 8 ROUNDS

1	Mrs NAHMENS	FRA	156
2	HEATHER	ICE/GBR	156
3	Mrs FAIVRE	FRA	153
4	Mrs VALEANU	ROM	151
5	GROMOV	RUS	151
6	GILBOA	ISR	147
7	FELDMAN	USA	147
8	Mrs RAUSCHHEID	GER	145
9	BURGAY	ITA	145
10	CERVI	ITA	143
11	KULMALA	FIN	142
12	Mrs SHUGART	GBR	139
13	MORI	USA	139
14	Mrs KOSHI	JPN	139
15	Mrs LESUR	FRA	138
16	MAAS	NLD	135
17	Mrs AUKEN	GER/POL	135
18	Mrs POKORNA	CZE	135
19	KARLAFTIS	GRE/POL	135
20	WALSHE	IRL	133
21	PACAULT	FRA/ESP	133
22	LEE	CAN	132
23	ROSENKRANZ	MEX	131
24	GOENKA	IND	131
25	CORMACK	NZL/SWE	130
26	ZLOTOV	RUS	130
27	Mrs MIDSKOG	NOR	130
28	OTVOSI	POL	130
29	GAROZZO	USA/POL	129
30	SAUNDERS	BMU	129
31	STANSBY	USA	128
32	CHEEK	USA	127
33	HELLENBERG	ANT/NLD	127
34	MINARIK	HUN	127
35	Mrs ZOBU	TUR	126
36	Mrs WICKERS	FRA	126
37	CAPAYANNIDES	GRE	126
38	DISILVIO	LIE	125
39	KAPLAN	USA/FRA	125
40	BAUSBACK	GER/ISR	125
41	FILIPPI	SMR	124
42	EKINCI	TUR	123
43	KOWALSKI	POL	122
44	Mrs ROMANOV	LAT	121
45	Mrs KASIMHOC	TUR	121
46	Mrs HARDEMAN	BEL	120
47	DEBOER	NLD	118
48	Mrs CANESI	ITA	118
49	MSSNEPVANGE	NLD/GRE	118
50	MAURIN	FRA	118
51	BOUVERESSE	GUA/FRA	117
52	BILLUSIC	CRO	117
53	KARRSTRAND	SWE/CAN	117
54	DERI	CAN/HUN	117
55	KASLE	USA	117
56	REYGADAS	MEX	117
57	ESKINAZ	TUR	116
58	JACKAL	IND	114
59	Mrs SOLAKOGLU	TUR	114
60	SHKLIAR	UKR	113
61	ENGEL	DEU	111
62	ROUSSOS	GRE	111
63	Mrs DAS	FRA	110
64	QUERAN	FRA/LEB	110
65	HARRIS	GBR	110
66	DUBROVSKY	USA	109
67	STEINBUCHHEL	TUR	108
68	FALCIAI	ITA	107
69	YUREKLIS	TUR	107
70	SAPOJNIKOV	UKR	107
71	BRADLEY	USA	106
72	BARONI	ITA	106
73	BONORI	ITA	104
74	VOLHEJN	CZE	104
75	D'ORSI	***BRA	104
76	WENNING	GER	103
77	LINDSTROM	***SWE	101
78	JUURI-OJA	FIN	99
79	QADIR	PAK	96
80	OZUMERZIFON	TUR	96
81	Mrs VANNUZZI	ITA	96
82	Mrs BELLO	FRA/NLD	90
83	YALMAN	TUR	85
84	HENDRICKX	BEL	79
85	TANER	TUR	74
86	SIMPSON	CAN	70

Olympic Bridge Festival

SAULIS AND SARKANAS WIN TODAY'S OPEN PAIRS EVENT

Final ranking Pairs tournament October 30th

	1 Saulis	Sarkanas	58.63 %
2	Skordas	Hadjopoulos	57.44 %
3	Tirtadji	Bojoh	56.55 %
4	Ebru	Nuket	56.25 %
5	Ergun	Zorlu	55.95 %
6	Dionyssopoulos	Procopiou	55.36 %
7	Gontsa	Alpheeva	53.57 %

PROGRAM OF NEXT DAY'S ONE SESSION EVENTS

THURSDAY	31/10	20.00	OPEN PAIRS
FRIDAY	1/11	18.00	OPEN PAIRS
SATURDAY	2/11	11.00	OPEN PAIRS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

After the request of many players, the Olympic Bridge Festival will be continued.

There will be independent Open Pair sessions daily and the prizes will be the 60% of the entry fees.

Today, 31 October 20:00**at Capsis Metropolitan Hotel**

Entry fees : \$20 or 5,000GRD



All journalists present are hereby cordially invited to the annual

WBF PRESS CONFERENCE

on
FRIDAY, 1st November 1996in the
APOLLO ROOMat
10.00 a.m. (Please note the time change)

On the panel:

Mr. José Damiani, *President of the WBF***Mr. Henry Francis**, *President of the IBPA***Mr. Nartis**, *President of the Hellenic Bridge Federation***Mr. Yannopoulos**, *Mayor of the town of Rhodes***Mr. Panos Gerontopoulos**, *IBPA and WBF Liaison Officer*

After the Press Conference, and after the 1st match, at 12.30, the WBF cordially invites all journalists present for a drink in La Terrasse Bar.