

Chief Editor: **Henry Francis** (USA) • Editors: **Mark Horton** (Great Britain), **Brian Senior** (Great Britain) • Layout Editor: **Stelios Hatzidakis** (Greece)

Brazil, Norway lead Bermuda race; France tops in Venice Cup play

Bermuda Bowl

Brazil and Norway shot into a tie for first place after the first three matches of the Bermuda Bowl round-robin. Both scored major victories over highly regarded contenders. Brazil defeated France, last year's Olympiad champions, 22-8. Norway upended Italy, the 1997 European champion, 22-8. Brazil also triumphed over Chinese Taipei and New Zealand. Norway's other victims were Tunisia and Chile. Both Brazil and Norway ended the day with 64 Victory Points.

China also got off to a fast start, blitzing New Zealand, losing a close one to France, then coming back for a strong win over South Africa. China is only 6 Victory Points off the pace.

The two American teams are virtually tied for fourth – USA I has a two-point edge over USA 2. In their opening round match, USA I prevailed, 20-10. Lots of IMPs were tossed around in this match – 117 in all, with USA I scoring the lion's share with 70. Rounding out the top eight are Canada, Australia and Italy.

Venice Cup

In Venice Cup play, France jumped out to a four-point lead by scoring wins over Chinese Taipei 23-7, Australia 25-0 and India 16-14. Canada is in second place after edging Australia 16-14, stopping India 21-9 and blitzing Colombia 25-1.

As in the Bermuda Bowl, China took third place with 54 VPs, overcoming New Zealand and the Netherlands but losing to Brazil.

United States II, victor in their match against their American counterparts, 21-9, is in fourth place, two points behind China. Rounding out the top eight are Brazil, Argentina, Germany and Great Britain.

Memorials to Edgar Kaplan

Friends of Edgar Kaplan, who died in early September, gathered yesterday morning to pay tribute to their friend. And the World Bridge Federation flag will be flown at half mast in his honour throughout this tournament.

"The bridge world won't be the same without him," said Jaime Ortiz-Patino, President Emeritus of the World Bridge Federation. "His death is a huge loss to the World Bridge Federation and to bridge in general. And I have lost a close and valued friend."

Patino told how he first met Kaplan at the 1964 Olympiad, where Kaplan's expertise resulted in Patino's team finishing fifth instead of in the medal group. "Edgar, his wife Betty and I spent much time together, but it was later that I really got to know the man."

During the Bermuda Bowl Championship in Guarujá, Brazil, in 1973, Patino, Kaplan and WBF President Julius Rosenblum got together and decided that it was time to do something about improving bridge ethics at the world level. "We went from strength to strength,"

said Patino, "but we couldn't have done it without Edgar. Our plan was to get all players to tell their opponents what they were playing - a new concept."

There was an immediate objection from an Italian pair. "We've been working on our system for 10 years, and we're not about to tell everyone what we're doing," said Benito Garozzo. But after listening to Kaplan and Patino for a while, Garozzo was totally convinced that full disclosure was the way to go.

"Edgar was the ultimate expert on the Laws," said Patino. "He had so much to do with the Laws as they are today that perhaps they should be called Kaplan's Laws."

Patino recalled the pleasure he had playing as Kaplan's partner. "He was the greatest and the easiest ever to play with. Along with being a true friend, he was a wonderful partner. My world is not the same without him."

Joan Gerard, a member of the WBF Executive Council from the United States, told of her friendship with Kaplan that began in 1968. I quickly memorised Edgar's

phone number because I called him whenever I had a problem. I hope the memory of Edgar will help me in the future."

Joan recalled an incident involving Edgar that offers a good insight.

"The auction had gone 2NT - 3NT, and the lady sitting over the 3NT bidder hesitated a long time before passing. Her partner then led her singleton and found the hesitator with six to the ace-king-jack. Down two, followed by an appeal. The decision was a cancellation of this result, changed to 3NT making three.

"This upset the opening leader considerably. She insisted that she frequently led short suits in an attempt to find partner on such auctions. Here's how Edgar handled this:

"I have no doubt that you frequently lead a singleton when such an auction occurs. However, your partner's hesitation has made it impossible for you to be brilliant any longer."

continued on page 4

Bermuda Bowl - Results

Round 1

Table	Match	IMP's	VP's
1.	USA I - USA II	70 - 47	20 - 10
2.	India - Australia	33 - 57	10 - 20
3.	Canada - South Africa	69 - 72	14 - 16
4.	Denmark - France	21 - 35	12 - 18
5.	China - New Zealand	90 - 30	25 - 3
6.	Brazil - Chinese Taipei	52 - 12	23 - 7
7.	Tunisia - Norway	11 - 87	1 - 25
8.	Chile - Venezuela	36 - 41	14 - 16
9.	Italy - Poland	37 - 30	16 - 14

Round 2

Table	Match	IMP's	VP's
1.	India - USA I	24 - 41	11 - 19
2.	Poland - USA II	11 - 52	7 - 23
3.	Australia - Canada	24 - 41	11 - 19
4.	South Africa - Denmark	22 - 58	8 - 22
5.	France - China	31 - 20	17 - 13
6.	New Zealand - Brazil	19 - 40	11 - 19
7.	Chinese Taipei - Tunisia	36 - 27	17 - 13
8.	Norway - Chile	45 - 36	17 - 13
9.	Venezuela - Italy	28 - 64	8 - 22

Round 3

Table	Match	IMP's	VP's
1.	USA I - Canada	47 - 49	15 - 15
2.	USA II - India	54 - 33	19 - 11
3.	Denmark - Australia	37 - 53	12 - 18
4.	China - South Africa	50 - 26	20 - 10
5.	Brazil - France	67 - 33	22 - 8
6.	Tunisia - New Zealand	33 - 74	7 - 23
7.	Chile - Chinese Taipei	37 - 62	10 - 20
8.	Italy - Norway	56 - 90	8 - 22
9.	Venezuela - Poland	54 - 80	10 - 20

Bermuda Bowl - Program

Round 4

11h00

1.	Denmark - USA I
2.	Canada - USA II
3.	Poland - India
4.	Australia - China
5.	South Africa - Brazil
6.	France - Tunisia
7.	New Zealand - Chile
8.	Chinese Taipei - Italy
9.	Norway - Venezuela

Round 5

14h30

1.	USA I - China
2.	USA II - Denmark
3.	India - Canada
4.	Brazil - Australia
5.	Tunisia - South Africa
6.	Chile - France
7.	Italy - New Zealand
8.	Venezuela - Chinese Taipei
9.	Norway - Poland

Round 6

18h00

1.	Brazil - USA I
2.	China - USA II
3.	Denmark - India
4.	Poland - Canada
5.	Australia - Tunisia
6.	South Africa - Chile
7.	France - Italy
8.	New Zealand - Venezuela
9.	Chinese Taipei - Norway

Bermuda Bowl Rankings after 3 rounds

1.	BRAZIL	64
2.	NORWAY	64
3.	CHINA	58
4.	U.S.A. I	54
5.	U.S.A. II	52
6.	AUSTRALIA	49
7.	CANADA	48
8.	ITALY	46
9.	DENMARK	46
10.	CHINESE TAIPEI	44
11.	FRANCE	43
12.	POLAND	41
13.	NEW ZEALAND	37
14.	CHILE	37
15.	SOUTH AFRICA	34
16.	VENEZUELA	34
17.	INDIA	32
18.	TUNISIA	21

The Championships on Internet

Following the tradition initiated last year in Rhodes, this Championship is heavily involved in the Internet. First of all, there is practically instant coverage of the **results** which are posted moments after they become official.

The **Daily Bulletins** are made available as soon as they are finalised in the early hours; that is, well before they have been printed and distributed here in Hammamet. Three versions are offered:

- The *Internet* version: this includes the most important articles in a format especially adopted for the Web - some complexities of the printed Bulletin are missing but, unlike the latter, colour is included. Readers may see this version on their monitors and print parts or the whole Bulletin on their printers.
- The *Postscript* version: this gives the exact picture of the Daily Bulletin as you read it in Hammamet. It has the disadvantage that it requires long download times (as the file size is large) and special Postscript printers or software interpreters to print.
- The *PDF* version: this gives almost the exact picture of the Daily Bulletin. The files (and therefore the downloading times) are significantly smaller than the postscript version. It appears on the reader's monitor formatted as the hard copy distributed in Hammamet and can be printed on any printer. However, it requires the Acrobat Reader, a special piece of software which is available free of charge from Adobe Inc.

All computers installed in the Press Room, the Daily Bulletin room, etc., are linked through a local network. The entire material of the **WBF Web Server** (around 500 pages) is available on this network, also called an Intranet. You are free to browse through it.

Vugraph matches can be watched on line at the *Bridge Plaza* Web Site at www.bridgeplaza.com

Last but not least, once again there is an email service available to everybody at these Championships. Whether you have your account at home or not, you can send and receive email here.

Panos Gerontopoulos
WBF Internet Officer

WBF Server addresses: www.bridge.gr or www1.bridge.gr

Email address: bridge@tunisia.com.tn

Venice Cup - Results

Round 1

Table	Match	IMP's	VP's
10.	France - Chinese Taipei	67 - 28	23 - 7
11.	Australia - Canada	37 - 29	16 - 14
12.	India - Brazil	37 - 43	44 - 55
13.	Colombia - Netherlands	44 - 55	13 - 17
14.	China - New Zealand	55 - 21	22 - 8
15.	Great Britain - Tunisia	61 - 27	22 - 8
16.	USA I - USA II	24 - 52	9 - 21
17.	South Africa - Italy	33 - 41	14 - 16
18.	Argentina - Germany	62 - 49	18 - 12

Round 2

Table	Match	IMP's	VP's
10.	Australia - France	13 - 104	0 - 25
11.	Germany - Chinese Taipei	31 - 47	12 - 18
12.	Canada - India	45 - 14	21 - 9
13.	Brazil - Colombia	32 - 32	15 - 15
14.	Netherlands - China	31 - 58	9 - 21
15.	New Zealand - Great Britain	46 - 38	16 - 14
16.	Tunisia - USA I	24 - 60	8 - 22
17.	USA II - South Africa	50 - 20	21 - 9
18.	Italy - Argentina	51 - 34	19 - 11

Round 3

Table	Match	IMP's	VP's
10.	France - India	50 - 47	16 - 14
11.	Chinese Taipei - Australia	57 - 62	14 - 16
12.	Colombia - Canada	19 - 92	1 - 25
13.	China - Brazil	33 - 53	11 - 19
14.	Great Britain - Netherlands	29 - 40	13 - 17
15.	USA I - New Zealand	28 - 55	9 - 21
16.	South Africa - Tunisia	72 - 42	21 - 9
17.	Argentina - USA II	67 - 44	20 - 10
18.	Italy - Germany	32 - 103	2 - 25

Venice Cup - Program

Round 4

11h00

10.	Colombia - France
11.	India - Chinese Taipei
12.	Germany - Australia
13.	Canada - China
14.	Brazil - Great Britain
15.	Netherlands - USA I
16.	New Zealand - South Africa
17.	Tunisia - Argentina
18.	USA II - Italy

Round 5

14h30

10.	France - China
11.	Chinese Taipei - Colombia
12.	Australia - India
13.	Great Britain - Canada
14.	USA I - Brazil
15.	South Africa - Netherlands
16.	Argentina - New Zealand
17.	Italy - Tunisia
18.	USA II - Germany

Round 6

18h00

10.	Great Britain - France
11.	China - Chinese Taipei
12.	Colombia - Australia
13.	Germany - India
14.	Canada - USA I
15.	Brazil - South Africa
16.	Netherlands - Argentina
17.	New Zealand - Italy
18.	Tunisia - USA II

Venice Cup Rankings after 3 rounds

1.	FRANCE	64
2.	CANADA	60
3.	CHINA	54
4.	U.S.A. II	52
5.	BRAZIL	50
6.	ARGENTINA	49
7.	GERMANY	49
8.	GREAT BRITAIN	49
9.	NEW ZEALAND	45
10.	SOUTH AFRICA	44
11.	NETHERLANDS	43
12.	U.S.A. I	40
13.	CHINESE TAIPEI	39
14.	INDIA	37
15.	ITALY	37
16.	AUSTRALIA	32
17.	COLOMBIA	29
18.	TUNISIA	25

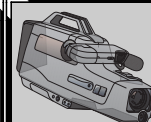
Smoking in Hammamet

The tournament is normally non-smoking, unless if, by special agreement of the concerned players at a table, the tournament director is requested to allow it.

The tournament director will, however, be entitled to forbid smoking if the room becomes too smoky.

On submitting their lineups, team captains will be requested to add an S to the names of the smoking players. No cigars or pipes. Only players are allowed to smoke.

The same smoking policy will apply next year at the World Championships in Lille, France.



VUGRAPH

Bermuda Bowl - Round 4 11h00

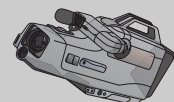
Poland - India

Bermuda Bowl - Round 5 14h30

USA I - China

Bermuda Bowl - Round 6 18h00

France - Italy



Memorials to Edgar Kaplan

continue from page 1

"This explanation pleased the lady, and she still plays regularly at our tournaments."

Bobby Wolff of the United States, former WBF president, told what a major role Edgar played in the development of the Aces. "Jim Jacoby and I were having a serious problem with our system, so we called Edgar for help. He came all the way to Dallas to help us out. He taught us Neapolitan, forerunner of the Blue Team Club. Whenever we had a system problem after that, naturally we called Edgar.

"When I took over as WBF president in 1993, one of the first things I did was to call Edgar for advice. I miss him - it's hard to realise how much."

"No one ever has been able to say so much with so few words with such humour," said Ernesto d'Orsi of Brazil, former WBF president. "Edgar has left a legacy that will always be remembered. A person only really dies if he is forgotten. Edgar will never die.

"I especially recall the dinners at his home. We always had wonderful wine, and there always was fine music.

"I had many discussions with Edgar - and it never took more than five minutes for him to convince me I was wrong."

Bill Schoder of the United States, chief tournament director at this tournament, said that he became a better director by spending so much time talking to Edgar in airport lounges. "Edgar had a unique ability to listen, then letting you hear yourself. He was a passionate, wonderful human being."

Schoder told about the time he packed for himself and discovered he had forgotten cufflinks while dressing for a formal dinner. He tried the shop downstairs, but was set back a bit when he discovered the price was \$165 - for each cufflink! He told his plight to Edgar, and Edgar said, "No problem. I have another set of cufflinks." So Schoder wore the cufflinks lent to him by Edgar - and he noticed at the dinner that Edgar was wearing paper clips!

Edgar's incredible sense of humour was uppermost in the memory of Jose Damiani, president of the WBF. "He had a wonderful sense of humour, and it was never offensive."

Damiani pointed out that Edgar's contributions to the WBF were enormous. "And it never took him as long as five minutes to convince me I was wrong," he said. "He was a man of great culture.

"In honour of Edgar Kaplan, the World Bridge Federation flag will be flown at half mast during this tournament."

Leading Question

by Barry Rigal

Sometimes, the potentially most disastrous opening leads work out well for strange reasons. Put yourself in South's shoes here:

West	East
Zmudzinski	Balicki
1♥	1♠
2♣	2♦
2♠	4♠
6♠	Pass

You have to find a lead from:

- ♠ 8 5
- ♥ 10 9 8
- ♦ 8 7 6 5 2
- ♣ K J 6

Well, nothing stands out, does it? Giorgio Duboin decided to attack and led ♣6. Had he been told that dummy had the ace and declarer the queen, he would no doubt have snatched it back and tried something else, but he was not blessed with this extra information at the time. Was it a disaster? Not at all!

This was the full hand. As you can see, the 5-3 spade fit offers an extra chance over the 5-4 club fit, namely a

3-3 heart break.

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

Cesary Balicki would have made 6♠ easily by combining his chances in hearts and clubs on a passive lead. However, he was confident enough when he received what looked like a singleton club lead. He rose with dummy's ace, unblocking the nine, drew trumps ending in dummy and led a club toward his queen. Alas, the deceptive lead had done its work and he had to go one down.

Marcelo Branco found the same lead with the same result against Chinese Taipei, as did Michael Roche of Canada against South Africa.

Bridge and the Olympics

The progression of bridge to the level of Olympic sport is moving well, according to Mazhar Jafri, chairman of the International Olympic Committee Liaison Committee and a vice president of the World Bridge Federation. "The IOC General Committee met in Switzerland in September, and recognition of the WBF was confirmed by the IOC," said Jafri.

The next step, according to Jafri, is to get the WBF accepted as a sports federation and to make bridge an Olympic sport. "Hopefully this will be accomplished in the

next few years," said Jafri. "It's going to be tough to get into the Summer Olympics because so many other sports are already waiting, but we have a much better chance to make it to the Winter Olympics."

Another major step - bridge has been recognised as a sport by the Olympic Council of Asia. That means bridge is a sport in all nations that are associated with this organisation. Bridge is likely to be included as a demonstration sport at the Asian Games in Bangkok, Thailand, in December 1998.

"This will be our chance to show

the Olympic people what a sport bridge is," said Jafri. "We will make our presence in Bangkok a showpiece. We plan to highlight our Junior players. This could easily be a stepping stone to the Olympic Games."

Jafri also noted that a major effort is being made to get individual countries associated with national Olympic committees. "A substantial number of NCBOs already have formulated associations with their national organisations," said Jafri.

Tired of watching? Want to play?

There is a Tournament for everyone!

Starting today at the **Hotel Aziza**.

Three session Open Pairs

Tuesday	21 October	16.00
Wednesday	22 October	16.00
Thursday	23 October	16.00

Two session Mixed Pairs

Friday	24 October	16.00
Saturday	25 October	16.00

THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

The first meeting of the IBPA Executive will be held tomorrow, Wednesday 22 October at 9.00a.m in the Salambo Meeting Room on the same floor as the Press Room.

Faxes and email

Please check with the Press Room from time to time if you are expecting to receive either faxes or email. The Press Room does not have the time nor the staff to seek each person out. The Press Room opens daily at 10 a.m.

Second-round action

by Barry Rigal

Since both China and France had started well, it seemed natural to watch the teams in action. On what generally was a quiet set, the pairs managed to generate a fair amount of action, and this report is supplemented by reports from another couple of tables.

Board 8. Love All. Dealer West.

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

Most Souths seemed unable to resist the temptation to reopen when West started proceedings by bidding 1♠ and this bid was passed around to them. However, at some tables East/West were unable to exploit their opponents' aggression. Herve Mouiel of France doubled 2♣, and when North boosted the action to 4♣, he passed it out.

By contrast Liz McGowan as East in the Great Britain-New Zealand Venice Cup match was faced with a raise to 3♣. She bid 3♥ and was raised to game. North/South saved in 5♣ and lost 500 – a 10-IMP pickup since Landy/Handley had been allowed to play in 3♣, down just one.

Alain Levy as South was faced with a different problem since the auction had started with a strong club on his left and a negative 1♦ on his right. When Wang bid 1♠, this was passed back to him, and he reopened with INT. Wang bid 2♥ and now reached 4♥ easily enough for an 8-IMP pickup.

The French were lucky not to lose more on Board 10.

Board 10. Game All. Dealer South.

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

Both the French and the Chinese Wests played 4♣ doubled on uninformative auctions. The French North led a heart, and declarer merrily crossruffed his way to nine tricks. The Chinese North led the ♣Q, and South failed to overtake to make the trump shift. – so North had to play a trump himself. Next came the ♦10, and North made the mistake of covering this. Now declarer could ruff out the ♦Q and establish his ninth trick for a flat board.

Marinesa Letizia reached 3NT from the North seat after West had shown the majors. She was not tempted to do anything but win an early spade and play a heart to the ace, creating the marked finesse position and an easy route to nine tricks. In fact even 4♥ goes down on repeated spade leads, it seems – the defence gets the force going in plenty of time.

Board 15. Game North/South. Dealer South.

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

Leading unsupported aces is often an unrewarding pastime – here it offered pretty rewarding odds, since it offers a 2-1 shot to beat a game. Letizia and Lisa Berkowitz bid as follows:

West	North	East	South
	<i>Berkowitz</i>		<i>Letizia</i>
			1♥
INT	2♣ ⁽¹⁾	2♦	2♥
3♦	3♣	Pass	4♥
Dbl	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾ Clubs and a higher suit.

Not unnaturally West led the ♦A and found this was the one-in-three shot that failed! Berkowitz ruffed and played the ♠K. West took her ace but then had a choice of losing actions. Leading the ♥A would give up her side's second trump trick, so she played a second diamond, allowing Berkowitz to ruff her winner in dummy and throw a club away on the top spade. She conceded just two trump tricks and scored up her contract.

There was also a swing in the France-China match. Both Norths bid their spade suit over the notrump overcall. Christian Mari bid 2♠, and Levy found the disciplined pass. On the diamond lead Mari ruffed out the ♦A and ran the ♣Q. He could not be prevented from discarding one heart on the top diamond for plus 140.

By contrast Frank Multon led a club against 3♣ (the Chinese North's choice of actions) and Mouiel won and played a low trump. Now there were sufficient entries to dummy to set up a diamond for a discard, and declarer had to go one down.

USA II is playing as a five-woman team

Temporarily at least, United States II is playing as a five-woman team. Lynn Deas is hospitalised with pneumonia. Her teammates report that she is making progress and may be back with the team soon.

In the meantime, Beth Palmer, Lynn's partner, is playing with Juanita Chambers. Juanita also is playing with Kathie Wei-Sender. The other partnership is Irina Levitina and Kerri Sanborn.

Nowadays Lynn plays from a wheelchair. She is suffering from myasthenia gravis, a progressively disabling disease for which at present there is no cure. Lynn was in a wheelchair during the American Trials and played her usual excellent game. Then she travelled to Chengdu, China, for the Marlboro Cup. She played her full share of the boards as the Americans won the women's championship. She and Juanita also finished among the leaders in the Open Pairs.

DANI's DYNAMIC DEFENCE

by Patrick Jourdain (UK)

When Israel withdrew, the Italian Ladies team stepped into the breach on very short notice, making their arrangements to come to Hammamet within two days. They can therefore be excused a difficult start, particularly as, in Round 3, they met the holders, Germany, playing in top form.

This deal illustrates the sort of form being displayed by the double-European Ladies Pairs champions, Sabine Auken and Daniela von Arnim:

Round 3

Board 6. East/West Game. Dealer East.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gladiator</i>		<i>Vogt</i>	
		INT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
	<i>Auken</i>		<i>von Arnim</i>
		1♦	1♥
Dbl	1♠	Pass	2♣
Dbl	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Both tables ended in 3NT by East.

Vogt and Gladiator play the weak notrump and their uninformative auction gave the Italian South little information. She led a heart. Declarer won cheaply, knocked out the diamond ace, and later led toward the spade king for her ninth trick.

At the other table East was playing strong notrump, and a much more informative auction followed. Von Arnim therefore led the jack of spades. Auken carefully overtook with the queen. Declarer was forced to duck this or the defence could run the spades when they were in with the diamond ace. When the spade queen held, Auken, with no entry to her spades, switched smartly to a heart. Declarer played low and the jack won. Now Dani went back to spades. Auken took this to play a second heart, establishing South's suit. When Dani won her ace of diamonds, she completed a devastating defence by cashing the rest of the hearts to put declarer three light.

This was 14 imps to Germany.

The French way

Many vugraph spectators learned how the French indicate their honour cards. Most spectators are used to ace, king, queen, jack – A, K, Q, J on the vugraph screen. But in the first match they saw A, R, D, V, which stand for as, roi, dame and valet. We found evaluating a hand just a little tougher than usual. But things were back to A-K-Q-J for the second match.

Bermuda Bowl MAUSAH OF

First match up on vugraph was the meeting of the two USA teams, both full of past and present world champions (indeed, USA2 are the holders) and both among the favourites for the title here in Tunisia. As usual, with Meckstroth and Rodwell at the table, there was plenty of action right from the start.

Board 1. Love All. Dealer North.

♠ K 4 2	♥ Q 4	♦ A K Q 9 8 4 2	♣ 7	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A J 5 3	♥ K J 8 3	♦ 6 5	♣ 10 9 4
	N																
W		E															
	S																
♠ Q 8	♥ 9 6 2	♦ 7 3	♣ A Q J 8 6 2		♠ 10 9 7 6	♥ A 10 7 5	♦ J 10	♣ K 5 3									

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Nickell	Rosenberg	Freeman
1♦	Pass	Pass	Pass
3♦	2♣	Dble	Rdbl
	All Pass		

Was there some doubt about the strength of the 3♦ rebid here or did Zia underbid? Whatever went wrong, the excellent 5♦ was missed, giving an early chance to USA2. But it was not accepted and it was USA1 who won the board.

At the other table Jeff Meckstroth opened 3NT in fourth seat and played there, losing the first seven tricks for -150 on the lead of the ♣Q. Zia's +150 was worth 7 IMPs to his side.

Board 2. North/South Game. Dealer East.

♠ Q J 2	♥ 5 4 2	♦ A J 2	♣ 10 7 5 2	<table border="1"> <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 7 3	♥ Q J 9 8 7	♦ K Q 6 3	♣ 4
	N																
W		E															
	S																
♠ A 8	♥ A 10 6	♦ 10 5 4	♣ A Q 9 6 3		♠ K 9 6 5 4	♥ K 3	♦ 9 8 7	♣ K J 8									

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Nickell	Rosenberg	Freeman
Pass	1♣	1♥	1♠
2♥	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

If anything, the East/West interference actually helped game to be reached. There was nothing to the play and Nickell soon chalked up +600.

In the Open Room, the East hand matched Eric Rodwell's idea of a weak two bid so he opened 2♦, weak with either major. Meckstroth responded 3♥, pre-emptive in partner's suit, and that caught Chip Martel with a fair hand but not enough to shoot out 3NT. Martel passed and Meckstroth played 3♥ down two for -100 but +11 IMPs; 11-7 to USA1.



Photograph courtesy of Kodak's new digital camera

Zia Mahmood (USA I), Rosenberg Michael (USA I)

Board 3. East/West Game. Dealer South.

♠ A Q J	♥ 7 5 2	♦ A 10 2	♣ J 9 7 5	<table border="1"> <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 8 5	♥ K 8	♦ Q J 9 7 6 4	♣ 8 3
	N																
W		E															
	S																
♠ 10 9 7 4	♥ A Q	♦ K 5 3	♣ K Q 6 2		♠ 6 3 2	♥ J 10 9 6 4 3	♦ 8	♣ A 10 4									

On vugraph, Lew Stansby opened 2♥ and played there, making exactly. They play a sounder style than Meckwell so game was possible but Martel played the odds by not making a try. Just as well, as there are five unavoidable losers.

In the other room the South cards did not match-up to Dick Freeman's vision of a weak two bid.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Nickell	Rosenberg	Freeman
1♣	Pass	1♦	1♥
Pass	2♦	3♦	All Pass

This contract also made exactly so a pair of +110s meant 6 IMPs to USA1, ahead by 13-11. The lead did not last long.

Board 4. Game All. Dealer West.

♠ A 8 3	♥ K Q 5 4	♦ A J 10 8 4	♣ 8	<table border="1"> <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 J 5 4	♥ 10 8 6 3	♦ 6	♣ K Q 4 3
	N																
W		E															
	S																
♠ 7 6	♥ -	♦ K Q 9 7 5 3	♣ J 10 9 7 2		♠ Q 10 9 2	♥ A J 9 7 2	♦ 2	♣ A 6 5									

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Nickell	Rosenberg	Freeman
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	Dble
All Pass			

Freeman led his singleton diamond and Rosenberg won the ace and led ♣8 to the nine, king and ace. Freeman returned a club, ruffed in dummy, and Rosenberg played ♥K to the ace. Another club ran to the queen and declarer ruffed his last club with dummy's last small trump while South pitched a spade. Rosenberg cashed the top spades and ♥Q then threw South in so made his ♥10 for two down; -500.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Meckstroth	Martel	Rodwell	Stansby
1♦	Pass	1♥	Dble
2♠	3♦	Dble	3♠
4♥	4♠	Dble	All Pass

1♦ was Precision, promising only two cards, and Stansby's double was therefore a double of hearts rather than of diamonds and hearts. 2♠ showed a heart raise with an unspecified shortage and Martel chose to show his excellent diamonds, though it was almost certain that Meckstroth had genuine diamonds for his 2♠ call. When Rodwell doubled 3♦, Stansby bid his spades but Martel thought that showed long spades and a hand too good for a 1♠ overcall.

4♠ doubled was not a pleasant spot. The lead was the singleton club to the queen and ace and Stansby led his diamond, also to the ace. Now Meckstroth underled the ♠A and Rodwell won the king and played king and four of clubs for him to ruff. Best is now to cash ♠A and exit with a diamond - the defence get the ♠J and two heart tricks for four down. In practise, Meckstroth did not cash the spade but switched to ♥K, ruffed in dummy. The ♦K was ruffed and over-ruffed and when Stansby exited with a low spade to the now bare ace Meckstroth was endplayed to lead hearts again. Declarer won, drew the last trump and played two more rounds of hearts and had to make the last trick; three down for -800 and 16 IMPs to USA2, back in the lead at 27-13.

Board 7. Game All. Dealer South.

♠ K 9 6	♥ J 6 4	♦ K 10 4	♣ 7 5 3 2	<table border="1"> <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 J 8 7 5 2	♥ 7 3	♦ Q 7 2	♣ A 8
	N																
W		E															
	S																
♠ 10	♥ A Q 10 8	♦ 6 5	♣ K Q J 10 6 4		♠ A 4 3	♥ K 9 5 2	♦ A J 9 8 3	♣ 9									

In the Closed Room, Freeman/Nickell had a free run: 1♦ - 2♣ - 2♦ - 2♥ - 3♥ - 4♥. Nickell made eleven tricks after a spade lead for +650. Competition from Meckwell put some momentum into the Open Room auction.

West	North	East	South
Meckstroth	Martel	Rodwell	Stansby
Pass	2♣	2♠	1♦
3♠	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

2♠ was natural but game-forcing and Rodwell's overcall shut Stansby out for a while but, when Martel could introduce his hearts at the four-level, Stansby had a good hand, particularly with his partner marked with spade shortage. He made a try and Martel took control and bid the slam.

THE USADAY Round 1

It takes a diamond lead to defeat 6♥ but it is very tough to find and, of course, Rodwell led a spade. Martel won the ♠A and played ♣9 to the ace. With trumps 3-2 there was no defence from here and Martel scored +1430; 13 IMPs to USA1 who trailed 26-32.

Board 9. East/West Game. Dealer North.

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



"He's tipping USA!"

two spades at the end for one down; -50 and 4 IMPs to USA1, ahead 43-32.

2♥ makes if declarer plays a spade when in dummy with ♣J. South must duck the spade so the king scores and now declarer plays ♣K to the ace. If the play now follows the same lines as before South finds himself end-played when he makes his last heart trick, obliged to either lead a diamond to dummy or a spade, enabling declarer to make a second spade trick.

Your opponents bid 2NT - 3NT, or the equivalent, and you hold:

♠ K 10 5
♥ A K 7 6 5
♦ 10 9 4
♣ 6 4

Presumably you lead a heart, but which one?

Meckstroth led a low one and that plus the fortunate diamond position meant eleven tricks for Stansby and +660.

Zia led ♥K, got the four from Rosenberg and continued with the ace. After five rounds of hearts, Zia switched to the ♦4 and Freeman wasted one of dummy's honours under the bare king. That meant two off for a great +200 for Zia/Rosenberg and 13 IMPs to USA1, stretching their lead to 56-32.

Board 15. North/South Game. Dealer South.

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

West Zia	East Rosenberg
1♥	1♠
3♣	4♣
5♦	5♥
6♣	6NT

Personally, I would rebid only 2♣ with the West hand but if Zia thinks 3♣ is correct who am I to argue? When Rosenberg raised the clubs Zia used Exclusion Keycard and discovered that partner had no keycards. Zia tried to play 6♣ now, a contract which rated to fail but at least had a chance, but Rosenberg converted to 6NT, which had to fail. He won the heart lead and played ace and another club and was two down; -200.

Meckwell took six rounds of artificiality to get to 6♣ after a strong club opening. 6♣ is the best contract as you

have the extra chance of hearts 3-3 before falling back on the club guess and the extra chance duly rolled in to give them a well-deserved 14 IMPs, pulling closer at 46-56.

Board 19. East/West Game. Dealer South.

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

North Nickell	South Freeman
1♣	2♦
2♥	3♦
5♦	Pass

It doesn't look impossible to get to slam even after South passes as dealer. If North can make one more forcing bid over 3♦ and hears about South's ♠K, that should do the trick. As it was, perhaps Nickell had shown his spade shortage by bidding around it but the position was not sufficiently clear for Freeman and the slam was missed - and why must North hold ♥A anyway on the above auction?

There was more action in the other room:

West Meckstroth	North Martel	East Rodwell	South Stansby
1♠	2♣	3♥	1♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♥	Pass	5♣
All Pass			6♦

Once Stansby had both opened the South hand and bid 4♦ freely, slam was always going to be reached. 11 IMPs to USA1 who had started with a useful 20-10 VP win over one of their main rivals. And particular credit to Martel/Stansby who had a bad start to the match but who came through strongly as the set progressed.



Americans with a Pakistani flavour. The United States I team dressed in Pakistani outfits for their opening match of the Bermuda Bowl yesterday. The purpose was to show the solidarity of the team that includes Zia, the man who led Pakistan to two runner-up finishes in world championships. Left to right: Paul Soloway, Seymour Deutsch, Zia, Lew Stansby and Michael Rosenberg. The sixth member of the team, Chip Martel, was not available at picture-taking time, but later he also was photographed in Pakistani garb.

In the Open Room, Stansby opened 1♠ in third seat and eventually played in 3♣, making an overtrick for +170.

Freeman opened 4♠ and Zia doubled for takeout, left in by Rosenberg - a close decision as he might have hoped to make five of a minor. Zia led ♦Q and, at first sight, the contract appears to be making, as indeed it did at many tables around the room. Freeman ducked the diamond and Zia switched to a ♠3 to the five, queen and ace. Now Freeman took his diamond ruff and led a low club off the table Rosenberg went in with ♣K to play a fourth round of diamonds, promoting Zia's ♠10 for the setting trick. Nicely defended and 7 IMPs to USA2 instead of nine the other way had the contract got home.

Board 12. North/South Game. Dealer West.

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

Closed Room

West Zia	North Nickell	East Rosenberg	South Freeman
1♣	Pass	1♦	Dble
Pass	1♠	2♦	All Pass

A club was led to the jack and Rosenberg played a spade up, dummy's king winning. Now he played a diamond to the jack and ace and Freeman switched to a low heart to dummy's king. Declarer played ♣K to the ace and Nickell returned a club to the queen, declarer pitching his second spade. There were two diamonds and a heart to lose from here but that was all; +90.

Meckstroth opened the West hand 2♥, showing the old Precision 2♦ type, 11-15 three-suiter with short diamonds. With no way to get to 3♦ even if he had wanted to play there, Rodwell passed and that was that. The lead was ♥4, ducked to Meckstroth's queen. He played a diamond to the jack and ace and back came a low club to the jack. Meckstroth returned a club to the ace and now Martel played ♥10 to the ace and another heart went to the king. Meckstroth started cashing winning clubs but Stansby could ruff and switch to ♠10 and had to make

Bermuda Bowl

Round 2

Canada vs Australia

Bermuda Bowl candidates Canada and Australia squared off in Round 2. The match was close, but the bridge was not always top-flight.

Bob Richman found the best switch on Board 3, which resulted in a 6-IMP gain for Australia.

Board 3. East/West Game. Dealer South.

	♠ 8 2 ♥ Q 10 8 7 ♦ Q J 10 ♣ 10 6 5 4		♠ Q J 9 4 ♥ 5 4 3 ♦ A 7 5 ♣ A 9 7
♠ 7 6 ♥ K J 6 ♦ K 8 4 3 2 ♣ K 8 2	N W E S	♠ A K 10 5 3 ♥ A 9 2 ♦ 9 6 ♣ Q J 3	
West Roche	North Burgess	East Fraser	South Richman
Pass	Pass	INT	1♠
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	All Pass		Pass

The contract was the same in the Closed Room, just making. In the Open Room, Stephen Burgess led a spade to Richman's ace, and he stopped for a minute to think things over. Finally he found the killing switch - he led the ♥2. This set up three heart tricks for the defence to go with their two top spades - and declarer had to give up a diamond trick to set up the suit.

Australia got overboard in a slam on Board 5 while Canada was content to rest in game. That was 11 IMPs to Canada, their first major gain.

Board 5. North/South Game. Dealer North.

	♠ J 8 6 3 ♥ 10 8 ♦ Q 10 8 7 6 2 ♣ A		♠ 7 ♥ K Q J 3 ♦ K 3 ♣ K Q 10 9 7 3
♠ A Q 9 5 4 ♥ A 6 4 ♦ A J 9 5 ♣ 6	N W E S	♠ K 10 2 ♥ 9 7 5 2 ♦ 4 ♣ J 8 5 4 2	
West C. Rothfield	North Delogu	East J. Rothfield	South Thurston
2♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
5NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
	Pass	6♣	All Pass

Carole Rothfield felt that her outside strength made up for her lack of length in clubs, but it was the club division that defeated the slam - down two, minus 100. The auction was altogether different in the Open Room.

West Roche	North Burgess	East Fraser	South Richman
1♠	Pass	1♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass	2♥	Pass

Roche had no problem taking 11 tricks to earn 11 IMPs.

Board 11 was most unusual. Every North-South pair in both the Bermuda Bowl and the Venice Cup arrived at the cold grand slam - sometimes in clubs, sometimes in hearts and a few times in notrump. The vugraph audience voted that at least one pair would fail to bid the grand, but they were wrong.

Canada was well ahead when Board 13 came along, but this time Australia picked up a game swing.

Board 13. Game All. Dealer North.

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

The contract was 4♥ by West at both tables. In the Closed Room Mrs. Rothfield made her contract when South failed to cover when she led the ♥J off dummy at trick two. Now she lost only one heart and two spades.

In the Open Room, Roche won the spade opening lead and led the ♥J. Richman covered and Roche took his ace. He continued with a second heart to Richman's queen, and Richman quickly switched to a diamond. Burgess won the queen and ace and then gave Richman a ruff for the setting trick and 12 IMPs.

Board 14. Love All. Dealer East.

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

Both teams arrived in 3NT, Canada gaining an IMP by scoring an overtrick. But the interesting point about this hand is the defence that would have beaten the contract.

After declarer allows the opening lead of the ♦Q to

hold, the killing defence is to lead a club directly into dummy's holding. That kills an all-important entry to dummy. Yes, declarer can pick up the ♥K - but he can't get back to dummy to cash the long heart. And he can't cash the second club without setting up two clubs for the defence. He can take the heart finesse and knock out the diamond stopper, but in doing so will lose at least five tricks.

Board 16. East/West Game. Dealer West.

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

This board stood out in a negative way. Almost every pair in both contests bid a heart slam - indeed United States I in the Bermuda Bowl went all the way to the grand. But both pairs here were ultra conservative, stopping at 4♥, then taking all 13 tricks for a strange push.

On the next-to-last board, Canada bid a slam that was somewhat against the odds - but it made, and that's what counts in the long run.

Board 19. East-West Game. Dealer South.

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

Closed Room

West C. Rothfield	North Delogu	East J. Rothfield	South Thurston
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

The fall of the ♣K is fortuitous, or course. After it falls, declarer can enter dummy and lead toward the ♠K. When the ace turns out to be onside, declarer has his slam.

This was the auction in the Open Room.

West Roche	North Burgess	East Fraser	South Richman
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

Canada emerged the victor, 19-11.



Found - a watch

A lady's watch was found in the playing area after the second match yesterday. If you believe it may be yours, please drop by the Press Room (second floor, Sol Azur). If you can describe it accurately, it will be returned to you.