



World Bridge Productions

Presents the

Cavendish^{wbp}

Invitational

Bulletin Number 1

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

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Welcome to the 28th Annual Cavendish Invitational

World Bridge Productions welcomes you to the 2002 Cavendish Pairs, John "Jocko" Roberts Teams and World Bridge Productions Pairs. This year Bridge Base will provide live Internet Vugraph coverage of the Teams and Pairs (at bridgebase.com). The on-site proceedings will feature many of your favorite hosts and auctioneers including the inimitable George Jacobs, the lovely David Berkowitz, the eloquent Bob Hamman, and whoever else we can coerce into making a fool of themselves (not you, Bob).

This year's five-session Cavendish Invitational Pairs features a star-studded sixty-pair field (see page 3) while the three-session John "Jocko" Roberts Teams anticipates twenty-six entrants (see page 2). The three-session WBP Pairs sports its own field of stars (see page 3). A complete schedule for

this year's tournament can be found on page 2.

This year's field is once again truly international in scope, as so many of our North American tournaments have become. Players are here from all over the world (but, sadly, still no one from Antarctica) including many of the world's top players.

It's good to see so many friends and familiar faces. In the spirit of friendship and good bridge we welcome you to the 2002 Cavendish Invitational. We wish everyone a fun time and a successful experience. Enjoy the Rio, Las Vegas and good bridge to all!

– Bob Hamman, Robert Blanchard and Bill Rosenbaum

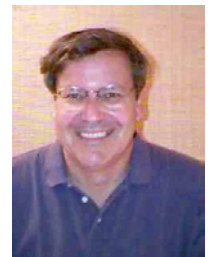
To the world,

He gave Woodstock (peace and love, bigger than all of us).

To bridge, he gave his all, his labors and enormous talent.

To those of us lucky enough to spend time with him, he made us feel good about ourselves.

It was always like he had the best house on the block and wanted you to hang out there.



John "Jocko"
Roberts

Gamblers Non-Anonymous

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

Conditions of Contest: Expansions and Clarifications

In general, it is our intent to allow methods with which other contestants are expected to be familiar. It is also our intent to allow reasonable artificiality in auctions where the bidding side has guaranteed sufficient (high-card) values to invite game. If you have any questions about your own or your opponents' methods, the person to see is Barry Rigal.

Schedule

Day	Time	Activity	Location
Wednesday, May 8	11:30 AM	Opening Brunch Banquet	Brasilia 1 & 2
	12:15 PM	Auction, Teams	Brasilia 1 & 2
	1:30 PM	1 st Session, Teams	Miranda Ballroom
	8:00 PM	2 nd Session, Teams	Miranda Ballroom
Thursday, May 9	12:00 PM	3 rd (final) Session, Teams	Miranda Ballroom
	6:15 PM	Cocktail Party	Brasilia 2 & 3
	7:00 PM	Auction, Cavendish Pairs	Brasilia 2 & 3
Friday, May 10	12:30 PM	1 st Session, Pairs	Miranda Ballroom
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, Pairs	Miranda Ballroom
Saturday, May 11	10:30 AM	WBP Brunch (all invited)	Pavilion 11
	11:00 AM	WBP Auction	Pavilion 11
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, Pairs	Miranda Ballroom
	12:30 PM	1 st Session, WBP Pairs	Pavilion 6
	7:30 PM	4 th Session, Pairs	Miranda Ballroom
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, WBP Pairs	Pavilion 6
Sunday, May 12`	12:30 PM	5 th Session, Pairs	Miranda Ballroom
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, WBP Pairs	Pavilion 6
	5:00 PM	Closing Cocktail Party	Pavilion 1

Entrants for the John "Jocko" Roberts Teams 2002

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

- 1 **Rita Shugart**, Paul Chemla, Philippe Cronier, Andrew Robson
- 2 **George Jacobs**, David Berkowitz, Larry Cohen, Bob Hamman, Ralph Katz, Zia Mahmood
- 3 **Lou Ann O'Rourke**, Curtis Cheek, Peter Fredin, Magnus Lindkvist, Billy Miller
- 4 **Rose Meltzer**, Kyle Larsen, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby, Peter Weischel
- 5 **Gaylor Kasle**, Steve Beatty, Marc Jacobus, George Steiner
- 6 **Perry Johnson**, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell
- 7 **Kit Woolsey**, Bart Bramley, Sidney Lazard, Fred Stewart
- 8 **Malcolm Brachman**, Mike Cappelletti, Jr., Geir Helgemo, Mike Passell, Eddie Wold
- 9 **Jose Ventin**, Antonio Frances, Luis Lantaron, Juan Torres
- 10 **John Onstott**, Ross Grabel, Garey Hayden, Jon Wittes
- 11 **Russ Ekeblad**, Sheila Ekeblad, Bobby Levin, Mark Molson, Michael Seamon
- 12 **Roy Welland**, Bjorn Fallenius, Steve Garner, Fred Gitelman, Brad Moss, Howard Weinstein
- 13 **Alain Levy**, Herve Mouiel, Pierre Saporta, Pierre Zimmerman
- 14 **Drew Casen**, Richard Coren, Billy Eisenberg, Larry Cohen
- 15 **Bruce Ferguson**, Brenda Keller, Peter Schneider, Rick Whitworth
- 16 **Aleksander Petrunin**, Andrei Gromov, Michal Kweicen, Jacek Pszczola
- 17 **Bob Blanchard**, Piotr Gawrys, Krzysztof Jassem, Sam Lev
- 18 **Simon Deutsch**, Billy Cohen, Fred Hamilton, Ron Smith, Paul Soloway
- 19 **Lionel Wright**, Michael Cornell, Gunner Hallberg, Nick Sandquist
- 20 **Ishmael Del'Monte**, Hector Camberos, Neville Eber, Pablo Lambardi
- 21 **Jim Mahaffey**, Gary Cohler, Brian Glubok, Mark Lair, John Mohan, John Sutherlin
- 22 **Mike Whitman**, Grant Baze, Doug Doub Adam Wildavsky
- 23 **Michael Moss**, Chuck Burger, Giorgio Duboin, Guido Ferraro
- 24 **Dan Mordecai**, Roger Bates, Sylvia Moss, Sue Picus

Entrants for the WBP Pairs 2002

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

Pair #	Pair #
1 Russ Samuel – Shawn Samuel	18 Sylvia Moss – Sue Picus
2 Bill Jacobson – Keith Woolf	19 Peter Friedland – David Siebert
3 Lou Ann O'Rourke – Jeff Roman	20 Marshall Lewis – ?
4 Lynn Baker – Kerri Sanborn	21 Richard Coren – Billy Eisenberg
5 Barry Schaffer – Colby Vernay	22 Roger Lord – Jacklyn Sincoff
6 Sheila Ekeblad – Mark Molson	23 Victor Chernoff – Nels Erickson
7 Bruce Ferguson – ?	24 Jon Greenspan – Krzysztof Jassem
8 Larry Cohen – Jill Levin	25 Fred Hamilton – Rhoda Walsh
9 Steve Scott – Haig Tchamitch	26 Leonard Holtz – Renee Mancuso
10 Derrell Childs – Louise Freed	27 Kent Mignocchi – Beverly Perry
11 Don Lusskey – ?	28 Kyle Larsen – Jo Morse
12 Rob Crawford – Dan Jacob	29 Jim Robison – Jerry Weinstein
13 Bill Doroshow – Nate Ward	30 George Mittelman – Peter Nagy
14 Paul Erb – Leonard Ernst	31 Roy Hoppe – Mike McCarthy
15 Marty Baff – Phil Becker	32 Les Amoils – Disa Cheek
16 Mike McNamara – David Yates	33 Wirt Gilligham – Marjorie Michelin
17 Leszek Rabięga – Edward Wojewoda	34 Irving Litvack – Darren Wolpert

Entrants for the Cavendish Pairs 2002

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

Pair #	Pair #
1 David Berkowitz – Larry Cohen	31 Marty Fleisher – Eric Rodwell
2 Paul Chemla – Philippe Cronier	32 Rose Meltzer – Peter Weischel
3 Steve Garner – Howard Weinstein	33 Mike Cornell – Lionel Wright
4 Eric Greco – Geoff Hampson	34 Bjorn Fallenuis – Roy Welland
5 Roger Bates – John Mohan	35 Antonio Frances – Juan Torres
6 Boye Brogeland – Espen Erichsen	36 Doug Doub – Adam Wildavsky
7 Marc Jacobus – Gaylor Kasle	37 Michel Abecassis – Michel Eidi
8 Seymon Deutsch – Paul Soloway	38 Jared Lilienstein – Glenn Milgrim
9 Drew Casen – Bill Pollack	39 Pierre Saporta – Pierre Zimmerman
10 Gunnar Hallberg – Nick Sandquist	40 Steve Levinson – Barnet Shenkin
11 Steve Landen – Pratap Rajadhyaksha	41 Peter Fredin – Magnus Lindkvist
12 Christian Mari – Herve Vinciguerra	42 George Jacobs – Ralph Katz
13 Steve Beatty – George Steiner	43 Chuck Berger – Michael Moss
14 Hector Camberos – Pablo Lambardi	44 Ishmael Del'Monte – Neville Eber
15 Curtis Cheek – Billy Miller	45 Gary Cohler – Mark Lair
16 Bart Bramley – Sidney Lazard	46 Fred Gitelman – Brad Moss
17 Alain Levy – Herve Mouiel	47 Fulvio Fantoni – Claudio Nunes
18 Linda Lewis – Paul Lewis	48 Grant Baze – Michael Whitman
19 Ross Grabel – Jon Wittes	49 Luis Lantaron – Juan Ventin
20 Geir Helgemo – Eddie Wold	50 Walid Alahmadi – Tarek Sadek
21 Andrew Robson – Rita Shugart	51 Garey Hayden – John Onstott
22 Jim Krekorian – Rick Zucker	52 Georgio Duboin – Guido Ferarro
23 Perry Johnson – Jeff Meckstroth	53 Piotr Gawrys – Amos Kaminski
24 Michael Courtney – Charles Wigoder	54 Gene Freed – Jeff Olson
25 Bob Blanchard – Sam Lev	55 Brian Glubok – Jim Mahaffey
26 Mike Cappelletti, Jr. – Mike Passell	56 Tom Hanlon – Hugh McGann
27 Joanna Stansby – Lew Stansby	57 Russ Ekeblad – Michael Seamon
28 Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey	58 Bob Hamman – Zia Mahmood
29 Billy Cohen – Ron Smith	59 Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein
30 Andrei Gromov – Aleksander Petrunin	60 Michal Kwiecien – Jacek Pszczola

Last Year's Cavendish

(Adapted from articles by Barry Rigal)

The Teams:

The Teams game used to be no more than an appetizer for the main event. Not any longer; the auction pool totaled \$150K, and the player's pool of \$50K meant everyone had an incentive to do well.

In the auction Perry Johnson, the defenders with Meckwell on the squad, went for \$15,500 while the all-stars of Eisenberg-Zia and Helgemo-Lev brought in \$12,500. O'Rourke (Miller-Cheek and Levin-Weinstein, the 1/2 finishers in the 1999 pairs event) sold for \$11K, while the Polish squad of Gawrys, Robinson (Boyd, Woolsey-Stewart) and the Spingold winning Meltzer team all brought in \$9,000+.

As if to prove the buyers wrong, only two of the top six teams finished in the prize money.

The report of the teams starts with a compression play. No, this is not a variation on a squeeze. It is a less than optimal play in a suit to convert a certain number of sure tricks into something less.

Dir: West	♠ A83	
Vul: None	♥ 1086	
	♦ 105	
	♣ AQ874	
♠ J62		♠ K9754
♥ AQ72		♥ KJ953
♦ Q6		♦ A2
♣ K1032		♣ 5
	♠ Q10	
	♥ 4	
	♦ KJ98743	
	♣ J96	

This deal was bid to 4♠ at most tables and where I was watching Richie Schwartz had an awkward lead to make.

West	North	East	South
1♣	Pass	1♠	2♦
Dbl(1)	Rdbl(2)	4♠	All Pass
(1) Support			
(2) Maximum, fewer than three diamonds			

Casen as North might have contemplated doubling the final contract I suppose to try to get a club lead, and it would have been nice to be able to bid 3♣ as a fit-bid instead of doubling. But at this table since 1♣ showed only two-plus clubs, there would have been a presumption that this was simply natural. Anyway, Schwartz led a diamond, far from unreasonably, and that was -420. Of course 4♠ by West is far trickier, but at least one declarer found a way to make it, even on the ♦10 lead. Michael Seamon ducked the first trick

in dummy and his RHO took the ♦K and returned the suit. Now he drew trumps and led a low spade from dummy and our to-remain-nameless South ducked her queen-ten doubleton and now declarer's two spade losers had been compressed into one. However, it was possible to do far better on defence, as Gower and Del'Monte showed.

Their opponents stopped in 3♥ after an auction of:

West	North	East	South
1♣	Pass	1♠	3♥
Pass	Pass	3♥	All Pass

Del'Monte led a club to the king and ace for a diamond shift. Declarer hopped up with the ♦A and drew two rounds of trumps, then passed the ♠J to del'Monte's queen. Ishmael cashed the ♦K, then forced declarer with a club. When declarer drew the last trump and misguessed spades by leading to the ♠9 and ten, another club meant two down.

Dir: East	♠ KQ4
Vul: Both	♥ Q1042
	♦ A2
	♣ K1074
♠ A62	♠ J53
♥ AK5	♥ 983
♦ J84	♦ KQ1093
♣ AJ93	♣ Q8
	♠ 10987
	♥ J76
	♦ 765
	♣ 652

How far can Bruce Ferguson push the envelope? The more outrageous things he does, the more people suspect him, so he has to keep trying ever more unusual tricks. But he still keeps reeling in the victims.

Consider this affair from the sixth match in the teams Wednesday evening, where he caught another world champion and added yet another notch to his belt. If you play 3NT as West, as did the vast majority of the field, you find the cards lying exceptionally well. With the ♦A doubleton and spades and hearts behaving better than one has a right to expect, it looks very hard to go down.

Ferguson started the war of attrition by leading a deceptive ♥4. Playing fourth-highest leads, when you have a hand this strong, that can be a good move. Indeed, when West ducked the first heart Ferguson had won the first battle. Back came a heart and West won, crossed to a top diamond, and passed the ♠Q. Ferguson won and put the ♠4 on the table. West eyed this suspiciously and decided to duck. We can all see that this may not be technically supportable but Bruce

had given him the chance to go wrong and he took it. Now Bruce had three winners to cash when he got in with the $\diamond A$. All credit to Ferguson, who left chortling, with another victim added to what is by now a rather long list.

Dlr: East	\spadesuit ---	
Vul: Both	\heartsuit KJ954	
	\diamond A1032	
	\clubsuit Q742	
\spadesuit K1072		\spadesuit AQ863
\heartsuit A62		\heartsuit Q107
\diamond Q5		\diamond K9
\clubsuit K986		\clubsuit J53
	\spadesuit J954	
	\heartsuit 83	
	\diamond J8764	
	\clubsuit A10	

Fallenius and Garner (a scratch partnership, which in this context is an especially appropriate term since their partners were off playing golf) had an impressive start to their set against Greco-Hampson. When Greco opened $1\spadesuit$ Fallenius jumped to $3\clubsuit$, limit or better in spades. Greco doubled, there being some confusion as to whether this meant clubs or spade take out, and when Garner passed, Fallenius retreated to 3NT, the only game with any play.

The field played this in game except for Erichsen-Brogeland. They bid: $1\spadesuit$ -Pass-2NT(GF)-Dbl; $3\spadesuit$ -All Pass. A good view by Brogeland; given what they open the bidding with, their systemic agreement is that after intervention over 2NT, $3\spadesuit$ here is not game forcing any more. $3\spadesuit$ just made for +140 for an 8-imp pickup.

Of course in 3NT on a diamond lead the defense has the upper hand, but Greco naturally led a heart and Fallenius, after some thought, put in the ten. Then he ran five spades and Greco came under the gun. He knew his partner had to have a top club to give his side a chance to set the hand, so he pitched two clubs and two diamonds, but then gave up a heart on the last spade. Fallenius could now try to build a club trick for his contract in safety by leading to the $\clubsuit K$, though it still required a little card-reading. In fact Hampson hopped up with the $\clubsuit A$ to play a heart through, which would have set the hand if Greco's club honor had been the king. But as it was, Fallenius won the $\heartsuit A$ and played a diamond, and the defense had only four winners. If Greco had pitched down to a bare $\diamond A$ it would have been equally easy for Fallenius to play on diamonds before clubs and wait for a club or a heart trick from Greco. These 12 imps were the only imps scored by Welland in the nine-board match, but it was enough for a 21-9 VP win.

Going into the final match Onstott (Compton, Robison-Bates Wittes-Grabel) led by 5VPs from Welland, and won a wildly swingy final set 21-9. But it was not enough since Welland took their match 27-3 and pipped Onstott by a single VP. This deal saw both leading teams pick up a big swing.

Holding $\spadesuit KQ982$ $\heartsuit 9$ $\diamond K962$ $\clubsuit 854$, what would you lead on the following auction?

West	North	East	South
	$1\diamond$	$1\heartsuit$	Dbl
Pass	$2\heartsuit$	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

To my mind there seem to be a lot of points in the deck. Since partner has made a non-space consuming overcall with few high cards he should want a heart lead. However you can survive any lead on defense except a low spade, which gives declarer a trick, a tempo, and an entry. Both defenders for the leading teams avoided the fatal lead while their counterparts did not; partner has 2-6-2-3 with $\spadesuit 10x$ and good hearts and 3NT has no chance at all on passive defense.

AWARDS	VPs	AUCTION	PLAYERS
Welland	183	48.9	16.8
Onstott	182	32.6	11.2
Johnson	169	23.7	8.2

The Pairs:

The Pairs auctions saw a slight decline in the total take from previous years (probably because one or two of the top bidders from the period were not present) but the pool went over \$1M so one can hardly complain about a lack of interest. Of the 52 pairs entered, about half went for more than \$10K, the minimum bid, and eight pairs went for more than \$30K. They were:

Kwiecien/Pszczola	46K
Levin/Weinstein	44K
Chemla/Levy	40K
Helgemo/Lev	38K
Garner/Weinstein	36K
Greco/Hampson	35K
Gitelman/Moss	31K
Fleisher/Rodwell	31K

For what it is worth, four of those pairs did indeed finish in the top ten, the prize for tenth being \$24K. Eisenberg and Zia were next to last after the first set, despite this coup.

Dlr: West	\spadesuit 1085	
Vul: N/S	\heartsuit Q95	
	\diamond 73	
	\clubsuit K7654	
\spadesuit ---		\spadesuit KQ642
\heartsuit AJ10843		\heartsuit K72
\diamond AKJ2		\diamond Q1086
\clubsuit Q93		\clubsuit 8
	\spadesuit AJ973	
	\heartsuit 6	
	\diamond 954	
	\clubsuit AJ102	

Zia, West, opened 1♥ and Billy Eisenberg jumped to 3♣ (limit with four trumps or an unbalanced three-card raise). Zia tried a delicate 6♥ and Espen Erichsen led a spade to the king and ace. When Zia advanced the ♣Q Erichsen won the king to play a second spade immediately. Now Zia had to find the ♥Q. He reasoned that Erichsen's decision to win the ♣K and return a spade (as opposed to a trump) or as opposed to letting his partner win the ♣A meant that he had the ♥Q. But there was also the clue that the position was sufficiently complex that without the queen of trumps the defense's problem as to what to play at trick three looks far from easy: an immediate spade return had to mean that North was not looking at any problem in the defense. So Zia ruffed the spade return and ran the ♥J to make his slam.

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

Then came a deal with many issues in the bidding and play.

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

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

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



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

Meckstroth made the hand, too, in a different way. When his East pitched a heart early on he led a low heart towards the jack—and West ducked.

Dlr: South	♠ Q732	
Vul: N/S	♥ AK76	
	♦ AQ4	
	♣ 4 2	
♠ K9		♠ 65
♥ 104		♥ QJ985
♦ 9763		♦ KJ8
♣ A9753		♣ 1086
	♠ AJ1084	
	♥ 32	
	♦ 1052	
	♣ KQJ	

If ever there was a reason not to open light, this board is it. Where I was watching Amos Kaminski passed the South hand and a transfer auction to 4♠ saw Gawrys as North have no problems on a club lead. Both Helgemo and Stewart opened the South hand, the one fueled by youthful exuberance, the other by a strong club system. After a game-forcing trump raise both played 4♠ on a diamond lead to the jack. Both Levy and Welland at their respective tables found the devastating trump shift. (It is easy to see why a trump is right and a club wrong—but only if you think about it.) Declarer took his ace but had lost his hand entry. He tried the ♣K but both Chemla and Fallenius continued the good work on defense. They ducked the first club, won the second, and played a second diamond. Declarer rose with the ace and played ♥A, ♥K, and ruffed a heart high to get back to hand. No such luck. The defense could overruff and cash the ♦K for down one. Pszczola and Kwiecien also duplicated this defense for down one. It is interesting to note that all three tables would have set 4♠ even if the diamond

finesse had been right.

Then another fascinating venture into the world of spot-cards:

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

Opinions varied sharply as to how to deal with the N/S cards after a 3♠ preempt, the standard action with the East cards. Lev doubled 3♠ and Helgemo sat for it, collecting only 200 when Jansma guessed clubs after Lev cashed the ♥AK and shifted to a club.

Mohan and Wold got it just right: Mohan doubled 3♠ and Wold jumped to 5♦, raised by Mohan to six. Maybe John Lowenthal, if he were still alive, would have found the ♣J lead but being only mortal, West kicked off with a top spade and declarer ruffed. Now he could draw trumps without any restricted choice problems since it was East who was likely to be long in trumps. A heart to the ace and a low heart towards the jack now ensured twelve tricks.

By contrast, after Gene Freed opened 3♠ Bart Bramley also played 6♥. He ruffed the spade lead, cashed the ♥AK, and found the expected trump loser, but with the trumps three-two he was still in the game. Then came the ♦K, ♦A, and Bart ruffed a second spade, crossed to the ♦10 as Robison pitched and ruffed another spade. If Robison discards the slam comes home, as Bramley crosses to the ♦9 and then endplays Robison in trumps to lead a club. But Robison alertly overruffed and exited with a club, giving declarer a club trick but still leaving him with a club loser because the diamonds were blocked. (Bramley said the hand was exceptionally irritating because, while you can unblock the ♦10 or ♦9 under the king to leave an entry back to your hand, that leaves South an entry short to dummy because one can't now use the ♦2 as an entry to ruff spades.) Switch the ♦8 and ♦9, or the ♦2 and ♦3, and the contract cannot be defeated after the spade lead.



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

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

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

On the following deal from the third session 6♦ is clearly the best slam, but only Bates and Mordecai managed it bidding 2♣-2♦; 3♦-3♠; 3NT-4NT; 6♣-6♦; Pass. Even on a club lead you have the entries to win in hand and draw trumps, then test spades before falling back on a club or heart position. At my table Boyd-Robinson showed a balanced game-forcing hand via a Kokish 2♥ auction, but now it was tough to get to a five-two fit, so they played 6NT. With all the suits behaving there were twelve easy, if rather fortunate, tricks.

Dlr: North	♠ J105		
Vul: N/S	♥ KJ1097		
	♦ J76		
	♣ 105		
♠ AK		♠ 86432	
♥ A4		♥ Q63	
♦ AKQ93		♦ 54	
♣ A632		♣ KQ4	
	♠ Q97		
	♥ 852		
	♦ 1082		
	♣ J987		

What's the problem you say? Well, put yourself in Quantin's position as West. After a 2♦ game-forcing opening they bid 2♦-2♥ (neg); 2NT-3♥; 3♠-4NT; 6♦-6NT. Lev knew that spades and diamonds were splitting so he tried the effect of leading the ♥J. Now Quantin "knew" that the ♥K was wrong. His best bet seemed to be a club-heart squeeze once diamonds split. So he ducked the first trick in both hands, then cashed his spade and diamond winners and the ♥A hoping for an ending. But Lev could keep the spade and heart winners and Helgemo the clubs for down one.

The fourth session started off with an even more spectacular bang. Look at these two auctions. Are they really from the same deal?

West	North	East	South
Deutsch	Levinson	Soloway	Shenkin
		2♥	3♣
4NT	5♣	Pass	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

Down two in a freely-bid slam. Not best you say? Then contrast it with:

West	North	East	South
	Eisenberg		Zia
		2♥	3♣
5♥	5♠	Pass	6♠
7♥	Pass	Pass	7♠
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Rdbl
All Pass			

That was a quiet 2920. Here is the full deal.

Bd: 2	♠ AQ9753
Dir: East	♥ ---
Vul: N/S	♦ QJ432
	♣ Q10
♠ 8	♠ 42
♥ A10542	♥ KQJ763
♦ AK10765	♦ 98
♣ 3	♣ 875
	♠ KJ106
	♥ 98
	♦ ---
	♣ AKJ9642

But that was not the most embarrassing accident for E/W on this board. Against the Pollacks, Adam Wildavsky opened 2♥ and heard a 3♣ overcall. Dan Morse as West jumped to 4NT and over the 5♣ intervention Adam passed to show one keycard. This went around to Dan who bid 7♦, doubled by North. Adam passed this back to Dan who retreated to 7♥. When this got doubled Adam thought he knew what was going on: Morse had, for example, ♠A ♥Axx ♦AKQJxxx ♣Ax and North's double of 7♦ on a diamond void had been to persuade Morse to retreat to 7♥, to get his partner to lead a diamond for a ruff. So Adam found the master bid of 7NT.

The defense took the first thirteen tricks and left Adam and Dan the rest, for a mere -3500.

Adam had missed the fact that his LHO did not pass 5♠ but bid 6♠ instead, so that the 7♦ bid was not a jump but a sacrifice en route to 7♥, to make sure, Dan thought, of the right lead. Losing 500 here would have gained E/W over 300 cross-imps, while the actual result at the table cost nearly 400 imps. Ouch.

The fifth set saw 15 pairs within a thousand cross-imps of the leaders (that is less than 40 "real" imps. Any of those pairs therefore had a realistic chance to win. And as it proved, with three deals to go the pair in seventh place at the start of the session, Kwiecien-Pszczola, led Smith-Cohen, in thirteenth place earlier in the day, by only 20 cross-imps. Three or four pairs were ready to catch them if they slipped only slightly. The pack were to be disappointed as both pairs put together stellar last rounds. On the first of the three deals the Poles bid their not-so-routine game and found half the field missing the best spot, for 99 cross-imps. The Americans sacrificed, which should have cost 800 but only cost 300, and that gained them 64 imps. On the third deal Smith-Cohen beat an unbeatable game when Smith did not open a weak-two on a poor six-card suit, and his partner attacked his side's four-three fit, not their six-three fit, and was right to do so. That meant they picked up 180 imps on the Poles, and led by 130 imps. This was the middle deal.

Dealer: E	♠ 10653		
Vul: Both	♥ AQJ10		
	♦ J976		
	♣ K		
♠ KQ9		♠ AJ842	
♥ 8743		♥ 9	
♦ 8432		♦ AQ105	
♣ Q6		♣ 1052	
	♠ 7		
	♥ K652		
	♦ K		
	♣ AJ98743		

When I was watching Ferraro and Duboin they had what seemed to be as close to a standard auction as anything could be:

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

The defense found their best shot of leading the ♠K and continuing the suit. Ferraro rather thoughtlessly ruffed and unblocked clubs, then led a diamond. East took the ♦A and after much thought came through with the winning defense when he shifted to a trump to prevent the cross-ruff. Whichever route Ferraro went now, he had no more than nine tricks. Of course in retrospect Ferraro was kicking

himself for failing to find the winning but far from automatic line, which is to pitch the $\diamond K$ at trick two. If the defense shifts to trumps you can run clubs to neutralize West's trumps, and if they do not you have ten tricks on a simple cross-ruff. (Incidentally, that dropped the Italians from third to fifth).

The Poles bid to $4\heartsuit$ on the same auction and the defense led a top spade and shifted to a diamond to the $\diamond 10$ and stiff $\diamond K$, for an easy 11 tricks. Smith and Cohen defended $4\heartsuit$ and Cohen led a top spade and shifted to a trump. Declarer unblocked clubs, found the bad news in trumps, and cashed the $\clubsuit A$ to find his prayers answered when the $\clubsuit Q$ fell. As a result they conceded 650. Now comes the "fun" of cross-imps. Given that the Americans had a lead of 130 imps, the issue was how many pairs had bid and made $4\heartsuit$. If the answer was that 20 pairs out of 26 had made game, then Smith-Cohen would win. But for every pair who failed to record a game the Poles would pick up 12 imps or so while

the Americans would lose 12. In fact, when the numbers were all counted, 11 pairs had done significantly worse than +620, and that meant that the Poles won by 72 cross-imps, just less than 3 real imps. Once again the event had gone down to the last round, and the winners' score was about 100 real imps, comfortably less than an imp a board played.

AWARDS	Score		Auction	Players
1	2621	Kwiecien-Pszczola	228	31
2	2549	Cohen-Smith	147	20
3	2288	Fallenius-Welland	98	13
4	2282	Jansma-Verhees	73	10
5	2119	Duboin-Ferraro	65	9
6	2081	Helgemo-Lev	57	8
7	1991	Brogeland-Erichsen	49	7
8	1946	Gitelman-Moss	41	6
9	1944	Bramley-Lazard	33	4
10	1586	Greco-Hampson	24	3

Special Notice: World Bridge Productions Pairs Pre-Auction

In order to generate interest and facilitate the live WBP Pairs auction, to be held on Saturday morning, May 11, provisions have been made to accept bids prior to the start of the live auction. Here's how it will work:

Arrayed around the Registration Desk will be preliminary owners' cards for all expected participants. (Not all of these pairs may attend, but the vast majority is expected.) If you wish to bid on a pair you may do so by entering the amount of your bid on the pair's card and signing your

name opposite the bid amount (minimum bid = \$1000). These bids will be considered binding, just as if they had been made in the live auction. If your bid is not topped in either the pre- or live auctions you will become the owner of the pair and have all of the attendant rights and responsibilities. Remember, each pair must buy back 10% of their purchase price and may buy back up to 40% of themselves if they are so inclined.

Please confirm your bids with the appropriate parties at

New Appeals Procedure

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

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

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

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