

NEC Bridge Festival

Thursday, February 12, 1998
Bulletin Number 5

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1998 NEC CUP: Final Round Robin Rankings

(1) Poland-USA	196
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(12) JAPAN-YOUTH	118

Congratulations to all of the teams in this year's NEC Cup. The competition was of a high calibre, but the friendliness was of an even higher calibre (there weren't even any appeals this year). Special congratulations go to the top qualifying team from POLAND-USA (Michael Polowan, Sam Lev, Piotr Gawrys, Marcin Lesniewski), who won nine of their eleven matches. GREAT BRITAIN finished strong again this year, hovering among the top places throughout. The new entrant from ICELAND finished a not-too-distant third, followed closely by HISATOMI to round out the four qualifiers. CHINESE TAIPEI played seven strong matches, but missed qualifying by a narrow margin after taking only 1 VP from ICELAND in Round Seven. CHINA played very consistent bridge throughout, never obtaining fewer than 9 VPs in any match. USA had a fighting chance to qualify entering the final day's play, but a loss to POLAND-USA in Round Nine put their hopes to rest. Last year's champs from INDONESIA played steady bridge, but needed a few more "big" wins to get over the hump. Still, they were fun to play against, as always. YAMADA and Japan's WOMEN gave the rest of the teams a run for their money, and NEC was a game competitor from the start. Finally we come to YOUTH. Inspired by the addition of a certain pair of editors, they fought valiantly until the very end. We wish we could have contributed a bit more to their efforts than we did.

Today's Semifinal Matches

POLAND-USA versus HISATOMI
(Carryover: P-USA — 0.8 IMPs)

GREAT BRITAIN versus ICELAND
(Carryover: GB — 8.4 IMPs)

TOMORROW'S SCHEDULE

Play in the Finals will be held tomorrow on the fourth floor of the Pacifico, Rooms 401 and 402. Two-hours and twenty-minutes will be allotted for each 16-board quarter, with a twenty-minute break between quarters and an extra one-hour break between the third and fourth quarters.

Times

10:00-12:20	Final-1st Qtr
12:40-15:00	Final-2nd Qtr
15:00-16:00	BREAK
16:00-18:20	Final-3rd Qtr
18:40-21:00	Final-4th Qtr

THE NEC BRIDGE FESTIVAL IS ON THE INTERNET

We are happy to announce that our Daily Bulletins are available on the Internet. Call your family and friends and tell them to follow the adventures of some of the best players in the world (including yourself) by surfing the net to the following address:

<http://bridge.cplaza.ne.jp/necfest.html>

TWO SPADES DOWN SEVEN — WIN EIGHT?!

Round Ten of the NEC CUP pitted USA against GREAT BRITAIN. Usually it is the **Hackett** twins (**Jason** and **Justin**) who bid on the slimmest of values, stealing contracts from their opponents

Bd: X-28	North		
Dir: West	♠ AK97		
Vul: N/S	♥ 1054		
	♦ 1076		
	♣ KJ2		
West		East	
♠ J105		♠ 4	
♥ AK762		♥ QJ98	
♦ Q943		♦ 852	
♣ 9		♣ 108754	
	South		
	♠ Q8632		
	♥ 3		
	♦ AKJ		
	♣ AQ63		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Fox	Jason	Schafer	Justin
1♥(1)	Pass	1♠(!)	Pass
2♠	All Pass		
(1) Precision			

with great impunity (see *Jason and the Argonauts*, p.3). This time it was their opponent, the USA's **Tom Fox**, who capitalized on the favorable vulnerability to open light. But the real hero of this story is **Walter Schafer**, who timed his 1♠ psychic response to perfection. When Tom raised to two, Walter was content to play there undoubled.

Who can blame poor Justin for staying out of the auction when both of his opponents had bid his longest suit? The Americans managed to score one trick in the play (we're betting it was the ♥A) to go minus 350. At the other table **Howard Weinstein** and **Ralph Katz** bid to only 4♠, but that was good enough for an 8-IMP pickup as USA won the match 52-29 (20-10 VPs). (If one is permitted to look at both the North and South hands, slam appears excellent. But it will not be easy to bid on only 27 combined HCP. North's key ♣KJ can be just too difficult for South to envision, especially in a competitive auction. Our records show,

however, that **Jian-Ming Dai** and **Hao-Jun Shi** bid to the slam for CHINA, as did **Thor Jonsson** and **Saevar Thorbjornsson** for ICELAND.)

JASON AND THE ARGONAUTS

It was getting late. Round Eight of the NEC CUP had just begun and the **Hackett** twins, **Justin** and **Jason**, were playing Japan's WOMEN. Jason opened 1♠ with the North hand and his partner in crime, **Justin**, responded with an Acol-style 2♣. Jason rebid 2♦ and when Justin bid a non-forcing 2♠, Jason was only too happy to pass. So here they were, in a nice safe contract. At the other table **Sakiko Naito** and **Setsuko Moriyama** "overbid" all the way to 4♠ on the North/South cards. But then, they were WOMEN and what did they know?

Bd: VIII-17	North		
Dlr: North	♠ AJ654		
Vul: None	♥ J		
	♦ KQ42		
	♣ 853		
West		East	
♠ KQ9		♠ 32	
♥ Q763		♥ A8542	
♦ A96		♦ J10873	
♣ J94		♣ Q	
	South		
	♠ 1087		
	♥ K109		
	♦ 5		
	♣ AK10762		

Back at the twins' table **Keimi Toyoba** led a low heart (!) against the "safe" 2♠ and Jason played low. **Yumiko Etoh** won her queen and returned the suit, Jason pitching a losing club. Keimi won her ace and exited with the ♣Q. Jason won the ace and led a low diamond toward his king-queen, but Yumiko rose with the ace and led a club for Keimi to ruff. With four tricks in the bank Keimi exited with a diamond. Jason won in hand and banged down the ♠A to stop the bleeding. Now Yukimo had two natural trump tricks and 2♠ was down one. Keimi and Yumiko wrote down their plus 50, but then they were WOMEN and what did they know?

At the other table Sakiko managed to go plus 420 in 4♠. While we don't know exactly how the play went, the contract appears to us to be cold.

Watch out, Jason! Argonauts come in many different shapes and sizes these days.

ALERT!



Not unexpectedly, we still have some of these decks of cards left. Please — take some home with you. They'll make great Halloween gifts to scare the kids with!

SWING IS BACK IN FASHION

Board 19 resulted in a “Big Band” swing in every Round-Six match of the NEC CUP. Looking at all four hands in the layout below, North/South’s 4♥ appears to be cold on any lead. When your editors played this board Tommy Dorsey (“Senior”), sitting West, led the ♦8 against 4♥. When

Bd: VI-19	North	
Dir: South	♠ AKJ5	
Vul: E/W	♥ 10	
	♦ A10762	
	♣ A87	
West		East
♠ Q82		♠ 7643
♥ Q92		♥ 853
♦ K983		♦ Q
♣ Q43		♣ KJ652
	South	
	♠ 109	
	♥ AKJ764	
	♦ J54	
	♣ 109	

South ducked and Glenn Miller’s (“Junior’s”) queen held the trick, he shifted to the ♣2 (3rd and 5th). West’s queen forced dummy’s ace, and declarer now rode the ♥10 to Tommy’s queen — Glenn beginning a rather “stingy” trump echo with the five. Had his lip been in better playing shape Tommy might have inferred that declarer would have unblocked the ♦J at trick one had he started with ♦Jx (Glenn’s queen denied that card), so it was likely that declarer held both of the remaining diamonds — but then declarer had plenty of dummy entries, so maybe that wasn’t a strong inference (the ♥8 from Glenn would have made Tommy’s life much easier). The club return ended the defense’s hopes of a plus score, and when Tommy and Glenn’s teammates (Benny Goodman and Paul Whiteman) failed to bid game at the other table, the resulting 6 IMPs helped INDONESIA to a 10-IMP victory over YOUTH.

In HISATOMI versus USA, the **Takahiko Hirata** (North) declared 3♥ at one table, while **Dick Bruno** (South) played in 4♥ at the other. A diamond was led at both tables, with 3♥ ending up making five while 4♥ went down one. That was 6 IMPs to HISATOMI, en route to a 7-IMP victory over USA.

In ICELAND versus GREAT BRITAIN North (**Bjorn Eysteinnsson** and **Paul Hackett**) played a heart contract at both tables (4♥ by ICELAND, 2♥ by GREAT BRITAIN). Both declarers made ten tricks, with the 6-IMP pickup for ICELAND representing all but two of their 8 IMPs as they lost 8-50 (5-25 VPs).

In CHINA versus NEC both teams reached 4♥, CHINA from the South side and NEC from the North. On the ♦Q lead, **Kyoko Shimamura** scored up plus 420 for NEC, while **Ze-Jun Zhuang** went down one for CHINA. The 10-IMP gain for NEC accounted for all but three of the 13 IMPs they scored in the match, as CHINA went on to win 35-13 (20-10 VPs).

In CHINESE TAIPEI versus POLAND-USA both teams declared heart contracts from the North side. **Sam Lev** played in game making five, while **Nai-Jeng Shen** played in 2♥ making four. The resulting 7-IMP pickup for POLAND-USA constituted almost their entire margin of victory, as they won the match 32-24 (17-13 VPs).

In YAMADA versus WOMEN, again both teams declared heart contracts — but this time from the South side. When **Kyoko Ohno** for YAMADA received the ♠2 lead against 4♥, she rambled home with eleven tricks for plus 450. **Hiroko Ohta** received the ♦8 lead against her 3♥ contract, but her plus 170 resulted in a 7-IMP loss. That was all but two of YAMADA’s 9-IMP margin of victory, as they won the match 27-18 (17-13 VPs).

ROUND NINE

DAY THREE. A time to tighten the seat belts, to hold position. Lots of close matches with teams fighting for every trick.

Nah. A day for blowouts, mostly.

There was one close match. NEC and Japan's WOMEN fought to a 45-45 draw, 15-15 VP.

And INDONESIA, needing something positive to happen, bowed 21-38 to GREAT BRITAIN, an 11-19 loss in VP. Well, maybe something positive did happen. With the exchanges in the other matches, the Indonesians remained 12 VP behind fourth, tied for seventh with WOMEN. Those 19 VP were not enough to keep the Brits in the lead; they were passed by the Icemen, who got a maximum.

The other matches were all one-sided. CHINESE TAIPEI lost 25-56 to HISATOMI, 8-22 in VP, the effect of this result being to leave these teams just 1 VP apart in fourth and fifth place with two matches to play.

The Americans vowed at breakfast to record three big wins today, but only your editors were reading their lips. POLAND-USA, showing scant respect for these promises in the dark, beat USA 47-23, 21-9 in VP to stay comfortably in third place, just 3 VP out of first.

Bd: IX-8	North		
Dlr: West	♠ K93		
Vul: None	♥ K942		
	♦ 5432		
	♣ A9		
West		East	
♠ J652		♠ 104	
♥ J7		♥ A1065	
♦ AJ8		♦ 1076	
♣ Q1072		♣ J865	
	South		
	♠ AQ87		
	♥ Q83		
	♦ KQ9		
	♣ K43		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Kokish	Jonsson	Colker	Thorbjrsn
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣(1)
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
(1) Strong			

CHINA, showing some vigor at last, crushed YAMADA 58-11 for a 25-4 VP win, moving into sixth place, 9 VP out of fourth.

ICELAND dominated YOUTH in this one, thrashing them 71-29 for a 25-5 win to move to the top of the table . . . by a nose.

ICELAND recorded five major swings in this match, with Board 8 being one of the more interesting ones. This was everyone's 3NT, but only three declarers of twelve made it. **Thorlakur "Lauki" Jonsson** was one of them; **Kyoko Ohno** and **Franky Karwur** were the others.

Jonsson got a low heart lead, three, jack, king. He led a diamond to the queen, which held, and came to the ♠K to lead a heart to the eight, a strange-looking play since it would not gain on the actual (likely) layout while a second diamond had plenty of promise.

When the ♥8 held, Jonsson cashed the ♠A, and played a third heart, forcing a discard from West, who had to part with a club. East won the ♥A and might have played a club then and there, but he cashed the ♥10 first, the natural play with no further entry, West throwing a second club. This served to reinforce Jonsson's belief that West held the ♦A, for he won the belated club switch in hand, led a spade to the queen, cashed the ♣K to extract West's last exit card, and threw him in with the fourth spade. West had to give dummy the ♦K in the end. A pretty ending. 11 IMPs to ICELAND when the contract failed at the other table. At first glance it might seem that East could

have played a diamond after cashing his high heart, but with his club communication intact, declarer would then have built a ninth trick in diamonds

A few deals later, **Saevar Thorbjornsson** made a vulnerable game that was doubled and defeated at the other table.

Bd: IX-12	North		
Dir: W	♠ A6		
Vul: N/S	♥ J53		
	♦ AQ76432		
	♣ J		
West		East	
♠ K10973		♠ J5	
♥ 9		♥ Q1064	
♦ J10		♦ K85	
♣ AK1043		♣ 9762	
	South		
	♠ Q842		
	♥ AK872		
	♦ 9		
	♣ Q85		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Kokish	Jonsson	Colker	Thorbjrsn
1♠	2♦	Pass	2♥
2NT(1)	4♥	All Pass	
(1) Weak ♠/♣ two-suiter			

West, who would have done better to remain silent after his initial call, led the ♠A against 4♥. East followed low, playing reverse signals, thinking that this might send some suit-preference message. This would certainly be the case if East had shown at least four cards in the suit (middle encouraging, high and low suit preference) but in this unclear situation, West read East's card as simply encouraging. He continued with the ♣K. That was all that Saevar needed. He ruffed with the ♥3, played ♦A, diamond ruff with the ♥2, ♥A, ♣Q to throw the ♠6, spade to the ace, diamond ruff with the ♥7, spade ruff with the ♥5, diamond. What could East do? If he discarded, so would South; if he ruffed low, South would overruff for his tenth trick. In the event, he ruffed with the ten, but Saevar overruffed with the ♥K and ruffed another spade with the ♥J. If East overruffed, the ♥8 would take a trick, and if he did not overruff, both the ♥J and ♥8 (en passant) would take tricks. The second round of clubs had been fatal for the defense. A very good plus 620 and 13 IMPs to ICELAND.

These were the North/South cards on Board IX-6:

Bd: IX-6	
North	South
♠ 983	♠ A2
♥ J4	♥ AQ87
♦ Q9	♦ AK62
♣ AKQ1095	♣ 84

A superb 6♣ and a playable 6NT (attempted only by China's **HJ Xu-ZJ Zhuang**). 6♣ was bid only by Chinese Taipei's **YN Yen-MH Wu**, YOUTH's **Makoto Kohno-Tomoyuki Harada**, and NEC's **Kyoko Shimamura-Tadashi Jomura**. Everyone else was in 5♣ or 3NT. All the slam bidders were in different matches, and with everything making, they all won double-digit swings for their teams. Which is only fair. Don't you think?

ROUND TEN

It took a while, but POLAND-USA finally took the overall lead in the NEC CUP round robin when they defeated Japan's WOMEN 72-35, 24-6. With the other matches going as they did, the big guys found themselves with a handsome 9 VP lead going into the final round.

INDONESIA fell out of the qualifying race by bowing to NEC 36-42, 14-16 in VP. They were 15 VP behind fourth with very little hope remaining.

GREAT BRITAIN-USA was important for the Brits, much less so for the Americans, but the Stars and Stripes prevailed over the Union Jack this time, 52-29, 20-10 in VP. That left GREAT BRITAIN in third place, 12 VP out of first, but 8 VP clear of fifth.

CHINESE TAIPEI-YAMADA was important for the visitors, much less so for the local heroes.

Inevitably, it was YAMADA who won the match, 39-33, 16-14 VP. CHINESE TAIPEI stood fifth with one match to play, 3 VP behind fourth.

CHINA was in pretty good shape, facing lowly YOUTH, but the kids once again showed some character and promise for the future by putting up a strong performance, winning the match 29-27, but settling for a 15-15 VP tie. That left China sixth, 11 VP out of fourth, with only a faint chance to qualify.

ICELAND-HISATOMI was crucial for both teams and it proved to be a good, low-scoring match. HISATOMI won it, 35-22, 18-12, and held on to the vital fourth position by a slim 3 VP margin over CHINESE TAIPEI.

There were lots of potential slams in this match, three of them back-to-back-to-back . . .

Bd: X-26	North	
Dir: East	♠ 9	
Vul: Both	♥ 532	
	♦ Q874	
	♣ K8765	
West		East
♠ QJ8753		♠ AK42
♥ KJ106		♥ AQ87
♦ 62		♦ AK5
♣ 4		♣ AJ
	South	
	♠ 106	
	♥ 94	
	♦ J1093	
	♣ Q10932	

A laydown grand slam in notrump or either major with the opponents unlikely to be able to compete. Would you expect this one to be bid most of the time? That's not what happened at the table. **Piotr Gawrys-Marcin Lesniewski** bid it for POLAND-USA to pick up 13 IMPs against Japan's WOMEN;

This would have been the right contract if West had been five-four-three-one. Thoughtful bidding by Lesniewski.

West Gawrys	East Lesniewski
	1♣(Polish)
	2♦(ART FG)
1♠	2♠
2♥	4♦
4♣(SPL)	4NT(RKCB-♠)
4♥	5♦(♠Q?)
5♣(0/3)	7♥///
5♠(Yes)	

Kohji Fujimoto-

Hiroshi Miyauchi bid it for NEC to win 13 IMPs against INDONESIA . . .

West Miyauchi	East Fujimoto
	2♦(Acol 2♦+ or STR BAL)
2NT(♠)	3♠
4♣ (DBL)	Pass
4♥(cue but no 1st ♣)	7♠///

Not so convincing, since West might have been 5332 with ♣K and ♥K.

Walter Schafer-Tom Fox bid it for USA to win 13 IMPs against GREAT BRITAIN. . .

West Fox	East Schafer
1♥(♠ or 11-13 BAL)	1♣(Precision)
2♦(♠+secondary ♥)	1♠(4+♠)
2NT(6♠+4♥)	2♥(Shape Ask)
5♦(0/3)	4NT(RKCB-♠)
5NT(Yes, no ♣K)	5♥(♠Q?)
6♠(Yes)	6♦(♥K?)
	7NT///

Ain't science wunnerful? Everyone else stopped in six. Perhaps it is no coincidence that each of the pairs who reached the grand slam won their match. Schafer-Fox were the only pair to play in notrump, the safest strain, and they really knew what they were doing.

Bd: X-27	North	
Dlr: South	♠---	
Vul: None	♥ 84	
	♦ AQJ109432	
	♣ 1075	
West		East
♠ AK1042		♠ J87653
♥ Q32		♥ ---
♦ 865		♦ K7
♣ 94		♣ KJ832
	South	
	♠ Q9	
	♥ AKJ109765	
	♦ ---	
	♣ AQ6	

This was a wild one, with North/South on for 6♥ or 6♦ while East/West could save cheaply at 6♠ and perhaps bully their opponents into an indiscretion.

In ICELAND vs HISATOMI, **Takahiko Hirata-Seiya Shimizu** stopped at 5♥ but won 4 IMPs when their teammates **Tadashi Imakura-Masayuki Ino** played 6♠ doubled, down 300, Ino bidding 4♠, then 6♠ with the East cards after Imakura's 1♠ overall of South's strong club.

DM Yen-JF Lee chalked up plus 920 for CHINESE TAIPEI in 6♦ and their team won 13 IMPs when **NJ Shen-WM Chang** bought the auction at 6♠ doubled, down only 100 on a heart lead. When Chang guessed clubs correctly, he was able to build three discards for diamonds and **Akihiko Yamada** never got the ♦A. Very

interesting.

In YOUTH vs CHINA, both East/West pairs bought the auction in spades . . .

OPEN ROOM				CLOSED ROOM			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Chen	Takayama	Yu	Furuta	Harada	Dai	Kohno	Shi
			2♣				1♥
Pass	2♦!(1)	3♠	4♥	1♠	2♦	4♠	Double
Pass!	4♠	5♣	6♥	Pass	5♦	5♠	Double
6♠	Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass			
All Pass							
(1) FG, but "waiting" — denies 6-card suit (but not an 8-card suit!)							

In the Open Room, the opening lead against 6♠ was the ♥9, **Kazuo Furuta** hoping to get his partner in with the ♥Q to give him a diamond ruff. Fortunately, declarer had no good discard available on the ♥Q, but he didn't put it up in any event. **CZ Yu** guessed clubs right and so

discarded all his diamonds for one down, minus 100. In the Closed Room, where West declared, **JM Dai** led the \spadesuit A, so the defense got the \spadesuit A, a diamond ruff, and two clubs for minus 300 at the five-level. Also very interesting.

In POLAND-USA vs Japan's WOMEN, the proceedings were noteworthy at both tables . . .

OPEN ROOM				CLOSED ROOM			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Etoh	Polowan	Toyoba	Lev	Gawrys	Set'gchi	Lesnwski	Ohta
			2♣				1♥
Pass	3♦	3♠	4♥	1♠	2♦	4♥(SPL)	Double
4♠	5♠	Pass	6♥	4♠	5♦	5♠	6♥
6♠	7♦	Pass	7♥	Double	All Pass		
All Pass							

If both your pairs are going to have an awful result, it's a good idea for them to do it on the same deal, compressing the number of IMPs that can be lost. Excellent tactics, then, by POLAND-USA, who turned over "only" 15 IMPs to WOMEN. They lost points on only three deals in this match but the swings were 9, 11, and this 15 IMPs. Imagine how many they had on their side to win 24-6.

Bd: IX-13	North	
Dir: North	♠ K109	
Vul: Both	♥ 10984	
	♦ K54	
	♣ AK7	
West		East
♠ AQJ862		♠ 5
♥ 2		♥ KJ76
♦ Q62		♦ 109873
♣ QJ2		♣ 1063
	South	
	♠ 743	
	♥ AQ53	
	♦ AJ	
	♣ 9854	

LOW LOW LOWER

This deal from ROUND NINE is responsible for one of the great stories of the NEC CUP. **Akihiko Yamada** declared 3NT from the North side after starting with a weak notrump, West remaining silent. East led the \spadesuit 10, jack, queen, king. Akihiko ran the \heartsuit 8, but East covered the \heartsuit 9 to maintain a tenace. The \heartsuit Q held and on a low spade from dummy, West rose with the ace to return the \spadesuit 6, East following with the nine when Akihiko contributed the five. Watch closely now. When Akihiko led a spade to the jack and king, East discarded a club to keep his winners and heart guard. Now Akihiko cashed the \clubsuit AK and led the \spadesuit 5. Note that we did not say that he "exited" with the \spadesuit 5. East realized that if he won the diamond, he would have to lead a heart from his king into declarer's split tenace at trick twelve, so he followed to the \spadesuit 4 with the three. Dummy

threw a club and West's \spadesuit 2 completed one of the most unusual tricks you could ever hope to see. The \spadesuit 4 was declarer's ninth trick!

It would be wonderful if this produced a game swing, but North/South were permitted to make 4♥ at the other table, so Yamada-san will have to be content with a virtuous piece of declarer play and his name in lights.

ROUND ELEVEN

POLAND-USA defeated INDONESIA 21-18, 16-14 in VP, which enabled them to hold on to first place. Their margin of victory was 6 VP.

GREAT BRITAIN got the job done against NEC with a 55-21 win, 22-8 in VP, finishing second in convincing fashion.

Although ICELAND bowed to CHINA 27-39, their 12-18 defeat did not cost them their qualifying place; they finished third, 7 VP behind second.

As expected, YAMADA vs HISATOMI was a close match, HISATOMI prevailing 31-17 for an 18-12 VP victory. With CHINESE TAIPEI in hot pursuit and facing last-place YOUTH, HISATOMI was hardly comfortable "in the clubhouse," but the kids held their own and bowed by only 19 IMPs, 20-39 to CHINESE TAIPEI, whose 19-11 VP win left them 2 VP behind HISATOMI for the fourth qualifying spot. A heartbreaker for CHINESE TAIPEI, who had started so well and played some very good bridge during the round robin.

Japan's WOMEN vs USA was an anticlimax for both teams. The American team won 40-12, 22-8 in VP to finish seventh. WOMEN finished tenth, but acquitted themselves well over the three-day round robin. In truth, there wasn't that much to choose between the top ten teams, but the four teams who will fight on in today's semifinals deserve to be there.

Bd: XI-8	North		
Dir: West	♠ K853		
Vul: None	♥ 542		
	♦ AJ6		
	♣ A97		
West		East	
♠ 972		♠ Q106	
♥ 863		♥ J109	
♦ 52		♦ KQ104	
♣ KJ1043		♣ Q85	
	South		
	♠ AJ4		
	♥ AKQ7		
	♦ 9873		
	♣ 62		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Gawrys	Panlwn	Lesnwski	Karwur
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Double	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

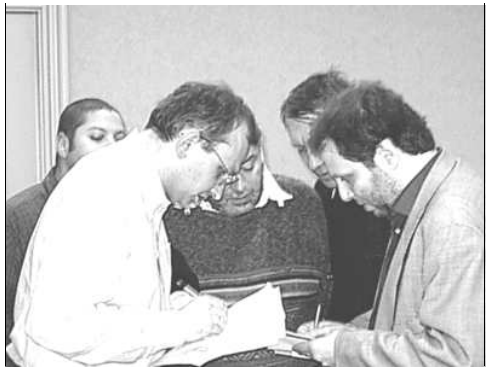
Three notrump was the popular contract for North/South on Board XI-8, and everyone who bid it made it . . . except for **Santje Panelewen** of Indonesia against **Piotr Gawrys-Marcin Lesniewski**. It seems to us that everyone who made 3NT did so by playing on spades, which were lying as well as they could possibly lie. Santje got the directed club lead, ducked twice, won the third, and had to find a discard from dummy. Unwilling to part with dummy's fourth heart, Santje decided to discard a spade and play for diamonds to come in. That looks perfectly reasonable to us. To you too, perhaps. He crossed to a heart and led a low diamond to his six. Lesniewski gave Santje a small rush when he won the trick with the king rather than the ten, and since Santje had not removed his hearts, Marcin was able to exit in that suit. A diamond to the jack lost to the queen and Marcin returned the ♦4 to the blank ace. On the surface it looked as if this was going to be good enough for the defense, but there was one more hurdle to jump. Santje cashed dummy's hearts to discard a spade and with the lead in dummy, Marcin had to keep the high diamond and so had to release

a spade from Q106. Had Piotr discarded one of his "useless" spades on the third diamond or the fourth heart, Santje would have taken the thirteenth trick with the ♠8, but as it went, Piotr was able to claim the last trick with the ♠9 to set the contract. Our hearts go out to Santje, but it was very professional defense from the Poles, who deserved their victory on this deal.

Bd: XI-15	North		
Dir: S	♠ J32		
Vul: N/S	♥ 8		
	♦ AQJ9864		
	♣ 87		
West		East	
♠ A8764		♠ Q109	
♥ 2		♥ AJ1097654	
♦ 72		♦ K5	
♣ A9632		♣ ---	
	South		
	♠ K5		
	♥ KQ3		
	♦ 103		
	♣ KQJ1054		
Gawrys	Panlwn	Lesnwski	Karwur
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	3♦(INV)	4♥	2♣(6+)
All Pass			Double

Board XI-15 in this match is also worthy of our attention. Lesniewski fetched up in 4♥ doubled after **Franky Karwur** opened with a natural, limited 2♣, promising at least a six-card suit. Franky led a high club and Lesniewski played with great foresight. He played low from dummy, delaying his discard and isolating the club menace while forcing the defenders to help him in the play; if he took the ace of clubs immediately, he could not both ruff a club and lead towards the king of diamonds. Lesniewski ruffed the club and played ace of hearts, heart. It didn't matter now whether Karwur cashed his remaining heart winner, but in practice he did not, switching immediately to a diamond. When Santje won the ♦A, he could see that Franky was going to get squeezed in the black suits if he did not play a spade, so he switched accurately to the ♠2. This was excellent defense, but it was simply not good enough since Lesniewski held the ten of spades and played it. Franky had no good answer to this and Lesniewski chalked up a wonderful plus 590 . . . to halve the board!

Was the same sequence of plays found at the other table? Not at all. **Denny Sacul**, who didn't have the same information from the auction, played the ♣A at trick one and discarded a diamond; then he ruffed a club and played on hearts, but here the defenders could play diamonds without setting up an extra winner in that suit. Declarer had only eight winners, not nine, and so the squeeze was not going to operate. North, a very tired camper at this point, switched to a spade however, not certain of the position, and when Sacul's ten brought forth the king, Sacul could finesse the ♠9 on the way back to land his contract. No swing, but what an exciting ride.



POLAND-USA: "Did we win?"



GB: "Did we hold on?"

HAMMAMET: APPEAL CASE FOUR

Bermuda Bowl, Round 6: Canada vs Poland

Appeal Committee: Grattan Endicott (GB), Jean-Paul Meyer (FRA), Naki Bruni (ITA).

Bd: 11	Hanna	
Dlr: South	♠ 1087	
Vul: None	♥ Q943	
	♦ A6542	
	♣ 2	
Zmudzinski		Balicki
♠ K643		♠ AQ92
♥ K2		♥ 75
♦ Q107		♦ KJ8
♣ K983		♣ AJ76
	Fraser	
	♠ J5	
	♥ AJ1086	
	♦ 93	
	♣ Q1054	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			2♦(1)
Pass	3♥*	DBL	All Pass
(1) Multi			

Result: Down one; N/S -100.

Facts: At the conclusion of the hand West called the TD and complained that 3♥ had been Alerted as preemptive with at least four spades. West said that he did not bid 4♠ after the takeout double because he was afraid of finding four spades on his left. N/S's system file was examined, but it gave no indication that the 3♥ bid guaranteed four spades — only that 3♥ was preemptive. The TD decided that, had West been given the information in E/W's system file, he would have bid 4♠.

TD's Ruling: The score was adjusted to 4♠ by West made four; N/S -420.

Appeal: N/S appealed the ruling. N/S repeated to the Committee that their correct agreement was that the 3♥ bid guaranteed four spades with at least three hearts. Their system could not confirm this.

Committee's Decision: The Committee decided that it would be more usual for a pass-or-correct 3♥ bid to guarantee at least three in each major, and that a guarantee of four spades would be sufficiently unusual to require some statement in N/S's system file and also on their convention card. The Committee did not believe that the evidence supporting N/S's statements justified changing the TD's ruling. There was some discussion as to whether a score of N/S -170 was possible, but N/S -420 was considered "the most favorable result that was likely had the irregularity not occurred" (Law 12C2). No further adjustment toward equity (Law 12C3) was believed necessary. The Committee instructed N/S to correct their written system explanations.

Analysis: The Committee's decision was the only one possible. In the absence of compelling evidence to the contrary, a TD or Committee must assume misinformation rather than a mistaken bid. Statements such as those provided by N/S are self-serving. If Appeals Committees were to accept them at face value without supporting evidence from system notes or the players' convention card, abuses would proliferate. With 26 HCP between them it seems unlikely that, given the correct information, E/W would fail to get to game. Therefore, assigning reciprocal scores of ±420 was appropriate.

DATUMS

Round 9

No	DATUM	POLAND/USA		INDONESIA		WOMEN		U.S.A.		NEC		GR. BRITAIN		CH. TAIPEI		YOUTH		YAMADA		HISATOMI		CHINA		ICELAND		
		N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	
1	-410	0	-10	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2	310	10	4	-11	-7	-4	4	-4	-10	-4	4	7	11	-4	-10	-4	-7	-5	4	10	4	-4	5	7	4	
3	430	1	0	1	0	-10	-1	0	-1	1	10	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4	360	6	5	6	-6	6	5	-5	-6	-5	-6	6	-6	-11	-6	-5	-6	-11	5	6	11	-5	11	6	5	
5	630	0	0	1	0	-1	-1	0	0	1	1	0	-1	0	0	-12	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	0	12	
6	620	-4	4	-4	5	-4	-8	-4	4	8	4	-5	4	8	4	8	5	-4	-9	-4	-8	9	4	-5	-8	
7	50	2	4	-4	-1	-6	3	-4	-2	-3	6	1	4	2	-4	2	-1	2	-1	4	-2	1	-2	1	-2	
8	20	-3	3	9	3	-3	3	-3	3	-3	3	-3	-9	-2	2	-3	-9	9	2	-2	2	-2	-9	9	3	
9	60	2	-2	2	-2	-4	2	2	-2	-2	4	2	-2	2	3	2	4	-3	-2	-3	-2	2	3	-4	-2	
10	-460	-4	5	-4	-7	11	1	-5	4	-1	-11	7	4	-5	-6	-4	5	-5	-11	6	5	11	5	-5	4	
11	-160	-4	6	6	-1	-6	-7	-6	4	7	6	1	-6	5	-5	-4	-3	-10	-1	5	-5	1	10	3	4	
12	-40	4	4	-2	2	11	2	-4	-4	-2	-11	-2	2	4	2	-4	-12	-10	6	-2	-4	-6	10	12	4	
13	330	-10	-7	7	-10	-4	10	7	10	-10	4	10	-7	-11	-10	-1	11	7	-7	10	11	7	-7	-11	1	
14	-110	1	-1	0	0	0	5	1	-1	-5	0	0	0	-1	1	0	-1	1	-1	-1	1	1	-1	1	0	
15	40	4	5	0	0	0	0	-5	-4	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	-5	-2	0	0	0	0	
16	60	2	-2	-3	-2	-3	-2	2	-2	2	3	2	3	-3	-1	-4	-4	1	-2	1	3	2	-1	4	4	
IMP +		32	40	32	10	28	35	22	25	19	45	36	28	23	17	12	25	20	17	42	37	35	48	43	42	
IMP -		25	22	28	36	45	19	40	32	35	28	10	32	37	42	42	43	48	35	17	23	17	20	25	12	

Round 10

No	DATUM	POLAND/USA		INDONESIA		WOMEN		U.S.A.		NEC		GR. BRITAIN		CH. TAIPEI		YOUTH		YAMADA		HISATOMI		CHINA		ICELAND	
		N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
17	80	2	-1	2	-2	1	-2	1	0	2	-2	0	-1	-5	-1	-4	4	1	5	1	-2	-4	4	2	-1
18	-250	-11	4	-7	0	-4	11	-4	-10	0	7	10	4	8	-8	-4	4	8	-8	3	-3	-4	4	3	-3
19	-640	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	1	0	1	0
20	-30	4	2	4	3	-2	-4	-2	2	-3	-4	-2	2	4	-4	-2	2	4	-4	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2
21	10	3	3	-3	3	-3	-3	1	-3	-3	3	3	-1	-5	-2	3	-2	5	-3	-3	2	-3	3	3	3
22	480	0	-11	-1	0	11	0	-2	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	-2	0	-1	0	0	1	0	2	-1	0
23	570	3	12	2	-2	-12	-3	2	-1	2	-2	1	-2	-13	-2	6	-2	2	13	2	-2	2	-6	2	-2
24	-460	1	1	7	0	-1	-1	-1	0	0	-7	0	1	0	1	0	0	-1	0	1	0	0	0	0	-1
25	430	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	1
26	-1610	4	12	-12	-4	-12	-4	4	12	4	12	-12	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4
27	630	-12	-11	8	-11	11	12	8	-8	11	-8	8	-8	7	11	-11	8	-11	-7	-5	8	-8	11	-8	5
28	770	-3	3	-3	-9	-3	3	-3	9	9	3	-9	3	-3	10	-3	-12	-10	3	-3	-12	12	3	12	3
29	-60	5	8	11	4	-8	-5	-1	16	-4	-11	-16	1	4	4	11	1	-4	-4	-1	4	-1	-11	-4	1
30	20	1	6	2	9	-6	-1	1	-2	-9	-2	2	-1	2	-1	-4	-1	1	-2	2	-1	1	4	1	-2
31	-880	-3	3	-3	3	-3	3	-3	-9	-3	3	9	3	-3	3	-3	3	-3	3	14	-9	-3	3	9	-14
32	-430	11	6	11	-12	-6	-11	11	6	12	-11	-6	-11	-14	6	11	6	-6	14	-6	14	-6	-11	-14	6
IMP +		36	60	47	22	23	29	28	45	40	29	33	16	29	36	35	28	23	43	27	29	22	33	37	21
IMP -		29	23	29	40	60	36	16	33	22	47	45	28	43	23	33	22	36	29	21	37	28	35	29	27

DATUMS

Round 11

No	DATUM	POLAND/USA		INDONESIA		WOMEN		U.S.A.		NEC		GR. BRITAIN		CH. TAIPEI		YOUTH		YAMADA		HISATOMI		CHINA		ICELAND	
		N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
1	240	-7	7	-7	7	-6	-5	5	6	5	-5	5	-5	5	-4	4	-5	5	7	-7	-5	5	7	-7	-5
2	280	-5	9	-9	5	-5	9	-9	5	10	-9	9	-10	-4	-8	8	4	-9	-9	9	9	-5	-9	9	5
3	-120	0	0	0	0	0	-6	6	0	-10	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	-6	6	11	-11	-6
4	-140	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	-450	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	-100	2	2	-2	-2	-1	1	-1	1	2	1	-1	-2	-1	1	-1	1	0	-5	5	0	2	-2	2	-2
7	290	-4	-8	8	4	-3	3	-3	3	-9	-8	8	9	-3	-8	8	3	-5	4	-4	5	-5	-8	8	5
8	420	1	10	-10	-1	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	-1	1	-1	1	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0
9	-440	-5	5	-5	5	-6	-14	14	6	11	4	-4	-11	14	5	-5	-14	-5	5	-5	5	-5	5	-5	5
10	-630	-1	1	-1	1	4	0	0	-4	-1	-4	4	1	0	0	0	0	-1	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	1
11	450	2	0	0	-2	-4	-5	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0
12	-450	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-11	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	1	1
13	570	2	-3	3	-2	2	2	-2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	10	-10	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	10	-10	-2
14	90	-4	-2	2	4	2	-2	2	-2	1	4	-4	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	4	-4	-1
15	-260	-8	8	-8	8	-4	4	-4	4	-4	-8	8	4	7	5	-5	-7	-8	-8	8	8	7	-8	8	-7
16	150	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	-2	-1	1	2	1	0	0	-1	1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0
IMP +		7	42	13	34	8	19	32	32	31	9	48	27	30	22	21	9	15	18	25	28	23	38	28	17
IMP -		34	13	42	7	32	32	19	8	27	48	9	31	9	21	22	30	28	25	18	15	17	28	38	23



“Can I survive another four days with Lev?”

TEAMS	Rank	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1. POLAND / U.S.A.	1	196		16	24	21	24	12	17	24	18	16	17	7
2. INDONESIA	8	162	14		18	24	14	11	8	17	19	7	20	10
3. WOMEN	10	148	6	12		8	15	21	8	14	13	8	21	22
4. U.S.A.	7	163	9	6	22		17	20	11	24	5	14	20	15
5. NEC	11	130	6	16	15	13		8	9	20	9	8	10	16
6. GREAT BRITAIN	2	190	18	19	9	10	22		9	20	22	23	13	25
7. CHINESE TAIPEI	5	179	13	22	22	19	21	21		19	14	8	19	1
8. YOUTH	12	118	6	13	16	6	10	10	11		7	19	15	5
9. YAMADA	9	155	12	11	17	25	21	8	16	23		12	4	6
10. HISATOMI	4	181	14	23	22	16	22	7	22	11	18		8	18
11. CHINA	6	170	13	10	9	10	20	17	11	15	25	22		18
12. ICELAND	3	183	23	20	8	15	14	5	25	25	24	12	12	