

# Delhi Bridge Association Newsletter

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Vol.1 Issue 10 – March 2004

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## Bill Gates in Reno, plays Open Swiss Teams at NABC

Bridge enthusiast and Microsoft chairman Bill Gates attended the Spring NABC at Reno, Nevada. Gates, who makes occasional appearances at NABCs, entered the Jacoby Open Swiss Teams with partner Sharon Osberg - a San Francisco banking executive and a world grand master, and teammates Barnet Shenkin and Mark Feldman. Gates, 48, is among the 600 entrants who competed in the Jacoby Open Swiss Teams event.

At a pre-game press conference, Gates said that he was at Reno to enjoy a weekend of bridge. Speculating on the difficulty of the event, Gates said, "This will be quite a tough field. I'll have quite a bit to learn this time. This is probably the toughest event I've ever entered."

When asked about his level of participation in ACBL events, Gates indicated that his schedule is hectic, making it difficult to play more often. "Over time, however, I'm getting to play more," he said. The Gates team made the cut in the qualifying round of the Open Swiss, to play in the two-session final.

Gates described the game as relaxing and said he wished he had more time to play. "I'll never go pro but over the years, I hope to get better," said Gates, who learned to play bridge as a child and began entering tournaments about five years ago. "If you take it up young, you have fun doing it the rest of your life. A lot of games don't have that depth. This one does."

Las Vegas resident Fred Gitelman, author of "Learn to Play Bridge" software, said he and Gates play a few times each year. He said Gates had a chance to be competitive in the tournament. "There are roughly 10 million people in North America who play bridge," Gitelman said. "He can't compete with me. I'm a full-time professional player. But he can compete with just about everyone else."

Gates said online versions of bridge have helped attract younger people to the game, which often is considered an activity for senior citizens. The average age of bridge league members is 66, down from 70 a few years earlier. "It's a game you can play at any age," Gates said. "It's unfortunate in this country that there isn't as many young people going into the game as we'd like to see."

## The grand old man of "Delhi Bridge" is no more

With profound grief we report the demise of Shri M.M. Chopra, popularly known as 'Chopra Saheb' in Bridge circle. The grand old man of Delhi Bridge was 80 years old but than also was playing active bridge till last year's Nainital tournament. Bridge was a passion for Chopra Saheb and his bidding and playing speed at the age of eighty would have put lot of players to embarrassment. Lately he was not keeping good health and left us for his heavenly abode on 19<sup>th</sup> March at New Delhi.

May God bless his soul and give the courage to his family members to overcome the irreparable loss.

## LEBENSOHL CONVENTION

Lebensohl convention has been designed to enable responder to bid his hand better after an opponent overcalls over his partner's one notrump opening. Mr. George Boehm first publicized the Lebensohl convention through an article in "The Bridge World" magazine in November 1970.

The Lebensohl convention is basically a method for the responder to make competitive as well as forcing bids after an opponent has overcalled over the one notrump opening. However today, the Lebensohl principle is also used to handle responses to takeout doubles of weak two bids and also when opener reverses.

### A) Responses after Opponents interfere Partner's One Notrump Opening

The corner stone of Lebensohl convention is a bid of 2NT as puppet to 3C, which allows responder to show various kinds of hands. The complete Lebensohl structure of responder's bids after a two-level overcall is:

- **Double**, is for Penalties or take out or raise to 2NT depending on partnership understanding.
- **Two-level suit bid**, is natural and non-forcing, to play.
- **Three-level suit bid**, is natural and game forcing.
- **Cue-bid of overcaller's suit**, is like Stayman and promises a 4-card major and denies a check in the opponent's suit. The cue-bid is game forcing.
- **Jump to 3NT**, denies a stopper in the opponent's suit and is to play, if opener has a stopper. Without stopper, opener bids a 5-card major to play or looks for a minor suit contract.
- **2NT**, is puppet to 3C. Opener must bid 3C only. Responder then re-bids:
  - **Pass**, shows a weak hand and long clubs.
  - **New suit below the overcaller's suit**, is to play.
  - **New suit above the overcaller's suit**, is invitational.
  - **Cue-bid of overcaller's suit**, is like game forcing Stayman and promises a 4-card major and also shows a check in the opponent's suit. Opener bids a 4-card major, otherwise 3NT.
  - **3NT**, shows a stopper in the opponent's suit and is to play.
- **Four-level bids**, without intervention, 4C – Gerber; 4D/H – Texas transfer; 4S – Minors etc.

The above set of responses enables responder to show various kinds of non-forcing, invitational and game forcing hands and allows search for major suit fits. Also it makes possible to avoid three notrump when neither opener nor responder has a stopper. In the above responses a **Direct** bid (cue or 3NT) **Denies** stopper in the opponent's suit where as a **Slow** action (via 2NT puppet) **Shows** stopper.

The above Lebensohl structure is applicable when opponents make a natural call of 2D, 2H or 2S. If they interfere with 2C bid, which is either natural or unspecified single suiter, then:

Double – Stayman, 2D/H – Transfer and all other bids remain same as without interference.

### B) Examples: (assumes 15-17 NT)

♠ Ax ♥ xx ♦ xxx ♣ KQxxxx	♠ Qxx ♥ x ♦ QJ9xxx ♣ xxx	♠ J10xxx ♥ xx ♦ KQx ♣ Kx	♠ Kxx ♥ AQxx ♦ xxx ♣ Kxx	♠ xxx ♥ AQxxx ♦ Qxx ♣ xx
After 1NT Opening & 2H overcall bid, 3C, which is Game Forcing (invitational sequence is not possible).	After 1NT Opening & 2H overcall, bid 2NT, which is puppet to 3C. Over 3C bid 3D which is sign-off.	After 1NT Opening & 2H overcall bid 2NT, which is puppet to 3C. Over 3C bid 3S as invitational.	After 1NT Opening & 2S overcall bid 2NT puppet to 3C. Over 3C bid 3S as spade stopper and 4 hearts, GF.	After 1N Opening & 2S overcall bid 2NT, which is puppet to 3C. Over 3C bid 3H which is sign-off.

We would strongly recommend that every competitive bridge player should use Lebensohl Convention. Our discussion on Lebensohl convention will be continued in next month's newsletter with modifications in Standard Lebensohl, where we will use Jacoby Transfers - to make 1NT Opener declarer as far as possible. This variation of Lebensohl is known as **Advanced Lebensohl**.

*(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)*

# Local Bridge News & Results

## Delhi Bridge Association Tuesday Pairs Event - Results

### 02/03/2004 – 12 Tables

NS 1 : Sudhir Aggarwal – Amod Rele	71.15%
NS 2 : Ajay Tankha – Gopal Saxena	59.95%
EW1 : Subhash Gupta - Sandeep Thakral	60.98%
EW2 : T.C. Pant – Sunil Bhatia	55.88%

### 09/03/2004

#### Sec A – 8 Tables

NS 1 : Gopal Saxena – Ajay Tankha	57.89%
NS 2 : Sudhir Aggarwal – Amod Rele	57.33%
EW 1 : Ashok Chandra – Mrs. U. Aggarwal	68.22%
EW 2 : Deepak Gulhati – N.P. Singh	55.44%

#### Sec B – 8 Tables

NS 1 : Ms. Madhu Kochar – M.P. Agarwala	60.89%
NS 2 : C.R. Krishnamurthy – Mrs. V. Krishnamurthy	57.00%
EW 1 : Mrs. Asha Surana – Raghubir Jasuja	62.00%
EW 1 : D.K. Tewari – A.K. Ghosh	62.00%

### 16/03/2004 – 7 Tables

NS 1 : A.K. Sinha – T. Bhattacharya	59.19%
NS 2 : Santosh Kumar – A.K. Srivastava	56.29%
EW 1 : T.C. Pant – Mrs. Beneeta Chandra	63.03%
EW 2 : R.C. Consul – Mrs. Madhu Kochar	62.10%

### 23/03/2004 – 11 Tables

NS 1 : Yogesh Tewari – Arun Jain	64.17%
NS 2 : Sudhir Aggarwal – Amod Rele	56.94%
EW 1 : T.C. Pant – Sanjeev Kumar Singh	59.72%
EW 2 : R. Chakravarti – Vijay Kumar	58.06%

### 30/03/2004 – 14 Tables

NS 1 : Ajay Tankha – Gopal Saxena	62.22%
NS 2 : Sudhir Aggarwal – Amod Rele	59.17%
NS 3 : Mrs. Madhuri Modwel – J.D. Gupta	58.61%
EW 1 : Mrs. Asha Surana – R.S. Jasuja	61.67%
EW 2 : Sham Sharma – S.A. Bijlani	59.17%
EW 3 : S. Sunderrajan – Ravi Sawhney	57.22%

## DBA – Hindustan Times Saturday Team Event – Results

### 06/03/2004 – 12 Teams

1. **Narang's Team**– (A.K. Narang, R.C. Consul, D.K. Tewari, P.C. Gupta)
2. **COSMOS** – (Sham Sharma, A.K. Guha, A. Mandal, Anil Upadhyay)

### 20/03/2004 – 11 Teams

1. **Formidables** – (Mrs. Kiran Nadar, Subhash Gupta, T.C. Pant, Amarjit Wadhawan, Vinod Sharma)
2. **RARA's THEME**– (R.C. Consul, A.K. Narang, Raghubir S. Jasuja, Mrs. Asha Surana)

### 27/03/2004 – 11 Teams

1. **Delhi Blues** – (T.C. Pant, Paresh Gupta, Mrs. Shashi Jain, Amarjit Wadhawan)
2. **Toppers** – (A.K. Narang, R.C. Consul, J.B. Sengupta, Ajay Tankha, Rajesh Jain)

## All India Ladies Bridge Association Results

### 05/03/2004 - 10 Tables

1. Mrs. Brij Judge – Mrs. Kunti Thakur
2. Mrs. Veena Gupta – Mrs. Mira Shriram
3. Mrs. & Mr. K.C. Sicka
4. Sunny Pasricha – Alok Khemka

### 19/03/2004 - 7 Tables

1. Mrs. Asha Surana – R.
2. Mrs. Madhu Agrawal – P.K. Rajgariah
3. Miss Poonam Datta – Anand Bhatia  
Mrs. Helga Sarna – Mrs. Sarita Sharma  
Mrs. Rekha Sarin – Miss P.N. Radha Ostby

- Reported by Mrs. Shashi Jain, Secretary LBA

## Registration with BFI

The Delhi Bridge Players not yet registered with BFI for the "Master Point scheme" are requested to get registered immediately. This will enable them to get their Master Point awards for the local & National tournaments.

## More BRIDGE at DBA

From April 2004 onwards, besides the regular Saturday & Tuesday bridge, we will have additional Bridge on one of the Sundays (usually first or third) at 1430 Hrs. The April event will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2004. See the DBA notice board for further details.

## Vasant Vihar Club Tournament

Vasant Vihar Club organized their Annual Bridge Tournament at the club premises on Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2003. The tournament had 2 events. A Mixed Pairs event was played before noon and an open Pairs event was played in the afternoon. The results of the tournament are as follows:

### **Results – Mixed Pairs (Total 35 Pairs):**

1. Mrs. Kunti Thakur – Narvir Singh	62.01%
2. Mrs. Urmil Aggarwal – Sudhir Aggarwal	61.35%
3. Mrs. Asha Surana – R.S. Jasuja	61.29%
4. Mrs. Mehra – Mehra	59.88%
5. Dr. (Mrs.) Nikita Kamal – Amarjit	59.69%
6. Mrs. K. Vishwanathan – A.K. Sinha	58.84%
7. Guddi Rekha – Ravi Sawhney	58.62%

### **Results – Open Pairs (Total 57 Pairs):**

1. Mrs. Asha Surana – R.S. Jasuja	62.26%
2. Ms. Poonam Dutta – Madhu Agarwal	61.90%
3. R.C. Aggarwal – S.R. Malhotra	58.84%
4. Mrs. Madhuri Modwel – J.D. Gupta	58.55%
5. Dr. Saroj Mohan – S.K. Uppal	57.46%
6. Mrs. Shashi Jain – N.K. Jain	57.39%
7. Subhash Gupta – Sandeep Thakral	57.09%
8. Kameshwar Rao – Suraj Jain	56.18%
9. Pushp Kumar – Rajendra Kumar	56.08%
10. Dr. R.S. Gupta – Mrs. R.S. Gupta	56.02%
11. Mohan Dass – S. Nagpal	55.51%

The event was very well organized and well conducted.

**Heartiest Congratulations to all the Winners.**

*- Reported by Editor*

## NOTICE FOR SELECTION TRIALS Summer Nationals

The trials for selecting the Team/Pair for representing Delhi state at the Summer Nationals for T.P. Khosla / Agarwala Trophy will be held at DBA as follows:

### **Team of Four:**

24-25<sup>th</sup> Apr (1000–2000 Hrs) – (Complete RR)  
8<sup>th</sup> May (1000–1300 Hrs.) – 2\*12 boards Semi Finals  
8<sup>th</sup> May (1500–2000 Hrs.) – 3\*12 boards Finals

### **Pairs:**

1<sup>st</sup> May (1000–1330 Hrs): Elimination Round for Pairs  
(14 Pairs to qualify for 13\*7 boards finals)  
1<sup>st</sup> May (1500–1900 Hrs): Finals (5 rounds)  
2<sup>nd</sup> May (1000–1800 Hrs): Finals (8 rounds)

Please check the DBA Notice Board for further details.

## All India Rama Jain Tournament

The ALL INDIA Times National Bridge Championships 2004 for Rama Jain Trophy was held at Delhi Bridge Association Building, New Delhi on 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> March 2004. Mr. Ashok Pradhan, Minister of State inaugurated the tournament.

Each bridge association throughout India holds Selection trials for selecting the pairs who will represent their association in this tournament. Based on the number of participants in the selection trial of each association, a quota is fixed for sending the number of pairs. Besides this, some quota is reserved for the sponsors of the tournament and the reigning champion. This year there were 40 Pairs, who took part in this prestigious event.

The tournament was played across 2 days in 4 sessions. Each of the 40 pairs played 3 boards each against the 39 opponents. In total 117 boards were played with 19 being top on a board. (Average = 1111.5).

Ajay Yadnik- Bihari Lal Lakhi, the pair from Andhra Pradesh, was the leader with a score of 345.50 after the first session of 30 boards. Trailing closely behind them was Subhash Gupta – Kingshuk Bhattacharya with 342.71.

Yadnik – Lakhi continued their good work in the 2<sup>nd</sup> session (of 27 boards) also and were leading with a score of 650.82. However, Gobind Singha – Pranab Bardhan took the 2<sup>nd</sup> spot with a score of 628.32.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> session started on Sunday, the 14<sup>th</sup> March and the session belonged to Raju Tolani – Vinay Desai. At the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> session and 87 boards, they had taken over the lead with a score of 970.07. A.K. Sinha – Sushil Aggarwal, the pair from U.P., also had an excellent set and were placed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> position with a score of 950.66.

The last 30 boards of the tournament had some more surprises. Y. Kamlakar Rao – K. Suryanarayana, the pair from A.P. blitz their way to the top with a fantastic score of 65.47%. Gobind Sinha – Pranab Bardhan also had a good set with 61.16%. The final score of the winners was:

### **Final Results:**

1. Y. Kamlakar Rao – K. Suryanarayana	1301.18
2. Raju Tolani – Vinay Desai	1299.41
3. Gobind Singha – Pranab Bardhan	1269.94
4. A.K. Sinha – Sushil Aggarwal	1262.29
5. Ajay Yadnik – Bihari Lal Lakhi	1248.98
6. Vijay Goel – Sukamal Das	1230.64
7. Mrs. Kiran Nadar – B. Satyanarayana	1217.27
8. Sunil Machar – B. Parasrampurua	1187.50

Shri M.D. Dalmia distributed the prizes to the winners.

**Heartiest Congratulations to the Winners**

*- Reported by Editor*

## A 30-IMP difference Deal from Vanderbilt 2004

What a difference an opening lead can make!

	♠ JT952 ♥ 87 ♦ 84 ♣ 7432		
♠ KQ8763 ♥ T ♦ ♣ AQ9865	N W E S	♠ A4 ♥ AQ6542 ♦ 753 ♣ JT	
	♠ KJ93 ♥ AKQJT962 ♦ ♣ K		

West	North	East	South
	Tudor		Eisenstein
		1H	4D
4S	Pass	Pass	5D
6C	Pass	6S	Pass
Pass	Dbl	All Pass	

This was the auction at one of the tables in a first-round Vanderbilt match. Of course Harry Tudor and Glenn Eisenstein defeated this contract because of the hellacious trump split.

West	North	East	South
		1H	Dbl
Redbl	1S	Pass	3D
Pass	3S	Pass	3NT
Dbl	All Pass		

The auction was completely different in this room. South, with that solid eight-card diamond suit, decided to double instead of leaping to the four level. Equally surprising, Steve Zolotow, West, redoubled despite his 6-5 hand. South eventually opted for the notrump game and Zolotow doubled. The crucial moment had arrived! Zolotow had to make his opening lead.

Clearly a low spade would have worked magnificently. The defense would take three spades, six clubs and a heart for plus 2000. But Zolotow decided to lead his other black suit. This ran to declarer's king and he quickly rattled off eight diamond tricks for plus 750. The difference between a spade lead and a club lead was 30 IMPs!

- *Courtesy Daily Bulletins of Spring  
NABC 2004*

## Interesting Deal From RAMA JAIN Bridge Tournament

Board: 30, Dir: East, Vul: None

	♠ A9862 ♥ AK94 ♦ K ♣ KJ6		
♠ Q5 ♥ T86 ♦ 7653 ♣ Q853	N W E S	♠ JT43 ♥ J532 ♦ QT8 ♣ 74	
	♠ K7 ♥ Q7 ♦ AJ942 ♣ AT92		

The bidding went as follows:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1D (1)
Pass	1S	Pass	2C
Pass	2H	Pass	2NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

(1) – Precision 11-15 HCP with min. 2 carder ♦

The bidding may have differed a bit, but mostly all the pairs played the hand in 6NT with South as declarer. However, there were a few pairs who played in 6NT from North side. In one case, where the declarer played from North, he received the Club 7 lead, giving him enough hints to take the club finesse and get 4 club tricks. East got squeezed immediately, and had to give either a spade or a heart trick for declarer to score his 12 tricks.

But at most of the places, the lead was ♥10 by West. On this lead South takes the trick with ♥Q, plays to the ♣K and to ♣9, losing to the queen. Now West may continue with heart or may shift to ♠Q. The hand always makes now as East gets automatically squeezed. If West continues with heart you should cash the Ace & King of Hearts and play the clubs. The last six card position is South: K7,-,AJ94,-; North: A986,9,K,-; West: Q5,-,7653,-. East can either keep JT,J,QT8,- giving all spade trick or if he throws a heart, declarer can come up with the DK and cash the good heart on which East again gets squeezed in diamonds and spades. The key play is to retain the ♦K as entry. In case West shifts to spade, take with Ace of Spade, play clubs and the last 7 cards position is South: K,7,AJ9xx,-; North: 986,AK9,K,-; West: Q,86,7653,-. If East keeps J, Jxx, Q10x,- all spades are good and declarer can discard the heart on Ace of Diamond. If he keeps 2 spades, he gets squeezed when the 4<sup>th</sup> heart trick is played.

However if the initial lead is ♠Q, the squeeze is no more there and the contract makes only if the declarer takes the club finesse correctly.

- Reported by Editor

# International Bridge News

## 47<sup>th</sup> Spring NABC

The 47<sup>th</sup> Spring North American Bridge Championships were held at Reno, Nevada from 18<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> March 2004. Details of different events played in the championships are as follows:

### SI LODOR Open Pairs I

In total 416 pairs took part in this event. Linda Maloney of Rockville MD and Robert Gookin of Falls Church VA posted a huge total to lead the two-session qualifier, with 66.77% score in the afternoon and a 67.85% in the evening. The pair finished with 875 matchpoints on a 650 average — nine boards above par. In second with 836 were Brad Moss of New York and Fred Gitelman of Las Vegas, followed closely by defending champions Michael Rosenberg of New York and Ralph Katz of Chicago with 833.5. Two hundred eight pairs made the cut to play in the two-session finals.

in the final of the Silodor Open Pairs I, Larry Cohen and David Berkowitz put together two strong sessions to claim victory in the four-session contest. The pair scored 64.10% in the afternoon session and backed it up with a 65.95% in the evening to finish on top by almost four boards. Their final score was 1879.47. In second with 1682.61 was the St. Louis-based pair of Roger Lord and Jacqueline Sincoff. This is the ninth NABC win for the Berkowitz-Cohen partnership (and the 19<sup>th</sup> for each individually).

#### Final Standings:

1 David Berkowitz - Larry Cohen	1879.47
2 Roger Lord - Jacqueline Sincoff	1682.61
3 Geir Helgemo - Richard Zeckhauser	1663.63
4 Michael Rosenberg - Ralph Katz	1645.05
5 Grant Baze - Michael Whitman	1641.00
6 Linda Maloney - Robert Gookin	1639.50
7 Susan Fuller - Michael Seamon	1628.81
8 Adam Wildavsky - Michael Polowan	1626.17
9 Chip Martel - Martin Fleisher	1614.72
10 Mark Feldman - Barnet Shenkin	1612.28
11 Tony Forrester - Boye Brogeland	1607.14
12 Justin Lall - Hemant Lall	1603.07
13 Michael Becker - Richard Schwartz	1595.89
14 John Stiefel - Victor King	1587.92
15 Roy Welland - Bjorn Fallenius	1586.44
16 Zia Mahmood - Piotr Gawrys	1585.28

### Silver Ribbon Pairs - Leventritt Trophy

The Silver Ribbon Pairs for Levintritt Trophy consists of two qualifying and two final sessions. This event is open only to players who are at least 55 years old and who have pre-qualified by placing first or second in a regional or national rated senior event.

The trophy honors Peter Leventritt of New York, ACBL president in 1954 and assistant treasurer 1945-46. He served as president of the Greater New York Bridge Association and the Card School of New York, which he co-founded. Leventritt (1916-1997) pioneered the use of the Schenken System in partnership with its inventor, Howard Schenken. He represented North America in the Bermuda Bowl and placed second in 1957, 1961, 1963 and 1965.

In total 306 pairs took part in this event. Joseph Godefrin and Ed Schulte parlayed a huge first qualifying session into a field-topping performance. They scored 71.31% in the afternoon session and 58.69% in the evening to post a total of 1285.16 matchpoints. In second, more than two boards behind the leaders, were Ronald Spath and Shou-Ling Wang with 1205.50. Close behind in third were Steve Cohen and Gene Freed with 1205.36. 156 pairs qualified for the two-session final.

In the finals, with the aid of a huge carryover from the qualifying round, Joe Godefrin and Ed Schulte stayed ahead of the field throughout the final round to win the Silver Ribbon Pairs. This is the first NABC win for the duo, although they also have a world title to their credit: the 2001 World Senior Cup in Paris. The winners scored 62.91% in the afternoon session and 54.77% in the evening session to post a final tally of 2646.27, which included a carryover of more than 290 for their dominating performance in the two-session qualifier. In second, less than a board behind with 2518.20, were G Gard Hays and Jerry Premo. Narrowly behind in third were Nancy Popkin and Donald Stack with 2514.31.

#### Final Standings:

1 Joseph Godefrin - Ed Schulte	2646.27
2 Jerry Premo - G Gard Hays	2518.20
3 Nancy Popkin - Donald Stack	2514.31
4 Gerald Van Gemert - Fred Hamilton	2506.42
5 Barbara Nist - Stephen Hosch	2497.78
6 John Stiefel - Richard De Martino	2472.74
7 Ken Cohen - Andy Avery	2466.04
8 David Priest - Margery Gould	2462.08
9 Steve Mansfield - Norman Featherston	2410.65
10 Charlton Buckley - Bruce Ferguson	2406.55

### Vanderbilt Trophy

One hundred five teams entered this prestigious knock-out team event. After the first round knock-out, only 64 teams remained.

The #6 seed squad of Jimmy Cayne, Robert Levin, Steve Weinstein, Michael Seamon, Geir Helgemo and Dano DeFalco were sidelined after they failed to win either of their 32- board matches in the first round knockouts.

In second-round Vanderbilt action, the top-ranked teams experienced little difficulty in advancing to the round of 32. There were a few upsets, however. The #13 seed team captained by Mark Gordon were defeated by the four-man team led by Marc Zwerling 171-135. Also, the #19 seed, Zolotow, lost to the #46 seed, Brody, 177-145. The Indian team of Kirubakara Moorthy (Kirubakara Moorthy, H.B. Prabhakar, G. Venkatesh, Anil Padhye, S. Sundarram & P. Sridhar) also reached the last 32 stage.

Each of the four major brackets in the Vanderbilt saw an upset in the round of 32. The #8 seed captained by Rita Shugart was shown the door by the #25 team led by Richard Pavlicek, 197-115. The #10 seed led by Kit Woolsey also said farewell when they were defeated by the #23 (originally #42) seed with Hemant Lall at the helm, 146-134. Sam Lev's #11 team was sent home when they lost to the Dutch squad captained by Jan Jansma 125-95. Despite a furious last-quarter charge, Lou Ann O'Rourke's squad, the #12 seed, got booted from the event as Mike Moss's team, the #21 seed, won 125-117. Kirubakara Moorthy's team also was sent packing by the all strong #5 seed Schwartz team 157-76 (45-12, 20-29, 65-18, 27-17).

In fourth-round Vanderbilt action for grabbing the last 8 positions positions, the #14 seed captained by Jim Mahaffey mounted a furious last-quarter rally to defeat the #3 seed led by Rose Meltzer by 134-130. Mahaffey, trailing by 36 after three quarters, won the last set 60-20 to advance to today's quarterfinal round. Other top seeds cruised. Nickell (#1) had no problems against Bertheau (#16), winning 134-96. Jacobs (#2) beat Kasle (#15), 197-153, Welland (#4) crushed Wildavsky(#13) 206-104 and Schwartz (#5) topped Moss (#12), 126-98. The other teams to reach quarter finals were Miller (#6) beating Jansma (#11) by 128-116, Brachman (#7) beating Hemant Lall (#10) by 113-107 & Morse (#9) beating Pavlicek (#8) by 112-76.

#### Quarter-Finals

In the Vanderbilt quarterfinal action, the top-seeded squad and defending champions led by Nick Nickell disposed of the #8-seeded team captained by Dan Morse, 170-86. Nickell led the entire match. The #2 seed, with captain George Jacobs, nuked their opponents, Malcolm Brachman's team, 75-3 in the first quarter. Brachman never recovered, and Jacobs cruised to a 170-86 victory. The #3 team (Jim Mahaffey) had a close first set with the #6 seed (Jeffrey Miller), but Mahaffey pulled away in the second quarter and never looked back. Mahaffey advanced 149-93. In the battle of the #4 seed (Roy Welland) and the #5 seed (Richard Schwartz), Schwartz nursed a small lead in the first quarter into a 26-IMP lead at the half. Welland continued to slide in the third quarter, and Schwartz remained solid in the last set to win 138-107.

In the semifinal matches, Nickell will take on Schwartz, while Jacobs will do battle with Mahaffey.

#### Semi-Finals

The top-seeded Nick Nickell squad had built up a 53-IMP lead after three quarters of play against their opponents led by Richard Schwartz in their Vanderbilt semifinal match. Schwartz returned from the dead in the last quarter, picking up exactly 53 IMPs to tie the match. In the subsequent eight-board playoff, Schwartz outscored Nickell 18-16 to win the contest by 2 IMPs. Final score: Schwartz 159, Nickell 157 (15-60, 26-26, 40-48, 60-7, 18-16). In the other semifinal bracket, the #2 seed captained by George Jacobs kept Jim Mahaffey's squad at arm's length the entire match, winning it 121-105 (32-16, 34-41, 30-4, 25-44).

#### Final

The team captained by George Jacobs put on a show of strength in the Vanderbilt Knockouts, winning the 64-board contest against Richard Schwartz's team 128-101 (32-48, 31-21, 38-14, 27-18). The members of the Jacobs squad are partner Ralph Katz and Italian teammates Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Alfredo Versace and Lorenzo Lauria. This is the second Vanderbilt victory for Jacobs, Katz, Lauria and Versace. They won in 1999 playing with Peter Weichsel and Alan Sontag, instead of Bocchi and Duboin for whom this is the first win in the contest. Jacobs overcame a small first-half deficit. They trailed by 16 after the first quarter, but cut the Schwartz's lead to six by halftime. By the end of the third quarter they led Schwartz by 18 and held on in the last segment to win by 27. Playing with Schwartz were Michael Becker, Larry Cohen, David Berkowitz, Steve Robinson and Peter Boyd. Schwartz was trying for his third win in the contest. He was captain of the winning squads in 1997 (which also featured Robinson and Boyd) and 1998.

#### The Final Vanderbilt Rankings:

- 1 George Jacobs - Ralph Katz, Alfredo Versace - Lorenzo Lauria, Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin
- 2 Richard Schwartz, Michael Becker, Larry Cohen, David Berkowitz, Steve Robinson, Peter Boyd
- 3/4 Nick Nickell, Richard Freeman, Bob Hamman, Paul Soloway, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell,
- 3/4 Jim Mahaffey, Mark Lair, Gary Cohler, Terje Aa, Glenn Groetheim, Garey Hayden
- 5/8 Roy Welland , Bjorn Fallenius, Zia Mahmood, Michael Rosenberg, Cezary Balicki, Adam Zmudzinski
- 5/8 Malcolm Brachman, Mike Passell, Eddie Wold, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson
- 5/8 Dan Morse, John Sutherland , Bobby Wolff , Sidney Lazard, Stephen Landen, Pratap Rajadhyaksha
- 5/8 Jeffrey Miller, William Wickham, Sangarapil Mohan, David Yang, Michael Kovacich, Robert White

#### Mixed Pairs - Rockwell Trophy

The Mixed Pairs is a four-session event with two qualifying and two final sessions. The Rockwell Trophy, donated by Helen Rockwell in 1946, is

presented to the winners. The record-holder in the Mixed Pairs is Sidney Silodor, who won the event five times — including 1955 and 1956 with Helen Sobel. John Crawford won the event three times — in 1948 and 1949 with Margaret Wagar and in 1959 with Dorothy Truscott, the first time they had ever played together.

Jim Krekorian and Judith Bianco led the field of 474 pairs in the qualifying rounds of the Mixed Pairs. The leaders posted a final score of 841.00, almost eight boards above average. In second more than a board behind the leaders (top on a board was 25) were Marty Fleisher and Rozanne Pollack with 808.50. Very close behind in third were Rita Ellington and Martin Caley who each scored 808.22, 260 pairs qualified to play in the two-session final.

Peggy Kaplan of Minnetonka MN and Bill Kent of Iowa City IA each won their first NABC title when they finished atop the field in the final round of the Mixed Pairs by two full boards. The winners scored 63.17% in the afternoon and remained solid with a 62.7% in the evening to post a total of 2251.85. The pair was 15th after the two-session qualifier. Kaplan and Kent have been partners for a decade. In second place with 2122.32 were Marty Fleisher of New York NY and Rozanne Pollack of Basking Ridge NJ. Top on a board was 64.

#### FINAL STANDINGS IN MIXED PAIRS

1 Bill Kent - Peggy Kaplan	2251.85
2 Martin Fleisher - Rozanne Pollack	2174.82
3 Peggy Sutherlin - Nagy Kamel	2103.79
4 Debbie Gailfus - Alan Gailfus	2091.91
5 Linda McGarry - Dennis McGarry	2089.96
6 Richard Gabriel - Ellen Melson	2081.53
7 John Gustafson - Helen Gustafson	2062.60
8 Jan Janitschke - Bonnie Smith	2051.42

#### Open Pairs II – Wernher Trophy

Eric Greco and Geoff Hampson are the defending championships of the Werner Open Pairs II title. Greco also won in 2002 with first-time partner Curtis Cheek. In fact, Greco is the only player to win back-to-back titles with different partners. Other players can claim back-to-back victories: Doug Drury and Eric Murray won in the 1954 and 1955 while Philip Feldesman and Ira Rubin won in 1961 and 1962.

The Werner Trophy was donated in 1934 by Sir Derrick J. Wernher and presented to the winners of the National Men's Pairs Championship. The event was contested at the Summer NABC until 1962 and subsequently at the Spring NABC. From 1969 through 1971, it was contested as a three-session championship. In 1992 the event became Open Pairs II, a four-session event which consists of two qualifying rounds and two finals rounds.

Italian experts Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes posted a two-session total of 851.50 in the qualifying round of the Wernher Open Pairs II to lead the field of 256 pairs. Top was 25. Fantoni and Nunes are the current World Open Pairs champions. In second with 815.62 were Michael White and David Adams.

Third were Russ Ekeblad and Michael Seamon with 812.12. 130 pairs qualified for the two-session final.

In the 2 session finals, Wernher Open Pairs II, the reigning World Open Pairs champions, Claudio Nunes and Fulvio Fantoni, topped the 130- pair field. They led for much of the final and finished in front by more than two boards. Their two-session total was 2272.31, with a 55.72% in the afternoon and a 65.45% in the evening combined with a large carryover for finishing first in the two-session qualifier. Top on a board was 64. Nunes and Fantoni have previously won the Open Board-a-Match Teams in Philadelphia in 2003, and Fantoni was a member of the winning squad in the Mixed Board-a-Match Teams in Long Beach in 2003.

Both players are frequent members of the Italian national squad. They earned their World Pairs title in Montreal in 2002. In second with 2147.47 were Fred Stewart and Kit Woolsey, and one board back was the third-place pair of Irina Levitina and Ilya Levitin with 2089.90.

#### FINAL STANDINGS IN OPEN PAIRS II

1 Fulvio Fantoni - Claudio Nunes	2271.81
2 Kit Woolsey - Fred Stewart	2147.47
3 Ilya Levitin - Irina Levitina	2089.90
4 Debbie Rosenberg - JoAnna Stansby	2073.20
5 John Stiefel - Lloyd Arvedon	2061.70
6 John Rayner - Michael Roche	2055.49
7 Tadashi Teramoto - Hideki Takano	2041.57
8 Bryan Maksymetz - Lars Andersson	2039.36

#### Stratified Open Pairs

The two-session Stratified Open Pairs was sponsored by BPT Prize Money Bridge. ACBL Bridge Bucks were given for the top three finishers in each strat as well as for session tops or seconds in each strat.

The winners in Strat A were (1st) Harvey Brody and Gary Soules (\$300); (2nd) Anil Padhye and G. Venkatesh (\$180); (3rd) Robert Kerr and Chris Lubesnik (\$60). In Strat B were (1st) R. Amann and R. Vission (\$200); (2nd) David Fiedler and John Corey (\$130); (3rd) Joon Pahk and Samuel Jeong (\$60). In Strat C the winners were (1st) Gregory Ingolia and Li-Chung Chen (\$160); (2nd) Dmitri Shabes and Elena Ziuleva (\$110); (3rd) Audrey Mitchell and David Mitchell (\$60).

#### RED RIBBON PAIRS – BEAN TROPHY

The Red Ribbon Pairs is an ACBL event with national rating open to players with fewer than 2000 masterpoints. Players must pre-qualify to participate. The four-session event began in 1986 and winners have their names inscribed on the Percy X. Bean Trophy. The trophy was designated by the ACBL Board of Directors in 1996 to honor Bean, ACBL president in 1972 and chairman of the Board in 1973. Bean was the editor of Mad, Mad World of Bridge, a publication that strongly championed players of less than expert class.



Howard Gordon of Rochester NY and Stewart Cramer of Pittsford NY scored 812.15 in the opening round of the Bean Red Ribbon Pairs. They topped the field of 300 pairs, and finished ahead by one board. (Top was 25.) In second with 788.50 is the California-based pair of Jordan Chodorow and Harvey Katz. Next, with 781.00 are Barry and Daniel Wilderman of Great Neck NY. The two-session final will feature the surviving 156 pairs.

Marty Harris of Chicago and Jacob Morgan of Madison WI had a powerful 70% game in the first final after a so-so performance in the qualifying. Their evening effort in the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of final was good enough to give them a one-and-a-half board margin over second place and victory in the Red Ribbon Pairs. The battle for second place was hard-fought. Mark Brighthouse and Harvinder Sidhu edged John Rollin and Alex by two points – a tiny margin considering that top on a board was 77.

**Final Standings:**

1 Martin Harris - Jacob Morgan	2643.02
2 Mark Brighthouse - Harvinder Sidhu	2549.28
3 John Rollin - Alex Stagner	2547.69
4 Julian Laderman - Howard Marks	2510.68
5 Vandana Vidwans - Shelley Lapkoff	2473.09
6 Barry Wilderman - Daniel Wilderman	2448.35
7 Jeffrey Esposito - Bruce Arnold	2434.15
8 Alan Frantz - Craig Zastera	2416.84

**Women's Pairs - Whitehead Trophy**

The Women's Pairs for Whitehead Trophy is a event with two qualifying sessions followed by two final sessions. This is the 74th Women's Pairs. At stake is the Whitehead Trophy, donated in 1930 by Wilbur C. Whitehead of New York, a great bridge authority and a member of the team that won the Vanderbilt Cup in 1928, the first year it was in play.

Kathy Baum and Peg Waller had the best score in the qualifying round of the Whitehead Women's Pairs. The duo scored 791.50 in yesterday's two-session game to lead the field of 124 pairs. Top was 25. In second with 785.00 was the mother-daughter pair of Rita Seamon and Janice Seamon-Molson. The third-place finishers in the qualifying round were Brenda Bryant and June Deutsch with 779. 78 qualifying pairs will compete in the two-session final.

In a feat they last performed 33 years ago in 1971, longtime partners Amalya Kearse and Jacqui Mitchell won the Women's Pairs. This is the second victory for Kearse in the contest, but it's the fourth for Mitchell who has won previously with Gail Greenberg (twice) and with the late Judy Tucker. Mitchell also has several second-place finishes in the Women's Pairs, the first of which occurred in 1962 playing with Betty Kaplan. Mitchell and Kearse were World Women's Pairs champions in 1986. Mitchell was inducted into the ACBL Hall of Fame in 2003. Kearse has been elected to the Hall of Fame for 2004, and will be inducted at the Summer NABC in New York. Kearse and Mitchell scored 66.14% in the afternoon and 62.85% in the evening to post a final score (with carryover) of 1368.9.

In second with 1242.18 were Cynthia Balderson and Carole Miner of Minnesota.

**FINAL STANDINGS IN WOMEN'S PAIRS**

1 Jacqui Mitchell - Amalya Kearse	1368.90
2 Cynthia Balderson - Carole Miner	1242.18
3 Linda Lewis - Betty Ann Kennedy	1209.82
4 Laurie Vogel - Gail Greenberg	1209.70
5 Janice Seamon-Molson - Rita Seamon	1208.99
6 Lynn Baker - Kerri Sanborn	1207.20
7 Kathy Baum - Peg Waller	1207.14
8 Lisa Berkowitz - Joann Glasson	1192.91

**Jacoby Open Swiss Teams**

The multinational squad captained by Jacek Pszczola needed a blitz in the last round of the Jacoby Open Swiss Teams to catch the defending champions in the event led by Peter Bertheau, and that's exactly what happened. Pszczola, playing with teammates Michal Kwiecien, Piotr Gawrys, Sam Lev, Michael Polowan and Chris Willenken, had a score of 116 at the end of the next-to-last round. The Bertheau team of Fredrik Nystrom, Christal Henner-Welland, Michael Kamil, Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes finished their final match early and reported a score of 134. Therefore, for Bertheau to finish second it would require the Pszczola — the only team within striking distance — to win by enough to earn at least 19 Victory Points. Pszczola over-achieved, blitzing their last-round opponents to grab the top spot with a final score of 136. The final standing:

1 Jacek Pszczola, Michal Kwiecien, Sam Lev, Michael Polowan, Chris Willenken, Piotr Gawrys	136.02
2 Peter Bertheau, Taby Sweden; Christal Henner-Welland, Fulvio Fantoni, Claudio Nunes, Michael Kamil, Fredrik Nystrom	134.32
3 Kit Woolsey, Fred Stewart, Bart Bramley, Chris Compton	128.07
4 Rose Meltzer, Peter Weichsel, Kyle Larsen, Alan Sontag, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby	126.77

**MACHLIN WOMEN'S Swiss Teams**

Kathy Sulgrove led her squad to victory in the Machlin Women's Swiss Teams. Playing with Sulgrove were JoAnn Sprung, Peggy Sutherlin and Karen Allison. The foursome posted a final score of 137.25. In second with 131.72 was the team of Valerie Westheimer (captain), Judi Radin, Mildred Breed, Shawn Quinn, Cheri Bjerkan and Stasha Cohen. In third with 108.15 were Jill Levin, Sue Picus, Debbie Rosenberg and JoAnna Stansby. The final standing:

1 JoAnn Sprung, Kathleen Sulgrove, Peggy Sutherlin, Karen Allison (137.25)
2 Valerie Westheimer, Judi Radin, Mildred Breed, Shawn Quinn, Cheri Bjerkan, Stasha Cohen (131.72)
3 Jill Levin, Susan Picus, Debbie Rosenberg, JoAnna Stansby (108.15)
4 Lisa Berkowitz, Joann Glasson, Petra Hamman, Nancy Passell, Betty Ann Kennedy, Linda Lewis (100.85)

- *Courtesy Daily Bulletins of Spring NABC 2004*

## HUMOUR AT THE BRIDGE TABLE

### Any 3's, partner?

Bill Glass had a lot of fun with this hand from the Red Ribbon Pairs in the Spring NABC 2004

Board 15, Dir: South, Vul: N-S

	♠ T ♥ 865 ♦ T95 ♣ AQ8752	
♠ A652 ♥ K92 ♦ A82 ♣ KT6	W H E S	♠ KQJ4 ♥ AQ7 ♦ K64 ♣ J94
	♠ 9873 ♥ JT43 ♦ QJ73 ♣ 3	

West	North East	South	
			Pass
1C	Pass	1S	Pass
2S	Pass	4S	All Pass

Glass led his singleton C3 to partner's queen. Jim Steelquist cashed the CA on which Glass discarded the D3. Partner led a third club and Glass ruffed with the trump 3. Then he put the H3 face down on the table. "May I see the previous tricks?" he asked as he turned over his three threes. Then he turned over the fourth 3. The opponents weren't amused – they called the director. When the TD heard the story and saw the four threes, all he could do was laugh. He ruled that Glass's action was strictly humor and caused no damage.

## DELHI BRIDGE SCHEDULE

1. Pair event is played at DBA on every Tuesday evening from 1830 Hrs. onwards.
2. Team event is played at DBA on every Saturday from 1430 Hrs. onwards.
3. The Ladies Bridge Association holds an Open Pairs tournament on every alternate Friday or on Holidays at PHD House.
4. Central Secretariat Club holds an open Pair event on every Monday commencing at 1800 Hrs.

## Editorial board

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Mr. Subhash Gupta, Mr. B. Satyanarayana

## TOURNAMENT at CORBETT PARK

May 2004

The K.K. Birla All India Bridge Tournament will be organized at "The Claridges Corbett Hideaway", GARJIA (Corbett Park), Ramnagar, Distt: Nainital from 13<sup>th</sup> (After Lunch) - 16<sup>th</sup> (Afternoon) May 2004. The event with total prize money of Rs. 1 Lac will have T-4 duplicate & Open Pair events.

The tariff for the tournament is between Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 16,000 (depending on the no. of cottages required) and is inclusive of tea, lunch, dinner as well as the complete entry fee of the tournament.

For further details, contact Mr. Arvind Prasad on 9810112634 or e-mail at [arvind\\_prasad@leisurehotels.co.in](mailto:arvind_prasad@leisurehotels.co.in).

## Forthcoming Events - 2004

### National

- 8-9<sup>th</sup> Apr – Sponsored event (for participating in the National selection trials), Mumbai
- 10-16<sup>th</sup> Apr – National Selection Trials, Mumbai
- 13-16<sup>th</sup> May – Tournament at Garjia (Corbett Park)
- 11-13<sup>th</sup> Jun – Goa Bridge Festival, Panjim
- 18-27<sup>th</sup> Jun – Summer Nationals, Kasauli (H.P)

### International

- 19<sup>th</sup> June – 3<sup>rd</sup> July – 47<sup>th</sup> European Bridge Team Championships & 10<sup>th</sup> Swedish Bridge Festival at Malmo, Sweden
- 8<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> July – Summer NABC, Newyork City
- 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Sep – The Generali Master World Individual Championship, Verona, Italy
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct – 6<sup>th</sup> Nov – World Bridge Olympiad, Istanbul

### CONTACT US:

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