

# GERMANY WINS WORLD WOMEN'S TITLE

- VETERAN USA TEAM REGAINS OPEN TITLE AS EUROPE FAILS TO MAKE IT TO THE FINAL
- FRANCE TAKES BRONZE MEDAL IN BOTH SERIES



After two consecutive victories in 1991 and 1993, Europe lost the world open title to the United States, but regained the women's title thanks to the German team.

## INSIDE



### NEW EBL PRESIDENT A. BOEKHORST DIES SHORTLY AFTER ELECTION

André Boekhorst who was unanimously elected EBL President in Vilamoura died three days later. Bill Pencharz is acting in his place until the new election, which is scheduled for March.

### ITALY: EUROPEAN OPEN CHAMPION

Italy won the Open series at the 1995 European Championships, held in Vilamoura, Portugal. The Ladies title went to France, while the 1st European Senior Teams was dominated by Poland. The new Ladies Pairs champions are Sabine Auken and Daniela von Arnim, anchor pair of the German team.

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*EBL Review* did not appear last summer, and this 'double' issue comes to cover a most sensational year in European bridge.

In administration, the EBL underwent the most radical changes in its history. José Damiani and Karl Rohan retired in June after many successful years in office. As fate had it, André Boekhorst was to pass away just three days after his unanimous election to the highest office of the League. On the other hand, four new Executive members were elected in Vilamoura, and at least one more will join in Monaco, next March.

The situation is challenging for everybody. Members and administrators alike, we have to make sure that despite any difficulties we shall preserve and further improve the present welfare of European bridge. The 1996 EBL Promotion Week was our late President's last effort. We will succeed if we make its objectives a primary consideration.

In competition, in 1995 we enjoyed a splendid championship in Vilamoura and saw Italy's spectacular return to the top. At world level, Europe failed to make it to the *Bermuda Bowl* final, but took the *Venice Cup* for the first time since 1985. Finally, the British Juniors won another gold for Europe.

*Paulo Gerontopoulos*



## 100 YEARS LATER!...

Almost 100 years after the revival of the Olympic Games, WBF President **José Damiani** and **Nikos Karamanlis**, President of the Hellenic Bridge Federation, signed the contract for the organization of the **10th World Bridge Team Olympiad** to be held in the country where the Olympic spirit was established 25 centuries ago. Watching the ceremony in Vilamoura are members of the WBF Executive Council, and the President of the Portuguese Bridge Federation.

The Olympiad will be held at the **Rodos Palace Hotel**, on the legendary island of Rhodes, in the south-eastern corner of Greece, 19 October-2 November 1996.

*(from the Vilamoura Daily Bulletin)*

## EBL TEAM IN TOKYO INVITATIONAL

At the invitation of the *Japan Contract Bridge League*, a European team travelled to Tokyo and took part in the **NEC** invitational tournament, November 18-26.

The European team consisted of three pairs selected in Vilamoura through 'Butler scoring' the results in the open series. Of those available, **Feichtinger-Terraneo** (Austria), **Olanski-Zmudzinski** (Poland) and the young **Herbst** brothers (Israel) performed best.

Ten teams competed in the tournament. Five were from Japan, while the rest came from Canada, Chinese Taipei, Europe, Indonesia and New Zealand. The format was a round robin of 20-board matches, followed by semifinals and a final.

The European team started well defeating New Zealand and the Japanese teams, and managed to win the round robin despite losing the other matches. However, in the semifinal, they lost to Chinese Taipei by a small margin (practically the negative carry-over from the round robin), and also to Indonesia in the playoff for third place. **Chinese Taipei** beat Canada in the final to win the tournament.

The Europeans were adequately consoled in the Festival that followed. Feichtinger-Terraneo won the Open Pairs (the Poles came 3rd and the Israelis 9th out of 70 competitors), while the combination of the Austrian and Polish pairs produced the winning squad in the Teams tournament (24 competitors).

PHILIP MORRIS

# Monte-Carlo

## 4th EUROPEAN MIXED CHAMPIONSHIPS

Monaco • 18-23 March 1996

The 4th **PHILIP MORRIS European Mixed Championships** consists of two events: the *Mixed Teams* and the *Mixed Pairs*.

The **Mixed Teams** will be played using a *Swiss* format in 15 10-board matches. After 12 rounds, four teams will qualify to the semifinals; the rest will continue the *Swiss* for 3 more rounds to determine rankings from 5th place onwards.

The tournament will start on Monday 18 March. 4 matches will be played on the first day, 5 on Tuesday, 3 on Wednesday and 3 on Thursday which is also the day of the semifinals and final.

The **Mixed Pairs** will be played over 4 sessions: one on Thursday 21 March, two on Friday and one on Saturday.

There is a free evening on

Wednesday 20 March with a cocktail offered by *Société des Bains de Mer*. On Saturday 23 March, Monaco's Ministry of Tourism will offer the prize giving cocktail buffet.

The entry fees are SFr 800 per team and SFr 250 per pair, and prize money SFr 95,000, including special prizes for *senior* competitors. Registration is through the NCBOs only.

Tournament play will take place at Monte Carlo's *Sporting d'hiver*. There is a great variety of hotels available, ranging from 1-star to the world's best.

**CASH PRIZES**  
SFr 95,000



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE OFFICIAL SPONSOR

PHILIP MORRIS

The 42nd *GENERALI European Bridge Championships*, held in Vilamoura, Portugal, between the 17th June and 1st July, was a dramatic and hugely successful Tournament. It marked the end of an era. And there was also great tragedy.

**Marian Frenkiel** died suddenly on the night of the 23rd June whilst visiting the Championships. The previous afternoon he

ty. The bridge players of Europe owe them a great deal and on their behalf I say to both José and Karl: *Thank you, thank you very much. It will be a hard act to follow!*

The Championships were a fitting tribute to José Damiani's tenure as President. They were magnificently organized and played in beautiful conditions at the Vilamoura *Marinotel*. Every-



## LETTER FROM THE ACTING PRESIDENT

had played with me in the Journalists Pairs - he had invited me to play and it had been my honour and pleasure to accept. Although he obviously was not well, I do not think he made a mistake in 27 boards. Marian was on the first successful Polish international team and won the *Rosenblum* in 1978. He was a member of the EBL Executive Committee until his retirement in 1989. My heartfelt sympathies go out to his widow, sons, grand children and all his many friends.

Two days later, on the 25th June, **André Boekhorst** died peacefully in Utrecht. The EBL was represented at his funeral by myself, Anna Maria Torlontano and Panos Gerontopoulos. It was a moving affair, with the crematorium festooned with flowers and packed with his devoted friends from the Dutch Bridge Federation and his devoted colleagues and students from the school where he taught. There are tributes to André elsewhere in *EBL Review* so I shall limit myself to tendering my sincere condolences to his mother, sister, friends, colleagues and students.

Vilamoura marked the retirement of **José Damiani** as President of the EBL and **Karl Rohan** as Treasurer. José has led the League through eight years of development and ever improving standards. In Karl he had the perfect right-hand man who guarded the fortunes of the League with energetic and meticulous integri-

ty. The bridge players of Europe owe them a great deal and on their behalf I say to both José and Karl: *Thank you, thank you very much. It will be a hard act to follow!*

I would like to thank everybody who contributed to the success of the *GENERALI European Bridge Championships*, and I hope no one minds if I only single out for individual praise the *Portuguese Bridge Federation* and its President **José de Oliveira**, whose energetic contributions and splendid hospitality made all the difference to the Tournament.

My congratulations go to all the competitors at Vilamoura; but especially, of course, to the winners: the Italian Open Team, the French Ladies Team, the Polish Senior Team and Sabine Auken and Daniela von Arnim of Germany who won the Ladies Pairs.

My congratulations also go to the eight European teams (four Open and four Ladies) who played in the World Championships held in Peking in October - Italy, France, Sweden and the Netherlands in the *Bermuda Bowl* and France, Germany, Israel and Great Britain in the *Venice Cup*. Congratulations to France for winning bronze medals in both events. And of course most congratulations of all to the victorious German Ladies team in the *Venice Cup* - Sabine Auken, Daniela von Arnim, Karin Caesar, Marianne Moegel, Pony Nehmert, Andrea Rauscheid and

their non-playing captain Klaus Reps.

One should never forget our young players, and in this respect I would like to congratulate Great Britain and Norway for winning the 1995 World Junior Team and Pair Championships respectively. Denmark did well to take the bronze medal in both events.

One of the innovations introduced at Vilamoura was to 'Butler Score' all the pairs in the Open Series of the Team Championship. (At future championships we hope to Butler Score the Ladies Series as well.) I believe it is a great step forward to be able to identify the leading pairs in the European Teams Championships. In order to publicize the game of bridge we need personalities; we need superstars. Butler scoring will help to do that.

Looking to the future, the next goal for the League is to increase the number of individual members of NCBOs from the present

level of about 380,000 to half a million. The EBL Executive Committee is committed to achieving this goal and believes it is achievable within the next few years.

Before his final illness André Boekhorst had arranged for a **Bridge Promotion Week** to take place in Milan at about the time this edition of *EBL Review* goes to press - between the 13th and 18th January. The Week is being staged in conjunction with the Italian Bridge Federation, and there will be a **Tournament Directors' Course** as well. I hope I shall see many of the Bridge organizers of Europe in Milan where we shall be able to develop skills and form friendships.

The Bridge Season is now in full swing. Have a good game!

Bill Pencharz

# RADICAL CHANGES IN EBL ADMINISTRATION

- Damiani & Rohan retire with honour
- New President Boekhorst dies
- Beineix, Torlontano, Gerontopoulos, Pencharz elected EBL officers
- Executive refreshed with 5 new members



*New blood in the EBL Executive Committee: Nissan Rand (Israel), Gianarrigo Rona (Italy), Feijo Durksz (The Netherlands), José Oliveira (Portugal), Radoslaw Kielbasinski (Poland)*

In an unprecedented turn of events, the European Bridge League underwent the most radical administrative changes in its history.

Last June, the term of the President came to an end, and **José Damiani** retired after 8 most successful years in office. At the same time, **Karl Rohan** concluded a most distinguished 13-year long career as Treasurer having accomplished the goal of raising the League's fortune to SFr 1m and set standards that will be hard to reach.

Both outgoing officers were honoured for their enormous

contributions to the welfare of European bridge with the highest distinctions available. Damiani was elected *President Emeritus*, and Rohan *Honorary Member*. Both received the EBL Gold Medal.

The Congress in Vilamoura elected new officers to fill the vacancies. **André Boekhorst** was unanimously elected the League's ninth President. **Jean-Claude Beineix** and **Anna Maria Torlontano** were voted Vice Presidents, while **Panos Gerontopoulos** became Secretary and **Bill Pencharz** Treasurer.

At the second session of Congress four new members were added to the Executive Committee: **Gianarrigo Rona** of Italy and **Nissan Rand** of Israel, were elected for four-year terms, while **José Oliveira** of Portugal and **Radoslaw Kielbasinski** of Poland for two-year terms.

Three days after his election, Boekhorst died and the Management Committee agreed that Bill Pencharz should undertake to act as President until the new election. At the same time, **Feijo Durksz** of the Netherlands was co-opted as Assistant Treasurer.

## SPECIAL CONGRESS IN MONACO

A special meeting of the EBL Congress will take place on Wednesday 20 March 1996 at Monaco's *Hermitage* Hotel.

The only matters to be considered at this Congress will be the election of President and Treasurer of the League, following the death of André Boekhorst and the resignation of Treasurer Bill Pencharz.

Mr Pencharz is a candidate for President, while Feijo Durksz of the Netherlands has been nominated for the post of Treasurer.

## Panos Gerontopoulos

*Panos Gerontopoulos of Greece was named Bridge Personality of 1995 by the International Bridge Press Association. IBPA's citation mentions:*



The first **World Junior Pairs Championship** was held this August at the University of Ghent in Belgium. An entry of 154 pairs from 27 nations was achieved. The Championship was followed by the first **World Junior Camp** with attendees from as far afield as Australia, Botswana and Indonesia with a large group from North America.

The initiative and effort needed to launch the European Junior Pairs and then widen it to a successful new world event came principally from one man. He became chairman of the *European Bridge League Youth Committee* ten years ago, and since 1991 has also been chairman of the *WBF*

## PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

*Youth Committee*. Last year he was the prime mover behind the introduction of the **European Schools Championship** for under 20s which attracted 13 nations at its first showing in the Netherlands. He has traveled the world arguing the cause for Juniors: inspecting premises, drumming up support, and planning championships.

Within IBPA, this man has also been the *Liaison Officer* with the World Bridge Federation and European Bridge League. He is on the Executive of both authorities. He is the editor of the **European Bridge League Review** and launched the **EBL Competition Calendar**, both of which are

distributed throughout Europe.

Our candidate was educated at the Universities of Thessaloniki in Greece, Oxford and Graz in Austria. He played bridge for Oxford against Cambridge. He likes opera and the theater, and is a whiz with computers. He is now a lecturer in Geodesy at the National Technical University of Athens.

In recognition particularly for the part he has played in the launch of the World Junior Pairs, the International Bridge Press Association is pleased to announce that it has conferred the 1995 IBPA **Personality of the Year** Award to our friend, **Panos Gerontopoulos** of Greece.

**ANDRÉ BOEKHORST** of the Netherlands died on Sunday, 25 June 1995, just four days after his election to the Presidency of the European Bridge League.

The President passed away while the European Championships were held in Vilamoura. He had just completed 22 years of service on the EBL Executive Committee: 12 as a member and 10 as an officer.

The sad news was announced by WBF President **José Damiani**, and caused widespread shock to Boekhorst's countless international friends and associates. Many messages of sympathy were published in the Daily Bulletin.

Boekhorst, who suffered from lung fibrosis, was cremated in his home city of Utrecht. The process was attended by hundreds of his friends from the national and international world, as well as by young representatives from the school at which he had been teaching. Among them was an EBL delegation consisting of Acting President Bill Pencharz, 2nd Vice President Anna Maria Torlontano and Secretary Panos Gerontopoulos.

**ANDRÉ BOEKHORST** was the kind of person who was liked by everybody. Born in 1934 in Indonesia, he studied chemistry and became a school teacher.

A keen bridge player, he once made it to the Dutch national team, but he mainly concentrated on bridge administration.

He was elected member of the Executive Committee of the *Nederlandse Bridge Bond* (NBB) for the first time in 1965. In a long brilliant career, he served as a member for 13 years and as the Secretary for another 12 until 1990 when he was called upon to become President. When he finally left in 1994 after 29 years, NBB membership had risen from 20,000 to nearly 100,000! For his achievements he was honoured by the Queen of the Netherlands with the royal distinction *Oranje-Nassau*.

Internationally, Boekhorst became known as the godfather of **Junior bridge**. On his initiative, the first *European Junior Teams Championship* was staged in 1968 in Prague, and has been held every two years thereafter.



# André Boekhorst

He joined the EBL Executive Committee in 1973 and was re-elected in 1977 and 1981. He became 2nd Vice President in 1983 and 1st Vice President in 1987. He retained the post until last June when he was unanimously elected EBL President. Unfortunately, his 22-year long international career was interrupted a few days later.

After retiring from the Youth Committee in 1985, André Boekhorst concentrated on **bridge promotion**. In 1989 he organized the first *EBL Promo-*

*tion Week* which met with great success. He followed with the second one in 1993.

His last trip abroad was to Italy. He went there in April to discuss details of the third EBL Promotion Week which will held in January 1996 in Milan. On his return home, he had to go to hospital but he used this time for writing the seminar's announcement leaflet. The Promotion Week will go ahead as he planned it - even though the man behind it will be missing.

*Panos Gerontopoulos*

*“His support and encouragement, his understanding towards other people and his incomparable sense of humour will never be forgotten by all who knew him.”*

**José Damiani**  
WBF President

*“He never ceased to show his willingness to develop bridge and his election as EBL President opened new horizons.”*

**Jean-Claude Beineix**  
EBL 1st Vice President

*“André, Thank you for your trust, and your sincere and strong friendship. I will miss you.”*

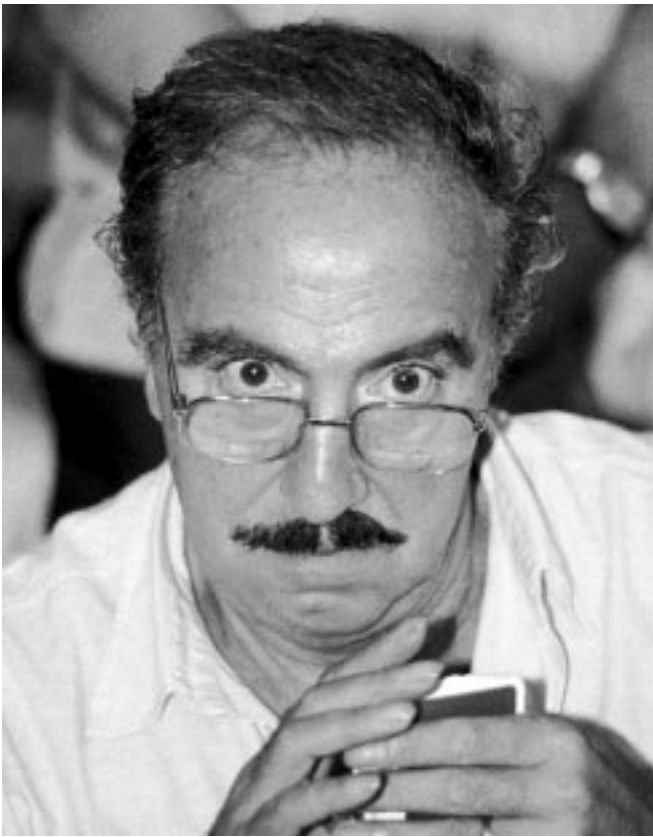
**Anna Maria Torlontano**  
EBL 2nd Vice President

*“International Bridge owes a debt to André. A debt which will always be recognized, but will never be repaid.”*

**Panos Gerontopoulos**  
EBL Secretary

*“He was looking forward enormously to the challenge and opportunity of being the President of the EBL. It is a tragedy that fate intervened in such a cruel way.”*

**Bill Pencharz**  
EBL Treasurer



# Giorgio Belladonna

## 1923-1995

**GIORGIO BELLADONNA,**  
the world's most successful bridge player,  
died on Friday, 12 May 1995.

**B**elladonna was the only player to participate in all 16 world titles won by Italy in the period 1957 to 1975 when the *Blue Team* was pre-eminent in world bridge. He led the world rankings for over two decades!

Belladonna first represented Italy in 1951. In 1954 he partnered Roberto Bianchi in the European Championships in Montreux. The following year Belladonna formed the partnership with **Walter Avarelli**, a judge, that was to last until 1972. Belladonna named Avarelli as his favourite partner.

They won the next four European championships, Belladonna winning ten in all. After Avarelli gave up international bridge, Belladonna's principal partner was **Benito Garozzo**.

Belladonna's demeanour at the bridge table was always that of a gentleman, and he became a popular figure with the crowds that came to watch the legendary figure later in his career.

The 16 world titles were: Teams Olympiad in 1964, '68, '72; Bermuda Bowl: '57, '58, '59, '61, '62, '63, '65, '66, '67, '69, '73, '74, '75.

Belladonna was the primary inventor of the *Roman Club* and collaborated in the invention of *Super Precision*.

Belladonna's father was a postal worker in Rome. Young Belladonna was a fine sportsman. In 1939, at the age of 16, he had a trial for Lazio, the Italian first division football team. War prevented Belladonna developing a career in football. He went back to school where he learned bridge. He studied architecture at Rome University and then became a civil servant in the Department of Social Security. He held this job until he be-

came a full time bridge player in 1969.

Belladonna married Antonietta, and they had two children, Renato and Anna, and four grand-children. Anna was a top class tennis player, at one point being ranked 10th in Italian women's tennis. Renato is a fine bridge player who competed for Italy in the recent *PHILIP MORRIS* European Pairs Championship held in Rome in March. Giorgio came to kibitz his son, and to say what proved to be a final goodbye to many friends.

*Patrick Jourdain*

**MARIAN FRENKIEL** of Poland, World Champion, administrator and bridge journalist, passed away while attending the European Championships in Vilamoura, 23 June 1995.

A Polish Grand Master, Frenkiel was on the winning team at the 1978 World Championships and led Poland to the Olympic gold medal in 1984. He won the European title in 1981 and 1989, and was decorated by the Polish Sports Minister.

Frenkiel was President of the Polish Bridge Union (1973-1990) and served on the EBL Executive Committee (1983-1991). He was an outstanding promoter of bridge in Poland and Europe.



**Marian Frenkiel**  
(1919-1995)

# GERMANY BRINGS VENICE CUP BACK TO EUROPE



**Women's World Champions 1995: Klaus Reps (npc), Daniela von Arnim, Pony Nehmert, (WBFF President José Damiani), Andrea Rauscheid, Karin Caesar, Sabine Auken, Marianne Mögel**

## VENICE CUP

### FINAL

USA 1 - **GERMANY** 248 - 312

### 3rd PLACE PLAYOFF

CHINA - **FRANCE** 54 - 66

### SEMI FINALS

FRANCE - **GERMANY** 164 - 257

**CHINA** - USA 1 185 - 259

### QUARTER FINALS

**FRANCE** - SOUTH AFRICA 229 - 126

**CHINA** - VENEZUELA 242 - 83

**USA 1** - USA 2 274 - 216

JAPAN - **GERMANY** 193 - 229

### QUALIFIER

#### GROUP W

1	<b>CHINA</b>	239
2	<b>GERMANY</b>	236
3	<b>USA 1</b>	227.1
4	<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	224
5	<b>BRAZIL</b>	214
6	<b>ISRAEL</b>	201.6
7	<b>CANADA</b>	193.5
8	<b>COLOMBIA</b>	127.8

#### GROUP E

1	<b>FRANCE</b>	269
2	<b>USA 2</b>	253.5
3	<b>JAPAN</b>	201.6
4	<b>VENEZUELA</b>	209
5	<b>GT. BRITAIN</b>	201
6	<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	191
7	<b>ARGENTINA</b>	169
8	<b>INDIA</b>	155.5

It took Europe 10 years since Great Britain's victory in 1985, but finally the *Venice Cup*, symbol of world supremacy in women's bridge, has come back. This was achieved thanks to the wonderful performance put forward by the **German** team, runners-up at the recent European Championships in Vilamoura. **France**, the reigning European ladies champions, also did well winning the bronze medal.

One may say that Germany's victory was long overdue. In Perth '89, a misunderstanding cost them the semifinal. Two years ago in Santiago, they reached the final stage and kept the match alive for quite some time. It was against USA and three of the players they had faced in Santiago that the German Ladies now took their revenge - and the gold medal.

After the elimination of Israel and Great Britain in the round robin, France and Germany, the remaining European representatives, made it easily to the semi-finals where they met each other. Germany was the clear winner, but France beat China in the playoff for third place winning one more medal for Europe.

## INNOVATIONS

### 1996 Worldwide Pairs Improved

There will be a number of new attractions at the *Worldwide Pairs Championship* which is to be played simultaneously in clubs around the world, June 7-8, 1996.

- Besides calculating results in the traditional way, IMP scoring will also be applied, against a theoretical par on each hand.
- Winners will be declared in several categories: open, women, mixed, seniors, juniors.
- Participating clubs will be offered attractive certificates and/or gifts.
- The prize list will be enriched.



# USA RETURNS BERMUDA BOWL TO NORTH AMERICA



**Open World Champions 1995: Edgar Kaplan (npc), Bob Hamman, Nick Nickell, Eric Rodwell, Jeff Meckstroth, Bobby Wolff, Dick Freeman**

After 8 years of absence, the *Bermuda Bowl* returned to North America in great style. Despite a slow start, the American teams dominated the field and had knocked out all their opponents by the semifinal stage. This led to an all-American final, which had not happened since 1977. **Canada** played well and on a couple of occasions came close to upsetting the veteran world champions. Europe had to be consoled with the bronze medal, won by **France**.

## China: world bridge super power

The 1995 World Championships was, for many people, their first opportunity to visit China. Although it is hard to judge the general progress achieved there, it is clear that bridge is prospering in this vast country, and it will not be too long before China occupies a top position in world bridge.



WBF President José Damiani congratulates China's Sports Minister Wu Shaoyu

The importance attached to bridge in China was more than evident. The tournament's opening ceremony took place in the *Great Hall of People*, where state dinners are normally held, in the presence of about 900 guests.

The Championship site was visited several times by top government personalities and bridge games

were organized between them and WBF officials.

Finally, it was the first time that bridge matches were broadcast *live* on TV. The coverage lasted several hours every day and was watched by close to a million fans!

FINAL	
CANADA - <b>USA 2</b>	295 - 338

3rd PLACE PLAYOFF	
SWEDEN - <b>FRANCE</b>	91 - 151

SEMI FINALS	
SWEDEN - <b>CANADA</b>	157 - 218
FRANCE - <b>USA 2</b>	153 - 221

QUARTER FINALS	
<b>FRANCE</b> - CHINA	196 - 193
SOUTH AFRICA - <b>CANADA</b>	187 - 272
<b>SWEDEN</b> - NETHERLANDS	227 - 182
INDONESIA - <b>USA 2</b>	177 - 216

QUALIFIER			
GROUP W		GROUP E	
1 <b>FRANCE</b>	231	1 <b>CANADA</b>	240
2 <b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	228.5	2 <b>SWEDEN</b>	239
3 <b>INDONESIA</b>	227	3 <b>CHINA</b>	233.7
4 <b>NETHERLANDS</b>	222	4 <b>USA 2</b>	221
5 <b>USA 1</b>	202	5 <b>BRAZIL</b>	219
6 <b>VENEZUELA</b>	201.5	6 <b>ITALY</b>	216.8
7 <b>ARGENTINA</b>	187	7 <b>EGYPT</b>	154.5
8 <b>AUSTRALIA</b>	167	8 <b>COLOMBIA</b>	136.5

BERMUDA BOWL

# INTERVIEW WITH PAUL CHEMLA



Conducted by Jean-Paul Meyer  
Reported by Patrick Jourdain

- Born 1944
- Unmarried
- Bridge pro
- European Pairs Champion 1976 & 1985
- Olympiad Champion 1980 & 1992

Paul, you are one of the most distinctive personalities in bridge. Tell us about the family life which molded you.

I was born in Tunis in 1944 and have one sister. My father was a lawyer but he separated from my mother, Ginette, when I was quite young.

My mother married twice again. We moved to Paris in 1960 and she married a member of the French cabinet, Bertrand Flornoy. He was an explorer. She later married the Turkish bridge player **Halit Bigat**. They now live in Switzerland.

I was a successful student and graduated in Literature at the *École Normale Supérieure de Lettres*. A school friend of mine there was **Alain Juppé**, the Prime Minister of France.

When did you start to play bridge?

Not until I was 24 years old in 1968, soon after I left University, when I became a lecturer in Agrège.

When did you move into the big time in bridge?

My breakthrough came by winning the very first European Pairs championship. It was held in 1976 in Cannes and I partnered Michel Lebel. I won the European Pairs again in 1985 partnering Michel Perron.

I have won two world titles, the first when France won the Team Olympiad in Valkenburg in 1980. I partnered Christian Mari. The final against the USA swung on a famous opening lead against a grand slam. Three Olympiads, and 12 years later, in Salsomaggiore in 1992, we again beat the USA in the final. Michel Perron for France, and Hamman & Wolff for the USA also played on both these occasions. With Michel I was also on the French team that took second place to Poland in the 1984 Olympiad in Seattle.

In 1991 Michel and I won the prestigious *Sunday Times Invitation Pairs* played in London. I have yet to win the European team title, but intend to rectify that in Vilamoura this year!

Who have been your main bridge partners?

Michel Perron has been my principal partner since 1982. My other main partners have been Michel Lebel, Christian Mari and Michel Abecassis. I sometimes partner Patrick Sussel and play in a squad organized by José Damiani which includes the 1980 world champions and Robert Reiplinger.

In France nearly all the players use very similar systems, based on *Majeure Cinquieme* (five card majors and strong notrump), so it makes it easy for us to partner each other without too much discussion.

Do you have interests in bridge other than playing?

Non!

(continued on page 14)

# POLAND SWEEPS MEDALS IN PHILIP MORRIS EUROPEAN PAIRS

**P**OLAND showed mercy for no one when they collected all top medals at the **8th PHILIP MORRIS European Pairs Championships**, held in Rome, 21-26 March 1995.

The eternal city welcomed over 800 players from all over Europe who came to compete in two championship events: the *Open* and *Senior* Pairs. At the same time, 24 of Europe's best players played in the *Grand Master* Pairs, having qualified directly to the Open semifinals.

The first Polish victory came when **Lesniewski-Szymanowski**, gold medalists at the 1994 World Championships, ended first in the *Grand Masters* after a dramatic finish against runners-up **Muller-Westra** of the Netherlands.

After the qualifying stage and the semifinals, 40 pairs fought

for the European Open title in the *A-final*, while 80 pairs took part in the *B-final* and the rest went on to play in the *Consolation* tournament.

The Polish struck decisively through **Gawrys-Lasocki** who won the *Open* championship (*A-final*) by a handy margin. The other two medals went to **Hackett-Waterlow** (Great Britain) and **Pattacini-Sementa** (Italy).

Quite in the same fashion, **Chmurski-Stepinski** won the *B-final* for Poland, leaving **Maurin-Voldoire** of France and van **Oppen-Rebattu** of the Netherlands at a distance.

As though all these medals were not already enough, Polish veterans **Nowak-Stobiecki** also won the *Seniors* event, finishing ahead of **Bahanik-Picmaus** (Czech Republic) and **Baratta-Rohan** (Austria) in the 42-pair final.



1	Lasocki - Gawrys	POL
2	Hackett - Waterlow	GBR
3	Pattacini - Sementa	ITA
4	Cabanes - Gautret	FRA
5	Gal - Winkler	HUN
6	Covo - Paladino	FRA
7	Fucik - Kubak	AUT
8	Maas - Kirchhoff	NLD
9	Hayes - Petersson	LAT
10	Chemla - Perron	FRA
11	Muller - Westra	NLD
12	Dechelette - Leenhardt	FRA

OPEN PAIRS

GRAND MASTERS

Lesniewski - Szymanowski



## British and Israelis win 21st PHILIP MORRIS Simultaneous

Once again, some 20,000 players gathered in 600 clubs in more than 30 countries across Europe to participate in the annual PHILIP MORRIS Simultaneous Pairs, November 17.

This year, N/S winners were **M.Phelps** and **M.Williams** of Great Britain (77%). They were followed by **Marongiu-Muscas** (Italy) and **Gerasimov-Pogonov** (Russia). Best E/W pair were **H.Hirsh-E.Silverman** of Israel (73.63%); they finished just ahead of **Cassano-Landolo** (Italy) and **Mathieu-Veron** (France).



1	Stobiecki - Nowak	POL
2	Bahnik - Picmaus	CZE
3	Baratta - Rohan	AUT
4	Garthwaite - Hobson	GBR
5	Agren - Astrom	SWE
6	Humburg - Mattsson	GER
7	Knutson - Wiksporre	SWE
8	Castren - Koskikallio	FIN
9	Moszynski - Szydiowski	POL
10	Bensoussan - Bindi	FRA
11	Sartoretti - Wirth	FRA
12	Kreisberger - Rohm	GER

SENIOR PAIRS



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE OFFICIAL SPONSOR

PHILIP MORRIS



# VILAMOURA '95 OPEN

1	ITALY	569½
2	FRANCE	547
3	NETHERLANDS	542½
4	SWEDEN	541½
5	POLAND	537½
6	ISRAEL	533½
7	DENMARK	524½
8	ICELAND	523
9	AUSTRIA	510
10	GREECE	509
11	FINLAND	508
12	PORTUGAL	507
-	NORWAY	507
14	GT. BRITAIN	506½
15	ROMANIA	491
16	TURKEY	488
17	GERMANY	461½
18	IRELAND	460
-	SPAIN	460
20	LEBANON	456
21	RUSSIA	436½
22	BELGIUM	434½
23	CZECH REP.	420
24	HUNGARY	417
25	BELARUS	408
26	MONACO	398
27	CROATIA	358
28	SAN MARINO	347
29	UKRAINE	344½
30	SWITZERLAND	330
31	LITHUANIA	327
32	SLOVENIA	317½

# ITALY CAPTURES EUROPEAN TITLE IN BLUE TEAM STYLE

After a fine performance which brought to mind the good old days of Blue Team domination, **Italy** won the open title by finishing ahead of the 32-team field at the **42nd GENERALI European Championships**, held in Vilamoura, Portugal, 17 June - 1 July 1995.

Of the victorious sextet, only **Lorenzo Lauria** was on the team which won the last European for Italy, in 1979. The other champions are: **Andrea Buratti**, **Massimo Lanzarotti**, **Maurizio Pattacini**, and two recent ex-Juniors: **Antonio Sementa** and **Alfredo Versace**. The npc was **Carlo Mosca**.

**France**, a pre-tournament favourite, had a slow start and had to fight hard at the later stages to secure the silver medal. They were followed by the **Netherlands**, the reigning world champions, and **Sweden**.

These four teams qualified to represent Europe in the 1995 *Bermuda Bowl*.

### Correction

The last issue of the Daily Bulletin at Vilamoura contained a presentation of the French team. Translated into english in haste, the article described **Christian Mari** as an 'unpleasant' player! The original word *ombrageux* refers to someone who does not accept criticism easily. This is, of course, true for many bridge players.

Jean-Paul Meyer  
NPC, French Open Team

## SENIORS



# POLAND DOMINATES FIRST SENIOR TEAMS

Senior Teams was the only category of competition that was missing from the European calendar. Not any more!

Sponsored by **GENERALI**, the inaugural event took place in Vilamoura as a separate series of the European Championships - and in the absence of nationality restrictions, it attracted an entry of 18 teams from 12 countries.

If there was any doubt as to which country is the strongest in senior bridge, the competition gave a clear answer. **Poland**, represented by two teams, finished in the top two positions, followed by France.

The first European senior champions are: **K.Gwis**, **K.Korosadowicz**, **J.Neter**, **J.Nowak**, **J.Polec** and **W.Stobiecki**.

1	POLAND 2	322½
2	POLAND 1	308½
3	FRANCE 2	302½
4	NETHERLANDS 1	294½
5	GERMANY	292½
6	ISRAEL/AUSTRIA	289½
7	PORTUGAL 2	282
8	ITALY	277½
9	GT. BRITAIN 1	268
10	PORTUGAL 1	259
11	FINLAND	234
12	NETHERLANDS 2	277½
13	TURKEY	225½
14	PORTUGAL 3	222½
15	GT. BRITAIN 2	214½
16	FRANCE 1	200
17	BELGIUM	194
18	PORTUGAL 4	113

# GOLD EUROPEAN MEDAL FOR FRENCH LADIES

## VILAMOURA '95 WOMEN

1	FRANCE	418	12	NETHERLANDS	318
2	GERMANY	383	13	GREECE	305
3	ISRAEL	380	14	CZECH REP.	300
4	GT. BRITAIN	366	15	ICELAND	296½
5	AUSTRIA	363	16	TURKEY	293
6	POLAND	358½	17	FINLAND	258
7	ITALY	353½	18	IRELAND	247
8	DENMARK	351	19	SAN MARINO	231
9	SPAIN	331½	20	CROATIA	225
-	PORTUGAL	331½	21	BELGIUM	215
11	SWEDEN	321	22	MONACO	214

The French Ladies team had no problem at all in winning the European gold medal in Vilamoura. **Véronique Bessis, Claude Blouquit, Bénédicte Cronier, Colette Lise, Catherine Saul** and **Sylvie Willard**, led by npc **Max Coppolani**, started the competition well and took an early lead which they never relinquished.

**Germany** and **Israel** followed in the final ranking of the 22-team field, while the fourth qualifying place for the *Venice Cup* was dramatically captured by **Great Britain**.



## GERMANY TRIUMPHS IN EUROPEAN LADIES PAIRS



The *GENERALI* European Ladies Pairs Championship was held in Vilamoura immediately before the Ladies Teams Championship. The event was very successful, with the Gold Medal going to **Sabine Auken-Zenkel** and **Daniela von Arnim** (Germany). Second came **Beate (Pony) Nehmert** & **Andrea Rauschid** (Germany) and the bronze

medal went to **Migri Tsur-Albu** & **Ruth Porat-Levit** (Israel).

We took the opportunity during the course of the Championships to hold a Meeting for the Ladies Delegates from many countries, so that we could discuss the future of Ladies Bridge in Europe and decide how best to proceed and to publicize our events.

## LADIES COMMITTEE

We all felt strongly that we need to try and communicate directly with more individual Lady Players in all the European countries, and to encourage them to compete in the events that are specially designed for them. I have a possible way of arranging this and hope to have some excellent news for you in the not-too-far distant future.

A number of very valuable points were raised during the Meeting, with countries agreeing that more advertising should be done for the Ladies Pairs and, indeed for any other Ladies events we may decide to hold. Consideration is being given to running a **Ladies Simultaneous Pairs** each year, starting in December 1996 and of course if we decide that this would be a viable proposition we will inform all the NCBOs immediately and seek their support.

We decided, sadly, that the *Ladies Jamboree* should not be staged next year, as we cannot be sure of obtaining a suitable venue, nor can we be certain of reaching

1	von Arnim - Zenkel	GER
2	Nehmert - Rauscheid	GER
3	Poratlevit - Tsuralbu	ISR
4	Cohen - Zuccarelli	FRA
5	Banaszkiewicz - Krogulska	POL
6	Duguet - Walberg	FRA
7	Casale - Fusari	ITA
8	van der Pas - Vriend	NTH
9	Gianardi - Rovera	ITA
10	Colonna - Cividin	ITA
11	Deleva - Grigorova	BUL
12	Pasman - Simons	NTH

enough Lady Players to ensure its success. We are hoping that we may be able to undertake the organization of another Jamboree in two years time.

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking all those who have supported us so wonderfully during 1995, and of wishing all the Lady Players in Europe, a very happy and prosperous 1996.

*Anna Maria Torlontano*  
Chairman, EBL Ladies Committee

# MASTER POINTS

TOP MAN		COUNTRY		TOP WOMAN	
Jan FUCIK	G 589	AUSTRIA	451	G	Maria ERHART
Igor GROMOV	29	BELARUS	12		Svetlana BODRENKOVA
Philippe COENRAETS	M 304	BELGIUM	194	M	Valérie POLET
Hristo DRUMEV		BULGARIA	143	M	Nevena DELEVA
Branko Špiljak	48	CROATIA	35		Nikica ŠVER
Otakar SVOBODA	110	CZECH REPUBLIC	49		Jana POKORNÁ
Jens AUKEN	L 705	DENMARK	335	G	Judy NORRIS
Tiit LAANEMÄE	95	ESTONIA	2		Tiiu MÄNDMETS
Jóannes MOURITSEN	31	FAROE ISLANDS	14		Arnleyp MIKKELSEN
Kauko KOISTINEN	191	FINLAND	72		Susanne BÄCKSTRÖM
Paul CHEMLA	G 1051	FRANCE	525	G	Sylvie WILLARD
Helmut HÄUSLER	L 485	GERMANY	530	G	Sabine AUKEN
Tony FORRESTER	L 470	GREAT BRITAIN	565	G	Sandra LANDY
George KARLAFTIS	M 416	GREECE	97		Maria VLACHAKI
Miklós DUMBOVICH	M 233	HUNGARY	29		Katalin WELKER
Jón BALDURSSON	L 460	ICELAND	88		Hjördis EYTHORSDDOTTIR
Nick FITZGIBBON	M 211	IRELAND	94		Aileen O' KEEFFE
David BIRMAN	L 478	ISRAEL	237	L	Migri ZUR-ALBU
Lorenzo LAURIA	L 459	ITALY	409	G	Marisa D' ANDREA
Janis BENDIKS	11	LATVIA	11		Anita FOLKMANE
Raymond VITALE	16	LEBANON			
Sergio ARNABOLDI	11	LIECHTENSTEIN	5		(3 players)
Povilas LUKINSKAS	36	LITHUANIA			
Gilbert DONY	10	LUXEMBOURG			
(3 players)	2	MALTA	2		Lucienne VASSALLO
Giacomo GAVINO	21	MONACO			
Anton MAAS	G 831	NETHERLANDS	793	G	Bep VRIEND
Tor HELNESS	L 516	NORWAY	19		Anne Lill HELLEMAN
Piotr GAWRYS	G 940	POLAND	139	M	Jolanta KROGULSKA
Rui PINTO	129	PORTUGAL	40		Maria João LARA
Vladimir VALEANU	73	ROMANIA	30		Nadia VALEANU
A.GROMOV & M.ROSENBLUM	90	RUSSIA	45		Larissa PANINA
G.SANTAGATA & M.SOROLDONI	12	SAN MARINO	9		Carmen CAPITINI
Janez NOVAK	30	SLOVENIA	10		Silvana ROJKO
Carlos FERNÁNDEZ SANCHIZ	187	SPAIN	100		Marquesa Sol de MORATALA
Per Olof SUNDELIN	G 701	SWEDEN	202	L	Bim ÖDLUND
Halit BIGAT	M 209	SWITZERLAND	126	M	Ginette BIGAT
Nelih ÖZDIL	48	TURKEY	14		A.TANER & S.ZORLU
S.AVDIENKO & E.DROZZAJ	15	UKRAINE			

correct as at  
1 November 1995

ANDORRA - ARMENIA - CYPRUS: no holders

G: European Grand Master

L: European Life Master

M: European Master

## INTERVIEW WITH PAUL CHEMLA

(continued from page 10)

What about interests outside bridge?

You have seen my cigars, and have guessed I frequent high class restaurants. My main hobby is classical music, opera in particular. I still read good literature, and enjoy a really tough crossword.

I also play a game called rummy for high stakes.

If you had a magic wand to change something about bridge, what would it be?

That any cheats in bridge would disappear in a puff of my cigar smoke!

We woke you for this interview, Paul, at 6 pm. Is that normal for you?

It is unusual for me to go to bed before 9 am, so, when I am not playing bridge, the morning and afternoon are for sleeping, and the evening is early in my day!

Merci bien, Paul.



• This is an abridged list of the tournaments scheduled to take place in Europe in the first half of 1996. More information is contained in the comprehensive publication 1996 EBL Competition Calendar.

**13-24** International Winter Bridge Tournament / St. Moritz, Switzerland

**19-21** EBU Swiss Teams Congress / Leeds, Great Britain

**21-27** 19th Budapest International Bridge Festival / Budapest, Hungary

**9-14** 11th International Bridge Festival / Cascais-Lisbon, Portugal

**19-26** European Union Championships / Oostende, Belgium

**25-28** Aldrans Bridge Days / Aldrans, Austria



## MAY

# COMPETITION CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY

**3-4** Vienna Bridge Congress *Piatnik* / Vienna, Austria

**15-24** 30th Israel International Bridge Festival / Tel Aviv, Israel

**24-March 1** 2nd Malta International Bridge Festival / Malta

**24-March 3** 10th International Festival 'des Jeux' / Cannes, France

**2-5** 29th Tallinn International Bridge Festival / Tallinn, Estonia

**3-7** EBU Spring Foursomes / Stratford-upon-Avon, Great Britain

**9-12** Harkány Bridge Tournament / Harkány, Hungary

**10-23** 47th International Festival *Juan-Les-Pins* / Juan-Les-Pins, France

**22-26** Velden Bridge Week / Velden, Austria

**24-26** 2nd Luxembourg International Tournament / Luxembourg

**25-26** *Renaissance* International Teams / Dortmund, Germany

**27-June 2** 11th International Bridge Festival '*Locomotiva*' / Bucharest, Romania

## MARCH

**10-16** 9th Island of Tenerife Festival / Canary Islands, Spain

**18-23** 4th *PHILIP MORRIS* European Mixed Championships / Monte Carlo, Monaco

**26-31** Kitzbühel Bridge Week / Kitzbühel, Austria

**29-Apr. 3** Olrudpåsken '96 / Hamar, Norway

**10-12** International Festival '*Carta Mundi - Corsendonck Bier*' / Oostende, Belgium

## JUNE

**5-8** 23rd Bridge Festival '*Portoroz '96*' / Portoroz, Slovenia

**7-8** 11th *Worldwide Pairs Championships / Clubs worldwide*

**22-23** 10th International Amsterdam Airport Schiphol Bridge Tournament / Schiphol, The Netherlands

**22-28** *Nordic Championships / Faaborg, Denmark*

**24-30** Sørlandet International Bridge Festival / Kristiansand, Norway

**26-30** 4rd *Kronborg* Bridge Festival / Helsingør, Denmark

**28-29** Josefi Tournament / Pörschach, Austria

**28-30** Buxton Summer Congress / Buxton, Great Britain



## APRIL

**5-8** Easter Festival of Bridge / London, Great Britain

## Publicizing your events

The European Bridge League provides the best media for advertising your tournaments.

The *EBL Competition Calendar*, published annually, contains concise information for some 100 tournaments organized across Europe. 4,000 copies are distributed, free of charge, to all NCBOs and the Press, reaching hundreds of bridge clubs and thousands of individuals interested in international events.

*EBL Review*, is published twice a year and provides global information about what is happening in the world of bridge. It has a circulation of 10,000 and is also distributed free of charge to all NCBOs, administrators, teachers and the Press.

## EBL Review

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It is distributed free of charge to all National Contract Bridge Organizations, Bridge Clubs, Tournament Directors, Journalists, Bridge Teachers and Officials of the 42 EBL member countries.

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