

# Canadian team wins semi-final place in bridge contest

From Reuters News Agency and The New York Times

DEAUVILLE, France — Canada, Italy, the United States and the Netherlands qualified yesterday for the semi-finals of the world bridge Olympiad.

The four teams were leaders among 33 countries which contested 25 qualifying rounds of the longest bridge Olympiad on record. More than 500,000 cards were played to narrow the field down to the final four.

At one stage yesterday, Canada's success was jeopardized by the collapse of one of the team, Sammy Kehela, 34, of Toronto, who has played three rounds a day almost every day since the tournament opened, collapsed from exhaustion, but was able to continue playing after treatment by Dr. Marcus Schrage, a member of the Irish team.

"It's a wonder to me that more players have not been affected by the rigorous playing schedule," Dr. Schrage said.

Other members of the Canadian team, all from Toronto are E. R. Murray, C. B. Elliott, P. E. Sheardown, Gerald Charney and William Crissey. The non-playing captain is Albert Lando.

The teams meet today in head-to-head 50-board knock-out clashes. The two winners of the semi-finals will play an 80-deal final tomorrow and Friday.

In opening play of the semi-finals United States will meet the Netherlands, and Italy will play Canada.

In yesterday afternoon's play, the Italian world champions took 38 points out of a possible 40 victory points to overtake the Americans at the

head of the standing. The United States team had a bye round followed by an overwhelming win over Argentina, but was still one victory point behind Italy in the final standings.

This was important because it determined the draw for the semi-final. If the United States had scored two more victory points and headed Italy they would have met Canada instead of the Netherlands.

Canada won a close race with Australia to gain fourth position behind the Netherlands and so reach the semi-finals.

The Canadians began the day trailing their rivals by two victory points, but moved ahead when they scored maximum points against the Philippines, and Australia could only win narrowly over France.

The Australians made a great effort by beating Bermuda 18 to 2 in the last round. But Canada beat Kenya 12 to 8 to settle the issue.

The Swiss team pulled up to equal Australia before the last round but was then defeated by France.

Observers expect the final to be between Italy and the United States but the Canadians and the Dutch have some outstanding players and the semi-final games are likely to be hard struggles.

Results in the last round were: United States 20, Argentina 4; Italy 18, Venezuela 2; Australia 18, Bermuda 2; Canada 12, Kenya 8; the Netherlands 18, Lebanon 4; France 12, Switzerland 8; Sweden 20, Netherlands Antilles 2; Portugal 20, Greece 3; Belgium 20, Chile 4; Mexico 12, Brazil 8; Philippines 11, Finland 9;

Egypt 13, Germany 7; South Africa 13, Ireland 7; Israel 18, Austria 2; Denmark 18, Spain 2.

## Last-minute comeback fails

# Italy beats U.S. by 49 points to win world bridge

By ALAN TRUSCOTT  
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DEAUVILLE, France — The incomparable Italian blue team won its 11th world championship title yesterday beating the United States in the final round of the World Olympiad by 49 international match points, 172-123.

In the 40-hand playoff for third place, Canada defeated the Netherlands by 74 International Match Points to 59-15 IMPs.

In the first 20 hands Canada took a lead of 34 IMPs to 19, but in the second 20 hands, described by Canada's Eric Murray as "the wildest hands

you ever saw," the two teams scored 40 IMPs each.

Other members of the Canadian team are Sammy Kehela, P. E. Sheardown, C. B. Elliott, Gerald Charney and William Crissey. The non-playing captain is Albert Lando. All the players and the captain are from Toronto.

The Italians began the afternoon with a 23-point lead which they increased to 39 points with 80 deals of 80 completed. The Americans recovered, reducing the margin to 11 points with five deals remaining.

At this point, U.S. non-playing captain Julius Rosenblum was hopeful, but the Italians produced the finishing

burst for which they are famous, gaining 33 points on the next three deals.

The day began with a surprise, when the Italians omitted the great partnership of Pietro Forquet and Benito Garozzo from their line-up. However, their replacements, Massimo d'Alelio and Camillo Pabis Tucci were worthy.

## Canadian entry takes third place beating Holland in bridge tourney

DEAUVILLE, France — (Special) — Canada was beaten 120-71 in the semi-final of the Bridge Olympiad yesterday.

However, Eric Murray, Sam Kehela, Bruce Elliott and Percy Sheardown had the satisfaction of winning 28 points in the final session to reduce the margin of

their defeat. Kehela, who last night was forced by a slight illness to interrupt the play temporarily, was in excellent form and played brilliantly on the last deal.

In the other semi-final the United States beat Holland 174-142 and qualified for the final against Italy.

## 765 deals in 14 days

# Toronto bridge pair led in stamina at world Olympiad

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LONDON — Observers would disagree about which pair performed best in the World Olympiad, which ended last Friday in Deauville, France. Some would vote for one of the three pairs in the Italian world champion team, all of whom performed well. Some would vote for one of the U.S. partnerships, which also gave a high-level performance. There is no doubt about which pair displayed greatest stamina.

Eric Murray and Sammy Kehela of Toronto, one of the world's greatest pairs, played 765 deals in 14 days without a break. They played 640 deals in the qualifying stage, 80 in the semi-final against Italy, and 40 in the play-off match for third place against the Netherlands. This totals 760, but at one stage they had to replay five deals because an organizational lapse resulted in the wrong boards being taken to a table.

Second in the list of over-

worked partnerships were Bob Slavenburg and Hans Kreyns of the Netherlands, the world pair champions, who played 740 deals. These two pairs

were in opposition in the play-off for third place, which the Canadians won by 15 points thanks to the diagrammed deal.

The hand:

North		East	
S-A 9 8 6 3		S-J 10 5 2	
H-Q J 10		H-8 7 5 4 3	
D-K J		D-Q 5 2	
C-A 7 4		C-1	
West		South (D)	
S-K Q 7 4		S-(nil)	
H-(nil)		H-A K 9 6 2	
D-10 9 6 4 3		D-A 8 7	
C-J 8 6 3		C-K 10 9 5 2	

North and south were vulnerable.

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1-heart	pass	1-spade	pass
2-clubs	pass	2-dia.	pass
3-clubs	pass	4-hearts	pass
6-hearts	pass	pass	dbld.
pass	pass	pass	

West led the spade king.

Mr. Kehela reached six hearts from the south position after a good bidding sequence. With normal distribution, the contract would be easy to make, but he was apparently doomed by the bad division in clubs and hearts. He had some warning when Mr. Slavenburg doubled the slam on the strength of his five small trumps.

The opening lead of the spade king was taken by the ace in dummy, with South discarding a diamond. The lead of the heart queen revealed the bad trump break. Mr. Kehela did the best he could by cashing the club ace and leading a second club from dummy, so that if East ruffed he would have to ruff a loser.

In normal circumstances it is an error for a defender to ruff a declarer's potential loser, so East discarded. From that point on he was helpless. The declarer won with the club king and played the club 10. West won the jack, and the declarer was

able to make the remaining tricks with two diamond winners and a cross-ruff.

East suggested that his partner should have played low on the third round of clubs, but this would not have helped the defense. South would have ruffed a club and overtaken dummy's last trump to make the remaining tricks.

Some time later, Mr. Kehela pointed out the winning defense to Mr. Slavenburg. He should have ruffed the third trick and returned a spade, making South ruff. Mr. Slavenburg thought it over and was forced to agree. But he found a silver lining: "I knew I was right to double," he announced triumphantly.

# Bridge —

**I**N THE last World Bridge Olympiad in 1964, Canada finished fourth. This year in Deauville our team climbed to third, behind only Italy (permanent world champions) and the U.S. Canadians can be proud of the fact that in bridge our team won a bronze medal.

Team captain Al Lando commented upon his return that all three pairs on the team played well, Eric Murray and Sammy Kehela, Percy Sheardown and Bruce Elliott, Gerry Charney and Bill Crissey. Special credit, goes, however, to Murray and Kehela who not only played every round of the tournament, but also played an extra five boards after the original five had been fouled.

If the Egyptian declarer had made his contract on the following deal Canada would not have qualified for the finals.

Vul: Both; Dlr. N

## North

♠ A 7 5 2

♥ A K 4 3

♦ 8 7

♣ A 5 3

## West

♠ K J 3

♥ J 6

♦ 10 6 5

♣ Q 10 6 4 2

## East

♠ Q 10 8 6 4

♥ Q 8 5 2

♦ Void

♣ K J 9 7

## South

♠ 9

♥ 10 9 7

♦ A K Q J 9 4 3 2

♣ 8

## North

♠ 7 5

♥ A K 4

## West

♠ K

♥ J 6

♣ Q 10

## East

♠ Q 10

♥ Q 8 5

## South

♥ 10 9 7

♦ 3 2

In one room, Crissey and Charney bid the North-South cards to six notrump which is a laydown with no chance for an overtrick. Crissey, however, did manage to make seven after East pitched two hearts. The Cs probably thought they had won one IMP on the board by making the overtrick, but little did they know that the outcome of the contract in the other room held 29 IMPs at stake.

Sharif (Omar) and Zaniniri for Egypt bid to seven diamonds in the other room. Kehela (W) led a club since Murray had doubled a club cue bid by North along the way. Can you find the winning line of play that Zaniniri missed?

If either opponent has five spades and four hearts the contract can be made on a ruffing squeeze, criss-cross variety. Win the opening lead, pull trumps, cash the ace of spades and ruff a spade, then play two more trumps.

The end position will now be:

Now play a diamond from hand pitching a heart from dummy and East is Squeezed. If he pitches a spade, the suit can be established with a ruff; if he throws a heart, the suit is picked up in two rounds.

Only one opening lead will defeat seven diamonds, a heart to break up the squeeze. When Zaniri went down Canada picked up 17 IMPs to win the match 18-2 in victory points. If he had made it we would have lost 12 IMPs to lose the match 12-8. This difference of 10 victory points would have put us in fifth place and out of the final.