

March Madness "Hoop"la

Tournament Schedule



Volume 1, Issue 1
Monday, March 6, 2006
Suzi Subeck, Editor

Monday, March 6

1:30 Charity Foundation Stratified Pairs
7:30 Education Foundation Stratified Pairs
Education Foundation Bracketed Knockouts

Tuesday, March 7

9:00 Side Game Series I
10:00 & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs
1:30 & 7:30 Stratified Open Pairs
Side Game Series II
7:30 Stratified Swiss Team 1-Session

Wednesday, March 8

9:00 Compact KO I (Sessions 1 & 2)
Side Game Series I
10:00 & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs
1:30 & 7:30 Stratified Open Pairs
Side Game Series II
7:30 Stratified Swiss Team 1-Session

Thursday, March 9

9:00 Compact KO I (Sessions 3 & 4)
Side Game Series I
10:00 & 3:00 Stratified Open Pairs
1:30 & 7:30 Stratified Swiss Teams
1:30 & 7:30 Side Game Series II
7:30 Stratified Swiss Team 1-Session

Friday, March 10

9:00 Compact KO II (Sessions 1 & 2)
Side Game Series I
10:00 & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs
1:30 & 7:30 Stratified Open Pairs
Side Game Series III
7:30 Stratified Board-A-Match Team 1-Session

Saturday, March 11

9:00 Compact KO II (Sessions 3 & 4)
Side Game Series I
1:30 & 7:30 Stratiflighted Pairs, A/AX Plays Separately
Stratified B/C/D Pairs, played separate from Flight A
Compact KO 3
Side Game Series III
7:30 Stratified Swiss Teams 1-Session

Sunday, March 12

11:00 Stratiflighted Open Swiss Teams
A: 3000+, AX: 0-3000 Play Separate
Stratified B/C/D Swiss Teams
B: 750-2000; C: 300-750; D: 0-300

Regional Knockout Schedule

	Monday	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Sat.
9:00am		A2	Com. KO 1	Com. KO 1	Com. KO 2	Com. KO 2
1:30am		A3	C1	C3	E1	E3
		B1	B3	D1	D3	Com. KO 3
7:30pm	A1	A4	C2	C4	E2	E4
		B2	B4	D2	D4	Com. KO 3
11:30p m					Zip KO	
7:30	One Session Events:	Swiss	Swiss	Swiss	BAM	Swiss

Intermediate/Newcomer Program

(I/N) Events for 299er Players
Pair Entries for I/N games are \$10.00/person/session
All masterpoints are red points.
ACBL members with 0-5 masterpoints play free.
Guest Speaker Program. See Daily Bulletin for details.
Monday 7:30 I/N Stratified Charity Pairs
Tuesday through Friday
1:30 & 7:30 Single Sessions
I/N Stratified Pairs 0-20, 20-50, 100-200, 200-300
Saturday 1:30 & 7:30 Single Sessions
49er Pairs Stratified 0-20, 20-50
299er Stratified Pairs 0-100, 100-200, 200-300
Sunday 11:00 am & 2:00
299er Stratified Swiss Teams,
0-50, 50-100, 100-200, 200-300
2 Single Sessions, More Points

For Your Dining Pleasure

Whether you choose an elegant setting, rustic look, or a 60's era steakhouse, the foods of Lake Geneva area are all excellent. Join us for all our great Friday Night Fish Fry's. Hours of operation & availability of entertainment can vary. Please call ahead. The restaurants listed below are alphabetical in order. We will feature different ones throughout the week.

R=Reservations B=Breakfast

L=Lunch

FFF=Friday Night Fish Fry

SBR=Sunday Brunch C=Cocktails

Br=Beer

E=Entertainment

D=Dinner

B. J. WENTKER'S HISTORIC FINE

DINING, 230 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington (262) 767-1514.

"Serving contemporary cuisine in an historic atmosphere." This upscale eatery's turn-of-the-century charm is further enhanced by award-winning Chef Eric Peterson's mouth-watering menu. Creative appetizers, entrees, and desserts can be complimented by an extensive selection of beer and fine wines. "A Slice of Chicago" in the heart of Burlington. L,D,FFF,C,Br

BRISSAGO, Grand Geneva Resort & Spa, (262) 248-8811 or (800) 558-3417

Located upstairs in the Grand Geneva Resort, this authentic Italian restaurant uses only the finest of ingredients. The olives, the cheeses, the pasta, the wine-- all direct from Italy, with a four-course menu that will delight and amaze you. Open for dinner. Reservations recommended.

CACTUS CLUB, 430 Broad St., Lake Geneva (262) 248-1999.

Specializing in authentic Mexican and American Cuisine. Indigenous ingredients come together in lively dishes blending Native American, Spanish, Mexican and Anglo-American culinary traditions. A lively Cantina featuring great margaritas and specialty drinks. Open at 11:30. L,D,C,Br

CARVETTI'S OF LAKE GENEVA

642 W. Main St. Phone: 262-248-9752

Carvetti's located in Historic downtown and nestled on the White River is the perfect spot to start in Lake Geneva, it's one reason why many of our customers have said: "What happens in Lake Geneva...starts at Carvetti's". We invite you to see why. Specializing in Italian/American appetizers, pastas, homemade soups, chili, pizza, hearty salads and wraps like our Southern Italian, panini and specialty sandwiches such as the 1/2 pound burgers, entrée's such as our Tuscan Ahi -Tuna is just delicious or our truly awesome Surf-n-Turf and many other favorites. We also offer the most extensive beverage menus in the Midwest with year round Tropical drinks, Starbucks Liqueurs, Margaritas, 55-Martini's, 27-Tequila's, 27 bottle beers and the coldest tap beer in the area with 40 tappers and 25 drafts to choose. Lake Geneva's largest outdoor stone patio features 2-Tiki Bars, sand volleyball court, dancing water fountains, swaying Palm trees, and outdoor seating for 350 guests all complimented with resort style service. Live DJ Thurs, Fri. & Sat. 9pm till close. Other entertainment year round. L,FFF,C, Br, E, D

CELEBRATION ON WELLS STREET, 422 S. Wells St., Lake Geneva (262) 248-2555.

Nov. thru April Tuesday thru Sunday, dinner only. May thru Oct. Mon. thru Sun., dinner only. A broad selection of fresh seafood *steaks *pasta *poultry. Prepared by our expert culinary staff with only the freshest of ingredients. Enjoy our unique architectural atmosphere as you dine in casual elegance D,C,Br,FFF

CHAMPS SPORTS BAR & GRILL 747 Main St., Lake Geneva (262) 248-6008.

Bar & eatery for the sports aficionado. Specializing in char-broiled burgers, deli sandwiches,

appetizers, salads and daily specials. Also a D.J., dancing and outdoor Beer Garden. Shoot baskets inside or out. All ages are comfortable here. L,D,C,Br,E

CHUCK'S LAKESHORE INN, 352

Lake St., Fontana (262) 275-3222. Chuck's Lakeshore Inn is located on the west shore of Geneva Lake with a spectacular 7 mile view and has been an area attraction for over 50 years. Serving its famous burgers and sandwiches 7 days a week and home of the Bacardi Sweetart, the bar also features live entertainment most weekend nights. L,D,C,LV

DUCK INN, Corner of Highway 89 & A, Delavan (608) 883-6988.

A long time favorite of local residents as well as the visiting public. Serving fresh duck daily along with traditional steaks, chops, fish and sea food. Dine either in the large cocktail lounge or spacious dining room with fireplace. Enjoy nightly specials and Friday night fish fry. Cigar smoking allowed in lounge. Open M,W,Th 4-9, Fri. & Sat. 4-10, Sun. noon to 9. D,C,Br.,FFF

DUFFY'S PUB & COTTAGES,

Located on the North shore of Lake Como at W4086 Lakeshore Drive Lake Geneva/Lake Como (262) 248-7100.

Duffy's Pub offers a cozy Irish pub atmosphere for casual dining and social drinking. L,D,C,Br

EVERGREEN COUNTRY CLUB,

Hwy. 67, Elkhorn (262) 723-5722. Casual dining specializing in Friday night fish fry. L (daily), D (Friday & Saturday), C,Br

Bon Appetite!!



Welcome to Lake Geneva ... from Tom Sucher, tournament chairman

Tom Sucher, tournament chairman, wants to welcome you all to the beautiful Grand Geneva Resort and Spa for the March Madness Regional. It was necessary for us to move our annual July Regional to March to accommodate and upcoming 2006 Summer NABC. We appreciate your flexibility of schedule, coming here at this time.

The Grand Geneva is an excellent facility. It has plenty of wonderful kibitzer activities, including two championship golf courses, several tennis courts, an indoor and an outdoor swimming pool, and a full service spa.

There are boutiques in town to wile away the afternoon shopping or window shopping. There are small, fun places to grab an afternoon snack, a cold beer, a diet soft drink or whatever your pleasure. There are also fast food places like Subway, McDonalds, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Burger King or Taco Bell nearby.

For you bridge players, we offer events all day including pairs events, team events, and, of course, a full compliment of knockouts! We have one session events to fill the time in case you get knocked out at an inconvenient juncture.

The tournament staff is here to make your stay as comfortable as possible. If you have any questions, need directions, restaurant suggestions or anything else, see one of the following.

Ron Johnston, head director, is most competent and will patiently answer any of your bridge questions. He will keep things moving along with the least amount of confusion. He always does. Jim Chiszar, Ron's right hand man, will also be around if you need him.

Carl Sharp will find you a great match if you need a partner. Try to let Carl know in advance if you are planning to play and need his services. This makes his job much easier and more pleasant.

Kay Hathaway has a variety of hospitality planned throughout the week... And there is always candy in a dish on the registration desk outside the playing area for those times you need a pick-up.

Angie Clark has special novice activities for the I/N players. There will be more on those activities throughout the week in your daily *March Madness Hoop-la!*

Suzi Subeck will furnish you with your daily *March Madness Hoop-la*.

You can drop Suzi a note in the Bulletin Box on the Registration Table if you learn of a new life master, if you become a new life master or if you have an amusing anecdote or hand for the newsletter. Daily bulletins will be available before the start of the morning session in the foyer outside the playing area. Be sure to pick up your copy.

Most importantly, have fun and be kind to your partner and your opponents. Bridge is a great game, made better by friendly, peaceful play. Please do not discuss hands until after the session. It is distracting to others and can ruin the game for everyone.

I am glad you are here. I am looking forward to seeing each and every one of you at the tables. One of the greatest things about bridge is that anyone can play. Age, sex, even physical handicaps are no barrier to play. Bridge is thinking man's game! Thanks again for joining us here is Wisconsin for this great tournament.

Tom Sucher

Pilot's Choice ... Just a Joke

As the crowded airliner is about to take off, the peace is shattered by a five-year-old boy who picks that moment to throw a wild temper tantrum. No matter what his frustrated, embarrassed mother does to try to calm him down, the boy continues to scream furiously and kick the seats around him.

Suddenly, from the rear of the plane, an elderly man in the uniform of an Air Force General is seen slowly walking forward up the aisle. Stopping the flustered mother

with an upraised hand, the white-haired, courtly, soft-spoken General leans down and, motioning toward his chest, whispers something into the boy's ear. Instantly, the boy calms down, gently takes his mother's hand, and quietly fastens his seat belt.

All the other passengers burst into spontaneous applause. As the General slowly makes his way back to his seat, one of the cabin attendants touches his sleeve.

"Excuse me, General," she asks quietly, "but could I ask you what magic words you used on that little boy?"

The old man smiles serenely and gently confides, "I showed him my pilot's wings, service stars, and battle ribbons, and explained that they entitle me to throw one passenger out the plane door, on any flight I choose."

Old Times by Fred Turner

Did you ever see the movie, "Twelve O'clock High"? The film begins several years after World War II. Dean Jagger, who had been the Adjutant of the 918th Bomber Group, returns to England. Journeying into the countryside, he rents a bicycle and rides to a long-abandoned airfield. He stands, musing on the weedy tarmac, looking into the distance. A low rumble builds in the sky, swelling to a deep roar. Then a ragged formation of Flying Fortresses appears above the horizon. The 918th is returning from another bombing mission. It is 1943 and the fate of the world hangs in the balance

A couple of years ago I was in Berkeley for a homecoming football game. Nothing, let alone the future of human civilization, was at stake-- not even the Rose Bowl. With an hour or so before kickoff I wandered into what was once Stephens Union. I found neat hallways and polished doorknobs on doors to offices housing the staff of the Associated Students of the University of California. I stood quietly, admiring the order and elegance. Then a low rumble began to throb, formless and incomprehensible, but swelling to a raucous clamor. Shouted obscenities, distressed wails, the clatter of glasses, the crack of billiard balls, and then the overwhelming stench of cigarette smoke.

It was the fall of 1947 and I was back in the Men's Clubrooms at Stephens Union--the center of what passed for social activities on campus immediately following the war. Guys in army boots and fatigues. Young men, some with haunted eyes, in parts of uniforms from all the services. Eisenhower jackets, OD shirts, flying jackets with patches from every theater of global conflict. Men with half-drained steins and cigarettes engaged in all sorts of games. Snooker, pocket billiards, chess, gin rummy. And yes, Bridge! Bridge out of and beyond Victor Mollo's menagerie. Bridge surpassing even S. J. Simon's imagination. Bidding compared to which the construction of the Tower of Babel was the highest expression of human intellect.

The usual format was rotation for a tenth-of-a-cent a point, after all most of us were living on \$75 a month from the GI Bill. The level of play generally ranged from poor to reasonably good, but some of the guys were fine players. Charlie Drake won an Intercollegiate Championship in the mid-forties, as Mike Lawrence and Lew Stansby were to do 20 years later. Larry Maes, Ted Reed, Jim Pestaner, Bob Sturgeon, Augie Hunt, were regulars. I thought the toughest players were Curtis Smith, Joe Bechely and Bob Rowley. Smith was alleged to be the best rubber bridge player in the state. I was never comfortable in a game with Curt because I'd be sitting against him twice as frequently as not. Curt's table presence was dominating. Sometimes, when we were at different tables, I'd hear his exultant laughter across the room--another sucker had been swindled.

By 1951 I was a graduate student. But instead of reading Dobshansky and Ernst Mayr I was devoting too much time to cards. The next year I was gone. When I returned in 1956 a young man named Ron Von der Porten had started playing bridge in the clubrooms. I remember playing with him just once. We bid to six diamonds and went down a trick. I took comfort from Ron's assurance that it was "a good slam." Von der Porten, Lawrence, and Stansby went on to represent the United States in international competition. Lawrence and Stansby have both won multiple world titles.

One of the 1947 clubroom regulars was Don Lee, a Chinese-American who had been a pilot in the China-Burma-India theater. Don played his cards beautifully, but his bidding was--well, shall we say undisciplined? I guess if you'd flown the Hump an 800-point set was nothing. Playing with Don could be nerve-wracking. One of his more famous flights of fancy at the table resulted in this bidding sequence:

Rubber bridge, NS vulnerable

North	East	South	West
Don		Fred	
2♥	2♠	Pass	4♠
5♥	5♠	Pass	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Double
Redouble	Pass	?	

I held: ♠43, ♥void, ♦87642, ♣976432 and meekly passed. Don was two tricks overboard at 6♥, so removing to a 7♥ contract would have saved 20 cents.

The din subsided and once again I was staring at polished doorknobs. It was time for the Golden Bears to take the field.

Life Without E-Mail

An unemployed man goes to apply for a job with Microsoft as a janitor. The manager there arranges for him to take an aptitude test (Section: Floors, sweeping and cleaning).

After the test, the manager says, "You will be employed at minimum wage, \$5.15 an hour. Let me have your e-mail address, so that I can send you a form to complete and tell you where to report for work on your first day."

Taken aback, the man protests that he has neither a computer nor an e-mail address. To this the Microsoft manager replies, "Well then, that means that you virtually don't exist and can therefore hardly expect to be employed."

Stunned, the man leaves. Not knowing where to turn and having only \$10 in his wallet, he decides to buy a 25 LB flat of tomatoes at the supermarket.

Within less than 2 hours, he sells all the tomatoes individually at 100% profit. Repeating the process several times more that day, he ends up with almost \$100 before going to sleep that night.

And thus it dawns on him that he could quite easily make a living selling tomatoes. Getting up early every day and going to bed late, he multiplies his profits quickly.

After a short time he acquires a cart to transport several dozen boxes of tomatoes, only to have to trade it in again so that he can buy a pickup truck to support his expanding business. By the end of the second year, he is the owner of a fleet of pickup trucks and manages a staff of a hundred former unemployed people, all selling tomatoes.

Planning for the future of his wife and children, he decides to buy some life insurance. Consulting with an insurance adviser, he picks an insurance plan to fit his new circumstances. At the end of the telephone conversation, the adviser asks him for his e-mail address in order to send the final documents electronically.

When the man replies that he has no e-mail, the adviser is stunned, "What! You don't have e-mail? How on earth have you managed to amass such wealth without the Internet, e-mail and e-commerce? Just imagine where you would be now, if only you had been connected to the Internet from the very start!"

After a moment of thought, the tomato millionaire replied, "Why, of course! I would be a floor cleaner

Tournament Information

No Smoking Policy: No smoking is allowed in the convention center lobby, washrooms, fire exits, or service areas.

Partnerships: Singles should check in at the partnership desk in the foyer outside the playing area 45 minutes before game time to allow the partnership people time to arrange partners. **Carl Sharp** is in charge of partnerships and will do his best to arrange suitable liaisons. The desk will be open prior to the morning, afternoon, and evening sessions. **Partners are guaranteed for most 99er events.** If no one is at the desk, leave a note, or contact Carl in person please.

Hospitality and Information Desk: The Hospitality desk is located in the foyer outside the playing area. Check there for hand records, tournament schedules, area info, and your copy of the **March Madness Hoop-la** each morning.

A bulletin box on the desk is available for you to submit any interesting hands, amusing bridge-related stories, or puzzles for publication. If you become a new life master while at the tournament, please drop a note in the bulletin box. Include the event so we know how you went over the top.

Hospitality hours for pick up of prizes and registration gifts will be posted on a sign in the foyer. Check it daily because the hours may change on a day to day basis.

Recorder Slips, should you need them, are available from the directors.

Score Corrections: For pair events, the score correction period expires at the start of the next session. For the last session of an event, the correction period expires after twenty-four hours or thirty minutes after the end of the tournament, whichever is earlier. See the director as soon as possible if you discover an error in your score. The appeal period for a director's ruling expires thirty minutes after the completion of the session.

Tournament Committee:
Tom Sucher, Tournament Chairman
Carl Sharp, Partnerships
Kay Hathaway, Hospitality
Angie Clark, I/N
Ron Johnston, Director in Charge
Suzi Subeck, Daily Bulletin

Puzzle Page

Last week, Tony opened a sandwich and sub shop on Main Street. He has high hopes for his business being successful as there's a number of large companies in the area that he can cater to. His first week went better than he expected. Every day he had a rush during lunch hour, after which he settled down to his own lunch with a feeling of satisfaction for a job well done. Each day he chose something different to eat, drink, and snack on. Determine the sandwich, type of bread, drink, and snack he ate each day, as well as which day he ate each item.

- The five lunch meals could be represented, in no particular order, by pita bread, root beer, fudge brownie, grilled chicken, and Friday's meal.
- Fruit juice was Tony's drink on the day he had a sugar cookie for a snack. The root beer wasn't drunk with the ham & cheese on a taco. On Wednesday, Tony didn't have a roast beef sandwich on rye bread.
- A plain bagel was used for the sandwich on the day that Tony drank milk. The carrot cake was not eaten with the grilled chicken sandwich.
- The sliced turkey sandwich wasn't made with a plain bagel. Tony drank iced tea with his grilled chicken sandwich. On Thursday, Tony used wheat bread for his sandwich.
- Tony drank water with his sandwich on Monday. He had milk with his fudge brownie.
- Tony ate the popcorn on the day after he made an egg salad sandwich for lunch. Tony didn't have egg salad on Tuesday but he did have pretzels for his snack.

	pita bread	plain bagel	rye bread	wheat bread	taco	fruit juice	ice tea	milk	root beer	water	carrot cake	fudge brownie	pretzels	popcorn	sugar cookie	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Egg Salad																				
Grilled Chicken																				
Ham & Cheese																				
Roast Beef																				
Sliced Turkey																				
Monday																				
Tuesday																				
Wednesday																				
Thursday																				
Friday																				
carrot cake																				
fudge brownie																				
pretzels																				
popcorn																				
sugar cookie																				
fruit juice																				
ice tea																				
milk																				
root beer																				
water																				

Sandwich	Bread	Drink	Snack	Day
egg salad	bagel	milk	brownie	Wed
chicken	wheat	ice tea	popcorn	Thur
ham & cheese	taco	fruit juice	sugar coo	Fri
roast beef	rye	root beer	pretzels	Tue
sliced turkey	pita	H2O	carrot ck	Mon

CCBA 50th Anniversary

The CCBA is celebrating its 50th anniversary this month. We will have a big celebration on Saturday night here in Lake Geneva. Plan to attend. For more information, read your daily *Hoop-la* or speak to Kay Hathaway at the hospitality desk.

Bridesmaid Revisited by Richard Hills

This is the seventh time I have finished fourth in the ACT Open Trials. Being a bridesmaid does not require spectacular blunders - merely carelessness by me on routine hands, for example.

As dealer, I opened a weak NT, passed round to RHO, who made a penalty double. LHO ran to 2♠, and all passed.

Bernie Waters led the ♥J - declarer won dummy's ♥A. Declarer unnecessarily followed with the ♥10 from his hand (even though his heart pips were equals). Unnecessary since it told me that Bernie had led a singleton or doubleton heart, rather than leading from ♥J10x. Declarer now cashed dummy's top two spades and - unable to reach his hand to draw trumps - exited with a heart to my king. I forced out the ♣A and now the good guys won two club and two diamond tricks, leaving me on lead.

I correctly suspected that Bernie held another high diamond, so routinely returned that suit in an attempt to cash the setting trick. But declarer ruffed, drew trumps with the ♠Q, and claimed.

All I had to do was count up to 13. Declarer had five trumps, was known to hold three hearts, and had already followed to two diamonds and three clubs. Therefore, the only way to defeat the contract was to lead the thirteenth club, hoping for a trump promotion. This would have worked, since Bernie held the vital ♠9.

Board 12 ♠ Q7432
 Dealer: W ♥ 1087
 N/S Vul ♦ J2
 ♣ 753

Richard		Bernie	
W	N	E	S
1NT	P	P	X
P	2♠	All	Pass

♠ J105 ♠ 986
 ♥ K6 ♥ J4
 ♦ A987 ♦ KQ643
 ♣ KJ64 ♣ Q108

↑ N

♠ AK
 ♥ AQ9532
 ♦ 105
 ♣ A92

Signs You've Bought a Cheap Car

Your tinted windows are also known as Hefty Garbage Bags.

The car reaches its optimum speed when going downhill.

The hi-tech stereo system often requires a new needle.

The rear-view mirror says, "Objects in Mirror Are Better Than This Piece of Junk."

The odometer on the dashboard is not as sophisticated as the everyday abacus.

Shadow Traffic warns other drivers what highway you're taking.

The sticker on the windshield says, "Batteries not included."

You fill up the tank with Unleaded Coals.

You can only go to restaurants that offer Valet Pushing.

When you pass hitchhikers, they put their thumb down.

2006 Summer NABC

June 13-23

Hyatt Regency Chicago

Marilynn Charlson and Jackie Addis, co-chairmen of the 2006 Chicago Summer NABC, along with their astute committee members, have been working for SIX long years to bring you the best possible NABC on the planet!

All of the regular NABC events plus Newcomer events, Fast events, Senior events, and any other events you can imagine, will be held on a daily basis... plus lectures and lessons from the pros.

There will be awesome hospitality after the evening sessions... ice cream bars, entertainment, and more.

There will be fantastic day trips (limited enrollment of course so make your reservations early!)

There will be great restaurants in the area of the tournament offering coupons and special to players.

There will be discounted parking.

There will be welcome registration gifts.

Make your plans NOW to attend. It is never too early!

We need you!! For more information, or to sign up as a volunteer, go to: <http://www.geocities.com/thesubecks@sbcglobal.net/>

Fun and Games Page...

You Know You Work for the Government If...

When someone asks about what you do for a living, you lie.

You get really excited about a 2% pay raise.

Your biggest loss from a system crash is you lose your best jokes.

Your supervisor doesn't have the ability to do your job.

You sit in a cubicle smaller than your bedroom closet.

Computer specialists know less about computers than your teenager.

Lunch is like another scheduled meeting, only shorter.

You see a good looking person and know they are a visitor.

Management thinks a business trip with uncompensated mandatory weekend travel is a perk.

Although you have a telephone, pager, E-mail, FAX, company distribution, Fed-X, US mail and coworkers sitting right on the other side of the partition...communication is a continuing problem.

You know, and everyone that works with you knows, your performance is superior, but "satisfactory" is the highest level on the documented performance rating.

You work 200 hours for the \$100 bonus check and jubilantly say "Oh wow, thanks!"

Dilbert cartoons hang outside every cube.

When workers screw up they are transferred to another office to be someone else's problem; when management screws up they are promoted.

Your boss' favorite lines are "when you get a few minutes," "in your spare time," "when you're freed up" and "I have an opportunity for you."

Training is something spoken about but never seen.

Vacation is something you roll over to next year.

The worst possible reputation comes from being the initiator of a complaint.

You only have makeup for fluorescent lighting.

Truth About Car Ads

MUST SELLbefore it blows up.

NEEDS SOME BODY WORKwas blindsided by a Winnebago.

LOOKS LIKE NEWjust don't try to drive it anywhere.

ALL ORIGINALI never had anything fixed, adjusted, or replaced.

LOADED WITH OPTIONSeach one more troublesome than the next.

NEVER SMOKED INunfortunately, that's the best thing I can say about it.

PROJECT CARdoesn't run.

LOTS OF POTENTIALwith major repairs.

NEEDS MINOR REPAIR ...doesn't run.

Kentucky Joke

Two fellows from Kentucky were sitting around talking one afternoon.

After a while the first fellow says to the second, "If I was to sneak over to your trailer Saturday and make love to your wife while you was off huntin' and she got pregnant and had a baby, would that make us kin?"

The second fellow crooked his head sideways for a minute, scratched his head and squinted his eyes thinking real hard about the question.

Finally he says, "Well I don't know about that, but it sure would make us even."

The All-Time Bridge Greats: Giorgio Belladonna

(from the 18th European Youth Bridge Championships)

Giorgio Belladonna (1923-1995) of Rome, Italy, was a public official and bridge professional with a long-running column in a leading Italian daily newspaper. In his youth, Belladonna was a useful footballer but it was bridge which was to be his great love and at which he was to become one of the all-time greats.

A leading theoretician, Belladonna was the principle inventor of the Roman Club system of bidding and, with Benito Garozzo, created Super Precision, a complex strong club based method. Belladonna was the number one ranked player in the world for many years according to the WBF's masterpoint scheme and for many years would also have won a sizable number of votes from his peers as being the best player in the world. Certainly, he was regarded as being the best technical player around. I can also speak from personal experience in saying that he was one of the nicest players in top class bridge.

The story of Giorgio Belladonna is really the story of a very great team, the Italian Blue Team. There have been other powerful teams in the history of bridge but the Blue Team were, without question, the finest team the world has yet seen and their achievements are without parallel.

The Blue Team consisted of eight very fine players: Eugenio Chiaradia, Guglielmo Siniscalco, Mimmo D'Alelio, Walter Avarelli, Camillo Pabis-Ticci, Giorgio Belladonna, and Pietro Forquet and Benito Garozzo, who are also to be found in this volume. As important as the players was the non-playing captain, Carlo Alberto Perroux.

An international team consists of six players, and from 1957 to 1969 six out of the above eight players won ten consecutive Bermuda Bowls, the Open Championship of the world. They also won three consecutive World Team Olympiads, in 1964, 1968 and 1972.

After the break-up of the Blue Team, some of its members continued to play internationally and three more Bermuda Bowls were won in the 1970s. Only one man was a member of every one of those sixteen Italian World Championship victories and that was Giorgio Belladonna. He also won the European Open Teams Championship on ten occasions between 1956 and 1979 and the Italian Open Teams eleven times.

Belladonna's early successes were in partnership with Walter Avarelli. He played odd championships with other partners but his other major partnership was that with Benito Garozzo, which was generally regarded to be the strongest in the world. After retiring from international competition Belladonna frequently partnered Pietro Forquet in open tournaments around Europe.

Along with other members of the Blue Team, Belladonna played in the Lancia Team, a sponsored team that toured North America in 1975 playing a series of challenge matches against local teams. They managed to win only one of the four matches; good news for their opponents as part of the sponsorship deal was that Lancia cars were to go to teams which were successful against them.

Belladonna had also been a member of the Omar Sharif Bridge Circus, a group of top professionals who toured both Europe and North America in the late sixties playing challenge matches. In 1970, the Circus made its second North American tour, winning three out of seven challenges against major city teams and also playing a marathon 840 board match against the Dallas Aces who accompanied them on the tour and played a segment of the match at each of the seven venues. The Aces won the match by 1793 to 1692 IMPs.

But the results of the matches were not as important as was the publicity generated by the tour. Though it was not a financial success, the tour significantly raised the profile of the game in the public image for a while, though it has to be admitted that Sharif was the biggest attraction to the media and the exhausting schedule included many personal appearances by him.

It was no accident that Giorgio Belladonna was involved in both the Sharif Circus and the Lancia Team. A truly great player and a fine human being, he was a great ambassador for the game wherever he went.

The hand which follows was attributed to Belladonna and certainly nobody else has ever laid claim to it, yet, when asked by another author many years ago, Giorgio swore that he had never seen the hand before and knew nothing about it! Whatever the truth of that story, it looks like a Belladonna hand and is so beautiful in its simplicity that I could find no hand more deserving of my selection as the Belladonna hand for this book.

(Continued on page 11)

