



Daily Bulletin



Tuesday, August 22 2006

United States Bridge Championships

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Round of 16 Ends

#	Team	Total	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
3	Jacobs	252	66	47	38	18	44	39
14	Fout (19)	208	29	15	27	65	44	28

#	Team	Total	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
4	Robinson	109	49	39	32	20	50	
13	Brod (25)	97	52	1	18	21	5	w/d

#	Team	Total	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
5	Welland	149	33	37	7	26	34	12
12	Meltzer (11)	171	31	40	15	24	38	23

#	Team	Total	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
6	Schwartz (7)	158	31	37				
11	Weed – npc (9)	167	26	17				

QUARTERFINALS

JACOBS vs CAYNE

ROBINSON vs MELTZER

The Experience of a Lifetime

It was the day before trial entries were closed when we first decided that we would play in the United States, 2006 Team Trials. At first, we had simply planned to go up to watch one of our friends, Michael Seamon, and spend time with another friend, Shannon Cappelletti. When two other friends of ours, Pratap Rajadhyaksha and Steve Landen, changed our minds at the Chicago NABC. They suggested that we also should enter the contest, for it was an open event. Not to win or even get close to winning, but for the fun and experience of playing against tons of great players. We pondered the situation and finally, asked Shannon Cappelletti if she would like to play in it with us. Within minutes we were in the Business Center of the Hotel placing our entry into the toughest competition you can enter.

Another thing that made the trials even more fun was playing behind screens for the first time. I was so excited just to play behind screens since the day we signed up, to the first day of the trials. I actually enjoyed the screens and think that I concentrated a lot more with screens being a part of the situation. There aren't as many things to steal your attention away from the table. For

1. Ekeblad	1. Ekeblad	1. Ekeblad	1.	1.
4. Robinson	4. Robinson	4. Robinson		
13. Eisenstein 20. Brod	13. Brod		4.	
5. Welland 28. Rowndtree	5. Welland	5. Meltzer		
12. Meltzer 21. Greenberg	12. Meltzer			1.
2. Nickell	2. Nickell	2. Nickell	2. Nickell	
3. Jacobs	3. Jacobs	3. Jacobs		2.
14. Onstot 19. Fout	14. Fout		3.	
6. Schwartz 27. Weinstein	6. Schwartz	6. Weed		
11. Weed	11. Weed			

Tuesday Schedule

10:00 - Round of 8, Segment 1

12:30 - Round of 8, Segment 2

4:15 - Round of 8, Segment 3

6:45 - Round of 8, Segment 4

instance, there's a lot less talking and more excitement waiting to see what partner and the hidden opponent bid.

Finally, it was Friday August 18th, the day of the Team Trials. I had a lot more fun than I thought I would. My goal of the tournament was to not come in last place and win at least 5 matches. One of those goals was accomplished while the other was failed to reach. Our record for the Round Robin was

7-20. We had won at least 5 matches but in the end we came in last place. We were only 16 some victory points away from second to last. We could have won zero matches and I still would have been glad that we entered the competition.

There are many players from Beginner to Advanced who are afraid to play against top players. You shouldn't be scared to play against top players but take advantage of the opportunity to learn. In a more physical sport like wrestling, you would be afraid to wrestle a 19 year old when your only 14. Bridge is not a physical sport. Bridge is a mental sport which gives you no reason to be afraid of being hurt or embarrassed.

I am looking forward to playing in the United States, 2007 Team Trials next year and I will never ever forget the immense amount of fun I had in the 2006 Team Trials.

-Shane Zeller (13 and playing in our biggest stage)