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Bridge Tips Tannah Hirsch

28th August 2010 Neither vulnerable. North deals.

	NORTH ♠ K 6 3 2 ♥ A K Q 7 2 ♦ Void ♣ A 9 5 2	
WEST ♠ Q 10 7 5 ♥ 5 ♦ K Q J 10 8 7 2 ♣ 4		EAST ♠ Void ♥ J 10 4 3 ♦ 9 6 3 ♣ K Q 10 7 6 3
	SOUTH ♠ A J 9 8 4 ♥ 9 8 6 ♦ A 5 4 ♣ J 8	

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
- - -	- -	1 Club	1 Heart
1 Spade	2 Diamond	5 Diamond	5 Spade
6 Spade	All South		

Opening lead: Four of ♣

In 1965 we were invited to edit the Daily Bulletin at the European Championships held in the beautiful Casino in Ostend, Belgium and won by Italy. We were made honorary members of the Belgian Press Corps, which enabled us to enjoy the superb cuisine and delightful wines of the Casino restaurant.

Recently, the Casino played host to the Golden Jubilee European Championships. This was the first deal of the opening match between defending champion and tournament favorite Italy against Iceland.

With Iceland North-South, not even vigorous pre-emptive bidding by the Italians could keep their opponents out of the spade slam, after North opened with a strong club. With terrible breaks in all suits, especially trumps, the slam went down one trick — 50 points to Italy.

This was the auction in the other room:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
- - -	- -	1 Heart	Pass
3 Club	4 Diamond	X	5 Diamond
X	All Pass		

South's three clubs showed a heart raise, so spades were never mentioned. The contract went down two, so Italy picked up another 300 points for a gain of 8 Imps. Italy went on to win the event.

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