



18th European Youth Team Championships

Riviera Centre, Torquay, England • 7-17 July 2002



DAILY BULLETIN



Bulletin 8

Monday, 15 July 2002

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ISRAEL TAKE LEAD IN SCHOOLS



VUGRAPH MATCHES

Norway-Russia	Juniors	10.00
to be announced		14.30

SCHEDULE

MONDAY 15th July

10.00	Juniors, Round 17 - Schools, Round 9
14.30	Juniors, Round 18 - Schools, Round 10

The two leaders in the Schools Championship both had tough matches yesterday. Israel defeated Germany 19-11 while Poland beat Denmark 18-12, two good results. That allowed Israel to move into the lead on their own, 1 VP ahead of Poland. Norway scored a maximum 25 against Ireland to move closer in third place. Also scoring 25s were The Netherlands and Sweden, the former against Italy, who had been lying fourth going into the match.

In the Juniors, leaders Italy had a Bye, allowing France and Denmark to move a little closer in second and third places. France beat Norway 22-10 (there was a fouled board) and Denmark scored 25 against Scotland. None of the rest of the chasing pack managed a significant win, however, so Italy can be reasonably happy with the way things went in their absence.

Home James, Home!

Return Journey, Thursday 18th July

We hope we will be able to help as many players as possible on their way home. We have the times of buses and trains from Torquay from late Wednesday night onwards. Could you please let Hospitality know if you require help to get to either Bus or Railway Station, plus how many people are in the party and their departure time. It is very important that we know by Monday morning as we may need to hire coaches.

Thank You

JUNIOR TEAMS



RESULTS



TODAY'S PROGRAM

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 16

	Match	IMP's	VP's
1	CROATIA POLAND	34 49	12 18
2	HUNGARY SWEDEN	27 29	15 15
3	GREECE CZECH REP.	75 43	22 8
4	GERMANY BELGIUM	52 48	16 14
5	FRANCE NORWAY	50 20	22 10
6	ESTONIA RUSSIA	37 44	14 16
7	SCOTLAND DENMARK	19 87	2 25
8	bye SPAIN	0 0	0 18
9	NETHERLANDS ENGLAND	50 44	16 14
10	FINLAND AUSTRIA	63 37	20 10
11	ISRAEL TURKEY	63 46	19 11
12	ITALY bye	0 0	18 0

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 17

1	BELGIUM	DENMARK
2	CZECH REP.	ITALY
3	SWEDEN	SCOTLAND
4	POLAND	ESTONIA
5	SPAIN	FRANCE
6	TURKEY	GERMANY
7	AUSTRIA	GREECE
8	ENGLAND	HUNGARY
9	NETHERLANDS	CROATIA
10	FINLAND	bye
11	NORWAY	RUSSIA
12	bye	ISRAEL

RANKING AFTER SESSION 16

1	ITALY	316
2	FRANCE	300
3	DENMARK	294
4	POLAND	285
5	NORWAY	278.5
6	ENGLAND	277
7	RUSSIA	270.5
8	ESTONIA	260
9	SWEDEN	259.5
9	ISRAEL	259.5
11	NETHERLANDS	256
12	CZECH REP.	248
12	CROATIA	248
14	BELGIUM	221.5
15	TURKEY	221
16	GERMANY	215.5
17	AUSTRIA	210
18	HUNGARY	207.5
19	FINLAND	197
20	GREECE	191
21	SPAIN	167.5
22	SCOTLAND	145

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 18

1	CROATIA	ENGLAND
2	HUNGARY	AUSTRIA
3	GREECE	TURKEY
4	GERMANY	SPAIN
5	FRANCE	POLAND
6	ESTONIA	SWEDEN
7	SCOTLAND	CZECH REP.
8	ITALY	BELGIUM
9	DENMARK	NORWAY
10	bye	NETHERLANDS
11	ISRAEL	FINLAND
12	RUSSIA	bye



PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY/ VICTORY BANQUET

The Prize-giving Ceremony and Victory banquet take place on Wednesday 17th July, starting at 2030 in the Forum. All those taking part in the Championships are invited at no cost. It is very likely that visitors, i.e. family members, will be able to come - tickets cost £25-00 each. However, it is vital that Hospitality knows the numbers of those who are coming. PLEASE will each captain give total numbers for their teams. Will all Championship staff confirm whether they are coming or not.

Thank You, Hospitality Desk

SCHOOL TEAMS



RESULTS



TODAY'S PROGRAM

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 8

Match		IMP's		VP's	
13 ITALY	NETHERLANDS	23	103	0	25
14 SCOTLAND	SWEDEN	26	83	4	25
15 IRELAND	NORWAY	23	90	2	25
16 POLAND	DENMARK	78	62	18	12
17 ENGLAND	WALES	58	27	21	9
18 FRANCE	CZECH REP.	40	41	15	15
19 ISRAEL	GERMANY	49	32	19	11
20 AUSTRIA	bye	0	0	18	0

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 9

13 DENMARK	ITALY
14 NORWAY	SCOTLAND
15 IRELAND	ISRAEL
16 POLAND	FRANCE
17 GERMANY	SWEDEN
18 CZECH REP.	NETHERLANDS
19 WALES	AUSTRIA
20 bye	ENGLAND



ROUND ROBIN SESSION 10

13 ITALY	WALES
14 AUSTRIA	CZECH REP.
15 NETHERLANDS	GERMANY
16 SCOTLAND	DENMARK
17 ENGLAND	POLAND
18 FRANCE	IRELAND
19 ISRAEL	NORWAY
20 SWEDEN	bye

RANKING AFTER SESSION 8

1 ISRAEL	170
2 POLAND	169
3 NORWAY	156
4 NETHERLANDS	142
5 GERMANY	135
6 ENGLAND	134
7 DENMARK	132
8 ITALY	124
9 SWEDEN	122
10 AUSTRIA	108
11 FRANCE	103
12 CZECH REP.	100
13 IRELAND	81
14 SCOTLAND	60
15 WALES	42



2001 World Championship Book

Daily Bulletin Editor, Brian Senior, is also the publisher of the official World Championship Book series. The normal price of the 2001 book of the Paris Championships is US\$30. He has a limited number of copies available here in Torquay at the special price of £15 - a 25% discount.

Also available, a book on last year's World Junior Championships - you have been reading the account of the final taken from this book in your Daily Bulletins. This is available for £5 or comes free with the Paris book - both books for £15.

See Brian in the Bulletin Office, and please also bring him a good story for the Bulletin.

Sport News



Football

Christian Vieri, Ronaldo and Alvaro Recoba have taken voluntary pay cuts to help cash-strapped Inter Milan. The trio have all agreed to cuts of up to 10% in their salaries. A combination of sky-high wages and shrinking revenue from television rights have put Italian clubs' budgets into a deep shade of red.

Intertoto Cup - Second Round Results

		Agg	2nd Leg
FH Hafnarfjörður	Villarreal	2-4	2-2
Marek	Ashdod	2-1	1-0
Lev. Maardu	Zürich	0-1	0-0
St Clara	Teplice	2-9	1-4
St Gallen	Willem II	1-2	1-1
Troyes	Coleraine	4-2	2-1
Bregenz	Torino	1-2	1-1
Dinaburg	Krylya Sovetov	0-4	0-1
Teuta	Gloria	1-3	1-0
St Patrick's	Gent	3-3*	3-1
Sporting Lokeren	Stuttgart	0-3	0-1

Winners in bold



Cycling

Italian cyclist Marco Pantani has had his eight-month ban for using the prohibited substance insulin cancelled. A disciplinary commission of the Italian Cycling Federation had imposed the punishment on 1 July, but its appeals commission lifted the suspension on Saturday. The 32-year-old leader of the Mercatone Uno team was cleared by the president of the commission, Luigi Renga.

Spain's world champion, Oscar Freire pulls out of the Tour de France.

Rallying



Colin McRae has won his 25th World Championship Rally to stand alone as the driver with the most individual victories to his name. The Scot, who has won the world title only once, came out on top yet again at the Safari Rally in Kenya on Sunday. McRae finished the third and final day ahead of Finland's Harri Rovanpera, in a Peugeot, and Citroen driver Thomas Radstrom of Sweden during a testing event where just 13 cars out of 48 finished.



Tennis

Alex Corretja beat Gaston Gaudio 6-3, 7-6 to win the Swiss Open title.

The former German tennis star, Boris Becker, has been charged with tax evasion, according to the head of the public prosecutor's office in Munich, Manfred Wick. Mr Wick said there was sufficient reason to suspect tax offences had taken place, but he declined to give further details. The three-times Wimbledon champion could face a jail sentence if convicted.

EBU Workers

Would anyone wishing to claim expenses from the EBU please contact Tom Bradley in the EBU Office before 1400 on Tuesday.



Battling Belgium

The Belgian Juniors had suffered a series of poor results but recovered with a battling 24-6 win over Croatia in Round 13. Board 15 saw Belgium pick up 11 IMPs when both East/West pairs got dangerously high and only Kevin Peeters, for Belgium, managed to bring home his contract.

Board 15. Dealer South. North/South Vul.

		♠ Q 8 3 2									
		♥ Q 10									
		♦ 10 9 6									
		♣ K J 9 6									
♠ K 10 6 5	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A J 7 4
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ K 8 4	♥ A J 6										
♦ 3	♦ K Q 8 7 5										
♣ A Q 7 3 2		♣ 5									
		♠ 9									
		♥ 9 7 5 3 2									
		♦ A J 4 2									
		♣ 10 8 4									

West	North	East	South
Zoric	W v Parijs	Brguljan	J v Parijs
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	5♠	All Pass

After Brguljan had shown a hand too good for a raise to 4♠ by going through fourth-suit forcing, the Croatian pair exchanged cue-bids but Brguljan signed off in 5♠ after finding that both a key card and the ♠Q were missing.

Wim van Parijs led the ♦10, which was allowed to hold the trick. He continued with a second diamond for the king, ace and ruff. Declarer took a while to consider his play before cashing the king of hearts, on which Wim smoothly dropped the queen. Fearing that he had established a heart ruff for the defence, Zoric cashed the ♠K and, on seeing the nine drop from South, guessed to lead to the ace next. From here he was bound to go down. The defenders actually came to the ♠Q, ♦J and ♣K for down two; 100 to Belgium.

At the other table Kevin Peeters also had to play 5♠ and the lead was again the ten of diamonds. Peeters covered with the king and South won the ace and returned a diamond. Peeters ruffed that and led a low heart to the jack. Now he ruffed another diamond with the ♠10 and drew three rounds of trumps, finessing the jack on the second round. Peeters could simply play winning diamonds then hearts and lose only to the ♠Q to come to eleven tricks. Nicely played.

JUNIOR TEAMS

SESSION 15



DENMARK

v

ITALY



Italy benched their top pair whereas Denmark fielded their strongest line-up. Part of the Belgium v France match also is covered at the end of this article.

Board 2. Dealer East. East/West Vul.

<p>♠ A J 9 3 ♥ – ♦ A K J 10 5 3 2 ♣ 10 4</p>	<p>♠ 10 8 7 2 ♥ Q 8 6 4 ♦ 6 ♣ Q J 7 3</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> <p>♠ K 6 4 ♥ J 9 ♦ Q 9 8 7 ♣ 9 8 6 2</p>	<p>♠ Q 5 ♥ A K 10 7 5 3 2 ♦ 4 ♣ A K 5</p>	
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Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

<p>♠ A 10 9 8 4 ♥ A ♦ 9 5 ♣ K Q 9 6 2</p>	<p>♠ Q J 7 5 2 ♥ 10 ♦ A Q 10 7 ♣ 10 5 4</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> <p>♠ – ♥ K Q 9 6 5 3 ♦ 8 6 4 3 ♣ A 8 3</p>	<p>♠ K 6 3 ♥ J 8 7 4 2 ♦ K J 2 ♣ J 7</p>	
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West	North	East	South
<i>Uccello</i>	<i>Henriksen</i>	<i>Guariglia</i>	<i>Gjaelbaek</i>
		1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Uccello</i>	<i>Henriksen</i>	<i>Guariglia</i>	<i>Gjaelbaek</i>
1♠	Pass	2♦	2♥
3♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Because 3♥ over 2♦ would have been non-forcing, Italy's Ruggerio Guariglia invented a 3♣ bid to make his subsequent 3♥ bid forcing. A misunderstanding occurred when Guariglia thought that 3♠ and 5♦ were cuebids setting hearts as trumps, and Stefano Uccello thought they were natural. Thus Italy landed in the wrong slam; minus 50, and 11 IMPs to Denmark when the Closed Room bidding was:

West	North	East	South
<i>Schaltz</i>	<i>F di Bello</i>	<i>Marquardsen</i>	<i>S di Bello</i>
		1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass

At the twenty Junior tables, seven reached 6♥ (France making it on a tragic ♥9 lead), four made 6♦, five played 4♥, two were in 5♦ and two failed in 7♦. The successful 6♦ bidders were Anna and Adele Gogoman for Austria, Matthias Schueller/Andreas Sauter for Germany, Harold Bergson/David McCrossan for Scotland and Gareth Birdsall/Ollie Burgess for England.

On Board 3, Schaltz and Marquardsen defended 2♠ better than the Italians, holding it to eight tricks to gain two overtrick IMPs.



Stefano Uccello

2♦ showed either 7-11 HCP with 3+ spades or a game-forcing diamond hand. Guariglia's decision to accept the game try looks marginal, but the 4♠ contract looked OK until the double came.

Stefano Uccello won ♥10 lead and, following the approved approach of setting up the side suit before playing trumps, played a club to the jack and ace. ♥K was ruffed with ♠8, and Denmark's Boje Henriksen smartly discarded a club instead of over-ruffing. Declarer erred by cashing ♣K - it seems that he was about to run the clubs as if they were replacement trumps, playing North for five trumps, but...

He changed tack in midstream, and now played as if he hoped that spades were 4-1, running ♠9, which was correctly covered by the jack. ♠K won but declarer was in the wrong hand and regretted wasting his club entry. He played a spade to the ace and tried to slip ♣9 through. It was ruffed by North, who played ♦A and ♦7 to the king. Declarer was in dire straits and seems to have led a heart from dummy, discarding as South won ♥9 and ♥Q at tricks 10 and 11. The outcome was 1100 to Denmark, a suitable reward for Boje's good defence.

Another possibility in the defence is for South to withhold ♣A on the first round of clubs. This would be very wrong if partner had ♣Kxx, but then surely partner would have risen with ♣K?

West	North	East	South
Schaltz	F di Bello	Marquardsen	S di Bello
1♠	Pass	2♠	3♥
3♠	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, Denmark's Martin Schaltz did very well not to be pushed into bidding 4♠ but had he had a double available as some sort of game try, he would have struck gold with partner passing the double. Schaltz won the heart lead, cashed



Martin Schaltz

♠A to discover the bad news (which turned out to be good news for his side), played a club to the jack and ace, and ruffed ♥K with ♠8. We don't know whether North over-ruffed, as we have no more records of the play. Declarer made eight tricks, 1100 minus 100 was 14 IMPs to Denmark, leading 28-0.

Of the declarers in spades, one made six tricks, one made seven tricks, nine made eight tricks and five made nine tricks. That excludes the North who went for 800 in 1♠ doubled.

Board 5. Dealer North. North/South Vul.

♠ 4 2		♠ A 9 8
♥ J 9 4		♥ A K 8 6 5
♦ J 8 6 5		♦ 9 2
♣ Q 9 3 2		♣ 8 6 5
♠ K Q 6	N	
♥ Q 7 3 2	W	E
♦ Q 4 3		S
♣ A 10 7		
	♠ J 10 7 5 3	
	♥ 10	
	♦ A K 10 7	
	♣ K J 4	

West	North	East	South
Uccello	Henriksen	Guariglia	Gjaelbaek
	Pass	1♥	Dble
Rdble	INT	Pass	Pass
Dble	Rdbl	Pass	2♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Normally we write 'All Pass' at the end of auction, but this is exceptional. Surely East knows that if you pull the Pass Card out by mistake, you call the Director who will let you change it to your intended call? Or did he deliberately take a unilateral misguided view to pass in a forcing situation, thinking that his 11-count was not worth much?

3NT is the best contract, and West's delicate start to the bidding had kept that contract in contention. Kjaer Gjaelbaek made eight tricks; plus 90.

West	North	East	South
Schaltz	F di Bello	Marquardsen	S di Bello
	Pass	1♥	1♠
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Stelio led ♦K, and continued with ♦A. ♠420 was 11 IMPs to Denmark. 39-0 after 5 boards. Was Denmark really playing against the tearaway leaders? I suppose anyone can have a bad day.

Against 4♥, only two Junior players found the expert switch to a club at trick two. According to the hand records, they were Dana Tal from Israel and David Vozabal of Czech Republic. By examining dummy and counting declarer's tricks as five hearts, three spades and ♣A, it logically follows that a club switch is necessary before declarer can pitch a club on ♦Q. It might concede an overtrick if declarer has ♣Q, but the aim to defeat the contract.

Two other pairs had inexact auctions to 3NT, but only Karlo Brguljan and Vedran Zoric of Croatia showed exactly how to bid to 3NT. Karlo opened 1♥, South doubled, Vedran responded 2NT (a limit heart raise or better), Karlo showed weakness with 3♥, and Vedran offered 3NT as a choice of contracts, which Karlo passed. The 4-3-3-3 shapes with four-card support for partner are often suitable for no trumps because the 3-3-3 side suits mean that as well as no ruffing values in dummy there are also no long suits in dummy to set up once trumps have been drawn.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ K 9 ♥ 5 3 ♦ K 10 9 6 ♣ K 8 6 4 2	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 8 5 ♥ J 9 8 7 6 4 ♦ A ♣ A J 10 3	♠ Q J 10 7 ♥ K Q 10 ♦ J 8 5 4 3 ♣ 7
N						
W E						
S						
♠ A 6 4 3 2 ♥ A 2 ♦ Q 7 2 ♣ Q 9 5						

West	North	East	South
Schaltz	F di Bello	Marquardsen	S di Bello
Pass	INT	2♥	1♠
4♥	All Pass		Pass

Easy. 4♥ is believed to be cold. Andreas Marquardsen won ♦A, ruffed three clubs in dummy, and sat back with his great heart pips. The overcall with ♥J98764 makes the play simpler than with, say ♥J65432, because with the latter Andreas would have had to work harder for his contract, attacking spades early; 620 to Denmark. Only two other Junior pairs reached 4♥: Jessica Larsson - Goran Linderudt for Sweden and Thomas Bessis/Julien Gaviard for France.

West	North	East	South
Uccello	Henriksen	Guariglia	Gjaelbaek
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♠
All Pass			3♣

The light two-over-one response encouraged Guariglia to stay out of the auction, costing Italy badly. The case for passing is that the suit is bad, the lead-directing factor is bad, you have length in their suits and you appear to be sandwiched between two strongish hands so they can readily double you for penalties, vulnerable. The case for bidding is that 6-4-2-1 shapes play very well if you can find a fit, the clubs look well placed, partner might have short clubs with no club overruff possibility if a heart fit exists, you may have a vulnerable game on, 2♥ might pre-empt them from finding their diamond fit and the texture (pips) in both long suits is good. I used to be a passer but seeing the Juniors in action has convinced me that bidding 2♥ is best. We oldies might as well learn from you.

Boje Henriksen did well to duck the heart lead to the queen, destroying the defence's communications. Stefano Uccello, not expecting his partner to have such long hearts, deduced that declarer was holding up the ace with the intention of ruffing some hearts in dummy from a holding such as ♥Axxx, so he switched to his singleton trump, to the eight, jack and queen. ♣9 lost to the ten, and ♥A was removed belatedly. Henriksen played a spade to the king and picked the diamonds neatly by leading one through the ace. A heart for a ruff and discard here seems to create difficulties, but East upon winning ♦A cashed ♣A and Boje claimed his hard-earned contract. It seems that repeated heart leads are the best defence, giving away worthless ruff-and-discards but attacking declarer's trump control. 620 plus 110 was 12 IMPs to Denmark; 51-0 after 7 boards.

I wonder if Boje's first name is pronounced the same way as Norway's Boye Brogeland? (Boye B has become an Open superstar recently, winning the Silver Medal at the World Open Bridge Championships, after being one of the top players in the Juniors from 1995 to 1999).

On Board 8, Denmark ceased being in magic touch. Holding ♠Q87 ♥A1065 ♦AK2 ♣AQ7 opposite ♠J10 ♥J42 ♦QJ6543 ♣86, they bid 1♥- 2♥- 3NT- 4♦ - 4♥ - Pass. A diamond was led, so West got a diamond ruff for three down, minus 150. The 4♥ bid looks wrong, playing four-card majors, as cards like ♠J10 could be useful to boost the spade stopper in 3NT, but will be relatively worthless in 4♥. Perhaps the 4♥ bidder thought that with a balanced 18-19 HCP partner would make the disciplined rebid of 2NT, so 3NT would show something like a 6-3-2-2 shape. At the other table Italy scored 130 in 4♦, after Schaltz opened 2♠ as dealer.

The score now was 51-7, but might have been 58-0 as 3NT was cold as the cards lay.

What would you want next if you were 44 IMPs up against the leaders after eight boards? A long string of boring hands?



Ruggiero Guariglia

On the next 10 boards Italy outscored Denmark 5 IMPs to 4. 55 -11 with two boards to go. The last thing you want is to pick up a swingy 6-6 shape:

Board 19. Dealer South. East/West Vul.

	♠ K 10 7 5 2		
	♥ A		
	♦ A 10 6		
	♣ K J 5 2		
♠ A Q J 8 6		♠ 9 4 3	
♥ Q 10 9 4 2		♥ K J 7 6 5 3	
♦ J 8 4		♦ 7	
♣ -		♣ 10 7 4	
	♠ -		
	♥ 8		
	♦ K Q 9 5 3 2		
	♣ A Q 9 8 6 3		

West	North	East	South
Uccello	Henriksen	Guariglia	Gjaelbaek
			1♦
2♦	Dble	4♥	4NT
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

2♦ showed both majors, and 4NT was alerted. North took only a few seconds to decide to bid 6♦. Given that they were finishing about 45 minutes early, he might have considered 5♥ which keeps 7♣ or 7♦ in the picture. The auction might also have been easier if South had have called 5♣, allowing North to cuebid 5♥ more comfortably. Still, bidding grand slams after the opponents have bounced the auction is always perilous.

The Italian auction was even briefer:

West	North	East	South
Schaltz	F di Bello	Marquardsen	S di Bello
			1♦
2♦	Dble	4♥	6♣
All Pass			

A flat board. Italy picked up 7 IMPs on Board 20, so Denmark won the match by 36 IMPs which was on the cusp, 37 IMPs would have made it a 23-7 win instead of the actual 22-8 win to Denmark. I don't think they minded. Overall, Italy still led the European Junior Teams Championship by 20 VPs from France and Denmark.

Eighteen of the twenty Junior pairs bid slam, with only Hungary and France stopping in 5♣. Five reached the grand slam.

Niek Brink of Netherlands reports on Belgium's Saturday:

The Tournament Director, Jan Boets from Belgium offered the Dutch npc Schelte Wijma a bet. Belgium had won their first match of the day 24-6 from the well-performed Croatian team, and seemed to be in good form. Jan offered to bet that Belgium would score at least 18 VPs in their second match on Saturday. Schelte accepted the bet as Belgium overall were well down the field with an average of only 14 VPs per match. When Belgium scored 18 VPs for their bye, Schelte paid up! The Dutch can't seem to win a trick here in Torquay. If they storm home to win a

medal, I will have egg on my face.

Karl Van Overloop from Belgium provides the following report from Belgium's third match on Saturday:

After Belgium's good 24-6 win against Croatia in the morning and the 18 VP win over the absent Romanians in the afternoon, expectations for the clash against the main contenders France were lifted seriously. However, Board 19 was needed to save the Belgians from suffering a huge defeat. In the Open Room the Van Parijs brothers managed to reach 7♣ when Wim was woken up by Thomas Bessis' 6♥ sacrifice.

West	North	East	South
Gaviard	W Van Parijs	T Bessis	J Van Parijs
			1♦
1♠	Pass	Pass	2♣
2♥	2♠	4♥	6♣
Pass	Pass	6♥	Pass
Pass	7♣	All Pass	

North's pass of 1♠ was forcing, as effectively was South's 2♣. 2♠ was artificial. After the gentle start, the bidding took off until the stratosphere was reached. Given the auction, it is hard to blame the French for not taking the 7♥ sacrifice.

In the Closed Room the conventional 2NT opening showing both minors and 6-11 HCP exploded right into Guillaume Grenthe's face. Although his partner had shown an opening bid with both majors, Piet Van Parijs managed to take the good decision to pass over North's 5♣ bid.

West	North	East	South
Van de Velde	J Grenthe	P Van Parijs	G Grenthe
			2NT
Dble	5♣	All Pass	

Karl continues the report:

Personally I had the chance to watch the English pair David Gold/Alex Hydes bid very nicely to the grand slam:

West	North	East	South
Nurmi	Gold	Ahonen	Hydes
			1♦
2♦	Dble	2♥	5♣
Pass	5♥	Pass	5♠
Dble	5NT	Pass	7♣
All Pass			

Pia Nurmi's 2♦ showed the majors or the black suits (spades plus another). Maria Ahonen was therefore at a disadvantage relative to those East/West pairs who used a Michaels cuebid, as she thought her partner had the black suits, making heart pre-emption impossible.

This gave North/South enough bidding space for David Gold to realise that a grand slam was possible when Alex Hydes made the huge leap to 5♣. Gold's 5♥ cuebid gave North/South the opportunity to work out the major-suit holdings perfectly, resulting in a good grand slam for 11 IMPs to England when Finland played in 6♣ at the other table. Like the French, the Finland girls suffered from not being able to pre-empt North/South, and with the heart fit undisclosed the 7♥ sacrifice was impossible for the Finnish girls to find.

SCHOOL TEAMS SESSION 5

For the Saturday morning match we visit each Schools match in turn for just one board, starting with Austria v Sweden.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A Q 8 4 3 ♥ 9 6 2 ♦ Q 7 3 ♣ A 4	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 9 5 ♥ A K 8 3 ♦ K 2 ♣ K J 10 6 2	♠ 6 2 ♥ Q 5 4 ♦ A J 6 5 ♣ 9 8 5 3 ♠ K J 10 7 ♥ J 10 7 ♦ 10 9 8 4 ♣ Q 7
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Ryman	Anzengruber	Thalen	Eglseer
	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Gruber	Salomonsson	Duy	Sivelind
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

For Sweden, Bjorn Thalen opened a Precision-style 2♣ and Jenny Ryman responded 2♠, forcing. When Thalen now showed his hearts, Ryman gave preference to clubs rather than risk 3NT with ♦Q73, and Thalen corrected to 4♠. The lead was the nine of clubs for the ten, queen and ace. Ryman crossed to the ♥A to play a spade to her queen, followed by two more rounds of spades. Back came the ♦10 and North erred by winning and returning the suit to dummy's king. Ryman played two winning clubs now and that took care of her heart loser; ten tricks for +420.

For Austria, Johannes Duy opened 1♥ in normal Austrian canapé style. When Christian Gruber bid and rebid his spades, Duy raised to 4♠. Daniel Salomonsson led the ♠6 to the ten and queen and Gruber played ace and another club, finessing the jack. When that lost, the contract was always going to fail. A diamond switch went to the jack and king and, though the ♣K could draw one of South's trumps, the contract was two down for -100 and 11 IMPs to Sweden. The Swedes won the match by 78-37 IMPs, 23-7 VPs.

We move along to the match between Wales and Israel.

Board 2. Dealer East. North/South Vul.

♠ 10 8 6 ♥ J 10 6 4 2 ♦ K Q 10 3 ♣ 2	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A Q J 4 2 ♥ K ♦ J 5 2 ♣ Q J 9 8	♠ K 3 ♥ Q 8 7 5 3 ♦ 9 7 6 4 ♣ 10 3 ♠ 9 7 5 ♥ A 9 ♦ A 8 ♣ A K 7 6 5 4
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Sharp	Fisher	Ca. Evans	Argelazi
		1♠	2♣
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Ofir	Cl. Evans	Assaraf	Reed
		1♠	2♣
Dble	All Pass		

Both Souths made a very sound 2♣ overcall. Johnny Sharp raised to 2♠ on the West cards, as did the majority of Wests in this position. When Eliran Argelazi competed to 3♣, Catherine Evans had an opportunity to teach him a lesson by doubling, but instead bid a safe 3♠. With everything fitting nicely for East/West and the spades behaving kindly, Evans managed ten tricks easily enough for +170.



Jenny Ryman

In the other room, Gilad Ofir made a negative double on the West cards and Ory Assaraf looked at his chunky four-card club holding and passed. Ofir led the king of diamonds and Lauralee Reed took the ace immediately and tried a sneaky nine of hearts to the queen, hoping that this would be her best opportunity to slip past the king on her left. But the king was not on her left, and perhaps it was odds against that it would be so after the $\diamond K$ lead. Worse, the king was singleton on the right and, far from sneaking a trick, Reed had developed an extra loser for herself. The defence could always prevent a spade ruff in dummy so Reed had just six tricks now for -500 and 8 IMPs to Israel. Wales are having a hard time of it so far in these Championships and this match ended in a 109-18 win for Israel, 25-0 VPs.

Next up are Ireland and Poland. You can see an Irish triumph from this match in a separate article in today's Bulletin. The match generally went the way of the Poles, however, and this next board helped them to their 84-33 IMP, 25-5 VP win.

diamonds is good enough but Flynn took the diamond finesse. When that lost the heart was knocked out. He could unblock the diamond and cross to dummy's five of spades but - wait a minute! - he had squandered the $\spadesuit 4$ at trick two and all his remaining trumps were bigger than those in dummy. There was no way to avoid the heart loser now for an embarrassing one down; -100.

In $5\spadesuit$ Jacek Kalita received the lead of the ace of clubs, on which O'Muicheartaigh deposited the three. Perhaps the club play was just intended to confirm an odd number of clubs, but it looked to Emmett Davis like a suit preference signal and he switched to a low diamond away from his king. The $\diamond J$ scored and Kalita cashed the ace of trumps then played the $\diamond A$, on which South discarded, followed by the $\spadesuit J$. There were three entries to dummy to establish a long diamond and to cash it; +650 and 13 IMPs to Poland.

You'll like this one. It comes from the match between Germany and Italy. The Germans won the match by 79-58 IMPs, 19-11 VPs, with most of the margin of victory coming on this deal.

Board 6. Dealer East. East/West Vul.

<p>\spadesuit 6 \heartsuit Q J 8 6 \diamond K 10 7 3 \clubsuit A 10 5 2</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>\spadesuit 5 4 2 \heartsuit A K 2 \diamond Q 9 6 5 4 2 \clubsuit J</p>	<p>\spadesuit K Q \heartsuit 10 9 7 \diamond 8 \clubsuit K Q 9 8 7 4 3</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

<p>\spadesuit Q J 5 \heartsuit A 6 \diamond Q J 8 4 \clubsuit K Q 5 4</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>\spadesuit 8 6 4 \heartsuit J 9 7 3 \diamond 6 3 2 \clubsuit A J 3</p>	<p>\spadesuit K 10 9 3 \heartsuit K 10 4 \diamond K 10 5 \clubsuit 10 7 6</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Flynn	Zielinski	Carrigan	Karlowicz
$3\spadesuit$	Dble	Pass	$2\clubsuit$
		$4\spadesuit$	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Kalita	Davis	Sikora	O'Muicheartaigh
$3\spadesuit$	$4\clubsuit$	Pass	$3\clubsuit$
Pass	Pass	$4\spadesuit$	$5\clubsuit$
		$5\spadesuit$	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Wurmseer	Sangiorgio	Katerbau	Boldrini
Pass	INT	Pass	$2\clubsuit$
Pass	$2\diamond$	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Mistretta	Smirnov	Piasini	Kraemer
Pass	INT	Pass	$2\clubsuit$
Dble	Rdbl	Pass	Pass
$2\diamond$	Dble	Pass	Pass
Rdble	All Pass		

For Wlodzimierz Karlowicz the South hand was a Precision-style $2\clubsuit$ opening. Adam Flynn jumped to $3\spadesuit$ and Andrew Carrigan went on to $4\spadesuit$ over Piotr Zielinski's negative double. Meanwhile, Cian O'Muicheartaigh did not have a $2\clubsuit$ opening available to him and preferred $3\clubsuit$ to $1\clubsuit$. That put extra momentum into the auction and Jan Sikora eventually took the push to $5\spadesuit$. You would think that this gave prospects of an Irish gain with their opponents playing a level higher but the Poles both outplayed and outdefended them so that the swing went the other way.

In $4\spadesuit$, Flynn received the lead of a spade to the queen and ace. All he had to do was to play out ace and another diamond to establish a discard for his third heart, but he did not see the need for hurry. Instead, Flynn played back his lowest spade and Karlowicz won and switched to a heart to dummy's ace. Still, two rounds of

First, we should take a passing glance at the normal table, where the Italian pair had a Stayman auction to 3NT, an eminently sensible contract in which Alberto Sangiorgio came to ten tricks after a spade lead; +630.

The Germans started the same way in the other room. Now Giuseppe Mistretta introduced a diversion when he doubled the $2\clubsuit$ response. I hope that he will not be too unhappy if I nominate him for the worst call yet made in these Championships for this manic effort. Alexander Smirnov redoubled to show good clubs

and suggest playing there and Dennis Kraemer was happy to agree. Mistretta ran to 2♦ and was promptly doubled. His redouble is clearly SOS but Simone Piasini was a bit lost by now and passed it out. The details of the play are hardly very interesting. Declarer managed a trick in each suit for four down and -2200. If he were in my team, Mistretta would owe me and the rest of the team a beer for that little effort. The swing was 17 IMPs to Germany.

Next stop, Denmark v France, and another penalty, though nothing on the scale of the disaster we just saw from Italy.

Board 9. Dealer North. East/West Vul.

♠ A J 10 9 2 ♥ A 10 9 3 ♦ A 8 ♣ J 6	♠ 5 3 ♥ Q J 8 2 ♦ Q 9 5 3 2 ♥ 4 2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> ♠ Q 8 ♥ 6 4 ♦ J 10 ♣ A K Q 10 9 8 3	♠ K 7 6 4 ♥ K 7 5 ♦ K 7 6 4 ♣ 7 5	
--	--	--	--

West	North	East	South
S Houlberg	Grias	A Houlberg	Tembouret
Dble	Pass	Pass	3NT
Dble	4♣	4♠	5♣
	All Pass		



Janko Katerbau

West	North	East	South
Ancelin	Nielsen	Faure	Moller
Pass	Pass	Pass	3NT
4♠	4♣	Pass	Pass
	All Pass		

Romain Tembouret opened 3NT, gambling, and Simon Houlberg doubled. When Jean-Francois Grias removed to 4♣, pass or correct, and Anne-Sofie Houlberg tried 4♠, Tembouret broke discipline by going on to 5♣, quickly doubled by West. There were six top losers in the side suits and that was -800 - and deservedly so.

Lea Troels Pederson Moller also opened with a gambling 3NT but David Ancelin did not double. However, when Lars Nielsen removed to 4♣, Ancelin tried 4♠ and bought a fairly suitable dummy. The defence cashed two top clubs then switched to the ♦J to declarer's ace. Ancelin cashed the ♠A then ran the ♠J to South's queen - probably with the odds in the suit, but not perhaps the best way to play the whole hand. South continued with a second diamond and Ancelin won, ruffed a diamond and played a heart to the king then a heart back to the ten and queen for down one; -100 and 14 IMPs to Denmark, who won the match by 62-33 IMPs, 21-9 VPs.

On vugraph, the French Junior declarer, Olivier Bessis, showed how 4♠ might be made despite a trump misguess. After two rounds of clubs, the Italian South switched to a heart for the ten, jack and king. Bessis played a heart back to the ace then three rounds of diamonds, ruffing. Only now did he play ♠A and run the ♠J. Though South won the queen, he had only clubs left and had to give a ruff and discard so that dummy's heart went away. A nice play, I think.

The host nation, England had an awkward match against Norway. Though Norway gained 11 IMPs on our featured deal, it was England who came out on top in the match, winning by 57-41 IMPs, 18-12 VPs.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ J 10 8 5 2 ♥ J 2 ♦ K 8 5 3 ♣ K 9	♠ A ♥ K 7 ♦ A 10 7 4 2 ♣ Q 10 8 5 3 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> ♠ Q 9 ♥ A 10 4 3 ♦ Q J 9 ♣ 7 6 4 2	♠ K 7 6 4 3 ♥ Q 9 8 6 5 ♦ 6 ♣ A J	
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West	North	East	South
E Eide	Moss	Lindqvist	Brown
2♦	Pass	Pass	Pass
3♠	All Pass	3♥	Pass

West	North	East	South
Stockdale	Livgaard	Happer	P Eide
Pass	1♦	Pass	Pass
3♠	4♣	2♦	Dble
All Pass		Pass	5♣

Neither East scraped up an opening bid on their five-five ten-count, disliking the two weak suits (quite right too). Erik Eide opened a Multi in third seat and Espen Lindqvist jumped to 3♥, pass or correct. The 3♠ conversion from Eide bought the contract with neither North nor South ever finding a way into the auction. Three Spades can be beaten, but only by North getting a heart ruff with the bare ace so that South gets the setting trick with the ♠Q. Not surprisingly, the defence did not try that line. They got their four top tricks but that was all; +140.

Susan Stockdale did not open the West hand and, while many of us would have done so, it is hard to criticise a pass with such a weak spade suit and decent outside strength. Allan Livgaard opened the North hand, of course, and Duncan Happer made a Michaels Cuebid. Petter Eide doubled to show some values and when Stockdale jumped to 3♠ Livgaard found a 4♣ bid, raised to game by Eide. Though East has a singleton diamond, there is no way for the defence to get a third trump trick and, with clubs two-two and the diamond finesse working, Livgaard soon had eleven tricks stacked in front of him; +400 and 11 IMPs to Norway.

Our last match features Czech Republic and Scotland. The Scots are another team who are finding it tough going up to now and this result, 58-11 IMPs, 24-6 VPs to the Czechs, did not improve matters from the Scottish point of view. Still, with such a cheerful captain as Liz McGowan, I am sure that their spirits will stay high.



Karolina Vlachova

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ J 6		♠ 7 5 3 2									
♥ A K J 9		♥ Q 10 8 4									
♦ Q 10 9 7 3		♦ A J 5 2									
♣ A 4		♣ 9									
	<table> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A K 10 9 8										
	♥ 5 2										
	♦ K										
	♣ K Q 10 5 3										

West	North	East	South
Sidlova	Hodge	Janecek	Ellison
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♥	Pass	Pass	3♣
3♥	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Pearson	Falta	Wallace	Vlachova
INT	Pass	2♣	Dble
2♥	Pass	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Around the field most tables were in game, so this was an unusual match in that both tables stopped at partscore level.

In 3♥, Vera Sidlova received the lead of the ♦4 from Gregor Hodge. She decided that he would not be so eager to lead away from a king when his partner had bid two suits, so went up with the ace and got a pleasant surprise when the king fell. Sidlova quickly drew trumps and claimed eleven tricks for +200.

The Czechs may have had a slight concern that Scotland would reach the heart game in the other room, but they need not have worried. Gordon Pearson decided that the best way to describe his hand was to open a 14-16 no trump, which seems fair enough. Karolina Vlachova doubled David Wallace's Stayman response and Pearson bid his hearts. It would be very pushy for East to go on facing 14-16 and Wallace duly passed. Now Vlachova showed her second suit by bidding 2♣. It seems that the message about the club suit was lost somewhere in mid-table because Lukas Falta did not give preference to 3♣ but passed 2♠. Perhaps Wallace should compete to 3♥ now, as his partner is pretty well marked with a doubleton spade if the opposition bidding is to be believed. However, he passed and hoped that his trump length would prove to be a problem to declarer. It might have been had the defence started a forcing game, but they did not find that line. Pearson cashed two top hearts then switched to ace and another club - apparently Falta was not the only one to fail to appreciate that South had doubled 2♣ to show the suit. Wallace's club ruff was followed by the ace of diamonds but that was that for the defence; eight tricks for +110 and 7 IMPs to Czech Republic.

Everybody's Happy!

When Ireland met top-of-the-table Poland in Round 5 of the Schools event, everybody ended up happy. Why? Well, Poland continued their march towards the title by winning the match 25-5 VPs, but Ireland picked up their biggest swing of the tournament so far, and also the largest swing conceded by the Poles. It came on Board 4.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ - ♥ J 9 7 5 2 ♦ Q 9 6 4 2 ♣ K 6 5	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K Q 6 3 ♥ K Q 6 ♦ - ♣ A Q 10 9 7 2	♠ A 10 9 8 7 2 ♥ 10 8 4 ♦ K 10 7 ♣ 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Flynn</i>	<i>Zielinski</i>	<i>Carrigan</i>	<i>Karkowicz</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
2♣	Pass	5♣	Pass
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Sikora</i>	<i>Davis</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>O'Muircheartaigh</i>
2♦	Dble	2NT	3♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

I am not sure that I would have matched Adam Flynn's raise of Andrew Carrigan's 1♣ opening to 2♣, as at the first table, but it certainly worked out well enough when Carrigan could simply jump to the club game. When that came around to Piotr Zielinski, he made a speculative double, fancying that the contract would often be going down and, if nothing else, would certainly not be making any overtricks. Well, North has no nasty surprises for declarer and the double is just a gamble. Sometimes such gambles pay off, and sometimes they don't. This was one of the don'ts. There was no problem in making twelve tricks and Ireland had scored +950.

Very satisfying but there was better to come. At the second table, Jan Sikora opened 2♦, weak with at least five-five in diamonds and a major, and Emmett Davis made a slightly obscure take-out double. Jacek Kalita's 2NT was a forcing enquiry and, when Cian O'Muircheartaigh (if you want to know how to say that I suggest you ask an Irishman) competed with 3♠, Kalita thought that he had more than enough for a penalty double. I am sure that the sight of dummy did not disturb Kalita unduly, but he didn't even get close to defeating 3♠ doubled.

The opening lead was a low diamond and declarer played low in dummy, ruffed by Kalita. He switched to ace and another club but the bad news came when declarer ruffed the second round. A heart to the ace was followed by the jack of spades for the king and ace, then the ♠10 to East's queen. When East failed to cash his heart winner, preferring to return a trump, declarer had the rest as West had pitched a diamond on the second trump. Ireland had made a second doubled contract with an overtrick; +930 and 18 IMPs. Poland may finish the tournament a long way ahead of the relatively inexperienced Irish squad, but the Irish can smile when they remember this deal.



Disaster Corner!

Do you find that opening leads are difficult? Then perhaps you will have some sympathy with The Netherlands' Niek Brink, the villain of today's story from the Disaster Zone. The board is from the Dutch Junior team's match against Russia in Round 12.

Board 16. Dealer West. East/West Vul.

♠ Q 2 ♥ 9 ♦ A K Q J 6 2 ♣ J 9 8 6	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J 7 5 3 ♥ J 6 3 ♦ 9 8 4 ♥ A 7 4	♠ A K 9 8 6 ♥ K 5 4 ♦ 7 3 ♣ K 3 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Zaitsev</i>	<i>Kuivenhoven</i>	<i>Rudakov</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Dble
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	Pass
Rdble	All Pass		

In the other room, a low heart was led against 3NT and the king scored. When North pitched a spade on the run of the diamonds that was twelve tricks for +690 to the Netherlands.

Here, Brink doubled the 2♥ fourth-suit bid to suggest a lead but found that he was the one on lead to 3NT. No worries, partner, Marvin Kuivenhoven had made a lead-directing double of the final contract so...

Well, what suit do you think that the double asks for? With diamonds having been rebid in a sequence that strongly suggests dummy will have six of them, surely there is no need to lead the suit as declarer is very unlikely to have nine winners without playing on diamonds. Far more likely is that partner has a club entry - except that you are looking at an interesting club holding of your own. I am sure that in theory this double should ask for a club lead but, understandably, Brink convinced himself that partner could not have the right club holding for this double so must be asking for a diamond lead. He duly led a diamond and now Kuivenhoven had to discard carefully to hold the contract to nine tricks; -1000 and 7 IMPs to Russia.

On a club lead, a switch to the jack of hearts nets the defence the first seven tricks for three down and 1600 the other way, which would have been a 20 IMP swing to the Netherlands.

Does that mean that North's double of 3NT was a good call? Well, had South worked it out correctly, it would have led to a huge gain, but why on earth should any lead be defeating 3NT? South has only doubled a fourth-suit bid, not even overcalled, so 3NT could easily be just a matter of overtricks. Had Brink led a club we would all be saying that the double was brilliant, but barking mad is an equally reasonable description in my view, but then, of course, like the Dutch coach, I am an old man of over 40.

The Moysian Game

The Dutch Junior team has been, what was that description their coach used to me? No, I'd better just say disappointing so as not to get Kees in trouble. However, Bas Drijver and Maarten Schollardt did well in both bidding and play to gain a swing on this deal from their Round 12 encounter with Russia.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

<p>♠ A Q 7 2 ♥ J 10 ♦ Q 6 5 4 3 ♣ A 9</p>	<p>♠ J 10 6 4 ♥ 3 ♦ J 10 9 8 7 ♣ K 6 3</p>	<p>♠ K 5 3 ♥ A 8 6 5 ♦ A ♣ 10 8 7 5 2</p>	<p>♠ 9 8 ♥ K Q 9 7 4 2 ♦ K 2 ♣ Q J 4</p>
West	North	East	South
Schollardt	Andreev	Drijver	Romanovitch
Dble	1♠	Dble	1♥
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

We are not told what Drijver's double of 1♠ showed - if it promised four spades that would certainly explain Schollardt's bidding. Anyway, 3NT would be a common contract and one that looks destined to fail almost all the time, so reaching the four-three spade game gave the Dutch pair a chance to gain. Of course, there was still plenty of work to do in the play.

Andreev led his singleton heart and Schollardt ducked to Romanovitch's queen. It would serve no purpose for North to be given a heart ruff with his trump trick now, but if we look at the ending we see that a return of the ♥K, knocking out dummy's ace, might have defeated the contract. At the table, South switched to the queen of clubs and Schollardt won the ace and returned the ♣9. Andreev took the ♣K and exited with a diamond to dummy's bare ace.

Schollardt ruffed a club, ruffed a diamond, bringing down the king, then cashed ♠A followed by ♠K. That left:

<p>♠ Q ♥ J ♦ Q 6 5 ♣ -</p>	<p>♠ J 10 ♥ - ♦ J 10 9 ♣ -</p>	<p>♠ - ♥ A 8 6 ♦ - ♣ 10 8</p>	<p>♠ - ♥ K 9 7 4 2 ♦ - ♣ -</p>
West	North	East	South



The Swedish Junior Team

Better late than never, the story you've all been waiting for, the Swedish Vikings ...

The parents are **Krister Ahlesved**, npc, and **Lars Andersson**, coach. But lets move on to something interesting for the youthful readers.

The oldest child is **Johan Upmark, 25**. He is undoubtedly the best player in the family, even tough he is sometimes too cautious for his own good. Despite his age he hasn't accomplished much, but currently he is studying computer science in Stockholm. Luckily his beautiful girlfriend supports him in his endeavours!

Johan is playing with the chairman of Solves BK, **Per-Ola Cullin, 23**. P-O is the flamboyant globetrotter of the family, which makes him an attractive bachelor to all girls here in Torquay. He is doing really well maintaining the traditional strong bonding between Swedish male bridge players and Austrian females. Aside from girls and bridge, P-O studies law in Lund (the Swedish equivalence to Oxford). His third favourite pastime is music; he is an accomplished singer.

The only good-looking member of the family is **Jessica Larsson, 23**. She just arrived from Salsomaggiore where she played on the Swedish Ladies team with Pia Andersson. The Swedish Ladies finished fifth, clearly outdistancing Norway by half a victory point to qualify for the Venice Cup in Bali next autumn. Jessica is studying economics and will move to London to study there for six months. Luckily, the representation rules are such that the English ladies can't steal her from us! Jessica is fond of nice boys and red wine.

Jessica is playing with the real Viking, **Goran Linerudt, 23**. Like all the great Swedish bridge players, he is from northern Sweden. This designates him also as a real Viking. Goran works for Europcar in economics so maybe you should sell your Europcar stocks!? Goran is a nice guy but also just fell in love, so he is off that market, but maybe some girls only see this as a greater challenge (go for it!).

Our fifth member is **Daniel Sivelind, 23**. Rumour has it that he left his minimal bidding skills at home in Ludvika, the jury is still out on that one. Daniel is the card player of the family and definitely no bidding scientist. He is also known as "The Ludvika Axe Murderer" based on his penchant for sniffing out penalty doubles. His kid sister, Sara, plays on the Swedish schools team. They both work for the Sivelind family company.

To find a good partner for Daniel, Sara got engaged to **Kjell Ericsson, 23**, our final member. This is his first international championship which makes him the least experienced player. He is the bridge theorist of the partnership, which does not necessarily say much. This complements the skills of his partner and makes them a tough combination. Aside from bridge and Sara, Kjell works as a teacher (computer related stuff) and likes to listen to Johnny Cash.

Consider yourself warned now, this is a team aiming for China!



The All-Time Bridge Greats

7. Helen Sobel

Helen Sobel (1910-1969) is generally regarded as having been the best woman player of all time. Born in Philadelphia, she lived for many years in New York, then in Miami Beach and lastly Detroit.

Married three times, to Jack White, Al Sobel and Stanley Smith, Helen is best known by her name during her middle marriage to bridge expert Al Sobel.

Helen enjoyed a brief career as a chorus girl and appeared in several stage shows, the best known being 'Animal Crackers' with the Marx Brothers. It was another chorus girl who taught her the rudiments of bridge and she took to the game like the proverbial duck to water.

Helen won her first national title in 1934, the Women's Pairs, and over the next thirty years won a total of 33 national championships. Her best and longest lived partnership was with Charles Goren, with whom she won many of her titles. She was one of the very few women considered the equal of the best male players and this was reflected in the fact that the Culbertsons invited her to play in a world championship in Budapest in 1937, partnering Charles Vogelhofer. She and Goren also represented USA in the 1960 World Teams Olympiad and 1957 Bermuda Bowl.

Helen won the McKenney Trophy for most masterpoints won in a calendar year three times and from 1948 to 1964 was the leading woman in the ACBL's all-time masterpoint rankings.

The story goes that Helen was once asked what it was like to partner a real expert. Her reply was 'Why don't you ask Charlie (Goren)?'

How would you play this one? The contract is 4♥ and you win West's ♣Q lead and cash the ace and queen of trumps, West pitching an encouraging ♦9 on the second heart.

♠ 9 8
♥ K 10 9 2
♦ Q J 5
♣ 9 8 7 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 4
♥ A Q 8 7 6
♦ A 10
♣ A 10 5 4

Taking the signal at face value, Helen decided that the diamond finesse was doomed. It was tempting to draw the outstanding trump, then play ace and ten of diamonds to establish a discard for the losing spade. Alas, this line will fail. West will surely switch to spades, knocking out the ace, and now the only entry to dummy will be with the fourth trump. You can take your discard but will never get the long club established as you have two honors to knock out and only one trump with which to stem the run of spades and diamonds.

Alternatively, you could play two rounds of diamonds without drawing the last trump. Now you win the spade switch and draw the last trump while crossing to dummy for the diamond winner. That could work but it would not have been good enough on the actual layout which was:

♠ 9 8
♥ K 10 9 2
♦ Q J 5
♣ 9 8 7 3

♠ K J 6
♥ 5
♦ K 9 8 4 3 2
♣ Q J 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 4
♥ A Q 8 7 6
♦ A 10
♣ A 10 5 4

♠ Q 10 7 5 3 2
♥ J 4 3
♦ 7 6
♣ K 2

If you establish the diamond before drawing the trump West can simply play a third diamond for his partner to ruff. Sure, you can overruff, but you no longer have a discard for the spade loser.

Sobel's solution was simple and elegant. After the second trump she led ♦10 from hand. West could win and knock out the spade but now she could unblock the diamond, cross to dummy while drawing the trump, and take her pitch on the diamond. Still holding two trumps, she had time to establish her game-going trick in clubs.

True or False?

Barry Rigal has come up with a little quiz for you all. A number of the personalities present at the Championships offer up three 'facts' about themselves. Two are true and one is false. Your task is to decide in each case which is the false 'fact'.

Barry Rigal

1. Reached the last eight of the TV quiz, University Challenge.
2. Once played a session of 26 deals with a client and did not declare a single hand.
3. Holds the British record for speed-talking - 250 words per minute.

Chris Dixon

1. Has imported reindeer to the U.K.
2. Keeps llamas.
3. Has played bridge at Buckingham Palace.

Brian Senior

1. Has had three wives - from three different countries.
2. Comes from the same Yorkshire town as Tony Forrester.
3. Once sold Real Ale for a living.

Peter Gill

1. Worked for a year as a beer-taster.
2. Played in a weekend bridge tournament in which he and his partner won more than US\$50,000.
3. Had his mouth taped shut for an entire day to give the people around him some peace.

Jan Boets

1. Was once so drunk that he woke up with a three-metre flag-pole in his bed.
2. Spent four years learning Greek to win a bet over a cup of coffee.
3. As a novice bridge player was once asked to substitute in the National 1st division to avoid a forfeit.

Chris Duckworth

1. Owns an extensive collection of ornamental cats.
2. Weighed two kilos at birth.
3. Has taught bridge to over 2000 pupils.

Jason Hackett

1. Is a certified diver.
2. His twin brother was his first bridge partner.
3. Speaks mandarin Chinese.

JUNIOR TEAMS

BUTLER AFTER SESSION 15

1	ITA	Mazzadi - lo Presti	240	1.18
2	ENG	Gold - Hydes	260	1.03
3	POL	Araskiewicz - Wittenbeck	120	0.97
4	FRA	O. Bessis - de Tessieres	140	0.91
5	NOR	Hakkebo - Harr	20	0.90
6	DEN	Gjaldbaek - Henriksen	220	0.89
7	EST	Matisons - Rubins	260	0.77
8	FRA	T. Bessis - Gaviard	200	0.68
9	RUS	Rudakov - Zaitsev	200	0.68
10	GER	Bokholt - Sauter	20	0.55
11	TUR	Kesikbas - Ucan	40	0.55
12	NOR	Ellestad - Joerstad	200	0.53
13	NOR	Hakkebo - Kvangraven	120	0.52
14	POL	Kotorowicz - Kotorowicz	260	0.50
15	TUR	Basaran - Ucan	40	0.50
16	RUS	Andreev - Romanovitch	180	0.49
17	NOR	Harr - Sundklakk	200	0.45
18	AUT	Grumm - Kummel	220	0.42
19	SWE	Cullin - Upmark	240	0.41
20	CRO	Kazalicki - Praljak	120	0.38
21	ISR	Hoffman - Lellouche	220	0.34
22	ISR	Ginossar - Reshef	240	0.33
23	CZE	Pulkrab - Vozabal	240	0.30
24	DEN	Marquardsen - Schalz	200	0.27
25	CRO	Brguljan - Zoric	240	0.26
26	ITA	di Bello - di Bello	220	0.25
27	FRA	Grenthe - Grenthe	180	0.24
28	NED	Drijver - Schollaardt	220	0.17
29	CZE	Jellinek - Martinek	200	0.16
30	GER	Sauter - Schueller	180	0.08
31	ENG	Birdsall - Burgess	220	0.07
32	SWE	Larsson - Linderudt	160	0.03
33	NED	Bruggeman - De Groot	220	0.01
34	ITA	Guariglia - Uccello	100	-0.07
35	ISR	Tal - Tal	140	-0.07
36	NED	Brink - Kuivenhoven	120	-0.08
37	TUR	Sakrak - Suicmez	260	-0.08
38	DEN	Houmoller - Houmoller	140	-0.16
39	POL	Baranowski - Skalski	180	-0.17
40	EST	Naber - Tihane	260	-0.18
41	CRO	Kulovic - Scepanovic	160	-0.20
42	RUS	Krasnoselski - Malinovski	180	-0.21
43	HUN	Hegedus - Marjai	200	-0.21
44	BEL	Cornelis - Peeters	180	-0.23
45	BEL	.Van Parijs - W.Van Parijs	180	-0.23
46	SCO	Bergson - McCrossan	240	-0.24
47	HUN	Mráz - Szegedi	200	-0.25
48	AUT	Gogoman - Gogoman	180	-0.29
49	SWE	Eriksson - Sivelind	160	-0.29
50	GER	Ewald - Stoszek	160	-0.30
51	CZE	Macura - Vrkoc	80	-0.36
52	BEL	P.Van Parijs - Vandavelde	160	-0.39
53	ESP	Goded Merino - Masia	240	-0.44
54	ENG	Handley-Prichard - Probst	120	-0.44
55	NOR	Hakkebo - Joerstad	20	-0.45
56	HUN	Minarik - Suranyi	120	-0.46
57	FIN	Airaksinen - Heikkinen	300	-0.46
58	FIN	Ahonen - Nurmi	300	-0.48
59	GRE	Labrou - Mylona	200	-0.53
60	GER	Bokholt - Kornek	140	-0.64
61	GRE	Karapangiotis - Katsaris	160	-0.64
62	GRE	Dialynas - Dialynas	160	-0.76
63	ESP	Mansilla - Perez Calisteo	220	-0.76
64	SCO	Gaffin - Sinclair	160	-0.84
65	AUT	Steiner - Winkler	160	-1.02
66	TUR	Basaran - Kesikbas	180	-1.10
67	ESP	Goded Merino - Perez Calisteo	20	-1.15
68	ESP	Malagrida - Masia	40	-1.23
69	SCO	Bateman - Coyle	160	-1.82
70	ESP	Malagrida - Truchado	40	-1.98
71	GER	Schueller - Kornek	20	-2.85

SCHOOL TEAMS

BUTLER AFTER SESSION 7

1	ISR	Argelasi - Fisher	40	1.58
2	ITA	Piasini - Pisano	60	1.50
3	POL	Karkowicz - Zielinski	80	1.40
4	ISR	O.Assaraf - Ofir	120	1.24
5	POL	Nawrocki - Nizioł	60	1.23
6	NOR	E. Eide - Lindqvist	120	1.13
7	POL	Kalita - Sikora	100	1.11
8	GER	Kraemer - Smirnov	140	1.01
9	DEN	A.S. Houlberg - S. Houlberg	120	0.84
10	NED	Drijver - De Pagter	100	0.76
11	ITA	E. Mistretta - Piasini	60	0.73
12	ISR	E.Assaraf - Grunbaum	120	0.55
13	ITA	Boldrini - Sangiorgio	120	0.46
14	SWE	Salomonsson - Sivelind	120	0.40
15	ENG	Brown - Moss	80	0.38
16	CZE	Janacek - Sidlova	100	0.33
17	ENG	Happer - Stockdale	80	0.30
18	WAL	Cl. Evans - Baker	20	0.25
19	AUT	Duy - Gruber	140	0.10
20	NED	Heeres - Hop	60	0.08
21	GER	Katerbau - Wurmseet	140	0.06
22	ENG	Atthey - Green	120	0.04
23	NOR	P. Eide - Livgerd	120	0.00
24	NED	Molenaar - Verbeek	80	-0.01
25	IRE	Chan - Scannell	80	-0.15
26	FRA	Grias - Tembouret	120	-0.15
27	DEN	Nielsen - Pedersen Moeller	120	-0.20
28	FRA	Ancelin - Faure	80	-0.25
29	CZE	Hlavac - Hradil	100	-0.31
30	IRE	Davis - O'Muicheartaigh	100	-0.46
31	SWE	Andersson - Emvall	60	-0.50
32	AUT	Anzengruber - Eglseer	140	-0.56
33	SWE	Ryman - Thalén	100	-0.59
34	SCO	Pearson - Wallace	80	-0.63
35	FRA	Raynaud - Moreau	80	-1.05
36	CZE	Falta - Vlachova	80	-1.25
37	WAL	Ca. Evans - Sharp	140	-1.31
38	SCO	Ellison - Hodge	100	-1.36
39	IRE	Carrigan - Flynn	60	-2.12
40	WAL	Cl. Evans - Reed	60	-2.12
41	WAL	Backer - Brown	60	-2.13
42	SCO	Aitken - Maitland	60	-2.27



Weather Report

Our thanks to EBL President Gianarrigo Rona for bringing the beautiful sunny weather with him from Italy to Torquay. Before he arrived, the constant rain meant that when a Belgian was writing an article for the Bulletin, he asked if English has a word for 'very unbelievable'. "Sunshine" was the reply.

Apparently the only thing in England worse than the weather is the weather forecasts, so all we can do is cross our fingers and hope that when Mr Damiani arrives from France on Tuesday he brings some beautiful French weather with him.