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Friday, 25 June 2004

## ITALY - BUT ONLY JUST



The President of the European Bridge League, Gianarrigo Rona, congratulates Micke Melander on his award of the EBL Silver Medal

Italy still wears the yellow jersey, but Sweden is nipping at their heels. These two teams are well clear of Poland, then come Russia, Netherlands and Turkey.

## France Return to the Top

France and Sweden swapped places in the Women's series, but the field has bunched up, and there are only a handful of points separating the peleton, Netherlands, Austria, Spain, England \& Germany.

## Germany Leads Seniors

You could cover the leading teams with a handkerchief, with Germany just ahead of France, Sweden, Poland, Denmark and England.

## Saturday's VuGraph Matches

WOMEN'S TEAMS - Round 10 Netherlands v Austria 14.15

OPEN TEAMS - Round 16 Greece v Poland

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## Stop Press News

The Press Room will be closed today and reopen at $\mathbf{I} 2.00$ tomorrow.

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GRIDGE

OPEN TEAMS RESULTS

|  |  | ROUND I2 |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | ---: |
|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
| I | LATVIA | RUSSIA | $27-34$ | $14-16$ |
| 2 | ROMANIA | BYE |  | $18-0$ |
| 3 | WALES | ITALY | $15-80$ | $3-25$ |
| 4 | BELGIUM | FAROE ISL. | $58-35$ | $20-10$ |
| 5 | NETHERLANDS | CZECH REP. | $83-24$ | $25-4$ |
| 6 | LITHUANIA | SAN MARINO | $61-44$ | $19-11$ |
| 7 | FINLAND | PORTUGAL | $55-10$ | $24-6$ |
| 8 | CROATIA | IRELAND | $43-65$ | $10-20$ |
| 9 | SWEDEN | ISRAEL | $41-36$ | $16-14$ |
| IO | SWITZERLAND | NORWAY | $32-65$ | $8-22$ |
| II | SCOTLAND | TURKEY | $41-52$ | $13-17$ |
| I2 | SERBIA/MONT. | SPAIN | $32-97$ | $3-25$ |
| I3 | DENMARK | BULGARIA | $50-60$ | $13-17$ |
| I4 | FRANCE | AUSTRIA | $46-59$ | $12-18$ |
| I5 | ICELAND | POLAND | $54-43$ | $17-13$ |
| I6 | ENGLAND | GREECE | $56-47$ | $17-13$ |
| 17 | GERMANY | HUNGARY | $48-54$ | $14-16$ |


|  |  | ROUND I3 |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | ---: |
|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
| I | RUSSIA | ROMANIA | $64-4$ | $25-3$ |
| 2 | BYE | WALES |  | $0-18$ |
| 3 | ITALY | BELGIUM | $59-19$ | $23-7$ |
| 4 | FAROE ISL. | NETHERLANDS | $7-103$ | $0-25$ |
| 5 | CZECH REP. | LITHUANIA | $26-34$ | $14-16$ |
| 6 | SAN MARINO | FINLAND | $18-60$ | $6-24$ |
| 7 | PORTUGAL | CROATIA | $47-24$ | $20-10$ |
| 8 | IRELAND | SWEDEN | $41-57$ | $12-18$ |
| 9 | ISRAEL | SWITZERLAND | $85-14$ | $25-2$ |
| IO | NORWAY | SCOTLAND | $65-7$ | $25-4$ |
| II | TURKEY | SPAIN | $19-48$ | $9-21$ |
| I2 | LATVIA | DENMARK | $42-57$ | $12-18$ |
| I3 | BULGARIA | FRANCE | $29-46$ | $11-19$ |
| I4 | AUSTRIA | ICELAND | $32-35$ | $14-16$ |
| I5 | POLAND | ENGLAND | $36-44$ | $14-16$ |
| I6 | GREECE | GERMANY | $22-45$ | $10-20$ |
| I7 | HUNGARY | SERBIA/MONT. | $58-48$ | $17-13$ |


|  |  | ROUND 14 |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
|  |  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs |
| I | VPs |  |  |  |
| 2 | WELGIUM | RUSSIA | $36-72$ | $8-22$ |
| 3 | NETHERLANDS | BYE | ITALY | $68-38$ |
| 4 | LITHUANIA | FAROE ISL. | $39-9$ |  |
| 5 | FINLAND | CZECH REP. | $95-43$ | $5-25$ |
| 6 | CROATIA | SAN MARINO | $81-74$ | $16-14$ |
| 7 | SWEDEN | PORTUGAL | $97-24$ | $25-1$ |
| 8 | SWITZERLAND | IRELAND | $68-30$ | $23-7$ |
| 9 | SCOTLAND | ISRAEL | $52-28$ | $20-10$ |
| IO | SPAIN | NORWAY | $34-80$ | $6-24$ |
| II | SERBIA/MONT. | TURKEY | $47-126$ | $1-25$ |
| I2 | DENMARK | ROMANIA | $31-45$ | $12-18$ |
| I3 | FRANCE | LATVIA | $50-61$ | $13-17$ |
| I4 | ICELAND | BULGARIA | $56-45$ | $17-13$ |
| I5 | ENGLAND | AUSTRIA | $43-55$ | $13-17$ |
| I6 | GERMANY | POLAND | $52-68$ | $12-18$ |
| I7 | HUNGARY | GREECE | $52-22$ | $21-9$ |

## OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM

| ROUND |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |  |
| I | RUSSIA | BELGIUM |  |
| 2 | BYE | NETHERLANDS |  |
| 3 | ITALY | LITHUANIA |  |
| 4 | FAROE ISL. | FINLAND |  |
| 5 | CZECH REP. | CROATIA |  |
| 6 | SAN MARINO | SWEDEN |  |
| 7 | PORTUGAL | SWVITZERLAND |  |
| 8 | IRELAND | SCOTLAND |  |
| 9 | ISRAEL | SPAIN |  |
| 10 | NORWAY | TURKEY |  |
| 11 | WALES | DENMARK |  |
| 12 | ROMANIA | FRANCE |  |
| 13 | LATVIA | ICELAND |  |
| 14 | BULGARIA | ENGLAND |  |
| 15 | AUSTRIA | GERMANY |  |
| 16 | POLAND | HUNGARY |  |
| 17 | GREECE | SERBIA/MONTENEGRO |  |


| ROUND |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| I6 | I7.40 |  |  |
| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |  |
| 1 | NETHERLANDS | RUSSIA |  |
| 2 | LITHUANIA | BYE |  |
| 3 | FINLAND | ITALY |  |
| 4 | CROATIA | FAROE ISL. |  |
| 5 | SWEDEN | CZECH REP. |  |
| 6 | SWITZERLAND | SAN MARINO |  |
| 7 | SCOTLAND | PORTUGAL |  |
| 8 | SPAIN | IRELAND |  |
| 9 | TURKEY | ISRAEL |  |
| 10 | SERBIA/MONTENEGRO | NORWAY |  |
| 11 | DENMARK | BELGIUM |  |
| 12 | FRANCE | WALES |  |
| 13 | ICELAND | ROMANIA |  |
| 14 | ENGLAND | LATVIA |  |
| 15 | GERMANY | BULGARIA |  |
| 16 | HUNGARY | AUSTRIA |  |
| 17 | GREECE | POLAND |  |

## Bridge and Golf Championship

by Svend Novrup

Bridge and golf are two activities that go together very well. This has been proven by the number of people participating in travels with bridge and golf and, since 1980, an unofficial Danish championship of bridge and golf combined has existed. It was cancelled in 2003 when the course that was to stage it had other and more important obligations at the last minute, but this year the championship is so important that this will not happen. In fact, I hope to make it a European Championship within a couple of years.
So far 34 out of a possible 40 pairs, one of them Norwegian, have entered, and in case you are interested in one of the six yet vacant places, you can contact me in the press room or phone 004520105077.
The championship takes place in Skive, Jutland, July 16-18, with bridge on Friday and Saturday nights and golf on Saturday (individual) and Sunday (greensomes). The price for full board for two days, green fees and bridge, is DKK 1775 in a double room.An additional 200 DKK per person is charged for a single room.

## WOMEN'S TEAMS RESULTS

| ROUND 8 |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
| 21 | POLAND | GERMANY | $33-28$ | $16-14$ |
| 22 | AUSTRIA | ENGLAND | $60-34$ | $20-10$ |
| 23 | HUNGARY | DENMARK | $27-43$ | $12-18$ |
| 24 | ICELAND | TURKEY | $29-61$ | $8-22$ |
| 25 | NORWAY | SWEDEN | $51-24$ | $21-9$ |
| 26 | ISRAEL | FRANCE | $50-26$ | $20-10$ |
| 27 | IRELAND | LEBANON | $60-46$ | $18-12$ |
| 28 | FAROE ISL. | SCOTLAND | $49-29$ | $19-11$ |
| 29 | NETHERLANDS | CROATIA | $73-30$ | $24-6$ |
| 30 | CZECH REP. | SPAIN | $54-81$ | $9-21$ |
| 31 | ITALY | FINLAND | $47-25$ | $20-10$ |


|  | ROUND 9 |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |  |
| 21 | GERMANY | AUSTRIA | $80-42$ | $23-7$ |  |
| 22 | ENGLAND | HUNGARY | $86-33$ | $25-5$ |  |
| 23 | DENMARK | ICELAND | $94-48$ | $24-6$ |  |
| 24 | TURKEY | NORWAY | $72-78$ | $14-16$ |  |
| 25 | SWEDEN | ISRAEL | $44-69$ | $10-20$ |  |
| 26 | FRANCE | IRELAND | $50-42$ | $16-14$ |  |
| 27 | LEBANON | SCOTLAND | $47-42$ | $14-14$ |  |
| 28 | POLAND | NETHERLANDS | $39-50$ | $13-17$ |  |
| 29 | CROATIA | CZECH REP. | $55-80$ | $9.5-19.5$ |  |
| 30 | SPAIN | ITALY | $77-40$ | $23-7$ |  |
| 31 | FINLAND | FAROE ISL. | $78-36$ | $24-6$ |  |

WOMEN'S TEAMS PROGRAM

| ROUND I0 |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |
| 21 | HUNGARY | GERMANY |
| 22 | ICELAND | ENGLAND |
| 23 | NORWAY | DENMARK |
| 24 | ISRAEL | TURKEY |
| 25 | IRELAND | SWEDEN |
| 26 | SCOTLAND | FRANCE |
| 27 | FAROE ISL. | LEBANON |
| 28 | NETHERLANDS | AUSTRIA |
| 29 | CZECH REP. | POLAND |
| 30 | ITALY | CROATIA |
| 31 | FINLAND | SPAIN |


| ROUND II |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |
| 21 | GERMANY | ICELAND |
| 22 | ENGLAND | NORWAY |
| 23 | DENMARK | ISRAEL |
| 24 | TURKEY | IRELAND |
| 25 | SWEDEN | SCOTLAND |
| 26 | FRANCE | LEBANON |
| 27 | HUNGARY | NETHERLANDS |
| 28 | AUSTRIA | CZECH REP. |
| 29 | POLAND | ITALY |
| 30 | CROATIA | FINLAND |
| 31 | SPAIN | FAROE ISL. |

SENIOR TEAMS RESULTS

|  |  | ROUND 2 |  | 10.30 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
| 41 | WALES | NETHERLANDS $25-42$ | $11-19$ |  |
| 42 | POLAND | SWITZERLAND | $35-13$ | $20-10$ |
| 43 | NORWAY | SCOTLAND | $52-24$ | $22-8$ |
| 44 | FRANCE | ITALY | $32-19$ | $18-12$ |
| 45 | GERMANY | IRELAND | $102-19$ | $25-0$ |
| 46 | CZECH REP. | ENGLAND | $7-58$ | $4-25$ |
| 47 | DENMARK | SWEDEN | $9-43$ | $7-23$ |
| 48 | FINLAND | ISRAEL | $34-43$ | $13-15$ |


|  |  | ROUND 3 | I4.15 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
| 41 | NETHERLANDS | POLAND | $15-43$ | $8-22$ |
| 42 | SWITZERLAND | NORWAY | $29-54$ | $9-21$ |
| 43 | SCOTLAND | FRANCE | $26-20$ | $16-14$ |
| 44 | ITALY | GERMANY | $4-27$ | $10-20$ |
| 45 | IRELAND | CZECH REP. | $6-72$ | $1-25$ |
| 46 | ENGLAND | DENMARK | $11-38$ | $9-21$ |
| 47 | SWEDEN | ISRAEL | $36-28$ | $17-13$ |
| 48 | WALES | FINLAND | $9-19$ | $13-17$ |


|  |  | ROUND 4 |  | 17.40 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
| 41 | NORWAY | NETHERLANDS | 17-84 | \| -25 |
| 42 | FRANCE | SWITZERLAND | 68-30 | 24-6 |
| 43 | GERMANY | SCOTLAND | 71-14 | 25-3 |
| 44 | CZECH REP. | ITALY | 35-70 | 7-23 |
| 45 | DENMARK | IRELAND | 96-14 | 25-0 |
| 46 | ISRAEL | ENGLAND | 48-74 | 9-21 |
| 47 | FINLAND | SWEDEN | 25-46 | $10-20$ |
| 48 | WALES | POLAND | 53-30 | $20-10$ |

## SENIOR TEAMS PROGRAM

| ROUND 5 |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |
| 41 | NETHERLANDS | FRANCE |
| 42 | SWITZERLAND | GERMANY |
| 43 | SCOTLAND | CZECH REP. |
| 44 | ITALY | DENMARK |
| 45 | IRELAND | ISRAEL |
| 46 | ENGLAND | SWEDEN |
| 47 | NORWAY | WALES |
| 48 | POLAND | FINLAND |


| ROUND 6 |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |
| 41 | GERMANY | NETHERLANDS |
| 42 | CZECH REP. | SWITZERLAND |
| 43 | DENMARK | SCOTLAND |
| 44 | ISRAEL | ITALY |
| 45 | SWEDEN | IRELAND |
| 46 | FINLAND | ENGLAND |
| 47 | WALES | FRANCE |
| 48 | POLAND | NORWAY |


| OPEN TEAMS RANKING |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| after 14 rounds |  |  |
| I | ITALY | 288.50 |
| 2 | SWEDEN | 285.50 |
| 3 | POLAND | 268.00 |
| 4 | RUSSIA | 254.50 |
| 5 | NETHERLANDS | 243.00 |
| 6 | TURKEY | 240.50 |
| 7 | BELGIUM | 239.00 |
| 8 | FINLAND | 237.00 |
| 9 | NORWAY | 228.00 |
| 10 | GREECE | 227.50 |
| II | ISRAEL | 226.00 |
| 12 | GERMANY | 225.00 |
| 13 | AUSTRIA | 224.00 |
| 14 | SPAIN | 214.00 |
| 15 | WALES | 210.50 |
| 16 | ENGLAND | 208.00 |
| 17 | ICELAND | 206.50 |
| 18 | HUNGARY | 200.00 |
| 19 | DENMARK | 199.00 |
| 20 | BULGARIA | 197.50 |
| 21 | FRANCE | 195.00 |
| 22 | PORTUGAL | 194.00 |
| 23 | LATVIA | 193.00 |
| 24 | LITUANIA | 188.50 |
| 25 | SCOTLAND | 183.00 |
| 26 | CROATIA | 181.00 |
| 27 | SERBIA/MONTENEGRO | 180.00 |
| 28 | IRELAND | 176.50 |
| 29 | ROMANIA | 170.00 |
| 30 | SWITZLAND | 160.50 |
| 31 | FAROE ISLANDS | 159.00 |
| 32 | CZECH REP. | 149.00 |
| 33 | SAN MARINO | 127.50 |


| WOMEN'S TEAMS RANKJNG |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| after 9 rounds |  |  |
| I | FRANCE | 170.00 |
| 2 | SWEDEN | 165.00 |
| 3 | NETHERLANDS | 161.00 |
| 4 | AUSTRIA | 161.00 |
| 5 | SPAIN | 154.00 |
| 6 | ENGLAND | 153.00 |
| 7 | GERMANY | 153.00 |
| 8 | NORWAY | 148.00 |
| 9 | TURKEY | 145.00 |
| 10 | IRELAND | 145.00 |
| 11 | ISRAEL | 140.00 |
| 12 | FINLAND | 136.00 |
| 13 | ITALY | 133.00 |
| 14 | POLAND | 131.00 |
| 15 | SCOTLAND | 123.00 |
| 16 | CZECH REP. | 120.50 |
| 17 | HUNGARY | 116.00 |
| 18 | DENMARK | 115.00 |
| 19 | ICELAND | 103.00 |
| 20 | CROATIA | 97.50 |
| 21 | LEBANON | 91.00 |
| 22 | FAROE ISLANDS | 83.00 |

## SENIOR TEAMS RANKING after 4 round

| I | GERMANY | 80.00 |
| ---: | :--- | ---: |
| 2 | FRANCE | 79.00 |
| 3 | SWEDEN | 77.00 |
| 4 | POLAND | 75.60 |
| 5 | DENMARK | 75.00 |
| 6 | ENGLAND | 75.00 |
| 7 | NETHERLANDS | 67.00 |
| 8 | ITALY | 61.00 |
| 9 | NORWAY | 58.00 |
| I0 | WALES | 56.00 |
| II | FINLAND | 45.00 |
| I2 | CZECH REP. | 49.00 |
| I3 | ISRAEL | 43.00 |
| I4 | SWITZLAND | 32.40 |
| I5 | SCOTLAND | 2.00 |
| I6 | IRELAND |  |

## WOMEN'S TEAMS

Round 7

## England v Netherlands

England and The Netherlands have been keen rivals for many years in the Women's series, at least, if we allow that England are really just a continuation of the old British team. After six rounds in Malmö the Dutch were lying fifth and England sixth and, with five teams to qualify for next year's Venice Cup in Estoril, this was a big match. It also proved to be an extremely interesting one with some excellent play of some very tricky contracts to admire.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.


| West | North <br> Brunner <br> Hoogweg |
| :---: | :---: |

South
Van Zwol 3


Michelle Brunner, England

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vriend | Smith | Arnolds | Dhondy |
|  |  |  | 38 |
| $4 \checkmark$ | 48 | $4{ }^{4}$ | Pass |
| Pass | 5 | 5 | All Pass |

Both Souths opened what I consider to be a down-the-middle $3 \triangleleft$ pre-empt. Michelle Brunner's $5 \diamond$ overcall can be explained by the fact that this partnership play $4 \diamond$ as non-leaping Michaels, showing diamonds and spades. Femke Hoogweg bid $5 \diamond$, as $5 \diamond$ could easily have been making, and Rhona Goldenfield is not the sort of player to introduce the spade suit at this level so there the matter rested. Brunner led the king of clubs. If declarer ducks and West continues with a second club, there is the possibility of an elimination then endplay against East, but Wietske van Zwol was not thinking of making, rather of getting out for one down, and it was normal to win the ace. From here there was no real prospect of a defensive slip and the contract was one down for -50 .

Bep Vriend had no systemic worries and could overcall 4$\rangle$. Over $4 \checkmark$, Carla Arnolds tried 4s and that pushed Nicola Smith to $5 \gtrdot$. Now one would imagine that Vriend would have bid 5s had she been given the option but, surprisingly, Arnolds bid it in front of her. There were three aces to lose, of course, so the Dutch were one down in this room also for - 100 and 4 IMPs to England.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

|  | ¢ 9 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc$ Q 42 |  |  |
|  | $\diamond$ A 74 |  |  |
|  | \& K Q 9876 |  |  |
| \& A 1073 | N |  | - K 5 |
| ¢ J 76 | W E |  | $\bigcirc 1093$ |
| $\diamond 109652$ |  |  | Q 83 |
| ¢ 2 | S |  | \& AJ 104 |
|  | Q Q 8642 |  |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ AK 85 |  |  |
|  | $\diamond$ J |  |  |
|  | 9 53 |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Brunner | Hoogweg | Goldenfield | Van Zwol |
|  |  | INT | 2\% |
| All Pass |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Vriend | Smith | Arnolds | Dhondy |
|  |  | $\mathrm{I} \diamond$ | 19 |
| 3 - | Pass | Pass | 38 |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Van Zwol overcalled 2e to show the majors and Hoogweg took the conservative view to pass that when game might have been on facing five hearts and decent values. That was the winning decision this time and Van Zwol had no difficulty in coming
to nine tricks for +|l0.
Smith did very well to pass throughout at the other table, suspecting that the lack of a two-suited overcall meant that her partner was six-four and that there would be no eight-card fit. Still, 3 looked as though it would be way too high.

Vriend led her club to the king and ace and Arnolds switched to the $\wp 3$ to declarer's ace. Heather Dhondy led her remaining club up and Vriend pitched a diamond so the queen scored. She led a losing club off the table and, knowing that she would be over-ruffed, instead pitched a spade from hand as Vriend threw another diamond. Arnolds won and played the king of diamonds to dummy's ace and Dhondy played another club, again throwing a spade, as did Vriend. Now either a diamond or a trump lead would have left declarer a trick short, but Arnolds misread the position and switched to king and another spade. Vriend's ace was ruffed out and Dhondy cashed the $\vee Q$, ruffed a diamond and drew the trumps and had two spades to cash for a magnificent +140 and I IMP to England.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

- A863
$\bigcirc$ K
$\diamond 964$
-97652

| - J 42 | N | -10975 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc$ Q 107 | $W^{\text {N }}$ | AJ643 |
| $\diamond$ AKQJ83 | W E | $\diamond 2$ |
| Q $\mathrm{Q}^{\text {a }}$ | S | - A 103 |
|  | - K Q |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 9852$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark 1075$ |  |
|  | * KJ84 |  |


| West <br> Brunner | North <br> Hoogweg | East <br> Goldenfield | South <br> Van Zwol <br> Pass |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1 \diamond$ | Pass | 18 | Pass |
| $3 \diamond$ | Pass | $3>$ | Pass |
| $4 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Vriend | Smith | Arnolds | Dhondy <br> Pass |
| $1 \diamond$ | Pass | 18 | Pass |
| $2 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |  |

What would you rebid on the West cards? I am with Vriend on this one as West's cards outside diamonds are nothing to get excited about. However, $4 \oslash$ was a playable spot. The defence took the king and queen of spades then switched to a diamond. A low heart now makes the hand but Goldenfield's actual play of the $\oslash Q$ was a sensible choice which rated to work well whenever North had king doubleton or king to three hearts and also when South had king doubleton. On the actual lie of the cards, South's trump trick was the one that broke the contract; down one for - 100 .

Meanwhile, the king of hearts lead against $2 \triangleleft$ meant that Vriend had twelve tricks for +170 and 7 IMPs to Netherlands. Note that 3NT is making East/West, but how easy is it to get there?


Bep Vriend, Netherlands
Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.
\& Q 10543
$\checkmark 7$
$\diamond A K 764$
\& 105


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brunner | Hoogweg | Goldenfield | Van Zwol |
|  | Pass | $1 \$$ | $2 \triangleleft$ |
| Dble | $3 \Delta$ | Pass | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass |  |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vriend | Smith | Arnolds | Dhondy |
|  | 10 | $2 \%$ | 49 |
| $5 \%$ | All Pass |  |  |

East/West have a laydown slam and North/South a very cheap save, 64 doubled costing only 300. Where Hoogweg passed the North cards, Goldenfield opened as East and Van Zwol showed the majors. I was surprised that Hoogweg bid only 34 and also that Goldenfield was willing to play 3NT when I would have thought that $5 \%$ would almost always make if 3NT
was doing so and would often be a lot better. Anyway, on a diamond lead and continuation the defence took the first three tricks and declarer the rest; +630 .

Smith's light opening as dealer made for a quite different auction in the other room. Arnolds overcalled and Dhondy made a normal jump to 44. Under pressure, Vriend settled for what looked to be a safe game, and neither North nor South could be sure that this was making so neither saved in 54; +620 and 'just another dull push'.


| West | North <br> Smith | East <br> Arnolds | South <br> Dhondy |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vriend |  | $1 \diamond$ | $2 \&$ |
|  | $2 \diamond$ | $2 \triangleleft$ |  |
| Dble | Pass | $2 \diamond$ |  |
| Pass | $3 \&$ | All Pass |  |

The two English declarers did well on this one. Three Spades looks as though it should fail by a trick but Brunner brought it home with the aid of a good view and a small defensive error. The defence played three rounds of clubs and she ruffed the third one with the ten, cashed the $\$ \mathrm{~K}$ and $\$ 9$, South ditching a club, then played the king of diamonds to the ace. Back came a diamond and she cashed a third round, drew trumps and played a heart to the queen. South, who had come down to nothing but hearts, having thrown her last club on the trumps, was endplayed to lead away from the jack of hearts; +140 .

In the other room, the nine of diamonds was covered by ten, jack and ace, and Dhondy played ace then nine of hearts to the ten. Arnolds cashed a diamond then switched to a club to the eight, jack and queen. Dhondy played the $\diamond 7$, covered and ruffed, then gave up a spade. Arnolds won that and played the last diamond but Dhondy could ruff with the nine, and crossruff her way home; + 110 and 6 IMPs to England.

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.


| West | North |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brunner | East <br> Hoogweg <br> Goldenfield | South <br> Van Zwol <br> 3 |  |
| Pass | Pass | 49 | Pass |
| 54 | All Pass |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Vriend | Smith | Arnolds | Dhondy <br> 38 |
| Pass | Pass | 49 | All Pass |

Non-leaping Michaels made a second appearance for Brunner/Goldenfield. Whether or not it is correct in theory to use it when holding six cards in the major I don't know, but it was certainly correct in practice as the club fit was easily found.Van Zwol led the ace of hearts and switched to a diamond. Hoogweg won and returned a low diamond, ruffed, and Goldenfield crossed to a top trump, discovering the bad break, then led the queen of spades, intending to run it. She would have succeeded anyway on
this line but the play was speeded up somewhat when Hoogweg decided to cover the spade; +400 .

Arnolds simply jumped to 44 rather than show spades and another by bidding $4 \bigcirc$. Dhondy led a low diamond and Smith tried to cash a second round, ruffed. Rather than cross to dummy with a club, risking establishing a second-round club ruff, Arnolds led a low spade to the queen and king. Now Smith had a chance to give her partner a ruff but did not take it, instead leading a heart. Dhondy won the $\vee A$ and returned the $\vee 3$. Arnolds won the king and tried to cross to hand with a club, so Dhondy got her ruff after all for a fortunate one down; -50 and IO IMPs to England.

Arnolds was afraid of a five-one trump split, hence her decision not to ruff the second heart in hand. However, there were two pointers against this line. Firstly, Dhondy's return of the lowest missing heart surely suggested an interest in a club lead should her partner be ruffing the heart. Well, perhaps a cunning defender might make a psychic suit preference signal. But more certain was that Smith could have simply played a third round of diamonds if looking at an original holding of five spades. That would have forced declarer and beaten the contract so, as she did not do that, presumably she did not hold five spades.

Board I4. Dealer East. None Vul.

|  | - Q 84 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc$ K J 76 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ K Q J 6 |  |
|  | ¢ Q 7 |  |
| ¢1032 | N | ¢ AJ 97 |
| $\bigcirc 85$ | W E | $\bigcirc$ Q 1094 |
| $\diamond 10974$ |  | $\diamond 3$ |
| \% 9643 | S | 2 AJ 52 |
|  | ¢ K 65 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A 32 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ A 852 |  |
|  | \& K 108 |  |

West

Brunner $\quad$\begin{tabular}{c}
North <br>
Hoogweg

 

East <br>
Goldenfield <br>
Pass
\end{tabular}

This deal was only about an overtrick but it was pretty, nonetheless. Van Zwol received a club lead and the pressure on the East hand meant that she made ten tricks for +430 . Smith received a heart lead round to her jack. She played a spade to the king then a club to the queen and ace and back came another heart. She won the ace of hearts and cashed four rounds of diamonds, on which Arnolds bared the ace of spades. Smith led a low spade to drop the ace and won the heart return. The queen of spades now executed a show-up squeeze against East and Smith had eleven tricks for +460 and I IMP to England.

Board I5. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

|  | - K <br> $\triangle$ A Q J 8 <br> $\diamond A 86532$ <br> $\therefore \mathrm{KQ}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\text { \& A } 842$ | N |  | Q QJ 109753 |
|  | W E |  |  |
| $$ |  |  |  |
|  | S |  | -10942 |
|  | - 6 |  |  |
|  | ¢K106432 |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ Q 4 |  |  |
|  | AJ63 |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Brunner | Hoogweg | Goldenfield | Van Zwol |
|  | 3\% |  | 18 |
| Pass |  | Pass | 34 |
| Pass | 4NT | Pass | 5 |
| Pass | 68 | All Pass |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Vriend | Smith | Arnolds | Dhondy |
|  |  |  | 18 |
| Pass | 2NT | 4. | Pass |
| Pass | 4NT | Pass | 5 |
| 54 | 68 | All Pass |  |

Both Norths made a forcing heart raise. Goldenfield passed as East, which I find scary at this vulnerability. But Goldenfield proved right, as was illustrated at the other table where Vriend thought a long time before passing her opponents out in $6 \bigcirc$ after Arnolds had made a pre-emptive 4s overcall. Of course, once West led the ace of spades and found a safe switch, there was no way to avoid a diamond loser; down one for a flat board.

## Board I6. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

- 75

8 K 10
$\diamond 1098653$
\& 1043

- KQ 1064
$\vee$ J 9732
$\diamond 42$
a K

| N | - AJ 2 |
| :---: | :---: |
| W E | $\bigcirc 6$ |
|  | $\checkmark$ AKQJ 7 |
| S | \& A Q 62 |
| - 983 |  |
| $\bigcirc$ A Q 854 |  |
| $\diamond$ - |  |
| 2-」9875 |  |


| West | North |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brunner |  |
| Hoogweg |  | | East |
| :---: |
| Goldenfield |$\quad$| South |
| :---: |
| Van Zwol |


| West | North | East | South | West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vriend | Smith | Arnolds | Dhondy | Brunner | Hoogweg | Goldenfield | Van Zwol |
| Pass | Pass | $1 \diamond$ | 18 |  | I $\diamond$ | 18 | Pass |
| 19 | Pass | 4NT | Pass | Pass | Dble | All Pass |  |
| $5 \%$ | Pass | $5 \diamond$ | Pass |  |  |  |  |
| 6\% | Pass | 6 | Dble | West | North | East | South |
| All Pass |  |  |  | Vriend | Smith | Arnolds | Dhondy |
|  |  |  |  |  | $1 \diamond$ | 18 | 2\% |
| Both East/West pairs bid to the excellent small slam - I can't say that I am a fan of Arnolds' approach, but it certainly kept things simple - and both Souths made a Lightner double for a |  |  |  | Pass | 39 | Pass | 3NT |
|  |  |  |  | All Pass |  |  |  |

After a heart lead, Dhondy eventually established the diamonds and came to eleven tricks for +460 . I don't think the South hand is the right type to play for a penalty -it is always hard work to get enough at such a low level -and so it proved. Van Zwol led her diamond to the ten and queen and Goldenfield played a heart. Van Zwol won and played the eK. Liking what she saw, she cashed the other top hearts then played a club to the ace. The $\diamond K$ was covered by the ace and ruffed and Van Zwol went back to clubs but Goldenfield was in control. She ruffed and played the $\uparrow \mathrm{Q}$ and, had that been ducked, could have set up a diamond winner for herself. As it was, Hoogweg won the spade and cashed the diamond for down two; -300 but 4 IMPs to England.

Board I8. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

| - A Q 105 |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 8752$ |  |
| $\diamond$ K 32 |  |
| \& Q 5 |  |
| N | - 6 |
| W E | $\bigcirc$ A Q 1093 |
|  | $\checkmark$ Q 109 |
| S | * AK 76 |
| - J 98742 |  |
| QJ6 |  |
| $\checkmark 65$ |  |
| -194 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brunner | Hoogweg | Goldenfield | Van Zwol |
|  |  | 18 | Pass |
| 2 | Pass | 3\% | Pass |
| 48 | Pass | 4 | Pass |
| 4 | Pass | 4. | Pass |
| 5* | All Pass |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Vriend | Smith | Arnolds | Dhondy |
|  |  | 18 | Pass |
| 2 | Pass | 3\% | Pass |
| 34 | Dble | 4 | Pass |
| $4 \bigcirc$ | All Pass |  |  |

Game in either red suit is makeable, as is 3NT played by West, but this is quite a tricky combination and by no means everyone managed to reach a making contract. Where a two-over-one response is not game-forcing, the 30 rebid is necessary to create
a force and now West has an awkward choice. I prefer Vriend's 3s to Brunner's committal club raise and, as it happens, this worked out a lot better on the actual deal.

Five Clubs was hopeless with the diamond offside and Goldenfield was soon one down for -50 . But $4 \checkmark$ is by no means a routine make either. The defence led two rounds of spades and Arnolds was at the crossroads. If she ruffs this trick and draws trumps she will go down when the diamond finesse loses and the defence cashes spade winners. If she takes the diamond finesse without drawing trumps, North must duck the first round, which should be possible after the revealing auction. Now declarer is without recourse. But Arnolds got it right when she discarded a club at trick two. Smith was powerless. She actually played a third spade for a ruff and discard but Arnolds could ruff in dummy, cash the king of hearts and cross to hand with a top club to draw trumps. There was just a diamond to lose; nicely played for +420 and 10 IMPs to Netherlands.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

|  | - 65 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc 8753$ |  |  |
|  | $\diamond$ Q 8763 |  |  |
|  | 2 14 |  |  |
| -1098 | N |  | K 72 |
| $\bigcirc$ Q 4 | W E |  | - AKJ 1062 |
| $\diamond$ AK 952 |  |  |  |
| ¢ K 105 | $S$ S |  | A976 |
|  | AO143 |  |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 9$ |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ J 104 |  |  |
|  | \& Q 832 |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Brunner | Hoogweg | Goldenfield | Van Zwol |
|  |  |  | 2 |
| Pass | Pass | $3 \bigcirc$ | Pass |
| $4 \bigcirc$ | All Pass |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Vriend | Smith | Arnolds | Dhondy |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| $1 \diamond$ | Pass | 28 | $2{ }^{1}$ |
| 3 | Pass | 31 | Pass |
| 420 | Pass | 4 | Pass |
| $4 \bigcirc$ | Pass | 68 | All Pass |

The Netherlands, who had trailed throughout the match, had just moved closer but it looked as though that good work was about to be negated when Vriend/Arnolds bid to the hopeless slam. Hopeless? Perhaps not. Dhondy cashed the ace of spades and now the contract was unbeatable. On a passive continuation, there is a double squeeze after declarer ruffs a diamond to leave only North guarding the suit. Dhondy actually switched to a low club and that went to the jack and ace. Again, playing three rounds of diamonds, ruffing, would have set up a clearer ending for declarer but, in practice, after drawing trumps, Arnolds finessed the $\& 10$ for her contract; +1430 and 13 IMPs to The Netherlands.

The Netherlands had gained a moral victory by 37-35 IMPs, but a 15 -I5 VP draw.

## Championship Diary

Congratulations to our VIP (Very impressive Photographer) Ron Tacchi and his wife Jane, who yesterday celebrated their thirty-second wedding anniversary.
We received an email containing the IrishVirus. It is a manual Virus - you delete all the files on your hard disk yourself and send the email to everyone you know.

So, watch out for a message from Paddy O'Hacker at paddy@bejaisus.com

We were disappointed to discover that the Polish Senior team did not include Klapper, thereby depriving us of the opportunity to use the phrase, 'We don't know who he is but his name rings a bell.'

The really keen Festival players take advantage of being dummy by dashing out to join a game on the Intenet!

## Bulletin Room Badge War

Great numbers of bridge of players have travelled to Malmö to compete for the honours. The fiercest fought fight is, however, not one of playing cards but the battle of badges between Mark Horton and Ron Tacchi. At the moment Mark Horton is winning, but the margin is only one badge. Ron Tacchi will most definitely appeal the decision to award Mark Horton an appeals committee badge but there is not much hope that he can win the appeal as the committee will have to call on its one and only badge expert, Mark Horton.
It is unclear what triggered the hostilities in the first place and we will probably never know who went to war on whom. The contestants do officially agree that is an English matter that should be dealt with without any foreign interference. In reality, both sides are more than happy for any help they can get. Mark Horton has called upon the services of his German allies and been nominated as coach for all their three teams. Ron Tacchi has meanwhile collected a grey badge that says VIP for Very Impressive Photographer. The nastiest incident so far took place when Ron Tacchi was presented with a Technically Challenged badge. The messenger that brought the gift to Ron Tacchi had failed to appreciate the importance of the matter and delivered it in the bulletin room. Consequently, he was exposed to the full wrath of Mark Horton, but made it out of the room alive.
It is an open question what the title of the winner of the battle of badges will be. Bearer of the master badge, prime badger and badgeman have been suggested. The vote is open and suggestions are welcome. Creative contributions will be rewarded with a Swan Games voucher.

## Rucksack found!

We have received the following message from Malmö theatre:

Our cleaning department has found a rucksack with some bridge papers, keys and a copy of the "Da Vinci code" in an unidentified eastern European language. Could it be that one of your guests forgot it last Saturday? If so, it can be collected at our reception desk.

There is no information about where the rucksack can be collected if it was not forgotten by a participant of the opening ceremony and we are not sure whether the text in the book is encoded or not.

## OPEN TEAMS

## Round 12

## Iceland v Poland

Jos Jacobs reports on the progress of one of the pace-setters, while the Editor shows you how Italy fared in their match with a Welsh team that was looking for a sixth successive victory.

The Championships are at one third of the program now. So far, Poland have been living up to their reputation, staying solidly enough in third spot. Iceland, however, have not been doing so well this time but, in this match, they once again showed why they will remain an opponent to be reckoned with.

On the opening boards, we saw a number of consecutive partscore swings each way to set the pace for the match. I will show you two examples of them, before we move over to the really hot stuff.

First we see the dramatic start of Italy $\vee$ Wales:
Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.


## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Versace | Thomas |  |  |
|  | Pass | $3 \oslash$ | Denning <br> 5 |

All Pass

When East opened Three Hearts, South took the simple route and bid a direct Five Diamonds. There were eleven winners - until the trump break came to light, -50.

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tedd | Fantoni | Salisbury | Nunes |
|  | Pass | $3 \varnothing$ | Dble |
| Pass | $3 \uparrow$ | Pass | $40^{*}$ |
| Pass | $4 \uparrow$ | All Pass |  |

When East led the king of hearts and continued with the seven, declarer simply discarded a losing club from dummy. West won and switched to the king of clubs. Declarer won, played a spade to the ace, cashed the ace of diamonds, then drew trumps and claimed; +420 and 10 IMPs.

The first of these small swings went to Poland who thus went off to a 5-0 lead, but Iceland struck back quickly:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

- J 87

QQ7542
$\diamond 763$
\& 4

- A 92
©AJ 103
$\diamond$ K 102
- A 63

- 1043
© 6
$\diamond$ QJ 84
\& 10975
- KQ65
-K 98
$\checkmark$ A 95
- K 82


## Closed Room

| West <br> Baldursson | North <br> Tuszynski | East <br> Jònsson | South <br> Kowalski <br> INT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dble | $2 \diamond$ | Pass | $2 \vee$ |
| Pass | Pass | 2NT | Pass |
| $3 \&$ | All Pass |  |  |

Under his system, Kowalski was obliged to open INT, so Baldursson could double for penalties. When the transfer and the reply came back to Jònsson, he showed his modest values in the minors with 2NT, which enabled West to choose 3\% as the final contract. With the diamonds 3-3 a contract in the other minor


Jon Baldursson, Iceland
might make as well, but 3 definitely was a very good place to be. Just made with the loss of the obvious club, diamond and two spade tricks; Iceland + IIO.

## Open Room

| West <br> Puczynski | North <br> Magnusson | East <br> Chmurski | South <br> Thorvaldsson <br> 16 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| INT | All Pass |  |  |

Under his system, Thorvaldsson had to open lond thus effectively stole the opponents' suit. Puczynski could do little better than overcall INT, but this contract stood little chance on a heart lead. The clubs cannot be successfully finessed and exploited as dummy is short of entries. Even a low club away from the ace did not help, as North won the queen and simply continued a low heart to the eight and jack. After winning his $\diamond A$ on the third round of the suit, South was able to lead a third heart to seal the fate of the contract; Iceland another +100 and 5 IMPs.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

- 532
- K 5
$\diamond 987$
\& Q 9543

```
1064
- JIO 873
K 52
```

82

Closed Room

| N | ( A Q 8 |
| :---: | :---: |
| $W^{\text {c }}$ | $\bigcirc$ A 94 |
| W E | $\diamond$ A Q J 1064 |
| S | 97 |
| ¢ K J 97 |  |
| $\bigcirc$ Q 62 |  |
| $\diamond 3$ |  |
| \% AKJ 106 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Baldursson | Tuszynski | Jònsson | Kowalski |
| Pass | Pass | $1 \diamond$ | Dble |
| I $\diamond$ | Pass | $3 \diamond$ | All Pass |

North's conservative pass of $I \triangleleft$ produced the swing on this board. Over the $3 \triangleleft$ rebid, it was far from obvious that further action would have been a success. When the Poles sold out to $3 \diamond$, making nine tricks proved easy; Iceland +IIO.

## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Puczynski | Magnusson | Chmurski | Thorvaldsson |
| Pass | Pass | I $\downarrow$ | Dble |
| Pass | 20 | Dble | 32 |
| Pass | Pass | 3 | 4* |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

At the other table, another Pole took a conservative, but respectable, view when he passed the double of $\mathrm{l} \diamond$. As a consequence, it was North who was obliged to say something now, so the club fit was soon revealed. After that, South could not be kept out of competing up to the four-level, but with all the spades
well-placed, ten tricks in clubs were no problem either; Iceland another +130 and 6 IMPs.

Over now to the hot chili peppers.
On the first of them the auction had made the difference:
Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.
¢ 532
\& 1097
$\diamond 95$
\% AK 643
, Q
คA8542
$\diamond$ K 103
\& Q 852
Closed Room
West
Baldursson
North
Tuszynski
Pass

| East | South |
| :---: | :---: |
| Jònsson | Kowalski |
| 4it | All Pass |

Superficially looking, one would say declarer has two clubs and at least two diamonds to lose. As the Goddess of Fortune had dealt South an obvious lead of the $\vee \mathrm{K}$, one club loser was disposed of at trick one. Now the hand can only be made if declarer leads a diamond to the ten, supposing South ducks, but with a little help from our friends life becomes easier, as we all know. It is difficult to blame South for rising with the $\diamond \mathbf{A}$ when declarer first led the suit. Continuing the suit by leading the queen was not such a good idea from South, however, as the contract was safe now when the nine appeared. Jònsson thus just made his contract, losing two diamonds and one club; Iceland a juicy +620 .

At another table, however, when declarer advanced the $\diamond 6$, South ducked! Finessing the nine now by playing low in dummy looks a much better chance than putting up the ten or even the king, so all credit to this defender.As we cannot possibly tell how often South found this defence, we cannot yet mention the name of the one South player who for sure found this defence.

## Open Room

West
Puczynski
North
Magnusson
Pass

East
Chmurski 3s

South
Thorvaldsson All Pass

Playing at lower stakes, Chmurski was treated to the K lead as well, so he could not go down as the cards lay. Play ended with a ruling by the TD on a disputed claim of the balance by declarer, but nine tricks were always there. Poland +140 but IO IMPs to Iceland.

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Versace | Thomas | Lauria | Denning |
|  | Pass | $4 \uparrow$ | All Pass |

To defeat Four Spades the defence has to cash two clubs and then play diamonds - effectively impossible looking at the South
hand. Declarer won the opening heart lead in dummy, discarding a club, played a few trumps and then a diamond. South took the ace and played back the queen, and a few moments later declarer had claimed; +620.

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tedd | Fantoni | Salisbury | Nunes |
|  | Pass | 39 | Dble |
| Pass | 49 | All Pass |  |

The less aggressive action saw South enter the auction, and his side secured the contract. Even if West, or East, (in the style of Rixi Markus) had gone on to Four Spades, South may well have found a club lead. Of course, Four Clubs had to go down, (double dummy even One Club is too high) but declarer emerged with seven tricks and IO IMPs.

On the next board, Poland struck back when the Iceland East/West lost sight of the spades:

Board IO. Dealer East. All Vul.

- 1062
$\checkmark$ AKQ 3
$\diamond 8$
A9532
- K Q 93
$\bigcirc 6$
$\diamond$ A Q 1093
* KJ7

- AJ 75
- 10854
$\diamond 74$
- Q 108
- 84
- J 972

KJ652
64


Apolinary Kowalski, Poland

## Closed Room

\(\left.$$
\begin{array}{cccc}\text { West } & \text { North } \\
\text { Baldursson }\end{array}
$$ $$
\begin{array}{c}\text { East } \\
\text { Tuszynski }\end{array}
$$ \begin{array}{c}South <br>
Jònsson <br>

Pass\end{array}\right) \quad\)| Kowalski |
| :---: |
| Pass |
| $2 \Leftrightarrow$ | | Dble | INT | Pass |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |

Of course, INT can easily conceal one or two four-card majors after the double, but this time the Icemen were very unlucky. Baldursson's 2er rebid looks automatic, but the right contract had been missed by a mile. On a heart lead and a switch to a low trump, declarer could ruff two hearts in hand and cash two top spades before continuing trumps, removing South's last trump. In the end, Baldursson managed one more spade trick, a club and a diamond, so he made his contract after all; Iceland +90 .

Open Room

| West <br> Puczynski | North <br> Magnusson | East <br> Chmurski <br> Pass | South <br> Thorvaldsson <br> Pass |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1 \diamond$ | Dble | Pass | 18 |
| $1 \$$ | 2 | $3 \uparrow$ | Pass |
| $4 \$$ | All Pass |  |  |

In the Open Room, the auction started very quietly, until Chmurski went into top gear. He passed the double, but his bold jump raise in spades was enough to encourage Puczynski to bid game. The contract had to be played very carefully, as the spades might well be 4-I, but declarer showed the right way to perfection. Hearts were led and continued, declarer ruffing. Next came the K K, won by North who returned the suit. Dummy won the trick and a low diamond was played to the TEN! When the eight appeared, Mariusz knew enough. Three rounds of spades, the last club and a second diamond finesse brought in the required amount of tricks; Poland a fine +620 and a well-deserved (and much needed) swing of II IMPs.

Board I2. Dealer West. N/S Vul.


East led a club and declarer won, cashed two more clubs discarding a heart from dummy, then took the ace of spades and played his last club, discarding another heart as East ruffed. He
was not hard pressed to come to seven tricks; +80 .

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tedd | Fantoni | Salisbury | Nunes |
| INT | Dble | $2 \diamond$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | All Pass |  |

This was an unlucky hand for the weak no trump.
South led the ten of hearts and North won with the king and played clubs, South discarding a heart on the third round and over-ruffing declarer's seven with the eight on the fourth. Declarer won the heart return in hand and played a spade to the jack and ace. North won and gave South a heart ruff. Declarer won the spade exit in dummy and decided to play a trump, rather than ruff a spade to hand and lead towards the queen of diamonds. Now he was four down; -800 and 12 IMPs to Italy, who were in complete control.

If you are a bit out of breath after these two stories, you can relax a little now as we have one more partscore affair coming up for you:

| Board I3. Dealer North. All Vul. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - K 852 |  |  |  |
| $\bigcirc 16$ |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark 94$ |  |  |  |
| \& QJ 1074 |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \& A 10943 \\ & \& 432 \end{aligned}$ | N |  | - Q J |
|  | $W^{\text {N }}$ E |  |  |
| $\diamond$ A Q 102+5 |  |  | 763 |
|  | S |  |  |
| - 76 |  |  |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ K Q 1095 |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ K 5 |  |  |
|  | * A 863 |  |  |
| Closed Room |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Baldursson | Tuszynski | Jònsson | Kowalski |
|  | Pass | Pass | 18 |
| 14 | 20 | 24 | 3\% |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

When Tuszynski could introduce his clubs, the proper contract was easily reached. The Poles lost the obvious four tricks; Poland +1 10 .

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Puczynski | Magnusson <br> Chmurski | Chorvaldsson |  |
| Is | Pass | Pass | I 8 |
|  | INT | All Pass |  |

Chmurski's pass of INT may look a little conservative again, but the effect of it was spectacular. Declarer won the lead of the $₫ \mathrm{Q}$ and led a low heart to the nine in dummy. Another heart went to the ace and Chmurski cashed the $\quad \mathrm{l}$ on which Puczynski contributed the ten. The diamond switch, already obvious from
the sight of dummy, thus had become obligatory, so the defence collected five diamonds, four spades and one heart for down four! Poland another +400 and an unexpected II IMPs from a harmless enough looking board.

Back to the fireworks on the next board:

## Board I4. Dealer East. None Vul.

- 32
- AJ 10
$\checkmark A K 3$
*A8432



## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Baldursson | Tuszynski | Jònsson | Kowalski |
|  |  | 2. | Pass |
| $4{ }^{1}$ | Dble | Pass | $5 \bigcirc$ |
| Dble | All Pass |  |  |

The raise to 4 put North/South under pressure when North was far too strong to pass it. South did not take the right view this time, which proved very costly; down four, Iceland +800 .
Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Puczynski | Magnusson | Chmurski | Thorvaldsson |
|  |  | 2 | Pass |
| 2NT | Dble | 3 | Pass |
| 3. | Pass | $4{ }^{1}$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | All Pass |  |

The different approach by the Poles gave their opponents much more time to exchange information, which they used to perfection. Magnusson's second double could only be for penalties, looking at the auction. Well done for a useful +100 to Iceland and a huge swing of 14 IMPs.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/WVul.

- KJ7
-KJ6
$\diamond$ K Q J 2
* 73


| Closed Room |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| West | North | East | South |
| Baldursson | Tuszynski | Jònsson | Kowalski |
| 1. | Dble | $1{ }^{1}$ | Pass |
| 2 | Pass | 2NT | $3{ }^{\circ}$ |
| 34 | Pass | $4{ }^{1}$ | All Pass |

2NT was a general try, which Jònsson himself accepted when the tray came back with partner's slightly encouraging 3s on it.

On a club lead, the play presented no problems. Declarer won, finessed in spades, won the heart return and played another trump. When South showed out, he put up the ace and was able to discard the heart loser when the clubs broke 3-3; Iceland +620 .

## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Puczynski | Magnusson | Chmurski | Thorvaldsson |
| 18 | INT | Dble | $2 \bigcirc$ |
| Pass | Pass | 2. | 38 |
| $3{ }^{1}$ | All Pass |  |  |

At the other table, the le opening did not work so well. When North overcalled INT, East could only double this. When $2 \checkmark$ came back to him, he introduced his spade suit, but Puczynski could do nothing more than offer a polite raise. So a very good game had been missed; Poland +170 but Iceland IO IMPs to lead 54-27 at this stage.

Poland recouped one major swing when they found a good save:


## Closed Room

| West | North <br> Baldursson | East <br> Tuszynski <br> Jonsson <br> Pass | South <br> Kowalski <br> Pass |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pass | $4 \boldsymbol{A l l l}$ Pass |  |  |

It looks completely normal to open 4s in fourth position and play there. In the Closed Room, this is exactly what happened and ten tricks were duly made; Poland +620 .

## Open Room

West<br>Puczynski<br>$l \diamond$ Pass

North
Magnusson
14
34
Pass
East
Chmurski
Pass
$3 \%$
40
$5 \%$
South
Thorvaldsson
Pass
Pass
49
Dble

All Pass
In the Open Room, Puczynski set the fire alight by opening a shaded $\mathrm{l} \diamond$ third in hand. The Icelanders had no problem in finding their spade game, but by making an opening bid, West had launched his partner into the attack. Chmurski kept on bidding clubs and finally got doubled when he rebid them a second time. With the trump position revealed now, he lost a trick in each suit except trumps for a loss of - 100 and a gain of II IMPs.

Thus, the final score in this match had become 54-43 or 17-13 to Iceland in V.P.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

- J 1075
$\bigcirc 52$
$\diamond$ A 9
* AK 972


K 98
A Q J 876
$\diamond \mathrm{Q}^{\mathrm{J}}$
\& 43
$\pm 632$
1043
$\diamond$ K 8743
\& 65

## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Versace | Thomas | Lauria | Denning |
| 18* | Pass | 18 | Pass |
| INT | Pass | 20* | Pass |
| $2 \diamond *$ | Pass | 38 | Pass |
| 39 | Pass | 3NT | Pass |
| $4 \bigcirc$ | All Pass |  |  |

## 1s 10-22, 2 or more clubs <br> 2. Relay

I wonder if West was close to passing 3 NT , which is the only genuinely making game?

South led a club and North won, cashed his other top club and fatally omitted to cash the ace of diamonds. When he played a third club declarer could ruff high, draw trumps and claim +620 .

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tedd | Fantoni | Salisbury | Nunes |
| INT | Pass | $2 \diamond^{*}$ | Pass |
| $2 \triangleleft$ | Pass | $4 \checkmark$ | All Pass |

North cashed his top clubs and then put the ace of diamonds on the table. South encouraged and that was one down; +100 and another 12 IMPs to see Italy home 80-15, 25-3VP.

## Swedish Senior Pairs final

Entering the second day of the final, Bertil Arvidsson/Roland Axelsson had moved to the top spot, but during the early morning rounds Hans Bogeskär/Stefan climbed steadily.

Board 68 was a swingy one.

## Dealer West. All Vul.

- 107

PQ 106
$\checkmark$ A 64

* KJIO 54

| Q J | N | - AK9632 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 8$ |  | ¢J7543 |
| $\diamond$ KQJ98753 | W E | $\diamond$ - |
| +983 | S | \& A 7 |
|  | - Q 854 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ AK 92 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 102$ |  |
|  | - Q 62 |  |

Bertil Arvidsson opened $3 \triangleleft$ and Roland Axelsson decided, after due consideration, to respect his partner's vulnerable preempt, and passed. Maybe this pause influenced South's decision not to reopen with a double. North would undoubtedly have bid 3NT and if E/W sacrifice over this, N/S are best advised not to double, since that contract cannot be beaten. I 30 to E/W was worth 36 out of 46 MPs.

In the next round the leaders scored a healthy 62 MPs , out of 92 , but Bogeskär/Lund climbed to second place via 76 MPs. On Board 69 the leaders were surprised to get as many as 20 MPs.

| Dealer North. N/S Vul. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - A 8 |  |  |  |
| $\bigcirc 52$ |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark$ QJ 3 |  |  |  |
| * A Q J 1083 |  |  |  |
| Q J 96 | N |  | - K 532 |
| 8 KQJ10843 | 43 w | E $\quad \bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc 96$ |
| $\diamond$ A 107 |  | E $\diamond$ | $\checkmark$ K 862 |
| ¢ - | S |  | \& K 75 |
| Q Q 1074 |  |  |  |
| $\bigcirc$ A 7 |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark 954$ |  |  |  |
| -9642 |  |  |  |
| West $\quad$ N | North | East | t South |
|  | 198 | Pass | 14 |
| 48 | Pass | Pass | Pass |

North led the ace of spades and continued with the eight to the king. Declarer played trumps, South won with the ace and re-
turned a club. Declarer ruffed and ran his trumps for a double squeeze that did not depend on the diamond position. Since North has both diamond honours, there is a simple minor-suit squeeze. It is worth to note that the eight of diamonds is a key card for declarer. If North returns the diamond queen after the ace of spades, declarer wins the ace and plays a trump. South cannot continue the diamond attack from his nine. Obviously, declarer will win the ace of diamonds if South plays diamonds after the queen of spades.

On Board 70 the leaders possessed the tools required to collect a big score.

## Dealer East. E/W Vul.

- AJ

คA7543
$\diamond$ A 43

- A 87

```
4986432
\odot
\diamond10972
* 105
```

- Q 5
- K Q 1086

K 6

- J642
- K 107
- J 9
$\diamond$ QJ 85
\& K Q 93
East opened $2 \triangleleft$, five hearts plus a minor and less than a normal opening. When this was passed to North he could double for penalties(!) and South then doubled West in two spades.

North did well by leading the ace of spades and should have switched to a low diamond after seeing the dummy. He did, however, continue trumps and when South also refused to attack the diamond entry in dummy declarer got off for a mere 500 instead of IIO0, but that was anyway 42 out of 46 MPs for the leaders, now 90 MPs clear.

The gap closed to 54 MPs in the next round and then to 33 MPs when the leaders bid a tough three no trump.

## Dealer North. E/WVul.

- 1074
- J 5
$\diamond$ A9842
Q 82


South opened $\mathrm{I} \uparrow$, West bid 2s and East jumped to 3NT. South led the king of spades and North encouraged, but East gave the show away by pausing before ducking. Now he got a diamond shift to the ace and another spade through. When the clubs misbehaved themselves he went three off for 6 out of 46 MPs.

I think that a reasonable line is to win the spade ace at trick one and cross to the ace of clubs. If the suit behaves, you play a heart to the king and hope that the opponents do not find that correct defense, if there is any.

On Board 76 two pairs made six no trump.


I can only assume that West picked a bad moment to lead $\boldsymbol{\$ 1}$, which picks up East's club holding for twelve tricks.

The next round was decisive for the final results, when Bogeskär/Lundh scored 65 whilst Arvidsson/Axelsson got 0 !

Board 77. Dealer North. All Vul.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \& A J \\
& \diamond 10752 \\
& \diamond 175 \\
& \& 10752
\end{aligned}
$$

| - KQ 10943 | N | - 865 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -J984 |  | $\bigcirc$ Q 63 |
| $\checkmark 94$ | W E | $\diamond$ AKQ 6 |
| \% Q | S | 2864 |
|  | - 72 |  |
|  | $\triangle$ AK |  |
|  | $\checkmark 10832$ |  |
|  | - AKJ93 |  |


| West | North <br> Pass | East <br> Pass | South <br> $1 \boldsymbol{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2iss | $3 \boldsymbol{2}$ | $3 \boldsymbol{2}$ | $4 \boldsymbol{2}$ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

North/South can beat three spades if South wins the club lead and unblock his hearts to score a ruff after the ace of spades. That would have been worth 24 MPs but, when South carried on to four clubs and reasonable enough finessed in clubs after the ace of spades, he went two off for a mere 4 MPs , com-
pared with 14 MPs for dropping the club queen.
On the next board South was too aggressive.
Board 78. Dealer East. None Vul.

- 1098
$\bigcirc$ K Q 107
$\diamond A 852$
- A 10
© AKJ 2
$\bigcirc 432$
$\diamond 763$
\& 653
West
2
Pass!
Pass


PJ9865
$\diamond$ QJ 104

- 1972

QQ76543
\& A
$\diamond K 9$
$\& K$ Q 84

That was -690 for another zero. I think that if South bids $4 \checkmark$ he has to avoid ending up defending four spades doubled. Since North thought for quite a while before he doubled, it would have been wise to bid directly 4 NT over 44 and avoid the unauthorized information from the huddle-double. But then again, West might wake up and raise to 5\$?

Anyway, now it was Bogeskär/Lundh in the lead with 2014 MPs and Arvidsson/Axelsson in second place with 1982 MPs. Both pairs scored poorly in the next round, 18 and 21 MPs respectively. The round after that the new leaders scored 56 MPs and the runners-up 80 MPs which closed the gap to 3 MPs . Then 81 MPs for Arvidsson/Axelsson and 35 MPs for Bogeskär - Lundh meant that the lead switched again, Arvidsson/Axelsson ahead by 43 MPs.

73 MPs versus 21 MPs for Bogeskär/Lundh meant that they regained the lead by 9 MPs. On Board 89 Stefan Lundh made a very lucky decision.

Dealer North. E/W Vul.

- A 6

PAKJ6
$\checkmark$ Q 85
\& Q 862

| $\begin{aligned} & \& K Q J I O 954 \\ & \& 5 \\ & \diamond J 1032 \\ & \& 9 \end{aligned}$ | N | - 73 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | QQ7432 |
|  | W E | $\checkmark$ K 96 |
|  | S | \& 174 |
|  | - 82 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 1098$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ A 74 |  |
|  | \& AK 1053 |  |

North opened INT, like almost everybody else, and South raised to 3NT. 44, vulnerable against not, by Lundh was nothing but lucky, but we cannot argue with success, can we? That beautiful K-9-6 of diamonds was worth two tricks and 200 to N/S meant 39 out of 46 MPs for E/W.

The runners-up wasted time with a 20 response, and when spades had been mentioned by West, N/S ended up in Four Hearts down two with the unlucky 5-I break, for I MP. Bogeskär/Lundh were now 54 MPs clear at the top. 60 and 61 MPs in the penultimate rounds brought them beyond reach. Another 61 MPs concluded a comfortable win. Arvidsson/Axelsson finished with another bad round of 21 MPs and dropped to third place.

Final results:
I. Hans Bogeskär - Stefan Lundh ..... 2440
2. Kerstin Ernby - Per-Olov Törnqvist ..... 2328
3. Bertil Arvidsson - Roland Axelsson ..... 2318
4. Kjell Andersson - Owe Lindström ..... 2317
5. Mats Gunnarsson - Bror-Inge Sjöbladh ..... 2315


Hasse Persson, Falkenberg, responsible for the European Championship and Bridge Festival arrangements.

Hasse, can I ask you some questions for the bulletin?
Pfeew, okay then, go on.
You look like a stressed man?
Not any more, everything is cool now. Besides the European Championship we have been doing this for ten years now. The staff is experienced and every key member of the staff does know exactly what to do. There are about 200 people and they are doing a brilliant job. The main difference is that we have to be more flexible as we are not sure about how many people that will turn up. Last year in Skövde we could rely on

statistics collected over nine years.
So you are happy with everything so far?
Yes, we had hoped that more teams would turn up for the Chairman's Cup and European Championships. We thought that we could attract some more teams from the Baltic states than normally turn up at the European Championships. Unfortunately, there are fewer teams from southern Europe. There is also an Olympiad this fall and many federations have a limited budget for their national side.

These bits of yellow papers that the staff exchange for hot dogs, what are they? It is Persson-money. That is a coming currency.


Mats Nilsland hides behind his Ruterfyra teammates, Per-Inge Helmertz, Björn Axelsson and Arne Larsson

## Chairman's Cup Semi-final and Final

Arne Larsson's choice of bid is often characterised by optimism. This was once again the case in the semi-final when Ruterfyra beat Hauge.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.
© 2
$\checkmark$ KQ 92
$\diamond 108$
\% Q 97432

- K 943

คAJ6
$\diamond A K$
\& AJ 86


- A Q
$\bigcirc 108753$
$\diamond$ Q 975
\& K 5
, J 108765
$\bigcirc 4$
$\diamond$ J 6432
\& 10

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Larsson | Brekka | Helmertz | Höiland |
|  | Pass | 18 | $3 \$$ |
| 6NT | Pass | Pass | Pass |

A baby pre-empt by the Norwegian that should have been rewarded as it triggered Arne Larsson to overbid his hand.

Had Geir Brekka only led his partner's suit or any of the minors the slam would have been one off. He did, however, elect to lead the king of hearts and presented the declarer with the four heart tricks that were needed to bring home the contract. The


Arne Larsson, Sweden
result was 13 IMPs for Ruterfyra instead of 13 IMPs for Hauge.
The Norwegians turned out to be more skilled at slam bidding:

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

- K 73
-K76
$\diamond 84$
- 19872
- Q

PAJ5 3
$\diamond 10765$

* A Q 53

- J 10652

Q Q 10842
$\diamond \mathrm{Q}$
\& K 4
\(\left.$$
\begin{array}{cccc}\text { West } & \text { North } & \begin{array}{c}\text { East } \\
\text { Berset }\end{array} & \text { Larsson }\end{array}
$$ \begin{array}{c}South <br>

Suendsen\end{array}\right]\)| Helmertz |
| :---: |

East showed three out of five key-cards.
It was an optimistic move by Svendsen to go to slam after the jump to 3 NT . It was even more optimistic by Berset to drive on to a grand. The king of clubs was onside, the trumps broke and three spade ruffs could be scored in dummy.
"I will have to be happy if Mats Nilsand and Björn "Bubben" Axelsson bid a small slam." remarked Arne Larsson. Mats and Björn did bid $6 \diamond$.

Sometimes one is in need of a little bit of luck. Ruterfyra certainly rode their's on this deal:

Board 4I. Dealer North. E/W Vul.
¢ 83
$\vee$ J 52
$\diamond$ Q 764
\& K 987
คA765
-A 74
$\diamond 932$
\& A 65


- J 1092
® K Q 93
$\diamond A 5$
\% Q J 4
, K Q 4
ค 1086
$\diamond$ K J 108
1032

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Larsson |  | Helmertz |  |
|  | Pass | 18 | Pass |
| 14 | Pass | 24 | Pass |
| 2NT* | Pass | 3NT | Pass |
| Pass | Pass |  |  |

2NT was forcing and 3NT denied four-card support in spades. North led away from the king of clubs and declarer had an easy ride. A diamond lead would have presented declarer with a lot more trouble. Especially if South, after cashing the diamonds, returns a club. Declarer will not know if hearts are breaking or the club finesse is needed.

Hauge bid a very nice grand slam on the following

Board 42. Dealer East. All Vul.

```
. AKQ 8 4
\K42
\diamondQ86
& % 
```



```
- J 106
- Q 109873
\(\diamond 9\)
*) 92
. 75
\(\bigcirc\) AJ
\(\checkmark\) AK 10543
- A 108
```

```
& 932
\odot }
\diamond J2
&KQ654
```

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Svendsen |  | Berset |
|  |  | Pass | $1 \diamond$ |
| Pass | 14 | Pass | 2NT |
| Pass | 34 | Pass | 3NT |
| Pass | $4 \checkmark$ | Pass | 4 ${ }^{*}$ |
| Pass | 4** | Pass | 4NT* |
| Pass | $5{ }^{*}$ | Pass | 5 ${ }^{*}$ |
| Pass | $7 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |

On the third round the Norwegians discovered their diamond fit. A couple of cuebids and Blackwood of the Roman Keycard variety was followed by $5 \triangleleft$ by Ola Berset asking for the queen of trumps. Jan Svendsen was happy to accept the invite to

Menu 26 June 2004


Lunch, served between II.30 and 15.00
Meatballs with cream sauce
and lingonberry jam 70 Skr
Vegetarian:Veggie lasagne 70 Skr

Dinner, served between $\mathbf{1 6 . 3 0}$ and 20.00
Midsummer buffet including dessertsI75 Skr
make, but that did not compare well with the 3NT that Mats Nilsland and Björn Axelsson bid and made with two overtricks.

Björn "Bubben" Axelsson turned out to be a tightrope walker of great statue:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

$$
\triangle \mathrm{AQ}
$$

- 1098
$\diamond$ AK 9765
* 102

| - KJ97432 | N | - 865 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 652$ |  | $\bigcirc$ AK |
| $\checkmark$ Q | W E | $\diamond 142$ |
| - A 3 | S | 9K C 976 |
|  | -10 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ QJ 743 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 1083$ |  |
|  | - QJ 54 |  |


| West <br> Gierulski | North <br> Nilsland | East <br> Sztyrak | South <br> Axelsson <br> Pass |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 34 | 3NT | $4 \uparrow$ | $4 N T$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Three off vulnerable turned out to be a profitable sacrifice as long as the contract was not doubled.

A few boards later the Poles got scared away:


Björn Axelsson, Sweden

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

- 75
©A8632
$\diamond-$
* AKQ 1073
© A 43
$\bigcirc$ KQ 109
$\diamond 864$
- J 42

$\Delta K J I O 982$
$\diamond$ J
$\diamond$ AK 107
$\& 86$
- Q 6

ค754
$\diamond$ QJ 9532
\& 95

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Larsson | Cichocki | Helmertz | Skrzypczak |
| Pass | 18 | 19 | Pass |
| INT | 29 | $3 \Phi$ | Pass |
| 4e | Dble | Pass | Pass |
| ? |  |  |  |

Inspired by the fact there was a long pause before the redouble, Arne Larsson redoubled. This could have become expensive if the auction had ended but North decided to run into 5 which South converted into 5 『 , promptly doubled by Arne Larsson and +500 .

Board 39. Dealer South. All Vul.
$\pm 102$
$\checkmark$ A 10
$\diamond$ K 107542
8 1082

- A 9874
$\bigcirc 72$
$\diamond$ Q J 6 \& A 43

- J 6
- Q 9854
$\diamond 93$
\& Q J 95
คKJ63
$\diamond$ A 8
\& K 76

| West | North | East | South <br> INT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pass | $3 N T$ | All Pass |  |

Arne Larsson led the four of spades to the ten, jack and king. Jerzy Skrzypczak continued with the ace of diamonds and gave away a diamond to Larsson's queen. The return that followed looks like it is favourable for declarer, but the heart suit is blocked. Skrzypczak did therefore win the ace of hearts, cashed his diamonds and finessed the queen of hearts with the jack, just making his contract.

Chairman's Cup was finally collected by team Ruterfyra Mats Nilsland, Björn Axelsson, Per-Inge Helmertz and Arne Larsson, who defeated Chlodnia Möbelplast, Mirek Cichocki, B Gierulski, J Skrzypczak, K Pikus, L Sztyrak, and Z Zemanowicz by 158 - I 52 IMPs.

The third place play-off match was won by GABI, Damian Wronski, Malgorzata Pasternak, Krzysztof Warzocha and Konrad Araszkiewicz who defeated the Hauge Jan Petter Svendsen, Rune Hauge, Geir Brekka, Tom Höiland and Ole Berset.

## The Fourth Faroe Sportsman With 100 Caps

by Svend Novrup

Sportsmen from the Faroe Islands in the stormy Atlantic Sea have few opportunities to play on national teams. They live far away, and it is very costly to travel to sports competitions. Until this day only two chess players and a female volleyball player have had 100 caps, and only just. On Tuesday, Jóannes Mouritzen of the Open team played his 100th match for the team from Bridgesamband Föroya, the Faroe Bridge Federation, and he probably will establish an all time record for all sports before he leaves Malmö.

The small islands up north have only 150-200 tournament bridge players among their population of 40,000 people, and it is impressive that they even have several strong pairs to pick their teams from. In Malmö they were the talk of the first day when the Open team defeated Iceland 20-10, Germany 19-10 and lost narrowly 14-16 against England, while the Women won 19-1I against mighty Italy and only lost 14-16 against Norway. A start that made headlines at home but, of course, this was almost too good. It put a tremendous pressure on the players for the second day and, after losing just II-I9 to Hungary in the Open series, they gave in to nerves. Let me say that, after the end of day two, the pressure had been taken off the shoulders of both teams, and we can go hunting scalps in the normal way again.

Gunnar Mouritzen/Gögni Vesturklett are debutants who only just left their teenage years, yet they are very talented and have demonstrated their skills already. Högni (the islanders use first names) was one of very few who landed this $4 \bigcirc$ in Round 3 against Germany:

Board I 4. Dealer East. None Vul.

|  | - A 432 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K}$ Q 8 |  |  |
|  | $\diamond$ KJ 7 |  |  |
|  | \& AJ7 |  |  |
| - Q 1097 | N |  | - - |
| Q J1065 |  |  | ¢A9732 |
| $\diamond$ Q 4 |  |  | $\checkmark$ A 962 |
| 2K 94 | S |  | -8652 |
|  | - KJ865 |  |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 4$ |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark 10853$ |  |  |
|  | - Q 103 |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
|  | Gunnar |  | Högni |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | 18 | Pass | 19 |
| Pass | $4{ }^{1}$ | All Pass |  |

West opened $\vee \mathrm{J}$ to the queen and ace, and East returned the suit to the ten and king, Högni shedding a diamond. Cashing the 4, he got the sad news and started his search for some sort of endplay. He ruffed his last heart, eq to the king and ace, followed by two more club tricks. A diamond to the jack and ace and, when East did not want to solve the diamond suit for declarer and played a heart instead, Högni threw a diamond from hand and ruffed in dummy. The $\diamond K$ stood up, and he simply played a diamond for West to ruff on the third last trick. The lead from

QQ10 to the penultimate trick secured the contract. 10 IMPs to the Faroes when the same contract failed in the other room

Of course we need an example of Jóannes' abilities. This is Board I5 from the match against Hungary in Round 4 (II-I9):

Board I5. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

$2 \triangleleft$ was a transfer to hearts, and $3 \triangleleft$ promised three or four hearts. When West leaped to $5 \diamond$ and the tray left his side of the screen, Jóannes knew what he hoped for: 'I wished that it would come back with two passes so that I could double, and I did not like it at all when instead the bidding was $5>$ - Dble, but there was nothing to do except try to make it. West led a spade to the ace and East switched to the queen of clubs. Without much hope I put up the king but it won and when both opponents followed to two top trumps I started to hope. I cashed the Q Q and was disappointed that East did not follow, but everything was not lost. In this position:

'I played 23 to the nine and jack, and East was endplayed! I I tricks, +850 and a gain of 12 IMPs as North/South played in 38 making 10 tricks at the other table.

That was a nice performance by the record man.

