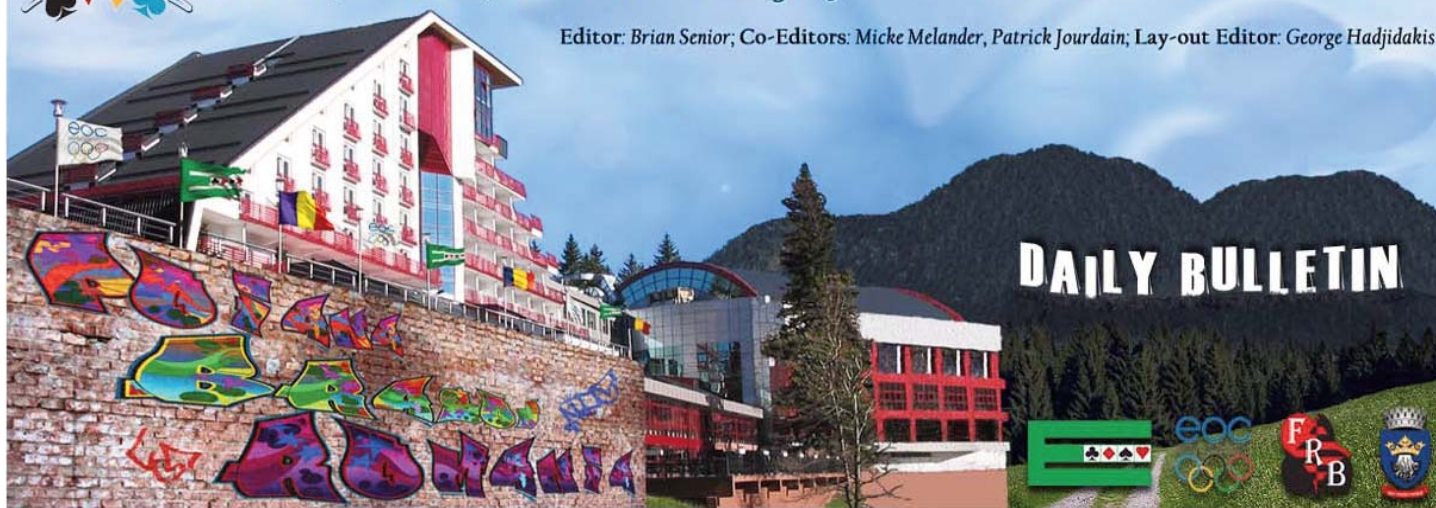


22nd EUROPEAN YOUTH BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



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Monday, 13 July 2009

France Leads The Way



Before leaving Poiana Brasov, Don't forget to book next year's summer holidays in sunny Romania!

The two French teams both lead their respective championships. In the Girls, there is only one round to go and the draw has worked out perfectly, with the top two teams due to meet on vugraph this morning. Poland need to win that match by at least 18-12VPs, or France will be the champions. The runners-up will also come from this match unless they lose very heavily and either Netherlands or Denmark win very big. One of those two is likely to take bronze, though that is not quite certain yet.

We are roughly half-way through the Open Series and France has a narrow lead over Norway. Then come Sweden, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands, but there is still plenty of time for major changes in this event.



Today's Vugraph Matches (also on BBO)

10.00 France v Poland (Girls)
17.30 Romania v Poland (U-21)

Additional BBO Matches

17.30 Germany v Netherlands (U-21)



UNDER 26 OPEN TEAMS**UNDER 21 OPEN TEAMS****RESULTS****TODAY'S PROGRAM****ROUND 9**

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	ISRAEL CZECH REP.	21 - 22	15 - 15
2	AUSTRIA GREECE	65 - 14	25 - 5
3	ITALY FINLAND	90 - 29	25 - 3
4	HUNGARY IRELAND	68 - 26	24 - 4
5	RUSSIA TURKEY	20 - 37	11 - 19
6	ROMANIA SWEDEN	14 - 56	6 - 24
7	LATVIA NORWAY	32 - 39	14 - 16
8	ENGLAND POLAND	18 - 61	6 - 24
9	CROATIA NETHERLANDS	17 - 46	9 - 21
10	FRANCE GERMANY	65 - 28	23 - 7
11	BELGIUM BULGARIA	37 - 63	10 - 20
12	DENMARK BYE		18 - 0

ROUND 1

1	NORWAY	ISRAEL
2	ENGLAND	ITALY
3	ROMANIA	POLAND
4	FRANCE	TURKEY
5	HUNGARY	DENMARK
6	GERMANY	NETHERLANDS
7	CZECH REP.	SWEDEN

UNDER 26 OPEN TEAMS**ROUND 10**

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	GREECE ISRAEL	25 - 27	15 - 15
2	FINLAND AUSTRIA	28 - 32	14 - 16
3	IRELAND ITALY	33 - 60	9 - 21
4	TURKEY HUNGARY	40 - 60	11 - 19
5	SWEDEN RUSSIA	48 - 37	17 - 13
6	NORWAY ROMANIA	85 - 23	25 - 3
7	POLAND LATVIA	47 - 60	12 - 18
8	ENGLAND BYE		18 - 0
9	NETHERLANDS CZECH REP.	46 - 19	21 - 9
10	GERMANY CROATIA	83 - 21	25 - 3
11	BULGARIA FRANCE	32 - 38	14 - 16
12	DENMARK BELGIUM	65 - 47	19 - 11

RANKING AFTER ROUND 11

1	FRANCE	220
2	NORWAY	216
3	SWEDEN	204
4	GERMANY	201
5	ITALY	190
6	NETHERLANDS	185
7	POLAND	184
8	RUSSIA	175
9	LATVIA	174
10	ISRAEL	169.5
11	BULGARIA	166
12	HUNGARY	163
13	AUSTRIA	157
	CZECH REPUBLIC	157
15	TURKEY	156
16	DENMARK	152
17	CROATIA	149
	ROMANIA	149
19	ENGLAND	144
20	GREECE	134
21	BELGIUM	123
	FINLAND	123
23	IRELAND	85

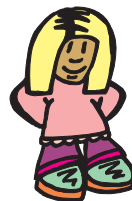
ROUND 11

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	ISRAEL FINLAND	91 - 31	25 - 3
2	AUSTRIA IRELAND	92 - 0	25 - 0
3	ITALY TURKEY	77 - 26	25 - 5
4	HUNGARY SWEDEN	25 - 40	12 - 18
5	RUSSIA NORWAY	22 - 31	13 - 17
6	ROMANIA POLAND	16 - 87	2 - 25
7	LATVIA ENGLAND	14 - 38	10 - 20
8	GREECE NETHERLANDS	36 - 18	19 - 11
9	CZECH REP. GERMANY	45 - 37	16 - 14
10	CROATIA BULGARIA	49 - 33	18 - 12
11	FRANCE DENMARK	77 - 44	22 - 8
12	BELGIUM BYE		18 - 0

UNDER 26 GIRLS TEAMS



RESULTS



TODAY'S PROGRAM

ROUND 10

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	ROMANIA ITALY	24 - 54	9 - 21
2	GERMANY TURKEY	35 - 21	18 - 11
3	HUNGARY POLAND	22 - 44	10 - 20
4	ENGLAND DENMARK	39 - 47	14 - 16
5	CZECH REP. FRANCE	16 - 49	8 - 22
6	SWEDEN NETHERLANDS	47 - 50	14 - 16
7	NORWAY ESTONIA	66 - 49	19 - 11

ROUND 13

1	ENGLAND	HUNGARY
2	CZECH REP.	GERMANY
3	SWEDEN	ROMANIA
4	NORWAY	ITALY
5	NETHERLANDS	TURKEY
6	FRANCE	POLAND
7	DENMARK	ESTONIA

ROUND 11

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	POLAND DENMARK	52 - 43	17 - 13
2	TURKEY FRANCE	0 - 90	0 - 25
3	ITALY NETHERLANDS	75 - 31	24 - 6
4	ROMANIA NORWAY	55 - 53	15 - 15
5	GERMANY SWEDEN	58 - 57	15 - 15
6	HUNGARY CZECH REP.	0 - 77	7 - 23
7	ENGLAND ESTONIA	35 - 78	6 - 24

ROUND 12

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	TURKEY POLAND	24 - 70	6 - 24
2	ITALY DENMARK	30 - 54	10 - 20
3	ROMANIA FRANCE	44 - 83	7 - 23
4	GERMANY NETHERLANDS	30 - 55	10 - 20
5	HUNGARY NORWAY	58 - 51	16 - 14
6	ENGLAND SWEDEN	26 - 95	2 - 25
7	CZECH REP. ESTONIA	33 - 56	10 - 20

Kitman Kelder

The Romanian football champions staying at the Piatra Mare Hotel last week all had rooms on the First Floor. Each evening, their football kit was simply thrown into the corridor and a little man with a big bag came along and took away the kit for cleaning.

When Rosaline Barendregt of the Dutch Girls team remarked that some of their orange shirts needed ironing, your Bulletin reporter suggested that the teams needed a kit man. "Hans Kelder, our coach, is the man!" they exclaimed with one voice. Duly elected.

UNDER 26 GIRLS TEAMS

RANKING AFTER ROUND 12

1	FRANCE	231
2	POLAND	225
3	NETHERLANDS	207
4	DENMARK	206
5	SWEDEN	194
6	GERMANY	191
7	ESTONIA	189
8	CZECH REPUBLIC	184
9	HUNGARY	175
10	NORWAY	163
11	ITALY	160
12	ENGLAND	142
13	TURKEY	119
14	ROMANIA	78

Today's Schedule

- 10.00 Under 26 Girls (13th Round)
- 16.00 Under 21 Captains Meeting
- 17.30 Under 21 (1st Round)

Under 26 Girls Protest Time

The protest time in respect of scores, results and rulings for the last round of the Girls Series ends 30 minutes after the end of the round.

The prize giving will be at 13.30 in the vugraph theatre.

UNDER 26 OPEN TEAMS **ROUND 7**



POLAND

v

NORWAY



We have been getting some lively deals these past few days. In the important Open Round 7 match between Poland and Norway, someone bid to slam or reached the five level looking for slam on six deals out of twenty. How did they fare?

slam, jumping to the spade game. However, it seems that this was not taken as natural by Simonsen, Exclusion for hearts perhaps, or simply a void? Anyway Simonsen bid 5♣, and Skjetne 5♥, confident that spades were agreed. Simonsen, with nothing more to show and confident that hearts were agreed, passed. This time there was no way to avoid the loss of two heart tricks to go with the ♣A and ♦K so that was two down for -200 and 13 IMPs to Poland.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Berg	Wiankowski	Lindqvist	Zatorski
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Sikora	Simonsen	Nawrocki	Skjetne
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

When Piotr Wiankowski opened 1♦ and rebid 1♠, showing an unbalanced hand, Piotr Zatorski simply raised to 4♠, ending the auction. Even 4♠ can be beaten if the defence attacks hearts before the king of diamonds has been knocked out. Espen Lindqvist led the four of clubs to the seven and jack. Perhaps a heart switch into the ace-jack is not all that attractive, but Polish Club players normally have real diamonds when they open 1♦ so Erik Berg's actual choice of switch, to a low diamond, was also dangerous, as illustrated by the actual deal. Lindqvist won the diamond king and went back to clubs, but Wiankowski could ruff, draw trumps and run the diamonds, just conceding a club at the end for +620.

Steffen Frederik Simonsen also opened 1♦ and rebid 1♠ but Erlend Skjetne thought he was too good for a direct raise to game, which looks a touch optimistic to me. He therefore bid 2♦, effectively fourth-suit, as the Norwegians invert 2♣ and 2♦ here. When Simonsen showed a minimum opening with some heart support, Skjetne gave up on

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Berg	Wiankowski	Lindqvist	Zatorski
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♣	All Pass



Steffen Frederik Simonsen, Norway

West	North	East	South
<i>Sikora</i>	<i>Simonsen</i>	<i>Nawrocki</i>	<i>Skjetne</i>
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	6♣	All Pass

Two two-over-one auctions got the job done quite nicely and, with the club king onside there were 13 tricks for a flat board at +940.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Berg</i>	<i>Wiankowski</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Zatorski</i>
1♣	Pass	1♠	4♠
4NT	5♠	6♦	6♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Sikora</i>	<i>Simonsen</i>	<i>Nawrocki</i>	<i>Skjetne</i>
2♣	Pass	3♣	4♠
5♣	5♠	All Pass	

Jan Sikora opened a Precision-style 2♣ and Piotr Nawrocki responded 3♣. My reading of their card suggests that to be pre-emptive, but that is clearly not correct. Anyway, Skjetne overcalled 4♠, leaving the heart suit concealed, and Simonsen went on to 5♠ over Sikora's 5♣.

Sikora led ace then jack of clubs, which Skjetne ruffed with the nine. He continued by cashing the ace of spades and got some bad news. Next came the ace of hearts followed by the queen, hoping to prevent East from gaining the lead cheaply to play two more rounds of trumps. That worked, up to a point, in that Sikora had the king. However, Skjetne was forced with another club lead and when he ruffed a heart with dummy's jack it was over-ruffed and a spade returned. That left a heart loser so the contract was two down for -200.

Berg opened 1♣, possibly only two cards, and the 1♠ response denied a major and also denied 10+ with clubs as that hand would make an inverted raise. Zatorski overcalled 4♠ and, knowing that there had to be a fit in a minor,

Berg bid 4NT to ask his partner to choose one. Wiankowski bid 5♠ and Lindqvist 6♦ – a misjudgment in a sense, in that neither 5♠ nor 6♦ was making, but Zatorski had no idea who could make what and, with his extra distribution, took the push to 6♠, which Lindqvist doubled.

Berg's diamond lead allowed Zatorski to get rid of his club loser and take the heart finesse. That lost, however, and back came a club. Zatorski ruffed that and played ace of hearts and a heart ruff with the jack. Lindqvist over-ruffed and the defence had to come to either another over-ruff or a heart trick; down two for -500 and 7 IMPs to Norway.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Berg</i>	<i>Wiankowski</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Zatorski</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Sikora</i>	<i>Simonsen</i>	<i>Nawrocki</i>	<i>Skjetne</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Simonsen/Skjetne had a natural two-over-one auction which stopped safely in game when Simonsen showed no enthusiasm for slam. Simonsen won the diamond lead and got the hearts right, so just lost a spade trick; +680.

Zatorski made an artificial spade raise then drove to slam when Wiankowski was willing to co-operate with a couple of cuebids. Six Spades was inferior to 6♥, of course, but the Poles were locked into spades from the start. Lindqvist led the queen of hearts. Wiankowski won the ace and played a spade to the ace then back to the jack and queen. That is the normal play in the spade suit and the threat of a heart ruff when the finesse loses is, of course, a mirage, as when hearts are three-one there is a heart loser anyway. Lindqvist returned his remaining trump and Wiankowski won and dropped the jack of hearts; +1430 and 13 IMPs to Poland.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West Berg	North Wiankowski	East Lindqvist	South Zatorski
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♣	Dble	Rdbl	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
5NT	Pass	7♦	All Pass
West Sikora	North Simonsen	East Nawrocki	South Skjetne
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♦	All Pass

System meant two very different auctions here. Berg passed in second seat but was happy to cuebid when Lindqvist showed a powerful hand with diamonds. He followed up with Key Card, knowing that his partner's answer would include the ace of clubs from the redouble, then



Piotr Zatorski, Poland

tried 5NT to invite seven. Lindqvist duly accepted and the appearance of the queen of trumps on the second round must have been a pleasant sight; +1440.

Sikora opened with a weak two-suited bid. Nawrocki enquired and drove to the small slam after checking and finding that the ♦Q was missing; +940 and a slightly unlucky -11 IMPs from a Polish point of view.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West Berg	North Wiankowski	East Lindqvist	South Zatorski
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	6♦	Pass
6♥	All Pass		
West Sikora	North Simonsen	East Nawrocki	South Skjetne
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
5♦	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♣	Pass	7♥	All Pass

Lindqvist opened a natural 1♦ and invented a second suit for his rebid to avoid a more committal action. Two Diamonds was the switched FSF we have seen previously and Lindqvist admitted to some heart support. When Berg simply jumped to the heart game, Lindqvist in turn jumped to 6♦, offering a choice of slams, and Berg had an easy decision, converting to 6♥. The play was quite straightforward after a spade lead and Berg soon chalked up +980.

Nawrocki opened the strong version of the Polish Club and his 2♦ rebid confirmed that. He next showed heart support and Sikora jumped to 5♦, clearly intended as Exclusion. That shows a certain degree of partnership trust as diamonds was, of course, partner's first-bid suit, but I am sure that 5♦ should indeed be Exclusion here as West could have shown diamond support earlier. Something went badly wrong though as Nawrocki eventually closed the auction with a leap to 7♥.

Simonsen led the ace of clubs; down one for -50 and 14 IMPs to Norway.

On the six deals we have seen, the score was 32-26 in favour of Norway. The overall match score was 45-42 IMPs, 16-14 VPs to Poland.

Meet the Dutch Girls



If you see an Orange cloud jumping by, there is a high possibility that it is the Dutch Girls team! Maybe you already know us, maybe you don't, but here we have an up-to-date introduction!

Lotte Leufkens (17): Lotte is the youngest and tallest player of the team. Although it is her first European Championship, she is making an excellent performance! She is always cheerful, and when we asked her how it felt to play three matches on one day, she replied enthusiastic: "It's amazing, I love it!" Well, that is the kind of spirit any team would be grateful to have! One of Lotte's favorite candies is the so called Dutch delight 'Spekje', she can enjoy one or more at almost any time of the day, and she likes to share them with whoever wants one as well!

Laura Dekkers (24): When you take a first look at Laura you'll notice that she is always smiling and Laughing Out Loud. Every day she jumps around in one of her orange shirts (we secretly believe that orange shirts are the only shirts she brought in her bag!) But of course here in the tournament that detail turns out to be great! She is an amazing girl and we love her!

Sigrid Spangenberg (21): We are already thinking for half a day about the perfect thing to write about our lovely Sigrid and finally we found it! She loves to drink two litres of tea per day, preferably with a couple of 'dropjes' (liquorish), but tiny cubes of Dutch cheese will do as well! For more than three years she has already been together with Dutch U21 player Ernst Wackwitz (we are suggesting to her not to take his last name...).

Judith Nab (21): The most important thing to know about Judith, of course after that she is a great girl with a great wonderful and sweet personality is that she is a really good volleyball player! She actually won her competition with her team this year, which makes us very proud. Furthermore, boys, she lives together with Bob Drijver (player of the Dutch Junior team) so, although she is very cute, you really haven't got a chance.

Jamilla Spangenberg (21): We happen to know about Jamilla that one of her favourite activities is to discuss bridge hands with her boyfriend (Merijn Groenenboom) in bed! (We will not tell you how we know this. Furthermore, she is totally in love with France (except when she has to play bridge against them). She very much enjoys eating bread from Bakery Paul but really detests 'escargots'. She is always ready for anyone who needs help, in what ever way possible! We are glad Jamilla is in the team.

Rosaline Barendregt (23): After a half-year stay in Portugal, Rosaline was just in time to join the Girls Team to play this European Championship. She is always very joyful and she is jumping up and down when we win matches. On the very first morning she played the song 'Can't touch this', and ever since it has become our team

song when we feel good and when we feel down. So when you see us dancing in the hallway, we are listening to that song.

Alex van Reenen: If Alex would land on a planet without Coca Cola he would for sure be extreeeemely disappointed. Also, whenever he hears the word 'Pepsi' he goes completely nuts. His son has recently done his high school exams and passed it! As a Non-Playing Captain he always makes sure there is good food, and LOTS of it! So with Alex around, we will be very sure not to be hungry at any moment of the day.

Hans Kelder: Hans is in seventh heaven because already for several years he is allowed to take (sometimes more than) six women to all kind of places around the world. He is very pleased to do this, and recently with Alex, as the two of them have been friends from the time that they were still juniors themselves.

Furthermore, we discuss everyday all the juicy gossip that we know with Hans, and we keep him up-to-date about 'the boyfriends of the week'.

Today in History - July 13th



1985: Live Aid concert
On 13 July 1985, at Wembley Stadium in London, Prince Charles and Princess Diana help inaugurate Live Aid, a worldwide rock concert organised to raise money for the relief of famine-stricken Africans. Continued at several stadiums around the world, the 16-hour super concert was globally linked by satellite to over a billion viewers in

169 nations. Many of the world's top pop artists, including Madonna, David Bowie and Phil Collins, performed at the event, which ended with a performance of We Are the World, a hit song released earlier that year to benefit African hunger relief. The event, which was the brainchild of rock singer Bob Geldof, raised nearly \$100 million for agricultural and technical assistance to Africa.



1919: British airship R34 lands back in Norfolk, England after making the first round trip across the Atlantic to the United States and back again.

1878: The Balkans is re-organised with Serbia, Montenegro and Romania gaining independence from the Ottoman Empire as the Treaty of Berlin is signed.

UNDER 26 OPEN TEAMS ROUND 9



POLAND

v

ENGLAND



At the time the two countries met, Poland was lying ninth, still in with a chance of qualification or even a medal; England needed to reverse a poor run that had seen them drop to 19th.

Your reporter watched in the Open Room where Artur Wasiak & Joanna Krawczyk of Poland faced Alex Morris & Fiona Brown. The Poles play fairly standard Polish Club with Multi 2♦; the English pair play five-card majors and strong no trump with three weak twos. The Closed Room featured a great rarity: a British pair (Mike Bell & Ed Jones) playing Polish club against Poland. Not so rare: the two Poles, both called Piotr, with names ending in "ski" (Wiankow.. & Zator...) were also playing Polish Club.

On the first board North held as dealer:

♠ A 10
♥ J 9 6 5 3 2
♦ 8 5 2
♣ A J

The auction in the Open Room was:

West	North	East	South
Wasiak	Brown	Krawczyk	Morris
	1♥	2♦	2♥
3♣	3♥	4♣	4♥
5♣	All Pass		

Brown led a fourth highest heart and dummy proved to be:

♠ 6 4 2
♥ 8 4
♦ A K Q J 6
♣ K 10 2

Your heart lead goes to the queen and ace. Declarer leads

a small trump. How do you defend?

Brown did well when she went up with the ace of trumps and switched to the ace of spades. Partner encouraged and a second spade beat the game. The argument of course is that the diamonds will dispose of any losers so you need partner to hold one of the major-suit kings and you will find out which with an attitude signal on the ace. This defence was essential as the full deal proved to be:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A 10		♠ 6 4 2									
♥ J 9 6 5 3 2		♥ 8 4									
♦ 8 5 2		♦ A K Q J 6									
♣ A J		♣ K 10 2									
♠ 8 7											
♥ A K											
♦ 10 7											
♣ Q 9 8 7 6 5 3											
	<table border="1" style="width: 40px; height: 40px; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; font-size: 10px;"> <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										
		♠ K Q J 9 5 3									
		♥ Q 10 7									
		♦ 9 4 3									
		♣ 4									

South considered bidding spades at his first turn. As it turned out the heart lead would have proved fatal had Wasiak tried for diamonds 3-3 (or 4-2 with the shortage having bare ace of trumps) rather than a defensive mistake, so Brown can take his line of play as a small insult, with her defence the best answer. (In the viewgraph match France made 5♣ doubled on a heart lead from Germany when declarer immediately played diamonds.)

With diamonds 3-3, 4♥ doubled costs 500 and Wasiak may have thought this implied they were unlikely to break. Whatever, it was a sigh of relief for England.

In the Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Jones	Wiankowski	Bell	Zatorski
	Pass	1♣*	2♠
2NT*	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

1♣ was British-Polish, 2NT was a transfer showing clubs. As East is supposed to have the weak no trump hand West might have tried 4♣ but, as he failed to find a diamond switch at any stage, 3♠ made 11 tricks for a 3 IMP gain to Poland.

The next board also contained a point in defence:

Past Play Problem No. 4

Here is another play problem from an earlier Youth Championship:
How should West play 6♦? North leads a trump and South follows suit.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

Solution on page 14.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wasiak	Brown	Krawczyk	Morris
		1♦	1♠
Dble	Pass	2♦	All Pass

North/South had done well to go quietly for at other tables several of them got into trouble.

South led ♠Q. North ruffed and cashed ♥A felling partner's king and then played another. East chose to ruff with the jack, and South was pleased to make his singleton queen of trumps. How should South continue?

Morris actually led a low spade asking for a club after the ruff. Partner obliged, and a second club went to the king. Declarer led the winning spade off dummy. North ruffed, East over-ruffed and ruffed a club. When the remaining club honour fell declarer claimed.

The alternative defence, when giving partner the second spade ruff, of asking for a heart back, might have worked. Declarer would surely read South's shape as 7-1-2-3 and ruff the third heart high, playing for the remaining trumps to be 1-1.

In the Closed Room, East opened 1♦, and South over-called 3♣. This was passed out and went two off for 200 to England and 3 IMPs.

Even experienced users of the Multi have misunderstandings. This one was lucky to cost only 5 IMPs:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Game.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jones	Wiankowski	Bell	Zatorski
Pass	2♦(i)	Dble	All Pass!

(i) Multi

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wasiak	Brown	Krawczyk	Morris
Pass	2♥	Dble	3♥
Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, North was expecting better diamonds from South for the pass over the double. Two Diamonds doubled cost 800.

In the Open Room, against 4♠, Alex Morris cleverly led the ♥K. Krawczyk won and led ♦K. North won and switched to her singleton club. Declarer won in dummy, played a trump to the ace, took the heart ruff, and played a second trump. The defence obtained a club ruff but declarer had +620 for 5 IMPs to England. However, only one more gain came England's way in the rest of the match.

There was no swing on the partscore Board 4. Board 5 contained a play problem for South:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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




The auction was the same at both tables:

West	North	East	South
Wasiak	Brown	Krawczyk	Morris
Jones	Wiankowski	Bell	Zatorski
All Pass	1♠	Pass	INT

West leads ♥K. One declarer won at once and one ducked, winning the next heart with the jack. East shows an even number. What suit should declarer play on next?

In practice, the England declarer played a club and went a couple off when neither minor was friendly. It seemed to

your reporter at the time that with no entry to the clubs and no wish to play diamonds from dummy it might be right to hope spades were 3-3 and duck a trick in that suit first. If you look at the full deal you will see that the contract can still be beaten, but only by very fine defence:


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

If declarer ducks a spade West must find a diamond switch, East return a club and West play another diamond. If West continues hearts declarer can clear the spades and, because East has no heart entry, the diamond suit is dead and declarer comes to a club trick later.

In the Closed Room, Poland made INT by playing on spades, for a gain of 7 IMPs.

Board 6 was a dull 4♠ making +1 at both tables. Poland gained 1 IMP on each of Boards 7 and 8. But this deal was more competitive:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Game.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wasiak	Brown	Krawczyk	Morris
	Pass	1♣	1♠
2♦	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♣	5♠	Dble	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jones	Wiankowski	Bell	Zatorski
	Pass	1♣(i)	2♣(ii)
3♦(iii)	4♠	5♦(iv)	5♠
6♦(v)	All Pass		

- (i) British-Polish club
- (ii) Both majors
- (iii) 3♦ was intended to show both minors but East was not certain of this
- (iv) 5♦ was a little risky as with Polish club you normally have to pass on the next round in a competitive auction to warn that you have the weak no trump hand rather than the strong version.
- (v) A reasonable shot even when East has the weak no-trump (East's major suit ace might have been in hearts) though unsuccessful.


Had North in the Open Room not bid 5♠, there is little doubt she would have been on lead against 5♦ needing to find a heart to beat it. So it is probably just as well she took out insurance. Five Spades doubled went one down for 100 to Poland.

In the Closed Room, the man on lead had the advantage that his partner had shown both majors. A spade lead allows the slam to make but he chose a heart and Poland gained 200 and 7 IMPs.

Board 10 was a further IMP to Poland who led 21-8 at the half-way point.

In the second half England was the first to gain, reaching a 23-point 3NT missed by Poland:

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jones	Wiankowski	Bell	Zatorski
	2♣(i)	Pass	2♦(ii)
Pass	2♠	Dble	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

- (i) Both majors, weak
- (ii) Asking for longer major

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wasiak	Brown	Krawczyk	Morris
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♠	2♣	2♠
3♣	All Pass		

3NT came home for 10 IMPs to England.

From then on it was all Poland. Here are the two main swings:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Game.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jones	Wiankowski	Bell	Zatorski
1♠	Dble	2♣	1♥
3♠	All Pass		3♣

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wasiak	Brown	Krawczyk	Morris
1♠	Dble	2♣	1♥
3♠	3NT	All Pass	Dble

In the Closed Room, England was allowed to play in 3♠. This has to go at least one off, and when declarer misguessed diamonds it went two light for 200 to Poland.

In the Open Room, North, with no aces and only one stop in the opponents' suit, made a slightly risky call of 3NT. On a spade lead everything depended on picking up the hearts. When that failed and declarer later misguessed diamonds, the game went five down for 500 to Poland and 12 IMPs.

The next deal hinged on the lead:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jones	Wiankowski	Bell	Zatorski
1NT	Pass	2NT(i)	Pass
3♦(ii)	Pass	Pass	Dble
4♦	All Pass		

- (i) Transfer promising diamonds
- (ii) Support for diamonds (but see what West chose at the other table)

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wasiak	Brown	Krawczyk	Morris
1NT	Pass	3♣(i)	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

- (i) Diamonds, either weak or game-forcing

In the Closed Room, England played quietly in 4♦, making in comfort. The stakes were heightened in the Open Room when Wasiak gambled 3NT on the big fit with partner and Morris doubled.

Brown, North, had no idea which suit South wanted. The only clue was that South had not doubled 3♣. (South may have felt that a double of 3♣ principally is take-out for the majors, and therefore the double of 3NT actually suggests a club lead.) Anyway, she decided to start with the ♥A, hoping that the sight of dummy and partner's signal would tell her what to lead next. It did, but it was too late, declarer had nine tricks. Note that if North leads a spade South might still win and switch to a club in time.

This was another 12 IMPs to Poland who won the match by 61-18 IMPs or 24-6 VPs.



Fiona Brown, England

Polish Counterstroke

With only three matches left in the Girls series, Denmark played Poland (Round I I). Before the match started, Poland again was on top of the table, while Denmark was chasing, 11 VPs behind, just outside the medals.

Signe Buus Thomsen and Anna Christa Ege kicked off into slam on the very first board.

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ K 8 7 6
♥ 9 4 3
♦ J 5 2
♣ 8 6 4

♠ 4 3
♥ A 7 5
♦ A K 9 8 3
♣ A Q 2



♠ A Q 5 2
♥ K Q 10 8 6
♦ Q 6
♣ J 10

♠ J 10 9
♥ J 2
♦ 10 7 4
♣ K 9 7 5 3

West	North	East	South
Ege	Grabowska	Buus Thomsen	Sakowska
	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♣(i)	Pass	4♠(i)	Pass
4NT(ii)	Pass	5♠(iii)	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

- (i) Cuebid
- (ii) RKCB
- (iii) Two aces and the queen of hearts

Knowing that partner didn't have a diamond control was good information for West. And with all the aces in the bag,



Anna Christa Ege, Denmark

West maybe should do some research if seven is going to be played or not. However, she decided not even to try to look for it. When diamonds split 3-3, it was a short story after a spade lead into the declarer's ace-queen, thirteen quick tricks. Ege was right, 7♥ wasn't a really good contract to be in. You needed diamonds 3-3 and to find the right black king to finesse. Unluckily for her that was the story. We want better odds than that for grand slams. It was 11 IMPs to Denmark when they only reached game at the other table.

However, the Polish girls struck back with a slam a few boards later.

West	North	East	South
Ege	Grabowska	Buus Thomsen	Sakowska
		Pass	2♣(i)
Pass	2♦(ii)	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠(iii)	Pass	3♠(iv)
Pass	4♥(v)	Pass	5♣(vi)
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

- (i) Precision style, natural 5+♣
- (ii) Relay, asking for feature
- (iii) Still asking
- (iv) 3-4-1-5 or 3-4-0-6
- (v) Asking for aces, hearts are trumps
- (vi) Two aces without the queen.

What do you lead with:

♠ K J 7 4
♥ 5
♦ J 8 7 6 2
♣ Q 10 7

Ege faced this at the table and was really in the fog of Brasov. After a long thought she finally decided to lead a diamond. Only a spade was successful but who could blame her for not leading that suit after this bidding?

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 8 6
♥ A Q 8 7 6 3
♦ A Q 4
♣ 2

♠ K J 7 4
♥ 5
♦ J 8 7 6 2
♣ Q 10 7



♠ A 10 5
♥ J 10
♦ K 10 9 5
♣ J 9 4 3

♠ 9 3 2
♥ K 9 4 2
♦ 3
♣ A K 8 6 5

Sakowska went up with the diamond ace, played a club to the ace, ruffed a club and pulled the defenders' trump with ace and king of hearts. She then discarded one spade on the king of clubs, ruffed another club to set up the fifth one

and little bit later on discarded the second spade from dummy. That was just made and 9 IMPs for Poland.

In the U-26 match between Germany and Croatia the bidding started with three passes to North who opened with 1♥, South jumped to 4♦ (splinter), North next made a cuebid in clubs before South realized that they were high enough and ended the auction with 5♥. Germany's Raffael Braun found the very inspired five of spades to ensure one down, well done!

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ege	Grabowska	Buus Thomsen	Sakowska
			Pass
1♥	1♠	2♣	Pass
2♦	2♠	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Ewa Grabowska tried to find another inspired lead on Board 7 when she decided to lead the queen of spades against 3NT. However, the lead wasn't successful at all. Ege cashed her clubs and finally set up her hearts to bring home eleven tricks, where only eight existed before the lead. That was 13 IMPs to Denmark when the Polish pair decided to try their luck in 4♥ in the Closed Room and that went two off.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ege	Grabowska	Buus Thomsen	Sakowska
	2♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

This was a very difficult board where you needed to have agreements about how to defend the 2♦ Multi, or have a lot of courage. Many tables in both series didn't get into the auction after that pre-empt by South. Dane, Buus Thomsen found a balance with 3♠ and was quickly raised to game by her partner. In the Closed Room no one competed over then 3♥; 12 more IMPs for Denmark.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ege	Grabowska	Buus Thomsen	Sakowska
		Pass	1♥
3♠	4♥	All Pass	

Ege led the jack of clubs. Sakowska won in hand and pulled three rounds of trumps ending up in her hand. She then played a spade, which Ege won with her ace and again attacked clubs. Sakowska won the trick and now had an option; if she were in slam she would have needed the king of diamonds to be in place. Not being in slam, she correctly played it to be offside and therefore only took eleven tricks; 1 IMP to Denmark when twelve tricks were won at the other table in 5♥.

Poland won the match by 17-13 VPs, and both teams kept their positions in the ranking.



Natalia Sakowska, Poland

Girl Power

by Enri Leufkens

In the eighth round of the Girls, you could witness fine play by both declarer and her opponents in the match between Norway and the Netherlands.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

<p>♠ 7 5 ♥ A 7 ♦ 9 5 3 2 ♣ 10 8 6 5 2</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	<p>♠ 6 3 ♥ K Q J 8 ♦ Q 6 ♣ A Q 9 4 3</p>
N					
W E					
S					
<p>♠ Q 9 4 2 ♥ 6 5 3 ♦ A K J 8 4 ♣ 7</p>	<p>♠ A K J 10 8 ♥ 10 9 4 2 ♦ 10 7 ♣ K J</p>				

On this deal, the Norwegian West played 3NT after South, Judith Nab, overcalled 1♠. The lead was the seven of spades, and South put in the ten. That was the first good play. Declarer ducking was the second good play as South had to be kept from her spades after ♥A was got rid off. Now South found the inspired play of the ten of hearts, and North, Laura Dekkers, ducked. This was too much for declarer, who quite reasonably took the jack of hearts and played back the king. This way she could combine hearts 3-3, 10-9 falling and the club finesse. North won the ace of hearts and the contract had to go one down.

Well played by declarer, but even better defense by Judith and Laura!

Past Play Problem No. 4 Solution

How should West play 6♦? North leads a trump and South follows suit.

<p>♠ K 7 ♥ A 7 ♦ K J 10 9 6 3 ♣ A 7 5</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	<p>♠ A 5 ♥ K 9 8 3 ♦ A Q 7 ♣ J 10 8 6</p>
N					
W E					
S					

In the 1989 World Junior Championships, Andy Robson was declarer. Hoping trumps were 2-2, he began an elimination play: ♥A, ♥K, heart ruff, back to dummy with a trump. When South showed out the elimination was dead (North would have the third trump to lead later). Robson decided to play the defender with more trumps for short clubs. He drew the last trump ending in hand and led a low club, finding North with ♣Qx. If North rose with the queen there was a spade entry in dummy to take a club finesse through South. North played low and later Robson played the ace, dropping the queen. This is better odds than playing North to hold the ♣9 and South the ♣KQ (leading a top club from dummy and later finessing the ♣8 if necessary).

These problems are taken from a new book published this month by Masterpoint Press with selections from Bridge Magazine's Problem Corner by Patrick Jourdain.

Meet the French Girls

Jessie Carbonneau: 'The Piplette', 20 years old, living in Lyon, studies Law (she will soon be a lawyer). She never stops talking, talking and talking again!

We discovered during the championship that she also talks during her sleep, and that she is a sleepwalker. Be careful if someone knocks at your door during the night or comes in your bed, it could be Jessie!

Carole PUILLET: 'Calamity Jane', 22 years old, living in Lyon, studies Maths but she is now a professional bridge player.

She is a colour-blind person, that's why she found several sacrifices vulnerable against non vulnerable. (Three down but not doubled, 3 IMPs for us.) But be careful if you go higher than the two level as you have a good chance to be quickly doubled!

Léa Robert: 'Xenia', 25 years old, living in Paris. She manages the opening of new stores. In a relationship with Thomas Bessis (French junior team). She is the warrior of the team, to prepare for the championship, she got herself a piercing and a braid.

She has already broken a bed during the championship, she made pumps!

During the bidding, if you know she has gone too high, don't even think of doubling her if you want to stay alive!

Marion Canonne: 'The champion' 21 years old, living in Pouliguen (near La Baule), studies Politics. In a relationship with Quentin Robert (French junior team). She is smiling all the time, if you hear a noisy burst of laughter, it's her!

If you know a Stubborn ass, you have a part of Marion. Another part is the world champion that she is, and she is a leader in our team.

Aurélie Thizy: 'the Alchemist' 20 years old, living in Besancon, studies Chemistry. In a relationship with Cedric Lorenzini (French junior team). She plays like a man, more precisely like Cedric! Religion is very important for her; in her Cedric she trusts!

She had some problem in sleeping because the room next door makes a lot of 'noises' during the night!

Claire Chaugny: 'The sweetness' 22 years old, living in Paris, studies medicine. When you're playing against her, don't ask her any questions about her play, she will start crying!


The best team member, the nurse of the team, always ready to remotivate us. She had to play very well, because every night, she reviews her mistake in her nightmares.

Jerome (NPC): For the moment, he is the only one to have made no mistake. However, according to his players, it is a real pleasure to play at Barbu (also known as Tafferan) against him (his surname is The Sugar)...

Since he is in Brasov, he is so excited that his hair has whitened. You may think he is the youngest of the team because of his tendency to shriek and to jump everywhere, but don't be mistaken, he already has three children!


Wrong Way Up

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

In Turkey v Latvia, we saw 5♦ declared by South on a spade lead. Declarer did the best he could by crossruffing spades and clubs. East pitched a heart on the fourth spade, declarer ruffed another club, cashed ♥A and ruffed a third club then played ♥K and another club.

In this ending:

<p>♠ - ♥ Q ♦ J 6 ♣ A</p>		<p>♠ - ♥ - ♦ K 9 4 ♣ Q</p>	<p>♠ - ♥ 10 9 ♦ A Q ♣ -</p> <p>♠ - ♥ 8 ♦ 10 ♣ K 8</p>
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

East must pitch a heart and West can win and lead a trump to set the game. In fact, East gave up by ruffing the heart and now had to concede the eleventh trick.

But let's go back; would it have done any good to have North declare 5♦? (A strong club and negative response had made South declarer). Yes indeed!

East cannot lead either major without giving up a trick and a trump lead loses the second defensive winner while not stopping the two ruffs in dummy. So it must be a club lead. Declarer ruffs and merrily cross-ruffs clubs and spades as before. On the fourth spade East pitches a club – or else declarer scores four club ruffs in hand, four spade tricks, two hearts and the diamond ace.


Declarer now does not need to pin East's remaining club spot to set up the eight. Instead he simply ruffs a third club, denuding East of that suit, and plays the ace and queen of diamonds. East is in, and can cash the diamond nine, but then everyone is down to three hearts, and East must give up the defenders' trick in that suit.

Precious Diamonds

by Jean-Francois Jourdain (Belgium)

Belgium is doing very badly up to now, despite a promising start on the first day. For the first time since I play bridge, we were defeated by Austria, and by a resounding 23-7! This deal from our Round 5 match swung 16 IMPS to Austria:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
De Visschere	Schulz	Dobbels	Bina
		1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

Over the 4♥ cuebid, Willem De Visschere had a slight worry since the pair agreed not to cuebid shortages in partner's first suit. So he decided to use Blackwood, while fearing that he could be too high on a 5♥/♠ response, showing two key cards with or without the trump queen. Everything went all right, however, when Tine Dobbels answered three key cards, and the excellent slam was quickly established.

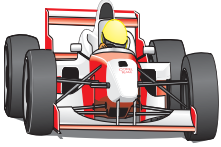
South, Richard Bina, found the natural lead of the six of clubs, which went to the ten and queen. Dobbels unblocked the ace of hearts, played the king of trumps, crossed to the jack of clubs and ruffed a heart. She followed with the ten of trumps which she overtook with the ace. When everyone followed she had a delicate choice now. If the hearts broke 5-2 and the clubs 4-3, she had to ruff dummy's small heart, cross to dummy with the king of clubs and draw the last trump, after which dummy would be high; if the hearts behaved but the club split was bad, all she had to do was to draw the last trump now and enjoy dummy. She finally guessed wrong, choosing this latter line of play, and went down one.

Bad luck? You might think so, but this line requires either a 3-2 trump split and a final guess, or that all the other suits behave if the trumps break 4-1.

In the other room, Adele Gogoman showed how the contract should have been played. She took the same lead in hand with the queen and played a spade to the nine. North took the trick and returned a club for the ace. Gogoman now ruffed a spade, crossed to the ace of hearts, ruffed a spade high, and was now able to draw the remaining trumps (even if they broke 4-1) and reach dummy with the king of clubs to cash the last two hearts. This was simple and efficient, as this line of play could only be defeated by a 6-1 break in a black suit, or a 5-0 break in trumps.



Sport News



Formula 1

German Grand Prix

Mark Webber wins his first Grand Prix, becoming the third Australian to do so.

1 M Webber (Red Bull) 2 S Vettel (Red Bull) 3 F Massa (Ferrari) 4 N Rosberg (Williams) 5 J Button (Brawn) 6 R Barrichello (Brawn) 7 F Alonso (Renault) 8 H Kovalainen (McLaren)



Cycling

Frenchman Pierrick Fedrigo produced a late burst to edge out Franco Pellizotti on stage nine of the Tour de France from Saint Gaudens to Tarbes. The pair, who broke clear on the Col du Tourmalet, successfully held off the peloton's attempts to reel them in.

Italian Rinaldo Nocentini held onto the yellow jersey, with no real change among the leading contenders.



Cricket

Despite being completely outplayed, England held on to draw the first Ashes test match against Australia, last-wicket pair Panesar and Anderson surviving 11.3 overs at the end.



Tennis

In the Davis Cup quarter-finals, Israel completed a 4-1 victory over Russia. In the semi-finals they will meet Spain who defeated Germany 3-2. The other semi-final will be between Czech Republic, who defeated Argentina 3-2, and Croatia, who have a winning 3-1 lead

over USA.



Horse Racing

Sariska completed a famous Classic double as she cruised to victory in the Irish Oaks at the Curragh. The Michael Bell-trained filly, ridden by Jamie

Spencer, romped clear of Roses For The Lady to add this crown to the Epsom Oaks that she won last month.

Henry Cecil's Middy, who battled all the way with Sariska at Epsom, had to settle for third, with Roses For The Lady in second.

They Aren't as Innocent as They Look

Host country Romania took on Sweden in Round 9 (U-26). If they didn't know already, they surely learned that the Swedish aren't as nice and innocent as they look.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ – ♥ J 4 3 ♦ K Q J 7 3 ♣ Q J 10 8 6	<table border="1" style="width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K J 7 5 3 ♥ Q 5 2 ♦ 10 ♣ K 7 4 2	♠ A 9 6 ♥ 8 7 6 ♦ A 6 5 2 ♣ A 9 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											
West <i>Parvulescu</i>	North <i>Sjöberg</i> INT!	East <i>Stafie</i> Pass	South <i>Rimstedt</i> 2♠									
Pass All Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠									

Sjöberg/Rimstedt play a mini-no trump opening showing 9-12. Normally that opening bid does not contain either a five-card major or a singleton. This time it happened that Emma Sjöberg had both of these features!

Two Spades was to play but Emma had such a suitable hand for spades that she felt obliged to raise, and Cecilia Rimstedt went on to game. With nine facing nine HCP the game was impossible to defeat since the singletons matched perfectly. Why Parvulescu chose not to act with his minors is unknown, but perhaps he was scared of the vulnerability.

It was 11 IMPs to Sweden when the Romanian pair was doubled in 5♠ at the other table, going one down.

Calling the Director After a Hesitation

The Chief Tournament Director wishes to remind the players of: Regulation 3.1.4, paragraphs e, f and g.

If a player on the side of the screen receiving the tray considers there has been a break in tempo, he should call the Director before the opening lead is made and the screen opened. The screenmate of the hesitator should not draw attention to the break in tempo.

Bridge The Hard Way

by Kees Tammens

In the lobby of the excellent hotel Piatra Mare, we can (wireless) follow a lot of matches. And juniors come by to tell their stories. Sometimes bridge is very difficult, and cruel. How about this hand from Round 10 of the Open (11 Girls)

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
4♠	All Pass	2♣	Pass

In this sequence after the multi 2♦ the vulnerable game was reached.

But who is to blame in the next one:

West	North	East	South
All Pass	2♦	Pass	3♥



Rutger van Mechelen, Belgium

It is by no means clear if West or East has a bid.

Rutger van Mechelen of Belgium told me that his teammates defeated 3♥ by one trick. Not a super result when you have twelve tricks in spades. But the Belgian juniors did better:

West	North	East	South
	3♥	All Pass	

The lead of the ♠Q was won with the ace and a small heart was called for. West, eager for diamond ruffs, went in with ♥A so East/West won this trick in great style – only to see declarer score nine tricks for +140 and an unexpected (from the view of the Belgian East/West pair in the other room) of 5 IMPs.

Don't Mess With Conventions!

Board 17. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
2♥	Pass	2♦	Dble
Dble	3♣	Pass	3♠
	All Pass		

Team Profiles



We would like to publish as many team profiles as possible in the Daily Bulletin. These can be serious or humorous – but please keep the humour within common sense boundaries. The bulletins appear on the internet all over the world and what we may consider funny has been known in the past to offend a small number of people.

As well as helping us all to know each other a little better, these profiles are a valuable source of information for journalists, so it is particularly important that we publish them for any team which ends up in the medals.

Please hand team profiles to any of Brian Senior, Micke Melander, Barry Rigal or Patrick Jourdain or email to: bsenior@hotmail.com

West wanted to tell partner NOT to lead a spade. Sometimes this can be a useful agreement, but in this case West had to lead and South chalked up eleven tricks for +730.

To continue the daily mail of the Dutch juniors:

In the seventh round the always important derby of 'de lage landen' took place. That refers to the Low Countries, Belgium and the Netherlands. Being a coach for a long time, we have had many interesting and exciting encounters, in which the outcome never was sure. However, this time the Dutch overpowered the Belgian Junior Team.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ – ♥ K 10 7 6 ♦ 8 7 4 2 ♣ A Q J 10 6	<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		♠ K 8 7 ♥ J 8 ♦ K Q J 9 3 ♣ K 5 3	♠ A Q 10 9 6 4 3 ♥ A Q 5 3 2 ♦ – ♣ 8
	N											
W		E										
	S											
West	North	East	South									
<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>van Mechelen</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>van Mechelen</i>									
Pass	Pass	1♦	2♦									
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass									
5♦	Dble	All Pass										

The younger brother, Joram, South, was very conservative in passing 4♦ and he was obedient when Rutger wielded the axe against 5♦.



Marion Michelsen, Netherlands

After the singleton club lead (can you make ruffs with a void in trumps?) declarer, Bob Drijver, played very carefully. He took ♣Q and played a small diamond for the king. A spade ruff was followed by clubs, discarding hearts from East. There was nothing North/South could do to prevent declarer from taking eleven tricks for 550. He could add that amount to the 790 that was scored by Hop/de Pagter in 4♠ doubled. As you can see, the Belgian juniors don't let their Dutch peers lose. It was, however, the day for the Netherlands, winning with 25 VPs.

In Round 8, written up elsewhere, the Netherlands went under (11-19) against France, who really looked to be on a roll.

It was a good moment to leave the hotel for the local pizzeria, downtown. The juniors arrived there and saw that the girls of the Netherlands were already sitting there, enjoying their meal. The tournament was only a third of the way through but to get into contention the Netherlands really needed some high scoring matches. Croatia and the Czech Republic consist of experienced juniors and are always improving themselves. Over the years these countries have met each other on many occasions and the outcome can not be predicted with confidence.

Again an interesting decision in Round 9 against Croatia:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ – ♥ J 4 3 ♦ K Q J 7 3 ♣ Q J 10 8 6	<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		♠ K J 7 5 3 ♥ Q 5 2 ♦ 10 ♣ K 7 4 2	♠ A 9 6 ♥ 8 7 6 ♦ A 6 5 2 ♣ A 9 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											
West	North	East	South									
<i>Gracin</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Gumzej</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>									
Pass	Pass	1♦	1♠									
3♠	4♣	Pass	Pass									
Dble	All Pass											

Also for East/West, not an easy hand. For the Netherlands, Verbeek/Molenaar as East/West took an advance save in 6♣, going down two for only -100 – not expensive as 4♣ proved to be unbeatable.

Croatia v the Netherlands ended in 9-21, the same result the Dutch also achieved in the match against the Czech Republic. So the pizza on the night before really proved a boost for the Dutch juniors who went on to encourage the Netherlands Girls team on their way to the podium.

So on the 'rest' day (coaches are not keen on this for fear of injuries caused by football, beach volleyball or tennis), Monday, a pizza will be the designated meal for the juniors of the Netherlands who are eager to catch the leading pack.