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# A Few Favourites Falter



*You are assured of a warm welcome  
from the Hospitality Team*

After a day that featured a number of surprises, such as Monaco's defeat of England, Greece's triumph over Netherlands and San Marino's victory over Poland it is mostly the usual suspects who are setting the early pace.

In **Group A Italy** (now there's a surprise) lead the way, followed by Czech Republic, Israel, Finland, Netherlands and Greece, Iceland, Scotland and Monaco.

**Group B** is topped by **Germany**, then come Bulgaria, Russia, Sweden, Poland, San Marino, Belarus, Romania and France.

## Round 4

4	Denmark - Serbia	SWAN
8	England - Latvia	BBO 3
9	Luxembourg - Netherlands	BBO 5
11	Romania - France	BBO 1
12	Germany - San Marino	BBO 2
13	Belgium - Austria	RAMA
16	Portugal - Ireland	BBO 4

## Round 5

1	Turkey - Iceland	BBO 5
4	Serbia - Croatia	BBO 4
7	Israel - England	BBO 3
8	Latvia - Italy	BBO 2
11	France - Germany	BBO 1
17	Bulgaria - Norway	RAMA
18	Malta - Sweden	SWAN

## Round 6

6	England - Finland	BBO 4
7	Italy - Israel	RAMA
9	Netherlands - Czech Rep.	BBO 5
11	Belgium - France	BBO 1
16	Norway - Ireland	BBO 3
17	Sweden - Bulgaria	SWAN
18	Slovakia - Germany	BBO 2

## Today's Schedule

- 10.30 Open Teams, Round 4
- 14.15 Open Teams, Round 5
- 17.35 Open Teams, Round 6



## OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM

### GROUP A

#### ROUND 4 10.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	CZECH REP.	TURKEY
2	ICELAND	LITHUANIA
3	SCOTLAND	GREECE
4	DENMARK	SERBIA
5	CROATIA	SPAIN
6	SWITZERLAND	FINLAND
7	MONACO	ISRAEL
8	ENGLAND	LATVIA
9	LUXEMBOURG	NETHERLANDS
	ITALY	BYE

#### ROUND 5 14.15

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	TURKEY	ICELAND
2	LITHUANIA	SCOTLAND
3	GREECE	DENMARK
4	SERBIA	CROATIA
5	SPAIN	SWITZERLAND
6	FINLAND	MONACO
7	ISRAEL	ENGLAND
8	LATVIA	ITALY
9	CZECH REP.	LUXEMBOURG
	NETHERLANDS	BYE

#### ROUND 6 17.35

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	SCOTLAND	TURKEY
2	DENMARK	LITHUANIA
3	CROATIA	GREECE
4	SWITZERLAND	SERBIA
5	MONACO	SPAIN
6	ENGLAND	FINLAND
7	ITALY	ISRAEL
8	LUXEMBOURG	ICELAND
9	NETHERLANDS	CZECH REP.
	LATVIA	BYE

### GROUP B

#### ROUND 4 10.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
11	ROMANIA	FRANCE
12	GERMANY	SAN MARINO
13	BELGIUM	AUSTRIA
14	RUSSIA	ESTONIA
15	WALES	HUNGARY
16	PORTUGAL	IRELAND
17	BELARUS	BULGARIA
18	NORWAY	MALTA
19	SLOVAKIA	POLAND
	SWEDEN	BYE

#### ROUND 5 14.15

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
11	FRANCE	GERMANY
12	SAN MARINO	BELGIUM
13	AUSTRIA	RUSSIA
14	ESTONIA	WALES
15	HUNGARY	PORTUGAL
16	IRELAND	BELARUS
17	BULGARIA	NORWAY
18	MALTA	SWEDEN
19	ROMANIA	SLOVAKIA
	POLAND	BYE

#### ROUND 6 17.35

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
11	BELGIUM	FRANCE
12	RUSSIA	SAN MARINO
13	WALES	AUSTRIA
14	PORTUGAL	ESTONIA
15	BELARUS	HUNGARY
16	NORWAY	IRELAND
17	SWEDEN	BULGARIA
18	SLOVAKIA	GERMANY
19	POLAND	ROMANIA
	MALTA	BYE

## Qualifiers

Instead of letting you wait until next weekend to find out what nine teams will make it from each group we are proud to present the qualifiers already today. This has been possible through looking into stars, crystal balls and knowledgeable expert minds.

In Group A our abovementioned sources are convinced

that England, Iceland, Italy, and Netherlands will finish among the top nine, and almost sure about Denmark, Israel, and Turkey. Spain and Greece will take the remaining spots

In Group B the sources unanimously assured us that France, Poland, Russia, Norway, and Sweden will be staying here another week, so will probably Austria, Bulgaria, Ireland, and Germany.

## OPEN TEAMS RESULTS

### GROUP A

#### ROUND 1 - subject to official confirmation

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	LITHUANIA	LUXEMBOURG	67 - 38	21 - 9
2	GREECE	NETHERLANDS	68 - 34	22 - 8
3	SERBIA	CZECH REP.	19 - 65	6 - 24
4	SPAIN	ICELAND	37 - 47	13 - 17
5	FINLAND	SCOTLAND	58 - 31	21 - 9
6	ISRAEL	DENMARK	65 - 17	25 - 5
7	LATVIA	CROATIA	68 - 51	19 - 11
8	ITALY	SWITZERLAND	52 - 43	17 - 13
9	ENGLAND	MONACO	34 - 58	10 - 20
	TURKEY	BYE		18 - 0

#### ROUND 2 - subject to official confirmation

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	LUXEMBOURG	TURKEY	56 - 41	18 - 12
2	NETHERLANDS	LITHUANIA	65 - 42	20 - 10
3	CZECH REP.	GREECE	31 - 31	15 - 15
4	ICELAND	SERBIA	23 - 29	14 - 16
5	SCOTLAND	SPAIN	64 - 42	20 - 10
6	DENMARK	FINLAND	55 - 33	20 - 10
7	ISRAEL	CROATIA	32 - 48	12 - 18
8	SWITZERLAND	LATVIA	61 - 27	22 - 8
9	MONACO	ITALY	34 - 83	3 - 25
	ENGLAND	BYE		18 - 0

#### ROUND 3 - subject to official confirmation

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	TURKEY	NETHERLANDS	16 - 57	7 - 23
2	LITHUANIA	CZECH REP.	11 - 38	9 - 21
3	GREECE	ICELAND	34 - 48	12 - 18
4	SERBIA	SCOTLAND	17 - 33	10 - 19
5	SPAIN	DENMARK	49 - 34	18 - 12
6	FINLAND	CROATIA	82 - 25	25 - 4
7	ISRAEL	SWITZERLAND	62 - 33	21 - 9
8	LATVIA	MONACO	7 - 47	7 - 23
9	ITALY	ENGLAND	72 - 35	23 - 7
	LUXEMBOURG	BYE		18 - 0

### GROUP B

#### ROUND 1 - subject to official confirmation

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
11	SAN MARINO	SLOVAKIA	63 - 34	21 - 9
12	AUSTRIA	POLAND	27 - 30	14 - 16
13	ESTONIA	ROMANIA	53 - 16	23 - 7
14	HUNGARY	GERMANY	46 - 43	16 - 14
15	IRELAND	BELGIUM	44 - 33	17 - 13
16	BULGARIA	RUSSIA	51 - 48	16 - 14
17	MALTA	WALES	37 - 64	9 - 21
18	SWEDEN	PORTUGAL	29 - 36	14 - 16
19	NORWAY	BELARUS	34 - 31	16 - 14
	FRANCE	BYE		18 - 0

#### ROUND 2 - subject to official confirmation

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
11	SLOVAKIA	FRANCE	25 - 52	9 - 21
12	SAN MARINO	POLAND	65 - 61	16 - 14
13	ROMANIA	AUSTRIA	65 - 16	25 - 5
14	GERMANY	ESTONIA	68 - 36	22 - 8
15	HUNGARY	BELGIUM	81 - 55	20 - 10
16	RUSSIA	IRELAND	43 - 18	20 - 10
17	WALES	BULGARIA	34 - 98	3 - 25
18	PORTUGAL	MALTA	31 - 21	17 - 13
19	BELARUS	SWEDEN	37 - 62	10 - 20
	NORWAY	BYE		18 - 0

#### ROUND 3 - subject to official confirmation

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
11	FRANCE	POLAND	17 - 47	9 - 20
12	SAN MARINO	ROMANIA	32 - 43	13 - 17
13	AUSTRIA	GERMANY	13 - 60	6 - 24
14	ESTONIA	BELGIUM	48 - 48	15 - 15
15	HUNGARY	RUSSIA	25 - 56	9 - 21
16	IRELAND	WALES	45 - 17	21 - 9
17	BULGARIA	PORTUGAL	52 - 39	18 - 12
18	MALTA	BELARUS	30 - 107	1 - 25
19	SWEDEN	NORWAY	76 - 53	20 - 10
	SLOVAKIA	BYE		18 - 0

## Daily Notices

from Ton Kooijman

In our round-by-round check we discovered a mobile phone. That produced a penalty of 2VP and cost the offender a lot of money. I consider this to be a senseless waste of points and euros, although it is a necessary measure on the organizers' part. Please would you avoid trying to put us in this position – we promise you that it hurts you more than it hurts us!

There are currently several teams (at the moment Poland and Belgium) who are playing systems that give their opponents seating rights. The procedure we will operate is as follows: a team with seating rights can give its line-up in the normal way. If such a team then wants to change its line-up, knowing which pairs their opponents are planning to use, they can do so.

## OPEN TEAMS RANKING GROUP A

after 3 rounds

*subject to official confirmation*

1	ITALY	65
2	CZECH REP.	60
3	ISRAEL	58
4	FINLAND	56
5	NETHERLANDS	51
6	GREECE	49
	ICELAND	49
8	SCOTLAND	48
9	MONACO	46
10	SWITZERLAND	44
11	LUXEMBOURG	43
12	SPAIN	41
13	LITHUANIA	40
14	TURKEY	39
15	DENMARK	37
16	ENGLAND	35
17	LATVIA	34
18	CROATIA	33
19	SERBIA	32

## OPEN TEAMS RANKING GROUP B

after 3 rounds

*subject to official confirmation*

1	GERMANY	60
2	BULGARIA	59
3	RUSSIA	57
4	SWEDEN	54
5	POLAND	50
	SAN MARINO	50
7	BELARUS	49
	ROMANIA	49
9	FRANCE	48
10	ESTONIA	46
	IRELAND	46
12	HUNGARY	45
	PORTUGAL	45
14	NORWAY	44
15	BELGIUM	38
16	SLOVAKIA	36
17	WALES	33
18	AUSTRIA	25
19	MALTA	23

## Limerick Contest

This year we have the good fortune to be in a place where the name of the town is eminently suitable for the writing of Limericks. You are requested, nay encouraged, to use your best endeavours to write a suitable (and printable) limerick based on Pau, which for the non-French speakers out there is pronounced 'po'. Additional points will be awarded for creating these works of art in Franglais rather than just one language. I have penned an example below for you to study the form, I do not suggest in any way that it has great literary merit but is merely to underline the concept of Franglais.

For those of you unfortunate enough to not be present

at this charming venue and thus are reading this via the Internet feel free to email your best efforts to paulimerick@prestige.com, otherwise leave your entry on my desk in the Bulletin Room. Those that amuse this bulletin editor will have the glory of having them published in the Daily Bulletin, space and lay out editor permitting.

Une jeune bridgeuse visiting Pau  
Was ceaselessly consuming l'eau  
I know what you're thinking  
As a result of this drinking  
Whilst in Pau, on the po', c'était trop

## Norway pip Belarus at the Post

by Mark Horton

With a few unfamiliar faces in their team there was considerable interest in how the reigning Bermuda Bowl Champions might fare as they set out on the long road that might lead to the defence of their title.

In Round 1 they faced Belarus, but if they were expecting an easy start they were quickly disavowed.

### Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ 8 7 ♥ K Q J ♦ 8 7 2 ♣ A Q 10 6 2</p>	<p>♠ Q 9 6 3 ♥ A 10 6 4 ♦ A Q 6 3 ♣ 9</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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>♠ 10 4 2 ♥ 9 5 ♦ K 10 9 5 ♣ 8 5 4 3</p>
N						
W     E						
S						
	<p>♠ A K J 5 ♥ 8 7 3 2 ♦ J 4 ♣ K J 7</p>					

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Timakhovich</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Korzun</i>	<i>Lund</i>
Pass	2NT*	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	3♥



Aleh Timakhovich, Belarus

West led the king of hearts and when that held he continued with the jack. Declarer won with dummy's ace, crossed to a spade and took the losing diamond finesse for one down, -50.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Aa</i>	<i>Zhuravel</i>	<i>Molberg</i>	<i>Arlovich</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♣
Pass	4♥	All Pass	2♥

When East found the disastrous lead of the ten of diamonds declarer was soon in a position to claim +420 and 10 IMPs.

### Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

<p>♠ 3 2 ♥ 5 ♦ Q J 10 9 8 5 4 ♣ 8 4 3</p>	<p>♠ A 7 ♥ Q 8 6 4 2 ♦ 6 ♣ K Q 10 9 7</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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>♠ Q J 10 9 6 4 ♥ A K J 10 9 3 ♦ — ♣ J</p>
N						
W     E						
S						
	<p>♠ K 8 5 ♥ 7 ♦ A K 7 3 2 ♣ A 6 5 2</p>					

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Timakhovich</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Korzun</i>	<i>Lund</i>
Pass	1♥	1♠	Dble
Pass	2♣	4♠	Dble
All Pass			


On a hand with considerable potential East was content to start with a modest overcall, but then took his chances on the next round. A top diamond would have given N/S a shot at three down, but South led his singleton heart and declarer won with the jack and played back a heart, South ruffed, but declarer was in control and was down two, -500.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Aa</i>	<i>Zhuravel</i>	<i>Molberg</i>	<i>Arlovich</i>
Pass	1♥	1♠	Dble
Redble	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led a diamond and declarer claimed nine tricks, +600 and 3 IMPs to Belarus, ahead 13-0.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Timakhovich</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Korzun</i>	<i>Lund</i>
2♣*	3♥	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass	Pass	Pass


3NT was not in danger – according to the records declarer made all the tricks (which I doubt), scoring +520.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Aa</i>	<i>Zhuravel</i>	<i>Molberg</i>	<i>Arlovich</i>
2♣*	2♥	Pass	3♥
4♣	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

Here West elected to introduce his suit and when East raised he went on to slam. With East delivering a vital king and the spade king onside that was +1370, putting Norway on the board to the tune of 12 IMPs.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Timakhovich</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Korzun</i>	<i>Lund</i>
1♥*	2♥*	Pass	1♣
Pass	6♣	6♠	4♥
All Pass			Dble


When East decided to bid his time, South took the opportunity to jump to game, which was enough for North to take a pot at slam. Six Clubs would not have made, but no doubt South would have gone back to hearts, so East was right to save. Declarer lost the four obvious tricks, down three, -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Aa</i>	<i>Zhuravel</i>	<i>Molberg</i>	<i>Arlovich</i>
1♠	Dble	4♠	1♣
Pass	Dble	All Pass	Pass

I have never been a great fan of the method that requires North to start with a double on this type of hand, but it was East's direct intervention that made life difficult. The same four tricks were lost, so declarer was one down, -100 and 9 IMPs to Norway.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Timakhovich</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Korzun</i>	<i>Lund</i>
1♦	1♥	Pass	Pass
5♣	Dble	3♣*	4♥
		5♦	All Pass

The fit jump made it very easy for East/West to find the 'sacrifice'. Of course, it would take a miraculous defence to beat Four Hearts.

## Closed Room

West <i>Aa</i>	North <i>Zhuravel</i>	East <i>Molberg</i>	South <i>Arlovich</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♦	1♥	2♥*	4♥
All Pass			

Against Four Hearts East led – the king of spades!! When that held (West playing the five) he switched to..... the seven of clubs. Now declarer made eleven tricks as West naturally put up the king, +450 and 9 IMPs to Belarus.

A famous victory was in sight, but Norway pulled the match out of the fire thanks to this deal:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

## Open Room

West <i>Timakhovich</i>	North <i>Helgemo</i>	East <i>Korzun</i>	South <i>Lund</i>
		1♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West led the three of spades and East won with the king and switched to the four of clubs that ran to dummy's king. Declarer played a heart and when the king held he was up to nine tricks, +600.

## Closed Room

West <i>Aa</i>	North <i>Zhuravel</i>	East <i>Molberg</i>	South <i>Arlovich</i>
		1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	All Pass

West's response saw his side 'steal' – and it was not so easy to defeat Two Spades. North led the queen of diamonds and when that held he needed to switch to the ace of spades and follow that with a second spade. No, he played another diamond and declarer ruffed and played the ace of hearts and a heart. Its not entirely clear what happened from here, but declarer emerged with eight tricks, +110 and 12 match winning IMPs for Norway.

However, Belarus had given an excellent account of themselves and demonstrated once more that in the European Championships there are no easy matches.

## New Laws



In Shanghai October 2007 the WBF adopted new laws. In most European countries these new laws will be implemented in August/September this year. This means that for most of the players this championship is the first opportunity to play with the new laws, which makes it important to pay some attention to the changes.

Since we use screens many applications of irregularities are waived, the respective laws having no meaning. This article deals with some changes that are important for the players in this event.

The dummy has to put his cards on the table in columns lengthwise and in descending order towards declarer. No alternative is allowed.

Players should put their played cards in a won or lost position in an orderly row. When a player puts such card in the wrong position his partner is allowed to notify him until the lead is made to the next trick. When this is done too late it creates unauthorized information which might result in an adjusted score.

Defenders may (again) ask each other about a possible revoke in the current trick.

Only unintended calls may be changed up till the next call from partner. A call made as a result of a slip of the mind may not be changed anymore.

All players are entitled to try to prevent an irregularity made by one of the other players. Up till now only the dummy had that right and only towards his own partner/declarer.

A pair that has agreed with a claim made by one of its opponents and later discovers that it likely would have won an extra trick will be awarded that trick (within the given protest time).

A defender should not make a claim when the success of it depends on his partner's cooperation in playing a specific card from alternative (normal) choices.

If play continues after a claim (which is not allowed in the laws), evidence appearing in that continuation may be used by the TD to decide the result on the board.

When adjusting a score the TD strives for equitable results, which often will be accomplished by assigning a weighted score, taking into account the probabilities of several reasonable outcomes. This is already common procedure in championships but is now described in detail in the laws.

Ton Kooijman

**OPEN TEAMS**

**Round 1**

**Greece v Netherlands**

by Jos Jacobs

At the start of a European Championship, it's never easy to predict where the exciting matches can be found. The Netherlands, of course, are among the favourites to qualify for the Bermuda Bowl, but Greece has been a dangerous outsider for many years now. So it might be a good idea, I thought, to make this match my choice for the first round.

This turned out to be a lucky choice, I soon realised, as the boards produced lots of swings.

For the most part, it was one-way traffic, however. The tone of the match was set right at the start:

Board: 1. Dealer North/None vul.

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



Kostas Bozemberg, Greece

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakkeren</i>	<i>Bozemberg</i>	<i>Bertens</i>	<i>Kaminaris</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♠
2♥	Dble	Pass	2♠
3♥	All Pass		

South's off-beat 1♠ response made life very difficult for his opponents. They managed to reach a decent contract but Bakkeren, on this auction, had no reason to play for the drop of the ♥K and thus went one down when the defence found their two diamond ruffs.

In the other room, Greece duly reached 3NT and made it too, on a spade lead and continuation. No need to play for the drop of the ♥K here but 400 more and the first 10 IMPs to Greece.

A few boards later, the Greeks dealt their opponents another serious blow:

Board: 4. Dealer West/All vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakkeren</i>	<i>Bozemberg</i>	<i>Bertens</i>	<i>Kaminaris</i>
2♣	Dble	2♠	5♣
Pass	Pass	5♥	Dble
5♠	Dble	All Pass	

2♣ showed a strong hand or a weak two in diamonds but Bertens had every reason to show his solid enough major 6-6. He might have escaped with down two but when he ruffed the ♦K lead and went on to cash ♥AK, South could score a small trump in front of dummy to make it down three. Greece +800.

This would not have been a very heavy loss had Westra made 5♣ in the other room:



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Karamanlis</i>	<i>Westra</i>	<i>Protonotarios</i>	<i>Ramondt</i>
Pass	1♥	1♠	Dble
Pass	2♣	2♠	Dble
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

In 3NT you have nine top tricks but 5♣, at first sight, is a very good second choice. After a far less informative auction, Westra could easily afford to concede an overruff when East led a top heart and continued the suit, but when the diamonds next proved 7-0, he suddenly found himself one down in a very unlucky way.

The scoreboard, of course, is not interested in luck, so Greece chalked up another 14 IMPs to lead 28-0 after four boards.

Four boards later, we saw the first of a prolonged series of slam swings.

Board: 8. Dealer West/None vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakkeren</i>	<i>Bozemberg</i>	<i>Bertens</i>	<i>Kaminaris</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

By keeping silent at his first turn to bid, South made it virtually impossible for West to visualise the club void in partner's hand. Therefore, the Dutchies had to be content with bidding game. All the tricks were made once the ♥K made an early appearance.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Karamanlis</i>	<i>Westra</i>	<i>Protonotarios</i>	<i>Ramondt</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	2♣
Pass	4♣	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, the opponents' noises made it easy for Karamanlis to sense what was going on. He launched an inspired 4NT to which Protonotarios happily responded 5NT, showing a key-card and the void Karamanlis had been hoping for. Well done and an easy +1010 to Greece for 11 IMPs more.

And, a few boards later:

Board: 11. Dealer South/None vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakkeren</i>	<i>Bozemberg</i>	<i>Bertens</i>	<i>Kaminaris</i>
1♠	2♥	4♠	1♣
Pass	6♥	All Pass	5♥



Huub Bertens, Netherlands

This time, it was Bozemberg's turn to shine. He, too, could visualise his partner's spade shortness, so he simply bid one more for the road. Bertens found what looked like an unlucky lead of the  $\diamond 6$  but it made no difference, as the  $\diamond Q$  will go on the 5th club anyway.

Greece +980.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karamanlis	Westra	Protonotarios	Ramondt
$1\spadesuit$	$2\heartsuit$	$4\clubsuit$	$1\clubsuit$
All Pass			

Westra could have shown the same inspiration as his Greek counterpart, but when he did not, the Dutch had conceded another slam swing of 11 IMPs to Greece.

And the next board:

Board: 12. Dealer West/NS

$\spadesuit$ K Q 8 6 5 3		$\spadesuit$ A
$\heartsuit$ 9 7 6 4		$\heartsuit$ K Q 10 8 5 3 2
$\diamond$ 9		$\diamond$ 10 8 4 2
$\clubsuit$ 7 4		$\clubsuit$ K
		$\spadesuit$ 9 7 4
		$\heartsuit$ A
		$\diamond$ K Q 6 3
		$\clubsuit$ Q 9 8 6 3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bakkeren	Bozemberg	Bertens	Kaminaris
$2\heartsuit$	Pass	$4\heartsuit$	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	$5\clubsuit$
$5\heartsuit$	Dble	All Pass	

$2\heartsuit$  showed spades, of course, but Bertens was not interested. Bozemberg, however, could take action now as his delayed double would not show interest in hearts any more. Bakkeren suddenly had a difficult decision over  $5\clubsuit$ , holding four little hearts himself. In fact, the save would have been correct except for the fact that NS were looking at mirror hands. Greece +100.

Closed Room


West	North	East	South
Karamanlis	Westra	Protonotarios	Ramondt
$2\spadesuit$	Pass	$3\heartsuit$	Pass
$4\heartsuit$	All Pass		

On this auction, Westra, looking at three small spades, could not find any reason to take action, so the Greeks were allowed to register another useful +420 and 11 IMPs. Please note that all but one of these big swings were non-vulnerable...

The score now stood at an incredible-looking 68-2 to Greece.

On the last seven boards of the match, Greece did not score a single IMP, while the Dutch rallied to recoup exactly half their deficit. Their two biggest gains came on successive boards near the end:

Board: 17. Dealer North/None

$\spadesuit$ K 8 5 4 3		$\spadesuit$ 9 2
$\heartsuit$ K 10 8 3		$\heartsuit$ J 7
$\diamond$ 10		$\diamond$ K Q 8 2
$\clubsuit$ Q 7 3		$\clubsuit$ J 9 8 5 2
$\spadesuit$ A Q J 7 6		$\spadesuit$ 10
$\heartsuit$ A Q 9		$\heartsuit$ 6 5 4 2
$\diamond$ A 9		$\diamond$ J 7 6 5 4 3
$\clubsuit$ A K 10		$\clubsuit$ 6 4

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bakkeren	Bozemberg	Bertens	Kaminaris
	Pass	Pass	Pass
$2\heartsuit$	Pass	$2\spadesuit$	Pass
2NT	Pass	$3\clubsuit$	Pass
$3\spadesuit$	Pass	3NT	All Pass

This time, we saw the strong variety of the EW  $2\heartsuit$  opening in action.  $2\spadesuit$  was the obvious relay and  $3\clubsuit$  was a sort of Puppet Stayman.

Eleven easy tricks when North led a heart away from his King.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karamanlis	Westra	Protonotarios	Ramondt
	Pass	Pass	$2\clubsuit$
Dble	$2\diamond$	Pass	Pass
$3\diamond$	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	6NT	All Pass

In the other room, Ramondt cruelly destroyed West's party (24 hcp) by opening a weak two in diamonds. West could be pretty sure that  $2\clubsuit$  was not one of the strong variations, this time. Both East and West would have hit the jackpot by doubling and then passing out  $2\diamond$  but when they



Filaretos Kaminaris, Greece

both did not, things got out of control, though neither East nor West can be blamed for serious overbidding.

When South led a heart, declarer had no chance at all and concede down two for +100 and 11 much needed IMPs back to the Netherlands. Please note: again a non-vulnerable slam swing.

To end this report, here is a board on which we saw a vulnerable game swing:

Board: 18. Dealer East/NS

♠ J 10 6 3 2 ♥ 10 ♦ 10 8 5 2 ♣ Q 8 7	<table style="border: 2px solid green; width: 60px; height: 60px; 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 5 ♥ A J 8 7 6 ♦ 7 ♣ A 10 5 4	♠ 9 ♥ K 9 5 ♦ A K 6 4 3 ♣ J 9 6 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Bertens 2♣ rebid was timed to perfection as it wrong-footed both South and North.

On a diamond lead and continuation, Bertens easily cross-ruffed himself to the eight tricks required to fulfill his unambitious contract. The Netherlands +90.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karamanlis	Westra	Protonotarios	Ramondt
1♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
Pass	3NT	2♠	Dble
		All Pass	

When Protonotarios rebid 2♠, a perfectly good alternative, South suddenly was in a much better position. Westra, holding the best hand at the table, had no trouble in converting his partner's assist but after that, he had to fully justify his bidding by fulfilling his ambitious contract.

A spade lead into the tenace did not paralyse him at all, as they say. Five rounds of diamonds followed and next a heart was led off dummy. When the ten appeared in West, nine tricks were sure by help of the marked heart finesse. The Netherlands another +600 and 12 more IMPs back but Greece still had scored a big win: 68-34 or 22-8 V.P. This young team had really made a dream start!

**PRESS RELEASE FROM  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
AMSTERDAM,  
THE NETHERLANDS**

After five consecutive years' sponsorship of the White House Bridge Teams Top 16, a highly successful world class bridge tournament, Messrs. Max Abram and Herman Drenkelford decided to redirect their focus to young bridge players and to Dutch top bridge.

As a consequence, the White House Bridge Teams Top 16 has been wound down and additional efforts will go into the White House Juniors, the already existing international youth tournament. At the same time, the sponsors together with the Dutch Bridge Federation are considering more projects involving top bridge. This has already resulted in sponsorship of the 7th White House European Champions' Cup, to be held in Amsterdam, November 2008.

Messrs. Max Abram and Herman Drenkelford hereby take the opportunity to express their sincere gratitude to the players and the organisers of the White House Bridge Teams Top 16, who joined forces to produce five years of top class international bridge. All good things come to an end, as we say in The Netherlands.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bakkeren	Bozemberg	Bertens	Kaminaris
1♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
		2♣	All Pass

**OPEN TEAMS**

**Round 1**

**Hungary v Germany**

by Peter Ventura

Hungary and Germany are two teams expected to work hard to reach the group of nine teams that will qualify for the next round.

The Germans kicked off best and had an early lead by 18 to 0 after three boards.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A 7 ♥ Q 8 6 4 2 ♦ 6 ♣ K Q 10 9 7	<table style="border: 2px solid green; width: 80px; height: 80px; 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	♠ Q J 10 9 6 4 ♥ A K J 10 9 3 ♦ — ♣ J
N					
W     E					
S					
♠ 3 2 ♥ 5 ♦ Q J 10 9 8 5 4 ♣ 8 4 3	♠ K 8 5 ♥ 7 ♦ A K 7 3 2 ♣ A 6 5 2				

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Gromoeller</i>	<i>Gotthard</i>	<i>Kirmse</i>
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	All Pass		

In the Open Room Piekarek was gathering information and when he knew enough, he simply bid 4♠. South led his singleton heart, North played a non optimal queen, and declarer won the ace and played a spade to North's ace. On a diamond switch declarer can pitch the jack of clubs and make his contract. However, Hegedus cashed the club king, and South followed with a discouraging six. A heart shift is very hard to find now, but Hegedus indeed found that play. Well done – and one down for -200.

In the Closed Room 4♠ showed 2-3 spades but nothing extra, so East faced the very same contract. Here South managed to take two heart ruffs for a push.

North-South can even make 5♣ on careless defence.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Smirnov</i>	<i>Hegedus</i>	<i>Piekarek</i>	<i>Honti</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ K J 5 3 ♥ A 5 2 ♦ Q 6 ♣ K 8 7 5	<table style="border: 2px solid green; width: 80px; height: 80px; 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	♠ 8 ♥ K 8 4 ♦ A K 9 8 7 3 ♣ J 6 3
N					
W     E					
S					
♠ Q 10 9 7 2 ♥ Q ♦ J 4 2 ♣ A Q 9 2	♠ A 6 4 ♥ J 10 9 7 6 3 ♦ 10 5 ♣ 10 4				

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Smirnov</i>	<i>Hegedus</i>	<i>Piekarek</i>	<i>Honti</i>
	INT	Pass	2♥
Dble	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♠	Dble	5♦	Dble
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Gromoeller</i>	<i>Gotthard</i>	<i>Kirmse</i>
	INT	2NT*	Pass
3♦	All Pass		




Alexander Smirnov, Germany

Double might not have been everyone's choice over Two Hearts with the West hand. There might have been a Lebensohl misunderstanding here as it seems that the double backfired. A simple Two Spades might have avoided all this confusion. In Five Diamonds the defence had three top tricks; one down and N/S +100.

Three No Trumps should be easy to set with a normal heart lead. With West as declarer the defenders must attack the spade suit to beat the contract (unless North finds the lead of the ace of hearts).

In the Closed Room Two No Trumps showed a minor and 12+ HCP's, so Dumbovich was allowed to play Three Diamonds peacefully, making an overtrick; +130 and that was worth 6 IMPs to Hungary.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West <i>Smirnov</i>	North <i>Hegedus</i>	East <i>Piekarek</i>	South <i>Honti</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣	3♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		


Piekarek must have liked his J-4 in hearts as he passed out Three Hearts doubled. 6♣ or 6NT would have been more rewarding final contracts. East led a spade and eventually could lead another spade through dummy for four down and -800.

Closed Room

West <i>Dumovich</i>	North <i>Gromoeller</i>	East <i>Gotthard</i>	South <i>Kirmse</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣	2♦*	Pass	3♥
Dble	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	All Pass		

In the Closed Room the Hungarians reached 4♠ on a 3-3 fit, but double dummy the contract is unbeatable and the defenders did not find a way to give declarer any problem either. 5 IMPs to Germany.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West <i>Smirnov</i>	North <i>Hegedus</i>	East <i>Piekarek</i>	South <i>Honti</i>
			Pass
1♥	Dble	2♦	Pass
2♥	2♠	3♣	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass


East led the nine of diamonds to the queen and ace. Declarer ruffed a diamond then opened up communications by playing the ten of clubs. Declarer would have covered whatever card West produces, just to keep him off the play. In practice Smirnov played low, and so did declarer. East could win the king, but declarer could now ruff the diamond return, play a club to the ace, ruff another diamond and give up two major suit tricks. Just made and +790 for Hungary.

Closed Room

West <i>Dumovich</i>	North <i>Gromoeller</i>	East <i>Gotthard</i>	South <i>Kirmse</i>
			Pass
1♥	1♠	2♦	2♠
3♦	4♣	All Pass	

When East did not double 1♠, Gromoeller played East to have 3-0-6-4 since he did not receive a heart lead. He therefore chose the wrong game plan and went one off. That gave Hungary 13 IMPs. The score at this point was Hungary 19, Germany 23.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Smirnov	Hegedus	Piekarek	Honti
			2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
Dble	Pass	4♠	5♣
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

After a Precision opening by South, North relayed and South showed 5-4 in clubs and hearts and 3♠ showed the precise pattern. East "raised" spades but Hegedus had no problem picking the fine small slam in hearts. The diamond loser could be pitched on the fifth club, so N/S +980.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dumbovich	Gromoeller	Gotthard	Kirmse
			1♣
1♠	Dble	4♠	Pass
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

Gotthard put some pressure on North/South which pushed them out on thin ice. Now there was no space to find out if there was a heart fit. Six Clubs was doomed on a spade lead. One down and that was 14 powerful IMPs for Hungary.

The next board produced an odd score.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Smirnov	Hegedus	Piekarek	Honti
Pass	1♦	4♥	Dble
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Here we saw another Four Spades on a 3-3 fit. Smirnov must have been quite satisfied to hold six trumps... And partner's trump ace must have surprised him.

No, the game was not made... When the smoke had cleared declarer had three tricks in his basket, so -700.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dumbovich	Gromoeller	Gotthard	Kirmse
3♠	All Pass		

Dumbovich opened Three Spades and was left to play there. North led his singleton heart to South's ace and the trump switch hold declarer to nine tricks; +140 but 11 IMPs to Germany.

This board almost equalized the score in the match.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Smirnov	Hegedus	Piekarek	Honti
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♠	2♣	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♣	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

Declarer had a cheap trick when North led a heart. The ace and king of clubs followed and now North could be endplayed if declarer played ace of diamonds and a club, but declarer would still be a trick short. Declarer could not avoid losing two tricks, so went one down for -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dumbovich	Gromoeller	Gotthard	Kirmse
	2♥	Pass	3♥
3NT	All Pass		

Two Hearts showed both majors. In Three No Trumps Dumbovich made two overtricks for +460 and that was 11 IMPs to Hungary.

Hungary won the match 46-43 IMPs (16-14). Most of the Hungarian IMPs came as a result of successful slam boards. At least the Germans now know what they need to practise on!

## VOCATION SPORTIVE

C'est sans arrière pensée en rapport avec une éventuelle inscription du bridge au programme olympique que notre député maire, Martine Lignières Cassou, a évoqué la vocation sportive de la Ville de Pau. Symbolisée désormais par l'organisation du concours complet 4 étoiles, du championnat du monde de handball ou bien encore des Grands prix automobiles historique et contemporain, elle possède désormais deux porte-drapeaux en la personne de Tony Estanguet, double champion olympique de kayak et, bien plus récemment de JérémY Chardy. JérémY, brillant huitième de finaliste à Roland Garros, est parti hier en Angleterre montrer combien il avait le « pied jardinier ». Souhaitons à ce si sympathique Palois de réussir à Wimbledon, mais si d'aventure cela ne « rigolait pas », il nous a promis de repasser au Palais Beaumont afin de nous encourager dans notre sport.

## MUSIQUE



La présentation des équipes, placée sous le signe de la musique (Ludwig et Frédéric – nous voulons parler de Beethoven et Chopin - y ont fait un carton) a été agrémentée par la présence du groupe local Arraya, Arraya étant le nom choisi par les chanteurs, pelotaris pour la plupart. Il s'agit en effet d'un coup important

dans le rebot, spécialité bien connue de la pelote.

## DERNIERES COTES

Il a été possible de connaître par internet les cotes des diverses équipes. C'est ainsi que les Belges ont pu apprendre qu'ils partaient à 140 contre 1. Cette cote est tombée hier à 50 contre un. Est-ce dû au fait que les parieurs ont appris que nos amis étaient drivés par Guy Lambeaux ? Ou à la jeunesse des joueurs puisque Alon, Tom et Patrick sont respectivement âgés de 28, 31 et 32 ans.

## PRONOSTICS

Il est tentant, avant une grande épreuve, d'inviter quelques officiels à nous donner leur quinté gagnant. Nous avons donc interrogé Agnès Fabre, responsable presse, Valérie Roques, hôtesse, Marina Gallien, muse des monégasques, Bernard Finger, président de la plus haute des Normandies, Xavier Schurer, directeur des retransmissions BBO, Didier Cachan, opérateur technique, Jean-Claude Nadau, joueur palois, Thierry Gadan, web master,

Patrice Foulon, responsable salle de presse, Jean Pierre Sengeisen, ancien président du comité de l'Adour et un arbitre (initiales CB) dont vous comprendrez qu'il nous faut taire le nom, d'où il ressort 6 premières places – sur 11 suffrages – pour l'Italie, 3 pour la Norvège, 1 pour la Pologne et 1 pour la France. Il ne s'agit là que des premières places; chacun des « sondés » ayant été priés de livrer 5 noms d'équipe. Nous pouvons révéler qu'à ces nations viennent s'ajouter en 2ème et 3ème positions, l'Angleterre, l'Allemagne et les Pays Bas, pendant que Belarus, Roumanie, Russie et Suède ont obtenu des suffrages. Celui dont la liste se rapprochera le plus du classement final gagnera un cours de bridge spécial, dispensé par Agnès Fabre.

## BYE, BYE



Du fait d'un nombre impair d'équipes dans chaque poule, Turquie et France bénéficiant chacune d'un bye, ont été gratifiées de 18 PV, ce qui les plaçait en tête du classement devant les autres formations, créditées ex aequo de l'actif théorique de 15. Ce qui a amené Gérard Tissot, capitaine des Français, à demander malicieusement

qu'une photo du classement soit rapidement réalisée.

## LE BRIDGE VU AUTREMENT

Rien de ce qui concerne le bridge n'est étranger à René Tognetti. Quoi de plus normal puisqu'il est dentiste? Malgré la victoire – un peu inattendue - des Monégasques face à l'Angleterre, René, modeste (qualité courante, comme chacun sait, dans notre sport), n'a encore pas annulé ses rendez vous de la semaine prochaine.

## DUR, DUR

Le système informatique ayant eu besoin de quelques donnes de rodage, les spectateurs du rama ont été privés de la vision des toutes premières. Ce qui nous a valu, en attendant que tout rentre dans l'ordre, le plaisant commentaire de l'avisé Guido Ferraro : « Il n'est pas facile de commenter... lorsqu'on ne voit pas les donnes!!! »:

## HOMMAGE A LEON

Même s'il n'a été champion d'Europe que deux fois, dans les années 60, qu'il soit aujourd'hui permis de rendre hommage au doyen des médaillés en activité en la personne de Léon Tintner – 98 ans au mimosa dernier - dont la rentrée n'est toutefois pas encore programmée.

## Championship Diary



Pau has a long history. You're not here long before you realise that there's no avoiding Henri IV, the king who ended France's 16th-century religious wars and kicked off the Bourbon dynasty. Statues and pictures abound: France's most popular sovereign was born in the castle perched dramatically on the ridge, at the western end of the Boulevard des Pyrénées.

Its medieval keep and newly cleaned Renaissance turrets and gables are, though, a lot more impressive than is the visit inside. So, stick to the outside, the formal gardens and the cracking little streets all around. Then hop to Rue Tran, where French history bumps into Swedish in a wooden-galleried house set back from the street. It is the birthplace of Jean-Baptiste Bernadotte, who started off as a simple soldier, rose to be a Napoleonic commander and then king of Sweden. The little museum (Euro 2.80) tells the tale well.

England's Edward VII, not to mention every aristo in town, stopped for cakes served by the pretty maidens of the Bouzon patisserie on Rue Henri IV. The ladies are still pretty (not the same ones, of course) and the cakes (ditto) worth stopping for. Around the corner on Rue Gassion, Artigarrède sells flat almond and cream cakes, known as russes, which, as someone told me, are 'world-famous throughout Pau'. Also, don't miss the Saturday market on Place de la République, thick with food producers and Béarnais accents.

We were discussing suitable phrases to use with the word Bridgeur – for example:

'Bridgeurs do it with Finesse.' You may care to contribute some but meanwhile we offer the following:

'Bridgeurs on the River Kwai.'

'Les Bridgeurs of Madison County.'

'Don't cross your bridgeurs before you come to them.'

'A Bridgeur too Far.'

'Bridgeur Jones Diary.'

The Bulletin office has demonstrated the truth of a theory originally posited in the New York Times 15

years ago.

The article in question raised several points about how not to gain weight. One of the ideas was that eating off other people's plates 'didn't count'. Additionally if you ate standing up you were safe; skim milk had no calories - because of the fact that you were saving calories from full-fat milk. If you left half the food on your plate, the half you left cancelled out the other half that you had eaten.

But specifically, the key point was about diets. There is only a finite but fixed amount of weight in the world; whenever someone went on a diet, someone else was sure to put that weight on. Therefore if you could persuade someone to come off a diet, and thus put on weight, there was a chance that you might lose it yourself!

The reason that this theory is being re-hashed is that Ron Tacchi has come to the Bulletin Office as a shadow of his former self; 20 kilos down, and more to come. So who is the unlucky person who has 'acquired' those extra kilos? It would be rude to name names but the words 'Greek' and 'Belgian' spring to mind.

On Saturday the Editor and our photographer invited Grattan Endicott to dinner at an Indian restaurant. They were able to get there easily enough by walking; Grattan accepted a lift from our Greek Layout Editor, ran into the town's one way system, and after several fruitless attempts headed off in another direction and has not been seen since.

As Mark said, quoting Virgil: 'Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes'. This can best be translated as 'I fear the Greeks, even when they are bearing lifts.....'

