

Bulletin 11 Sunday, 16 July 2000

Editor: Mark Horton - Co-editor: Brian Senior - Layout Editor: George Hatzidakis - Production: Burak Bayhan

# NORWAY, NETHERLANDS, ISRAEL, FRANCE ROLLING DOWN TO RIO!



All smiles from the European Junior Team Champions, Thomas Charlsen, Olav Ellestad, Stig Roar Hakkebo, Gunnar Harr Nils, Kåre Kvangraven, Ronny Jørstad, Coach Arhhur Malinowski and NPC Sven Olai Høyland.

By defeating Israel 16-14 VP and Italy 20-10 VP, Norway secured victory in the 17th Junior European Teams Championship. Thus they become the first team to record four wins. The Netherlands secured the silver medals, right at the death, by virtue of a 25-4 VP win over Russia. That left them one point ahead of the bronze medal winners, Israel. France won the race for fourth pace. These four teams will carry the European banner to South America for the 2001 World Junior Bridge Championships.

In addition to their Championship titles, Norway and Poland won the prizes relating to the Red Sea International Bridge Festival offered by David Birman, the head of the organising committee, and coach of the Israeli Junior Team. David flew from Tel Aviv to Antalya today to be on the podium with his team, and to present the prizes.

## **JUNIOR TEAMS**



## CLOSING ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EBLYOUTH COMMITTEE



Mr Minister of State
Mr President of the European Bridge League
Mr President of the Turkish Bridge Federation
Ladies and Gentlemen
Dear friends

I am very glad to see all of you gathered here to honour the winners at this closing ceremony of the I7th European Youth Championships. With a total attendance of 37 teams from 26 countries this is the second largest European Youth Championships in the 32-year history of our flagship competition. This is a remarkable achievement, especially if we take into account that we are far from the centre of Europe and very close to the edge of our zone.

We know that there were more teams who tried to make it to Antalya but were prevented by certain difficulties at the very last moment. We hope that the situation will be better next time, and we look forward to welcoming the missing participants to our family. In particular, the Schools series deserves more attention by our member countries. That is where we draw our best hope for the future; that is where an enhanced image emerges for bridge. I hope and wish that countries who have not been able to field a Schools team in Antalya will do so next time, for bridge cannot afford to miss the Schools players.

Often enough we hear the argument: 'but we are not strong enough to seek a European title'. Those who say so apparently forget the ancient spirit of athletism which dictates that 'it is not the winning that matters but the taking part'. As bridge moves more and more towards total integration in the Olympic movement, these words should sound continuously in the ears of our administrators.

Naturally, I was very happy to see almost all major European Federations represented in the European Schools Championship here in Antalya. However, nothing pleased me more than the participation of a team that came from a small country, a long way from Antalya. Four young players had to travel a very long distance and solve many problems in order to fulfill their dream of participating in a European Championship. At the same time they set an example for us all. Thank you very much team from Latvia!

The European Bridge League exists to embrace and support all players, not just the top ones. In particular, our youth programme includes massive events to satisfy all tastes. Last year, the

World Junior Pairs, held in the Czech Republic, was the biggest International Junior event ever held, with nearly 400 Juniors attending. Immediately afterwards, the World Junior Camp took place in the same venue. Here the success did not meet our expectation. Yet, the Camps are unique events, in that they address all levels of players.

In the Camps, Juniors learn more about the game, they play a lot of bridge, have great fun, practice physical sports and spend a week in an international social atmosphere. Many of today's top players have started their bridge lives as shy participants at the Junior Camps. Yet, there is apparently lack of information and lack of support to our young players who wish to take advantage of such a wonderful opportunity. The first problem will from now be faced with our direct communication with you via email. For the second one, we appeal to the National Federations for their cooperation and support. Camps are very attractive. That's why people who attend once tend to come back again and again. Just make it part of your plan now - say to yourself: 'I am not going to miss next year's Camp'.

Junior bridge has always been one of the top priorities of the European Bridge League and most of its member Federations. It is therefore not strange that Europe is leading the world in this department. This is a role that gives us satisfaction but also shoulders us with tremendous responsibility. We are living up to expectation by working closely with other zones trying to popularize Junior bridge across the globe. Some of our best Camp participants will be traveling to California next month to help the ACBL set up its own Junior Camp. As we are always the hosts of the World Junior Pairs and Camp we offer educational hospitality to our guests, and then send our teams to compete in the World Junior Teams competition regularly held outside Europe.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Sixteen years ago, a man approached me with a dream. His dream was to stage a European Junior Championship in Turkey. Problems beset him over the years, but at last he has had the satisfaction and joy of seeing his dream come true - and in what a way! I am sure that no one will argue that these Championships here in Antalya have been ... well, there are so many superlatives I could choose! Let us settle for magnificent. This delightful region of Turkey, the lovely town of Antalya and this excellent hotel Talya have all played their part, but these are not enough to make a Championship truly great. That takes hard work and dedication by a team of people led, in this case, by a man with a dream. The President of the Turkish Bridge Federation - Ata Aydin.

Notwithstanding Ata's wish to stage a top event, this would not have been possible without the very generous support of the Koç Group. At every step of the way, in all the departments and activities, and at each instance their presence made itself felt and was, of course, highly appreciated. We would like to offer them our sincere thanks.

An Organizing Committee with a good Chairman is the first essential when planning an event of this magnitude. Ata found exactly the right person to lead his Committee, a lady with charm and dedication, someone who obviously holds the interests of Junior Bridge close to her heart - I am talking of Sevinç Atay

Ata also found a right-hand man to assist him in this venture - he simply could not have found anyone better than the On-Site Organizer for this event. A man who has worked tirelessly day and night both before and during the Tournament. A man who has smiled throughout, offered his help and advice throughout and

has maintained control of every situation. The one and only Murat  $\operatorname{\mathsf{Molva}}$ .

A good Championship depends on good co-operation between highly qualified international personnel and local organizers. In this Championship I am happy to say that we really had a great staff, not only at the top but right through to the last backroom boy. I am sure you would like to join me in expressing our appreciation to all these people.

- The Team of Tournament Directors, headed by Chief Antonio Riccardi, Assistant Chief Marc van Beijsterveldt, and the rest of the team, Rahmi liyilkçi, Ahmet Kahraman, Illan Shezifi and M Fahir Üzümcü
- The Chairman of the Appeals Committee, Steen Møller
- $\cdot$  The Main Office Staff and the Scoring Team under Levent Özgül
- The Playing Room Staff under Lale Gümrükçüoðlu and Ahmet Oker
- The Line Up Team under Gültekin Soylu
- The Daily Bulletin and Internet Staff under Mark Horton with Brian Senior, Layout Editor George Hadjidakis and Internet Editor Takis Pournaras and the Production Team led by Burak Bayhan
- The Technical VuGraph team under Gianni Baldi
- The VuGraph commentators Barry Rigal and Patrick Jourdain
- The Press Room run by Tuna Özgül
- And the man who is rarely thanked for successes and unexceptionally blamed for all failures, the Tournament Manager and Director of Operations, Jan Boets, who stepped in at the very last minute and did a wonderful job.

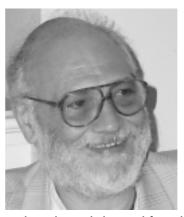
I would also like to thank my own Committee. It consists of people with great devotion to Junior bridge, who have worked for many years for the welfare of our cause. Here we had a series of meetings which, together with the very fruitful congress we held with the National Juniors' Officials, will mark, I believe, a new era of prosperity for Junior bridge. I do thank Stefan Back, our Vice-Chairman and your Master of Ceremonies this evening, Anna Gudge and Henrik Røn.

Finally, if there are any signs to be read somewhere, then there is an unmistakable one showing the great interest that the EBL has in Junior bridge. This is the presence here, throughout the Championships, of our President Gianarrigo Rona. We have been very pleased to have the President with us. He is very committed to Junior bridge and we count very much on his support for the future. Also, we were very happy with the presence of our good friend and colleague Nissan Rand, a member of the EBL Executive, who helped in various departments, including the Appeals Committee, but unfortunately could not stay up until the last day.

I have one final, but most important, group of people to thank. And that is you, the Players, your Captains and Coaches at the 2000 Youth Championships. As I foresaw at the opening ceremony, you have competed in the best traditions of Youth Bridge, showing great sportsmanship, unfailing courtesy and wonderful behaviour. This is our great strength and an example to the world outside Junior Bridge. Juniors who were here before you have every reason to be proud of you. Juniors who follow you will know that you upheld all the standards that we have come to recognize as such an important part of our game. Thank you for coming, thank you for your sportsmanship, thank you for your support. I wish you a safe journey home and look forward to seeing you again soon.

Thank you very much Panos Gerontopoulos

# FAIRWELL MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE EBL



Mr Aydin, President of the Turkish Bridge Federation. Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends, Good evening.

The curtain falls on the I7th edition of the Junior Teams Championship and the 4th edition of the Schools Teams Championship. Antalya and Turkey welcomed us so warmly,

with such cordiality and friendship, that it will remain in our memories for many, many years. As well as the perfect organisation of the Championship, this magnificent venue looked exactly right for a great bridge event.

I would like to thank, from my heart, the organisers, guided by our friend, Ata Aydin. Ata strongly wanted, more than anybody, that this event should happen in his own country, and he has achieved an enormous success. My thanks to you Ata, and all your efficient collaborators.

Panos has already thanked all the people who helped ensure the success of this event, and I would like to add my thanks to his. But let me say that the real maker of the success of Youth Bridge is ... Panos himself, who spends so much of his time and energy all year round on these projects. Thank you Panos, from us all.

Last, but not least, I wish to thank you, cari ragazzi, who have been the true protagonists in this fascinating story. A never-ending story to which you continuously contribute, with your enthusiasm, your exuberance, your sportsmanship and high ethics, your solidarity. It is an adventure that leaves all of us enriched by new experiences, sensations and knowledge - all stimulating and exciting. Every one of us returns home taking new friendships, sometimes new loves, that will last forever.

When such a Championship ends we are all invaded by a sense of sadness. But this is suddenly cancelled by the certainty that this is not the time of "goodbye" but the time of "see you soon" as we look forward to the next occasion, to renew and consolidate further the wonderful legacy that keeps us united in the magic world of bridge.

Congratulations to the winners, who climb the stage at the end of a fascinating competition in the best sporting tradition, but one thing is sure: from here nobody goes home a loser - you are all winners.

> See you soon Gianarrigo Rona





## **ROUND ROBIN SESSION 24**

Match		١١	1P's	VF	o's
I HUNGARY	bye	0	0	18	0
2 ISRAEL	NORWAY	37	41	14	16
3 WALES	ITALY	33	63	9	21
4 FINLAND	ICELAND	54	49	16	14
5 NETHERLANDS	POLAND	53	39	18	12
6 ENGLAND	RUSSIA	32	45	12	18
7 DENMARK	PORTUGAL	5 I	45	16	14
8 SPAIN	SWEDEN	53	60	14	16
9 GERMANY	CROATIA	66	46	19	П
10 SCOTLAND	<b>SWITZERLAND</b>	40	38	15	15
II TURKEY	IRELAND	70	45	20	10
12 FRANCE	BELGIUM	58	13	24	6
13 ESTONIA	AUSTRIA	29	104	I	25

## **ROUND ROBIN SESSION 25**

Match		IM	lP's	VF	's
I bye	ICELAND	0	0	0	18
2 ĎENMARK	ISRAEL	34	45	13	17
3 ENGLAND	ESTONIA	61	66	14	16
4 GERMANY	FRANCE	21	36	12	18
5 TURKEY	WALES	79	12	25	2
6 ITALY	NORWAY	29	53	10	20
7 AUSTRIA	POLAND	42	47	14	16
8 SWITZERLAND	BELGIUM	58	48	17	13
9 SPAIN	SCOTLAND	57	66	13	17
10 IRELAND	PORTUGAL	34	57	10	20
II CROATIA	FINLAND	44	21	20	10
12 RUSSIA	<b>NETHERLANDS</b>	12	71	4	25
13 HUNGARY	SWEDEN	53	56	14	16

## **FINAL RANKING**

-1	NORWAY	481
2	NETHERLANDS	470
3	ISRAEL	469
4	FRANCE	444
5	DENMARK	429
6	TURKEY	418
7	SWEDEN	414
8	RUSSIA	414
9	GERMANY	408
10	ITALY	407
11	AUSTRIA	405
12	POLAND	399
13	ENGLAND	397
14	FINLAND	381
15	ICELAND	380
16	CROATIA	369
17	HUNGARY	366
18	PORTUGAL	361
19	BELGIUM	348
20	ESTONIA	336
21	SPAIN	264
22	SCOTLAND	254
23	WALES	247
24	SWITZERLAND	227
25	IRELAND	217











Catherine Evans of Wales was the youngest competitor in the Junior Team Championship. Her sister, Claire, aged 10, also plays, so watch out in two years time!

### **Editorial**



These have undoubtedly been outstanding championships. Never before have so many players and Captains visited the Daily Bulletin to deliver material. I hope you have enjoyed reading their stories and the ones we dis-

covered ourselves. Many people deserve thanks for their involvement.

Brian Senior, who managed daily to reduce three-page reports on the world's greatest cycle race to five or six lines; George Hatzidakis, the first Layout Editor in history to appear for breakfast, used his design skills to fantastic effect; Takis Pournaras, our Internet Editor, who ensured your supporters at home could read the bulletin before you, and is the second worst network hearts player in the world! Burak Bayhan, who demonstrated that it is possible to go for twelve days without sleep, was the man responsible for ensuring that the bulletin was waiting for you at breakfast.

There are many other people to whom we owe our thanks; Patrick Jourdain and Barry Rigal, for reporting the VuGraph highlights; Kees Tammens for a tremendous series on defence; Stefan Back and Henrik Røn for major articles; Nissan Rand, for being Nissan Rand; Gianni Baldi, for a wealth of information including the Butler scores; Marc van Beijesterveldt, confirmed as the world's number one proofreader; Maggie Pierce, who kept us supplied with certain essential items! Our magnificent Turkish hosts, who provided us with everything we needed, and we salute them all. There is a vast army of others, too numerous to mention individually, but without the efforts of the man behind the scenes there would be no bulletin. A toast then to our Chairman, Panos Gerontopoulos.

> Mark Horton Editor



## Daily Bulletin Awards





Schools

Espen Lindqvist
(Norway)

Reported by Patrick Jourdain
in Bulletin 10 Page 13



Best Play
Juniors
Marina Kelina
(Russia)
Reported by Martin Schaltz
in Bulletin 11 Page 17



Best Defence
Juniors
Stelio di Bello
(Italy)
Reported by Andrea Pagani
in Bulletin 11 Page 15



Best Bid
Juniors
Gal Hegedus
(Hungary)
Reported by Kees Tammens
in Bulletin 8 Page 13

Disaster
Juniors Lauri Naber and Leo Luks (Estonia)
Reported by Mark Horton in Bulletin 9 Page 15





## **SESSION 22**



## **ENGLAND**

**VS** 

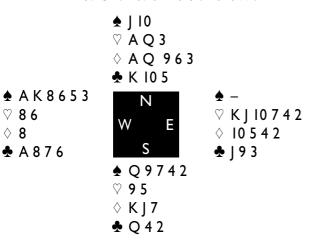
## **NORWAY**



Paula Leslie reports on an important match from Round 22 of the Junior Championship, between Norway and England.

First blood went to England.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Green	Hakkebo	Hazel	Jørstad
	INT	2♡	2♠
All Pass			



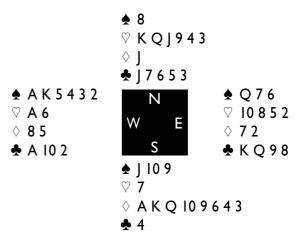
Stig Roar Hakkebo

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harr	Hillman	Kvangraven	Bennett
	I♦	2♡	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The contract in the Closed Room drifted three off for +150 to England. The stakes were higher in the Open Room where Hillman/Bennett reached 3NT. Kvangraven led the jack of hearts, which was won by declarer's queen. He played a club to the queen and ace. Harr cashed the ace and king of spades and declarer had 10 tricks for +430 and 11 IMPs to England.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Green	Hakkebo	Hazel	Jørstad
		Pass	3NT
Dble	<b>4</b> ♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

#### Open Room

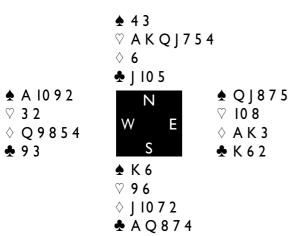
West	North	East	South
Harr	Hillman	Kvangraven	Bennett
		Pass	3NT
4♠	All Pass		

Both South players opened 3NT in second seat to show a solid minor. In the Closed Room Jonathan Green chose to double 3NT, and North's removal to  $4\Diamond$ , which ended the auction. East, Graham Hazel led the queen of clubs overtaken by West. He then cashed the aces of spades and hearts, and when he failed to play a trump declarer had 10 tricks for +710.

In the Open Room Gunnar Harr chose to bid 4♠ over the 3NT opening. North led a diamond, and South cashed two diamonds and switched to a heart, which declarer won and drew

trumps. He then carefully played the ten of clubs to the king, returned a small club to the ace, and picked up the club suit for four tricks for +450 and 15 IMPs to Norway who were now 15-11 ahead.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Green	Hakkebo	Hazel	Jørstad
			Pass
Pass	3NT	Dble	5◊
Pass	5♡	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harr	Hillman	Kvangraven	Bennett Pass
Pass	4♡	All Pass	1 455

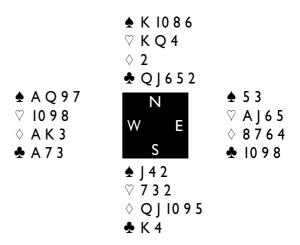


Ronny Jørstad

This was a missed opportunity for England. In the Closed Room North opened 3NT, which was described as a solid minor on his convention card. South jumped to  $5\lozenge$ , and when North converted to  $5\heartsuit$  they were at an uncomfortably high level. East led the queen of spades to the king and ace and West cashed the spade ten. He then switched to a trump, and declarer drew the outstanding trumps and successfully finessed in clubs to discard his diamond loser for 11 tricks and +650.

In the Closed Room Richard Hillman opened  $4\heartsuit$  in third seat and was left to play there. The defence started with a top diamond followed by two rounds of spades and a diamond switch ruffed by declarer. Richard drew trumps for 10 tricks but 6 IMPs to Norway, now ahead by 21-11 after only three boards.

#### Board 10. Dealer East, All Vul.



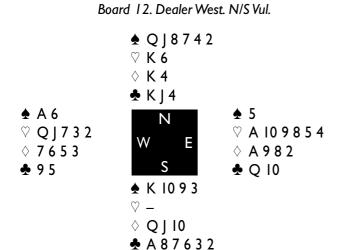
#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Green	Hakkebo	Hazel	Jørstad
		Pass	Pass
I♣	Pass	Ι♡	Pass
INT	All Pass		

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harr	Hillman	Kvangraven	Bennett
		Pass	Pass
INT	All Pass		

The contract was INT in both rooms. In the Closed Room Jonathan Green made five tricks for -200. In the Open Room Gunnar Harr did rather better. He received the lead of the five of clubs from North for the eight, king and three. South switched to the queen of diamonds, which was won by declarer's ace. Declarer led the eight of spades, and when North played the king gave this a good look, but eventually played the ace. He led another heart which was ducked, and a third, which was taken by North who continued with another club. Declarer had a fair idea of the distribution by this point. He cashed a second diamond in case North had two and exited in clubs. North could cash three club tricks but was endplayed into playing a spade giving declarer seven tricks and his contract. This was worth 7 IMPs to Norway who now led 26-18.



#### **Closed Room**

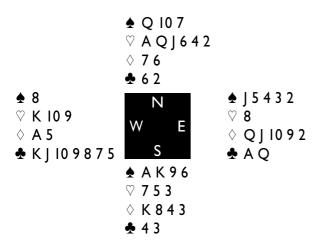
West	North	East	South
Green	Hakkebo	Hazel	Jørstad
2♡	2♠	3♡	4♡
Pass	4NT	5♡	6♠
All Pass			

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harr	Hillman	Kvangraven	Bennett
2◊	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

In the Closed Room Jonathan Green opened a weak  $2^{\circ}$  and North overcalled 2♠. Graham Hazel bid 3♥ for the moment and South showed a raise to 4♠ with heart shortage. North tried RKCB but Hazel came in with 50 and South jumped to slam. Graham led the ace of his shorter suit and there was still the ace of trumps to come for +100 to England. In the Open Room Gunnar Harr opened a multi 2◊ and after Richard Hillman's 2♠ overcall, East elected to pass. South was unsure as to the meaning of 4%, so bid a simple  $4\spadesuit$ . On the lead of the %A declarer made 12 tricks for +680 and 13 IMPs to England who retook the lead 31-26.

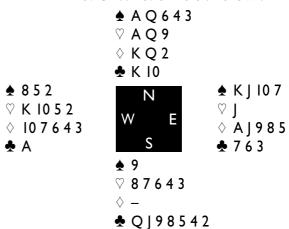
Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.



Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Green	Hakkebo	Hazel	Jørstad Pass
♣	2♡	2♠	3♡
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
5♣	All Pass		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Harr	Hillman	Kvangraven	Bennett Pass
♣	2♡	Dble	3♡
Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The players in the West seat had an awkward bidding decision. In the Closed Room Green had to make a decision after he had opened a club and partner had forced with 2♠ and subsequently made a take out double when 3% came back to him. He chose 5  $\clubsuit$  which made 11 tricks on the  $\heartsuit A$  lead. Harr was facing a more limited auction and his partner's 3♠ bid was non-forcing. He chose 3NT and South briefly considered doubling but wasn't sure whether this asked for a spade lead. When Hillman led the queen of hearts declarer had nine tricks for +400 and no swing.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



#### Trand Boom

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Green	Hakkebo	Hazel	Jørstad
	2NT	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♡	Pass	4♡
All Pass			
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Harr	Hillman	Kvangraven	Bennett
	2NT	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

In the Closed Room, after partner's 2NT opening South chose to play in 40 which made 10 tricks for +420 to Norway. In the Open Room Keith Bennett for England chose to bid 5♣ and Gunnar Harr found the killing lead of a low heart. Declarer played the queen, which held, and played a trump, which West won and gave his partner a heart ruff for one down and 10 IMPs to Norway.

The match ended 46-33 to Norway, which gave them an important 18-12 win.

### **SESSION 23**



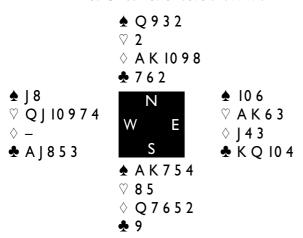
## SPAIN VS BELGIUM



#### FLAT BOARD?

When the Spanish Junior team scored up their Round 23 match against Belgium they thought at first that Board 19 was a flat board.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Tejada	Cornelis	Goded	de Donder
			2♠
Pass	4♠	Dble	Pass
5♡	All Pass		

#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
S de Roos	Anglada	T de Roos	Villalonga
			Pass
Pass	I ♦	Ι♡	I♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
5♡	Pass	Pass	5♠
Dble	All Pass		

In the Open Room, Steve de Donder had the perfect methods for the South hand, being able to open 2♠ to show less than opening values and 5-5 in spades and a minor. Loreto Romero De Tejada passed with the West cards, a rather cautious view, and Tom Cornelis jumped to 4♠ - he might have bid 4♦ instead as a kind of fit jump for spades. East/West clearly have a good partnership because after West had passed with a hand on which most of us might have bid, Gonzalo Goded doubled with a hand on which most of us might have passed. De Tejada responded 5♥, ending the auction. When Cornelis led a top diamond, she claimed 11 tricks without giving the hand too much thought. That cost her an overtrick but +650 was a perfectly satisfactory result for Spain.

And the result from the Closed Room was also 650. For a moment they thought that the board was flat, but that was not the case. Tania Villalonga did not have a weak two-suited opening available to her so decided to pass the South hand, and Steve de Roos also passed as West, when he certainly might have opened - he thought that he was too good for a weak two-suited 27 opening but not good enough for 17. Anyway, Claudia Anglada was quite happy to open in third seat and Tim de Roos overcalled  $I \heartsuit$  on his weak no trump. Villalonga bid her spades and Steve came up with a cunning plan. There are many possible approaches on that West hand and I suppose that Steve's idea of passing and seeing what would happen could have worked well on another day. However, this was today, or rather yesterday, and his pass did not work out well at all. By the time that the bidding came back to him his opponents had reached 4♠. He bid 5%, of course, and when that got back to Villalonga she bid a fifth spade.

I suppose that West was correct in theory when he doubled 5♠, as 6♥ is not making and 5♠ can be defeated via a diamond ruff, or even two. However, he still had to find a way to beat it. De Roos tried the lead of the ♥10, but that did not get the message across to his partner - it was, after all, consistent with Q109xx. Perhaps the nine would have been clearer, but bear in mind that South had not shown her diamond fit during the auction so a certain amount of partnership trust would still have been required, or perhaps leading the queen and then underleading in clubs would be the best way to get the message across. Tim won the heart lead and tried to cash two rounds of clubs and declarer had 11 tricks and a second Spanish +650 on the deal.

Flat board? Not quite, just 15 IMPs to Spain, helping them to win the match by 18-12 VPs.



## Latvia Team Profile

**Npc Ivars Rubenis:** Estonians are joking that every second he is in Latvia, because in that country two out of every four bridge-players have the same name. Indeed, two players called Rubenis will represent Latvia in Maastricht.

**Janis Neimanis** is a 19 year old university student famous for her countless nicknames - she has at least ten! The best is 'Zombi'.

**Karlis Rubins**, 20, could be the best player in the team, but he is proving that by beating his team-mates in other card games.

**Arthurs Ilzins**, is 17, and the only player who hopes, or believes, that we can win at least one match. We have a last chance against Poland! Victory!

**Agris Buss**, 16, is just an ordinary, silent & accurate young man who is fighting for every IMP, even when we are without chances.

## **SESSION 24**



### ISRAEL

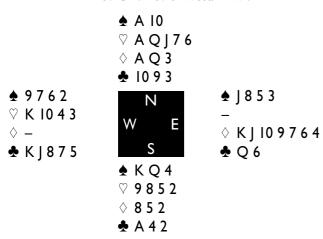
#### **VS**

### **NORWAY**



With two rounds to play, Norway led the Junior competition with Israel in second place, just 7VPs behind. A big win for either side could virtually secure the gold medal. Israel picked up 3 IMPs over the first three deals, then came this deal, nicely played at both tables.

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



#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Schneider	Charlsen	Roll	Ellestad
Pass	ΙŸ	3♦	3♡
Pass	4♡	All Pass	

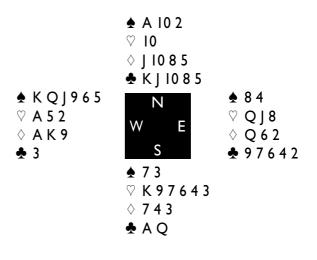
#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harr	Vax	Kvangraven	Amit
Pass	ΙŸ	3♦	3♡
Pass	4♡	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, Yossi Roll led a low spade and Thomas Charlsen won in dummy to play a heart to the queen. When the 4-0 break came to light, he continued with the ace of spades then ducked a club. Back came a second club and Charlsen won the ace and cashed the spade winner to throw a diamond. Now he played the nine of hearts for the ten and jack and exited with his last club. West could win but was then endplayed to allow another heart finesse. Charlsen just had to concede a diamond at the end; +620.

Nils Kare Kvangraven also led a spade in the Open Room. Yaniv Vax also won on table and took a heart finesse. He unblocked the spade and crossed to the ace of clubs. Next he pitched a club on the queen of spades and took a heart finesse. Then he exited with a club. West overtook to play back a third club but declarer could ruff then found the nice play of exiting with his low diamond to endplay East. The defence could only come to one trick from here so Vax also scored +620 for a well-played push.

Board 6. Dealer East, E/W Vul.



#### **Closed Room**

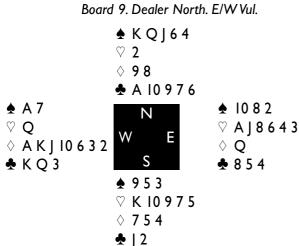
West	North	East	South
Schneider	Charlsen	Roll	Ellestad
		Pass	Pass
I♠	Pass	Pass	2♡
2♠	All Pass		

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harr	Vax	Kvangraven	Amit
		Pass	2♡
Dble	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Ran Schneider was allowed to make II tricks in the Closed Room, for +200. The stakes were rather higher in the Open Room, where Gunnar Harr showed a strong hand by doubling the weak two opening then bidding his spades over Kvangraven's Lebensohl response. It was tough for East to judge that 4\(\phi\) would be better than 3NT and his actual choice gave the Israelis a chance to beat him. Asaf Amit led a heart to the ten and queen and Kvangraven led a spade to the king. Best is surely for North to duck a couple of rounds of spades. Not only will he get a discard from his partner, but this will also make it clear to South that the spades are running. In practice Vax won the first spade. To defeat the contract, he had to switch to a low club and Amit had to appreciate the position and win with the ace and return the queen. Vax switched to the \(\phi\)10 and now there was no defence; +630 and 10 IMPs to Norway.

Vax's defence would have been correct had declarer held  $\Phi$ Q9x - if he holds four clubs he is likely to get the position right whatever North does.



#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Schneider	Charlsen	Roll	Ellestad
	I♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	2♣	2♡	2♠
3NT	Pass	4♡	Dble
All Pass			

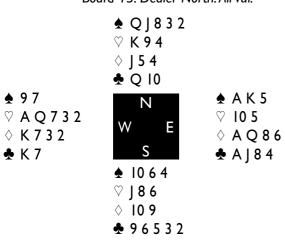
#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harr	Vax	Kvangraven	Amit
	I♠	Pass	INT
Dble	2♣	2♡	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

One can understand every action taken by the two East/West pairs but that does not necessarily mean that one has to agree with them. I like Amit's INT response on the South hand more than Olav Ellestad's pass, as it created a slightly more difficult situation for Harr, but should not West foresee the pressure he is putting his partner under by starting with a double and simply overcall 3NT? Sure, that will work out badly sometimes, but we can see in the Closed Room what can go wrong after a double.Actually, I think that, rather than criticise Roll too much for correcting to his six-card major, we should be congratulating Kvangraven for bidding only 2% and then sitting for 3NT in the Open Room.

After a spade lead, 3NT made exactly for +600 to Norway. Meanwhile,  $4\heartsuit$  got doubled and was completely hopeless. After a spade lead, ducked, and a spade back, Roll did OK to get out for two down; 500 and 15 IMPs to Norway.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.



#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Schneider	Charlsen	Roll	Ellestad
	Pass	♣	Pass
I 🌣	I♠	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

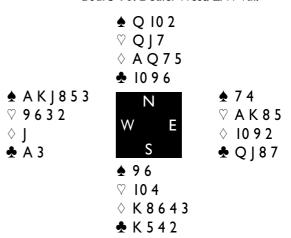
#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harr	Vax	Kvangraven	Amit
	Pass	ĺ♣	Pass
ΙŸ	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♡	Pass	3NT	Pass
4◊	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
6◊	All Pass		

Norway seemed to have taken a firm grip on the match and the gold medal when Harr/Kvargraven bid to the borderline slam. +1370 to Norway and +660 to Israel; I2 IMPs to Norway, who led by 37-6.

The Norwegian lead had increased to 41-6 but then Israel came back strongly.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Schneider	Charlsen	Roll	Ellestad
I♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2♡	Pass	3♡	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

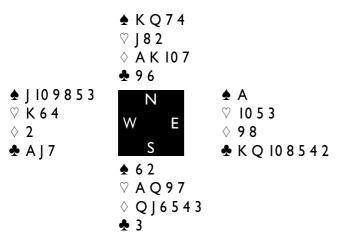
#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harr	Vax	Kvangraven	Amit
I♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

What would you rebid with the West hand? Two Hearts is more likely to get you to a good game, as here, but 2♠ may well lead to a safer partscore and also avoid problems when East raises hearts with a weaker four-card holding. This time, the heart

rebid was the big winner as it enabled Roll/Schneider to get to what proved to be an easy game. Four Hearts made +650 and 2♠ +170 - 10 IMPs to Israel.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Schneider	Charlsen	Roll	Ellestad
	I♦	3♣	Dble
Pass	3♠	Pass	<b>4</b> ♦
All Pass			

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harr	Vax	Kvangraven	Amit
	I♦	2♣	3♣
3♠	Pass	Pass	<b>4</b> ♦
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

Four Diamonds made exactly for +130.

Who would you blame for the disaster in the Open Room? Perhaps East could have bid 4♣ over 3♠, but his pass seems quite reasonable - after all, why get higher with no knowledge of a real

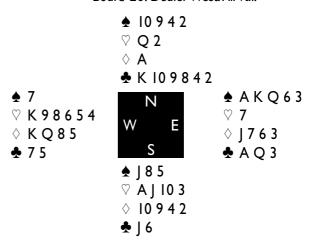


Asaf Amit

fit anywhere? Bidding that spade suit twice looks too much and it was severely punished - note that there is no way to defeat 5♣ if declarer reads the spade position correctly.

The defence to 44 doubled was just right. Vax led two rounds of diamonds and Harr ruffed then played a trump to the ace and a club back to hand for a second trump lead. Vax won and played a third diamond, again ruffed. Declarer played the 4 then his last club and Vax ruffed, cashed the king of spades and played his fourth diamond. Declarer could only make his last trump for four down and -800; 12 IMPs to Israel.

#### Board 20. Dealer West, All Vul.



#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Schneider	Charlsen	Roll	Ellestad
2♡	All Pass		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Harr	Vax	Kvangraven	Amit
2◊	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

What would be your judgement of the East hand opposite a weak  $2^{\heartsuit}$  opening? I have a lot of sympathy with Roll's pass - game is unlikely unless the hands fit very well or you play a very disciplined weak-two style. Here,  $2^{\heartsuit}$  made an overtrick for +140.

Kvangraven responded 2NT, a puppet to 3♣, we believe, then followed up by bidding his spades. I am not convinced that it is correct to raise with a singleton, being of the school that thinks partner could bid 44 himself if a small singleton is sufficient trump support. However, one can understand Harr's concern about the club position. Three No Trump is not a good contract by any means - it just happens that it will make after South has made the normal lead of a diamond. Four Spades is not automatically down, but the same diamond lead to the ace and a club switch to the queen meant that declarer needed second sight to bring home his contract. Kvangraven played three rounds of clubs, hoping to ruff in dummy. Amit ruffed in with the eight of spades and gave Vax a diamond ruff (perfection would have been to cash the VA first). A fourth club allowed declarer to get his heart loser away but Amit could ruff and give his partner another diamond ruff for two down; -200 and 8 IMPs to Israel.

After looking in danger of suffering a serious beating at one point, Israel had come back well to hold their loss to 37-41 IMPs, 14-16 VPs. They would go into the final round still in second place, 9 VPs behind Norway, and with the Netherlands close behind.



### The Swedish

### **Juniors**

It is difficult to pick a good team. You can't just look for big, fat and ugly players - which usually gives you a good team. Nowadays, things like skill and good team spirit are important too, Well, I got a lot of that and manage to get the big, fat and ugly also. We can divide the team into two categories:

- I) Over 90 kilos
- 2) The Wimps



In the 90+ category we have one player from each pair, First we have **Peter Stranberg**. We are staying at a hotel called Cender. They have a pool and I think Peter's goal is to drain it of water. Every time he dives in one-third of the pool's water leaves the hotel area.

**Tobias Tomqvist** only has to be in the pool to achieve the same thing. They are from Stockholm and Goteborg and share the same room. If there is an earthquake, it may just be them snoring.

**Niclas Eliasohn** cannot be in the pool at the same time as Peter and Tobias. The hotel manager has forbidden it. He is from Sundsvall, and is our 'special team'. I don't think that anyone has doubled for more points than him in this tournament.

That's half of the team - 300 kilos of pure bridge-machine. Now to the other half. **Magnus Melander** plays with Niclas and is close to the 90+, but being declarer in doubled contracts is a good way to lose weight. He has recently moved to Stockholm from Sundsvall.

Now the two really skinny ones:



## Henrik Noberius and Fredrik Nystrom have no problem fitting into the pool at the same time as the big guys. We just squeeze them in where there is a gap.

If you want to know what they are doing in their spare time, I cannot give you any surprises. It's the usual studying, working and some silly hobby. They are all between 23

and 25 years old and live pretty dull lives.

I have a coach also, **Daniel Auby**, and he has amused us with a lot of European history during the week. Not that we are interested, but he is almost impossible to stop. He is the captain of the Open team and I am the coach (more skills are needed for the coach in the Open). He has also been a good losing opponent in the game 'Settler', which we have played almost every day during this tournament.

We in the Swedish team would like to thank you all for a nice tournament and we want you to know that you are always welcome to visit the country 'that doesn't need air-conditioning'.

#### Yours Sincerely,

**Goran** 'big-fat-settler-champ-and-dictator-of-the-Swedish-team' **Lindberg, npc.** 

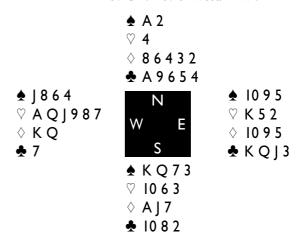
### Not a

## Disaster



We have been collecting disaster stories in huge numbers but it seemed that everyone had forgotten that we also wanted well-played hands. When Piotr Lutostanski of Poland, who has contributed more disasters than most, brought in his latest offering, we asked him to also give us a good hand and, sure enough, he found a well-played hand from the very first round of the Junior event.

Board 4. Dealer West, All Vul.



West	North	East	South
	Lutostanski		Kucharski
ΙŸ	Pass	2♡	Pass
Pass	2NT	Dble	Pass
Pass	3♣	Dble	All Pass

The speed with which East doubled  $3\clubsuit$  was ominous. He led a heart to his partner's jack and next came the  $\heartsuit$ A. Lutostanski ruffed and led a diamond, ducking to West's king - there was no point in putting in the jack as it was clear that East would hold too much in clubs to also hold both diamond honours. Another heart came back and Lutostanski ruffed then played a small club from hand. East won the  $\clubsuit$ J and returned the king of clubs to the ace. Lutostanski cashed the ace of diamonds now and the fall of the queen was a very pleasant sight indeed. He continued by cashing the  $\lozenge$ J then played the king of spades and a spade to the ace then led a winning diamond. East thought for about two minutes then surrendered and said sorry to his partner; +670.

Nicely done!

## **Suggestion Box**



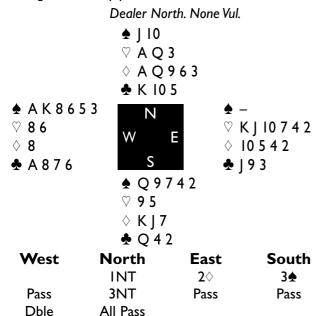
During the Championships, a number of ideas have been put forward. One of the best is that at the end of each match, the teams should swop shirts! That would prove to be expensive for each Federation, who would have to supply their teams with over thirty sets of

shirts. We can think of other complications as well!



## How bad is "worst"?

Robert Carr of the Scottish Junior team insists that this hand from Round 22 is a candidate for a worst-played hand award. Writing about it may prove cathartic, so:



Our hero sat North and opened a strong no-trump, as you would if those were your methods. The Swedish East bid  $2^{\circ}$ , Multi, weak in either major or strong in a minor. South overbid with a forcing  $3^{\circ}$ , North bid 3NT, and West doubled confidently.

East knew he was supposed to lead a spade, but for some reason he selected a diamond. Robert rose confidently with the king in dummy. He tried a spade, West took the king, and East discarded an encouraging heart. West led  $\heartsuit 8$ , ducked to the ten. East returned another diamond and declarer continued the attack on dummy's entries by winning the jack. He tried a cunning psychological play of the queen of spades, but West was not put off - he won the ace and played his second heart. Unluckily East's king beat the queen and he cleared the suit, Robert now crossed to dummy with the queen of clubs, but West meanly produced the ace and returned a club. Another finesse lost, and East cashed the rest of his hearts.

It was unfortunate for Robert that East had not kept all his hearts. That would have given him the chance to misguess at trick twelve for six down. As it was he could claim the last two tricks with the ace of diamonds and the king of clubs. Only four down 3NT can actually be made on a diamond lead, though declarer has to read the position. At trick five, instead of playing a spade, declarer should start to run his diamonds, keeping a close eye on West's discards. After cashing the diamonds, declarer removes West's possible exit card by cashing the ace of hearts. When West is down to six black cards, probably ♠A86 ♣A87 a discard from either suit will be fatal. Parting with a spade allows declarer to play the jack of spades and overtake it, and parting with a club sees declarer again play the jack of spades. If declarer ducks, declare makes the key play of the king of clubs from hand. If West ducks he is thrown in with a club, so he wins and exits with a club, but now declarer wins in dummy and must make a spade trick. So Robert slopped only four doubled undertricks on a hand he could have made - surely not a record?

(A club lead, certainly the least likely on the East hand, will defeat the contract)



## Norwegian Junior Team

**Thomas Charlsen** (25) is the most experienced player in the team. He has won the European Championships once, and been twice second in the World Championships. Last year he also won the Norwegian Team Championships. He is working in an insurance company. In the beginning of August he will become a father.

Olav Ellestad (22) is studying economics in Bergen and plays for the first time on the junior team. Interest outside bridge is studies (!) and movies. He partners Thomas, and if he does something wrong he gets free lessons from Charlie boy, however, not without noise.

**Stig Roar Hakkebo** (22) has been studying economics in Trondheim and will continue his studies in Bodø this fall. He partnered Ronny in the Schools Championships in Vienna two years ago. Besides bridge he likes watching movies and music.

**Gunnar Harr** (23) is studying economics in Tromsø, which is also his hometown. He has won the Norwegian Junior Championships twice. He has been fourth in the Europeans Championships and fifth in the Word Championships. He likes listening to music.

**Nils Kåre Kvangraven** (22) finished his studies so far this spring, and will work as an auditor in Oslo after the championships. He has been fourth in the European Championships and fifth in the Word Championships. He is an addicted OK-bridge player.

Ronny Jørstad (22) finished his studies this spring and will work as a real estate broker in his hometown, Skien. He partnered Stig Roar in the Schools Championships in Vienna two years ago. Interests are outdoor and social activities.

Coach Arhhur Malinowski (32) works in the Norwegian Bridge Federation. He is a former participant of the Polish junior team

**NPC Sven Olai Høyland** (39) is an assistant professor in computer science at Bergen College of Engineering. He has won the Norwegian Pairs and Team Championships four times and played twice on the Open Norwegian team with moderate results. This is his first time as npc.



## The Norway Schools Team

**Jorn Ringseth** (19): The oldest boy in the team, he lives in Steinkjer, in the middle of Norway, He finished high school this year. When he is not playing bridge you will probably find him a t a party, or at some other social activity.

**Sverre Aal** (18): Also from Steinkjer and has finished high school. When he returns from this trip, he is going into the army. His outside interests are parties, music and sport.

**Petter Eide** (16): Lives in Hamar in the South-east of Norway and goes to high school. When he is not playing bridge he might be sitting in front of a computer. Other interests are music and football.

**Erik Eide** (18): Petter's brother and also goes to high school. He is a big fan of the English football team, Tottenham Hotspur and also likes music and computer games. He is definitely the worst table tennis player in the team. In the winter he likes to go snowboarding.

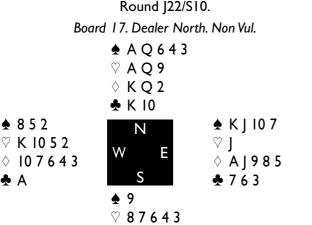
**Espen Lindqvist** (16): He lives in Arendal in the South of Norway. He goes to high school and is the gambler of the team. Other interests are music and sports.

**Olav Lillebuen** (npc): He lives in Kongsberg in the Southeast of Norway and works as a teacher. He has managed the team throughout the competition with a steady hand.



## Return of the Rueful Rabbit

If you study the profile of the Turkish players in yesterday's bulletin, you will see that Sinan Tatlicioglu is know as 'Rabbit'. We cannot say if that is in any way connected with Victor Mollo's immortal character from the Menagerie, but by a strange coincidence Sinan was involved in the following deal.



♦ Q J 9 8 5 4 2
 West North East South 2NT Pass 4♥
 All Pass

Four Hearts was a transfer to clubs, but North forgot! Of course, his luck was in, as Five Clubs can be defeated by an initial heart lead, and Four Hearts could not be defeated thanks to the location of the king of hearts, and West's unguarded ace of clubs.



## Russian Junior Team Profile

The Russian players attending these championships are from four cities; Moscow, St.Petersburg. Ekaterinburg and Chelyabinsk, which are located in an area big enough to cover the whole of Western Europe. This fact significantly strengthens team spirit. We start with the only lady in the team:

**Marina Kelina**, 25, national women and mixed champion, plays for the first and, what a pity, the last time, unless we qualify.

**Mikhael Krasnosselski**, 22, is the most experienced player and the leader of the team. This year he will make his debut in the Russian Open team in Maastricht. This time he plays with Marina, and everybody says that he will never play with a woman again!

**Nikita Malinovski**, 22, is the only Russian junior who ever played for the schools team. With his current partner, Eugeny Solntsev, 25, he played for the Russian team in the Den Bosch Festival this year.

**Vladimir Andreev**, 23, and **Maxim Semisochenko**, 23, developed a very strange bidding system, which very often leads to disasters (sometimes for the opponents too). Their debut for the Russian team was also in Den Bosch.

**Arseni Chour**, 28, npc, won a silver medal four years ago in Cardiff, and it is very surprising he can't teach his guys how to do this simple thing.

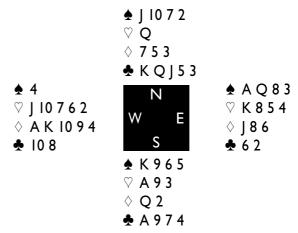


## IMAGINATIVE DEFENCE

by Andrea Pagani (Italy)

Stelio di Bello of Italy is already a professional player on the Lavazza team. This defence from Round 17, when Italy met France on VuGraph, showed his skill and imagination

Board 9. Dealer North, E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Charletoux	Furio	Bazin	Di Bello
	Pass	Pass	♣
Ι♡	Dble	3♣	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

Furio led the king of clubs against West's Four Hearts. Stelio overtook with the ace and played the two of diamonds at the speed of light. Declarer won the ace, and was tempted into trying to get rid of his losing club by taking the spade finesse. This lost to the king and Stelio continued with the queen of diamonds. West won and played the jack of trumps, for the queen, king and ace. South now continued with a small club for an entry to partner's hand and Furio returned a third diamond for South to ruff! Two down when declarer can make his game by guessing the trump suit accurately.

This great defence was wasted when, at the other table, France was allowed to make Four Spades doubled on the N/S cards.

#### **Team Profiles**

Thank you to everyone who presented a profile to the Bulletin. We can assure you that they form an integral part of the publication, especially at a junior championship. We had hoped to feature every team but despite repeated requests, some countries did not make the effort, thereby denying our readers the pleasure of discovering more about their opponents. Perhaps the conditions of contest should include a penalty clause for non-delivery!



## The Junior Swiss Team

Five bridge players, six pairs, six nationalities, six languages. We would have preferred to be six players.

The five players are:

**Nathalie Justitz:** 23 years old sales manager at a local travel agency. The touch of charm in the team which the team counted on a lot for winning some IMPs.

**Gerard Heche:** 25 years old. He is a mathematical engineer when he is not drinking beer with friends. The most experienced player in the team, he is still nervous when kibitzed. He can just about tolerate his captain sitting behind him.

Olivier La Spada: 25 years old and missed out on being a junior next year by eight hours! He is an actuary. Pay attention if you see him taking a bus and ask where his destination is before it is too late. He also loves rafting.

**John Weisweiler:** 18 years old and still going to school. If you cross him he will certainly be looking for his keys, his bag or whatever. He is always frightening his PD and NPC with his trash pre-empts.

**Baris Gencer:** 18 years old. He is going to study medicine. The regional de l'etape, he is very useful for Turkish translations. But please Baris, not with your mobile phone in the Open Room.

Marco Sasselli (npc): 38 years old. He is a physicist engineer. He took two weeks out of his life to be here just to collect some white hairs. Very pedagog, he loves telling true bridge stories while analysing stupid mistakes. A little advice, if he propositions you, do not bet with him.

The whole team would like to give a big THANK YOU to the organisers.



## **Danish Juniors**

**Gregers Bjarnarson**, the oldest player in the team, is 25, and he is the only one left from the team that won the bronze medal in Fort Lauderdale. He claims to be a student in maths and economics, but we are not sure if he knows the way to the university. Gregers is playing with **Michael Askgaard** who is 24, and studies maths and chemistry. Apart from bridge, Michael plays football, tennis and a little golf.

**Boje Henriksen** is 23. When he isn't playing bridge he studies economics. We have observed him in the pool once in the last ten days, but there is no doubt that he prefers indoor activities. Boje is playing with **Troels Thomsen**. He is 23, and has finished his education as a media coordinator, but he has decided to start a new career as a cook when he goes back home. Both Boje and Troels played in the Danish Schools team in Cardiff, and have played a Nordic School Championship with different partners.

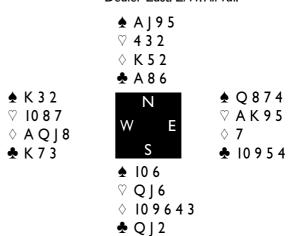
Andreas Marquardsen is 22 years old, and apart from Boje he is the only player in the team who hasn't made any mistakes yet in the tournament. He is studying to be a teacher, and when he isn't playing bridge he is hunting girls, but he has more success at the bridge table.

Andreas plays with **Martin Schaltz**, the youngest player on the team. He is 16, but has already won a Nordic Championship, and two Danish Junior titles. Apart from bridge, Martin plays football. After the tournament, he starts in high school. The team coach **Søren Rasmussen** is 35, and works as a cash account manager in a casino. In his spare time he plays a lot of golf, and tries to look like Bruce Willis. The npc is **Rico Hemberg**. He was a player on the team that lost by 0.5 IMP to Germany in the World Championship semi-final in 1993. He is a carpenter and teaches bridge.

## NORWEGIAN BATTLE

As Norway celebrate their record-breaking victory in the European Junior Championships, one wonders how many of the team will go on to emulate the success of former Norwegian Junior stars? This deal from the recent Generali World Masters in Athens features two of the most famous Norwegians in opposition, and shows just how easy it is for even the greatest players to suffer a disaster - and that is where we came in 10 days ago.

Dealer East. E/W. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Convery	Sementa Pass	Helgemo Pass
I ♦	Dble	Rdbl	I♡!
Pass	Pass	INT	2◊!
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	2♡	Dble	All Pass

Helgemo bid his three-card heart suit to give his partner an idea of what to lead. He was not prepared to sell out to INT, so he bid a second three-card suit! When his partner gave him preference to hearts, he had nowhere to go.

Brogeland led a trump to East's king. Sementa switched to his singleton diamond, but it was hard for West to read the position, and he played the jack, allowing dummy's king to win. Helgemo played a trump from dummy, and was allowed to win with the jack. Now he played the six of spades to the jack(!) and queen. East returned a spade for the ten, king and ace. Declarer now cashed the nine of spades, and ruffed a spade with the queen of trumps, West discarding a club. Now Geir played the jack of clubs, and when West played low, it held the trick. Now came the two of clubs for the king and ace. Declarer had already done rather well to arrive at seven tricks, but he had not quite run out

of ammunition. When he played dummy's remaining trump, East put up the ace, felling his partner's ten. Declarer now came to an eighth trick via his queen of clubs.

The defenders had not exactly made the best of things, but it was hard for them to read declarer's shape! Still, Antonio Sementa could afford to smile, as he went on to win the event and walk away with the winner's cheque for US\$10,000!



Geir Helgemo

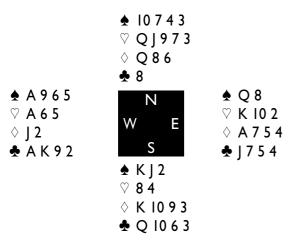


## The Smallest Finesse?

by Martin Schaltz (Denmark)

In yesterday's Round 23 match on Vu-Graph between Russia and Italy, a revealing bid by Biondo helped Marina Kelina of Russia to her ninth trick with a special club finesse:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



#### Open Room

west	North	East	South
Kelina	Mazzadi	Krasnosselski	Biondo
	Pass	Pass	♣
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
losed Room			

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Furio	Solnstev	Stelio	Malinovski
	Pass	Pass	Pass
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

In the Closed Room North led the queen of hearts taken by declarer's king. Furio di Bello wanted to find out whether the king of spades was onside before deciding how to play the clubs. So he began with a spade to the queen. This lost so he needed four tricks from the club suit and therefore started by playing the ace and king. When North showed out he had only seven tricks and went two off.

In the Open Room the lead was also the queen of hearts but declarer had the extra information from Biondo's One Club together with the fact that North had chosen a heart lead and not a club. Kelina won the king of hearts, and played immediately a heart to the ten, which held. Then she tried the jack of clubs from dummy, which was covered by the queen and king. Noting the fall of the eight from North, declarer returned to dummy with a heart and led the four of clubs. Biondo smoothly played the three. After a small break from Kelina, she decided to let it run. When the four held she had her nine tricks.

I was not surprised that Biondo opened the bidding on his nine points. I was just puzzled that he did not choose to open One Diamond, his better suit!

Dror Lellouche reports from the Schools match between Israel and France that his partner Ron Hoffman made 3NT on this deal without the help of any opposition bidding, in an equally meritorious fashion.

He bid to 3NT (INT-3NT) on a top heart lead and immediately led to the queen of spades - had it held, he would have safety-played the clubs of course by cashing the ace and leading to the jack. When South, Delmas of France took the king of spades and returned a diamond, Hoffman ducked and ducked the next diamond as well. He took the third diamond and was faced with a guess as to what to do in the club suit. He correctly determined that the fact that North had long hearts (the play to the first trick had marked him with five cards) and three or more diamonds, made him likely to be short in clubs. So he played a low club to the nine. When that held, he cashed the ace of clubs, finding the bad news, then took the ace of spades, and led a diamond to the ace. This strip-squeezed South into pitching his winning spade, and Hoffman endplayed him with the fourth diamond to lead up to the jack of clubs at trick twelve. Very nicely done!



## England Schools Team Profile

**Susan Stockdale**, 17, comes from a bridge playing family and is currently studying for A-levels. Favourite bid: 2♠, holding either two spades, the two of spades or both. She partners:

**Duncan Harper**, 18, who will read Maths at University this Autumn. He is a keen footballer and runner. Both he and Susan help encourage the many young bridge players at their school. Favourite card: The ♠7.

**Ben Handley-Pritchard**, 18, lives in Gloucester, and has recently finished his A-levels. He intends to study Human Sciences. Ben has played more hands than any other player at the tournament, but these have mostly been on OK Bridge. Favourite card: Any, as long as it fools partner. He plays with:

Alex Hydes, 20, the team's professional gambler. He has so far lost 60 million Lira to Andrew Woodcock, but he claims this is an investment. He is currently at Oxford University studying politics, philosophy and economics. Favourite bid: Anything that stops him ending up as a defender.

**Oliver Burgess**, 16, was taught to play bridge by his mother. He has just finished his GCSEs. Favourite suit: hearts - but only if he does not have five of them. He plays with:

Andrew Woodcock, 20, who studies accountancy at Hull University. He says he enjoys the course - a claim that is likely to meet with some scepticism when he tries to get a job. Favourite card: The jack of hearts, which he likes to play at the first opportunity.

Their npc is **Phil King**, 34, who is a professional bridge author and player. The most important member of the team is:

Megan Starkings, the team minder, who makes sure that the players are where they are supposed to be, except at the opening ceremony which, inexplicably, started on time, due to an outbreak of German efficiency.

#### **SPORT NEWS**

#### Formula One



While Stefan Back is in mourning, our Finnish readers will be delighted to hear that World-championship leader, Michael Schumacher crashed out of today's Austrian Grand Prix at the first corner, after being hit from behind by

Ricardo Zonta. That left the way open for McLaren to dominate the race, with World Champion Mika Hakkinen winning comfortably from team-mate David Coulthard. Rubens Barrichello took third place and Jacques Villeneuves fourth. Jensen Button was fifth and Mika Salo took one championship point for sixth place.

The one-two finish means that McLaren have now overtaken Ferrari in the Constructors' Championship. McLaren have 98 points to Ferrari's 92.

#### Cricket

England coasted to a ten-wicket win over West Indies yesterday. West Indies struggled to 169-8 in their 50 overs. England knocked off the runs by the 36th over, without losing a wicket. Alec Stewart scored 74 not out and Marcus

Trescothick, the success of the series so far, 87 not out. This win effectively guarantees England a place in the final against Zimbabwe.



#### Cycling

Colombian Santiago Botero won yesterday's 14th stage of the Tour de France. There was no significant change in the top placings, but Italy's Marco Pantani, third in the stage, moved into the top ten.

Today's 15th stage was won by Marco Pantani. Lance Armstrong's overall lead is now over seven minutes.





After the fight, Lewis told former champion, Mike Tyson to 'put up or shut up'. Lewis' promoter, Panos Eliades insists that he has already made a \$25million offer to Tyson for a meeting.



#### Rallying

More good news for Finnish motor-sport lovers comes with the news that Finland's Marcus Gronheim won the New Zealand Rally by 14.5 seconds from Britain's Colin McRae. Spaniard, Carlos Sainz finished third.



#### **Football**

South Africa are to ask FIFA to grant them the right to host the 2010 World Cup.

Italian Serie A side, Fiorentina are reported to have signed Portuguese international striker, Nuno Gomez from Barcelona for 12.5 million

pounds. Gomez is said to have signed a five-year deal.

#### Saturday's Intertoto Cup Third Round First Leg Results:

Ceahlaul PN	2-2	Austria Vienna
Blsany	5-0	Kalamata
Celta Vigo	3-0	FK Pelister
Lens	2-I	VfB Stuttgart
Slaven Belupo	1-1	Sigma Olomouc
Sedan	0-0	Wolfsburg
St Petersburg	2-I	Lombard T
Standard Liege	3-I	SV Salzburg

#### Golf

Ernie Els of South Africa won the Loch Lomond tournament in Scotland with a final round of 68 for an II-under par total of 273. He finished one stroke clear of American Tom Lehman. Scotland's Colin Montgomerie was a

stroke further back in third place.

#### **Athletics**

Great Britain led at the end of the first day of the Men's European Cup in Gatehead, England. Second were Italy, two points behind, while Russia and Greece were a further six points back in joint fourth place. The Women's event

looks to be a straight fight between Russia and Germany. At the end of the first day, Russia had 63 points to Germany's 59, with third-placed Romania on 45.

The second day had not been completed when we had to go to press.



#### **Tennis**

Magnus Norman of Sweden won the Stockholm Open to lead the ATP Champions Race.



Michael Schumacher crashes out of the Austrian Grand Prix

#### **Musical Tables**

Could there be any truth in the rumour that the Italian Junior Captain requested that his team's table be located as close as possible to that of the Spanish team?

## **FINAL BUTLER**

PLAYER	AVG IMPS	BOARDS	73	Hazel G	ENG	0.07	340
I Hakkebo S	NOR 0.97	280	74	Hillman R Grunt A	ENG POL	0.07 0.07	320 200
2 Jorstad R	NOR 0.97	280	76	Sarniak A	POL	0.07	200
	NOR 0.85	380	77	Zoric V	CRO	0.06	380
	NOR 0.85 ISR 0.77	380 359	78 79	Luks L	EST EST	0.06 0.06	480 480
	ISR 0.77	359 359	80	Naber L Airaksinen	FIN	0.06	480 320
	AUT 0.76	480	81	lafs F	FIN	0.05	320
8 Schifko M	AUT 0.76	480	82	Krupp S	GER	0.03	400
	ISR 0.75	359	83	Brguljan K	CRO	0.02	380
	ISR 0.75 NLD 0.72	359 420	84 85	Tomsen T Labruyere P	DEN FRA	0.02 0.00	140 220
	NLD 0.72	420	86	Grenthe G	FRA	0.00	220
13 Balschun R	GER 0.70	420	87	Moeller M	GER	-0.03	420
	NLD 0.70	360	88	Einarsson B	ICE	-0.04	300
	NLD 0.70 FRA 0.68	360 360	89 90	Gunnarsson G Biondo B	ICE ITA	-0.04 -0.04	300 417
	FRA 0.68	360	91	Sasek T	CRO	-0.05	380
18 Kelina M	RUS 0.67	399	92	Pilipovic M	CRO	-0.06	400
	RUS 0.67	399	93	Medusei A	ITA	-0.06	100
,	HUN 0.66 HUN 0.65	480 400	94	Stefansson F Thorsson P	ICE ICE	-0.13 -0.13	300 300
	GER 0.61	440 440	96	Grumm I	AUT	-0.13 -0.15	220
	FRA 0.58	380	97	Kriftner S	AUT	-0.15	220
	FRA 0.58	380	98	Grahek V	CRO	-0.20	380
	TUR 0.50	419	99	Mazzadi F	ITA	-0.21	258
	TUR 0.50 ITA 0.49	419 439	100	Roos D Roos S	BEL BEL	-0.33 -0.33	380 380
	ITA 0.49	439	102	Cockburn D	SCO	-0.37	280
29 Rosta E	HUN 0.47	120	103	Erdemil P	TUR	-0.37	140
	DEN 0.46	440	104	Erdogan I	TUR	-0.37	140
	DEN 0.46 ENG 0.46	440 300	105	Roos T Toutenel E	BEL BEL	-0.41 -0.41	200 200
	ENG 0.46	300	107	Andreev V	RUS	-0.41	240
	NOR 0.46	300	108	Semisochenko	RUS	-0.41	240
	NOR 0.46	300	109	Cleaton M	WAL	-0.43	440
	DEN 0.44 DEN 0.44	380 320	110	Roderick M Sousa J	WAL POR	-0.43 -0.48	440 320
	NLD 0.41	180	112	Teixeira N	POR	-0.48	320
39 Groosman B	NLD 0.41	180	113	Jerolitsch M	AUT	-0.5 I	260
	POL 0.39	359	114	Veverka A	AUT	-0.51	260
	POL 0.39 SWE 0.38	359 280	115	Bokholt N Kornek A	GER GER	-0.52 -0.52	120 120
	SWE 0.38	280	117	Myles A	SCO	-0.56	300
44 Halldorsson	ICE 0.35	360	118	Masia S	SPA	-0.58	280
	ICE 0.35	360	119	Perez J	SPA	-0.58	280
	POR 0.34 POR 0.34	320 320	120	Bergson H McCrossan D	SCO SCO	-0.62 -0.62	360 360
	BEL 0.32	380	121	Goded G	SPA	-0.62	340
49 Donder S	BEL 0.32	380	123	De Tejada L	SPA	-0.68	340
	SWE 0.24	380	124	Tihane A	EST	-0.69	480
	SWE 0.24 SWE 0.23	380 300	125	Targla T Kotanyi B	EST HUN	-0.69 -0.69	480 440
53 Melander M	SWE 0.23	300	127	Heche G	SWI	-0.73	460
54 Sunamak G	TUR 0.23	399	128	Szikszai J	HUN	-0.83	380
	TUR 0.23	399	129	Anglada C	SPA	-0.83	340
	FIN 0.17 FIN 0.17	400 400	130	Villalonga T Mac Cormac T	SPA IRE	-0.83 -0.91	340 380
	FIN 0.16	240	132	Mac Kenzie B	IRE	-0.91	380
	FIN 0.16	240	133	Weisweiler J	SWI	-0.92	440
	DEN 0.15 POR 0.15	200 320	134		SWI	-0.97 -1.00	<del>44</del> 0 319
	POR 0.15	320 320		Barton A Dunn J	IRE WAL	-1.00 -1.02	379
	HUN 0.13	100	137	Nolan D	IRE	-1.04	339
64 Liran I	ISR 0.12	240	138	Jones D	WAL	-1.06	399
	ISR 0.12	240	139	Justitz N	SWI	-1.09	360
66 Guariglia R 67 Kucharski P	ITA 0.11 POL 0.10	259 398	140	Carr R Evans C	SCO WAL	-1.10 -1.15	300 120
68 Lutostanski	POL 0.10	398	142	Davies D	WAL	-1.23	140
69 Malinovski N	RUS 0.08	320	143	Marshall D	SCO	-1.24	320
	RUS 0.08	320 320	144	Gencer B	SWI	-1.36	220
	ENG 0.07 ENG 0.07	320 340	145 146	Martin J Bavalia S	IRE IRE	-1.62 -1.63	240 260
			,	•			











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JUNIOR TEAMS	ESTONIA	SCOTLAND	FRANCE	GERMANY	ISRAEL	PORTUGAL	SWEDEN	ENGLAND	TURKEY	HUNGARY	IRELAND	RUSSIA	SPAIN	DENMARK	POLAND	BELGIUM	ITALY	CROATIA	ICELAND	FINLAND	NORWAY	SWITZERLAND	AUSTRIA	WALES	NETHERLANDS	bye	PENALTY	TOTAL	RANK
i estonia		14	7	П	ı	3	10	16	25	4	15	12	7	П	22	16	21	16	18	13	15	25	ı	19	16	18		336	20
2 SCOTLAND	16		9	13	3	ı	0	16	П	10	24	6	17	13	18	4	2	14	17	0	5	15	П	8	3	18		254	22
3 FRANCE	23	21		18	Ш	25	10	П	15	15	15	15	25	12	13	24	20	23	23	19	15	25	16	25	10	18	-3	444	4
4 GERMANY	19	17	12		2	14	20	13	П	20	25	4	25	22	21	15	23	19	9	16	7	25	13	21	17	18		408	9
5 ISRAEL	25	25	19	25		14	12	25	23	20	25	21	23	17	14	13	17	25	17	10	14	18	20	16	14	18	-1	469	3
6 PORTUGAL	25	25	5	16	16		21	10	13	14	20	15	25	14	4	19	13	17	2	ı	6	25	9	21	7	18		361	18
7 SWEDEN	20	25	20	10	18	9		16	12	16	14	17	16	9	21	13	20	19	17	23	16	25	6	22	13	18	-1	414	7
8 ENGLAND	14	14	19	17	5	20	14		14	24	19	12	19	10	8	22	22	13	17	17	12	17	П	25	14	18		397	13
9 TURKEY	5	19	15	19	7	17	18	16		16	20	21	22	0	17	18	16	14	18	24	24	25	17	25	7	18		418	6
10 HUNGARY	25	20	15	10	10	16	14	6	14		25	17	25	7	13	19	6	14	П	18	12	15	4	П	21	18		366	17
II IRELAND	15	6	15	0	5	10	16	П	10	0		10	10	8	14	0	5	10	9	0	0	16	8	16	5	18		217	25
12 RUSSIA	18	24	15	25	9	15	13	18	9	13	20		20	20	8	19	20	25	16	22	8	20	12	25	4	18	-2	414	8
13 SPAIN	23	13	4	4	7	0	14	П	8	5	20	10		7	П	18	16	15	6	9	0	22	14	2	7	18		264	21
14 DENMARK	19	17	18	8	13	16	21	20	25	23	22	10	23		16	18	8	15	13	16	14	24	19	20	13	18		429	5
15 POLAND	8	12	17	9	16	25	9	22	13	17	16	22	19	14		25	5	8	15	25	12	19	16	25	12	18		399	12
16 BELGIUM	14	25	6	15	17	П	17	8	12	П	25	П	12	12	5		8	18	12	15	7	13	23	14	19	18		348	19
17 ITALY	9	25	10	7	13	17	10	8	14	24	25	10	14	22	25	22		17	21	7	10	20	25	21	13	18		407	10
18 CROATIA	14	16	7	Ш	2	13	П	17	16	16	20	4	15	15	22	12	13		14	20	13	23	П	25	21	18		369	16
19 ICELAND	12	13	7	21	13	25	13	13	12	19	21	14	24	17	15	18	9	16		14	6	25	10	18	8	18	-1	380	15
20 FINLAND	17	25	П	14	20	25	7	13	6	12	25	8	21	14	3	15	23	10	16		7	25	П	22	13	18		381	14
21 NORWAY	15	25	15	23	16	24	14	18	6	18	25	22	25	16	18	23	20	17	24	23		22	16	25	13	18		481	
22 SWITZERLAND	5	15	5	3	12	3	2	13	0	15	14	10	8	6	П	17	10	7	3	5	8		15	25	0	18	-3	227	24
23 AUSTRIA	25	19	14	17	10	21	24	19	13	25	22	18	16	П	14	7	5	19	20	19	14	15		15	5	18		405	Ш
24 WALES	П	22	0	9	14	9	8	2	2	19	14	3	25	10	5	16	9	5	12	8	3	5	15		3	18		247	23
25 NETHERLANDS	14	25	20	13	16	23	17	16	23	9	25	25	23	17	18	П	17	9	22	17	17	25	25	25		18		470	2