

Issue No. 7
Thursday, 16 August 2012
France, Sweden show the way


Bernadette Pasquier of the Bridgerama team smiles for the camera in the vugraph control room.

The knockouts are in full swing in the Open,Women's and Senior teams at the 14th World Bridge Games, and teams from the host nation are leading in all three events, as are the squads from Sweden.
These are the French results from the play in the knockouts so far: Open, 97-58 over the Netherlands; Women's, 82-60 over Scotland, and Seniors (after one round) 39-29 over the Netherlands.
Sweden is doing just as well. In the Open, the Swedes rallied in the third set against Israel to lead 97-60 at the halfway point. In the Women's, Sweden leads Australia 10369, and the Swedish Seniors are ahead of their Australian foes 49-I after one set.

Also of note: Canada's Open team leads consensus favorite Monaco 106-78 with 48 boards to play.

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Conseil Général
Conseil Senetal

## OPEN TEAMS RESULTS

## Round of 16

| Tbl |  | c/o | Boards $1-16$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Boards } \\ & \text { 17-32 } \end{aligned}$ | Boards 33-48 | Boards 49-64 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Boards } \\ & 65-80 \end{aligned}$ | Boards 81-96 | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Ireland | 0 | 33 | 18 | 30 | - | - | - | 81 |
|  | Germany | 0 | 27 | 27 | 63 | - | - | - | 117 |
| 2 | Norway | 0 | 3 | 15 | 34 | - | - | - | 52 |
|  | Russia | 0 | 36 | 31 | 14 | - | - | - | 81 |
| 3 | Poland | 0 | 23 | 36 | 71 | - | - | - | 130 |
|  | Denmark | 0 | 9 | 26 | 25 | - | - | - | 60 |
| 4 | Turkey | 0 | 23 | 5 | 20 | - | - | - | 48 |
|  | Italy | 0 | 29 | 48 | 73 | - | - | - | 150 |
| 5 | USA | 0 | 36 | 23 | 12 | - | - | - | 71 |
|  | India | 0 | 13 | 12 | 18 | - | - | - | 43 |
| 6 | Israel | 0 | 30 | 18 | 12 | - | - | - | 60 |
|  | Sweden | 0 | 7 | 28 | 62 | - | - | - | 97 |
| 7 | France | 0 | 25 | 45 | 27 | - | - | - | 97 |
|  | Netherlands | 0 | 13 | 11 | 34 | - | - | - | 58 |
| 8 | Monaco | 0 | 28 | 29 | 21 | - | - | - | 78 |
|  | Canada | 0 | 12 | 57 | 37 | - | - | - | 106 |



## WOMEN'S TEAMS RESULTS

## Round of 16

| Tbl |  | clo | Boards $\text { I- } 16$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Boards } \\ & 17-32 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Boards } \\ & 33-48 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Boards } \\ & 49-64 \end{aligned}$ | Boards 65-80 | Boards 81-96 | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 11 | Denmark | 0 | 22 | 25 | 33 | - | - | - | 80 |
|  | Russia | 0 | 36 | 40 | 13 | - | - | - | 89 |
| 12 | Turkey | 0 | 11 | 56 | 49 | - | - | - | 116 |
|  | Indonesia | 0 | 15 | 28 | 22 | - | - | - | 65 |
| 13 | Austria | 0 | 21 | 61 | 39 | - | - | - | 121 |
|  | Brazil | 0 | 26 | 14 | 57 | - | - | - | 97 |
| 14 | Poland | 0 | 19 | 40 | 35 | - | - | - | 94 |
|  | USA | 0 | 15 | 23 | 24 | - | - | - | 62 |
| 15 | Australia | 0 | 14 | 9 | 46 | - | - | - | 69 |
|  | Sweden | 0 | 50 | 42 | 11 | - | - | - | 103 |
| 16 | England | 0 | 21 | 16 | 41 | - | - | - | 78 |
|  | China | 0 | 20 | 34 | 34 | - | - | - | 88 |
| 17 | Italy | 0 | I | 11 | 38 | - | - | - | 50 |
|  | Netherlands | 0 | 37 | 13 | 13 | - | - | - | 63 |
| 18 | France | 0 | 26 | 36 | 20 | - | - | - | 82 |
|  | Scotland | 0 | 23 | 7 | 30 | - | - | - | 60 |

## SENIOR TEAMS RESULTS

|  |  |  | ROUP |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Ma |  | IMP's | VP's |
|  | 71 | Canada | France | 28-13 | 18-12 |
|  | 72 | Brazil | Belgium | 31-16 | 18-12 |
|  | 73 | Australia | Turkey | 16-19 | 14-16 |
|  | 74 | India | Israel | 14-28 | 12-18 |
|  | 75 | China Hong Kong | England | 6-22 | 11-19 |
|  | 76 | Singapore | Germany | 13-12 | 15-15 |
|  | 77 | Egypt | Scotland | 21-27 | 14-16 |
|  | 78 | Morocco | Indonesia | 21-32 | $11-17$ |
| 0 | 79 | South Africa | Bye | 0-0 | 18-0 |
|  |  |  | GROUP |  |  |
|  |  | Ma |  | IMP's | VP's |
|  | 81 | Argentina | USA | 15-22 | 13-16 |
|  | 82 | Japan | Spain | 19-21 | 15-15 |
|  | 83 | Pakistan | Hungary | 16-50 | 7-23 |
|  | 84 | Guadeloupe | Sweden | 6-43 | 6-24 |
|  | 85 | Chinese Taipei | Italy | 15-13 | 15-15 |
|  | 86 | New Zealand | Netherlands | 19-14 | 16-14 |
|  | 87 | Kenya | Denmark | 13-20 | 14-16 |
|  | 88 | Reunion | Poland | 11-36 | 9-21 |
|  | 89 | Ireland | Bye | 0-0 | 18-0 |


|  |  |  | ROUP H |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | IMP's | VP's |
|  | 71 | France | Indonesia | 45-45 | 15-15 |
|  | 72 | Brazil | Australia | 23-21 | 15-15 |
|  | 73 | Germany | South Africa | 42-32 | 17-13 |
|  | 74 | England | Morocco | 15-32 | 11-19 |
|  | 75 | Israel | Egypt | 45-31 | 18-12 |
|  | 76 | Turkey | Singapore | 46-40 | 16-14 |
|  | 77 | Belgium | China Hong K | 26-26 | 15-15 |
| - | 78 | Canada | India | 48-17 | 22-8 |
| 0 | 79 | Scotland | Bye | 0-0 | 18-0 |
| 0 |  |  | GROUP |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | IMP's | VP's |
|  | 81 | USA | Poland | 33-20 | 18-12 |
|  | 82 | Japan | Pakistan | 12-29 | 11-19 |
|  | 83 | Netherlands | Ireland | 31-13 | 19-11 |
|  |  | Italy | Reunion | 86-7 | 25-0 |
|  | 85 | Sweden | Kenya | 65-21 | 25-5 |
|  | 86 | Hungary | New Zealand | 56-11 | 25-5 |
|  | 87 | Spain | Chinese Taipei | 54-27 | 21-9 |
|  | 88 | Argentina | Guadeloupe | 36-38 | 15-15 |
|  | 89 | Denmark | Bye | 0-0 | 18-0 |



## Round of 16

| Tbl |  | c/o | Boards $\text { I- } 16$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Boards } \\ & 17-32 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Boards } \\ & 33-48 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Boards } \\ & 49-64 \end{aligned}$ | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 21 | France | 0 | 39 | - | - | - | 39 |
|  | Netherlands | 0 | 29 | - | - | - | 29 |
| 22 | Italy | 0 | 32 | - | - | - | 32 |
|  | Israel | 0 | 29 | - | - | - | 29 |
| 23 | Canada | 0 | 22 | - | - | - | 22 |
|  | Denmark | 0 | 46 | - | - | - | 46 |
| 24 | USA | 0 | 16 | - | - | - | 16 |
|  | Germany | 0 | 39 | - | - | - | 39 |
| 25 | Singapore | 0 | 23 | - | - | - | 23 |
|  | Hungary | 0 | 78 | - | - | - | 78 |
| 26 | England | 0 | 52 | - | - | - | 52 |
|  | Poland | 0 | 10 | - | - | - | 10 |
| 27 | Indonesia | 0 | 55 | - | - | - | 55 |
|  | Japan | 0 | 19 | - | - | - | 19 |
| 28 | Sweden | 0 | 49 | - | - | - | 49 |
|  | Australia | 0 | I | - | - | - | I |

## SENIOR TEAMS Ranking after 17 rounds

| GROUP H |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| France | 304 | 10 China Hong K |  |
| 2 Indonesia | 296 | 11 India | 246.5 |
| 3 Germany | 293 | 12 Scotland | 24. |
| 4 England | 291 | 13 Belgium | 227 |
| 5 Israel | 290 | 14 Egypt | 224 |
| 6 Canada | 271 | 14 Egypt | 224 2185 |
| 7 Australia | 270 | 15 Brazil | 218.5 |
| 8 Singapore | 262 | 16 South Africa | 216 |
| 9 Turkey | 260 | 17 Morocco | 196 |
| GROUP I |  |  |  |
| Hungary | 320 | 10 New Zealand | 256 |
| 2 Denmark | 312 | II Pakistan | 246 |
| 3 Sweden | 311 | 12 Argentina | 243 |
| 4 Italy | 294 | 13 Ireland | 235 |
| 5 USA | 286 |  | 227 |
| 6 Poland | 285 | 15 Spain | 226 |
| 7 Japan | 278 | 15 Guadeloupe | 226 |
| 8 Netherlands | 264 | 16 Reunion | 160 |
| 9 Chinese Taipei | 256.5 | 17 Kenya | 141 |

## Gratis playing cards

The European Bridge League offer used cards free of charge. Those who want gratis cards should make a request at the Jannersten stall on the first floor. NBOs with weak economies will be given priority.

## VUGRAPH PRESENTATIONS

| Morning matches (10.30) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| VG | Ireland - Germany | Open Teams (Round of 16 ) |
| BBO 2 | Turkey - Italy | Open Teams <br> (Round of I6) |
| BBO 3 | France - Netherlands | Open Teams (Round of I6) |
| BBO 4 | Monaco - Canada | Open Teams (Round of 16) |
| BBO 5 | Poland - Denmark | Open Teams (Round of I6) |
| Ourgame | England - China | Women's Teams (Round of 16) |
| CRS 7 | USA - India | Open Teams (Round of 16 ) |
| CRS 8 | Israel - Sweden | Open Teams <br> (Round of 16 ) |
| CRS 9 | Turkey - Indonesia | Women's Teams (Round of 16) |
| CRS 10 | Italy - Israel | Senior Teams (Round of 16) |
| CRS II | Austria - Brazil | Women's Teams (Round of 16) |
| CRS 12 | USA - Germany | Senior Teams (Round of 16 ) |

Afternoon matches (14.00 and 17.00)
To be decided

## Registration for the Transnational Mixed Teams Championship

With the conclusion of play in the National Teams (Open, Women and Senior series), registration for the Transnational Mixed Teams Championship will be available to eliminated players.
As usual, registration can only be made on line through the WBF website (go to the Lille microsite, click 'Registration', then 'Transnational Mixed Teams'). The system is accessible from any computer, tablet or smartphone connected to Internet. Registration can be done at any time after the end of the round robin; players are encouraged to enter as soon as they have made their plans in order to facilitate the work of the organizers.
Only players already enrolled in the WBF database may be registered. If there is any player who wishes to play in the Transnational Mixed Teams Championship and is not already in the WBF database, he/she should apply for enrollment at once. The relevant form which needs to be filled out is available at http://www.worldbridge.org/WBFRegistrationForm.asp. Once the form is filled out and submitted, enrollment will be concluded as soon as possible.

> Panos Gerontopoulos
> Communications Manager

On a regular daily basis BridgeTopics.com will transmit videos giving impressions from the Grand Palais in Lille about the 2nd World Mind Sports Games, by means of interviews with players and personalities of all sports.

The link is: http://www.bridgetopics.com/20I2-2nd-world-mind-sports-games


## OPEN TEAMS Knockout Brackets



## WOMEN's TEAMS Knockout Brackets



## SENIOR TEAMS Knockout Brackets



## Clash of the Titans

by Brent Manley

When Italy and Russia met in round 13 of the Open Teams on Tuesday, they were first and second, respectively, in Group A. A big win by Russia would give them a chance to take over first place. They did win, but not by enough to change the standings.
The match was relatively quiet, but there were a few interesting deals.
Italy landed the first blow.
Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.

```
& K7654
\K10864
A 8
* 2
```



```
- 10
853
\(\diamond\) Q 109753
\& AK 93
© 19
- A Q 9
\(\checkmark 642\)
- 108765
```

4 A Q 832
QJ72
$\diamond K J$

- QJ4

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Duboin | Khiuppenen | Sementa | Kholomeev |
|  | $1 乌$ | $2 \diamond$ | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass |  |  |

Yury Khiuppenen had a surprise for Giorgio Duboin - a low heart. Vadim Kholomeev inserted the $\vee Q$ and when it held, he cashed the ace. Rather than continuing hearts, however, he switched to the © 0 , assuring that when his partner got in he would have at least one spade trick. Duboin took the $\Phi A$ and tried the $\diamond K$, but Khiuppenen won and cashed his major-suit winners for plus 150.
The Russians at the other table had more information namely that they had no heart stopper - and used it well.


Giorgio Duboin, Italy
West
Dubinin

Redbl
$3 \Delta$
$4 \diamond$
North
Bocchi
14
$2 \otimes$
Pass
All Pass

| East | South |
| :--- | :--- |
| Gromov | Madala |
| $2 \diamond$ | Dbl |
| $3 \dot{42}$ | Pass |
| $4 \%$ | Pass |

Andrey Gromov lost two hearts and a diamond for an easy plus 130. That was 7 IMPs to Russia, but Italy scored a swing on board 3.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/WVul.
-K 865

- A Q 982
$\diamond 9$
- A Q J

4 Q 10
ค 543
$\diamond$ A 8763
\& 1072

\& A9743
$\bigcirc$ KJ
$\diamond \mathrm{Q} 2$
\& K 953
© J 2

- 1076

K J 1054
864

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Duboin | Khiuppenen | Sementa | Kholomeev |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| Pass | 18 | 19 | $2 \diamond$ |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3 |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Antonio Sementa started with a low diamond. Declarer put up dummy's king. Duboin took the $\diamond A$ and switched to a trump. Declarer ducked, Sementa won the jack and continued with the king. Declarer won and tried a low spade from hand. Sementa ducked, Duboin won and played a third round of trumps. Khiuppenen won in dummy and played the $\diamond$ J, ruffing when Duboin didn't cover. Sementa took the QA when declarer played the 8 from hand, and he exited with a spade to declarer's king. The result was two down and plus 100 to Italy.
The defense was not nearly as effective at the other table.

| West <br> Dubinin | North <br> Bocchi | East <br> Gromov | South <br> Madala <br> Pass |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pass | 18 | 18 | $2 \checkmark$ |
| Pass | $2 \uparrow$ | Pass | $3 \checkmark$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Gromov started with the $₫ \mathrm{~A}$, continuing the suit to the jack, queen and king. A diamond went to dummy's king and

Dubinin's ace. The club return did not paralyze declarer, who put in the jack, losing to the king. When the $\$ 7$ continuation was ruffed in dummy and Alexander Dubinin could not overruff, the trump position was clear to Norberto Bocchi. He played a heart to his ace and ruffed his last spade and soon was claiming plus 140 for a 6 -IMP pickup.
Russia got it all back on the next board, where a silent opponent did much better than an active one.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

- K 97
$\triangleright$ K Q 6
$\diamond$ J6532
20 9


| N | Q Q 53 |
| :---: | :---: |
| W E | $\bigcirc{ }^{\text {J }} 4$ |
| W E | $\checkmark$ AK 8 |
| S | ¢ A 7643 |
| - J8642 |  |

ค109853
$\diamond \mathrm{Q}$
\& K

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Duboin | Khiuppenen | Sementa | Kholomeev |
| $1 \$$ | Pass | $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ | Pass |
| $2 \diamond$ | Pass | $2 \Phi$ | Pass |
| $3 \diamond$ | Pass | $3 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $3 N T$ | All Pass |  |  |

Khiuppenen hit on the great lead - for his side, anyway of the $\triangle K$. Duboin took the $\vee A$ and made the normal play of running the 2 Q from hand. Kholomeev took the ek and returned a heart. The result was two down, minus 200.
The auction at the other table warned East-West against a no-trump contract, and they landed in the superior contract of $5 \%$.


Andrey Gromov, Russia

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Dubinin | Bocchi | Gromov | Madala |
| $1 \diamond$ | Pass | $2 \Leftrightarrow$ | 2 |
| $3 \Leftrightarrow$ | 3 | 5 | All Pass |

After showing the majors with his $2 \triangleleft$ cuebid, Agustin Madala started with the $\diamond \mathbf{Q}$. Gromov won and plunked down the trump ace, happy to see the e K fall. He went to dummy with a second trump, finessed the $\diamond 8$ and played a spade to the ace. With the $\$ \mathrm{~K}$ on his right, he had a parking place for dummy's losing heart. Plus 620 was worth 13 IMPs.
On the following deal, Russia scored 10 IMPs by bidding and making 3 NT at one table while defeating 2 NT at the other.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.
\& 1032
$\checkmark 1092$
$\diamond A J 62$
\& AJIO

| ¢ A 7 | N | ¢ Q 9864 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc$ A 43 | $W^{\text {c }}$ | $\bigcirc$ KQ 765 |
| $\diamond 10984$ | W E | $\diamond 5$ |
| -9872 | S | 2 53 |
|  | Q K J 5 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 18$ |  |
|  | $\diamond$ K Q 73 |  |
|  | \% K Q 64 |  |


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

Duboin led the $\diamond I O$, taken in dummy with the jack. Kholomeev could see he was wide open in hearts, so he made his desperation play of a low spade to the king at trick two. Duboin won the ace, and the play record ceases at that point, noting only that declarer claimed nine tricks for plus 400. It appears Duboin returned a spade to Sementa's queen, followed by a spade to declarer's jack. (It is also possible that West ducked the SA - that happened at at least one or two tables.)

| West <br> Dubinin | North <br> Bocchi | East <br> Gromov | South <br> Madala |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | INT |
| $2 \triangleleft$ | Pass | Pass | Das |
| Pass | 2NT | All Pass |  |

Dubinin led a low heart, and the defense quickly rattled off five hearts and a spade for plus 50 and 10 IMPs.
At that point, Russia was up 23-14. There were no more big swings in the match, but Italy put together enough small ones to make the final score 25-24 for Russia.

## In the Spotlight

Find out a little bit more about your fellow bridge players.

## Natalia Sakowska



How did you take up bridge?
As a student of a math-oriented high school I really couldn't avoid it. Even if I had somehow managed to, I couldn't avoid bridge as a maths and computer-science student at the university.

## Biggest influence?

Because the more you play the less influenced you can become, then probably it's my partner, Piotr, who has taught me to think (as my mentor).

## Bridge Club?

University of Warsaw Sport Association.

## First Bridge Book

I honestly have to admit I prefer crime to bridge books.

## Favourite Music?

Recently,Adele.

## Favourite drink?

White Sparkling Wine.

## All time favourite player?

Top Secret :-)

## Favourite TV Show?

House; Lie to Me; The Sarah Silverman program; unfortunately they are all over now

## Best achievement in Bridge?

Bronze in the Polish Open pairs 2011 with my beloved partner Piotr Butryn.

## Least favourite opponent?

I try to make friends at the bridge table, not enemies.

## Biggest failing at the table?

Not recognising when to trust my instincts.

Most important attribute in a partner?
Trust (and sometimes the opposite).

## Your favourite tournament?

Warsaw Junior Mixed Pairs Championship which takes place each December. Everybody's in high spirits (Xmas is close) prettily dressed (evening dresses and suits) there are medals for the winners, gifts, sweets and fruits for all players. Pure joy!

## Other interests?

Reading all sorts of books and discovering the world.

Natalia didn't mention that she was a member of the Polish women's team that finished fifth in Dublin, qualifying for the Venice Cup.
Or that a few days later In the European Youth Pairs Championship in Vejle, Denmark at the beginning of July, she finished second in the Girls Pairs.
Or that in the same month she was in the Polish team that finished third in the Universities Championship in Reims.
Still in July (but carrying on into August) she was a member of the winning Polish girls team in the World Youth Team Championships in Taicang.
Now here in Lille she has qualified for the knock-out stages as a member of the Polish women's team.
Amazing!

## Championship Diary



Barry Rigal suggested the following film title for bridge players: Dummy Reversal of Fortune.
Meanwhile we spotted: The Magnificent Seven of Diamonds.
We are pleased to announce the return of Ron Tacchi's Limerick Contest. We give you the first line:
There was a young lady from Lille.
Returning to the opening ceremony, the representative of the City of Lille, Monsieur Olivier Henno said that a speech should be like a mini skirt: long enough to cover the essentials, but short enough to keep you interested.

Having been asked to take a picture of the English Open team by the EBU, Tacchi had to do it quickly as they were planning to return home on Wednesday following their disappointing campaign. At the appointed time and place the coach said 'We are missing Forrester and Gold'. The ever-alert Tacchi added, 'and silver and bronze'.

## Nine Ever Ten Never by Micke Melander

One of our favourites in the Open Series, Monaco, picked Canada to be their opponents in the Round of 16. Here come four small problems from the first segment of that round.

Problem I. N/S Vul.

$\mathrm{I} \diamond$ : Natural diamond opening that promised at least four, anything to add in the bidding?

| Problem | All Vul. $74$ | $\checkmark$ Q | 942 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| West | North | East | South |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | INT |
| Pass | 2\% | Pass | $2 \nabla$ |
| Pass | 3 | Pass | 3NT |
| Pass | ? |  |  |

You managed to get a fit. But do you know stay in 3NT or bid $4 \bigcirc$ ?

Problem 3. All Vul.

| ¢ K 9 | $\checkmark$ A Q 104 | $\checkmark$ AJ 42 | 2 AK 10 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| West | North | East | South |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| Pass | Pass | 2\%* | Pass |
| 2 ** | Pass | 2NT | Pass |
| 3** | Pass | $3 \diamond *$ | Pass |
| 3)* | Pass | 3NT | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | , |  |

You have shown 22-24 HCPs and hearts. Partner has shown spades and is making a quantitative raise; do you have any extras or do you pass?


Would you dare to take any action?


Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

- Q
$\bigcirc$ K 102
$\diamond$ KQ9863
\& 107



## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Miles | Multon | Korbel <br> Zimmermann |  |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | $1 \diamond$ | Dbl | Rdbl |
| Pass | Pass | 1 | Dbl |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass |  |

## Closed Room

| West <br> Helgemo | North <br> L'Ecuyer | East <br> Helness | South <br> Demuy |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| I $\diamond$ |  | Pass | I |

Helgemo was a little short in high card points, even for a third-hand opening but his semi-psychic bid worked out extremely well when L'Ecuyer in North had nowhere to go over 2 V .
Once Helness showed up with what promised to be just below an opening hand, L'Ecuyer got the impression that Demuy was fighting for the contract rather inviting for game and simply gave up.
Against 3NT Korbel led the three of clubs, declarer jumped up with the king and called for the jack of diamonds which held the trick. Multon then played a heart to the king and played the king of diamonds, setting up his ninth trick before the defense could set enough winners to set the game.
In the Closed Room Helgemo tried to be smart for a second time on the board and kicked off with the four of diamonds, under-leading his ace, which meant ten easy tricks for declarer who won the trick with the jack of diamonds and immediately played a spade to set up his dummy for a cross-ruff. Helness got in on the king of spades and did what he could by returning a trump, but that didn't help
much. Still, it was 10 IMPs to Monaco when the Canadians missed their game.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { K Q } 74 \\ & \diamond 8642 \\ & \diamond Q \\ & \& Q 942 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4. 953 | N | - 86 |
| QJ 10 |  | $\bigcirc$ A Q 3 |
| $\checkmark 873$ |  | $\checkmark 1096542$ |
| -K873 | S | - A 10 |
|  | - A 102 |  |
|  | ¢K975 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ AKJ |  |
|  | * J65 |  |

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Miles | Multon | Korbel | Zimmermann |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | INT |
| Pass | $2 \&$ | Pass | $2 \searrow$ |
| Pass | $4 \checkmark$ | All Pass |  |

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Helgemo | L'Ecuyer | Helness | Demuy |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | INT |
| Pass | 29 | Pass | 28 |
| Pass | 38 | Pass | 3NT |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Zimmermann had no chance in the Open Room. $4 \checkmark$ was completely hopeless, since declarer had to lose two clubs and two trumps. It went far better for the Canadian pair,


Daniel Miles, Canada
who tried their luck in $3 N T$ on the other table, Helgemo led a small spade, which went to declarer's ten. With seven tricks in the bag declarer simply had to work on setting up two hearts to make his contract. Demuy had no problem doing that, 12 IMPs to Canada and their first game swing. Suddenly nine ever ten never was working fine...
On board six you had $\uparrow$ AKJI $065 \diamond$ J $73 \diamond$ J32 23 and partner opened with INT (I4-I6).Again, 3NT would have been a better contract than trying to play in 49. But with every card placed wrong for declarer both contracts would have gone down unless there were some real favours from the defense.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

- A 32
$\vee 1976$
$\diamond$ Q 87
9972
- QJ 108

K 83
K 1065
\& 54

| N | - K 9 |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A Q 104 |
| W E | $\diamond$ AJ 42 |
| S | \& AK 10 |
| ¢ 7654 |  |
| $\bigcirc 52$ |  |
| $\checkmark 93$ |  |
| 2 Q J 863 |  |

Open Room

| West <br> Miles | North <br> Multon | East <br> Korbel | South <br> Zimmermann <br> Pass |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pass | Pass | $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ | Pass |
| $2 \diamond$ | Pass | $2 N T$ | Pass |
| $3 \boldsymbol{3 N}$ | Pass | $3 \vee$ | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass |  |  |

## Closed Room

| West <br> Helgemo | North <br> L'Ecuyer | East <br> Helness | South <br> Demuy <br> Pass |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pass | Pass | $2 \mathbf{e n}^{*}$ | Pass |
| $\mathbf{2} \diamond^{*}$ | Pass | $2 N T$ | Pass |
| $3 \mathbf{2 0}^{*}$ | Pass | $\mathbf{3} \diamond^{*}$ | Pass |
| $\mathbf{3} \nabla^{*}$ | Pass | $3 N T$ | Pass |
| 4NT | All Pass |  |  |

Miles and Korbel never even sniffed at bidding any higher than game. Helgemo in the Closed Room made the quantitative raise but Helness didn't take the bait, probably regretting it when he got a club lead to the ten which held the trick. Declarer played the king of spades, which held the second trick, then came a second round which North won with the ace to return a club. Helness won the return, cashed out the king of clubs, ace and king of diamonds ending in dummy. Then on the two good spades he had in
dummy he discarded his two diamonds in hand trapping L'Ecuyer in a show up squeeze on the red suits. The end position was:


Since neither of the tables were in slam, it was a push.
Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

|  | ¢ 6 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{KJIO}$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ A Q 102 |  |
|  | \% 86432 |  |
| - Q J 109 | N | ¢ A 73 |
| $\bigcirc$ A 86 |  | $\bigcirc$ Q 972 |
| $\checkmark 9843$ | W E | $\diamond$ K 65 |
| \% 49 | S | \% Q J 10 |
|  | ¢ K 8542 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 543$ |  |
|  | $\diamond$ J 7 |  |
|  | - K 75 |  |

## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Miles | Multon | Korbel | Zimmermann |
| $1 \diamond$ | Pass | I $\varnothing$ | Pass |
| $2 \otimes$ | Pass | 3NT | Pass |
| Pass | Dbl | Pass | Pass |
| $4 \diamond$ | Dbl | All Pass |  |

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Helgemo | L'Ecuyer | Helness | Demuy |
| I $\diamond$ | Pass | I $\varnothing$ | Pass |
| I $\$$ | Pass | 2NT | All Pass |

Multon fearing that a spade led from partner might give the contract away, tried to direct Zimmermann to lead a diamond with a Lightner double. When Miles removed to $4 \checkmark$ he immediately also doubled that.
Surprisingly for the defense the king of diamonds turned up in the wrong hand, but since E/W already were in a very hard game and Zimmermann showed up with both black kings there was no play for the contract. Korbel went two
off when he tried to make the contract. It was in fact much better to play in hearts in a 4-3 fit than to attempt notrump, since the defence can put declarer down two in 3NT. Helness found this out at the other table when the defense didn't give anything away. Still, 6 IMPs to Monaco, who won the first segment against Canada with 28-I2.

## Eyes on the stars in Lille

by Didier Lévy

$\nabla$t looks like there is one particular spot in Lille where the percentage of bridge stars per square centimeter is beating all the statistics!
I'm talking of la Brasserie André, probably the best value your money can buy when you want traditional French food in a 1900-looking restaurant.
I was fulfilling a promise to David Bird*, that when we met in Lille I would take him to some very good restaurant and that he wouldn't forget his meal for a long, very long time.
So be it! And as we started with a bottle of Medoc 2005.

Almost immediately, I spotted the great Bob Hamman* sitting at a table next to ours.
David and I stood up to shake hands, and after David and Bob exchanged a few words, David introduced me, and I added:
'I'm Didier Lévy, a bridge Nobody'.
'Neither am l' said Hamman with a smile!
A moment later I asked David:
'Have you seen Phillip Alder* in the congress?'
And the answer came:'He is sitting just behind you!'
Ah, good, I thought, and stood up to say bonsoir and introduce myself.
Phillip was sitting with another person and when I shook hands with Phillip, the other person stood up too and said:
'You are Didier!'
Me (surprised): Yes, you know me? And who are you? Him: ‘Of course I do, I'm Ron Klinger*!
Phillip ordered a bottle of Pomerol Château La Salle 2007, a real gift from the gods. We joined him at the same table and enjoyed the super meal you only find at Andrés.
La Brasserie André - 71 rue de Béthune - Lille 03205475 51

* David Bird is the most prolific author of bridge books ever, with more than IIO bridge books published so far.
* The great champion Bob Hamman plays with Zia Mahmood for USA in the Open Teams in Lille
* Phillip Alder writes the bridge column for The New York Times and is currently captaining the US Senior team in Lille.
* Ron Klinger is from Australia and probably the most renowned bridge teacher worldwide.
* Didier Lévy is the creator of www.vubridge.com and publisher of bridge interactive "playbooks".


## Okay Ron, Well Done!

by Micke Melander

Adrama was played out in group D of the Open Series when Turkey played Israel in the last qualifying match of the Round Robin at a moment when both of them were close to the top of the table. In theory both Iceland and China could get into the race and take one their qualifying places.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.
. AK 109542
$\bigcirc$ Q
$\diamond$ K 6

- K 104

| - 87 | N | - Q J 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 98754$ |  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K} 102$ |
| $\checkmark$ Q 7 | W E | $\checkmark$ A 10982 |
| - A976 | S | + 12 |
|  | - 6 |  |
|  | AJ 63 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ J 543 |  |
|  | 2 Q 853 |  |

## Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Liran | Gur | Fridlander | Yilmaz <br> Pass |
| Pass | 19 | Pass | INT |
| Pass | $3 \Phi$ | Pass | 49 |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

## Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Kokten | Pachtman | Aker | Ginossar <br> Pass |
| Pass | 49 | All Pass |  |

East was almost endplayed on the opening lead. In the closed room Aker tried his best by leading the two of hearts, the three and four followed and declarer won with the queen. Ron Pachtman wanted to create an entry to dummy to be able to collect his ace of hearts and tried


Okay Gur, Turkey
playing the king of clubs from hand. Aker now unblocked his jack and Kokten smoothly ducked when dummy played low, allowing declarer to win that trick, too.
After two top spades the ten of clubs followed, which also stood up. Pachtman now realised that he wasn't really going to get any help from defenders in getting an entry and so continued playing on trumps instead, by playing the ten of spades. That led to a position in which Aker had to make another lead, when the situation was:


Aker was now forced to play diamonds (hearts would only have made things worse...) and he had no better move than cashing the ace of diamonds. That gave declarer his tenth trick.
Meanwhile in the other room Fridlander had to kick off against the same contract. He put the jack of clubs on the table which went to the three, six and declarer's king. Okay Gur now played the ace and king of trumps discarding a diamond from dummy. A third round of trumps threw Fridlander in again, who now exited with his last club, refusing to help declarer by opening up any red suit. Liran in East simply covered in clubs and allowed declarer to win with the ten. Gur continued with all his trumps down to the following position:


Declarer now played the queen of hearts from hand and when it wasn't covered Gur won with the ace in dummy to continue the suit, throwing poor Fridlander in again to lead away from the ace of diamonds.
Very well done by Ron and Okay!

## The Mousetrap

by Mark Horton

The Mousetrap is a murder mystery play by Agatha Christie. It opened in the West End of London in 1952, and has been running continuously ever since. It has the longest initial run of any play in history, with over 24,500 performances so far. It is the longest running show (of any type) of the modern era. The play is also noted for its twist ending, which at the end of every performance the audience is asked not to reveal.

This deal from the match between Russia and Norway saw declarer fall headlong into a trap set by his opponent:


## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Berg | Gromov | Svendsen | Dubinin |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | $1 \diamond$ | IS | 2 |
| 24 | $4 \checkmark$ | All Pass |  |

West led the four of spades and East won with the king and switched to the two of diamonds, West taking the ace and returning the nine of spades. Declarer ruffed in dummy with the two of hearts and played the king of diamonds. When East ruffed with the nine of hearts declarer discarded the six of spades. He took the trump switch with dummy's ten, ruffed a diamond and claimed, +620 .

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Khiuppenen | Hoftaniska | Kholomeev | Charlsen |
|  |  | Pass | $1{ }^{1}$ |
| Pass | $2 \diamond$ | Pass | 2 |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3 |
| Pass | 4** | Pass | $4 \checkmark$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

West hit upon the lead of the queen of clubs (this type of play is discussed in The Rodwell Files) and declarer won in hand and played the jack of diamonds. West took the ace


Yury Khiuppenen, Russia
and continued with the nine of clubs. The unsuspecting declarer put in the ten, losing to East's jack. After cashing the king of spades East played the four of clubs. Declarer ruffed with the ace and was no doubt charmed when West followed with the five of clubs.
He cashed the queen of hearts and continued with a heart to the ten. For the second time East produced an unwelcome jack and a club return meant declarer had to go three down, -300 and 14 IMPs to Russia.
West's brilliant lead had paid a handsome dividend, but declarer should not have been fooled. This is a classic hand where the correct technique is to develop the side suit first. At trick three declarer should take dummy's ace of clubs and play a top diamond. East ruffs but declarer overruffs, goes to dummy with a trump and plays another top diamond. East's ruff is countered by an overruff and declarer then goes to dummy with a trump and plays the nine of diamonds pitching a spade. The defenders take only two diamonds and a spade.

## Smoking forbidden in Grand Palais

Please be reminded that the Grand Palais is a nonsmoking facility. Players who smoke in the Grand Palais are subject to penalty for doing so.
Here are the rules and regulations regarding smoking at this tournament:
"Any player smoking in the building will cause his team to be fined 2 victory points ( 6 IMPs in a knockout match), plus a fine of 100 euros. Repeated violation of this regulation may, and constant violation will, result in the player being prohibited from playing. Failure to pay the fine will result in the player being prohibited from playing."

Going into the final round-robin match, Ireland was in the final qualifying position in Group B in the Open series, II victory points clear of fifth-place Austria. So long as Ireland didn't get blitzed in round 15 , they appeared to be in excellent position to make it to the round of 16 .Austria managed only 16 VPs in the final match, but even 25 would not have helped because Ireland took care of business against USA, winning 20-I0.
The Irish did not start well, however.
Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.

|  | ¢ Q 952 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K} \mathrm{Q}$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark 432$ |  |
|  | \% A 93 |  |
| - 8 | N | - AK 6 |
| $\bigcirc 987$ |  | $\bigcirc 1065$ |
| $\diamond 109865$ |  | $\diamond$ K Q 7 |
| 2K 1054 | S | \% J 762 |
|  | -10743 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ AJ 432 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ A J |  |
|  | \% Q 8 |  |

The auction was the same at both tables.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Zia | Fitzgibbon | Hamman | Mesbur |
| McGann | Rodwell | Hanlon | Meckstroth |
|  | IS | Pass | 49 |



Nicholas Fitzgibbon, Ireland

Against 4d by Nicholas Fitzgibbon, Bob Hamman led the $\diamond K$, taken by declarer with the ace. He played a spade to his jack and Hamman's king at trick two. Hamman won and cashed the $\diamond Q$, then made the killing switch to a low club. Fitzgibbon put up the queen, but Zia Mahmood covered with the king. Fitzgibbon took the A , unblocked the heart honors from his hand and ruffed a diamond in dummy. He pitched his losing clubs on the $\vee \mathrm{A}$ and $\oslash$ J, but Hamman ruffed the fourth round of hearts with his low trump. The defense took three trumps and a diamond for one down plus 50 to USA.
Against Eric Rodwell's 44, Tom Hanlon started with the $\$ A$, which cost his side a tempo. He switched to the $\triangleleft K$, but there was no club trick coming, so Rodwell finished with plus 420, al0-IMP gain for his team.
Ireland got 7 IMPs back on the next board.
Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

- K 8
- J6542
$\diamond$ J 8
- 762

```
4Q9632
& 103
* A Q 6
* Q 8 4
```

- 10
-K 97
$\diamond K 107532$
\& AK 3
-AJ754
$\bigcirc$ A Q 8
$\diamond 94$

2. 1095

Again, the bidding was the same at both tables.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Zia | Fitzgibbon | Hamman | Mesbur |
| McGann | Rodwell | Hanlon | Meckstroth |
|  |  | $1 \diamond$ | I令 |
| Pass | Pass | Db | All Pass |

Zia started with a low club to Hamman's king. The $\$ 10$ was covered by the jack, ducked by Zia. Declarer led a low diamond from hand, taken by Zia with the queen to exit with a spade to dummy's king. Now Mesbur took the heart finesse and played a second diamond, won by Zia with the ace. Zia cashed the e Q and continued with a diamond to Hamman's king, ruffed by Mesbur. He played the $\vee \mathbf{A}$ and a club to Hamman's ace. He got only one more trick - the trump ace - but he had six tricks for one down and minus 200.

At the other table, the defenders did not give Jeff Meckstroth an opportunity to make one of his low trumps by ruffing. Hugh McGann started with the $\bigcirc 10$ to Meckstroth's queen. He played a low diamond from hand, taken by McGann with the queen to switch to a low trump, which
went to the 10 and declarer's jack. Meckstroth played a spade to the king and tried the $\diamond$ J, taken by Hanlon with the king. Three rounds of clubs followed, and McGann exited with his second heart to Meckstroth's ace. Meckstroth then got out with his third heart, McGann pitching the $\diamond A$. In the end, Meckstroth had \$A75, McGann \$Q96. Meckstroth had to lose two of the last three tricks for two down, minus 500 and 7 IMPs to Ireland.
The Irish took the lead on the next deal.
Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

```
-10542
QQ 7 }
< K }
&976
```

| - Q J 3 | N | - 987 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ¢95432 |  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K} 8$ |
| $\checkmark$ AJ 1083 | W E | $\checkmark$ Q 5 |
| 2- | S | \& AKQ1083 |
|  | - AK 6 |  |
|  | PAJ 10 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 964$ |  |
|  | \% j 542 |  |


| West | North <br> Zia | East <br> Fitzgibbon | Soumman <br> Mesbur <br> Ha |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| I | Pass | 30 | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass |  |  |

The club split turned this poor contract into a disaster. Fitzgibbon started with a low diamond, taken by dummy's queen. Zia cashed the top three clubs and, with no jack falling, played a spade. Mesbur won the $\$ \mathrm{~K}$ and returned a diamond. Zia put in the 10 and Fitzgibbon won the king, switching accurately to a low heart. Mesbur's $\vee 10$ won, and he cashed the ace, then the f , Fitzgibbon pitching his last diamond. A heart to the queen was followed by a spade to the ace, Zia getting the last two tricks with the $\forall \mathrm{A}$ and $₫ \mathrm{Q}$ - at three down, Zia could be grateful he wasn't doubled.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| McGann | Rodwell | Hanlon | Meckstroth <br> $I \diamond$ |
| Pass | 19 | $2 \&$ | $D \\|^{*}$ |
| Pass | $2 \Phi$ | All Pass |  |
| * Support |  |  |  |

Hanlon cashed his top clubs and continued the suit, McGann ruffing with the $\$ \mathrm{l}$. McGann continued with the $\diamond 10$ to Rodwell's king. Rodwell then pulled trumps and played the $\oslash \mathrm{Q}$ from hand. He took four spades, three hearts and a diamond for plus 110 to hold the loss to 5 IMPs.
Ireland's last significant swing came thanks to some expert play by McGann on the following deal.
One more time, the auction was the same at both tables.

Board I2. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

| $\begin{aligned} & 10973 \\ & \& K 863 \\ & \diamond 1084 \\ & \& K Q \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \bullet K J \\ & \diamond \text { Q } 542 \end{aligned}$ | N |  | 86542 |
|  |  | $\bigcirc$ |  |
| $\checkmark$ AKJ 63 |  | E |  |
| \& 108 | S |  |  |
|  | - Q |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AJ |  |  |
|  | $\diamond$ Q 952 |  |  |
|  | \&) 96532 |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Zia | Fitzgibbon | Hamman | Mesbur |
| McGann | Rodwell | Hanlon | Meckstroth |
| INT | Pass | 4 | Pass |
| 4, | All Pass |  |  |

Fitzgibbon led the 9 K, taken by Zia with the ace. Zia played a diamond to his jack at trick two, then cashed the two high diamonds, pitching hearts from dummy. He pitched another heart on the $\diamond 6$. Mesbur won the $\diamond Q$ and played a club to his partner's queen. A low heart from North was ruffed in dummy. When Zia cashed the $\Phi$, the contract could no longer be made. He played a spade to his king, but had to concede two trump tricks to Fitzgibbon to finish one down - minus 50.
McGann played along similar lines, at least at first. He won the opening club lead with dummy's ace, played a diamond to his jack and discarded hearts from dummy on his $\diamond A$ and $\diamond K$. Instead of pitching a heart on the fourth round of diamonds, however, he ruffed his $\diamond 3$ low and played a club to Rodwell's queen. Rodwell played a heart to Meckstroth's ace, and McGann ruffed the heart continuation in dummy. He ruffed dummy's club with the 9 and cashed the $\$ \mathrm{~K}$. This was the position with three tricks to go:


McGann played the $\vee 5$, and when Rodwell put in the $\$ 9$, McGann underruffed in dummy, leaving Rodwell to play from the $\$ 107$ into dummy's $\$$. Well done! Plus 420 was good for 10 IMPs in a match won by Ireland 36-13.
The 20 victory points left Ireland comfortably in qualifying position. Their next opponent: Germany.

## Suddenly, nothing happened

by Brent Manley

In a 96-board match, a deficit of 23 IMPs is not serious, especially with five of six rounds to play. Still, if you are Sweden and have lost the first set in the Open Teams, round of 16 , to Israel $30-7$, you want to bounce back sooner rather than later. Sweden did just that on Wednesday in set notable for a lively exchange of IMPs on the first six boards and almost no action - at least in terms of swings - thereafter.

Israel expanded their margin on the first deal of the set, both East-West pairs missing a nine-card heart fit.

Board I7. Dealer North. None Vul.

$$
\text { \& K } 32
$$



* A Q 10962
- QJ 109

PAJ63
$\diamond A K 8$

- J 3

| N | - A 8 |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc 109874$ |
| W E | 勺J754 |
| S | \% K 4 |
| ¢ 7654 |  |
| $\bigcirc$ KQ 52 |  |
| $\checkmark 96$ |  |
| - 875 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Nystrom | Liran | Upmark | Fridlander |
|  | 12 | Pass | 18 |
| INT | 2 | 3NT | All Pass |

After Ehud Fridlander's $1 \Downarrow$ response, it was not so easy for Fredrik Nystom and Jonan Upmark to find their fit in hearts - and Nystrom was lucky his partner supplied the club stopper he was missing. That was not sufficient for him to come to nine tricks, however. Inon Liran led the Q , taken in dummy with the king to play a heart to the queen and ace. The Q was next, ducked all around, then Nystrom more or less gave up by playing a heart to the 10 and South's king. The result was two down - minus 100.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bareket | Cullin <br> Lengy | Bertheau |  |
| Dbl | $2 \&$ | Pass | $1 \diamond *$ |
| * Hearts |  | $2 \diamond$ | All Pass |

Obviously not expecting his partner to have heart length, Assaf Lengy bid his second suit and was left to play there.
Peter Bertheau led a club to Per-Ola Cullin's ace. Lengy won the club return and played a diamond to the ace. The $\$ 10$ held the trick, and declarer continued with a spade to
the ace. On the 84 , South followed with the 2 , so Lengy put in the 6 , ruffed by North. The 10 was returned, declarer dumping a heart while dummy ruffed with the $\diamond 8$. The ${ }^{\boldsymbol{y}} \boldsymbol{j}$ was covered by the king and ruffed by Lengy, who led a diamond to dummy's king and played the $₫ \mathrm{Q}$. Cullin declined to ruff, but he took the $\diamond \mathbf{Q}$ when Lengy played the $\vee \mathbf{A}$. That was plus 110 to Israel, now leading 35-7.
Sweden got 10 of those IMPs back on the next board when Bertheau and Cullin bid a thin but cold vulnerable game not bid at the other table.

Board I8. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

- A Q 9
- 107432
$\diamond$ Q 9
\& 1087


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bareket | Cullin | Lengy | Bertheau |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| 19000 | Pass | INT | Dbl |
| 3\% | 38 | Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ |

## All Pass

Lengy started with a low trump, and things were looking up for Cullin when the queen fell under dummy's $>\mathrm{A}$. A club from dummy was taken by the ace, and Ilan Bareket switched to a low spade to the nine and ten. A spade was returned to the king and ace and Cullin ruffed a club in


Ehud Fridlander, Israel
dummy. A low diamond went to the queen and ace, and a third spade to the jack and ace established South's 13th spade. Cullin could claim plus 620 at that point.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Nystrom | Liran | Upmark <br>  <br>  <br> Pass | $1 \triangleleft$ |
| Pridlander |  |  |  |

Liran also took 10 tricks for a 10 -IMP loss.
More IMPs went to Sweden on the next board when the Israelis had a bidding accident.

Board I9. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

|  | - 943 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc 76$ |  |
|  | $\diamond 98732$ |  |
|  | ¢ K 107 |  |
| - KQ 1076 | N | - 5 |
| $\bigcirc$ A Q 84 |  | -KJ95 |
| $\checkmark$ AJ 6 |  | $\checkmark$ KQ 105 |
| * Q | S | -8643 |
|  | - AJ 82 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 1032$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark 4$ |  |
|  | * AJ952 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nystrom | Liran | Upmark | Fridlander |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| 14 | Pass | INT | Pass |
| 2\%* | Pass | $2 \diamond^{*}$ | Pass |
| 2 | Pass | 3 | Pass |
| 4\% | Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $4 \bigcirc$ | All Pass |  |  |

There were no problems for Nystrom in this contract, and he easily scored plus 650.

| West <br> Bareket | North <br> Cullin | East <br> Lengy | South <br> Bertheau <br> Pass |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 14 | Pass | INT | Pass |
| $3 \varnothing$ | Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $4 \Phi$ | Pass | $4 N T$ | Pass |
| $5 \$$ | Pass | $6\rangle$ | All Pass |

This auction might serve as an example of why the weaker hand should normally not use 4NT to ask for key cards. In this case, the response carried the pair to the six level missing two aces. East could not pass 5 holding a singleton, although he might have survived if West had South's 9 to go with his other honors. The 4s cuebid, facing likely shortage, also seems unwise.
In any case, there was no way, short of a gross defensive error, for the contract to be made. Plus 100 for Sweden mean another 13 IMPs. In two boards, Israel's lead had been cut by 23 IMPs to 35-30.

The Israelis picked up 3 IMPs on the next deal, however, when Nystrom and Upmark overbid and were doubled for their transgression.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.
上 K Q 106
$\checkmark$ Q 3
$\diamond 1086$
2K 942

| ¢ 9743 | N | ¢ AJ 52 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc$ K 10 | $W^{\text {c }}$ | $\bigcirc$ J 54 |
| $\diamond$ A Q 9542 | W E | $\diamond$ K 7 |
| \% 7 | S | \% J 1083 |
|  | ¢ 8 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ A 98762 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ J 3 |  |
|  | * A Q 65 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nystrom | Liran | Upmark | Fridlander |
| $1 \diamond$ | Pass | 19 | 2 8 |
| 34 | Pass | 49 | Pass |
| Pass | Dbl | All Pass |  |

Fridlander started with the 8 to the queen, ducked. A club at trick two went to the jack and Fridlander's queen. His club return was ruffed, and Nystrom went to dummy with the $\diamond K$ to ruff another club. He then played the $\$ 9$ to the 10 and jack and ran diamonds. Liran eventually ruffed in and punched out dummy's last trump with the $\mathrm{q} K$. The $\varangle \mathbf{A}$ was the setting trick for the defense.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bareket | Cullin | Lengy | Bertheau |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | $2 \triangleleft$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Bertheau held the loss on the board to 3 IMPs by making his contract. West started with his singleton club, taken in


Per-Ola Cullin, Sweden
hand by Bertheau. He played a low heart at trick two, taken by Bareket with the king.A spade went to the king and ace, and Lengy cashed the $\diamond K$, getting a discouraging signal from West. Lengy exited with a club, ruffed by Bareket, who cashed the $\diamond A$, the last trick for the defense.
The Israelis earned another swing with good defense on the next deal.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

- QJ 65
© K 53
$\diamond 10$
- KQ 1092


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nystrom | Liran | Upmark | Fridlander |
|  | 1\% | Pass | $1{ }^{1}$ |
| 28 | 21 | 38 | 31 |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Nystrom led the 8 , taken by Upmark with the ace, Fridlander following with the jack. Upmark returned a club to dummy's 9 . Declarer then played a diamond to the ace and a spade to his jack and East's king. On the return of the $\boldsymbol{\varrho} 4$, Liran discarded his heart as Nystrom declined to ruff with the A . The Q Q was cashed and a heart ruffed, followed by the $\forall K$, pitching a heart from the North hand, and another spade from dummy. Nystrom won the SA and led a third diamond, but Liran discarded a heat from dummy and had nine tricks for plus 140.
The defense was sharper at the other table.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bareket | Cullin | Lengy | Bertheau |
|  | 10 | Pass | $10 *$ |
| Db | $2 \uparrow$ | Pass | $3 \varnothing$ |
| Pass | 4 | All Pass |  |
| * Spades |  |  |  |

Lengy led a heart to his partner's ace, and a club was returned to the king and Lengy's ace. A club to the jack was followed by a spade to the queen and king. When Lengy returned a third club, Bareket ruffed with the $\Phi \mathrm{A}$, and now the defenders had three trump tricks instead of two. Combined with the aces of hearts and clubs, that was two down, minus 200, and 8 IMPs to Israel.
That was the sixth board of the set. Over the next 10 boards, there were eight pushes, I IMP to Israel and a 2IMP swing to Sweden.
The final score was 28-I7 to Sweden, trailing 47-35 after two sets.

## Same contract in both rooms

by Herman De Wael

While looking for some people who had to serve on the Appeals Committee, I walked into the Vu-Graph theatre, just when PO was asking "can anyone tell me why the Belgians played 44X in both rooms?" My reply was quick:"The answer that they're Belgians is not sufficient?"
This was the board:
Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

- A Q 75

ค854
$\diamond$ J 54

- 873

| - K 2 | N | -1043 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ¢K Q 10976 |  | $\bigcirc$ A 32 |
| $\checkmark 3$ | W E | $\diamond$ Q 1076 |
| d. 1094 | S | - K 52 |
|  | - J 986 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 1$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AK982 |  |
|  | \& A Q 6 |  |

This was the bidding in the closed room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| 2 | Pass | 24 | Pass |
| 3. | Pass | 4 | Pass |
| Pass | Double | All Pass |  |

The Belgian pair had decided that over certain types of $\mathrm{l} \diamond, 2 \diamond$ ought to be natural so $2 \vee$ showed the majors. West had forgotten this, and they then supported each other's supposed spades three times. Two tricks, and -300.
When this result appeared on the running scores, one Belgian texted his friend here, asking him to take a picture of the face of the Belgian North in the Open Room, who had played and made 4@X, when he learned that this had cost him 17 IMPs.
Note that the Belgians only scored 12 combined tricks as declarer. Indeed our North apologized for failing to take the overtrick. But considering that it would have brought in only one extra IMP, he can be excused.

## Duplimates for sale

The Duplimates used during the tournament are sold at the Jannersten book stall for $€ 2350$.

## A Vu of the Bridge

by Mark Horton

One of the highlights of any major bridge championship is the VuGraph presentation. Here in Lille it looks very spectacular, with four giant screens displaying all the information you might need. One innovation I like is that when the running scores are shown the IMPs of the teams that are leading are highlighted.

Commentary is provided by some combination of Barry Rigal, Chris Dixon, PO Sundelin and David Stern, plus the odd guest commentator. They adopt different techniques Chris \& PO favour the odd almost stealth-like intervention while Barry and David favour a more front-on approach, bombarding the audience with anything from analysis to the running scores.

The speed of play may or may not allow time for a detailed analysis - and even with all 52 cards on show it is quite easy to miss something.

As it happens the deals were not that exciting, but there were still some points of interest.


The discussion revolved around how E/W might find a heart contract despite South showing the suit. One point made is that if North had passed what would $2 \triangleleft$ by East mean? The consensus was that it should suggest a shortage in hearts. One way to do it is to use Stayman with the agreement that partner must show any four-card major, even one bid by the opponents.
You can't bid 2s here but you could agree that a double of $2 \Leftrightarrow$ replaced Stayman.
As an aside, if West were on lead (or if North had a singleton heart say and West an extra diamond) two rounds of spades are followed by a diamond switch, a spade ruffed, a diamond and a fourth spade promoting the king of clubs - for $+300 / 500$ (if you had a heart to cash).

Anyhow, East tried 3NT and that was easily defeated when North led the queen of clubs.
This was worth 5 IMPs when E/W played $2 \diamond+1$ at the other table (North had opened 18 and South responded I $\diamond$ showing hearts - how you get to $4 \checkmark$ now is a different question).

Dealer East. N/S Vul

- A Q 9
- 107432
$\diamond$ Q 9
2 1087

| , K J 2 | N | -1054 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc$ Q |  | $\bigcirc 985$ |
| $\diamond 8754$ |  | $\diamond$ A J 6 |
| \& AQ965 | S | \% KJ4 3 |
|  | ¢ 8763 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ AKJ 6 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ K 1032 |  |
|  | 92 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | Pass | $1 \diamond$ |
| Pass | $1 \otimes$ | Pass | $\mathbf{2} \oslash$ |
| Dbl | $?$ |  |  |

What should North bid?
I was taught that when partner supports your five-card suit you should upgrade your hand - one way to do this is to think of your fifth trump as an extra king, so around 3 points.
Thanks to West's double you can upgrade your spade holding and I would be tempted to bid $4 \bigcirc$.
Those of a more nervous disposition might make some kind of game try - were you to bid $3 \diamond$ for example I think partner should go to $4 \checkmark$.
At the table North bid $3 \Omega$, which did not encourage his partner to go on - it cost 10 IMPs.
Do make the effort to visit the VuGraph - the graphics are fabulous and the chairs extremely comfortable.



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