



Italy secure the Schools title with a round to spare

Schools

Congratulations to Italy who are the new Schools Bridge Team Champions of Europe. They have dominated the competition from the beginning and apart from a brief challenge from Hungary, who managed to keep pace with them at the start, they have never been in danger.

The race for the remaining medals is far from over. Poland and the Netherlands appear to have them in their grasp at the moment but they will face a strong challenge from Sweden, Norway and Israel.

Juniors

Although Italy is set to do the double, the key questions of who will occupy the podium and also capture the vital fourth place remain unanswered.

Highlights of yesterday's matches included Austria's defeat of Russia by 18-12, a number that usually has a happier connotation for the men from Moscow. Norway did themselves no harm when they defeated Italy 20-10, but the spectre of the late

arrival fine still hangs over their heads. Denmark would be sitting pretty had they not been held to a 15-15 draw by Greece. Sweden's chances were virtually extinguished by their 10-20 loss to Great Britain.

With only three points covering four teams a dramatic finish is in prospect, not least because Russia and Norway have to meet in today's final round.

VuGraph Challenge

Will they go down more times than the Titanic? More fun than watching paint dry! The fastest coups in Vienna!

Don't miss all this and much less when we stage the traditional match at the end of the Championships.

See Rigal's Redouble rebound! Watch Werge get endplayed! Laugh at Lund's bidding!

This is where the players get their revenge for having to suffer

10 days of nonsense from the men with the microphones. The commentators will face a ten-board challenge from a team made up of NPCs. The commentary team will be made up of players - as many of you as we can squeeze into ten boards.

The starting time will be approximately 3 pm.

Demand will be high - reserve your seats now!

Today

Program, Results, Standings	2-3
Team Profile	3
<i>The Yugoslavia Junior Team</i>	
Match of the Day	4-6
<i>Schools Round 8: The Netherlands v. Poland</i>	
Team Profile	6
<i>The Poland Junior Team</i>	
Defence of the Tournament	7
<i>by Simon de Wijs (Netherlands)</i>	
Team Profile	7
<i>The Swedish Junior Team</i>	
Homepage	8
<i>von Fritz Babsch</i>	
Charlie strikes again	8
<i>by Geo Tislevoll, Norway</i>	
Crucial win for Israel	9-10
<i>Juniors Round 7: Israel v. Denmark</i>	
Team Profile	10
<i>The Hungarian Junior Team</i>	
Almost an endplay in four suits	10
<i>by Märten Gustavsson</i>	
Played Alright	11
Team Profile	11
<i>The Poland Schools Team</i>	
Combination	12
Team Profile	12
<i>The Croatia Juniors Team</i>	
Concentration	12

Attention all Spectators!

If you wish to watch a match at the table this morning you must take your place in the Open Room during the first 15 minutes following the start of play.

No spectators will be admitted into the playing room after 10.45.

If you leave the room at any time after this 15-minute period,
YOU WILL NOT BE RE-ADMITTED.

All tables in both the Open & Closed Rooms will be starting the final match with Board Number 1 so you can follow the matches on VuGraph and get instant comparisons for them all.

Dimitri Ballas
Director of Operations

Juniors

Results

Round 18

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
Germany	Yugoslavia	35-45	13-18
Spain	Croatia	52-48	16-14
France	Israel	45-33	17-13
Turkey	Finland	79-56	20-10
Belarus	Denmark	36-82	6-24
Hungary	Great Britain	35-40	14-16
The Netherlands	Greece	63-60	16-14
Italy	Norway	34-57	10-19.5
Sweden	Iceland	78-42	22-8
Russia	Austria	38-54	12-18
Czech Republic	Poland	52-74	10-20

Round 19

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
Yugoslavia	Hungary	53-71	10.5-18.5
Greece	Denmark	38-40	15-15
Turkey	Italy	20-60	7-23
Iceland	Israel	38-46	14-16
Spain	Russia	32-69	7-23
Poland	Germany	44-64	11-19
Croatia	Czech Republic	76- 9	25- 2
Austria	France	59-46	18-12
Finland	Sweden	25-62	7-23
Norway	Belarus	30-25	16-14
Great Britain	The Netherlands	36-76	7-23

Round 20

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
Denmark	Yugoslavia	104-27	25- 1
Hungary	Turkey	37-44	14-16
Israel	Greece	65-37	21- 9
Italy	Spain	68-41	21- 9
Germany	Iceland	57-37	19-11
Russia	Croatia	54-55	15-15
France	Poland	29-48	11-19
Czech Republic	Finland	46-46	15-15
Belarus	Austria	45-59	12-18
Sweden	Great Britain	21-45	10-20
The Netherlands	Norway	29-52	10-20

Program

Sunday 26, 10:30

Round 21

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1.	Yugoslavia	Spain
2.	Israel	Germany
3.	Croatia	Turkey
4.	Denmark	France
5.	Finland	Hungary
6.	Greece	Belarus
7.	Great Britain	Italy
8.	Iceland	The Netherlands
9.	Norway	Russia
10.	Poland	Sweden
11.	Austria	Czech Republic

Standings

After Round 20

1.	Italy	389
2.	Russia	369
3.	Norway	369
4.	Israel	366
5.	Denmark	366
6.	Sweden	344.5
7.	Turkey	344
8.	Austria	323
9.	Poland	317
10.	Netherlands	313
11.	Hungary	299.5
12.	Belarus	296
13.	Iceland	288.5
14.	Great Britain	282
15.	Finland	279
16.	France	266
17.	Germany	265
18.	Croatia	257
19.	Czech Rep.	227
20.	Yugoslavia	227
21.	Greece	181
22.	Spain	160

Victory Banquet

The closing ceremony and Victory Banquet will be held in the Festsaal (the playing area) starting at 20.30.

If you do not already have your ticket please go to the Hospitality Desk as soon as possible and in any event no later than 13.00.

No ticket - no dinner!

Today's Vugraph



10:30

Juniors - Round 21

Norway – Russia

15:00 approx.

Challenge Match

<http://www.bridge.gr>

Schools

Results

Round 10

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
Poland	Yugoslavia	91-47	24-6
Israel	France	41-17	20-10
Russia	Great Britain	83-60	20-10
Hungary	Austria	49-63	12-18
Ireland	Norway	58-73	12-18
Sweden	The Netherlands	25-49	10-20
Italy	Germany	29-93	3-25

Round 11

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
Yugoslavia	Sweden	29-82	5-25
Germany	Norway	62-74	13-17
Hungary	Italy	9-78	2-25
The Netherlands	Great Britain	88-25	25- 3
Israel	Ireland	99-20	25- 1
Austria	Poland	11-77	2-25
France	Russia	48-37	17-13

Round 12

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
Great Britain	Yugoslavia	33-32	15-15
Hungary	Israel	16-75	4-25
Poland	Norway	89-58	21- 9
Sweden	France	70-52	19-11
Russia	Germany	39-65	10-20
Italy	Austria	71-33	23- 7
Ireland	The Netherlands	57-42	18-12

Program

Saturday 25, 10:30

Round 13

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
21.	Yugoslavia	Hungary
22.	Norway	Gt. Britain
23.	Israel	Sweden
24.	Germany	Poland
25.	France	Italy
26.	The Netherlands	Russia
27.	Austria	Ireland

Standings

After Round 12

1.	Italy	263
2.	Poland	225
3.	Netherlands	216
4.	Sweden	209
5.	Norway	198
6.	Israel	197
7.	France	183
8.	Germany	176.5
9.	Hungary	168
10.	Russia	155
11.	Gt. Britain	147
12.	Yugoslavia	126.5
13.	Austria	120
14.	Ireland	71

Team Profile

The Yugoslavia Junior Team

Dacic Vesan, 24, studied English and literature. She has a fan club in Vienna ... the Polish Junior team. Her partner is **Goran Erakovic**, 23, a metallurgy student.

Poljacki Jovan, 24, a computer science student, likes to scream at his partner **Baba Attila**, 24, who studies electrical engineering. Baba likes to tell stupid jokes which are interrupted and re-interpreted by...

Predrag Duric, 22, from Belgrade. He is a student of food-processing technology, which is most appropriate, as, if he is not eating, he is drinking beer .. or if not drinking beer, drinking vodka, or if not vodka.... etc. His partner is **Vladimir Tisma**, 21, a computer science student who likes to act as a playing captain. He claims to be a Scorpio looking for a female Taurus (18-25, balanced shape). (Editors: Why not highly distributional?)

Npc: **Ranko Grba**.

NOTICE FROM TRANSPORT

Nick Stiasny in charge of Transport says:

"For those who returned the sheets in time describing their departure plans, pick-up is arranged but we can only take you to the Railway station for the Airport because major traffic jams are expected on the road to the airport. A ticket is 34 schillings per person for the Station to the Airport and can be bought at the station."

"The detailed information on when and where we will pick you up is at the Hospitality Desk. All captains must collect the instructions by 1 p.m. today."

ftp.bridge.gr

Match Of The Day

Schools, Round 8: The Netherlands - Poland

On Friday the second match to be featured on VuGraph was between The Netherlands and Poland.

The North-South pair in the Open Room appeared to get their wires crossed. You might say they were 'Poles apart!'

Dealer East. N/S Game

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



Kevin Vreeswijk

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Vreeswijk	Kapala	B. Drijver	Buras
		Pass	Pass
1♣	Dble	Pass	1♦
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

South's initial response was a negative and 2♦ was a transfer. North presumably thought 2NT was forcing but South had a different view.

East led the three of clubs and when declarer played low from dummy, West took his king and returned the suit. Declarer had to win in dummy and he tried the jack of spades. When the ace appeared he was assured of eight tricks, +120.

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Lutostanski	S. Brink	Baranowski	N. Brink
		Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Two Clubs was either weak with the majors or various strong types. 2♦ was a relay and the reply showed a five card suit and a weak hand.

Declarer took the opening lead of the king of diamonds at once and drew two rounds of trumps. He then took the club finesse. The location of the ace of spades meant ten tricks were a formality. 11 IMPs for the Netherlands.

Poland hit back at once when they bid a slam in the Open Room to pick up 10 IMPs, the Netherlands being content with game at the other table.

Dealer South. E/W Game

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

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Vreeswijk	Kapala	B. Drijver	Buras
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

One Club was Polish and the reply was natural. 2♣ showed a strong hand and 4♠ was a splinter. Played by North the slam is better than 50% as you can cash the top diamonds hoping to see the queen appear before you fall back on the heart finesse.

East led the ♥7 to the queen, king and ace so the cards were back in the board almost immediately.

Then it was the turn of The Netherlands to earn a swing in the bidding. ♣

Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day

Dealer West. Love All

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

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

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

	♠	♥	♦	♣
	N			
	W	E		
			S	

Dealer West. N/S Game

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

	♠ J 8	
	♥ K J 5 3 2	
	♦ K 10 4 3	
	♣ K 10	

	♠ A 3	
	♥ Q 4	
	♦ A J 8 6 2	
	♣ 9 8 6 2	

	♠	♥	♦	♣
	N			
	W	E		
			S	

Both tables reached Four Spades in one bid.

For Poland Kapala led the king of clubs. Declarer won and played dummy's trump. South went in with the ace and tried to give his partner a club ruff. Now declarer could safely discard his losing diamond, ruff a diamond and draw trumps, giving him eleven tricks. +450.

Sjoert Brink preferred to lead the ♦4 and his brother Niek won with the jack and switched to the queen of hearts. Declarer ducked that but won the next one, ruffed a diamond and took the club finesse. He cashed the ace to get rid of his last heart and played a trump. South took the ace and played another club. West is probably still wondering why he ruffed with the ten of spades but it meant -50 and a loss of 11 IMPs.

The Netherlands was having the better of the exchanges but the Poles did not go down without a fight.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Vreeswijk</i>	<i>Kapala</i>	<i>B. Drijver</i>	<i>Buras</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
3♣	3♠	Pass	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♣	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

East did not feel he had enough for a free raise of his partner's 3♣ but when Vreeswijk came again he judged that all his cards were working well and it was always possible that West would have a singleton spade.

In due course declarer took the correct view in clubs to record +550.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lutostanski</i>	<i>S. Brink</i>	<i>Baranowski</i>	<i>N. Brink</i>
Pass	INT	Dble	2♦
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

We suspect 2♦ was a transfer and clearly West had no way to convey the nature of his hand. Even if he had it is doubtful that his side would have reached game.

East led the jack of spades and declarer won and played a heart. West ducked but he took his ace on the next round. East had discarded an encouraging ♦4 on this trick. That would have been an error if West had started life with three cards in spades. Here after West switched to the ♦A and another, he was able to discard his remaining spade on the third round of diamonds and collect a ruff in that suit. With the ace of clubs to come that was one down and 11 IMPs.

Notice that if West had taken the ♥A at once and switched to diamonds he can get a spade ruff, put his partner in with the club ace and then overruff the dummy when East plays his last diamond for two down.

Did any pair find this defence?

You can be the judge on this next deal. Was declarer simply unlucky, or did he lose his way?

Dealer West. E/W Game

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

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

	♠ 5	
	♥ A K 9 8	
	♦ A 10 5 3 2	
	♣ A 6 2	

	♠	♥	♦	♣
	N			
	W	E		
			S	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lutostanski</i>	<i>S. Brink</i>	<i>Baranowski</i>	<i>N. Brink</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
All Pass			

Declarer made nine tricks without breathing hard, +150.

Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Vreeswijk	Kapala	B. Drijver	Buras
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

East led a diamond and declarer ducked the trick to West's jack. He took the queen of diamonds with the ace and cashed the top hearts discarding a diamond. He now played another diamond. West discarded the four of hearts so declarer was able to ruff, cash two trumps ending in dummy and play winning diamonds. East could make only the master trump.

If West had ruffed the third round of diamonds with the ♣Q he would have set up two trump tricks for his partner.

Declarer can make the contract if he cashes two top trumps before he ruffs the third diamond. He then takes the ruffing spade finesse and assuming East covers he plays a winning diamond to throw his losing spade. If East plays low, declarer ruffs a third round of spades and throws his last one away on a diamond.

Not at all easy to see.

The Netherlands emerged victorious by 55-29 IMPs, 20-10 VP.

Quiz Corner

Answer to quiz on Bulletin 7

We asked you to form words from pairs of the three-letter names of the nations competing here. In addition to Hungary-Germany (Hunger) we have :

Finland-Germany (FIN-GER)

Poland-Iceland (POL-ICE)

Sweden-Denmark (SWE-DEN)

The Danes submitted:

**Danmark-Germany as
DAN-GER,**

but that is a mixture of two languages.

Barry Rigal suggested that if the match was three-way and worldwide, you could have:

**Poland, Iceland and Manchuria as
POL-ICE-MAN.**

One wag suggested:

**South East Norway v. Italy
(SENOR-ITA!)**

Championship Data and g2b/R3 program

Round by round deals, scores (Butler included), rankings and full bid and play from the Rama table will be available after the last round at the Data Processing Center. All data are in readable (ASCII) format, i.e. the Edit program can read them and they can be directly printed.



G. Baldi

The data are in auto-decompress form and they fit in a single 1.44 diskette, but if you want the information you must provide your own diskette, as we don't have many spare ones.

The g2b/R3 program, i.e. the one that was used to manage the Championship, will also be available, as always for free; it requires another diskette.

Data and program can also be obtained by sending an e-mail to 'baldi@dm.unito.it', or through Internet using the address:

'ftp://195.103.16.226' (Italian Bridge Federation).

G. Baldi

Team Profile

The Poland Junior Team

Rafak Jagniewski, 25, is a financial analyst. He was also in the Junior team in Arnhem, four years ago.

Jaroslaw Piasecki, 23, is a student of economics.

Dariusz Kucharzyk, 25, has just graduated as a mathematician, and works as a computer programmer.

Piotr Suchodok, 25, is an Informatics student.

Igor Grzejdziak, 25, works as a business consultant. He was also in the Junior team in Cardiff.

Urban Kielichowski, 25, works in a bank.

Npc **Antoni Zdzienicki**, 50, an engineer

Assistant npc **Andrzej Aleksandrak**, 50, is a chemical engineer.

Defence of the Tournament

by Simon de Wijs (Netherlands)

Commentating on VuGraph Patrick Jourdain suggested the prize for Best Defence might go to someone who found a particular defence to Five Clubs on Board 10 of Round 19. My team-mate Friso Zwerver found it. Here is the story:

Netherlands v. Great Britain Juniors

Board 10. Dealer East. Game All.

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

Closed

West	North	East	South
Wijma	Bakhshi	Zwerver	Jones
		Pass	1♣
1♠	3♥ ¹	3♠	Pass
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

¹ was a fit-jump promising hearts and clubs

Open

West	North	East	South
			1♣
1♠	2♥	2♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Three No-trumps by The Netherlands was quickly beaten by a spade lead. The British pair of Jones and Bakhshi reached the superior contract of Five Clubs which is difficult to beat.

West, Schelte Wijma, led the ace of spades. At several tables against the same contract, West, on seeing dummy's hearts, made a desperate switch to a diamond, costing the contract. If East-West play suit preference when there is a singleton in dummy, then East must ask for a heart. But Zwerver and Wijma only play attitude, so East encouraged in spades with

the two. West led a second spade. Declarer, Martin Jones, ruffed in dummy, led a low trump to hand, and ruffed his last spade. Now he led a trump off dummy which was taken by East, Zwerver. On this trump, West, who had foreseen the problems he might have discarding on the remaining trumps, threw a discouraging diamond, to ensure East knew he did not hold the ace.

If East plays any suit but a heart, declarer is able to run the trumps and West gets squeezed in the red suits on the last trump. Zwerver, who assumed from the bidding that South had a singleton heart, visualised the squeeze, and switched brilliantly to the heart ten. That was the end for declarer, who had to lose a diamond to West.

Team Profile

The Swedish Junior Team

Roger Wiklund (24) is a funny guy, hopeless but useful. He comes from the West Coast, and started to play tournaments when he hardly could reach the table. **Thommy Johansson** is also 24 years old and also from the West Coast. Both these guys are fed with rubberbridge since they had any money to lose. They have already introduced themselves to most of the young ladies connected to this tournament.

Per Hallberg (25) has just started to work on his doctors degree in mathematics. Per is from Stockholm. **Lars "Lalle" Albertsson** (24) works at the Swedish institute of computer science. "Lalle" is also from Stockholm. Per and Lalle sometimes make the scorer fill up the whole bidding column with their relay-system.

Olle Wademark (25) is a programmer and the only married guy in the Swedish team. He won the World Championship for junior pairs last year. Olle has just bought a new house in Stockholm. **Niclas Eliazohn** (22) is the only player from northern Sweden (Sundsvall). Usually just bids game and slam. Sometimes he checks his cards first. Olle tries to use the 2- and 3-level but Niclas normally cut him off with a skip-bid. They are the only Swedish pair who don't have a timeproblem.

Hans Mattson (NPC) and **Goran Lindberg** (Coach) played for Sweden in Plovdiv 1988. They are here to improve their 4th place. Hans works with computers and plays/talks golf most of the time (you know the type). Goran is a salesman who has appeared a couple of times on the Open team. Both Hans and Goran are age 30+.

Homepage

von Fritz Babsch

Wie fanden Sie das Niveau dieser EM?

Diese Frage stellte HOMEPAGE einigen prominenten Spielern.

Peter Lund: Das Niveau bei den Junioren ist höher als früher, vor allem bei den Teams im Mittelfeld. Die Topteams sind gleich stark wie vor zwei oder vier Jahren. Aber auch diesen Topteams fehlt noch viel für ein erfolgreiches Abschneiden in der Offenen Klasse, vor allem Disziplin. Die Junioren wollen nicht passen, was ja bekanntlich auch sehr schwer ist.

Bei den Schülern sind einige Teams sehr gut, sie könnten bei den Junioren mitspielen. Im allgemeinen ist das Handspiel besser als das Gegenspiel. Wie bei den Junioren habe ich beobachtet, daß die Tendenz von künstlichen Systemen weggeht.

Kees Tammens: Einige Schülerteams haben mich wirklich beeindruckt, etwa Italien und Norwegen. Ich habe Wien sehr genossen, allerdings in kultureller Hinsicht. Die Entscheidung der EBL, daß man nicht Kapitän und Journalist sein kann, hat mir die Stimmung verdorben. Ich finde, daß man das vorher bekanntgeben mußte.

Claus Daehr: Ich habe in beiden Klassen große Unterschiede in der Spielstärke festgestellt. Es gibt einige Schülerpaare, die bei den Junioren mitspielen könnten, aber nur wenige Junioren, die schon reif genug für die Offene Klasse sind. Da fehlen doch noch fünf oder sechs Jahre. Aufgefallen ist mir, daß die Schüler mehr experimentieren.

Es gibt eine eindeutige Tendenz zu natürlichen Systemen, allerdings mit vielen „Gadgets“. Lizitiert wird nicht schlecht, aber wirklich schlecht fand ich die Ausspiele und das Gegenspiel. Diese Aspekte des Spiels brauchen eben viel Erfahrung. Bei manchen Paaren merkte man Konzentrationsmängel, und manche Junioren haben wie alte Hofräte gespielt. Sie kennen zum Beispiel noch nicht die Kraft der 6-5-Verteilung.

Der Austragungsort war wunderbar und sicherlich der beste in der Geschichte der Junioren - EM. Die Organisation war perfekt.

Beni Keil: Ich sehe die Probleme aus der Sicht des Mittelständlers. Die ungarischen Teams haben das Problem, das alle Teams haben, außer den Spitzenteams: Sie sind nicht homogen genug. Unser Juniorenteam hat mit Winkler einen sehr routinierten Spieler, das reicht aber nicht, um an der Spitze mitzuspielen. Unsere Schüler - da spielen die Brüder Marjai und die Geschwister Minarik - sind noch sehr jung. Sie spielen komplizierte Systeme und können nicht alles umsetzen, was man mit diesen Systemen erreichen kann. Ich glaube, daß sie in zwei Jahren sehr viel besser sein werden.

ITALIEN gewinnt bei den SCHÜLERN!

Die italienische Schülermannschaft ist schon vor der letzten Runde Europameister 1998. Näheres finden Sie im englischen Teil des Bulletins. Homepage gratuliert herzlich! ☺

Charlie strikes again

by Geo Tislevoll, Norway

Thomas Charlsen, the Norwegian "Charlie Brown", is well known for never letting the opponents get away with indiscretions. In the match against Austria he earned 9 IMPs in spite of a terrible Norwegian result in the other room.

Dealer North. E/W Game

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
	1♠	2♦	3♠
4♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

In the Open room it was Saur against Saurer. The double of the final contract was not a good one, and Bernd Saurer (West) took advantage of it.

A spade was led. After taking the first trick with the ace Saurer ruffed a spade. Then followed the trump ten, finessing through North and dropping the club nine from South. One club loser and the heart ace were everything the Norwegians could get, +750 for the Austrians. To beat Five Clubs it seems that North needs to lead a somewhat spectacular small heart. Declarer will be in trouble, and the defense can get three tricks, two in hearts and one in clubs or the opposite. Instead North may get a diamond ruff if declarer tries to get to his own hand in that suit (the defence have communications in hearts). For sure the result was great for the Austrians, but you can never be sure of anything when "Charlie" is playing in the other room. He was sitting East, partnering Christer Kristoffersen. The bidding went:

West	North	East	South
	1NT	2♠	
3NTDble	All Pass		

Tough bidding by Kristoffersen.

South led a spade and Charlie could see he was in a doubled contract that probably would make. After taking the first trick he led a diamond to the ace and a club from dummy. North played low, and the queen held the trick. Most people would at this stage be very happy and grab their nine tricks, but Charlie always looks for more. A diamond was played to the jack, and a heart from dummy ensured ten tricks. And on top of that E/W in their frustration discarded too many spades, and declarer could collect his eleventh trick with the spade nine. Plus +1150, and nine imps to Norway, a big surprise for everyone in Open room. ☺

Crucial Win for Israel

Juniors Round 17: Israel v. Denmark *by Nissan Rand (Isr)*

A key result for Israel, which moved them up to third place, was the 82-23 or 25-4 VPs win over the world champions, Denmark in Round 17.

Yaniv Zack was wideawake on this deal from the first half:

Board 7. Dealer South. Game All.

♠ J 5 3 ♥ 10 ♦ A J 10 ♣ K J 10 9 8 3	♠ A 9 6 ♥ Q 9 8 5 2 ♦ 9 5 3 ♣ Q 4 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K 10 8 2 ♥ A K 6 4 ♦ K 7 6 ♣ 5 2	♠ Q 7 4 ♥ J 7 3 ♦ Q 8 4 2 ♣ A 7 6
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Closed

West <i>Nohr</i>	North <i>Amit</i>	East <i>Kristensen</i>	South <i>Zack</i>
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The Danish reached a typically aggressive Three No-Trumps by East. Zack, in the South seat, led the two of diamonds. Declarer let the ten win in dummy. This was an error, given what happened later. The fact that he was stuck in the wrong hand did not matter too much, but when he led the king of clubs it held the trick. (Editor: If you must start the clubs from dummy, then communications are improved by starting with the jack, as the defence cannot afford to let it hold.)

The next club was won by North who switched to a heart. Declarer won and played a low diamond. If South sleepily plays low, declarer will finesse the jack, clear the clubs and have the ace of diamonds as an entry to reach the good clubs. The contract will then depend only on guessing the spades.

However, when declarer led a low diamond from hand, Zack, as South, put on the queen! This killed the second entry to dummy. The game could no longer succeed as the defence had time to set up their heart tricks.

Editor: Declarer does indeed do better to win the opening diamond lead in hand. He then takes the club finesse which loses, and wins the heart switch. Now he clears the clubs. The defence cannot afford to play a second heart or declarer has nine easy tricks with the diamond finesse, so they put dummy on lead with a second diamond. Now declarer leads a spade. Even if he guesses

wrong, finessing to South's queen, he will still succeed. South can clear the diamonds, but declarer takes his clubs, and leads another spade. North wins and must concede a ninth trick to declarer either in hearts or spades.

The two big swings came right at the end on Boards 18 and 19. Both hinged on decisions at the five level.

Board 18. Dealer East. NIS Game.

♠ 9 8 ♥ A Q 4 ♦ K Q 10 8 5 4 ♣ Q J	♠ A J 10 7 6 2 ♥ 10 5 ♦ 6 3 2 ♣ 7 4 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ Q ♥ K J 9 8 7 3 2 ♦ A 9 7 ♣ 10 8	♠ K 5 4 3 ♥ 6 ♦ J ♣ A K 9 6 5 3 2
---	---	---	--

Closed

West <i>Nøhr</i>	North <i>Amit</i>	East <i>Kristensen</i>	South <i>Zack</i>
5♥	5♠	4♥	5♣
		All Pass	

Open

West <i>Shaham</i>	North <i>Brøndum</i>	East <i>Levin</i>	South <i>Lund Madsen</i>
2♦	Pass	1♥	2♣
4♥	4♠	2♥	2♠
		5♥	All Pass

As you can see from the diagram there was little in the play. Five Spades just lost the two red aces to make in comfort, whereas Five Hearts lost one spade and two clubs to go only one light. The swing was 600 or 12 IMPs to Israel.

This was the very next deal: ➡

CORRECTION TO ITALY JUNIOR TEAM PROFILE

The profile said Daniele Pagani & Paolo Marino had won the last EUBL Open Pairs held in Salsomaggiore this year. They were in fact second. The winners were Kees Tammens of the Netherlands & Frans Jeunen of Belgium. Our apologies to Kees & Frans for not spotting this mistake.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Game

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

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

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



Closed

West	North	East	South
Nøhr	Amit	Kristensen	Zack
1♣	1♥	1♠	Pass
Pass	Pass	4♣	4♥
Pass	5♥	Dble	All Pass

Open

West	North	East	South
Shaham	Brøndum	Levin	Lund Madsen
1♣	Dble	1♠	Pass
2NT ¹	Pass	3♦ ²	2♦
Pass	4♥	5♣	3♥
			All Pass

¹ the weak way of bidding 3♣.

² showed shortage in the suit

Five Hearts doubled lost the two black aces and a trump trick for one down, and 100 to Denmark. Five Clubs was made, losing only the two red aces for 600 to Israel, a swing of 11 IMPs to Israel.

Editor: On these two boards the BOLS Tip "The Five Level belongs to the opponents" was not such good advice!

Team Profile

The Hungarian Junior Team

Eszter Tichy, 24, a mathematician, works for an insurance company. She is a member of the Hungarian Ladies Team too. **Orsolya Hegedüs**, 24, is a student of philosophy and history of art. She has been married for a year. Sorry boys!

Gál Hegedüs, 21 studies mathematics. He partners **Gábor Wiener**, 25, a mathematician and Ph.D. student.

Péter Trenka, 24 student of university of economics. He partners **Gábor Winkler**, 23, studies law, the "XL-MAN". In Cardiff Winkler was "XXL-MAN", playing all boards and made a record with +500 IMPs. He is playing his fourth Junior Championship. He is young enough to play a fifth!

NPC: **Péter Gál**, 44 mathematician. That's his 5th time as a captain. He is probably a masochist.

Coach: **Gyorgy Szalay** see the school profile.

Press: **Katalin Jakab**, N/A, IBPA member and wife of NPC.

Almost an endplay in four suits

by Mårten Gustawsson

Dealer North. Love All

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

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

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



West	North	East	South
Gruber	Sivelind	Duy	Berg
Dble	Pass	Pass	1♠
All Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣

This looks like an impossible game to make with one loser in every suit but with a little help from the defence Måns Berg in the Swedish Schools team made it in his sides ninth round encounter with the home team from Austria. Måns, who had his 17th birthday just a week ago played it in a way that put maximum pressure on the defence.

The lead was the jack of hearts promising a higher honor. If East had the heart king it looked like West would have the rest of the outstanding honors for his takeout double. Måns made the first key play when he ducked the heart jack. He took the heart continuation to the king with the ace and played a small spade from hand!

West ducked this like everybody would have done. Måns now ruffed dummy's last heart and played the king of clubs from hand. West took it with the ace and now he had a difficult problem.

It looked like he was endplayed in four suits and whatever he returned would be an extra trick for declarer. He tried a heart but Måns discarded a diamond in dummy, ruffed in hand and played ace of spades, queen of clubs and ruffed his last club. Then he put West in with the king of spades and West was forced to lead a diamond and now Måns had his game.

But the defence would have succeeded if West had realized that one more endplay loomed. Then he would have played a minor when he was in with the ace of clubs, saving the heart for later. This way declarer would have run out of trumps if he puts West in with the king of spades and West would have had a safe exit card in his last heart.

Played Alright

In Round 7 of the Schools between The Netherlands and Hungary it was almost a family affair. In the Closed Room the brothers Drijver played against the brother and sister Minarik. At the Open table the brothers Brink were playing against Péter Marjai, whose brother Gábor is also on the team, but Peter was partnering Csaba Szabó.

Tom Drijver found a good line in this borderline Six Heart contract. His captain had a small criticism, but it missed a point:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Game.

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

Closed

West	North	East	South
Tom D	Gabor M	Bas D	Ágnes M
		Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

Open

West	North	East	South
Szabo	Sjoert B	Marjai	Niek B
		Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Tom Drijver showed an eight trick hand in hearts and when East cue-bid diamonds and showed one ace in response to Blackwood, he drove to slam.

North led ♠K. At the Schools table where Richard Probst was declarer for Britain in Six Hearts, he ducked the lead, and was a little lucky that North did not continue the suit for South to ruff, or switch to a diamond. North actually made the friendliest switch of a club to the queen and ace. When Probst cashed six hearts North was squeezed in three suits and had to give in.

Drijver did better by winning the first spade, drawing two rounds of trumps, and then taking the diamond finesse. On the two top diamonds he discarded his losing

spades. The queen did not fall, but now Drijver followed with a club from dummy. When South played low, he put in the jack, ducking the trick to the player who had no trump to play. In this way he was able to ruff his third club as the slam-going trick.

It would not have helped South to put up the queen on the first club. Declarer had planned to win and follow with the JACK of clubs. Again it is North who wins the club and he cannot clear the trump. Well done!

This was 11 IMPs to the Netherlands, but their captain was not completely happy. "I think it is better to draw only one trump, before taking the diamond finesse. Then even if the club has to be lost to the defender with three trumps they can do no damage."

There is some truth in that, but there is another way to make 12 tricks. Suppose when Drijver drew the second trump, it was North who turned up with three trumps. He is known to have ♠Q, and you are playing for him to have ♦Q. Then you can make the slam by simply cashing all your trumps.

Six cards are left. Dummy has four diamonds, a club and a spade. North must keep four diamonds and a spade, so he has only room for one club. You cash the ace of clubs, take the diamond finesse, cash only one top diamond, and then exit with a spade to North to receive two more diamonds at the end!

This requires reading the ending, but as the cards lie North is actually squeezed on the fifth trump. If he throws ♠10 you can set up a spade trick in dummy. If he keeps two spades and four diamonds, he has to throw all his clubs and you also have the option of a club finesse as the extra trick!

Team Profile

The Poland Schools Team

Anna Szczepanska, 19, a maths student, also played in Cardiff two years ago.

Jacek Baranowski, 20, a student of Environment Protection, lives in the mountains.

Krzysztof Buras, 18, is still at a Grammar School in Silesia.

Szymon Kapala, 18, is awaiting the results of his maths exams. He also played in Cardiff.

Piotr Lutostanski, 20, an economics student, is from Warsaw.

Adam Skalski, 20, is a student of maths and physics from Central Poland.

Npc **Włodzimierz Krzysztofczyk**, 45, an engineer and bridge teacher from Lodz.

Assistant npc **Bogdan Kaczynski**, 50, is Treasurer of the Polish Bridge Union.

Combinations

How well do you know your suit combinations?

♠ 4



♠ K Q J 9 3 2

What's the best line for five tricks?

We don't have access to any textbooks, but our resident analyst gives us this table:

%			Finessing	+	-	=
8	10x	xxxx			x8	
16	xx	10xxx		x16		
18	xxx	10xx				x
18	10xx	xxx			x18	
16	10xxx	xx				x
8	xxxx	10x				x
				16	26	

We have omitted the 5-1 and 6-0 breaks.

So it seems clear that it is better to play your cards from the top.

Team Profile

The Croatia Junior Team

The team is unique in consisting of three mixed pairs, very appropriate when the captain's name is Mixich. (Editor: We cannot recall any team in any European or World championship except the Mixed itself, in which a team has been made up of three mixed pairs.)

Marina Pilipovic, 22, is a chemistry student. An opponent from Belarus called her the most aggressive female bidder he had ever seen (Editor: he was too young to have met Rixi Markus). She partners **Tomislav Sasek**, 21, who, as a defender, claims to be squeezed on almost every board, though the declarers do not seem to realise it. A cool dude!

Iva Jurisic, 21, is a student of Maths. We say she would be a much better player if she had longer legs! She partners **Vanja Grahek**, 23, known as a "heavy" player to partner.

Tihana Brkljadic, 25, a psychologist (we hear every team should have one) partners **Tino Orescanin**, 21, our soldier. Our team offers 4 IMPs to the first to find a decent and honest girl for him. Don't wait too long, girls, as we have given several 4 IMPs away already, though, as yet, without success.

Concentration

The ability to concentrate does not come easily, especially to bridge players engaged in long Championship events. That is why quite brilliant passages of play can often be interspersed with simple errors. This deal provided a perfect illustration.

Bas Drijver picked quite a moment for the most explosive double of the Championships so far. He was under the watchful eye of the VuGraph cameras when this deal came along.



Bas Drijver - The Netherlands
"Just closed my eyes and doubled!"

Dealer North. NIS Game

♠ J 9 3
 ♥ A Q J 4
 ♦ A K Q
 ♣ K Q J

♠ A 7 4
 ♥ 10 5
 ♦ J 10 9 5 4
 ♣ A 10 4



♠ K Q 8 5 2
 ♥ 9 8 6
 ♦ -
 ♣ 9 8 7 6 2

♠ 10 6
 ♥ K 7 3 2
 ♦ 8 7 6 3 2
 ♣ 5 3

West	North	East	South
Vreeswijk	Kapala	B. Drijver	Buras
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

The Polish pair had done nothing wrong, reaching a normal contract. However, there was nothing normal about East's bold double. The commentators and the audience were full of admiration.

West led the jack of diamonds and Bas ruffed. He played back the eight of spades and doubtless delighted when his partner produced the ace. He ruffed the next diamond and cashed the king of spades. He was probably feeling pretty pleased with himself and maybe he hadn't noticed which diamond his partner had returned. Well, it was the four and a club switch would have enabled him to score a third ruff. When he tried the queen of spades declarer escaped for two down. Even so, +500 was worth seven well-deserved IMPs.