

Issue no.: 4

Sunday evening, 11 July 1999

Austria on top of the World

Andreas Gloyer and Bernd Saurer have made Austria the first nation to win the World Junior Pairs more than once. In 1991 Seidel and Wodnianski took the title, and today Andreas and Bernd, who took to the front in this event two sessions ago, held on to an ever-narrowing lead.

Congratulations also to Julien Geitner and Felicien Daux, the silver medallists, and Biondo-Mazzadi who claimed the Bronze Medal.





Closing Ceremony

Proceedings opened with the band of members from Castle Prague playing a selection of classical pieces. This was followed by the introduction from Mr. Batela, the President of the Czech Federation.

Then Panos Gerontopoulos, chairman of the WBF Youth Committee thanked the Czech organizing committee and the team who had run

the championships so efficiently. He introduced the keynote speakers, Gianarrigo Rona the president of the EBL and José Damiani, president of the WBF, who both expressed their delight at being present, and their hope of attending many more such events.

Prizes were presented to the best finishing players under 20 by Panos Gerontopoulos, and then Henrik Ron and Stefan Back gave the awards (given by the Czech Federation) to the finishers in tenth through fourth places. Then the medallists were presented. The Bronze medal was presented by Gianarrigo Rona, the Silver Medal by José Damiani, and the Gold Medal by Panos Gerontopoulos.



Closing Address by the Chairman of the WBF Youth Committee



Mr President of the World Bridge Federation Mr President of the European Bridge League Mr President of the Czech Bridge Association Ladies and Gentlemen

Dear Friends

This is not the end of just another successful event in the series of Junior competitions. It is the end of a historic tournament! Indeed, never before have so many young Bridge players gathered together in one place for any international competition. With 386 participants from 28 countries, Nymburk '99 will get a distinguished place in the records of our sport, and it will present the new century with a formidable challenge.

It is fitting that the biggest international Junior Bridge event takes place in the country of birth of Junior Bridge. None of today's young players was even born at that time, but in 1968, the late André Boekhorst set the foundation stone of Junior Bridge when he organized the 1st European Junior Teams Championship in Prague. All in all, 10 countries answered André's call and sent teams to Prague, but I wonder if even they could have realized at that time what lay ahead for Junior Bridge.

How much have things changed since then! 31 years after André's pioneering step, Junior Bridge has earned worldwide recognition and prestige. The European Teams is played in two series, one

for Juniors and one for Schools players, attracting nearly 40 teams every even-numbered year. In the odd-numbered years, the World Junior Pairs have been going from strength to strength eventually reaching the new spectacular record here in Nymburk, while the Junior Camp - the only event which addresses all young players - continues to serve Junior Bridge despite the lack of support from many National Federations. Indeed, how much have things changed!

The end of the 20th century can be seen as the end of an era. An era which started in the Czech Republic with the birth of Junior Bridge and finished in the Czech Republic with Junior Bridge reaching unprecedented hights. On the eve of the 21st century, a new era lies ahead for us. It should be the era of speedy progress and expansion. I am confident that it will prove to be so.

In Europe, there are a number of leading Federations who have shown the way for Junior Bridge development. There are also, however, many others where the local Bridge community does not show the necessary interest and support for young players. Outside of Europe, the situation leaves no room for celebration. After years of indifference which cost a heavy price, North America has, in recent years, started working on Junior Bridge and hopefully it will not be too long until the first convincingly positive results appear. The rest of the American continent, Africa and most parts of Asia need to be persuaded of the value of Junior Bridge in order to get the ball rolling. This leaves the Far East and South Pacific area, from where optimistic signals are being emitted. China has, of course, a tremendous potential - but it is Australia who will probably play the leading role in the area.

The international bodies of the game attach great importance to Junior Bridge. This is evident tonight by the presence of José Damiani, the President of the World Bridge Federation, and Gianarrigo Rona, the President of the European Bridge League, the host zone. They are both great supporters of Junior Bridge from the depth of their hearts. We do need the support of our leaders - and we need it not only in order to beat the general obstacles that Junior Bridge finds on its way, but also to neutralize administrators who have the wrong idea

about what we are doing and how - and who try to impose their views, based on criteria which have nothing to do with Junior Bridge.

You will have heard that the World Bridge Federation is working very hard to open the doors of the Olympic movement to Bridge. After years and years of strong efforts, we have now reached the penultimate step, as the WBF was accepted as a recognized federation by the IOC at its meeting in Seoul last month. Thanks to our President José Damiani, we expect Bridge to be a demonstration sport at the next Winter Olympic Games which will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, in 2002 and a regular discipline of the Olympic Games as from 2006. Bridge is getting ready for Salt Lake City and you will be the forerunner, as the WBF intends to have Junior Bridge represented in the Olympic Games!

As you can see, the future looks bright - provided that we do our job. We have to see that Bridge does not remain static but it continues to expand. In particular, there is a lot of room for improve-

ment in the field of Junior Bridge. You can all play a role in this. Please talk to your friends. Tell them of the reasons that make you Bridge enthusiasts. Assure them that there is space for them in our family, even if they are not interested in reaching the top. The Camp that starts here tomorrow, is a great proof that Bridge cares for all its members - not only the top ones.

My dear friends,

At the end of this wonderful Championship I would like to thank all of you, players, organizers and administrators alike for making this event the largest ever Junior Bridge Competition.

To those who are staying for the camp - I'm looking forward to a wonderful week together. To those who are leaving I wish you a safe journey back home. Have a productive winter and see you soon in one of our events.

Panos Gerontopoulos

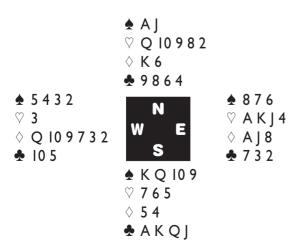
Chairman WBF Youth Committee

JUNIOR PAIRS SESSION 4

Entering the Final Furlong

It is always a challenging task to write up boards from the final stanza, particularly if you have to cope with Computer 203, otherwise known as HAL. But thanks to a United Nations worth of staff watching at the key tables, we were able to focus on the four pairs who were in the lead when the session started over the first eight deals. The Austrians (Saurer and Gloyer) led from the Netherlands (De Wijs and Drijver), Poland (Balas-Kapala), and Sweden (Strömberg-Nyström).

Dealer North. Love All

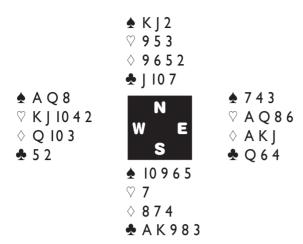


The first board looks to be an innocuous game for E/W.Those with true imagination could reach 3NT by North; on a passive black suit lead declarer cashes four rounds of spades and clubs and exits with whichever red suit is safe, to endplay East. Not surprisingly, none of our four tables managed this. Instead they all played or defended to heart contracts, but vastly different ones.

At two of the tables (where Gloyer-Saurer and Balas-Kapala were North-South) they played 4° down one for a dead average. But our other two pairs (Drijver-De Wijs and Strömberg-Nyström) did much better and much worse respectively as East-West. The Dutch doubled 4° , collecting 100 for a fine result.

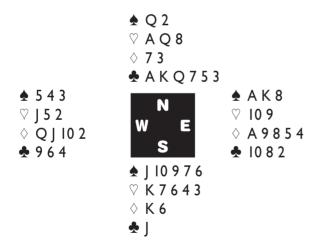
Meanwhile Strömberg opened the East hand $I\heartsuit$, playing four-card majors, and had to suffer in $I\heartsuit$ doubled when South doubled and north left it in. A nice decision by North to play for penalties! As the play went the outcome fluctuated between 800 and IOO but settled at IOO at IOO but settled at

Dealer East. North-South Vul



The second board saw all four players playing the normal 4♥ contract, which seemed to depend fairly and squarely on the spade finesse - which fails. However at three of the four tables the defence gifted declarer a trick by cashing the ace and king of clubs at the first two tricks to set up declarer's ♣Q for a discard. Drijver and de Wijs were the unlucky pair to run into accurate defence - and scored very poorly for their bad luck of being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Dealer South. East-West Vul

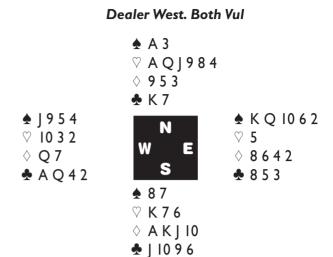


On the next deal the object was again for N/S to avoid their eight-card heart fit and to play 3NT. Buras and Kapalaz played 4 $^{\circ}$, as did the opponents of the Dutch, (78 MPs for the former and 106 for the latter) but Cockburn and Bergson played 3NT against the Swedes and collected 430 leaving the contenders with just 60 MP.

And the Austrians bid 3NT and made 12 tricks on the unchallenging defence of two rounds of diamonds - 176 MP for them!

The fourth board was perhaps the most interest-

ing of the deals thus far - a fine matchpoint hand.

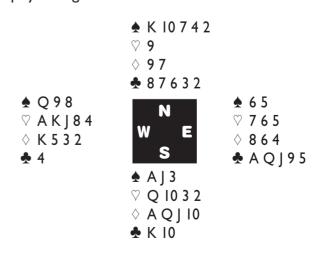


Gloyer played 4% on a club lead since West had doubled an artificial relay of $2\clubsuit$. That made the play considerably easier - in fact declarer guessed clubs correctly and was on the diamond position to make 12 tricks!

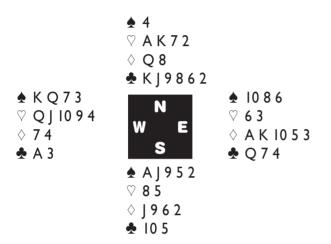
Drijver-De Wijs conceded 650 at their table for only 211 MPs; when Strömberg and Nyström held 4% to 620 they collected only dead average for their pains. And the Polish N/S pair did poorly too; they pushed to 6% (a contract that requires some luck in both minor suits) and went two down on a spade lead for only 26 MPs.

The last four deals were as wild and exciting as one could possibly want. In fact we could not possibly hope to do justice to the action from the five leading pairs' tables to do so would take up almost the whole of this bulletin, and we only have one side available.

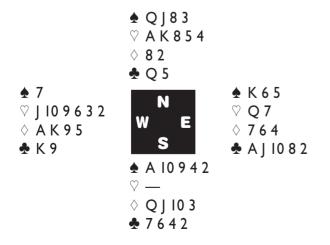
To action: the first deal looks like a modest partscore. Naturally the hand was therefore generally played in game.



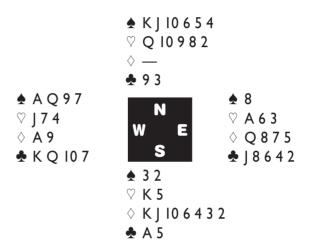
Biondo-Mazzadi had a sane result; they defended 24 for eight tricks, while Geitner-Daux defended to 34 for 140. These results were respectively above and below average but they did much better relatively speaking than our other three contenders. Wooldridge-Heller as N/S pushed on to 44 and were doubled and set one trick, while Saurer attempted 3NT, down two tricks. And Nyström-Strömberg played 37 doubled on the E/W cards and went one down, all three pairs therefore registering very poor scores.



E/W do much better in hearts than in diamonds, while N/S can attempt a club part-score with chances of success. Wooldridge-Heller defended 2♦ for down three with the N/S cards, for a near-top, while Biondo-Mazzadi conceded 300 as E/W, obviously enough for a very poor score. Daux and Geitner went one down in 2♦ for slightly above average, a little better than Saurer and Gloyer, who defended to 2♥ and did not manage to beat it. Worst of all, Nyström-Strömberg as E/W defended to 3♣ doubled which they can set in a number of ways, a trump lead being the most devastating. What you cannot do is cash two diamonds and then play hearts, as they discovered the hard way, conceding 670 in the process for a near-zero.



Saurer-Gloyer reinforced their lead here, by doubling West's 3♥ contract, for two down on less than accurate declarer play. It looks as if declarer has eight top winners, but once he got forced in spades he made the mistake of leading out diamonds to arrange the ruff in dummy. That let Saurer pitch his clubs on the diamonds - and that was +300. Nyström-Strömberg made 2♥ with the E/W cards, while Mazzadi-Biondo were setting 3♠. That this was not an easy task is reinforced by the fact that Geitner and Daux doubled 4♠ and only set it one trick. Meanwhile Wooldridge and Heller defended quietly to 4♥ undoubled and collected 100.



Gloyer and Saurer played 3\$\times\$ doubled, and conceded 500. That fetched a measly 28 MP.A good board for the French, or a very good one for the Italians, would bring them the Gold Medal. Could they do it? No. The French defended 3\$\times\$. All the French had to do was to collect 200, which they can manage in a number of ways. But one trick got away, and +100 was only an average. They needed the Italians not to have a good result or the Silver Medal would slip away. Meanwhile Biondo-Mazzadi played 3\$\dagger\$ making 110 with the East/West cards, beating par on the deal since N/S can make 140 in spades, but getting only 102 MPs for their pains. Still this was enough to hold on to the Bronze medal.

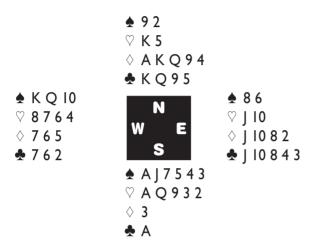
And finally Strömberg-Nyström defended 4♠ doubled for +200 while Wooldridge-Heller were playing that same contract and conceding the identical 200. I26 for thew Swede, 58 MP for the Americans.

The bottom line was that all four of the chasing pack could have taken the Gold Medal with a decent set -some easily, some with difficulty. But Saurer-Gloyer held on to their early lead and at the end of the day you could justifiably say that they deserved to do so.

ROUND TWO

I divided my time between watching two pairs who had been doing well after session one, namely Josh Heller and Joel Wooldridge, but first I started with out with Nyström and Strömberg of Sweden. The very first deal gave them an awkward bidding problem where they at least won the theoretical victory, if not reaching the best practical spot.

Dealer North Love All



It is a little hard to determine the best spot on this deal. All slams are poor, and the communications are fairly awkward whatever spot you reach. For instance, in 3NT early diamond leads by the defence totally tangle up the hand and force you to rely on the heart split for a sensible shot at eleven tricks - unless you want to duck two spades and just settle for eleven tricks without trying for twelve.

This was the auction at the table

North	South
Nyström	Strömberg
1♦	I♠
2♣	2♡
2NT	3♡
3NIT	

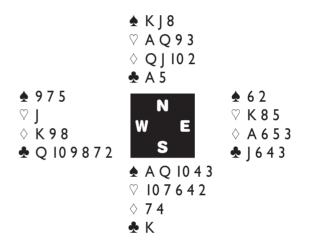
The 2♣ bid was consistent with a three-card suit, and over the fourth-suit GF relay the sequence Fredrik followed showed extras - but perhaps not quite this much. Anyway in 3NT John Green led a spade, ducked round to the ♣10 (maybe a false-card of the ♠K might have fooled declarer here). Back came a club rather than a diamond, so now declarer did have the communications to test hearts for either 11 or 12 tricks depending on the

Seconds Out

split. The play would have been quite testing on a diamond return, since declarer cannot really afford to cash all the diamond and club winners before testing hearts. If he did, that would leave him with only ten tricks if the heart suit did not behave, which would lose out to all those playing in spades and recording 450. Anyway, 490 was an above average score for N/S despite all the optimists playing slam (6% and 6NT) and making 12 tricks when hearts behaved.

A couple of deals later an all-Swedish clash saw Ola Lindholm with a tough opening lead problem.

Dealer South E/W Vul



This was the auction that Ola was faced with

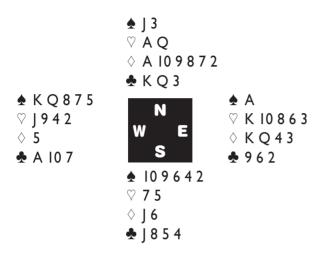
Nyström	Strömberg
•	Pass
I♦	I♠
2NT	3♡
4♣	4♡
Pass	

Personally, I think there is a lot to be said for starting with a diamond - which holds declarer to ten tricks as the cards lie. Lindholm actually led a club - the reason against this is that partner had the chance to double and did not do so -- and Strömberg won in hand and had to decide how to cross to dummy to take the fast discard. He actually chose to lead a heart up rather than a spade (the choice of going to dummy with a spade and taking the discard, then cutting the defensive communications by playing a diamond has quite a lot to recommend it). When he led a trump and the \heartsuit J appeared, he took the right decision to go up with the ace and take his discard, and then gave up a

heart to claim 11 tricks and another above-average score.

After a break to write up the hands and to kick the computer when it kept crashing on me, I returned in a foul mood to see board 17. By now my focus had switched to watching Heller-Wooldridge, and I caught them in the middle of a real action board.

Dealer North Love all



It is a tribute to the aggressiveness of the field (not that this is much in doubt in a Junior event) that so many pairs in the field reached 4% in the face of a strong no-trump opening bid. I doubt that many pairs had as tortuous an auction as happened at the table that I was watching.

West	North	East	South
Heller	Stepanski	Wooldridge	Bachnio
	INT	2⊹1	2♠
Dble	2NT	Dble	3♣
Dble	3♦	Dble	Pass
3♡	All Pass		



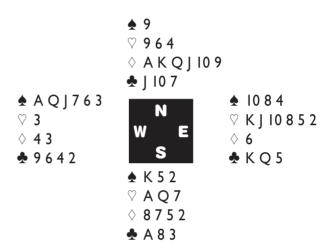
Josh Heller (Canada)

Hearts or the black suits.

Once the doubling had started there was no good reason for it to stop; three diamonds can be beaten two tricks in fairly straightforward fashion as the cards lie. But as it turned out 3% was the limit of the hand when Stepanski accurately put his finger on the lead of a top club. Declarer had to take an early club and the defence now had four top tricks - and a 75% board for their pains.

Board 20 was a particularly tough deal - both the pairs I was following had curious results.

Dealer West Both Vul



When West opens a textbook weak $2 \triangleq$, the object for N/S is to reach 3NT the right way up and for E/W is to stop them. Where Nyström was North he overcalled $3 \lozenge$ over $2 \triangleq$, and when his LHO bid $3 \heartsuit$ it looked clear for Strömberg as South to try 3NT.

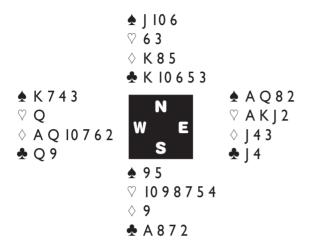
Alas, he bid 3\$\,\text{,}\$ then drove his unwilling partner to 6\$\(\circ\) -- a fairly ambitious undertaking which had to go two down despite the favourable lie of the heart and club suits. But that actually scored pretty close to average - the reason being that things like the following happened to some N/S pairs:

Heller		Wooldridge		
2♠	3♦	3♠	3NT	
Pass	Pass	4♡	Dble	
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble	
Pass	4NT	All Pass		

Heller wisely steered clear of the spade lead. He tried a heart to the jack and queen, and declarer could not afford to cash out all the diamonds before trying clubs since he might need a reentry to dummy.

He actually elected to cash two diamonds and then to run the \clubsuit J early on, covered all round, then to play a club up to dummy, playing for split honours. When the defence took that, they had three club tricks and six spade tricks - and that was six down! The next board saw another bushel of matchpoints revolving round an opening lead problem:

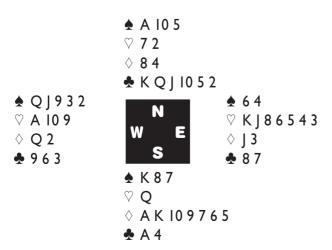
Board 21 Dealer North N/S Vul



Wooldridge held the West cards and used a transfer to diamonds, then bid spades naturally, raised to game by Heller (who did well on the hand not to cue-bid 4% - that would surely have persuaded North to attack with a club). All of this left Kuflowski on lead and he elected to start out hearts rather than clubs. The difference between the matchpoints for -420 (57 MP) and -480 (-127) is quite considerable as you can see.

A couple of deals later it was the turn of another Polish pair to have to judge a very difficult auction correctly - and you might be surprised at the result they obtained from their less than optimal achievement.

Dealer West love all



Looking at all four hands it would appear that 64 is a truly excellent contract. Even on best defence, declarer can easily arrange to draw trumps and ruff out the diamonds should they not split, to make 12 tricks.

However it is far from easy to reach the right spot, as was demonstrated even when North was able to open the bidding to show a good club suit and an opening bid.

Heller	Koluda	Wooldridge	Filipowicz
Pass	2♣	2♡	3♡
Dble	Pass	Pass	3♠
Dble	4♣	All Pass	

It is rare to hold a 16-count in the face of a full opening bid and let partner out short of game, but to be fair to South, he could see the danger of dummy being hard to reach if the spades were all offside.

As against that though, where is partner's opening bid if he has no heart card and nothing in spades? Wooldridge led a spade on the go, and conceded 190, for which his matchpoint score was a solid if not spectacular 142 out of 180. Quite a few pairs tried 3NT I suppose, but even so...

Shuttle Bus Timing



(otherwise known as Czech-out time)

There will be two buses leaving after the dinner tonight, both going to the train-station and to the airport. The first will leave at 12.00 Midnight, the second at 1.30 AM.

Tomorrow morning the timing of the buses will be at:

04:30	Airport Only
05:30	Airport, then Railway Station
08:00	Airport, then Railway Station
09:30	Airport only
10:00	Prague center only
12:00	Railway Station, then Airport
13:00	Railway Station, then Airport
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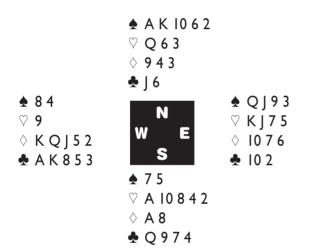
Please check with the Hospitality desk on which bus you are.

JUNIOR PAIRS SESSION 3

This tournament my chief adversary has already identified himself. Computer number 203 and I are no longer speaking (swearing, yes; speaking, no). Consequently, I was late to the playing room, as 203 was not in a forgiving mood, and had swallowed my work into its bowels and had refused to return it on several occasions.

The transnational partnership of Heller and Wooldridge was about to start making a climb to the top places in the early stages of the set (per the Barometer scoring they had climbed to the giddy heights of fourth place at one point). This was the sort of board that helped them on their way.

Board 8. Dealer West, Love all



West	North	East	South
	Wooldridge		Heller
I ♦	♠	INT	2♡
3♣	3♡	All Pass	

The auction had proved quite informative for Heller, who was in a sense playing with the house's money, as 3♦ would probably have made. On a top spade lead followed by a trump shift and continuation declarer can win in hand and guess well to lead a heart up to the ♥J. Now North/South cannot prevent declarer from establishing enough discards in the majors to bring home nine tricks.

But in 3° Heller got the defence of two top clubs and a top diamond shift (clearly the defence would do better as the cards lie to play a third club but that is far from obvious; better though to shift to a diamond at trick two, surely).

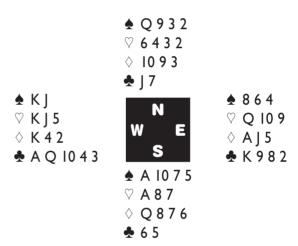
The beginning of the end

Heller took the $\lozenge A$ and played a spade to dummy's $\blacktriangle K$ to lead a heart, intending to put in the $\image I0$. When East split his honours Heller won and played the $\blacktriangle A$ and ruffed a spade, then conceded a diamond. West won this and got out with a club.

This was the defence's last chance. When Heller ruffed high, East overruffed with the $\heartsuit K$ and exited with a spade, but Josh could ruff and draw trumps and had a good club for trick 13. But note that if East does not overruff he will have trump control. He can win the next heart and lead the fourth spade to create an extra trump winner for himself.

+140 was worth 169 MP out of 184 for the North Americans.

Board II. Dealer South. Love All



West	North	East	South
			Pass
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

This was another good board for Heller-Wooldridge, on what is a good textbook hand for West in 3NT. When the defence, playing fourth highest leads, start off with the ♠2 to the ♠A, and the ♠4 is returned, it is heavy odds that the spades are 4-4. Declarer should win and cash out the club suit (taking care to protect against the 4-0 split) and then give up a heart as the best route to nine tricks.

Rather surprisingly, declarer misguessed the play and finessed in diamonds, setting up the defence's fifth winner. Indeed, slightly more than 40% of the field had problems with the deal, and failed to make 3NT. But of course if you reach game played by East, a spade lead puts you to a guess that you might get wrong.

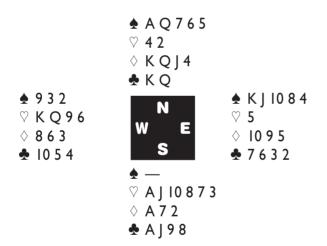
Note that there is scope for deception here. If North (playing Attitude, or even 3rd and 5th leads) kicks off with the ♠3, the count in the spade suit may be unclear. South, who knows that his partner has nothing but a spade suit to one top honour, can project declarer's problem in advance.

He should take the ♠A and return the ♠7, suggesting that the suit is 5-3. When declarer runs the club suit South can pitch two hearts and a diamond (he must keep both spades to continue the deception).

Now declarer is favourite to take the diamond finesse, in the expectation that otherwise there are enough winners for the defence to give him no chance if he plays on hearts.

Our next deal shows the field bidding surprisingly well, and being disappointed by the result.

Dealer North. Game all



Wooldridge and Heller had a competent sequence to a sensible spot:

West	North	East	South
	Wooldridge		Heller
	I♠	Pass	2♡
Pass	3◊	Pass	3♡
Pass	4♣	Pass	4◊
Pass	4♡	Pass	5♣
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

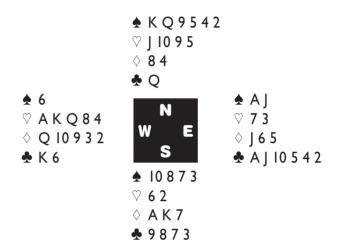
The defence led a club and shifted accurately to a spade when in with the hearts. Wooldridge went up with the ♠A and ran the minor suits (in order to squeeze East if that hand held all the hearts and

the $\triangle K$) but as the cards lay he had to go two down.

It is probably a tribute to the aggressiveness of the field that this earned him a MP score of 65 out of 184.

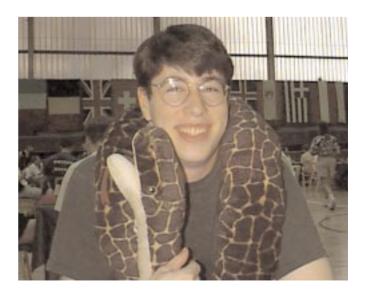
Quite a few sporting Wests had doubled the final slam contract and earned themselves 500. Well done!

Board 16. Dealer West, East-West Vul



West	North	East	South
Villalaga	Wooldridge	Malla	Heller
ΙŸ	2♠	3♣	4♠
Pass	Pass	DЫ	All Pass

I thought Villalaga and Malla did well enough here, and must have been slightly disappointed with their final score on the deal. I suppose if you could find a way to 50 here on the East- West cards you

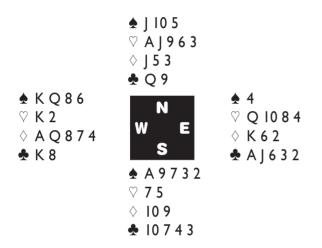


Joel Wooldridge (USA)

might make it. But in practice, defending 4\(\Delta\) doubled was a sensible decision, and the issue was how to get the trump promotion. Malla led a heart, and Villalaga cashed two hearts, then the \(\Delta K\). When Malla followed with the \(\Delta 2\) Villalaga got the message and played a third heart, promoting the \(\Delta J\) for the second undertrick.

Rather surprisingly, this was only worth 101 MPs for the Spaniards - 21 E/W pairs had gambled that their feeble spade stop would be enough to bring home 3NT. They were right... this time.

After board 20 Wooldridge and Heller had climbed to fourth place. However this deal started the decline.



West	North	East	South
Krupp	Wooldridge	Moller	Heller
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♦	I 🛇	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Krupp's 2NT bid showed extra values and was forcing. Wooldridge on lead sensibly decided to lead spades - and must have been happy when dummy came down that he had not led hearts.

His choice of the \triangle J attracted an unequivocally encouraging \triangle 2. Declarer advanced the \heartsuit K at Trick Two, and Wooldridge took this trick. What next?

Joel naturally played the ♠10 - wouldn't you? It is hard to blame Josh Heller for ducking this trick, since he could not see that declarer's diamonds were solid, but alas, he only got to take his spades at Trick Fourteen. I do not see how either defender could have worked this out, do you?

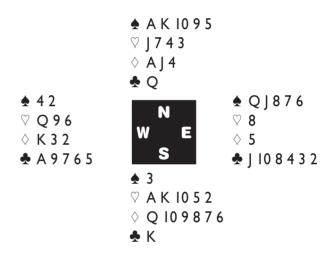
The final board in this report shows that when your luck is in you have to ride it. Heller and Wooldridge were on the way down, while Gloyer



Bernd Saurer (Austria)

and Saurer were still in the hot zone.

Board 25 Dealer North East-West Vul



West	North	East	South
	Wooldridge		Heller
	I♠	Pass	2◊
Pass	2♡	Pass	4♣
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♡
All Pass			

Here West's failure to double 4 persuaded East that his best shot to beat the slam was to lead a diamond and try for the ruff. That of course allowed declarer to draw trumps and discard dummy's club loser on the spades, and make his contract.

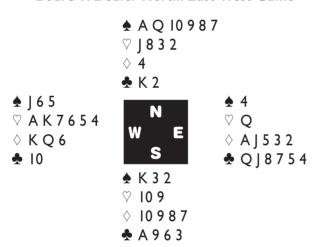
The Editor's Curse

With so many pairs in play it is never easy to decide whom to watch, especially since a visit from a member of the Daily Bulletin is frequently the precursor for all sorts of dreadful happenings. In future the staff will wear t-shirts emblazoned with the logo, 'Warning! This kibitzer can seriously damage your matchpoints!'

A small cash payment - Swiss Francs preferred - can ensure that any potential visitor will happily descend upon some other unfortunate victims.

Keep this in mind as you see what happened when we visited a table where the transnational North-South Anglo-Swedish partnership had risen almost eighty places into a challenging position.

Board 9. Dealer North. East-West Game



West	North	East	South
Erdogan	Albertsson	Sermen	Cohen
	I♠	2♦	2♠
3♡	3♠	4♣	Pass
4♡	Pass	5♣	Pass
5◊	All Pass		

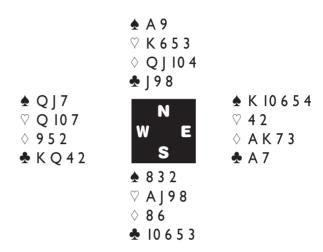
South gave some though to doubling Five Dia-



The Croatian players wish to thank Atlantic Trade for their assistance and sponsorship. Many thanks.

monds - not necessarily a sure thing - but eventually produced a green card. There was not really much to the play and the contract drifted two down giving North-South slightly the better of things.

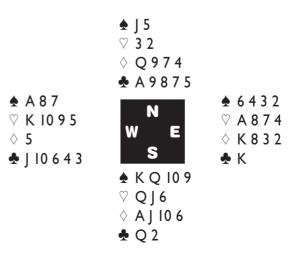
Board 10. Dealer East. Game All



West	North	East	South
Erdogan	Albertsson	Sermen	Cohen
		I♠	Pass
2♠	Dble	Pass	2NT
Dble	3♦	Dble	3♡
Dble	All Pass		

North's double was ill judged on at least two grounds, the vulnerability and the limited value of the ace of spades. South's 2NT was a scramble but there was no safe resting-place. The editor's curse had struck again. The play was too gruesome to describe and declarer went for -1100 and recorded a zero.

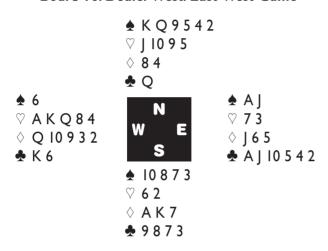
Board 15. Dealer South. North-South Game



West	North	East	South	West	North	East	South	
Kalita	Albertsson	Kossut	Cohen	Kalita	Albertsson	Kossut	Cohen	
			INT	I 🛇	2♠	3♣	3♠	
All Pass				4◊	Pass	5◊	All Pass	

East gave considerable thought to bidding but 4441 is a poor shape and the king of clubs was of uncertain value. West led the four of clubs and East won with the king and switched to a heart. West won with the king and returned the ten, ducked to South's queen. The nine of spades went to dummy's jack and declarer ran the nine of diamonds. When that held she followed it with the queen and recorded eight tricks. +120 was okay but not special.

Board 16. Dealer West. East-West Game



This deal was interesting from every viewpoint. The first three bids were repeated several times but then the paths frequently diverged. For the writer's money South should bid either Three or Four Diamonds rather than make a direct spade raise. That will help North to find a good lead and there is still time to decide about taking a save.

At one table South bid Four Spades and West decided to bid 4NT. That ended the auction! The position in the club suit meant declarer had ten tricks.

At our featured table North had no good reason to select the queen of clubs and led the king of spades. Declarer won and played a heart to the queen, cashed the ace of hearts and ruffed a heart with the jack of diamonds. If South overruffs and switches to a club there is still time to give North a club ruff. This is not impossible to find but in practise South discarded and there was no further chance for the defence. The wide range of scores meant that -600 was very good for East-West.

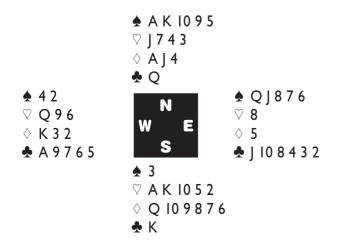
If you are in contention you have been warned - have your money ready!

Soccer - or 75% the hard way!

by Kees Tammens

At the end of the long Saturday Kevin Vreeswijk and Sjoert Brink need a few tops to avoid being relegated from the top twenty pairs. They scored a late goal when their opponents committed a red card offence.

Board 25. Dealer North. East-West Game



West	North	East	South	
Vreeswijk		Brink		
	I♠	Pass	2♡	
Pass	4♡	Pass	4NT	
Pass	5♡	Pass	6♠	
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass	
Pass	Redbl	All Pass		

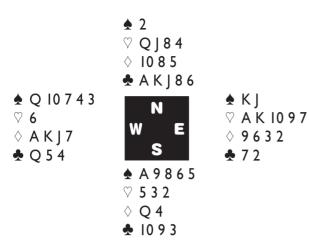
South told West to lead but it was only then he realised that he had pulled the wrong card from his bidding box and that his partner had to play the hopeless slam.

That was -1600 and the score was 1-0.

Committing the all too frequent error of relaxing after scoring led to a rapid equalizer.

It was a real solo effort from the goal scorer.

Board 26. Dealer East. Game All



West	North	East	South
		I 🛇	Pass
INT	2♣	2♦	Pass
3NT	Dhle	All Pass	

West's INT response promised five spades.

North cashed the ace of clubs and switched to a spade. South won and back came a club. -500 and I-I.

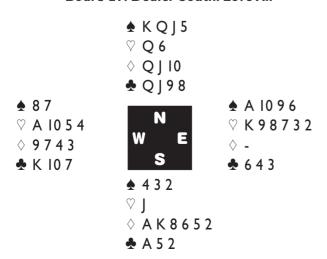
Extra time was looming but just as in the European Cup Final the real drama was about to unfold.

By the way do you know why girls prefer German footballers?

Because they can press hard for 90 minutes and still come

second!

Board 27. Dealer South. Love All

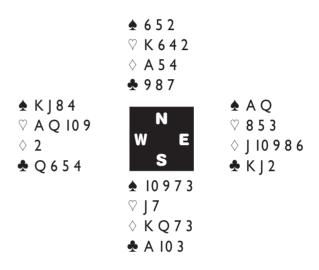


West	North	East	South
			I ♦
Pass	I♠	2♡	Pass
3♡	Dble	Redbl	All Pass

There was nothing the defence could do once North had mistimed his tackle. He was lucky not be sent off.

As the game went into stoppage time could the boys in orange hold on to their lead?

Board 28. Dealer West. North-South Game



West	North	East	South
♣	Pass	I ♦	Pass
I	Pass	INT	All Pass

South led the ten of spades taken in hand by declarer's queen.

When the jack of clubs held the next trick declarer played a heart to the nine and North won with the king. He switched to a small diamond and South won with the queen and returned the king.

Desperately trying to get the ball up field for one last attack North overtook that with the ace and played another diamond.

His miss-kick had put the ball firmly into his own net. Ten tricks made for 180 and virtually all the Matchpoints.

So the final score was 3-I to the Netherlands but their place in the Premiership is under threat as they dropped to 28th place.

Thank goodness there are still 28 'matches' to go!

Final Results

Rnk	Player I	- Player 2	Nat.	%	Rnk	Player I	- Player 2	Nat.	%
	Gloyer	- Saurer	AUT	58.61	46	Van Dijk	- Keller	NTH	52.92
2	Daux	- Geitner	FRA	58.46	47	Katz	- Varshavski	ISR	52.61
3	Biondo	- Mazzadi	ITA	58.37	48	Bessis	- Courrias	FRA	52.54
4	Kucharski	- Lutostanski	POL	58.19	49	D' Avossa	- Mallardi	ITA	52.50
5	Halldorsson	- Haraldsson	ICE	57.99	50	Greenberg	- Kitces	USA	52.49
6	Nyström	- Strömberg	SWE	57.94	51	Roland	- Thomsen	DEN	52.45
7	Heller	- Wooldridge	CAN/USA	57.66	52	Gustavsson	- Linder	SWE	52.44
8	Czeczko	- Wittenbeck	POL	57.40	53	Ortmann-Nielsen	- Schaltz	DEN	52.23
9	Buras	- Kapala	POL	57.32	54	Mortensen	- Tylvad	DEN	52.15
10	Konow	- Madsen	DEN	57.18	55	Bergson	- Cockburn	GBR	52.11
П	Drijver	- De Wijs	NTH	56.60	56	Galek	- Konieczny	POL	51.97
12	Burghout	- Hasper	NTH	56.59	57	De Groot	- De Groot	NTH	51.79
13	Green	- Hazel	GBR	56.54	58	Madry	- Strzemecki	POL	51.75
14	Ginda	- Pilch	POL	56.53	59	Karamanlis	- Karamanlis	GRE	51.75
15	Coldea	- Rótaru	ROM	56.49	60	De Roos	- De Roos	BEL	51.73
16	Clarson	- McCormac	IRE	56.17	61	Arason	- Jonsson	ICE	51.64
17	Hoffman	- Lalouche	ISR	56.06	62	Bruggeman	- Hoekstra	NTH	51.57
18	Piasecki	- Piontke	POL	56.00	63	Brede	- Rejniak	POL	51.47
19	Tessières	- Tessières	MTQ	55.75	64	Fung	- Greig	GBR	51.47
20	Ferrando	- Rômbaut	FRA	55.72	65	Frey	- Kümmel	FRA/AUT	51.44
21	Balschun	- Linde	GER	55.62	66	lavicoli	- Uccello	ITA	51.40
22	Marciniak	- Skalski	POL	55.56	67	Jonsson	- Tryggvason	ICE	51.32
23	Albertsson	- Cohen	SWE/GBR	55.54	68	Maripuu	- Tihane	EST	51.31
24	Cullin	- Jansson	SWE	55.45	69	Staszczuk	 Wojeczko 	POL	51.28
25	Lagâs	- Schollaardt	NTH	55.29	70	Callea	- Guariglia	ITA	51.22
26	Berg	- Berg	SWE	55.20	71	Roll	- Schnieder	ISR	51.16
27	Askgaard	- Bjarnarson	DEN	54.90	72	Wade	- Zivan	GBR	51.16
28	Eliazohn	 Wiklund 	SWE	54.73	73	Andersson	- Sivelind	SWE	51.13
29	Kotorowicz	 Kotorowicz 	POL	54.63	74	Przyjemski	- Zaremba	POL	51.13
30	Lindermann	- Schifco	AUT	54.37	75	Arutiunianc	- Baczek	POL	51.09
31	Lo Presti	- Magrini	ITA	54.13	76	Baldi	- Torielli	ITA	51.08
32	Linerudt	- Sivelind	SWE	54.08	77	Ciborowski	- Szuminski	POL	51.01
33	Grümm	- Kriftner	AUT	54.04	78	Erdogan	- Sermen	TUR	50.95
34	Fonteneau	- Willard	FRA	53.86	79	Swiatec	 Witkowski 	POL	50.93
35	Baranowski	- Rozkrut	POL	53.78	80	Goded	- Ivanov	SPA	50.90
36	Gunnarsson	 Olgeirsson 	ICE	53.64	81	Gold	- Probst	GBR	50.84
37	Blachnio	 Szczepanski 	POL	53.63	82	Slodki	- Rudnicki	POL	50.83
38	Brink	 Vreeswijk 	NTH	53.62	83	Bessis	- Gaviard	FRA	50.79
39	Dubinski	- Plat	ISR	53.57	84	Cornelis	- Louveaux	BEL	50.78
40	Brink	- Groosman	NTH	53.38	85	Bianchi	- Medusei	ITA	50.72
41	Filipowicz	- Koluda	POL	53.30	86	Olofsson	 Olofsson 	SWE	50.70
42	Henriksen	- Marquardsen	DEN	53.23	87	Hegedus	- Tichy	HUN	50.63
43	Caplain	- Gleyze	FRA	53.04	88	Noberius	- Thörnqvist	SWE	50.59
44	Di Bello	- Di Bello	ITA	52.99	89	Pinsky	- Wolford	USA	50.53
45	Balasy	- Hegedus	HUN	52.97	90	Dzierzawski	- Karpala	POL	50.42

Rnk	Player I	- Player 2	Nat.	%	Rnk	Player I	- Player 2	Nat.	%
91	Michaux	- Oldenhove	BEL	50.39	139	Flirski	- Potz	POL	47.58
92	Stefansson	- Thornsson	ICE	50.32	140	Lasota	- Wantke	POL	47.54
93	Gaigals	- Germanis	LIT	50.27	141	Marjai	- Minarik	HUN	47.49
94	Müller	- Ritmeijer	NTH	50.23	142	Cassar	- Garrigou	FRA	47.39
95	Panczel	- Szikszay	HUN	50.12	143	Danhøj	- Knappe	DEN	47.35
96	Charletout	- Girault	FRA	50.07	144	Shah	- Shillitoe	GBR	47.22
97	Kreglewska	- Postupalski	POL	49.98	145	Fabijan	- Kubicki	POL	47.09
98	Meurs	- Termaat	NTH	49.90	146	Flanek	- Kielichowski	POL	47.06
99	Pilipovic	- Sasek	CRO	49.90	147	Bozinakis	- Konidaris	GRE	46.99
100	Krupp	- Möller	GER	49.89	148	Bathurst	- Epley	USA	46.89
101	Piasini	- Sbariglia	ITA	49.83	149	Crank	- Feldman	USA	46.46
102	Berthold	- Pürstl	AUT	49.79	150	Van de Veire	- Van de Veire	NTH	46.42
103	Szafarewicz	- Wlodarczyk	POL	49.66	151	Anzengruber	- Eglseer	AUT	46.33
104	Andersson	- Andersson	SWE	49.54	152	Duy	- Gruber	AUT	46.31
105	Bloch	- Golabek	POL	49.54	153	Baranowska	- Sokorowska	POL	46.25
106	Phillips	- Stanghelle	USA/NOR	49.53	154	Becker	- Poslednik	USA/CZE	46.21
107	Araszkiewicz	- Dajnowicz	POL	49.50	155	Van Parijs	- Van Parijs	BEL	46.13
108	Kalita	- Kossut	POL	49.49	156	Konopko	- Matusik	POL	46.00
109	Desset	- Piret	BEL	49.47	157	Janssons	- Klidzeza	LIT	45.92
110	Kotanyi	- Marjai	HUN	49.43	158	Barton	- Nolan	IRE	45.91
Ш	Langeveld	- Vunderink	NTH	49.43	159	Eitler	- Jerolitsch	AUT	45.74
112	Raudsepp	- Tárgla	EST	49.36	160	Nyaradi	- Zalai	HUN	45.72
113	Kowalczyk	- Piepiora	POL	49.33	161	Jelínek	- Martynek	CZE	45.66
114	Dybicz	- Holowacz	POL	49.31	162	Comajnan	- Masia	SPA	45.40
115	Gruca	 Kuflowski 	POL	49.28	163	Ewald	 Stoszek 	GER	45.28
116	Luks	- Naber	EST	49.11	164	Allik	- Lokk	EST	45.22
117	Stensrud	- Upmark	NOR/SWE	49.09	165	Pulkráb	 Vozábal 	CZE	45.20
118	Amstrup	- Hansen	DEN	49.07	166	Ergen	- Soyuer	TUR	45.11
119	Jonsson	- Ohlsson	SWE	49.06	167	Hlavac	- Vrkoc	CZE	44.86
120	Gjalbæk	- Sivholm	DEN	48.87	168	Blundell	- Elstein	GBR	44.70
121	Gogoman	- Gogoman	AUT	48.58	169	Kuzselka	- Pahl	GER	44.50
122	Genossar	- Reshef	ISR	48.55	170	Keil	- Szabo	HUN	44.33
123	Egle	- Matisons	LIT	48.53	171	Brikmane	- Straume	LIT	44.24
124	Weiler	- Westman	SWE	48.48	172	De Roos	- Toutenel	BEL	44.15
125	Malla	 Villalonga 	SPA	48.47	173	Hegener	- Morton	SWI	43.26
126	Karapanagiotis	- Koussis	GRE	48.46	174		- Petrova	CZE	43.14
127	Karlowicz	- Zielinski	POL	48.43	175	Hêche	- La Spada	SWI	43.02
128	Preiss	- Ulenicki	POL	48.42	176	Galazka	- Lula	POL	42.90
129	Bimblis	- Charonitis	GRE	48.41	177	Lindmaa	- Proosa	EST	42.06
130	Tejada	- Yanes	SPA	48.17	178	Andersen	- Schaltz	DEN	40.86
131	Kraemer	- Smirnoff	GER	48.05	179	Baldwin	- Schonfeldt	USA/DEN	40.71
132	Ericsson	- Lindholm	SWE	48.05	180	Liskova -	- Pekny	CZE	40.41
133	Sigurdsson	- Sigurjonsson	ICE	48.03	181	Fox	- Mitchell	IRE	40.13
134	Kozicki	- Ochocinski	POL	47.81	182	Lewinson	- Wickham	USA	40.11
135	Birdsall	- Jones	GBR	47.70	183	Maurins	- Stamere	LIT	40.07
136	Grzejdziak	- Warzocha	POL	47.64	184	Levell	- Warren	USA	39.70
137	Grandemagne	- Lechenne	FRA	47.63	185	Donovan	- Wilson	CAN	37.95
138	Carr	- Marshall	GBR	47.61	186	Jackson	- Rosenfeld	USA	34.08