



Bridge is a game of taking chances. Dutch U-20 pair Niels van Bijsterveldt and Veri Kiljan took optimum profit from a not so secure declarer play. They were defending 4♠. A club was led for ♣K and ♣A. Declarer started with ♥A and heart for ♥Q. West, Niels, played ♦J, ♦Q, ♦K and ♦A. Declarer now for unknown reasons ruffed a heart with ♠10, east clever throwing a club. Declarer now ruffed his club and played small spade for ♠J and ♠K. East, Veri, played a diamond for ♦10 and west continued ♦9. Declarer had to ruff in dummy with only ♠Q and hearts left. There was nothing to prevent East from making a second trump trick for down one.

The board somehow had more edges :

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1 ♠	pass	4 ♠
4 NT	5 ♠	dbl	pass
pass			

4NT: I did not come to Amsterdam to pass. And 5♣ is an excellent save. North took the push a level higher and East 'Yielded' the axe. This was good for down one. But East came up with a small diamond and now 5♠ was made. Only declarer took ♦A. Down one again? No the next trick was for ♥8 and still 650 for North South.

Sweden-Denmark has produced exciting matches in many international competitions.

Let's see what happens:

Signe	Michael	Rasmus	Michael
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Pass	1 ♣	pass
1 NT	??		

NOPTH: ♠ V 10 6 5 ♥ 8 6 4 3 2 ♦ H B 9 7 ♣ --

I expected a steep raise; what do you do?

It seemed the meal made the juniors a little sleepy because almost noimps exchanged hands in the first five boards (1-1!)

**Bilde**  
 ♠ AQJ7  
 ♥ 1064  
 ♦ Q92  
 ♣ A65

**Ekenberg**  
 ♠ 63  
 ♥ KQ  
 ♦ AKJ10743  
 ♣ Q7

**Hult**  
 ♠ K854  
 ♥ AJ872  
 ♦ 8  
 ♣ KJ9

**Jepsen**  
 ♠ 1092  
 ♥ 953  
 ♦ 65  
 ♣ 108432

NZ: 0  
 OW: 0

Ekenber	Bilde	Hult	Jepsen
	1 ♣	1 ♥	Pas
2 ♣	Pas	2 ♦	Pas
3 ♣	Pas	3SA	Pas
Pas	Pas		

Simon&Simon scored the first swing by bidding a rather unsporting 3NT, which cannot be beaten: Sweden 12-Denmark 1.

At the other table Denmark reached a good 5♦, down one .

Going back to board one. Of course you have bid 4♠ and partner showed great skill in making this after a club lead; ruffed and a diamond from dummy for ♦A, heart for ♥A,♠A, club ruffed, three rounds of diamonds disposing of the heart. Heart ruff and club ruff.

Hand Diagram:

- Rimstedt**: ♠ Q1065, ♥ 86432, ♦ KJ87, ♣
- Thomsen**: ♠ KJ9, ♥ 109, ♦ 5432, ♣ K652
- Jepsen**: ♠ 3, ♥ KQJ7, ♦ A9, ♣ A109873
- Gronkvist**: ♠ A8742, ♥ A5, ♦ Q106, ♣ QJ4

Score: NZ: 0, OW: 0

Thomser	Rimstedt	Jepsen	Gronkvis
	Pas	1♣	1♠
1SA	3♠	Pas	Pas
Pas			

Actually only 3♠, 1τ seemed a little soft for a junior, but declarer had a not so difficult task in making nine tricks, winning 1 imp against 3NT down two in East-west at the other table.

A defensive slip let 5♣ through so it was almost tied: Sweden 12-Denmark 13

But then

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**Bilde**  
 ♠ A9  
 ♥ 107632  
 ♦ AQ2  
 ♣ 1064

**Ekenberg**  
 ♠ 875  
 ♥ 5  
 ♦ J109765  
 ♣ K32

**Hult**  
 ♠ Q64  
 ♥ QJ984  
 ♦ 3  
 ♣ A985

**Jepsen**  
 ♠ KJ1032  
 ♥ AK  
 ♦ K84  
 ♣ QJ7

NZ: 0  
 OW: 0

Ekenber	Bilde	Hult	Jepsen
Pas	Pas	Pas	1♠
Pas	2♥	Pas	3SA
Pas	Pas	Pas	

1.

This presented no problem but at the other table the 3♦-opening bid by west pushed north-south to 4NT. West (Signe) found the excellent lead of a small club. ♣A, ♣K and clearing the suit Declarer somehow was convinced (but why did not west duck the second club/) that west had the thirteenth club and let ♠J run: do one. So it was Denmark that came out the winner.

Christer Andersson, a regular visitor - and fine bridge journalist - in junior tournament (and he will write an article for the bulletin tomorrow), told another story about this hand

WEST            NORTH            EAST            SOUTH

Pass            pass            3♥            dbl

Pass            and North could not believe his eyes.