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Issue No. 15

Saturday Evening, 29 October 2011

# 'WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS'



Netherlands: Bermuda Bowl gold medallists



**USA 2:** Bermuda Bowl silver medallists



Israel Juniors: World Transnational Open teams gold medallists



Oz Open: Transnational Open teams silver medallists

A song broke out in the VuGraph Theatre on Saturday afternoon, and several hundred delirious Dutch partisans we more than happy to join in for a chorus from the Queen hit song, "We Are the Champions." The crowd was celebrating the Bermuda Bowl victory by the Netherlands, 300-255 winners over a tough team of young players from the USA.

In the other championship decided on Saturday, Israel Juniors – average age about 24 – earned the gold medal with a 132-105 win over Oz Open (Australia).

With the Bermuda Bowl triumph, the Dutch became only

the third team in the history of the event to win the championship more than once. The previous win was in 1993, when the team included Bauke Muller, a member of the current squad. The others are Ricco van Prooijen, Louk Verhees, Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver and Simon de Wijs, with non-playing captain Eric Laurant and coach Anton Maas.

The silver medalists are Kevin Bathurst, Daniel Zagorin, Justin Lall, John Hurd, Joel Wooldridge and Joe Grue, with Curtis Cheek as npc.

continued on page 2



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# **RESULTS**



### Bermuda Bowl

	Final										
Tb	1	c/o	Boards I - 16	Boards 17 - 32	<b>Boards</b> 33 - 48	<b>B</b> oards 49 - 64		Boards 81 - 96		<b>B</b> oards 113 - 128	Total
I	USA 2 Netherlands	0 s I	44 31	43 <b>35</b>	21 <b>63</b>	16 <b>54</b>	32 <b>37</b>	33 <b>23</b>	26 <b>47</b>	40 <b>9</b>	255 <b>300</b>

### World Transnational Open Teams

Final						
ТЫ		c/o	Boards I - I6	<b>B</b> oards 17 - 32	<b>B</b> oards 33 - 48	Total
21	Oz Open	0	28	24	53	105
	Israel Juniors	5	50	45	32	132

continued from front page

The Americans took the stage briefly during the afternoon celebrations to shake hands with the winners, and they were greeted with warm applause. To the winners, Cheek said, "I would like to say you were lucky. If anyone was lucky it was us. You played incredibly well and deserve this championship."

Laurant introduced each member of the Dutch team, adding, "You don't know how hard these guys have worked for six years. It was a project that has been successful."

WBF President Gianarrigo Rona was on hand to congratulate the winners, and the tournament's main sponsor, Hans Melchers was applauded for his help with the championships and the training of the Dutch team.





# Transfers Koningshof – Schiphol Airport, Oct. 30



For players and officials, buses wil drive to Schiphol Airport on Oct. 30

Tickets for your trip from Veldhoven to Schiphol Airport are available at € 20 - at the NBB-Info/Transport desk in the lobby of NH Koningshof. Buy your tick-

et in time to make sure you will have a seat in the bus. It takes almost two hours to travel by bus to Schiphol Airport.

Departure times Oct. 30 at 05.00, 06.30, 08.00, 10.00, 12.00, 14.00 and 16:00 hrs.

On other days, we will bring you to Eindhoven train station. Every hour, two trains go directly, without changing trains, to Schiphol Airport. Travel time: 90 minutes.

# Greece out for 2012 EBL championships

European Bridge League President Yves Aubry said on Saturday that Greece has withdrawn as a potential host for the 2012 European championships. Under consideration for next year's tournament, Aubry said, are Germany, Croatia, Turkey, Ireland and Lithuania.

Aubry said the EBL will strive to keep the tournament to the normal schedule in June, but if that cannot be achieved the tournament will take place in September or October.

The EBL president also announced that the European Youth Bridge Pairs Championship will be played in Vejle, Denmark, July 1-6 and will include Mixed Pairs for the first time.

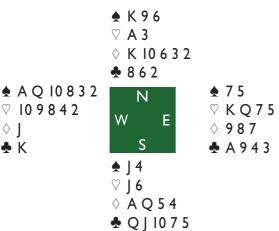
On another note, Aubry said the Zimmermann team is not eligible to play for Monaco in the European Championships in 2012. The decision on this issue was taken during the Open European Championships in Poznan, Poland, last June.

### The boards that decided the Senior Bowl

by Jos Jacobs

Mainly thanks to a great rally in the morning session, the USA 2 senior team were right back in the match when the final session got underway, leading their French opponents by 9 IMPs. However, during the first eight boards of the final segment, the French hit back to score 25-13 and thus take the lead by 3 IMPs. They added two more to their lead on board 28 and then came the board that proved decisive for the gold:

Board: 30. Declarer: East. None Vul.



### **Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Boyd	Leenhardt	Robinson	Piganeau
		Pass	♣
	INT	Pass	Pass
2♡	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♡	All Pass

In the Open Room, the auction was really remarkable, I think. Robinson's pass of his partner's 2% is very conservative; I would even consider an immediate raise to game with four good trumps and an outside ace. Perhaps, East took into account that West had overcalled non-vulnerable against vulnerable in third position... we will never know.

The remarkable aspect of the auction, of course, was the balancing 3♣ by South, followed by East's late raise to 3♥. Now West might have judged his 6-5 major two-suiter good enough to have a shot at game, which might well have been "doubled in rage," as they say...

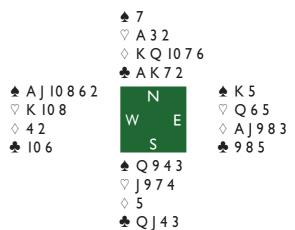
When the smoke had cleared, USA 2 had scored +170. In the Closed Room, we saw a straightforward French auction leading to a routine +420 and 6 IMPs to France.

#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Lasserre	Schermer	Poizat	Chambers
		Pass	Pass
I♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2♡	Pass	3♡	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

On the next board, the penultimate board of the final, the Americans were offered a tremendous chance to retake the lead when the French N/S were miles overboard:

Board: 31. Declarer: South. N/S Vul.



#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Lasserre	Schermer	Poizat	Chambers
			Pass
2♠	Dbl	3♠	All Pass

In the Closed Room, Poizat won the auction when he raised his partner's weak two to 3\(\Delta\) after North's normal double. One down, France -50.

#### **Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Boyd	Leenhardt	Robinson	Piganeau
			Pass
2♦	Dble	2♠	3♡
Pass	3♠	Dbl	3NT
All Pass			

In the Open Room, the Multi was in operation, which gave Piganeau the chance to introduce hearts at the three-level. Leenhardt, of course, now made a game try and Piganeau showed his spade stopper. The contract went down two but as Robinson had failed to double this, the Americans gained only 6 IMPs instead of the 11 they would have needed and thus lost the match by 4.7 IMPs as there was nothing in the last board...

### Thank you!

On behalf of the journalists, I thank the WBF and the NBB for the facilities at the World Bridge Team Championships 2011 in Veldhoven. In particular I would like to thank the sponsors for the fast computers, printer and the coffee.

Jan Swaan, Press Room manager

### WBF President Farewell

Mr. Mayor of Veldhoven, Jack Mikkers, Mr. President of IMSA, José Damiani, Mr. Chairman of BC t' Onstein, Hans Melchers, Mr. President of the Nederlandse Bridge Bond, Peter Zwart, Authorities, dear colleagues of the WBF, ladies and gentleman, dear friends,

And so the curtain falls, we come to the end of my first World Championship as President, and I am delighted that it has proved to be so successful, even more successful than we dared hope or expect.

The Nederlandse Bridge Bond, under the leadership of its President, Peter Zwart, and the Organising Committee, led by Eric Laurant with the able assistance of Just van der Kam and Armand Trippaers, have done a sterling job in organizing this event, which

under the coordination of the WBF Championship Committee, chaired by Ernesto D'Orsi, has gone very smoothly from all points of view and I would like you all to know just how much we appreciate your efficiency, professionalism and dedication.

I think that you will all agree that the playing conditions have been splendid and you will all have taken advantage of the services which were provided by the Bridge Plaza – a wonderful innovation where you, the players, in particular have been able to congregate to eat, drink, and check the scores or just to talk among yourselves. We have seen more innovations in technology with the new Bridge Card Readers, thanks to Studio diip, which have enabled certain matches to be recorded and broadcast live on the Internet. The meeting rooms and office space have been exceptional too and far more spacious than we are accustomed to. Indeed it seems that this marvellous venue has been created for such a great bridge event.

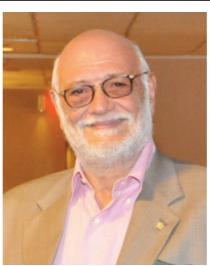
I want to thank José Damiani for having signed the contract with the Dutch Federation and sharing with me the choice of this years

We must, of course, thank the sponsors for their generosity in supporting the Championship. We owe a huge debt of thanks to Mr Hans Melchers of BC 't Onstein for his most generous sponsorship of this event without which none of this would have been possible.

We would also like to thank the City of Veldhoven and Brainport Eindhoven for their support and Ricoh for printers and photocopiers and the excellent quality of the paper we have been using in such huge quantities for all the printing that needed to be done.

We must not forget VDL, who have provided us with buses when needed, the IOC-NSF and the Ministry of Sport for their particular support. A special mention must go to Lavazza, not only from me but also from all you players who have greatly appreciated having coffee at their disposal in the playing areas. Many thanks, too, go to NH Koningshof Conference Centre for very kindly welcoming and hosting us, also providing us all, including the players, with unlimited water.

I would like to thank my colleagues and friends of the Executive Council for their diligence and attention at our meetings which, again for the first time, all took place during the first



week of the Championships.

But above all I would like to thank the entire staff operators, Dutch and coming from all over the world and working harmoniously together before and during the these Championships, enabling its great success.

I will now call on the various departments of these Championships to please stand so that we can applaud them.

First of all I would like to thank all the Dutch volunteers, the "men in yellow." You have done a truly wonderful job and made our stay here in Veldhoven most memorable.

The Championship Committee chaired by Ernesto D'Orsi, with Jean-Claude Beineix, Marc De Pauw, Maurizio Di Sacco, Eric Laurant, Armand Trippaers, Just van der Kam

and Gianni Bertotto; the Appeals Committee headed by Joan Gerard and co-chaired by John Wignall, coordinated by Grattan Endicott and made up of Jens Auken, Ata Aydin, Chris Dixon, Ernesto D'Orsi, Fulvio Fantoni, Ton Kooijman, Jeffrey Polisner, Brian Senior, P.O. Sundelin and Herman De Wael; the Disciplinary Commission who, thankfully have not had too much to do here, headed by Georgia Heth with Jens Auken, David Harris and Mazhar Jafri.

The Tournament Directors who have worked unstintingly headed by Max Bavin ably assisted by Pierre Collaros, Bertrand Gignoux, Richard Grenside, Antonio Riccardi, Matt Smith, Jeanne van den Meiracker, Waleed El Menyawi, Rahmi lyilicki, Slawek Latala, Marc van Beijsterveldt, Wim Offerman, Henk Uijterwaal and Eric van Dijk; the Systems and Convention Cards overseen by John Wignall with the assistance of Grattan Endicott.

The Secretariat ran smoothly with Marina Madia, Carol von Linstow, Anna Gudge, Gildana Caputo, Dirk De Clercq and Federica Zorzoli. For the Protocol and Ceremony, our thanks go to Anna Maria Torlontano and Sevinç Atay.

The Communications section was run by Panos Gerontopulous with the help of Peter Huisman, Harry Alevizos, Joanie Nannings, Sam de Voogt, Leo Heus, Aurelia van der Burght and Louk Herber.

Bridgerama was, as usual, very well done by Jean-Paul Meyer, Fulvio Fantoni, Barry Rigal, David Stern, P.O. Sundelin, Jan van Cleeff with Gianni Baldi and Chicco Battistone who were responsible for the technical side while Bernard Delange, Isabelle Barriere and Jonathan Martin did the video with their customary flair.

The Hospitality & Registration made a superb job of a very difficult task and our sincere appreciation goes to Silvia Valentini, ably assisted by Freddy Bracke, Peter De Pauw, Grazia Coppola, Carlotta Venier, Marlous Vonk, Jan Vos, Jacques Beljaars, Niene Lardinois and Jos Dirks.

The Tourist & Information desk was run by Hanneke Grufman

The Medical and Anti Doping Committee of Paolo Walter Gabriele, Giampaolo Jelmoni and Jaap Stomphorst.

The Main Office and Caddies were overseen by Fulvio Colizzi, Gianluca Barrese and Alex van Dongen.

The NBB Office was run by Just van der Kam and Nancy de Boer while Jan Swaan ran the Press Room with Patrick Jourdain and John Carruthers being responsible for IBPA.

The Daily Bulletin was co-ordinated by Jean-Paul Meyer with Brent Manley as Editor, ably supported by Phillip Alder, Mark Horton, Jos Jacobs, Micke Melander, Brian Senior, Akis Kanaris and Ron Tacchi the photographer.

The duplication team, responsible for Duplimating no less than 50,052 boards was led by Monica Gorreri with Deborah Corsaro, Franco Crosta and Hélène Vivier.

The Computer Championship was very efficiently run by Alvin Levy.

Duccio Geronimi and Hans van Staveren were responsible for the IT Systems assisted by Maria-Nicoletta Pinto, Hugo Trippaers, Hendrik van Gunst and Cees Harinck. Scoring was done by Fotis Skoularikis, with Dimitri Ballas as Scoring Manager assisted by Manolo Eminenti.

The BBO and Technological Operators were Jacob Hop, Natalia Banas, Vincent Broersen, Traian Chira, Karen de Leeuw, Felipe Ferro, Kevin Gotink, Gerbrand Hop, Erwin Huzen, Rob Jetten, Harol Joels, Jan Nielsen, Irene Nijhuis, Paul Orth, Ton Slings, Dennis Stuurman, Luc Tijssen and Bas van Beijsterveldt.

The very popular Stepbridge was coordinated by Pim Vaders and Marlou Duijvestijn assisted by Nanne Dopper, Norbert Gremmen, Ruud Hendrickx, Martin Kimenai, Albert Reijnen, Steven Rijkes, Tonie van den Heuvel, Lennie van den Heuvel, Cees Varkevisser. Ourgame was operated by Lin Zhenpeng and Kan Baloei while the marvellous new born Card Reader System was managed by Gerard Hilte with Thomas de Wolf and Guust Hilte.

The extremely efficient Transport between the hotel and the airports and stations was organized by Cees Jongbloets.

Our sincere thanks go to the NH Koningshof Conference Centre and their staff Walter Kok, Evy van Elderen, Mark Akkermans, Harold van Hout, Evelien Luiting, Paula Duim, Wim van Loon and Frank Wouters.

Last but not least, I want to thank the Lavazza's Boys: Andrea, Giulia, Lorenzo e Michele. Thank you dear boys you added to the event a very nice touch of class.

To all of you, I would like to express my warmest appreciation.

But above all, on behalf of the WBF and personally I am pleased to congratulate you, the players, the true protagonists, and to express to all of you our gratitude. With your behaviour, creating an unforgettable atmosphere, you guaranteed the success of this event showing, once again, the values of fair play, friendship, harmony, solidarity, and the rejection of any discrimination, which are within sport in general and bridge in particular.

This year we are especially happy and proud as bridge shows that it is a sport for young people – both Bermuda Bowl finalists were young teams, in the Venice Cup we saw the youthful Indonesian team taking the Silver Medal, and the final of the Transnational Open Teams was between the Israeli Junior Team and the Australian team containing the youngest player in the whole Championship.

Dear friends, going back home I will bring with me the memory of this great event, of you, of the old and new friends I met, and the enrichment of another extraordinary experience. And I am confident that you too will share my sentiments.

Thank you. Enjoy this night. Un abbraccio to you all.

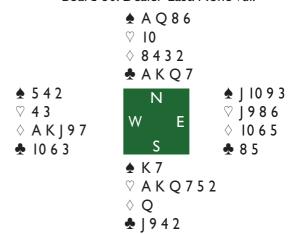
## The Fredin Double Revisited

by Jos Jacobs

On the last board of Round 12 of the Transnationals Qualifications, a Bulgarian pair who shall remain nameless almost successfully attacked the world record, set in 1997 at the Montecatini Europeans by Swede Peter Fredin. On that occasion, he had doubled his learned German opponents in 44, reached after a bidding misunderstanding, only to see them run to 74, which proved unbeatable.

This is what happened here on Wednesday evening:

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
	Helmich		G. Нор
		Pass	I
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♡
Pass	6NT	Pass	Pass
Dbl	7♣	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		

This bidding may need some explanation. 2♣ was a forcing relay over the natural I♥ and 2NT showed non-minimum with good hearts. 3♣ was a further relay and 3♥ then showed South's actual 6-4. Now North, knowing his partner to hold some high-card points, then immediately settled for 6NT. West, on lead, might have let this go but he doubled and who can blame him? North now realised that against 7♣, a known 4-4 fit, the doubler's partner would be on lead and thus might have a problem. Maybe, he also realised that whenever you ran from such a double, going to 7♣ would give you the greatest chance of success, historically speaking...

Helmich proved absolutely right when East duly led the ♠J. NS +1630.

There is a convention nowadays against this sort of auctions. A double after such wild bidding simply asks for a lead in the higher of the two relevant suits. So the combination of the double of 6NT, followed by a pass of 7\$\,\text{\text{\text{w}}}\$ would neatly solve the E/W problem.

### **BERMUDA BOWL**

### Final 6



### USA 2

### / Netherlands

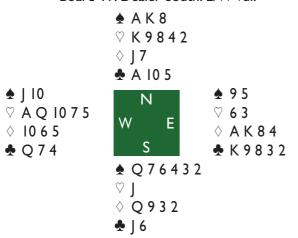


by Brent Manley

Entering the sixth set of the Bermuda Bowl final, USA2 found themselves trailing the Netherlands by 65 IMPs, so it was time to make a move if the Americans were to earn the gold medal. USA2 made some gains in the set, but perhaps not enough.

This one helped the American cause.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Prooijen	Hurd	Verhees
			2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

After Louk Verhees opened the weak  $2\clubsuit$ , Ricco van Prooijen checked, was informed (presumably) that opener was minimum and signed off at  $3\spadesuit$ .

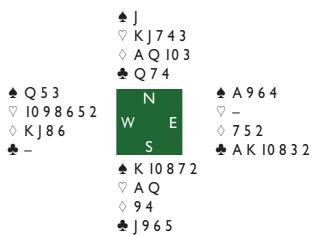
Joel Wooldridge led the ♠J, taken in dummy with the ace. Verhees played the ♦J at trick two, taken by Hurd with the king. A second spade went to dummy's king, and Hurd played low when Verhees played the ♦7. Declarer's ♦9 lost to Wooldridge's 10. The ♣4 followed: 5, king, 6. The club return was covered by the jack, queen and ace. Declarer's singleton heart went on the ♣10, but Verhees could ruff only one diamond, so he finished with plus 140.

West	North	East	South
Wijs	Bathurst	Muller	Zagorin
			2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

The opening club lead was ducked to the king. Bauke Muller then cashed the  $\Diamond K$ , getting the 10 from his partner. At that point, the defenders could have cashed out with another diamond and the  $\heartsuit A$ , but Muller played a club to the jack, which held. Declarer, Daniel Zagorin, played three

rounds of trumps, ending in dummy, pitched his singleton heart on the ♣A and conceded a diamond for plus 420. This deal was very costly for the Dutch.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Prooijen	Hurd	Verhees
		♣	♠
Dbl	2♣*	DЫ	2♡
Pass	3♡	Pass	4♡
DЫ	All Pass		

2♣ showed the red suits.

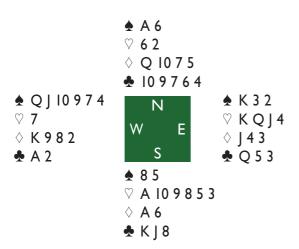
Verhees was in a bind after Hurd doubled the cuebid, but once his partner raised, he may have envisioned club shortness in dummy. Wooldridge was happy to double the final contract and lead a trump. Verhees took four top trumps and two diamond tricks via the finesse, but that was four down and minus 1100.

West	North	East	South
Wijs	Bathurst	Muller	Zagorin
		2♣	Pass
2♡	Pass	2♠	All Pass

Kevin Bathurst and Zagorin did well to stay out of the misfit auction. Zagorin started with the  $\lozenge 9$  to the jack and Bathurst's queen. The  $\clubsuit J$  return was ducked by Muller, and Zagorin continued with his other diamond. Dummy's 8 was taken by the 10, the  $\lozenge A$  cashed, Zagorin discarding the  $\triangledown Q$ . A fourth round of diamonds was ruffed as Muller discarded a club. Muller ruffed the  $\triangledown A$ , cashed his top clubs and ruffed a club in dummy, then ruffed a heart with the  $\clubsuit A$  and ruffed another club with the  $\clubsuit Q$ . That was it, however, and Muller was two down for minus 200 and 16 IMPs to the Dutch.

On the next deal, Verhees and van Prooijen defended accurately to help their side to a small gain.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Prooijen	Hurd	Verhees
			$I  \heartsuit$
I♠	Pass	2♡	Dbl
4♠	All Pass		

Van Prooijen led a low heart to the king and ace, and Verhees continued with the  $\Diamond A$  and a second diamond. Wooldridge took the  $\Diamond K$  and tried to sneak a spade through North by playing the 9, but van Prooijen took the  $\triangle A$  and cashed the  $\Diamond Q$  before pushing a club through dummy's queen. Declarer never had a chance on that defense, and he was one down for minus 50.

West	North	East	South
Wijs	Bathurst	Muller	Zagorin
			IŸ
I♠	Dbl	2♡	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♡	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

Bathurst also led a heart, but when Zagorin won the ace he continued with a low club, which Simon de Wijs ducked to dummy's queen. He played a spade to his queen and North's ace, the first of only two tricks the defenders would take (the  $\Diamond$ A was the other) to go plus 200. That was 6 IMPs to the Dutch.

USA2 won the set 33-22 – better than losing, but the Netherlands still led 243-189 with two sets to play.

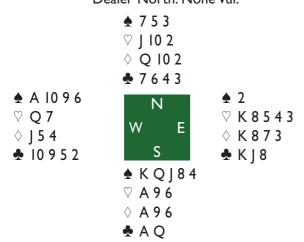
### Two out of Three Ain't Bad

by Mark Horton

Two Out of Three Ain't Bad is a love song by the American musician Meat Loaf. It is a track off his 1977 album Bat out of Hell, written by Jim Steinman. It reached #11 on the Billboard Hot 100, becoming one of his highest-charting U.S. releases.

These three deal from the penultimate session of the Bermuda Bowl final illustrate how this applies to bridge:

Dealer North. None Vul.



#### **Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Brink	Hurd	Drijver	Wooldridge
	Pass	Pass	2NT
All Pacc			

West led the five of clubs and East's king was taken by the ace. Declarer played the king of spades and West took the

ace and returned the five of clubs to the jack and queen. Declarer played three more rounds of spades, East discarding the four and three of hearts and the three of diamonds, dummy a club. Winning with the ten of spades West cashed two clubs, forcing declarer down to Ax in both red suits. He exited with the seven of hearts to the jack, king and ace and declarer played a heart to West's queen. The BBO commentators congratulated declarer when he 'guessed' to play the ten when West switched to a diamond, but as Brian Senior had pointed out they had missed the point, which declarer had not.

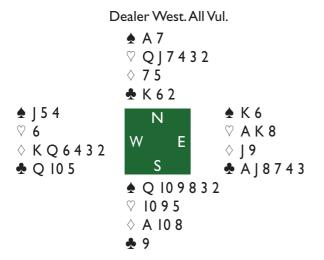
If West had held the king of diamonds he would have exited with the queen of hearts, not the seven. Then East would have been on play with the king of hearts to push a diamond through declarer. +120.

#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Grue	De Wijs	Lall	Muller
	Pass	I♡	DЫ
2♦	Pass	2♡	Dbl
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
DЫ	All Pass		

You could argue that 3♠ is enough with the South hand, but on the first deal of the day the adrenalin is still flowing. East led the three of hearts and West won with the queen and returned the seven for the ten, king and ace. West ducked the king of spades, took the next one and returned the nine of spades, East pitching a couple of hearts. Declarer exited with a spade, won the club return, cashed a second club, crossed to dummy with a heart and advanced

the queen of diamonds. He had to lose a diamond, down one, -100 and a 6 IMP pickup for the trailing team.



### **Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Brink	Hurd	Drijver	Wooldridge
2◊	2♡	3NT	All Pass

South led the nine of spades, promising the ten, or honour ten nine. Declarer put up the jack, hoping the lead was from a suit headed by the  $\triangle AQ$ . North took the ace and returned the suit. When he got in with the king of clubs he played a diamond for three down, +300.

#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Grue	De Wijs	Lall	Muller
Pass	IŸ	INT	2♡
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

### Thanks, team

From the point of view of the Daily Bulletin staff, the 40th World Bridge Team Championships have been a great success, with lots of good writing and reporting, and some new perspectives offered by Micke Melander, a first-timer (to me, anyway).

The larger-than-usual staff provided reams and reams of copy, and we had fun with the *Just the Facts* profiles. We plan to continue those at future tournaments.

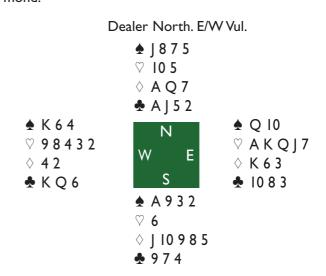
It takes hard work and a sense of humor to get along in the Daily Bulletin office. I commend Mark Horton, Brian Senior, Phillip Alder and Jos Jacobs for bringing those traits to work in Veldhoven. Our layout editor, Akis Kanaris, was similarly equipped and did a fine job. In the absence of Harvey Fox, one of our best proof-readers, Barry Rigal took time off from his Vugraph commenting duties to assist in that area.

As always, Jean-Paul Meyer has been helpful and supportive, and we thank President Rona for giving us a chance to do something we enjoy.

Brent Manley, chief editor

South led the two of spades for the four, ace and six. North returned a spade and play followed an identical course to that at the other table. No swing.

This time it was my turn to spot something – suppose declarer drops the king of spades under the ace! That leaves the defenders without resource – a spade allows declarer to reach dummy to take the club finesse and on a heart switch declarer wins and crosses to dummy with a diamond



#### **Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Brink	Hurd	Drijver	Wooldridge
	I ♣	I 🏚	DЫ
3♣	3♠	4♡	All Pass

South led the ten of diamonds and North took the ace and switched to a trump. Declarer took the ace and king, South discarding the three of spades. Declarer cashed the king of diamonds, ruffed a diamond and played a spade to the ten. When South could only win with the ace declarer was assured of ten tricks, +620.

#### **Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Grue	De Wijs	Lall	Muller
	INT	DЫ	2♦
DЫ	Pass	2♡	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

Here South led the jack of diamonds and North was content to put on the queen, maintaining communications with his partner. Declarer won, drew two rounds of trumps, South discarding the nine of clubs, and crossed to dummy with a trump. (Had he played a club to the king North would have ducked, leaving declarer without resource.) A spade went to the ten and ace and South returned the seven of clubs. Declarer put up the king but North ducked. Declarer could cross to the queen of spades, but there was no entry to the dummy and South could win a diamond exit and play another club.

A beautiful defence to earn 12 IMPs.