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Close Encounters

The **Norwegian** women were the only team to recover from an overnight deficit in the quarter-finals. They came through right at the end to edge out **Chinese Taipei** by just 5 IMPs.

That effort may have taken something out of them, as with one third of the boards completed in the semi-final the **USA** appear to have taken command of their semi-final against **Norway**, where they lead by 68 IMPs.

You could be forgiven for thinking that the matches in the Women's series involved two different sets of boards. While the **USA** and **Norway** traded 120 IMPs in the first sixteen boards, **Canada** and **Germany** swapped only 35 IMPs, and **Germany** ended the day ahead by just one point.

In the Open Series, Poland leads the **USA** by 33 IMPs, while **England** hold a six-point advantage over Italy. It would take a brave man to forecast the outcome of either of these two matches.



Play gets under way in the Transnational Mixed Teams

Appeals Committee

No appeals at 9.30 am Wednesday. For appeals later in the day a notice will be posted on the usual site.

Transnational Mixed Teams

After the first four qualifying rounds team **Venetina**, with a total of 90 VPs holds the lead. There is a three-way tie for second place, albeit at a respectable distance, between teams, **e-bridge**, **Volina** and **Wernle**.

The field is studded with stars – a swift count revealing at least eighteen former World Championship winners.

The first four teams at the end of the qualifying rounds will contest the semi-finals.



PDF version, courtesy of WBF

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RESINT

OPEN TEAMS RESULTS

	QUARTER-FINALS							
I	Home Team Visiting Team Board I-16 Board 17-32 Board 33-48 Board 49-64 Board 65-80 Total							
I	Brazil	Italy	31 - 52	27 - 33	37 - 38	23 - 54	22 - 55	140 - 232
2	England	Norway	40 - 29	23 - 31	50 - 33	43 - 23	34 - 55	192 - 171
3	Poland	Iceland	68 - 4	20 - 24	25 - 57	40 - 35	57 - 9	210 - 129
4	Austria	USA	31 - 37	14 - 46	40 - 48	29 - 45	29 - 39	143 - 215

	SEMI-FINALS (Boards 1-48)				
Home Team	Visiting Team	Board I-16	Board 17-32	Board 33-48	
l Italy	England	32 - 53	44 - 29	-	
2 Poland	USA	27 - 41	45 - (-2)	-	

	SEMI-FINALS (Boards 49-96)					
Home Team	Visiting Team	Board 49-64	Board 65-80	Board 81-96	Total	
l Italy	England	-	-	-	76 - 82	
2 Poland	USA	-	-	-	72 - 39	

WOMEN'S TEAMS RESULTS

	QUARTER-FINALS							
	Home Team	Visiting Team	Board I-16	Board 17-32	Board 33-48	Board 49-64	Board 65-80	Total
5	Germany	China	43 - 30	36 - 29	61 - 19	62 - 13	41 - 33	243 - 124
6	Canada	South Africa	3 - 33	37 - 24	44 - 33	42 - 24	36 - 23	172 - 137
7	Norway	Chinese Taipei	33 - 46	19 - 41	55 - 46	55 - 40	38 - 22	200 - 195
8	Netherlands	USA	9 - 35	47 - 12	23 - 36	16 - 43	14 - 15	109 - 141

SEMI-FINALS (Boards 1-48)					
Home Team	Visiting Team	Board I-16	Board 17-32	Board 33-48	
3 Germany	Canada	14 - 21	34 - 26	-	
4 Norway	USA	32 - 88	18 - 30	-	
SEMI-FINALS (Boards 49-96)					
Home Team	Visiting Team	Board 49-64	Board 65-80	Board 81-96	Total

Home Team	Visiting Team	Board 49-64	Board 65-80	Board 81-96	Total
3 Germany	Canada	-	-	-	48 - 47
4 Norway	USA	-	-	-	50 - 118

World Championship Book 2000

Order the Official book of these Championships while here in Maastricht and save money! On publication, the price will be US\$29.95, but here the price is just **\$25 or 60 Guilders**.

Please see **Elly Ducheyne** in the **Press Room** on the bottom floor of the MECC.

The World Championship Book will be edited by Brian Senior. Principal analysts will be Brian Senior, Eric Kokish and Barry Rigal. There will also be guest writers from around the world.

The book will include coverage of all the best of the action from all the events being held in Maastricht, including every deal of the finals and semi-finals. There will be a complete listing of all participants, all the final rankings and statistics, and many photographs.

Estimated publication date is late February 2001.

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WORLD TRANSNATIONAL MIXED TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

Ranking after 4 Rounds

 Venetina e-bridge Volina VVernle Eisenberg Senior Kaplan Zenit Bessis Djunga Hackett Mortarotti van Glabbeek Harett de Lange Hamaoui Rising Sun Allix Courtney Honkavuori Zuker Fukuda Heng Je Coupe Erdeova Alberti Amano Serf Paulissen Wolff Zimmermann Steiner Rahelt Ji Hong Hu Latvia I Lippo Bank I Meyer Besia Fornaciari New Zealand Sisselaar Retek Gerard Lippo Bank II Adad Israel 	$\begin{array}{c} 90,0\\ 78,0\\ 78,0\\ 78,0\\ 78,0\\ 77,0\\ 74,0\\ 74,0\\ 74,0\\ 73,0\\ 72,0\\ 70,0\\ 69,0\\$
 35 Latvia I 36 Lippo Bank I 37 Meyer 38 Levy 39 Abe 40 Harasimowicz 	58,0 58,0 57,0 57,0 57,0 56,0
 42 Marian 43 Basia 44 Fornaciari 45 New Zealand 46 Sisselaar 	55,0 55,0 54,0 54,0 54,0 54,0
48 Gerard 49 Lippo Bank II	54,0 53,0
54 Wood 55 Jordan 56 Sykes 57 Tuwanakotta 58 Priebe 59 Renoux	50,0 49,0 49,0 48,0 47,0 47,0
60 Marsal 61 Imakura 62 Palestine 63 Armstrong 64 Korving 65 Gunnell	47,0 46,0 46,0 44,0 44,0 44,0 43,0
66 Waksman 67 Kreijns 68 Yoshimori	41,0 39,0 26,0

Return of the Romans

he Roman Two Diamonds is one of Nissan Rand's pet conventions. In a recent outing with VuGraph Commentator

Barry Rigal, his favourite came in for a certain amount of criticism. To set the record straight, here is a deal where it came into its own.

Israel blitzed Germany 25-5 in Round 15 of the Seniors Championship. This deal contributed in no small measure:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

 ▲ 10 9 6 2 ♡ A 2 ◊ 5 3 ▲ A J 9 4 3 	 ▲ A J 5 ♡ K Q ◇ A K ♣ 8 6 W S ▲ K Q ♡ J 9 8 ◊ 9 6 ♣ - 	0 10 Q J 8 E	
West	North	East	South
	Katz		Rand
Pass	2 ◇	Pass	2♡
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♢
Pass	3♡	Pass	3♠
Pass	4 \diamond	Pass	5 秦
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♡
Dble	All Pass		

Two Hearts was a relay, and the reply showed 20-22 points. Three Diamonds was a transfer, and Three Spades natural. A series of cuebids saw the Israeli pair get to the good slam. West, looking at two aces, thought his opponents might have had an accident, and voiced his opinion. He led the ace of clubs, and declarer ruffed and forced out the ace of hearts, claiming his contract.

At the other table, Germany also reached Six Hearts, but North was the declarer, and East led his singleton spade. When West came in with the ace of hearts, he played a spade, allowing East to score a ruff.

As Nissan pointed out with glee, it was the artificial response to the Roman Two bid that had made him the declarer, thereby making it far more difficult for West to find the killing lead.



Make sure you don't miss the daily reports on the Championship from the best TV Bridge station on the net, located at canalweb.net. Hosted by Jaap van de Neut and Mark Horton, it features

leading players and personalities.

OPEN

USA v Austria

QUARTER-FINAL Set Two

On a roll

ne of the hottest pairs in the Olympiad has been Howard Weinstein and Steve Garner of the USA team in the Open series. In the second set of USA's quarterfinal match against Austria, Weinstein and Garner showed their value to their team, bidding aggressively and, more importantly, landing their contracts.

The first board played in the Open Room (the match was on vugraph) was a sign of what was to come.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.



Strafner	Garner	Simon	Weinstein
			Pass
\square	Pass	♠	Pass
2♡	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2NT ⁽¹⁾	Dble	3♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

⁽¹⁾ Expressing doubt about where to play

Weinstein's balancing double at unfavorable vulnerability is aggressive, but Garner was marked with some values on the auction.

The contract could have been defeated easily, and probably should have been, but Michael Strafner and Josef Simon erred in defense and Weinstein took full advantage.

Strafner led the \heartsuit A and switched to the \bigstar A and a spade to Simon's king. A spade back at that point would have assured down one, but Simon opted for the forcing game, playing the \heartsuit Q. Weinstein ruffed, but he still had to play carefully to bring home the doubled contract.

Weinstein entered dummy with a diamond and played a club from dummy. Simon split his honors and Weinstein won the ace. He played another diamond to dummy and another trump. Simon had to duck or Weinstein would have an easy road to nine tricks. Weinstein won the ten and stopped to assess his chances.

Weinstein could drive out the $\clubsuit K$ by playing the ten, but Simon would be in control. He would simply lock Weinstein in dummy with a spade, and the only way for declarer to get to his hand would be to ruff with his last trump. Weinstein would be able to cash a diamond, but Simon would win the last two tricks for down one. Weinstein worked out the right line of play, however. He ruffed the \Diamond J, ruffed a heart, then played a spade to dummy's jack. With two tricks to go, Weinstein was in dummy with the \bigstar 7 and \heartsuit 10. East held the \bigstar K 7. Weinstein had the \Diamond Q and the \bigstar 10. Weinstein could lead either major, catching Simon in coup en passant. One way or the other, Weinstein could score the \bigstar 10 for nine tricks and plus 670.

West	North	East	South
Jacobs	Kriftner	Katz	Wernle
			Pass
\square	Pass	♠	Pass
2♡	All Pass		

George Kriftner led the top diamonds, and Jacobs could not avoid two more minor-suit losers, but he made an overtrick for plus 140 and a 13-IMP swing to the USA.

There was more bad news for Austria when the Open Room went back to the start of the sequence of boards. Garner and Weinstein, who seemed to be getting to game - and making it on just about any two hands with a couple of face cards, were right there again on this deal.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



^(I) Precision

Kriftner's INT does not do justice to a hand with 11 HCP and a five-card suit, and one can hardly blame Sascha Wernle for passing. East led a low spade and Kriftner ended with 10 tricks for plus 180.

West	North	East	South
Strafner	Garner	Simon	Weinstein
		Pass	♣
Dble	Rdbl	♠	Pass
Pass All Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT

By contrast, Garner liked his 11 high-card points and five-card diamond suit, so he didn't settle for INT at his second turn. Weinstein had an easy raise to game.

Simon led the $\heartsuit 3$ to the jack and queen (Strafner might have done better to duck this trick). Garner won the ace and played a diamond to the ten. Strafner won the $\diamondsuit J$ and returned a heart to Garner's king. When he played another diamond and the king popped up on his left, Garner knew where the $\bigstar K$ was. He won the $\diamondsuit A$, cashed the queen and played a low spade from dummy. All Strafner could do was play his top clubs, hoping partner had the queen. That was plus 600 and 9 IMPs to USA.

This was the set for no trump contracts. There were 32 contracts in the match - one at each table for 16 boards - and 20 of those contracts were no trump. At least a couple more should have been in no trump. Interestingly, the contracts were INT and 3NT. No one played 2NT.

The following deal was a push, but Austria could just as easily have lost 10 IMPs by not playing game in no trump.

 ▲ 10 9 8 4 2 ♡ K 8 6 5 ◊ 10 5 ♣ A 7 	 ▲ K 7 ♡ J 4 1 ◇ A K ▲ Q 1 W S ▲ A C ♡ A ◊ 9 6 ▲ J 9 5 	3 Q 7 0 3 E Q 3 4 3 2	Q 10 9 7 2
West	North	East	South
Jacobs	Kriftner	Katz	Wernle
Pass	INT	Pass	2 桊
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3♡
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4 \diamond	Pass	5♢
All Pass			

This contract could have been defeated with a club lead (West gets a ruff on the third round of clubs), but Katz started with the \clubsuit and it was over quickly; Plus 400.

West	North	East	South
Strafner	Garner	Simon	Weinstein
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Weinstein stuck with the formula, bidding what he thought his partner could make. Garner won the heart opening lead in dummy and started with the \Diamond 9. If diamonds were 4-0 with all of them in the West hand, West might err by covering. That was not a concern this time, and Garner had his nine tricks. A routine push.

On this next deal, Simon had a chance to join the 3NT parade, but he made a poor decision that cost his side a game swing.



Ralph Katz, USA

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.			
 ▲ A K 9 6 2 ♡ Q 8 ◊ 6 5 4 ♣ A 10 8 	 ▲ J 5 3 ♡ A 9 ◊ K 10 ♣ 7 6 ₩ ₩ S ▲ 10 8 ♡ K 10 ◊ Q 8 ♣ 9 4 	7 6 2) 9 E	
West	North	East	South
Jacobs	Kriftner	Katz	Wernle
		♣	Pass
♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2 ◊ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	3 뢒	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
(I) Checkback			

Wernle led the $\Diamond7$ to the king and ace, and Katz ran off his nine tricks for plus 600.

West	North	East	South
Strafner	Garner	Simon	Weinstein
		$ \diamond$	Pass
2 ♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	3 📥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	All Pass

(I) Canape

One wonders where Simon was going with the 4th bid. The other big question is what is wrong with 3NT? Something is amiss when two hands with a combined 27 HCP and stoppers in



George Jacobs, USA

all suits grind to a halt in a partscore. Even 54 would have had a chance. Anyway, Garner led the \heartsuit A and continued with a heart to Weinstein's king. Strafner was soon claiming for plus 130 and a 10-IMP loss.

Both declarers did well on the following deal to bring home nine tricks in 3NT.





The auction was the same at both tables.

West	North	East	South
Strafner	Garner	Simon	Weinstein
Jacobs	Kriftner	Katz	Wernle
Pass	3 📥	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

In the closed room, Kriftner led the \Diamond 9 to the king, and Wernle switched to his club. Kriftner played three rounds of the suit to George Jacobs' \clubsuit K, and Jacobs (surely without much hope of success), played a low heart to the jack. Jacobs unblocked the \heartsuit K and played another diamond. South won the ace and played a third diamond, and Jacobs had an entry to his good hearts, and he ended with five hearts, two spades, a diamond and a club.

Garner started with a heart, and Strafner inserted the jack, no doubt expecting it to be covered. When the $\heartsuit J$ held, the first

hurdle had been crossed. He played a low diamond from dummy, ducked by Weinstein, and he cashed the hearts. A diamond to dummy put Weinstein in and he switched to a club. Garner took two club tricks and got out with a spade, but Strafner had the timing. All he needed to do was to drive out the $\Diamond A$ for his ninth trick.

Austria picked up 7 IMPs when both pairs went plus - Strafner/Simon in $3\clubsuit$, making four, and Kriftner/Wernle in $3\clubsuit$, making four.

On this deal, Strafner and Simon avoided the cold 3NT, playing a touch-and-go 5 \Diamond instead. Fortunately for them, Simon was up to the task as declarer.

Board 3	0. Dealer	East. None	Vul.
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 ▲ K 4 ♡ A 5 ◊ K 6 5 3 ▲ A J 8 6 3 	 ♣ 97. ♡ K 8 ◊ Q 9 ♣ 10 7 ₩ W S ▲ A J ♡ 10 7 ◊ J 10 ♣ 95 	6 4 2 7 4 E E 0 8 6 2	2 3 2 J 9 3 8 7 4 C Q 2
West	North	East	South
Jacobs	Kriftner	Katz	Wernle
2.4	P		≜
2 ≜	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Wernle led the \bigstar and Katz quickly cashed eight more winners for plus 400. Strafner and Simon had another dubious auction.

West	North	East	South
Strafner	Garner	Simon	Weinstein
		\square	2♠
Dble	Pass	3♢	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4 \diamond	Pass	5◇	All Pass

Perhaps Strafner was playing his partner to have longer diamonds than was actually the case. The result, in any case, was a tenuous contract that was in danger.

Weinstein led the $\clubsuit9$, and Simon played deceptively by rising with the ace. He played a diamond to his ace and made the excellent play of a low spade from hand. It was very difficult for Weinstein to work out that he must rise with the $\bigstar4$ and play a heart. After all, Simon had bid 3NT. Playing the high spade would give Simon a discard if he started with three or more spades to the queen. After some thought, Weinstein played the $\bigstar8$, forcing the king. That was all Simon needed. He cashed the $\Diamond K$ and played a club to his hand. He cashed the other high club, entered dummy with the $\heartsuit A$ and discarded his losing spade on the $\bigstar3$ and Garner ruffed in with the master trump. Simon lost only a heart from that point. It was well played in a difficult contract to earn a push.

USA won the set to take an 83-45 lead with 48 boards to play.

Minutes of the WBF Seniors Congress

10 am - 2nd September, 2000 at Maastricht

Chairman Nissan Rand (Israel) introduced José Damiani,WBF President, and new Committee member, Patrick Jourdain (Wales), who would take the minutes, to the meeting that grew to some 70 persons. Later, Jean-Claude Beineix (France), Robert Wolff (USA) and Joan Gerard (USA) also joined the top table.

 $\mathsf{J}\mathsf{D}$ described the four-year cycle of WBF Seniors events, namely:

- (a) as here in Maastricht, at the Teams Olympiad, a national event open to one team from each NBO;
- (b) at each Bermuda Bowl, in the first week an event open to one Senior team from each Zone; and then, the second week, with the Transnational Teams, if the Seniors had less than 20 teams, their own ranking within the Transnational; or, if they had 20 teams or more wishing to play in a Senior Teams Championship, their own event. (In Bali 2001 dates are Oct 20-27 and Oct 28 to 2nd Nov)
- (c) at the Montreal 2002 World Bridge Championships the World Senior Pairs and World Senior Teams as in Lille.

NR thanked Mr. Damiani and Mr. Beineix for their enthusiastic support of Senior bridge. The meeting was then thrown open to comments from the floor on the Maastricht Seniors event.

I Comments on Maastricht Seniors

Every speaker prefaced their remarks with congratulations to the WBF for the excellently run event.

John Robinson (Can), and Wolf Achterberg (Swi) preferred a play-off at the end: JD said that with 32 teams or more there would have been two pools and a play-off from necessity rather than choice, as a full round robin, like the European Teams, brought the best to the top.

Alex Montwill (Ire) would like Seniors on Viewgraph once or twice, same hands as Open or Women, and more chairs and tables where scoring up. JD agreed about Vugraph but difficult to arrange this time; the schedule and security prevented boards being the same as Open/Women except perhaps for the first 12 of the day, but Seniors had played same boards as the University event; it was only days before the Championship that it had been possible to accommodate the Seniors at the same venue. Ron Klinger (Australia) said it had been vital that they were in same venue, he would also like same schedule and boards as Open. Jean-Marc Roudinesco (France) disagreed, pointing out that many Senior teams had only four players, the schedule should rarely exceed 48 boards per day, and a full round-robin without a final was the ideal, the winning team in Maastricht could have played with dignity in the Open.

Peter Schwartz (Can) suggested the break would have been better after the second match, rather than the first, and requested more time to study opponents' systems. JD said these were good points. The question of which Systems should be played was a matter for the WBF Systems Committee, but the notice required would be considered. Brown sticker and HUMS were banned as in the Open Round Robin, the lowest categories are permitted without notice. Mr. Wolff (USA) wanted to form a Senior Systems Advisory Committee to make suggestions to the WBF Systems Committee. Mr. Mattson (Germany) thought the systems allowed had been just right, and did not want to restrict people further in what they could use.

Mr. Klinger asked whether there were any plans for a

Women's Senior event, and was met with a chorus of No!

Ralph Cohen (Can) added he wanted a play-off if more than 32 teams but Graham Jepson (Eng) said he thought a full roundrobin without play-off was always better. "We don't like two pools as we want to play everyone" was met with applause, and agreement from Hans-Olof Hallen (Sweden). Bob Evans (Australia) asked the Committee to publish in advance what format would be used for what numbers of entries. Jules Hendrickx (Bel) favoured the current format.

Dan Morse (USA) was happy with system restrictions but preferred more notice. He asked that when penalties were applied the teams were informed.

Mr. Mattson (Germany) wanted more in the Bulletin about the Seniors. NR replied that the Seniors must supply the stories themselves.

JD said that the Bulletin had been publishing the Senior Butler scores all the way down to bottom, he did not like this, and nor would those at the bottom. Patrick Jourdain (Wales) said Pairs who had played less than 156 boards had not been published in the final ranking, and thought this cut-off point was too high. It had eliminated two Scottish pairings from the top ten.

2 The age defining seniors

Mr. Szenberg (Poland) put the case for an increase. Mr. Robinson disagreed, the current age was right. One country (Sweden) had higher (60), one lower (Britain allows 50 year olds where the combined age is 110). On a straw poll the current rule of 55 years old received the support of 70 to 3.

3 Future events

NR announced forthcoming events:

The next WBF event would be in Bali. Zones 1, 2, 7 and 8 had already indicated their willingness to field a team. It would be good to have all eight zones, but the realistic target was six.

The EBL Senior Pairs would be in Sorrento, Italy from 18-25th March 2001. This would be a European trans-national but open to non-European special guests.

The EBL Senior Teams would be in Tenerife for 11 days at the same time as the Womens Teams, 19-30th June. These would be national teams with one or two per NBO. An NBO that had only one pair wishing to play could apply to make up a team with a pair from another NBO.

The EBL was giving enhanced status to various National Seniors Congresses, including EBL masterpoints. Agreements had already been reached with Poland, Israel and England. Talks were also being held with Czech Republic, Malta, Cyprus and Wales. These Congresses were open to all Seniors.

Mr. Robinson suggested these were advertised in the ACBL Bulletin.

NR said he would like J. Novak (Poland), R. Cohen (Can) and R. Evans (Australia) to advise the WBF Seniors Committee on particular matters. This met with the meeting's approval.

Mr. Klinger (Australia) asked members to supply him with good hands for the book on the Championships.

The Meeting concluded at 11.30 a.m. for the Presentation of cups to the first three teams in the Seniors: USA, France, and Sweden.

Nissan Rand	Patrick Jourdain
Chairman	Secretary

OPEN

Norway v England

QUARTER-FINAL Set Four

wo-thirds of the way through their quarter-final meeting, England led Norway by 20 IMPs. Norway could not afford to drop points in the evening session if they were to get a good night's sleep with only 16 more deals to be played the next morning.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul. ♠ A 10 5 4 ♡96 0 10 8 7 4 2 • 0 4 **9**8 ♠ Q | 6 Ν ♡ A K Q J 7 ♡ 43 W E **◊** K | 6 0 (S 뢒 A K 9 8 7 🛧 | 10 6 5 3 🔶 K 7 3 2 ♡ 10852 ♦ A 9 5 3 **4** 2

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Saelensminde	Fawcett	Brogeland
	Pass	Pass	Pass
I 🗘	Pass	INT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Burn	Helness	Callaghan
	Pass	Pass	Pass
IV	Pass	INT	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
4 \diamond	Pass	5 🛧	All Pass

Looking at sure stoppers in both the unbid suits, with no ace and only one jack in partner's suits, I much prefer Joe Fawcett's 3NT to Tor Helness's club raise. Three No Trump made II tricks for +460 while David Burn's lead of ace and another spade quickly led to one down in 5. That was II IMPs to England.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	 ▲ 972 ♡ A J I0 ◊ K 1093 ♣ A 62 	
 ▲ A K 8 3 ♡ Q 7 6 ◊ 6 5 ♣ Q 7 5 4 	N W E S ▲ Q J 10 6 4 ♡ 9 4 ◇ A J 8 4 ♣ 8 3	 ▲ 5 ♡ K 8 5 3 2 ◇ Q 7 2 ◆ K J 10 9

Closed Room

West Liggins	North Saelensminde	East Fawcett Pass	South Brogeland Pass
I & All Pass	Dble	2♡	4♠
Open Room			
West Helgemo	North Burn	East Helness Pass	South Callaghan Pass
♠	Pass	INT	All Pass

Fawcett made a fit-showing jump over Erik Saelensminde's beautifully shaped take-out double. That convinced Boye Brogeland to overbid with a leap to $4 \pm$, imagining that the deal was probably a double fit. Three Spades looks to be plenty on the South cards, but even that would have been too much. After a club lead had established a force for the defence, it was always going to be an up-hill struggle for Brogeland. Mindful of the auction, he played West for the queen of diamonds, and ended up three down; -300.

Geir Helgemo's I ♠ opening kept Burn quiet in the other room and Helness responded INT, where he played. Brian Callaghan made the textbook lead of a low spade and Helness won in dummy and played a club to his jack. He could have settled for down one by clearing the clubs, but chose to try for his contract by playing South for ace-doubleton heart. Helness led a low heart to the queen and ace and Burn, not being sure of the spade position, switched to a diamond for the queen and ace. Callaghan reverted to spades. Helness ducked the first one then won the next and played a club off the dummy. The defence could have taken all but one of the remaining tricks but Burn ducked the club, so Helness won and cashed the king of hearts, getting out for two down; -100. That was 9 IMPs to England, who had taken only two boards to double their lead in the match to 40 IMPs.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Burn	Helness	Callaghan
Pass	$ \diamond$	3♡	3♠
4 ♡	4♠	All Pass	

On this lively deal, North/South have to find their club ruff to beat 5%, while $5\clubsuit$ is completely untouchable. But it is not easy for East/West to compete to the five level and, even if they manage to do so, North/South can go on to 5%.

Perhaps had Helgemo bid 4^{\bullet} as a fit-non-jump over 3^{\bullet} that would have got his side to at least the five level, but with only a doubleton heart and such weak clubs, he did not really want to encourage his partner to go on to the five level. At the other table, Fawcett's simple overcall meant that East/West were not close to saving. A flat board at +650.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Saelensminde	Fawcett	Brogeland
		Pass	\Box
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♡
Pass	4 ♡	All Pass	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Burn	Helness	Callaghan
		🐣	∇
INT	2NT	Pass	3♢
Pass	3♡	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	4 秦	All Pass

Where Fawcett could not find a suitable opening bid for the East hand, North/South had a free run to the poor game. Four Hearts went two down after a club lead and ruff but a successful spade guess from Brogeland; -100.

Helness did open the East cards. Helgemo bid INT over the I^{\heartsuit} overcall and then, when Burn showed a constructive fourcard heart raise and North/South got to 3^{\heartsuit} , made a penalty double on his two aces and sure trump trick. Three Hearts doubled would surely have failed, though it did make in one of the other matches, but Helness felt that his hand was sufficiently unusual that he could not afford to stand the double. He ran to 4^{\clubsuit} , where he had to lose two trump tricks, a spade and a diamond; -100 and 5 IMPs to England.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Saelensminde	Fawcett	Brogeland
2♠	3♡	3♠	
All Pass			

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Burn	Helness	Callaghan INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2 ◇
Pass	3♡	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5◇
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, the combination of weak jump overcall and raise meant that North/South had no convenient way to show their extra values - and Brogeland no doubt discounted his *****K anyway. Disappointing to languish in game when seven is only on a finesse, but was it clear for anybody to do anything different?

Callaghan's off-shape INT opening (the alternatives in their strong club style were even uglier) set the English pair off on the right track. Burn's sequence was forcing with hearts, normally a slam try, and Callaghan had a wonderful hand in the context of his INT opening. He cuebid and Burn took control. Having discovered that his partner held three key cards, Burn was careful to choose 6NT as a final resting place, taking no risk of an unlucky ruff on opening lead; +1440 and 13 IMPs to England. The lead was up to 56.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

	 ▲ A 4 ♡ K Q 9 8 7 4 ◊ 6 5 4 3 ♣ 5 	
 ▲ 7 6 3 2 ♡ J 3 2 ◇ K ◆ K ▲ K 8 7 6 2 	N W E S ▲ K J 10 9 ♡ A 6 ◊ A Q 10 8 7 ♣ A 4	 ▲ Q 8 5 ♡ 10 5 ◊ J 9 2 ▲ Q J 10 9 3

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Saelensminde	Fawcett	Brogeland
		Pass	Ī¢
Pass	\square	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♢	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Dble	Rdbl
Pass	4NT	Pass	5 뢒
Pass	6�	All Pass	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Burn	Helness	Callaghan
		Pass	♣
Pass	\square	Pass	2 ◇
Pass	3 ◇	Pass	3♠
Pass	4 \diamond	Pass	5 뢒
Pass	5♠	Pass	6�
All Pass			

Both North/South pairs bid smoothly to the excellent slam, Saelensminde/Brogeland using natural methods, Burn/Callaghan starting with a strong club. And both declarers found the safety play of winning the opening lead and laying down the ace of trumps to avoid a nasty guess on the second round had they started with a losing finesse. Flat at +1390.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

	 ▲ 10 5 3 2 ♡ J 9 5 ◊ Q 10 6 ♣ 7 6 2 	
 ▲ J 9 7 ♡ 7 4 3 ◇ A 7 ♣ K 10 8 4 3 	N W E S ▲ Q 6 ♡ A K 10 8 6 ◇ K 8 5 2 ♣ Q 9	 ▲ A K 8 4 ♡ Q 2 ◊ J 9 4 3 ▲ A J 5

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins Pass	Saelensminde Pass	Fawcett INT	Brogeland Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Burn	Helness	Callaghan
Pass	Pass	INT	2♣
Dble	2♡	Pass	Pass
2NT	All Pass		

Brogeland did not come in over Fawcett's INT opening and Liggins just blasted 3NT. Of course, the defence can take the first



Geir Helgemo, Norway

five heart tricks if Brogeland starts them from the top and Saelensminde unblocks but, not unreasonably, Brogeland led a low heart. Fawcett scooped in his queen and promptly got the clubs right. The fall of the queen of spades meant an overtrick; +430.

Callaghan came in at the other table. His 2 \clubsuit overcall showed one major plus one or both minors. Helgemo doubled, perhaps to show clubs, perhaps merely general values, and Burn bid a pass or correct 2%. When Helgemo next bid 2NT, there was no way that Helness was about to raise to game. Here, Callaghan had good reason to lead hearts from the top. Burn did not unblock the jack so, on the third round, Callaghan carefully led the eight to his partner's jack, suggesting that his entry, if any, would be found in the middle-ranking suit, diamonds. A spectacular switch to the queen of diamonds would have impressed the vugraph audience and left the contract hinging on declarer's club view. However, Burn made the more passive play of a spade and Helness rose with the ace. He duly picked up the clubs without loss and came to nine tricks; +150 but 7 IMPs to England, whose lead was up to 62.

Things were becoming desperate for Norway but they kept their hopes alive with two substantial swings in the last three boards of the day.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vu

	 ▲ 10 6 5 ♡ J 10 8 3 2 ◊ 10 8 2 ♣ 10 7 	
K Q 9 3 A Q 5 6 3 J 9 8 5	N W E S ▲ J 7 4 ♡ K 9 4 ◇ A 9 ♣ A K Q 4 2	 ▲ A 8 2 ♡ 7 6 ◇ K Q J 7 5 4 ◆ 5 3

 \diamond

In the Closed Room, Liggins/Fawcett stopped in 2 \Diamond , making

an overtrick for +110. Helgemo/Helness bid up to game in the **Open Room:**

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Burn	Helness	Callaghan
		$ \diamond$	INT
Dble	2 ◇	Pass	2♡
Pass	Pass	3♢	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

A club lead would have beaten 3NT trivially, but Burn's jack of hearts lead seems completely normal. Helgemo won the queen and played on diamonds, Callaghan ducking the first round. On winning the second diamond, Callaghan paused for a little while. He could see that if Helgemo had only five red-suit cards he should hold at least four clubs. In that case, playing clubs from the top would not be good enough. Perhaps North held A x or perhaps the clubs were distributed as on the actual hand. Callaghan found the excellent switch to a low club and now it was Helgemo's turn to think. He knew that South had almost all the missing values for his INT overcall, but could the clubs be only AK10xx? Eventually, Helgemo did what we have come to expect from one of the best players in the world, putting up his jack. He had 12 tricks now for a great +490 and 9 IMPs to Norway.





On vugraph, Burn/Callaghan stopped in 34 and made it exactly when the timing of the play was such that Burn would have had to risk his contract to take a second heart finesse; +140.

Saelensminde/Brogeland drove the hand to game and Fawcett led a diamond to the king and now Liggins had to find the very difficult switch to the queen of hearts to set the contract. When he, understandably, did not find this play, Saelensminde made his game for +620 and 10 badly needed IMPs to Norway.

The final deal of the session was flat so England went to bed with a lead of 43 IMPs, and only 16 boards to play the next morning.

The Irish Internet team

There were some slight inaccuracies in the listing of the Irish Internet team listed on page 18 of Bulletin 5. The correct team is as follows:

Tom Hanlon, captain; John Carroll, Rory Timlin, Gay Keaveney, Hugh McGann and Emer Joyce.

Brazilian lifesaver

By David Bird

oao Paulo Campos and Miguel Villas-Boas had suffered a distinctly dodgy third set against Indonesia and cannot have been looking forward to presenting their scorecard to Gabriel Chagas. Then, along came this board:





A club lead would have sunk the slam, but Manoppo naturally led his singleton heart. Declarer ruffed in his hand and drew trumps with the ace and king. He then ruffed another heart, discovering that North had started with eight cards in the suit. Since South would doubtless have overcalled with seven good clubs, Villas-Boas placed him with spade length. He led a low spade to the nine and queen. On winning the club return with the ace, he cashed the A and led the jack. Manoppo played low without a flicker, of course, but the jack was run, declarer throwing a club from dummy. Villas-Boas could now set up a long spade and ruff both of his losing clubs.

"We did have one good board, Gabriel!"

Are there any famous bridge players in here ?

by Herman De Wael

I've been asked to fill in in a mixed team. In walk three Dutch people, who recognise me, probably from some local thing I directed, and they sit down next to me.After commenting on my strange pass over Two Diamonds (weak twos in diamonds are unheard of over here), they also ask the following classic:

"Are there any famous bridge players in here?" "Yes" says one, "I know him!" pointing at me.

Apart from a room full of celebrities, you should realise I am playing against Bobby Wolff.

Benito Garozzo: still driven by a passion for the game

Two of the players mentioned in this story - Benito Garozzo and Billy Eisenberg - celebrated birthdays in Maastricht on Tuesday. Garozzo, winner of 13 World Championships, is competing in the World Transnational Mixed Teams. The article, written by Brent Manley, was first published in the ACBL Bridge Bulletin in 1994.

Less than two weeks before the start of the 1961 Bermuda Bowl, the defending world champions from Italy – the vaunted Blue Team – had a problem. Guglielmo Siniscalco, Pietro Forguet's regular partner and a member of the world championship team from 1959, could not go to Buenos Aires for the Bermuda Bowl.

Siniscalco's replacement? A 33-year-old Fiat salesman from Naples, a player described in one report as "an unknown in international bridge circles." Was the Blue Team finally vulnerable? There might have been even more serious doubts if it had been known that the new re-



Benito celebrates his birthday at the table!

cruit - one Benito Garozzo - had been forced to learn the Neapolitan Club system in 10 days. Although experienced as a bridge player, Garozzo recalls, "I had never played any conventions before."

Far from being a liability, Garozzo helped the Italians to a runaway victory as they vanquished the USA, Argentina and France by an average margin of 123 IMPs in three 144-board matches. Eight more world championships – six Bermuda Bowls and two World Team Olympiads – followed for the Italians before they retired from competition after the 1969 Championships. Garozzo was a part of each team.

In all, he won 13 world titles – four of them after the Blue Team "unretired" in 1972.

Today Garozzo enjoys a relatively quiet life in Palm Beach FL – he became a USA citizen in January 1994 – but he had lost none of his drive to compete and, according to those who know him, little of the skill that made him such a formidable player in his prime. In the heyday of the Blue Team, Garozzo was considered by many to be the best player in the world.

"He's still a very fine player," says Billy Eisenberg, Gazorro's regular partner for many years, "and he's one of the truly great theoreticians in the game."

"For me," says Zia, the globe-hopping internationalist, "Benito is one of the gods of bridge. What he and the Blue Team did is legendary and I love him for what he stands for - plus, he's a great guy."

Bob Hamman, who sits atop the World Bridge Federation player rankings, was impressed by Garozzo's performance in the computerized individual PAMP Par Contest during the 1990 world championships in Geneva, Switzerland. Garozzo, then 63, bested a star-studded field by a wide margin. Hamman, who was second, has been chafing for a rematch ever since.

"His performance," say Hamman, "was remarkable."

A few months after Geneva, Garozzo and Eisenberg were first in the Cap Gemini Pandata World Top Tournament in the Hague, Netherlands – perhaps the strongest pair tournament in the world.

As recently as last spring, Garozzo, Eisenberg and their teammates were in the thick of the Vanderbilt Knockout Teams, finishing in a tie for third.

While many players with his record might be content to rest on their laurels and relive past glories, Garozzo is still ready to fight. There's no rocking chair in his future.

"I miss the high competition," he says modestly, "and I think I can still do it. I would like to play a big event, but it is difficult to get a team together."

Garozzo has come a long way from the day when, at 16, he picked up a

Culbertson book on bridge and left another card game - the Italian favorite tresette – behind forever.

Born in Naples, Garozzo lived much of his early life in Cairo, Egypt, where his father did engineering work. In 1943, Garozzo was sent to a state college in Italy to begin his education. While visiting his sister in Naples, Garozzo found himself stranded in the city – World War II activity made it impossible for him to return to college.

While he was in Naples, Garozzo, his brother-in-law and a couple of friends decided to learn bridge for a change of pace. "We got a 1933 Culbertson book," Garozzo recalls, "but none of us knew English. We were playing a kind of bridge no one would understand."

A games aficionado from his youth, Garozzo took to bridge right away. "I have always loved cards," Garozzo says, "and I saw bridge as the most interesting card game. It is the most complete game you can find. I still love it."

Garozzo went back and forth between Italy and Egypt a couple of times before returning to Naples for good in 1954. By then he had met some of the rising stars of Italian bridge - Forquet, Siniscalco and Eugenio Chiaradia (inventor of the Neapolitan Club), among others. Garozzo impressed them with his expertise, mostly in rubber bridge games.

When he wasn't working with his brother in the road construction business, Garozzo played more and more bridge. Drafted by the Italian army in 1956, Garozzo was fortunate to be stationed in Rome - he played bridge every day during his 18-month stint.

He worked as an accountant for a year after his discharge and went back to the road construction business before starting the job with the Fiat representative, handling some of the company's accounting. That lasted until he opened a jewelry store in 1964, a business now operated by his son, Fulvio. He also has a daughter, Silvana.

In his formative years, Garozzo's skill as a player far exceeded

his expertise in bidding. "I was a wild bidder," he says. "I had a lot of flair in card play but I was not a good technician in the bidding."

Garozzo's panache was evident on this deal from the 1976 World Team Olympiad. He was playing with Arturo Franco against Austria.

Dealer South. N/S Vul.				
 ▲ 10 6 5 2 ♡ J 9 ◇ 8 3 ♣ 7 6 5 3 2 	 ▲ K Q ♡ 10 5 ◇ Q 6 ◆ Q 9 N W S ▲ 4 3 ♡ A Q ◇ A K ▲ A K 	4 3 4 E ♠ A ♡ K ◊ J ♣ I 8 7 2 9	. 6 10 7 5 4 2	
West	North	East	South	
Garozzo		Franco		
			2♣	
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♡	
Pass	4♡	Pass	4NT	
Pass	5秦	Pass	5◇	
Pass	6♡	All Pass		

Every North-South pair in the field – 23 in all – bid to $6\heartsuit$. After any normal lean, declarer's best hope for the contract is the $\heartsuit K$ onside doubleton. Thus the contract was made at every table – except the one where Garozzo was on lead.

Garozzo selected for his opening lead the \heartsuit 9! Declarer covered with the 10 and Franco played the king, which he would certainly do from the holding of K-J-6. Taken in, South went to dummy with a diamond and played a low heart to his 8 and Garozzo's jack.

The unbreakable contract had been broken. Garozzo's inspired lead had produced a 17 - IMP pickup for the Blue Team. After playing in the 1961 Bermuda Bowl, Garozzo set about im-

proving the Neapolitan Club. "It was quite a simple system," he says, "and not so good. I improved it."

Garozzo is still very much involved in bidding theory, recently devising a new Precision system just for his favorite partner, Lea duPont. Garozzo jokes that "Lea is on strike. She refuses to learn a new system."

"Of course I'll learn it," said duPont, who met Garozzo at a bridge game in the Seventies. They have been together since 1977 and have had success at high levels as partners, winning the North American Swiss Teams in 1984 after placing second in the event in 1982. They were second in the Mixed Pairs (1893) and the Open Swiss Teams (1993). They also won several European tournaments while they were living in Italy.

In the Seventies, Garozzo was commissioned by the Volmac company in Europe to train the men's and women's teams in the Netherlands. As part of that effort, he developed a new Precision system.

From 1961 to 1975, Garozzo and the Blue Team played in 10 Bermuda Bowls and three Olympiads – and won them all. The streak ended in Monte Carlo in 1976, when they were defeated twice, first in the Bermuda Bowl by the USA and then in the Olympiad by Brazil. They were second in both events.

A member of the USA team which defeated Italy in the Bermuda Bould final was Eisenberg, now one of Garozzo's closest friends.The two live 20 minutes apart – Eisenberg lives in Boca Raton – and they get together frequently. Eisenberg and Garozzo were born on September 5, 10 years apart.

"Benito is a very, very novel person," Eisenberg says. "He has an orientation in bridge that no one else in America has."

Garozzo knew America well before he



Billy Eisenberg

moved to the USA in 1985. He visited the USA regularly to attend jewelry shows and played lots of bridge, including a tour with the Omar Sharif Bridge Circus in the sixties. In 1988, he requested and received a green card to work as a bridge pro, allowing him to stay permanently. His sponsor was the late Sam Stayman, an old bridge adversary but a friend away from the table. "Without Sam Stayman," Garozzo says, "I wouldn't be an American."

He still returns to Italy regularly to give seminars on bridge and to coach the Italian Junior bridge team.

Although proud of his achievements in bridge, Garozzo knows his game has changed. "I used to be very quick in dummy play and defense, but now I've lost some quickness. Now I analyze the hands more carefully before making a decision."

Has Garozzo slipped? Not likely, says Zia: "In many ways, Benito still has the best mind in bridge."

Nowadays, bridge is just one of Garozzo's passions - golf and the horse races are two others. "I play golf almost every day," he says, " and I go to the races when I have no bridge game."

Zia, who has also discovered a passion for golf, likes to kid Garozzo about his game on the links. "Benito is a great bridge player but he has a hopeless golf swing."

Taking the jest in stride, Garozzo points out that he and Zia made a bet at the 1990 Fall NABC in San Francisco that Zia couldn't lower his golf handicap to 12 in one year. "We played the next year," says Garozzo, whose handicap was 23 (it's now 20), "and I beat him. He has a good swing, but the ball doesn't go straight."

Garozzo has observed many changes in bridge during the four decades he has played seriously. Not all of the changes are for the better, he says. "The new style is to take too many chances to destroy the opponents' bidding," he says. "And players of the new generation don't work enough together on constructive bidding."

In the twilight of his bridge career, Garozzo would like nothing better than to represent the USA in international competition, although he conceded it's unlikely. Looking forward, not back, he's still working to improve his game, especially the bidding.Would he play for America in the Bermuda Bowl? In a heartbeat, he says, "That would be fun."

OPEN

Iceland v Poland

QUARTER-FINAL Set Five

Demolition

ith 16 deals to be played, Iceland trailed Poland by 33 IMPs in their quarter-final match in the Olympiad Open series. That is a significant margin, but not overwhelming. With some luck and good decisions, Iceland certainly had a chance to advance.

It was not to be, however. Poland played nearly flawlessly, winning the set 57-9 for a final score of 210-129. The Poles were razor sharp, and just about everything Iceland tried worked out badly, starting with the first deal.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



⁽¹⁾ Spade raise

 $4\diamond$ was due to fail. Declarer has one loser in each major and two diamond losers. Thorlakur Jonsson had no chance in $4\clubsuit$. Adam Zmudzinski led the $\clubsuit Q$, overtaken by the king. Another high club was followed by a club ruff. Jonsson had no choice but to finesse when South got out with the $\diamond J$, and then the queen lost to the king the contract was one down.

West	North	East	South
Kwiecen	Ingmarsson	Pszczola	Magnusson
	$ \diamond$	Pass	2 ♡ ^(I)
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾ Long hearts with fewer than 7 HCP

South's $2\heartsuit$ bid took all the steam out of North, who might have mentioned his longer second suit in different circumstances. Michal Kwiecen played expertly to land 10 tricks in his partscore.

Throstur Ingmarsson led the \clubsuit A and could have held declarer to nine tricks by giving his partner a club ruff, but he switched to the \heartsuit 10. Kwiecen went up with the \heartsuit A, cashed two high spades in dummy, and followed with the \heartsuit 9. Magnus Magnusson



Magnus Magnusson, Iceland

did not cover the \heartsuit 9, and Kwiecen let it ride. He got to his hand with the \diamond A, pitched dummy's club losers on the top hearts and played the \diamond Q to North's king. Kwiecen had one more loser but could record plus 170 on his score sheet. That was 6 IMPs to Poland.

On the next deal, Kwiecen and Jacek Pszczola did everything right against a pushy game to earn another swing.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



This contract could not be defeated, and in fact Adam Zmudzinski emerged with nine tricks for plus 150 when, after the lead of the $\bigstar3$, Jonsson did not cover dummy's ten.

West	North	East	South
Kwiecen	Ingmarsson	Pszczola	Magnusson
		Pass	\diamond
	Dble	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

This contract had no legitimate play, but it was let through at more than one table in the Open and Women's series. The defenders had to be on their toes to avoid a loss.

Kwiecen started with the $\bigstar4$ to the seven, jack and ace. Magnusson led a diamond, ducked by Kwiecen to dummy's queen. A club was played to the king, and Kwiecen again ducked. The $\Diamond K$ drove out the ace, and Kwiecen switched to the $\heartsuit8$. The ten drew the jack and ace and Magnusson cashed his three diamond tricks, getting out with a spade. Kwiecen won the $\bigstar K$ and played the $\heartsuit9$. Pszczola made no mistake, overtaking with the $\heartsuit K$ when Magnusson played low and playing a club through the queen for down one and another 6 IMPs to Poland.

On the following deal, Iceland missed an opportunity for a gain when Kwiecen made a rare mistake as declarer.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.



West	North	East	South
Kwiecen	Ingmarsson	Pszczola	Magnusson
Thorvaldsson	Balicki	Jonsson	Zmudzinski
${\sf I}\heartsuit$	Pass	2♡	All Pass

In the Closed Room, Cezary Balicki led the $\clubsuit Q$, taken in dummy. Matthias Thorvaldsson played a spade to his ace and exited with a low spade. In with the $\clubsuit J$, Balicki cashed his two high diamonds then played a spade to Zmudzinski's king. The $\Diamond 10$ was next, ruffed by declarer with the 7 and overruffed with the 9.A club went to declarer's ace and Thorvaldsson got the trumps right, playing the king and finessing the 10. Plus 110.

In the Open Room, Ingmarsson led the $\blacklozenge Q$ to the two, king and ace. Kwiecen played a diamond to Ingmarsson's queen, which was followed by the $\blacklozenge J$ and a spade to South's ten. Magnusson got out with a club to the king. Kwiecen then played the $\heartsuit A$ and the $\heartsuit 10$, and he was in a position to defeated. He had to let the ten run to North's queen, and if Ingmarsson then played the $\diamondsuit K$ and it was overtaken by South, a third round of diamonds would promote the $\heartsuit 9$ for the setting trick. Ingmarsson did his part, exiting with the $\diamondsuit K$, but Magnusson was asleep, letting the diamond hold, and the contract was made for a push.



Throstur Thorvaldsson, Norway

Poland's largest gain of the day came on the following deal.



Both sides judged well to play 3NT rather than $4\frac{1}{2}$, which has a loser in each suit.

Zmudzinski led a low heart to the four, ten and jack. At trick two, Jonsson played a low spade - a mistake as it turned out - to dummy's queen. Balicki won the \bigstar K and returned his partner's suit. Declarer ducked, South won the \heartsuit K and cleared the suit. Jonsson, now in trouble with the spade suit blocked, entered dummy in spades to play a diamond. Things were getting quite complicated now because of his earlier play in spades. Jonsson would be in trouble even with the diamonds favorably placed if South won the \Diamond A, cashed his heart and got out with a club. The spade suit was still blocked, so Jonsson would have no choice but to duck. North's \clubsuit K would be the setting trick.

So Jonsson played the $\Diamond K$, hoping that it would hold and that South had the $\bigstar K.A$ good contract went down the drain when South produced the $\Diamond A$. Jonsson was minus 200.

Pszczola did much better. He won the heart lead with his jack and played the \bigstar J. Even if it lost, the spade suit would provide two more entries for diamond plays.

As play developed, however, Pszczola didn't need the entries. When Ingmarsson won the \bigstar K, he played back the \diamond 9. This would have been a winner had partner held something like \diamond AJI0x, but on the actual layout it helped declarer to an overtrick and a I3 IMP swing to Poland, looking better with each deal.

The following was icing on the cake for Poland.



Balicki led the $\clubsuit5$ to the jack, queen and ace. It is easy to see that declarer can succeed by taking the right view in clubs, but Thorvaldsson did not. He cashed the \heartsuit A and played a diamond to dummy's ace. Another heart from dummy allowed North to cash two heart tricks before getting out with a diamond. Thorvaldsson ruffed and played a spade to the king, followed by the nine. In with the \bigstar J, Balicki knocked out declarer's last trump with a diamond play, so there was a diamond to cash when North got in with the \bigstar A; down two for minus 100.

West	North	East	South
Kwiecen	Ingmarsson	Pszczola	Magnusson
\square	Pass	2♡	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♡	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Kwiecen made Iceland pay for the double. He played low on the opening club lead, winning the ten with the ace, and played a spade to the king. The \clubsuit J was played next, and Magnusson, not knowing who had the nine, covered. Kwiecen won and played the \clubsuit 9, pitching a spade from the table, and exited with the \pounds Q. He won the diamond return with the ace, ruffed a diamond, ruffed a spade, ruffed another diamond and played his good spade. The defenders were held to three tricks and Kwiecen scored a wellearned plus 590 for his team - and 12 IMPs in the bank.

Poland comfortably advanced to the semi-final round against the USA.



Closing Ceremony

To those who are invited to the Closing Ceremony on Saturday 9th September.

The Closing Ceremony of the Bridge Olympiad 2000 will take place in the MECC in Maastricht. The program is as follows:

18.00: Cocktail in the Expo Foyer

19.00: Prize giving ceremony in Auditorium I.

After the Prize Giving Ceremony there will be a Victory Banquet in the Expo Foyer. In an easy atmosphere you can meet your bridge friends, enjoy the buffet and dance to the live music.

All team captains are requested to pick up their invitation cards for the team at the Hospitality Desk on Thursday 7 and Friday 8 September from 10.00 to 15.00 hrs. Without invitation cards it is not possible to attend the Closing Ceremony.

Players who have played in the Open or Women's Teams and also play the Mixed Transnational will receive only one invitation.

Limericks from the Internet

Today we have limericks that were sent in via the Internet from three different continents. Firstly from David Law of Malaysia.

> There was a young lady from Maastricht She had an attack of the gastric Playing a quiet foursome The suspense was awesome Till she finally let out an "asterisk"

Secondly David Silber of the ACBL

There was a young lady from Maastricht Walked the streets eyeing men who she 'fast tricked' Eluding the police It was ten years at least Since the 'Fast Trick' from Maastricht was last nicked

And finally Knut Kjernsrod from Norway

There was a young lady from Maastricht Who played a phenomenal fast bridge With incredible pace Played King Queen and Ace And in no time she'd taken the last trick

Now that the players for the Transnationals have arrived I confidently expect another inflow of quality but printable limericks. Please bring them to the Bulletin rom or email them to 'twaylfm@hotmail.com.

W.B.F. Laws Committee

The meeting scheduled for 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday will follow after the adjudication of any appeals to be heard at that time.

(1) Heart raise

Looking forward - to Bali 2001

Lippo Bank World Bridge Championships Bali-Indonesia Lippo Bank OCTOBER 19th - NOVEMBER 2th 2001 35th Bermuda Bowl

13th Venice Cup3rd World Transnational Open Teams

Opening Ceremony: Friday 19 October 2001 – Victory Banquet: Friday 2 November 2001

The Opening Ceremony will be on Friday 19 October and the Victory Banquet on Friday 02 November 2001

The Championships will be held at the Bali International Convention Centre, Nusa Dua, located on the southern edge of Bali Island. This is the most exclusive area of Bali, where the five-star hotels are located.

The Convention Centre is extremely modern with excellent facilities and large playing areas. There are several five-star resort hotels in the resort, as well as an excellent shopping area, good restaurants, entertainment, a championship golf course and many other recreational facilities, all within easy walking distance.

The Convention Centre adjoins the **Sheraton Nusa Indah** resort and is adjacent to the luxurious **Sheraton Laguna Nusa Dua Hotel**. The Hotel Putri Bali Nusa Dua, the Nusa Dua Beach Hotel and the Melia Bali Hotel are also nearby, while the three-star Novotel Benoa is not far away.

Few people realise that the Indonesian Archipelago covers approximately the same area as the United States of America from East to West and North to South! Its total area covers a staggering 7,900,000 sq. miles. It has over 17,000 islands, of which Bali is one of the most beautiful, most peaceful and far away from any political agitation.

The Balinese believe that the Gods spread their wings over visitors to assure peace and tranquillity to all who stay there. Bali means beautiful beaches with white sand, relaxation and comfort, pristine water teeming with tropical fish and an abundance of coconut trees. It is known for its exotic scenery and its arts, especially in dance, carving and music, that can never be found anywhere else. Bali enjoys warm tropical weather all year round.

Transportation from overseas is direct from several international airports without the need to go through other airports in Indonesia. A Tourist Visa is required for countries not having a reciprocal immigration treaty with Indonesia, and people wishing to attend the Championships are advised to consult their own Travel Agents or contact the nearest Indonesian Embassy. **It is extremely important that you obtain your visa** well in advance and do not leave your application to the last minute.

Qualification from the Zonal Championships will, as always, determine which teams are fortunate enough to compete in this nearParadise, but for those who do not qualify, there is the opportunity to share in this wonderful event by playing in the World Transnational Open Teams which will be held during the second week, **starting on Sunday 28 October and ending with the Victory Banquet on Friday 02 November**.

The 3rd World Transnational Open Teams Championship is a prestigious and most enjoyable event. It is a great opportunity for players to participate in a wonderful bridge tournament while at the same time having a unique opportunity to experience all the atmosphere and excitement of the final stages of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup and watch some of the greatest players in the world on the Vugraph presentation. At the end of the Championship, there is a prize giving ceremony for the World Transnational Teams, the Venice Cup and the Bermuda Bowl and, of course, the Victory Banquet for all participants, giving you a chance to celebrate with the winners of this great event.

The Transnational Teams is open to teams nominated by their National Bridge Organisation and approved by the WBF Credentials Committee. Players wishing to compete in this Championship are urged to contact their NBO and request nomination early next year. There is no quota, and NBOs may nominate as many teams as they wish to compete in this great Tournament.

Teams eliminated from the early stages of the Bermuda Bowl & Venice Cup will also be able to enter the World Transnational Teams free of charge.

A new website is being constructed for the event and can be found at www.bridgeindonesia.com and you will find some initial information there. Details will also be available on the WBF Web Site at www.bridge.gr

Hotel Rates:

Hotel	Room Rates		
	Single US \$	Double US \$	
Nusa Dua Beach Hotel (*****)	124	I 40	
Melia Bali Hotel (*****)	124	140	
Hotel Putri Bali Nusa Dua (****)	100	120	
Novotel Benoa (In Benoa) (***)	85	100	

All the above room rates are inclusive of breakfast, taxes and levy.





Appeal No. 10

Netherlands v Greece

Appeals Committee:

Bobby Wolff (Chairman, USA), Grattan Endicott (Scribe, England), Jean-Paul Meyer (France), Dan Morse (USA).

Open Teams Round 11

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



All Pass

Comments:

 $^{(1)}$ Not alerted East to North, but alerted West to South. Shows 57, 4+ minor, weak (as described West to South).

Contract:

Five Clubs, played by North.

Lead:

lack of spades.

Result:

10 tricks, N/S -50.

TD's statement of Facts:

After play was finished, North/South summoned TD because North claimed 2^{\heartsuit} was not alerted. East said he could not remember if he did. North/South now got confused about the meaning of 3^{\heartsuit} . According to North it asked for a stop, according to South it showed a stop since 2^{\heartsuit} showed two suits. North could not bid 3NT now.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to Both sides receive 3NT= by North (N/S +400).

Relevant Laws: Law 21B1, 40C.

East/West appealed.

Present:

All players except East

The Players:

The appellants agreed to the facts.

The Committee:

East/West -400 stands as ruled by the Director but North/South are not to have the full benefit of this because North did insufficient to protect his own back.

There was a culpable failure to alert by East.

The Committee's decision:

Score adjusted to: North/South receive Greece -4 IMPs (adjustment by the Committee)

East/West receive Netherlands +1 IMP (Director's ruling upheld)

Note: this is calculated against a score of NS -430 in the other room

Deposit:

Returned.

Appeal No. 11

Croatia v Chinese Taipei

Appeals Committee:

Bobby Wolff (Chairman, USA), David Stevenson (Scribe, England), Joan Gerard (USA), Jeffrey Polisner (USA).

> Women's Teams Round 13 Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Meng	Kumpar	Chang	Duic
			Pass
	Pass	2 ◇	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4 \diamond	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♡	Pass	5NT	Pass
7♠	Pass	7NT	All Pass

Contract:

Seven no trumps, played by East.

Lead:

Spade.

Result:

13 tricks, N/S -2220.

TD's statement of Facts:

South led a spade. Declarer played ace, king and queen of spades from dummy pitching two diamonds from her hand. When North discarded on the \blacklozenge Q East spent some minutes thinking. With ten minutes left and three more boards to go, West urged East to hurry (in English). That didn't help, and West spoke in an unknown language to East. After that East tabled, showing six high cards in her hand and claimed. Here I was called to hear the complaint about the use of an unknown language. East admitted that she had lost the count of the spades, but finally realized that they were good.

The Director:

The Chief TD decided to give the Chinese Taipei team an official warning.

This board started seven minutes late and the match finished seven minutes late. Both sides contributed to the initial lateness so both sides were penalised.

Ruling:

Result Stands. East/West receive an Official warning. Both sides receive a Time penalty.

Relevant Laws:

Laws 75F1, 16A2, 90.

North/South appealed.

Present

All players.

The Players:

The Chinese Taipei NPC (CK Shen) wrote:

When I asked East/West players the meaning of West's speech in Chinese, they both told me that it was to hurry East up to play the hand, or they might get penalty for slow play.We are very sorry to the Croatia team and the TDs for causing so much trouble by using Chinese at the table. From now on the players are forbidden from using any Chinese at the bridge table.

The Croatian Captain wrote a detailed description of the passage of time and expressed some doubt as to whether the hand always makes anyway.

At the Committee the Croatian players stated that they would not have finished late but for this board. The Chinese Taipei declarer said she had a brainstorm and she was sitting composing herself for some time. Her captain had recommended she should do this if necessary. She then claimed by showing her cards which she had realised were all winners.

The Committee:

Whatever the reason for becoming seven minutes late in the first place, a team cannot automatically assume they might catch up later: since Croatia were partly responsible for the initial delay the time penalty is correctly applied to them.

Dummy was very wrong to hurry her partner up in any language. Thus there were two separate violations of procedure: both that dummy spoke to declarer, and that she did not use English. There was no evidence to suggest that dummy had said that the spades were running but it is obviously highly undesirable that dummy should communicate in this way. However, the Committee felt that declarer would always have made the contract.

The Committee's decision:

Result Stands (as Director's ruling). East/West receive a 2 VP penalty. Both sides receive a Time penalty (as Director's ruling).

Deposit:

Returned.

Appeal No. 12

South Africa v Italy

Appeals Committee:

John Wignall (Chairman, New Zealand), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), Richard Colker (USA), Grattan Endicott (England), Nissan Rand (Israel).

Open Teams Round 12

Board 9. Dealer North. East/West Vul.



Contract:

Five clubs doubled, played by South.

Result:

II tricks, N/S +550.

TD's statement of Facts: North took some time to pass, and East called the Director in order to establish this fact. East/West thought the break in tempo made it easier for South to find the Five Clubs bid.

The Director:

Ruled that there had been unauthorized information, and that passing was a logical alternative.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to Four Spades by East, down one. Both sides receive NS+100.

Relevant Laws:

Law 73FI.

North/South appealed.

Present:

All players.

The Players:

South agreed that there had been a hesitation, but he found it automatic to bid Five Clubs. After all, the bidding at the other table had been exactly the same.

It would have been poor bridge to double or to pass.

East agreed that it had been a mistake to call the Director in the way he did. Normally he would not call the Director at such a time, but this was a very long pause.

The Committee:

Saw that because the auction had developed so quickly, North had a difficult problem.

It was clear that there had been an unmistakeable break in tempo, but the Five Clubs bid was dictated by the cards in the South hand and not the hesitation.

South could expect North to be short in spades and to have a few clubs. There could easily be a game for both sides, and Five Clubs would be a cheap sacrifice or even a make.

In the view of the Committee, there was no logical alternative to bidding Five Clubs.

The Committee's decision:

Original table result restored, both sides receive N/S +550.

Deposit:

Returned.

Appeal No. 15

Israel v Netherlands

Appeals Committee:

Bobby Wolff (Chairman, USA), David Stevenson (Scribe, England), Ernesto d'Orsi (Brazil), Grattan Endicott (England), Joan Gerard (USA).





Simons	mons Naveh Pasman		Meleci	
Pass	2♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	2 �(2)	
Pass	2♠	Pass	3 ♠ ⁽³⁾	
Pass	4• ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	4 ♡ ⁽⁴⁾	
Dbl	4 ♠ ⁽⁵⁾	Pass	6♠	
All Pass				

Comments:

- ^(I) Game force. 22+
- ⁽²⁾ 0-7 (at the table, quoted as 0-8)
- ⁽³⁾ Maximum
- ⁽⁴⁾ Cuebid
- ⁽⁵⁾ After three minute break in tempo

Contract:

Six spades, played by North.

Result:

Twelve tricks, N/S +1430.

TD's statement of Facts:

After the board was played, I was called to the table. East/West asked for a ruling since South had bid $6\pm$ after the very long break in tempo. North/South agreed to the break. North had explained to East that, after the double, pass would have shown a good hand, redouble the heart ace.

Four experts were consulted regarding South's actions over 44:

- One said he would always pass (although after noting that North could have bid 4♠ over 3♠ he had more sympathy for action)
- One said he would always bid (5 \$)
- Two said that they would bid 5th but thought pass was a reasonable call clearly not a mistake.

The Director:

Pass was therefore deemed a Logical Alternative as per Law I6A.

Ruling:

Score adjusted to Both sides receive: $4 \pm +2$ by North (N/S +680).

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A, 12C2.

North/South appealed.

Present:

All players.

The Players:

South said that the double of 4^{\heartsuit} helped her to determine that 6^{\bigstar} would be on a finesse at worst. Since North had not rebid 4^{\bigstar} over 3^{\bigstar} it was not possible to be missing two aces. She also said that 4^{\bigstar} over the double confirmed a good suit.

The Committee:

Noted that over the double there were not many available calls and they could not all show good hands. Also noted that while random hesitations were in use in this tournament (see Screen Huddles in Bulletin #9) they would not have helped here with a three minute tempo break.

The Committee considered it had heard no evidence to suggest the Director's ruling was wrong and felt it was unfortunate that this case had been brought to appeal.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit:

Forfeited.

Appeal No. 17 Netherlands v Israel

Appeals Committee:

Bobby Wolff (Chairman, USA), David Stevenson (Scribe, England), Ernesto d'Orsi (Brazil), Grattan Endicott (England), Joan Gerard (USA).

Women's Teams Round of 16 - Third Session

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.



Comments:

- ^(I) Multi
- $^{\scriptscriptstyle (2)}$ Reject
- ⁽³⁾ North to East: takeout
 - South to West: at first: penalty, later: may be for penalty
- ⁽⁴⁾ Penalty oriented

Contract:

Three No Trump, played by North.

Lead:

Heart king.

Result:

Nine tricks, N/S +400.

TD's statement of Facts:

East called the Director at the end of the bidding, claiming there was a break in tempo before South passed the redouble, then called again to complain about both North taking the redouble out and about misinformation. West stated she had not played hearts when she got on lead because she was afraid of four or five hearts on he left.

The Director:

The TD did not think there was a sizeable tempo break since it was merely due to asking questions. Furthermore, North was not likely to pass with a takeout double of 2° . Once it was realised East had psyched the heart fit was likely. South should have been warned by the doubt ("may be") and taken note of this for the defence. However, there had been misinformation in a common situation.

Ruling:

Result Stands. North/South penalised 3 IMPs.

Relevant Laws:

Law 16, 75.

East/West appealed.

Present:

All players

The Players:

The players explained their thinking behind the various calls and plays.

The Committee:

While it was felt the penalty was somewhat harsh, nothing said by the players gave evidence that there was any other reason to disagree with the Director's ruling. North/South were told that if they were not sure what the meaning was it was better to say so. The defence was misled by East's psyche rather than any misinformation. The deposit was nearly forfeited but was returned because there was some misinformation.

The Committee's decision:

Penalty for North/South removed, Director's ruling upheld otherwise.

Deposit:

Returned.

MSN Gaming Zone - World Computer Bridge Championship

By AI Levy, USA

Meadowlark Bridge wins Computer Championship



Alvin Levy (far left), coordinator of the computer bridge championship, poses with (from left) Meadowlark Bridge's David Walker and Rod Ludwig and Lorne Russell, representing the MSN Gaming Zone.

The title of world champion goes to Meadowlark Bridge, along with first prize of \$1,500. In a most exciting finish, as human emotions were flying high, the computers coldly played the last board with the Microsoft Network Gaming Zone World Computer Championship on the line. Meadowlark Bridge picked up 5 IMPs to take the championship by 2 IMPs against Q-Plus Bridge.

Lorne Russell, from the Microsoft Internet Gaming Zone, was on hand to congratulate the winner, and I, as coordinator of the event, thanked all the contestants for their fine efforts, and good sportsmanship. The cooperation that all the contestants showed was impressive, and will help pave the way for future advances in computer bridge.

The night before the final match, after the semi-final matches were completed, most of the people involved with the championship spent the late evening together. There were congratulations to the finalists for their good showing and general unwinding after many intense days of competition. As Rodney Ludwig and David Walker of Meadowlark Bridge and Hans Leber of Q-Plus were having their final beers, it was jokingly pointed out that at least their programs were in sleep mode, ready for the final match.

The semi-final matches were 40-board knockouts, with a full carry-over from the 12-board round-robin:

Semi-finals:		Total
Q-Plus Bridge Jack	(+13)	29 79
Meadowlark Bridge WBridge5	(+53)	44 26

The final match was a 50-board KO, with a full carry-over from the 12 board round-robin:

Finals:		13-22	23-39	40-54	55-62
Meadowlark Bridge	(+ 3)	42	80	106	118
Q-Plus Bridge		20	57	91	116

22

Meadowlark Bridge, finishing first in the round robin, also survived a late rally by WBridge5 in the semi-final KO match, thanks in part to the deal below.

WBridge5 nearly overcame a 53-IMP carryover by Meadowlark Bridge. A big swing occurred late in the match when WBridge5 bid a grand slam off QJxx of trumps (a 50% grand) while Meadowlark Bridge was only in game. If WBridge5 had bid 6, or made 7 \circ , it would have defeated Meadowlark Bridge. In human play, decisions might be based on the perceived state of the match. Near the end of a match, feeling that they are behind, a pair might bid a 50% grand slam, while earlier in the match they would be looking for better odds. Of course, the programs make decisions independent of the state of the match.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



⁽¹⁾ Artificial, game forcing

⁽²⁾ 8-9 pts, 5+ diamonds

⁽³⁾ A bad bid...six was best!

South led the $\bigstar4$, and WBridge5 guessed wrong in the play, possibly playing the opening leader for four spades, making it more likely that North, rather than South, held three trumps to an honour.



Top player Huub van der

Wouden, one of the

employees of Transfer Solutions



Congratulations to Transfer Solutions!

On September 6th 1995 **Transfer Solutions** was founded. The organization of the Bridge Olympiad congratulates directors Agnes Snellers and Gerard Hilten with this anniversary and wishes them all the best for the coming years.

Transfer Solutions is one of the sponsors of the Bridge Olympiad. They are responsible for the development of and public information on www.bridgeolympiad.nl, the official website of the Bridge Olympiad 2000.

Transfer Solutions' ties with bridge are already evident from its company name. The word 'transfer' did not end up in the name merely by accident. Transfer sees many similarities between good players and the ranking employees of the company. Substantial analytical powers, flexibility, intelligence, and a capability of abstract thinking are all traits possessed by both upper echelon players and our employees. These employees play a pivotal role at **Transfer Solutions**.

The company philosophy assumes that a satisfied employee, who can also realize his ambitions in job-related fields of interest, represents an extremely important element of a company. Amongst its employees, **Transfer Solutions** ranks a good many bridge players. All are highly educated people, with notable achievements to their credit in both Information Technology and bridge.



The Annual General Meeting and Awards Ceremony takes place today, 6th September at 10 a.m. in room 2.1 on the top floor of MECC (the WBF Meeting Room).

The AGM will be followed by a lunch hosted by the Dutch Bridge Federation, to be held in the Golden Tulip Hotel (next door to MECC, the Garden Restaurant of Barbizon Room) at I p.m. All IBPA members are cordially invited and must register in the Press Room if they wish to attend.

VUGRAPH

Auditorium I (Dutch commentary)	Time	Auditorium II (English commentary)
To be decided	11.00	To be decided
To be decided	14.00	To be decided
To be decided	17.00	To be decided
To be decided	21.20	To be decided



Ed's Column door Ed Hoogenkamp

De dood of de gladiolen

Na drie zittingen was de stand in de vrouwen kwartfinale Nederland-USA vrijwel gelijk. In de vierde zitting raakte Nederland op beslissende achterstand. Op spel 31 verloor Nederland 7 imps omdat Jet Pasman in de gesloten kamer down ging in een 4 \pm die in de open kamer niet was geboden. Het publiek vroeg zich af hoe dat kon, het contract leek er altijd in te zitten. Vugraph commentator Toine van Hoof meldde mij de gang van zaken in de gesloten kamer.

Het spel is gedraaid voor het gemak van de lezer.



West kwam uit met een kleine ruiten voor de heer van oost die \diamond A naspeelde, getroefd in de dummy. De leider speelde troefvrouw en troeftien, de tweede ronde genomen door west, die met klaveren van slag ging. Zuid trok de laatste troef en speelde nu \heartsuit B voor. West speelde uitstekend een kleine harten bij, de dummy ook en oost won de slag met \heartsuit V. Er volgde een derde ruitenronde die de leider troefde met haar laatste troef. Voordat ze de hartenkleur doorspeelde incasseerde zuid eerst haar drie vrije klaveren. ledereen had nu nog twee kaarten over. U ziet, een simpele hartensnit brengt tien slagen in het laatje maar de leider ging eens nadenken. Oost had geopend en had \diamond AHB en \heartsuit V laten zien. West bleek \bigstar A te hebben en had \diamond V (gedwongen) weggegooid op de vierde klaverenronde. Wie had \heartsuit H? Pasman dacht er lang over na. Uit het bieden en afgooien leidde ze af dat west nog twee harten over had en oost nog een harten en een ruiten. Had oost nog \heartsuit H sec? Ja, dacht Pasman, anders zou Jackson geopend hebben op tien punten en west zou slechts 2 \diamond hebben geboden met een vierkaart ruiten en negen punten. Deze aanwijzingen overtuigden haar om harten naar het aas te spelen, de dood of de gladiolen. Het bleek geen beslissing waar de lokale bloemist vrolijk van werd.

Voor meer Nederlandstalige verslagen: www.bridgeolympiad.nl/vandagtotdag.html

Who will play in The Hague?

From 17 to 21 January 2001 the 15th Cap Gemini - Ernst & Young Invitational Tournament will take place in Hotel Des Indes, The Hague - The Netherlands.

In this tournament 16 of the strongest pairs in the world will play during a 3-day session. The first six pairs of last year are automatically invited to play this year's tournament. The additional selection of the other 10 pairs will be made by tournament director Henk van Dalen, who is at the Bridge Olympiad at this moment.

We are very interested to know which pairs will be invited!

Today's Press Conference

After the Annual General Meeting of the IBPA there will be a press conference about the Bridge Olympiad 2000 and the significance of this event for the city of Maastricht. Among others, Mr. José Damiani and a representative of the Maastricht city will be present.

All IBPA members and other journalists are invited to this press conference, which will start at 11.45 hrs. in room 2.1 in the MECC. The press conference will be followed by a lunch in the Golden Tulip Hotel, hosted by the Dutch Bridge Federation.

Today's Visitors Drives

Golden Tulip Drives: tonight at 20.00 hrs. in the Golden Tulip Hotel (next to the MECC). Subscription at the Hospitality Desk (MECC) or at 19.30 hrs. in the Hotel.