



# DAILY NEWS

## 4<sup>th</sup> IOC GRAND PRIX

**SALT LAKE CITY USA** *2 to 6 February 2002*



Bulletin No. 4  
5 February 2002

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## European Teams Flex Their Muscles

When the qualifying stages of the 4<sup>th</sup> IOC Grand Prix for the Generali Trophy were concluded it was the teams from Europe that were the dominant force. In the Men's Teams **Italy**, **Norway** and **Poland** were joined by **Canada**.

The only drama involved the head to head confrontation between Poland and Indonesia in the last round. The Polish team needed to win the match by a reasonable margin to ensure that they, rather than their opponents, would survive to the knock-out stages, and although they suffered a few minor scares towards the end, they achieved their aim.

After one session of the semi-finals Italy and Norway hold a significant, but by no means decisive, advantage over Canada and Poland respectively.

**The Netherlands, Germany, France** and the **USA** are the last four in the Women's Teams. Of the teams that failed to progress, Austria came closest, but they were unable to achieve any significant victories in their final three matches.

Two low scoring encounters in the opening semi-final sessions saw France and Germany stay on course for a repeat of the recent Venice Cup Final.

However, there are still thirty-six boards to play, plenty of time for all the trailing teams to turn things round.

The European Junior Teams dominated their American counterparts, and finished well ahead on the same number of victory points. The conditions of contest meant that they could not meet in the final, and the tie was split in favour of **Europe North**, who face **Americas** in the final. The third place playoff is between **Europe South** and **North America**.

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### VuGraph Matches

Session 2:	Poland v Norway (Men)
Session 3:	To be decided
Session 4:	To be decided
Final I:	To be decided

## Results

### Match 7

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	IMPs	VPs	VPs
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#### Mens Teams

Australia	Italy	7	42	6	24
USA	Poland	28	23	16	14
India	Norway	38	39	15	15
Egypt	Indonesia	19	18	15	15
Brazil	Canada	19	29	12	18

#### Women's Teams

Netherlands	Austria	42	30	18	12
China	Germany	39	19	20	10
Great Britain	South Africa	39	27	18	12
France	USA	45	12	24	6
Canada	Japan	5	28	9	21

### Match 8

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	IMPs	VPs	VPs
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#### Mens Teams

Brazil	Australia	52	14	25	5
Indonesia	USA	23	23	15	15
Italy	India	52	22	23	7
Poland	Canada	24	19	16	14
Norway	Egypt	17	37	10	20

#### Women's Teams

Canada	Netherlands	42	24	20	10
USA	China	33	16	20	10
Austria	Great Britain	31	25	16	14
Germany	Japan	60	15	25	4
South Africa	France	1	70	0	25



The excellent VuGraph presentation has enhanced the enjoyment for the many interested spectators

## Ranking Lists

### Mens Teams:

1	Italy	173
2	Norway	144.3
3	Poland	141.5
4	Canada	140.7
5	Indonesia	135
6	Brazil	129
6	Egypt	129
8	USA	127
9	India	113.5
10	Australia	109

### Women's Teams

1	France	163
2	Germany	152
3	USA	151
4	Netherlands	148
5	Austria	139.3
6	China	137
7	Great Britain	130
8	Canada	119.3
9	South Africa	100
10	Japan	96

### Junior Teams:

1	Europe - North	48
1	Europe - South	48
3	Americas	44
4	North America	40

## Today's Programme

### Mens Teams Semi-Final

Sessions 2, 3 & 4 - 14.00; 16.10; 18.20

Italy v Canada

Poland v Norway

### Mens Teams Final

Session 1 - 21.30

### Women's Teams Semi-Final

Sessions 2, 3 & 4 - 14.00; 16.10; 18.20

Netherlands v France

Germany v USA

### Women's Teams Final

Session 1 - 21.30

### Junior Teams Matches

Final and Play off, Sessions 2 & 3

16.10; 18.20

**Final:** Europe North v Americas

**Play Off:** Europe South v North America

## Results (continued ..)

### Match 9

**Home Team**      **Visiting Team**    **IMPs**   **IMPs**   **VPs**   **VPs**

#### Mens Teams

Australia	India	46	7	25	5
USA	Italy	23	15	17	13
Poland	Indonesia	26	13	19	11
Brazil	Norway	22	19	16	14
Canada	Egypt	8	40	7	23

#### Women's Teams

Netherlands	Great Britain	18	21	14	16
China	Austria	27	30	14	16
USA	Germany	37	21	19	11
Canada	South Africa	40	17	21	9
Japan	France	8	21	11	19

### Junior Teams

Team	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Total	VPs
Americas	55	39	14	108	22
Europe - North	2	27	32	61	8
Europe - South	39	24	15	78	17
North America	6	31	29	66	13

#### Mens Teams - Semi Final

Team	c/f	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4	Total
Italy	6	43				49
Canada	0	12				12
Poland	4	15				19
Norway	0	43				43

#### Women's Teams - Semi Final

Team	c/f	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4	Total
Netherlands	6	7				13
France	0	21				21
Germany	0	28				28
USA	5.3	10				15.3

#### Junior Teams - Final

Team	c/f	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4	Total
Europe North	0					0
Americas	10					10

#### Junior Teams - Play Off

Team	c/f	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4	Total
Europe South	6					6
North America	0					0

## President in Waiting

Continuing our theme of Bridge being played in every corner of the World, just before this event, ACBL President George Retek was playing in a semi final of the KO teams at the ACBL Bermuda Regional when this problem came along:

West	North	East	South
2♦*	Pass	2♥*	Dble
Pass	2NT	3♦	All Pass

Two diamonds was a Multi and Two Hearts was pass or correct.

North led the ten of clubs and this was the position as George saw it:

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

Declarer won the first trick with the king of clubs and played a diamond to the queen and South's ace. It looked like a good idea to play for heart ruffs, so South switched to the three of hearts. Alas, he never received his wish, as North ruffed!!

### Bridge is not the Only Sport

The state of Utah is famous for many things, not least the Bonneville Salt Flats

In 1912 this area was tested as a race-track and has since proved to be the greatest automobile speedway in the world. In 1931 Ab Jenkins of Salt lake City broke all former world speed records in his car called the Mormon Meteor.

Today, hundreds of competitors arrive twice every year to attempt to break records.

On October 23, 1970 The Blue Flame driven by Gary Gabelich set a world land speed record of 622.407 mph.

The current record is held by Squadron Leader Andy Green, who recorded 763.035 mph in his jet car Thrust SSC at Black Rock Desert, Nevada.



## View from the top



Whenever No. 1 plays No. 2, you can expect a close, hard-fought match. In that respect, the Netherlands and Germany, the top two teams after five rounds of the women's series in the IOC Grand Prix, did not disappoint. Beyond their standings in the Grand Prix, the teams represented two of the top women's teams in the world. Germany won the Venice Cup in Paris last fall, claiming the title won by the Netherlands in 2000 in Bermuda.

Fittingly, at the end of the match, the two teams were tied with USA atop the standings with three rounds to go.

Germany drew blood first when the Dutch defenders slipped and allowed Elke Weber to take nine tricks in 3♣ while her teammates at the other table were minus 50 in 3♠.

The Netherlands got it back on the next deal, the third of the match.

### Dealer South. N/S vul

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

The bidding was the same at both tables. In the closed room, Marijke van der Pas opened 1♥ with the South hand and was raised to game by Bep Vriend. Pony Nehmert entered the auction with 5♦ and was doubled by van der Pas. The ♥A was led and declarer soon was claiming plus 550 as declarer could not be prevented from getting to dummy to discard two spade tricks. With clubs splitting 3-3, declarer lost only a trump and a club.

In the open room, Weber also opened 1♥ and was raised to game by Sabine Auken. Jet Pasman also bid 5♦, which was doubled by Weber, who made the normal-looking lead of the ♥A. Pasman ruffed and considered her play carefully before playing the ♦7 from hand. Now put yourself in Weber's place. Going up with the ♦K would be very embarrassing if partner had the singleton ace, and it was certainly possible to believe that Pasman would

bid 5♦ with seven to the Q J 9.

Finally, Weber played low. Dummy's ♦10 won the trick, and declarer later dropped the king to make 12 tricks and plus 650. The 3-IMP gain put the Netherlands in the lead, and they added a much larger swing on the next deal.

### Dealer West. E/W vul

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

West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Vriend	Nehmert	Van der Pas
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

Bidding with the South hand can work out when partner rebids in a different suit, but it also runs the risk of simply increasing the number of undertricks, as it did on this occasion. Perhaps Nehmert was fearful that North-South might find a better place to play if she doubled. Still, a penalty double by East looks like a normal choice.

Saved from the hammer, Vriend posted a minus of 200 for down four. In the open room, the Germans, in a sense, took a big spill on the downhill course.

West	North	East	South
Simons	Auken	Pasman	Weber
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
2♣	2♠	Dble	All Pass

Weber's pass seems more sensible, although her good judgment was rendered moot when Auken, taken off the hook by Anneke Simons' balancing bid, was right there with 2♠. Pasman knew what to do with that one, and when the smoke cleared Auken was also down four for minus 800 and 12 IMPs to the Dutch.

Germany trailed 17-7 when this deal gave them the opportunity to take the lead – and they didn't miss out.

Dealer South. E/W vul

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

West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Vriend	Nehmert	Van der Pas
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Play records were not available, but Andrea Rauscheid managed nine tricks after Vriend led the ♠Q. That was plus 600 to Germany.

West	North	East	South
Simons	Auken	Pasman	Weber
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

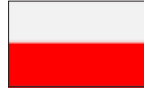
Auken started with the ♦Q, Rusinow, versus the notrump game. Simons ducked, and she played low again when Auken played a low diamond to the 10 and Weber's jack. Weber thought things over carefully before switching to the ♠7 to the 8, 10 and ace. Simons played a heart to her hand and a club to the king, ducked by Weber. Simons went back to hand with another high heart and led a second club toward dummy. Simons appeared to consider playing low on Auken's ♣10, but she finally went up with the queen, and there was no hope from there. The best declarer could do was to cash out for down two and minus 200. It was a 13-IMP swing to Germany, now in the lead.

The Netherlands got it back on the next deal when the Dutch bid a paper-thin vulnerable 3NT which came home on the favorable lie of a king (it was going to be down several had the finesse failed) while Auken and Weber played in a diamond partial. That was 10 IMPs to the Netherlands, who had forged yet another lead change.

The final swing of the evening was the most dramatic, as Auken brought home a very difficult 4♥ with a bit of help from the defenders. An expanded report of that deal can be found elsewhere in this bulletin.

In the end, Germany prevailed 30-27.

## Bridge is a Game of Two Halfs



Everyone knows that soccer is a game of two halves, but the same is equally true of bridge. Having missed the first six deals of the match between Poland and Brazil, when little of significance happened, we wandered into the VuGraph just in time to catch the tail end of the seventh deal.

Dealer South. East/West Vul

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

According to the screen, Brazil had gone three down in Four Spades in the Closed Room. Declarer must have won the club lead, got the bad news about trumps and taken a first round diamond finesse.

In the replay, the Poles bid all the way to Six Spades and escaped for the same three down and another dull flat board. Resisting the temptation to go for a coffee we waited for the next deal:

Dealer West. All Vul

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Balicki	Chagas	Zmudzinski	Brenner
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

Chagas had no reason to accept his partner's invitation. Under no real pressure he made eight tricks, +120.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Figueiredo</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Campos</i>	<i>Kwiecen</i>
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

The stakes were higher here.

East led the four of spades and declarer let it run to his jack. A club to the king was followed by the ten of diamonds, covered by the king and ace. When declarer played the six of spades East put up the king and switched to the ace of hearts and a heart. That simply speeded things up and Poland had 11 IMPs.

## Dealer North. North/South Vul

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Brenner</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	INT	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Four Spades was doomed from the start by the bad trump break and declarer finished no less than four down. Given the nature of the auction might West not have ventured a double?

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Figueiredo</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Campos</i>	<i>Kwiecen</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	INT	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

Three Diamonds was alerted as showing a singleton or void diamond, which did not improve North's hand. A slightly inaccurate defence allowed declarer to escape for only one down so Poland had another 7 IMPs.

## Dealer East. East/West Vul

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Brenner</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♦	INT	All Pass	

Should South invite with a reasonable five-card suit and a couple of decent high cards? Brenner did not think so, and with eight tricks being the limit on a diamond lead, it appeared he had made the winning decision.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Figueiredo</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Campos</i>	<i>Kwiecen</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♦	Dble	Pass	INT
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Dble	All Pass

An overcall of INT would have been conventional, so North had to start with a double. When South invited, North accepted and East doubled. That was a good idea, but West read something into it and led a heart, which was not. Declarer was allowed to win the first trick in dummy, and ran the nine of clubs. When West had to win with the ace the result was not in doubt and Poland had another 11 IMPs.

## Dealer South. All Vul

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



## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Brenner</i>
Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Three No-Trumps is the obvious resting place for North/South, and it did not take long for Brazil to get there. East led the five of clubs and declarer was allowed to win with the king. He cashed the ace of diamonds and played a diamond to the queen and king. West played back the jack of clubs and declarer played low!

Now West cashed his clubs for three down, -300.

Even if declarer had put up the queen of clubs he would not have made the contract, as the winning line involves making four heart tricks, and the play in diamonds had already left declarer a vital entry short.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Figueiredo</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Campos</i>	<i>Kwiecen</i>
3♣	Pass	Pass	Pass
All Pass			Dble

Perhaps West had the previous board on his mind when he ventured Three Clubs. With perfect defence the defenders can inflict an 1100 penalty, but the +800 they achieved was enough for 15 IMPs.

## Dealer West. None Vul

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Brenner</i>
INT	2♦	3NT	All Pass

North led the ten of diamonds and declarer won with the queen and played a heart to the king and ace. South switched to a spade and declarer had no way to arrive at more than eight tricks.

After the diamond lead there is a double dummy route to nine tricks. Declarer must play to eliminate the black suits. In the fullness of time he will finish in dummy and play a heart towards the ♥J962, ensuring two heart tricks. Clearly impossible to find after North's overcall.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Figueiredo</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Campos</i>	<i>Kwiecen</i>
INT	2♦*	3NT	Dble
All Pass			

The overcall also promised a major, and the double asked North to lead it. Declarer elected to take the second spade and played a low diamond toward the jack. North put up the king, cashed his spades and played a heart. – 300 and another 6 IMPs for Poland.

Over the last five boards, Poland had blitzed Brazil 50-0 IMPs!

## Special day in a special year

The first day of the IOC Grand Prix was a special one, and in case you didn't realize it, Feb. 2 is a palindrome. If you read it the way it's listed by most Americans – 2-02-02 – it is the same backwards and forwards. That makes it a palindrome.

In honor of the date of the opening ceremony – and remember, the year 2002 is also a palindrome – here are some palindromes for your enjoyment. Most everyone knows this one: "Able was I ere I saw Elba." How about this one:

"Lewd did I live & evil I did dwell." Here's another: "Cigar? Toss it in a can. It is so tragic."

This one comes from 1925: "Rise to vote, sir." A palindrome year such as 2002 usually happens every 110 years. The last one, of course, was 1991, and having two years so close together is a thousand-year event.

One last palindromic note: at 8:02 p.m. today, the time in military terms will be a palindrome: 20:02. Enjoy.

## Even Duboin Nods

Marc Smith

Watching the world's top players perform can be enlightening in a number of ways. On today's hand, we can all learn two quite different lessons by observing Italy's Giorgio Duboin, a multiple World Champion and one of the world's best young players.

**Vul: None, Dealer North**

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Furness</i>	<i>De Falco</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
—	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Duboin landed in 3NT having shown first a balanced 23-24 and then his 5-card spade suit. Furness led the ♥2, East put in the eight and Duboin took the trick with the ♥9. How would you have continued?



When West's ten appeared on the second round of spades, Duboin decided that the suit was not splitting, which renders the contract quite hopeless. Championships are not won by giving up, though, and thus Duboin sought another string for his bow. His solution was both imaginative and extremely effective - he led a low diamond! When West followed with the ♦5, Duboin put up dummy's queen and now this 'hopeless' contract was cold. East could win with the ♦K and return a club. These cards now remained:

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

♠ —	♠ Q 9 6
♥ Q 10 4	♥ A 3
♦ A J	♦ 9 7
♣ J 7 4	♣ A

Declarer has lost just one trick so far. If he now plays off his three remaining winners and then exits with a red card, West wins and can cash three red-suit tricks, but he must then concede the last two tricks to dummy's ♥J and ♣Q.

When he led the diamond, Duboin was playing precisely for this type of diamond layout. Of course, the defenders could still have defeated the contract - West had to rise with the ♦A or put in the ♦J on the first round of the suit. To do so hardly looks like the obvious thing to do, though, and surely this play would have succeeded against all but the most alert of defenders.

At the start of this write-up, I mentioned that we could all learn two things from this deal. The second is something that will give heart to all of us lesser mortals - even top players suffer from lapses in concentration. That is exactly what happened to Duboin here - after winning East's club exit he continued by playing the ♠Q and a fourth round of spades. East won with the ♠J and exited with the ♥K and declarer was again reduced to eight tricks. And thus a potential candidate for a brilliancy prize turned into just another flat board!



## Dreaming with Sabine

All sports need superstars and personalities. If you are looking for one in the world of bridge, few shine brighter than Germany's Sabine Auken. However, it is not enough to be a good player, you have to play well when the opportunity arises. When Germany faced old rivals The Netherlands in Round 6 such a moment arose in front of the VuGraph audience.

Let's join Sabine and see how things unfolded:

### Dealer South. North/South Vul

Sabine's hand looked like this:

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

The auction does not last long:

West	North	East	South
<i>Pasman</i>	<i>Weber</i>	<i>Simons</i>	<i>Auken</i>
Pass	INT	2♣	1♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	2♥
All Pass			4♥

East leads the two of clubs and this is what we can see:

♠ 3  
♥ K 7 3 2  
♦ Q 8 5  
♣ A 8 7 5 3

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

It's clear from the bidding that the two of clubs is a singleton and East must have most of the missing high cards. As so often happens, although there are not too many losers there is a distinct shortage of tricks. It is clear to play low from dummy at trick one and when East puts in the nine of clubs we have to win with the king.

Assuming the hearts are not 4-1 West is bound to be able to get a club ruff and if there are two heart losers as well, the contract will be hopeless. A low heart to the king is one possibility, but with a different plan in mind we try a deceptive ten of hearts. West follows with the eight and when East starts to think it is clear that West has the queen. East eventually takes the ace and returns the ten of clubs, ruffed

by West with the queen of hearts.

That's good news as there are no more trump losers, but when West plays back a diamond there is still some work to do.

There is no reason to suppose that West has the king of diamonds, so we play the eight from dummy, covered by the jack and ace.

While the defenders have been thinking so have we, and if the distribution is favourable it may be possible to take advantage of East's play to trick three.

*(In the audience your Editor and Canada's John Carruthers felt there should be a winning line, but we were still trying to find it when Bermuda Bowl Champion Peter Weichsel pointed out a complex route to success.)*

With the idea of removing East's exit cards we cash the ace of spades. When the queen appears on our right we are disposed to treat it as a singleton. We take two rounds of trumps, ending in the dummy to reach this position:

♠ —  
♥ 7  
♦ Q 5  
♣ A 8 7

♠ K 8 7 6  
♥ 6  
♦ 3  
♣ —

We play the seven of clubs and when East covers with the jack we discard the three of diamonds. East was not expecting that, and after some consideration realises that there is no escape. The loser on loser play has forced East to surrender two tricks to dummy, enabling us to get rid of two of our losing spades.

*(That was the line pointed out by Peter, but it is not the end of the story!)*

Discussing the hand over coffee early yesterday, Sabine revealed that she had woken up very early in the morning having dreamt of an even stronger line! The point is that if East had started with a doubleton spade, she would have had an exit card and the endplay would have failed. However, the fact that East holds the king of diamonds and the clubs means that a squeeze is possible. Declarer draws trumps and plays a club as before, ruffing when East covers. Then come the ace and king of spades. Say East follows to both rounds. When you play a third spade and ruff it this will be the position with East still to play:

♠ —  
♥ —  
♦ Q  
♣ A 8

♠ J  
♥ —  
♦ 10 4  
♣ —

♠ —  
♥ —  
♦ K 9  
♣ Q 4

♠ 8 7  
♥ —  
♦ 3  
♣ —

East has no winning play, because a diamond discard allows declarer to exit with the queen of diamonds, forcing a lead back to the entryless dummy.

For the record, here is the deal, which was rotated for convenience:

Dealer North. North/South Vul

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

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

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

♠ 3  
♥ K 7 3 2  
♦ Q 8 5  
♣ A 8 7 5 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Simons</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Pasman</i>	<i>Weber</i>
	1♠	Pass	INT
2♣	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	



## “May I introduce myself?”

**Stefan Back**

As Daniela von Arnim is expecting a baby and therefore following her doctor's advice not to undertake long-distance flights, the German women's team has a new member in the person of Elke Weber, a former German Junior champion.

In the first round match again South Africa - the polite person she is - Elke 'introduced' herself to the opponents with a competent declarer play on Board 10.

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

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

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

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

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
	<i>Auken</i>		<i>Weber</i>
		Pass	Pass
2♥	Dble	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West led a small club, won by dummy's ace. Now declarer continued with a small trump to West's ace. West then returned a second club. Elke won again in

dummy and was up to the task of playing another small spade. When East hopped in with the queen to play the ace of hearts and another, declarer was in control. She ruffed, got back to her hand, drew trumps and claimed; Germany: +620.

In the other room the same contract was reached:

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Rauscheid</i>		<i>Nehmert</i>	
		Pass	Pass
3♥	Dble	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Here Andrea Rauscheid led the jack of hearts to partner's ace, and another heart was returned to shorten dummy's trumps immediately. Declarer now ordered the king of spades, which Andrea won with her bare ace to play a third round of hearts. Declarer had to ruff and was at the crossroads. She played a diamond to the ace, and put the jack of spades on the table. From here there is no way to win anymore. Pony Nehmert took the queen of spades, exited in diamonds and scored another trump trick in the end; Germany: +100 and 12 IMPs.

To shorten herself in trumps and still make Four Spades, declarer double dummy could have played four rounds of clubs, ruffing the fourth in hand, before laying down the jack of spades. Now East may take or refuse to take the queen of spades, but declarer can always reach dummy in diamonds to score one more trump trick en passant.



## Uphill climb



The USA team in the men's draw of the IOC Grand Prix entered match 7 in dire straits, needing a convincing victory to have any chance of advancing past round-robin play in the event. To complicate their problem, the Americans faced the task of scoring heavily against the strong team from Poland – not an easy assignment. USA's chances took a major blow on the very first board, but they rallied for a 28-22 victory. It was better than a loss, but might not have been enough.

### Dealer North. None vul

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

West	North	East	South
Freeman	Balicki	Nickell	Zmudzinski
	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

With the club suit splitting 3-2, Adam Zmudzinski had no trouble taking 12 tricks for plus 920. In the open room, Ron Smith and Bob Hamman did not achieve the maximum in the auction.

West	North	East	South
Kwiecen	Hamman	Pszczola	Smith
	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Smith's 2NT bid seems odd, but he alerted it on his side of the screen, indicating it was probably artificial. Smith's decision to raise Hamman on the doubleton ♥Q violated the maxim about not putting an eight-card suit down in dummy (unless, of course, it is the trump suit). It certainly didn't work out well.

Jacek Pszczola led the ♦K, won by Hamman in hand. He

went to dummy with the ♠Q and discarded his diamonds on high clubs. He ruffed a diamond and cashed the ♠A, but when he tried to cash the ♠K, Pszczola ruffed with the ♥9. Hamman overruffed with the dummy's queen. Hamman then led a club from dummy, pitching a spade when Michal Kwiecen ruffed with the ♥K. The inelegant contract finished down one for minus 50 and a 14-IMP loss, not the start USA needed.

Smith helped the USA get on the board with an aggressive move on the third deal.

### Dealer South. E/W vul

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

West	North	East	South
Freeman	Balicki	Nickell	Zmudzinski
			3♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Adam Zmudzinski's somewhat conservative bid did achieve his goal of preempting Richard Freeman and Nick Nickell out of the auction. Zmudzinski had only the four outstanding aces to lose, and he easily scored nine tricks for plus 110.

West	North	East	South
Kwiecen	Hamman	Pszczola	Smith
			4♦
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Smith had an extra diamond, so he started the auction one level higher, enough to convince Kwiecen that he should introduce his ragged heart suit at the four level. Hamman led the ♠K to Kwiecen's ace. Declarer's next move was the ♥J, covered by Hamman. Kwiecen won the ace and played a second heart to Smith's king, and the defense started a forcing game by playing spades. Kwiecen ruffed the third round of the suit and, after a long study, played a third round of hearts, his best shot

at taking 10 tricks. If hearts had been 3-3 originally, Kwiecen would get home with five club tricks, three hearts and two aces. The 4-2 heart split doomed declarer to two down, however, and USA had scored 3 IMPs.

The Americans started their comeback on board 6, when Balicki-Zmudzinski doubled Nickell in the unbeatable contract of 2♦ while Smith and Hamman bid to 3♣ making four for plus 130. That was 7 IMPs to USA. The following deal put the Americans ahead 23-21.

## Dealer North. E/W vul

	♠ K 10 6		
	♥ K 9		
	♦ A Q 9 8 4 3		
	♣ Q 10		
♠ 9 5		♠ A Q 7 3	
♥ 7 3		♥ Q J 10 8 5	
♦ K 7		♦ 5	
♣ K J 9 7 5 4 2		♣ A 8 6	
	♠ J 8 4 2		
	♥ A 6 4 2		
	♦ J 10 6 2		
	♣ 3		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Kwiecen</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Smith</i>
	INT	Dble (1)	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

(1) Majors.

Hamman led a sneaky ♣ 10, which rode to Kwiecen's jack. Declarer played a heart from hand, and Hamman rose with the king to play a second club, ruffed by Smith. The defenders had only two more tricks available – a diamond and the trump ace. Kwiecen scored up plus 140. At the other table, there was a disaster for Poland.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Freeman	Balicki	Nickell	Zmudzinski
Pass	INT	2♦ (1)	Dble
All Pass	Pass	2♥	Dble

(1) Majors.

Zmudzinski might have given declarer some anxious moments by starting a force in diamonds, but the contract was solid as long as Nickell didn't ruff the second round. Nickell won the clubs lead with dummy's king and played a heart to the queen and ace, and Zmudzinski got out with the ♦ J to the king and ace. The play record is fuzzy from

that point, but Nickell took the same number of tricks that Pszczola did to score plus 870.

Another 5 IMPs came USA's way on the next deal.

## Dealer East. Both vul

	♠ 8 7 2		
	♥ A		
	♦ K Q 8 7 6 5 2		
	♣ 6 4		
♠ A 9		♠ K 5 4	
♥ K 10 9 4 3		♥ Q J 8 5	
♦ 9 4		♦ 10 3	
♣ 9 8 5 3		♣ A K Q 7	
	♠ Q J 10 6 3		
	♥ 7 6 2		
	♦ A J		
	♣ J 10 2		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Kwiecen</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Smith</i>
2♦	Dble	INT	Pass
4♥	All Pass	2♥	2♠

Smith and Hamman collected a couple of diamonds and the trump ace, but that was their limit, and Pszczola scored up plus 620.

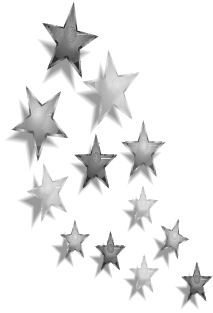
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Freeman	Balicki	Nickell	Zmudzinski
2♦	Dble	INT	Pass
4♥	4♠	Pass	3♠
Dble	All Pass		Pass

This looks to be a good sacrifice, with only five losers for minus 500. Unfortunately for Poland, Balicki went down three for minus 800. Nickell started with

a heart to declarer's ace. Balicki played a diamond to the jack, ruffed a heart, entered dummy with the ♦ A and ruffed another heart. When he played the ♦ K, it was ruffed, overruffed in dummy with the 6 and overruffed by West with the 9. There were still two more trump tricks and three club tricks to come.



"Madam, I'm Adam!"  
(see page 7)



## Meet The Stars

*The Netherlands is mad about Bridge, having one of the biggest Federations in the World.*

**Bep Vriend**, a bridge teacher from Amstelveen learned bridge in 1965. Since 1994 she has partnered Marijke van der Pas. Bep Vriend is a honorary member of the Dutch Bridge Federation and in April, 1998 received a Royal decoration in recognition of her great contribution to bridge. Bep has played in six Olympiads, thirteen European Championships and five Venice Cups (silver in Perth 1989 and gold in Bermuda 2000).

**Marijke van der Pas** from Utrecht, has been playing bridge since 1967. Marijke is a bridge journalist and works for the Dutch Bridge Magazine. Since 1994 she has partnered Bep Vriend. Marijke has played in six Olympiads, twelve European Championships and five Venice Cups (silver in Perth 1989 and gold in Bermuda 2000).

**Jet Pasman** comes from Broek in Waterland, a small village north of Amsterdam. She started playing bridge in 1974. Since 1979 she has been partnering Anneke Simons. Jet is a sports teacher and is married to the coach of the Ladies team Chris Niemeijer, a former player in the Dutch Open team. Apart from bridge, golf is her great hobby. Jet has played in three Olympiads, six European Championships and three Venice Cups (gold in Bermuda 2000).

**Anneke Simons**, a personnel manager, lives in Amsterdam together with Kees Tammens a bridge journalist and their son Bas aged 18. She learned bridge at the age of 20 and since 1979 she has been playing with Jet Pasman. Anneke played in three Olympiads, six European Championships and three Venice Cups (gold in Bermuda 2000)

**Ed Franken**, lives in Haarlem (west of Amsterdam). He has been the Team Manager and Captain of the Dutch Ladies Team since early 1995. He captained the team during two Olympiads, four European Championships and three Venice Cups. Under his leadership the Dutch ladies won the Venice Cup in Bermuda, 2000.

**Chris Niemeijer** has been the coach of the Dutch Ladies Team since 1987. He is married to Jet Pasman and is a former player in the Dutch Open team. Chris was coach during seven European Championships, five Olympiads and four Venice Cups (gold in Bermuda 2000)

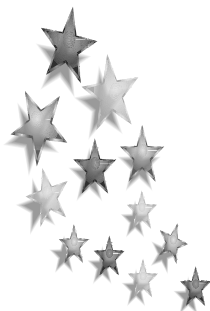
### On the Junior front....

**Bas Drijver** is 21 years old and a law student in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. His parents taught him how to play bridge at the age of 12. Next to bridge he enjoys tennis and swimming. With his partner Sjoert Brink he was runner up in the European Junior Team Championships in Antalya, 2000 as well as in the World Junior Pairs Championships in Stargard, Poland 2001. Everybody says he is not a junior any more because he bids like an old man.

**Sjoert Brink** is 20 years old and lives in Rotterdam (and partly in London). He learned bridge at the age of 12 from his father. Sjoert used to study economics but now is aiming at a professional bridge career. He also works as a freelance journalist for a Dutch bridge magazine. His hobbies are running and nightlife. With his partner Bas Drijver he won silver in the European Junior Team Championships in Antalya, 2000 and also silver in the World Junior Pairs Championships in Stargard, Poland 2001.



## Meet The Stars



*Bridge players all over the world are familiar with the exploits of the Italian Mens team, the New Blue Team.*

**Dano De Falco**, 57 year old from Milan, now lives in Padova. He is a World Master and European Grand Master. Dano De Falco played with the legendary Blue Team with which he won one gold and two silver medals in World Championships. He won his third European gold medal in 1999 and the fourth two years later in Tenerife. In 1997 in Hammamet he won the first World Transnational Team Championships and gold medal in 2000 at the Olympiad in Maastricht.

**Giorgio Duboin**, 41 year old from Turin. He is now a professional bridge player and is a World Master and European Grand Master. Giorgio Duboin started playing bridge when he was 13 and soon became one of the best juniors. With Guido Ferraro he won the European Junior Pairs and two MEC Championships. Playing with Bocchi he has won three European titles in 1997, 1999 and 2001, as well gold medal at the Olympiad in Maastricht in 2000, and silver at the European Pairs Championships in 1999. Playing for the Lavazza team he has won seven Italian team titles.

**Guido Ferraro**, 41 year old from Turin, professional bridge player. Currently he plays with De Falco and during the 80's was one of the best European juniors. The victory at the European Championships in Malta in 1999 was the first prestigious and important result in his career and this was followed by gold medal at the Maastricht Olympiad and a second European title in Tenerife in 2001. Playing for the Lavazza Team Guido Ferraro has won three Italian team titles.

**Lorenzo Lauria**, 54 year old from Rome, professional bridge player. He is World Life Master and European Grand Master. Lorenzo Lauria is currently the Italian player with most titles. In 1979 he won gold medal in the European team Championships and silver in the Bermuda Bowl. For seven years he has played in a very successful partnership with Alfredo Versace. Together they have won two consecutive European Team Championships, in 1995 and 1997, the IOC Grand Prix in 1999, the Cavendish team event in 1996 and 1997, the World K.O. Team Championship in 1998, the Olympiad in 2000 and a third European team title in Tenerife in 2001.

**Alfredo Versace**, 31 year old from Turin, living in Rome, professional bridge player. He is a World Life Master and European Grand Master. Alfredo Versace started playing at age 12 and soon became (together with Norwegian Helgemo) one of the strongest juniors in the world. In 1990 he won the European Junior Team title. Playing with Lauria he has won two consecutive European Team Championships, in 1995 and 1997, the IOC Grand Prix in 1999, the Cavendish team event in 1996 and 1997, the World K.O. Team Championship in 1998, the Olympiad in 2000, a third European team title in 2001, as well six Italian titles.

This team is normally completed by **Norberto Bocchi**, 39 year old from Parma, World Master and European Grand Master, has been playing bridge since he was 17. He is now a professional bridge player. Norberto Bocchi has won the Italian Team Championships six times and for a record nine years has been first in the Italian ranking. With is partner, Giorgio Duboin, in addition to many other competitions, he has won three consecutive European Team Championships in 1997, 1999 and 2001, silver medal in the European Pairs Championships and gold at the Olympiad in Maastricht in 2000. *Unfortunately Noberto's mother was taken ill the week before the Grand Prix and he is unable to be with us in Salt Lake City. We are informed that she is making a good recovery.*