

May 8, 2006

Hawks 4 – Brouwer 0

It is amazing what an influence an “active” Goshawk has on the mind of a pigeon fancier.

I saw him often in the wintertime. When I woke up in the morning he would sit on the cage of my loft. He was big and beautiful and quite at ease. “This is ridiculous. I have to do something about that” I said to myself.

I collected approx. 6 tennis balls as ammunition and was ready for the intruder. He seems quite surprised when I ran out on the deck firing tennis balls at him. My next step was to take our birdfeeder away and this took away his morning breakfast. He came back a few times but as soon as he saw any movement in the house he knew the “madman” was on his way and he took off.

A few weeks before the races started, I let the birds out.

I did not trust my winter friend and I stayed in the backyard. Cold or not, I was there. I only saw him once. He shot over the rooftops at great speed. My birds were little specks in the sky!

But the hawk is winning. Up till now three old birds and one young bird have become the victims. Pay back time. I am glad hawks do not know how to throw tennis balls!

Tom Brouwer

