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What's The Problem?

by Ron Borg

Opponents can be expected to defend at befits a *Matchpointer* cover problem—perfectly. How do you play Four Hearts? Make your plan and then turn to page 9.

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I expected this issue to be bigger, but for a rather different reason.

When I printed the ACBL Task Force's Suggestions to save bridge, I thought that, like those of us who discussed and argued the report for weeks on the Internet, the local bridge community would be shocked at enough of the proposals to put pen to paper and write their local newsletter with their problems.

Well, that didn't happen. Nobody even mentioned it to me.

It isn't because the Classic Card is secretly accepted by a majority of bridge players. Amid some fanfare, the classic card game at the Bridge Centre (Friday afternoons) is having a tough time of it, although it is still perhaps too early to tell after only two weeks.

So why was the local community not interested in a topic that intensely interested Internet bridge players? Partly it is that the Internet

bridge community has a higher proportion of "expert" players. But a lot has to come right down to apathy, a problem affecting the bridge population quite seriously. We (as a whole) don't really care very much about the long-term welfare of the game, as long as our local club doesn't pack up and run off. We don't seem to realize that this type of attitude leads inevitably to exactly that consequence. Apathy is that elusive enemy that nobody sees because of his conspicuousness. Doug Cowan announces and holds a meeting 30 minutes before gametime to try and get some volunteers for the upcoming local NABC and only a handful show up. A Sectional advertises Trophy Presentations and the winners don't make a point of being there. A local team of keen, improving young players goes to the NABC at the other end of the continent and wins a national championship—and gets their promised subsidy money only months later—when the Unit Board has time to deal with it. It's you, it's me, it's all of us, we play bridge but declining table counts don't concern us nearly as much as a small raise in card fees.

We need to reverse this. We need to sell our game, in all its aspects: from cutthroat to deep-thought to social. Send your ideas along. Please. —Bruce McIntyre

MATCHPOINTER

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MATERIAL (SEND SOME!)

All suggestions and contributions are welcomed. Articles, letters, information, club news, and tournament results may be mailed, or given to any Unit Board Member or dropped off at a Unit 430 club. Several Board Members have fax numbers or e-mail addresses. We encourage *all* members to submit material for publication.

Contributors (Thanks!)

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"Harry-The-Horse"

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"The Hideous Hog-In-Training"

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ACBL MAD Line

*Unit 430's many Club Managers
and anyone missed*

President's Message

by Jennifer Ballantyne

With the Evergreen Sectional behind, the IMP League underway, the COPC and CNTC qualifying rounds upon us and the NAOP District Finals just ahead at the Round-Up Sectional, fall Bridge is well in hand. The timing of our September Sectional was unintentionally unfortunate and resulted in a distinct drop in participation. Although we are at the mercy somewhat of District Nineteen tournament scheduling, your Unit 430 Board is working to ensure that future sectionals do not conflict with religious observances.

The Unit has been saddened and diminished by the death of a longtime member, Leo Steil. A Seniors Pairs Trophy will

be presented annually in his memory at one of our Sectionals.

I would like to emphasize that the basis of our enjoyment of Bridge is mutual respect and consideration for all other players. Any player who encounters negative behaviour is not only entitled to lodge a complaint without fear of reprisal but is encouraged to do so. A forthcoming article in the *Matchpointer* will outline the process for laying complaints.

The Round-Up Sectional on November 7-10, 1996 will be held at a new site: the Surrey Inn. We hope that its proximity to the SkyTrain and restaurants, lots of free parking plus Bracketed Knockout Teams, pairs games and the District-wide N.A.O.P. Finals will result in a large turnout. We welcome all players and wish you good luck AND A GOOD TIME!

Entertainment '97

Entertainment '97 books will be on sale at the November Sectional at the Surrey Inn! These valuable books contain hundreds of discounts and two-fers. You'll save on food, accommodation and more, in Vancouver, Victoria, Washington State and beyond. This year's edition covers all of the Lower Mainland plus selected coupons for locations in Victoria, Seattle, and other cities. Best of all, proceeds from the sales of these books help support bridge subsidy funding!

The cost is \$46 per book, including GST.

An excellent gift for early holiday shoppers!

Unit 430 thanks Jennifer Ballantyne and her assistants: Rhonda Foster, Jean Groome, Louis Landau and Lauren Miller, for their help in this important fundraising effort. Each year over \$1,000 is raised to offset the costs of our local winners as they compete in out-of-town District and National Finals.

To reserve your copy, call:
Jennifer Ballantyne

438-3095

Prognosticatorial I Flight A by Harry the Horse

With the IMP League season once more upon us, your intrepid correspondent has been asked to scrutinize the inscrutable; to solve the unsolvable; to make sense of the senseless—in other words, to offer up his completely fanciful predictions for this seasons round-robin play.

This year's lineups of teams can be compared to a pennant race when baseball consisted only of the National and American Leagues, with first, second, and third division clubs fairly easy to

predict at the start of each season.

At the risk of stating the obvious, the Davis, Foster, Lindsay and Hernandez teams are favourites to make the play-offs. The race for the remaining three positions should be hotly contested with Thomas, Pocock, and Dickie appearing to have the inside track. Teams with somewhat less likely chances are Doner and Bullis, while Johnson and Lochang are true longshots, capable of surprising on a given day but unlikely to sustain a good performance over the full season.

Gord DAVIS (Don Brazeau, Nathan Divinsky, Aidan Ballantyne,

Dan Jacob, Michael Strebinger) A simple team philosophy that says "if we score more runs than the opposition, we win," and, for the most part, they do. Eligible to be upset, after all some of the arms are ancient, they continue to survive on the big inning while making their opponents chip away. If the last five or six years are an indicator, it's a successful formula.

Probable Record: 11-2

VP Total: 250-260

Probable Finish: 1st.

Rhonda FOSTER (Gord McOrmond, Greg Arbour, Gerry McCully, Lynn Fleming) Another proven group of veterans

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

with few weaknesses. Expect them to emerge on the long end of several high-scoring contests.

Probable Record: 10-3

VP Total: 235-245

Probable Finish: 2nd.

Felipe HERNANDEZ (Mike Wilson, Mike Neagu, Lawrence Betts) A young improving group with several Gold Gloves, and an excellent starting rotation led by Mike "Lefty" Wilson. They should be in the thick of the pennant race from opening day and could easily improve on their predicted finish.

Probable Record: 9-4

VP Total: 220-230

Probable Finish: 3rd.

Doug THOMAS (Gary Phelan, Peter Walton, Jim Marshall, Dan Watson, Ted Hicks) No superior pitching, an adequate bullpen at best, only average power from both sides of the plate, and no Gold Gloves on defense. What can explain their continued success? It must be chemistry...but Manager Thomas refuses to discuss the chemicals involved!

Probable Record: 9-4

VP Total: 210-220

Probable Finish: 4th.

Cam LINDSAY (Ron Borg, Paul Hagen, Don Brander, Dave Waterman, Steve Vincent) An environmentally-friendly group—lots of recycled parts. A serious playoff contender in any case and they could finish as high as second and as low as eighth.

Probable Record: 9-4

VP Total: 205-215

Probable Finish: 5th.

June POCOCK (Larry Pockock, Wilf May, Derek Ward, Kathy Adachi Don Sache) Another ever-achieving group of perennial playoff contenders. They should be one of six or seven teams fighting for the last three playoff spots and their success may depend on how well their more mercurial players perform in the close games. Not many long-ball threats so they'll have to keep the score close and win in the late innings.

Probable Record: 8-5

VP Total: 200-210

Probable Finish: 6th.

Jim DICKIE (John Anthony, David Sokolow, Carolyn Levi, Brian Maksymetz, Bill Osten) An interesting mix of experienced veterans, unproven minor-leaguers and imports. They should improve on last year's record and might even threaten a first division finish, but don't bet the farm on it. A more likely scenario will find them in a dogfight for the last playoff position.

Probable Record: 7-6

VP Total: 190-200

Probable Finish: 7th.

Cam DONER (Nicci Charleson, Bill Goldstone, Marylou Bert, Tom Devine) A smooth fielding, long-ball hitting collection, but the starting rotation may be suspect and the middle relief corps will probably be worn out before the season's end. Nevertheless, home runs win games, and this side could hit plenty.

Probable Record: 6-7

VP Total: 185-195

Probable Finish: 8th.

Anne-Marie BULLIS (Les Fouks, Robert Sauve, Jean Groome) They will probably upset a few teams that don't take them seriously. But they're capable of losing games they should win. So while they may flirt with a playoff spot for a good part of the season, at the end of the schedule they'll be on the outside looking in.

Probable Record: 5-8

VP Total: 180-190

Probable Finish: 9th.

Martin JOHNSON (Eugene Chan, Brian Russell, Bill Gamble, Sarlo Cammas) An eclectic assortment to say the least. Manager Johnson will need a deft touch shuffling his lineup with players going back and forth between the parent club and the farm team. Still, you never know which of these boys from the farm will blossom into a superstar. If this were a hot air balloon race these boys would be favorites. The rules, however, demand that you touch all four bases to score a run and Manager

Johnson will have his hands full keeping the squad on the basepaths. Not a serious playoff contender in any case.

Probable Record: 5-8

VP Total: 175-185

Probable Finish: 10th.

Ken LOCHANG (Paul Sontag, Anne Nagy, Ken Robertson, Ed Ashen-hurst) A jigsaw puzzle with a couple of pieces missing. Adequate offense and pitching but a bullpen that is a definite question mark. One of five or six teams that could contend for the last couple of playoff positions but more likely an also ran.

Probable Record: 5-8

VP Total: 175-185

Probable Finish: 11th.

Leslie LAUDAN (Roger Allen, Greg Lam, Jules Wilkens) An international collection that looks like it will need some seasoning. The fireballing Roger Allen will be called on to log a lot of innings and will probably find the tank empty by the end of the season. Not likely enough offense to threaten very often.

Probable Record: 3-10

VP Total: 125-135

Probable Finish: 12th.

Doug COWAN (Pat Landau, Steve Beaton, Mary Fines) Plenty of experience but not enough at this level. While they may keep many games close to the late innings, they don't figure to win more than three or four.

Probable Record: 3-10

VP Total: 110-120

Probable Finish: 13th.

Geoff FETTERLEY (Fred Brown, Pauline McClafferty, Patti Adams) An eager group who, no doubt, are entering the season with modest enough expectations but will probably be happy to see the end of it just the same. If it's true that we learn from our defeats then this season should represent a glorious opportunity.

Probable Record: 1-12

VP Total: 100-110

Probable Finish: 14th.

Prognosticatorial IIa Flt. B (Valley) by Jimmy the Turk

It's amazing what a little grassroots efforts can accomplish!

A few months ago, a few bridge players in the eastern Fraser Valley had an idea—to have their own IMP League stocked with local players and without the necessity of travel to far-away Vancouver (they had long since learned that if they entered the regular IMP League few teams were prepared to travel to far-away Abbotsford or Chilliwack). After discussions with the Unit Board, it was agreed the locals would do all the organizing and the league would form a separate Flight B division (the 0-1,500 MP limit includes all the regular players in the area)—thus allowing the event to be sanctioned and allowing the eventual champion to meet the “city” champions for the overall Flight B title.

Eight teams were drummed up for this year—a remarkable first effort. The

league is set to have a tremendous year, with a heavy emphasis on education! Just about everyone in the league knows everyone else and, better still, there is a genuine friendship among all the players. Even those players without many masterpoints or much IMP experience should find the exposure to this form of bridge invigorating.

Like the area it is set in, the league teams include both mountains and valleys. The mountains dominate the landscape but it is the valleys which give the league its base and rural character. If the mountains can keep the pressures off the valleys, everyone in the League should enjoy the experience and benefit from the exposure to IMP play. Even though the emphasis will be on camaraderie, this is organized bridge, and that means a winner and a loser in each match. With that in mind, here is Jimmy the Turk's view of the mountains and valleys this year:

MOUNTAINS

1. **Joan Olson (Arlene Browning, Pat Carruthers, Lois Mazuren, Louis Vervoort)** This team gets the top pick for two reasons: 1) it includes the league's two organizers, Carruthers & Mazuren, so they have something to prove, and 2) it is the only team of just life masters. All have previous IMP League experience (Mazuren is a former champion), which should help immensely. Olson, Carruthers and Mazuren have developed a three-way partnership, with opponents liable to see any combination at any time, although with Carruthers having imported her old standby, Browning, expect to see a lot of the Olson-Mazuren pairing. The question is, how will Vervoort get along with the ladies? **Rating: 22/30**

2. **Gary Skoropada (Brad Fletcher, John Richoux, Flora Tereposky)** This four-bagger could easily top the league. Skoropada and Tereposky are two highly experienced players who excel at team bridge. Fletcher's lack of life master sta-

(Continued on page 6)

Prognosticatorial IIb City B Lg., by the Hog-In-Training

Eight teams have entered the city Flight B IMP League, and four of them will make the playoffs. Notable this year are two things: the absence of certain IMP League perennials and the lack of a single six-player team. No doubt the new strict substitutions rule (no six-bagger may use a substitute for any reason, and if a team uses a substitute, the substitute becomes a member of the team) is at work here—the Hog's first prediction is that substitutes will play a major role in the final standings. It therefore becomes a question of who is behind the curtain waiting for a cameo appearance, because four or five is not enough to complete a season. I'm guessing about the actual substitutes mentioned below—the truth may well be ever stranger.

Diane AYUKAWA (Richard Dunn, Arkadiusz Sitek, James Burt) The system wars in the City B League consisted of a scramble by the contending captains to sign Sitek-Burt, mostly in order that they wouldn't have to contend with the Polish Club system they usually play. Dunn and Ayukawa know how to get the most from opponents who arrive at the table after being confused by the clubbing for 14 boards.

Predicted finish: 1st. W-L Record: 5-2, 140 VP.

Potential substitutes: hard to tell. These are two well-developed partnerships. If substitutes are used they'll be best used sparingly.

Kelvin RAYWOOD (Kristin Orians, Kathy Bye, Sky Williamson) We still look forward to the day that Kathy captains a team and gets a forfeit because the opposition thinks they have the day off when they see their posted opponents, but that was unlikely in an 8-team league... Raywood-Orians have had several strong matchpoint results to go along with their victory in the non-LM Swiss at the Miami NABC, and will provide the basis for a good record. Williamson and Bye can play if they stick to the speed limit.

Predicted finish: 2nd. W-L Record: 5-2, 136 VP.

Potential substitutes: Peter Taylor and the Hog-In-Training are waiting in the wings. Their frequency of use may decide first place. Taylor is eager but cannot hope to duplicate the intricacy of the Raywood-Orians system without serious memory work. The Hog is an even worse scenario—he *thinks* he knows the system...

Tai ENG (Insa Fricker, Peter Wong, Fred Powell, Diane Isfeld) Same as the squad that last year eked out the last wild-card spot. Since Eng's arch rival Meyer crushed him last year (well, crushed is perhaps a little harsh when they lost by 1 IMP and 3 IMPs, but rivalry games are never close), we expect the reverse to happen this year.

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tus is a reflection of lack of tournament play rather than a lack of talent. Certainly, Skoropada-Fletcher is one of the most respected partnerships in the valley. The dark horse is Richoux. Will his play keep up to his teammates? Recent results at valley clubs suggest it will which means trouble for opponents. **Rating: 21/30**

3. David Schmidt (Dan Goerzen, Jim Groves, Brian Lee, Jim Sache) The up and coming Lee, already well established at local clubs, has attracted three former IMP League champions in his quest to enter the IMP scene at the top. The strategy could well work. Groves, Sache and Schmidt have the talent and know what it takes to win at IMP's, although they seem to have lost a step recently. Goerzen could suffer from his lack of regular play. Two questions: with their busy workloads and erratic schedules, will the team be able to field four players on any given night, and, do they still have the desire to win? **Rating: 20/30**

4. Dan Webster (Lenora & Phil Awram, Larry Chow, Ken Cowherd) The Awrams won the Flight C IMP League two years ago, then, with Webster, reached the Flight B finals last year. Can they continue that record? Maybe. Webster is on a roll. He represented District 19 in the GNT Flight C finals in Miami, where he won the North Ameri-

can Non-Life Master Swiss Teams. Thus his team is the only one which can claim an ACBL National Champion on its roster. Chow's recent tournament experience makes him a valuable addition, although his tournament schedule could severely limit his availability. In that case, Webster expects to call on Cowherd, a reluctant participant despite his preference for, and prowess at, rubber bridge. If Webster can get the maximum out of Chow or Cowherd, lookout! **Rating: 18/30**

VALLEYS

5. Eileen Van Pelt (Roy Van Pelt, Walter and Connie Schmid) The Schmidts are back after reaching the Flight B IMP League finals last year, but with new teammates. These two husband-wife teams are unlikely to suffer from the discord which often accompanies marital pairings at the bridge table. Even if that happens, they can switch partners with no loss in team performance. Nonetheless, the quality of the teams rated above them make their chance at reaching the finals this year remote. **Rating: 14/30**

6. Dennis Huber (Carol Hames, Roselle McRae, Doug & Donna Steinson) McRae, a former Flight B champion, headlines this varied crew. The problem is, she will likely be relegated to spare status, as Huber/Hames and the Steinsons are likely to carry most of the load. The Steinsons are the main-

stays of the Chilliwack club but have made few forays into team or tournament bridge, while Huber/Hames, both enthusiastic club regulars, may find themselves outgunned in most matches. **Rating: 10/30**

7. Andrew Faulkner (Tony Dare, Ann Knowlan, Phyllis Quigg) Faulkner and Knowlan are taking advantage of the new Valley League to test their enthusiastic, ever-improving partnership at IMP play. It should stand them in good stead for the future, as the future is when they should expect the fruits of this labour to ripen. Dare provides experience and a steady influence but is unlikely to be challenged by Quigg who should also reap great benefits from the exposure to IMPs. **Rating: 9/30**

8. Sharon Reider (Larry Chequis, Sheila Gentry, Moira McLellan, Kathy Orr): We all start as novices in our bridge career and that is the position this team is in. While the team would be competitive in a Flight C setting, it is overmatched in this field. However, since team members know most of the players they will be facing, and play against them regularly at local clubs, the IMP experience should be positive rather than stressful. They may even surprise a team or two. **Rating: 6/30**

(Continued from page 5)

Predicted finish: 3rd. W-L Record: 4-3, 110 VP.

Potential substitutes: Matchpointer prognosticators have for some time tried to convince Mr. Eng to get Isfeld's partner Dwayne Dicks into the squad. Watch for it this year if things get rough.

Larry MEYER (Dick Simpson, Bob Takashita, Jim McKenzie, Rod Coote) The most difficult team to predict in Flight B history. Last year's winners, they were picked 7th of 8 by this reviewer. We are hedging our bets and putting them in the middle somewhere. To do otherwise would ensure that they finish at the other end of the table from what we predict.

Predicted finish: 4th. W-L Record: 4-3, 109 VP.

Potential substitutes: Rick Hoggarth joined the team for a shot at the CNTC Unit Final last February and got them to second in a tough field. If he joins

and they form three partnerships, results may stabilize. Nah, that'd make it too easy for the predictor...

Hazel DRESSLER (Betty Fawcett, Shirley Bowers, Fortune Aknin, Pauline Lee) Many relatively new faces here, at least to recent IMP League competition. The lack of League experience is met by an abundance of playing experience. They'll be in the hunt for a playoff spot all the way.

Predicted finish: 5th. W-L Record: 4-3, 105 VP.

Potential substitutes: Burnaby and Arbutus Village must have somewhere in their regulars roster a potential substitute.

Don SHARP (Gail Sharp, Jamie Brown, Sue Bradford) This team consists of the steady Sharps, a relative unknown in Jamie Brown, and, admittedly judging from a single session where your prognosticator himself was strapped in for dear life, and facing potential telephone numbers more often than he cares to remember, the unpredictably aggres-

Future Stars Report

by Anne-Marie Bullis

The 1996 Future Stars Tournament was held at the Vancouver Bridge Centre on October 5th and 6th, with Brian Russell directing. Players with less than 100 masterpoints competed in a fun, four-session sectionally-rated tournament for silver points. Attendance this year was up about 40% from last year's tournament, an encouraging turnaround from a steady decline for the past several years.

The tournament started with a bang—eleven tables in the stratified pairs and three in the 0-20 game. In addition to the winner's prizes for each flight, watches with the label "Future Stars" and the four suit symbols, there were also table prizes donated by BCAA: cruise booklets, pens and key-chains. Congeniality awards were given out each session; in the first session the winner was Bill Henning.

The Saturday Evening Session had seven tables in the stratified open pairs and three in the 0-20 section. Matthew Bagdan won the Congeniality Prize for his cheery smile.

The Sunday Morning Session matched the Saturday Evening session for table count. Karen Westland from Kirkland WA was the Congeniality Winner for her unfailing geniality.

Our last event was the Open Swiss Teams with eight teams. Dawn Smith won the Congeniality prize for her lovely personality. Even the winners of the "Hard Luck" prize, Simon & Vana Matthews, managed to score a few

(Continued from page 6)

sive Sue Bradford. In fairness, though, I must say that the result of this session was surprisingly good—the "Islanders" fortunes may depend upon how much havoc the Bradford overall wreaks on opponents and how much on teammates.

Predicted finish: 6th. W-L Record: 3-4, 92 VP.

Potential substitutes: Peter Jacquest and Cornell Sawchuk have placed with Don Sharp in out-of-town tournaments and may appear sporadically.

Ruby JACKSON (Sandra Hawk, Semiral Tuncer, Kenny Chan, Julian Lee) We all need a way to make insoluble bridge arguments end, and with Jackson and Hawk the solution is one of the best I've seen. Soon enough, mother or daughter will invoke closure by the magic phrase "d'you want another beer?" It remains to be seen whether this philosophy will be adopted by the team; if so, it will be interesting to see if Tuncer, Chan, and Lee can reach bid-boxes from the floor.

match awards in the Swiss Teams.

79 people played in the tournament, and 56 of them went home with more silver points than they arrived with. The overall winners will be found on the winners page. We thank all the people who helped to make the tournament a success:

- ♠ director Brian Russell, who donated sets of hand records for each session
- ♥ our friends at the Vancouver Bridge Centre, who provided refreshments and coffee throughout
- ♦ Les Fouks, William Bullis, and BCAA who provided many table and congeniality prizes

♣ our three guest speakers for their fine lessons to the attendees: Arlene Browning, Aidan Ballantyne, and Kelvin Raywood

♠ Donna Morrison, Diane Isfeld and Margie Neate, who came early to match up players looking for partners

♥ the regular players at the City Unit Game, who moved into the front room at the VBC to cause a minimum of disruption

♦ Ken Robertson and David Schmidt for their presentations on behalf of the Flight C IMP League and the coming Flight C separate section at Monthly Unit Games

♣ Jude Goodwin-Hanson for another excellent promotional flyer, and Donna Morrison who printed another 100 when needed

♠ Kathy Adachi and Margie Neate who helped with promotion of the event

And of course we thank all of the players who came out and played. We hope to see those of you still eligible next year at this time!

Predicted finish: 7th. W-L Record: 2-5, 78 VP.

Potential substitutes: those two French guys from the serialized Labatts commercials are fighting for the final spot.

Ed MARCHUK (Priscilla Brown, Christa Mead, Marylou Varga) Team Pleasant will surprise someone: nice folks may finish last, but somebody always gets caught napping when they face such cordiality and composure in the face of battle. The job of a predictor is a difficult one, and the last thing we need is to be abused by those we pick for last place. The solution is of course to pick the nicest team for last, which is the true genesis of the Stengel phrase. I always root for the underdog.

Predicted finish: 8th. W-L Record: 1-6, 70 VP.

Potential substitutes: I'm sure there are several possibilities: there are certainly many fine emerging players out there. After he reads the prediction Ed may hire a couple of grumbling nasties to climb from the last place spot reserved for nice people...

Calling all non-Life Masters! Unit 430's IMP League, needs more teams in Flight C as soon as possible. League matches are played about once every 3-4 weeks, and the emphasis is on fun and learning. To sign up, call Shirley Fitterman today at 731-7077.

Dorothy Gavigan

Playing through eight decades

A few months ago, three South Surrey clubs held special parties in conjunction with their regular bridge games to honor one of their regular players, Dorothy Gavigan, on the occasion of her 90th birthday. It was a well-deserved honor. Gavigan's friendly demeanor and sharp mind have been gracing bridge tables around the world for about 80 years.

"I first learned bridge at the age of 12. I had an uncle who was head of the math department at the academy where I went to school. He was a bridge player and taught his three sons and me. Over the years, I moved from rubber to contract to duplicate," she recalls, noting she first played duplicate in her native Scotland almost 50 years ago.

Playing duplicate was natural as Gavigan has always relished competition. She won proficiency awards in math and art in high school, won several tennis cups and swam competitively in her younger years, and still considers herself "a better golfer than I am a bridge player" although she has not played golf for about ten years.

That could change. "I still have my shoes and golf bag," she notes.

In Scotland, she played ACOL with four-card majors. However, when she came to Canada in 1968 and went to the Winnipeg duplicate club "no-one would play with me." So she took a course in Standard American ("It cost me \$20 at the time") and has been playing it ever since.

"I prefer it," Gavigan says, "you can support your partner's major with three cards and when partner opens a minor, you know she doesn't have a five-card major." She has seen a lot of changes in bridge over her lifetime, some good and some not so good. "The standard of play has been improving all along," she says, "but they have so many conventions here in Canada. It's difficult to keep up with them all. You have to keep looking at the card or asking what a bid means. It holds up the game so much."



Gavigan says she has always played bridge for the enjoyment. "I go to enjoy the game. I like to win like everyone else but it doesn't bother me if I don't." She is also not dismayed by criticism. "It doesn't bother me if my partner criticizes something I do. How else are you going to learn?"

Learning is critical to Gavigan, not surprising considering she was a teacher by vocation (she has also been an alderwoman, council member, i.e., MLA, and justice of the peace), and it is something she has never stopped doing. "I still read the newspaper cover to cover every day."

So is teaching. She chastises local life masters for not doing enough in that regard. "Over here, the life masters all play with each other. They should make more of an effort to play with the less experienced players and help them upgrade their play. That way the poorer players would not be so intimidated and would come out to the clubs more."

Although she has over 300 points, Gavigan is not a life master herself, noting "I still need 25 golds." That is because she never attends any regionals, saying "it's too far and too costly." Even getting to local bridge is sometimes difficult as she has not had a driver's licence since coming to BC. "I passed the written test but was babysitting my grandsons and never seemed to have the time to get the road test. It's probably just as well, since if I had my licence I'd probably still be driving."

Instead, she relies on obtaining rides from other local players, which is usually not a problem. "The players are all so understanding and helpful. They're so good to me." She is particularly thankful for Thony Stiennon, saying he arranges most of her partnerships, thus allowing her to continue playing the game that has been part of her entire life. "If I didn't have the bridge, I don't know what I'd do."

Give Me A Hand

by Joerg Schneider

Try this little double dummy problem. West has opened a 12-14 NT, so the high cards are "marked." You are in Six Spades and the lead is the King of Spades.

Answer on page 10

Board #8 W dir, none vul	NORTH ♠ A76543 ♥ J432 ♦ K ♣ AK	6♠ by South Lead: K♠
WEST ♠ KQ ♥ KT9 ♦ Q643 ♣ QJ87	SOUTH ♠ JT982 ♥ AQ65 ♦ AJT2 ♣ -	EAST ♠ - ♥ 87 ♦ 9875 ♣ T965432

Getting To Dummy

by Louis Landau

Whatever your style of bidding, you should get to a spade contract, and even if you don't get to the slam, when you play duplicate bridge, you should always try to make the maximum number of tricks.

When declarer looks at dummy after the Q♣ lead, she can count two losers, the A♦ and a heart. Obviously there is nothing declarer can do about the missing ace, but is there anything that can be done



is no point in discarding this loser if you can't trump your losing heart in dummy. Both of these are obvious, but both have to be used to make the slam.

Your play has to be to arrange so that you will have a trump in dummy when you need it, so you first have to drive out the A♦, after winning the

opening lead with your A♣. It does not matter whether or not West takes the A♦ immediately or holds up, but what does matter is that you do this before drawing trumps to ensure the second part of your plan. When West does take the ace and returns the obvious club to your king, you can now draw two rounds of trumps, being careful to leave one trump in dummy, and, of course, one trump with the opposition. You now play your diamonds and when, as happens in this hand, no one runs out of the suit, you throw away a heart from the dummy. Next you play your A♥ and K♥ and trump your third heart, once again heaving a sigh of relief when no one runs out of hearts! Now ruff a club to get back into your hand, and draw the remaining trump for an easy twelve tricks. If you think that this is a dangerous way to play the hand, remember that it is the *only* way to make twelve tricks, and at duplicate, this is what it is all about!

Board #5 N deals, N-S vul	NORTH ♠ 984 ♥ 653 ♦ 63 ♣ 98762	6♣ by East Lead: Q♣
WEST ♠ 532 ♥ QT4 ♦ AT42 ♣ QJT	SOUTH ♠ AKQJT ♥ AK2 ♦ KQJ ♣ AK	EAST ♠ 76 ♥ J987 ♦ 9875 ♣ 543

about the heart loser? It is all a matter of planning ahead, and I am sure you have heard that one before.

There are two stages to the play of this hand. Firstly, declarer has to realize that a losing heart can be discarded from dummy on the extra diamond winner. Secondly, there

Bad Break

by Ernie Dietrich

Well, double-dummy problems have been around for so long that Ernie may be the sender and not the creator:

642/-/T9652/J9752
—
KQJ876532
QJ
KQ
AKJ953/-/AK/AT643
Contract: 6 Spades. Lead: Heart King

Not only bad breaks, but perfect defense—can twelve tricks in spades be made against perfect defense? If so, 8743 how?
8

(answer on page 11)

What's the problem?

by Ron Borg

The opponents start with the ace and king of clubs, which you ruff. How do you play to make Four Hearts?

IMPS. Don't go down.	NORTH ♠ KJT ♥ QT7 ♦ Q53 ♣ 9854	4♦ by South Lead: A-K♣
WEST ♠ 8743 ♥ 2 ♦ 97632 ♣ AKJ	SOUTH ♠ Q965 ♥ AKJ98 ♦ AKJ ♣ 2	EAST ♠ A2 ♥ 6543 ♦ T8 ♣ QT763

The hand is subtly deceptive. The actual declarer played two rounds of hearts, and, when the suit failed to break, ruffed two more clubs in hand. This line failed when East proved to have 5 clubs.

A better line would be to switch to spades on learning the hearts have not split evenly. East will win and continue clubs, reducing you to one trump in each hand. If you continue with two more rounds of spades, East can thwart you by discarding a diamond on the third spade. If you continue with a fourth spade, East will discard another diamond. Playing a diamond before the fourth spade does not better. East will ruff the fourth spade and exit with a club. You must now lead a diamond, which East will ruff for the fourth defensive trick. Fortunately, most defenders are not so astute. Some are.

(Continued on page 11)

Matchpoint Doubles

by Kel Raywood

Playing in the flights B and C stratified pairs on Saturday at the Evergreen Sectional there were several opportunities for my partner and me to go for the maximum matchpoint result by doubling the opponents in part-score contracts. The first board of the final round of the afternoon session was this one.

Board #28 W deals, N-S vul	NORTH (Kel) ♠ J974 ♥ KJ963 ♦ AK ♣ 43	INTx by East Lead: T♥
WEST	EAST	
♠ AQ5 ♥ AQ875 ♦ T8 ♣ J85	♠ K62 ♥ 4 ♦ Q7654 ♣ KT92	
	S (Kristin)	
	♠ T83 ♥ T2 ♦ J932 ♣ AQ76	

WEST "Opener"	NORTH K. Raywood	EAST "Responder"	SOUTH K. Orians
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	

My double on the second round was based on well positioned hearts. I would have preferred slightly better spades and weaker diamonds so that partner would have the strength over declarer's presumed minor suit cards. East was probably worried about the double but decided to sit.

Kristin led the T♥ which held and continued with the deuce to the 8, my 9 and declarer pitched a spade. I returned my fourth best spade (declarer's INT implied less than four

spades). Declarer won in hand and, rather than playing clubs, went to dummy with a second spade to lead from the dummy. This enabled the defence to take two heart tricks, three diamonds, two clubs and a spade for down three and +500. This was a top but even if declarer had held it to down two we would still get +300 on a part-score hand and a fine matchpoint score.

Two boards later, a non-standard agreement that partner and I have for responding to negative doubles gave us an opportunity that probably wasn't available at most other tables.

Board #30 E deals, none vul	NORTH (Kel) ♠ Q984 ♥ QJ3 ♦ K4 ♣ AQJT	3♥x by East Lead: 4♠
WEST	EAST	
♠ JT7 ♥ AKT984 ♦ QT8 ♣ 4	♠ 63 ♥ 765 ♦ 6532 ♣ K963	
	S (Kristin)	
	♠ AK52 ♥ 2 ♦ AJ97 ♣ 8752	

WEST "Overcaller"	NORTH K. Raywood	EAST "Spectator"	SOUTH K. Orians
		Pass	1♦
1♥	Double (a)	Pass	2♠ (b)
3♥	Double	All Pass	

- (a) Negative, exactly four spades
(b) four spades, minimum opening

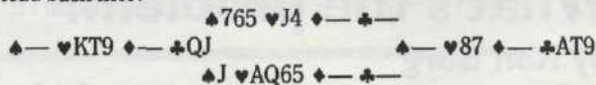
Kristin's jump to 2♠ in response to my negative double did not promise any extras but was the equivalent of raising

Solution to "Give Me A Hand" from page 8

Board #8 W dlr, none vul	NORTH ♠ A76543 ♥ J432 ♦ K ♣ T9	6♠ by South Lead: K♠
WEST	EAST	
♠ KQ ♥ KT9 ♦ Q643 ♣ QJ87	♠ — ♥ 87 ♦ 9875 ♣ AK65432	
	SOUTH	
	♠ JT982 ♥ AQ65 ♦ AJT2 ♣ —	

This is a simple "elimination and throw-in" problem: Win the ace of spades and then the diamond king, ruff a club, ace of diamonds pitching a heart, jack of diamonds. If West covers, ruff and return with a club ruff to get your heart pitch, otherwise pitch a heart and lead the ten. Now lead a spade to West. (If West refused to

cover both diamonds, you'll have pitched three hearts from dummy and you're already home.) Here's what he gets to lead back into:



He must concede a ruff-sluff or lead into the A-Q of hearts.

What?

Did I hear somebody say that the above hand is different from the problem hand? That North had ace-king of clubs, not the ten-nine?

True—but surely the hand can be played and made the same way!?

Oh I see—you never trump your partner's ace, let alone the ace-king on the same hand. Well, in that case...

a 1♠ response to 2♠ in an uncontested auction. This put West under a lot of pressure—most other Wests would get the opportunity to rebid 2♥ and leave further decisions to partner. Fearing that we might pass out 2♠, he ventured to the three level and I took the opportunity to show the defensive nature of my hand.

I started the defence with a low spade. Kristin won and made the killing switch to a trump. Declarer was now stuck. He could win and play a second round of spades ensuring a ruff but would be forced to start diamonds himself resulting in down three. In reality he tried a low club to the king. I hopped up with the ace, played the K♦ and a low diamond to Kristin who continued diamonds giving me a ruff with the J♥. A spade back and a fourth diamond promoted my Q♥ for the defence's seventh trick. When in with the A♠, a passive return of a trump by me would have resulted in down four as declarer would have to lose three spades, three diamonds, a heart and a club. Another case of the defence blowing a trick by getting busy at the wrong time. Nevertheless, our +500 beat all the N-S pairs in four spades making five and we scored seven and half matchpoints on an eight top.

For the final round of the evening session we sat down against a serious looking pair who were accompanied by a kibitzer positioned between me and my right opponent. On the first board of the round RHO forgot to take an ace allowing me to make a vulnerable game. We were prepared for them to try to get it back on the next board.

Board #17 N deals, none vul	NORTH	☺ Kibitzer
W (Kristin)	♠ T4 ♥ A72 ♦ AT9743 ♣ A3	
♠ 973 ♥ KT3 ♦ KQJ ♣ K652	SOUTH	EAST (Kel)
3♦x by North Lead: A♠	♠ Q65 ♥ 9864 ♦ 5 ♣ QT987	♠ AKJ82 ♥ QJ5 ♦ 862 ♣ J4

North opened ONE DIAMOND and I overcalled ONE SPADE. South thought that he had the values for a negative DOUBLE and Kristin showed her good three card raise with

a cue-bid of TWO DIAMONDS. We have other ways to show a four card raise after an overcall. North inquired about the cue-bid and continued the busy auction with a DOUBLE, presumably showing extra diamond length. I bid TWO SPADES which showed no interest in competing higher in spades—merely bidding to the level to which we were forced. South contributed the first PASS of the auction and Kristin also PASSED. At this point North either forgot that he had already shown extra diamond length, or didn't think that his partner had understood his double on the previous round. Perhaps he thought that his partner promised a bit more for his first round negative double. For whatever reasons North decided to try THREE DIAMONDS. I had more defence than I had promised for my overcall and Kristin might not be able to act if she believed the opponents and thought that my overcall was light. So I expressed my opinion with a DOUBLE which ended the auction.

WEST K. Orians	NORTH "Sputtering"	EAST K. Raywood	SOUTH "Sputnik"
	1♦	1♠	Double(a)
2♦ (b)	Double (c)	2♠ (d)	Pass
Pass	3♦ (!)	All pass	

I started with a high spade and Kristin's discouraging 3♠ showed that she could stand a shift to dummy's weaker side suit. I switched to the Q♥ and declarer finished down two and a cold bottom for his efforts.

On the final board, vigorous preemption caused our discouraged opponents to miss a reasonable slam that was bid by some, enabling us to gain over a full board on the round. The kibitzer was consoling the source of her evening's entertainment while we decided to try the house Merlot while waiting for the scores.

[Editor's note: the scores were probably better than the Merlot; Raywood-Orians won the event. I should also add that editorial comments within hand diagrams are my own, since I know not who was "Sputnik." I can imagine the sputtering, though... —McB]

(What's The Problem? continued from page 9)

Do you see what has to be done against best defense? It is difficult to visualize the hand as one involving trump control; your trumps are sooo good. Yet that is the technique called for on this deal. Draw one round of trumps with the ace and then start spades. Trump the club continuation and persist in spades. East has no good counter after ruffing for the third trick. A club continuation can be ruffed in hand (with a high trump) and declarer still has a trump to lead to dummy to draw trumps.

Deals like the one above, have a common theme: you

have an abundance of tricks but the opponents have found your tap suit. It is then that you must try to guard against 4-1 trump breaks without jeopardizing your contract should trumps be 3-2. Sometimes you do this by refusing to ruff until dummy can take the tap. In other cases it is necessary to draw only one trump and then force the opponents to ruff—following which you thrust home.

The Strong Drop Shift

by Felipe Hernandez

Playing in a local duplicate with your favorite partner you sit down against what is clearly a rookie-master combo. On your right is the master: a veteran of the Flight B wars who long ago decided the battlefield was far too dangerous and retreated to a peaceful but Low-Ranking Sergeant position (LRS) at HQ. On your left is the Eager Neophyte (EN). She has yet to see the front and may have to wait a long time if partner is to be her mentor.

You pick up this hand, second chair, white:

♠T9 ♥AK872 ♦Q54 ♣T32

LRS lays the 1♠ bid on the table. You pass and EN on your left bids 1NT, announced as forcing. 3♣ by the master, not announced as forcing. Your second pass is greeted with silence by the rookie. Clearly, she wasn't ready for this call. But, like a soldier who has just been outflanked by the enemy, she decides to lay low in the hope of getting out alive. She places a green card squarely on the table. "Absolutely no questions whatsoever," states your partner, expectantly. A surprised smile has crossed the face of the Sergeant. You lead the heart ace and the following bomb hits the table in dummy:

♠74 ♥9 ♦KJT2 ♣J98754

♠T9 ♥AK872 ♦Q54 ♣T32 (A♥ led vs 3♣)

Good Lord! Obviously, our young recruit has learned about having plenty in reserve. If she's going to outlast the enemy, she's not doing it without extra rations!

Partner signals with the queen so you continue hearts. Declarer ruffs, plays a trump to his ace, as partner...follows? Aha! The military's new super-secret weapon is revealed. It's the much ballyhooed Strong Drop Shift! You jump shift in a strong three-card suit, partner reads it and drops you like an armed warhead. But has it worked? Have they wreaked devastation across the land? Read on...

Declarer cashes the ace of diamonds, leads to his diamond king and ruffs a diamond with a high trump, catching your queen. Next he ruffs a heart to dummy, leads the good diamond and ruffs it with his queen! Well, he is only in three clubs. And he is beginning to look like a man who, resigned to his fate, will stoop to mediocrity to accomplish his tasks. Everyone is down to five cards at this point. You have a spade (you pitched one on the fourth round of diamonds), two hearts, and your two remaining clubs, one of which has just been promoted into a trick by all this business of ruffing

with honours.

Declarer now claims (!) by stating: "There's no more trump out, so I'll cash my two high spades and dummy will be good." Shell-shock, you surmise.

"Uh, excuse me, Mr. Sergeant sir," you say, "but I believe I get a trump trick."

"Oh?"

"I will ruff your second high spade."

"Oh."

"Making five was it?" we ask.

The full hand:

Board #15 S deals, N-S vul	NORTH ♠ 74 ♥ 9 ♦ KJT2 ♣ J98754	3♣ by South Lead: A♦
WEST ♠ T9 ♥ AK872 ♦ Q54 ♣ T32	SOUTH ♠ AK865 ♥ 654 ♦ A3 ♣ AKQ	EAST ♠ QJ32 ♥ QJT3 ♦ 9876 ♣ 6

WEST You	NORTH "E.N."	EAST Fav. Partner	SOUTH "Sarge"
			1♠
Pass	1NT (fcng)	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass!!!	"No Questions!"	

To review: they opened the South hand 1♠ when they might have bid 2NT. The 3♣ Jump Shift rebid was passed. Declarer butchered the play; then, with TWO trumps outstanding, tried to claim the rest of the tricks, believing there were NO trumps out. What a weapon this SDS.

What a weapon indeed. You receive a zero for your efforts. Every other South opened 2NT. Every other North decided 3NT was as good a spot as any, or else didn't have the tools to uncover a minor suit fit. Every other West led a heart and collected the first five tricks.

The master sits back in his chair knowingly. The neophyte is bursting with pride having held her ground while all others ran. Too late, you realize it is you and your partner who have been outflanked. You make a mental note to apply for that ship-painting post in the navy. There's no hazard pay but the hours are good.

642/—/T9652/J9752

Contract: 6 Spades. Lead: Heart King

club to West. His forced heart return allows you to ruff in dummy and under-ruff in hand again, and now when you run the diamonds East will be trump couped.

—
KQJ876532
QJ
KO

QT87
AT94
8743
8

Answer: Ruff the heart in dummy with the six and under-ruff in hand. Lead the two of spades and finesse, play A-K of diamonds, the ace of clubs, and a small

Nicely played, Mr. Kreskin!

Respectfully Submitted

by Pat Lester

It has been my pleasure (and privilege) to play bridge with Chester Michno and I marvel at his patience. I offer the following poem—picture this scene *several* decades from now:

Chester appears at the Pearly Gates,
His face is lined and old

He stands before the Man of Fate,
For entrance to the Fold

“What have you done?” Saint Peter asks,
“to gain admission here?”

“I’ve been Ernie Dietrich’s bridge partner, Sir,
for many and a year.”

The Pearly Gates swing open wide,
Saint Peter rings the bell

“Come in and choose your harp,” He says,
“You’ve HAD your share of hell!!”

You are both great guys! —Pat Lester

CRYPTOQUOTE

by Pat Stapff

Each letter in this bridge quotation is replaced by a different letter. For example each M might stand for the letter E, and each E might stand for the letter U, and so on at random until all the letters are substituted. Can you break the code and uncover the advice of a famous bridge personality? (Answer on page 29)

UF QCBBJV ZFD AFFY OFR CVJ WKCOPIA PU BZJ DVFUA LFUBVCLB

DFU,'B ZJKW OFR.

-AJFVAJ VFXJUNVCUG

The Valley Clubs

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Chilliwack Maple Ridge

Senior Recreation Centre
9400 College Street
Mondays at 7:30 pm
Stratified Games last
Monday each month
Dec 9: Chilliwack Milk
Bottle Fund Game
Dec 16: Christmas Club
Championship

Centennial Ctr. Seniors
Complex: 11940 224th St.
Wednesdays at 7:30 pm
Nov 6: Intl. Fund Game
Dec 18: Christmas Club
Championship
Club Championship
Winners:
Wilf Meyer/Laurie Cowan

Mission Abbotsford

Leisure Centre
7621 Taulbut Ave.
Thursdays at 7:30 pm
Dec 19: Christmas Club
Championship

McCallum Activity Centre
2478 McCallum Road
Fridays at 7:30 pm
ACBL Charity Winners:
Roy Van Pelt/Roland Perron

DON'T MISS THIS!

**13th Annual Abbotsford Charity Swiss Teams
Championship - 11:30 am, Sunday Oct. 27 (2
sessions) at McCallum Activity Centre.**

Hastings Bridge Club

1950 Windermere St., Vancouver

sandwiches **Marianne Scott** Wednesdays
cookies, tea/coffee **298-3932** at 10:30 am sharp

* **Jewish Community Centre Bridge Club** *
* **Thursdays at 11 AM at 950 W. 41st Ave., Vancouver** *
* **All players welcome! Connie Deltisle (263-9196),** *

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Rubber Bridge Saturdays

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 30: Helen Shields CBF Fall Rookie/Master Game
Nov 25: ACBL-wide Charity Game
Dec 13: VBC Christmas Party (watch for details)
COPC Club Qualifying Games:
7:30pm, Nov 5 or Nov 21
CNTC Club Qualifying Games:
noon/TBA, Dec 7 or Jan 4

RECENT WINNERS

North American 49er Pairs: Flora So/Peter Hanlan
(Sept 21); Jane Fyfe/Harry Greenhut (Sept 25)
Goofy Pairs Calcutta: Anicet Pinto/Arik Sitek
Rubber Bridge Tournament: Leszek Baldys
Royal Viking Inst. MP Pairs: E/W: Sue Bradford/Don
Sharp; N/S: J. Dan Duke/D.C. Brown (Nth. Carolina)

REGULAR GAMES (All but Friday Stratified)

(special events never pre-empt regular games)

Monday	7:30 PM	Intermediate (0-200)
Tuesday	10:45 AM	Stratified Open Game
		featuring the Best Lunch In Town!
	7:30 PM	Stratified Open Game
Wednesday	10:45 AM	New Novice Game (0-20)
	7:30 PM	Strat. Adv. Int. (0-750)
Thursday	7:30 PM	Novice (0-20)
	7:30 PM	Stratified Open Game
		(Beat The House Night)
		every second Thu nite: Tuna Challenge Jackpot
Friday	11:00 AM	Supervised Play
	1:00 PM	Classic Card Game
	7:30 PM	Open Lucky # Game
		last Friday of each month: TGIF party night!
Saturday	1:00 PM	Casual Bridge
Sunday	6:30 PM	Early Bird IMP Pairs
		scores count for quarterly ChIMPs championships
		2nd Sunday each month: Wine and Cheese night

Events show promise

Innovative games prove popular

Two recent VBC events showed that bridge is more than just matchpoints. In the annual Goofy Pairs event held Sept 27-28, 36 individuals signed up and were seeded into three classes. The players seeded in the middle class were added at random to the "expert" and "not-so-expert" groups and partners were drawn one from each group. A Calcutta auction was held after the lineup was determined on Friday evening, and the total bid was nearly \$1,000. A players pool based on the entry fees was also in play when the eighteen pairs faced off Saturday evening. Thirty boards later, the favoured pair: Anicet Pinto and Arik Sitek had trounced the field with a score 23 IMPS ahead of their nearest rivals. The final results:

1. Arik Sitek/Anicet Pinto +51
2. Shiela Dickie/Ruby Jackson +28
3. Aidan Ballantyne/Hoshang Shroff +24
4. Marylou Bert/Peter Hanlan +23
5. Gord Davis/Karen Denton +22
6. Sandra Hawk/Chester Michno +13
7. Ginny Forrester/Roger Allen +9

In the Rubber Bridge Tournament held on November 12, 24 participants played eight four-deal rubbers with different

partners, and the top sixteen qualified to play in the semi-finals. After a further eight deals, the top eight went head-to-head in the final "chukker." Leszek Baldys emerged at the top of the heap. The complete results:

	after prelim	after semis
1. Leszek Baldys	4th	2nd
2. Andrew Ross	6th	4th
3. Sefton Levine	1st	1st
4. Marylou Bert	12th	5th
5. Gina Diamond	5th	6th
6. Marguerite Chiarenza	2nd	3rd
7. Bill Goldstone	10th	8th
8. Garry Skoropada	7th	7th

Other semifinalists: Gerry McCully, Kal Kaleem, Lesley Laudan, Ram Hira, Ken Lochang, Roger Allen, Ian Price, Nancy Friedman.

ICBC Claims Personal Injury Cases Commercial Litigation

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Vancouver Bridge Club

St. David's Church, NW corner of
Taylor Way and Highway 1, West
Vancouver

Louis Landau - 984-8309

All games non-smoking

Monday 10:00 AM open
Wednesday 10:00 AM open
Wednesday 7:15 PM stratified

A separate 49er game will be run
Wednesday evening whenever
attendance allows

Computer Scoring Bid-boxes

Both Wed. games are jackpot games.

All holiday Mondays are PARTY
DAYS, with door prizes, goodies etc.

UPCOMING SPECIAL GAMES

Mon Oct 14: Thanksg. Day Charity Pairs
Wed Nov 7(am): Remembrance Day Pairs
Mon Nov 11: Handicap Game
Mon Dec 16: Morning Christmas Party
Wed Dec 18 (pm): Eve. Christmas Party
Wed Jan 1: John Reeve Individual
Tournament, special start time: 11 am

RECENT WINNERS

BC Day Pairs: Jinny Harper/Yvonne Klan
Membership Game:
Marina Page/Maria Dabrowski (A),
Helen Macdonald/Margaret Monk (B)
Labour Day Pairs:
Roger Allen/Lesley Laudan
Seeburg Trophy: Betty Harold/Win Trerise

Daytime Players of the Month

Marg Elligott (July), Shirley McKinney
(August), Bonnie Anderson (September)

Evening Players of the Month:

July: Doug Cowan (A), Hooshang Vessal
(B), Frank Jameson (C). August: Doug
Cowan (A), Hooshang Vessal (B).
September: Barbara Green (A), Paula
Thompson (B), Sid Robinson (C)

Club Championship Winners

Wed Aug 21 (am):
Claire Way/Kathy Bye
Wed Sept 25 (pm):
Victor & Angeline Bennington (A)
Lois Carry/Paula Thompson (B)
Madeline Willensen/Irene Fraser (C)

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Unit 430 Sanctioned Weekly Duplicate Game List

(Most recent update: September 25, 1996. Not including invitation-only clubs)

Day	Time	Club	Director	Game Details	Next CC	Last Reported Club Champions
Mon	10:00 am	VCR	L. Landau	open, HCP: 11 Nov	unscheduled	held after <i>Matchpointer</i> deadline
	10:45 am	BBY	H. Dressler	open	unsupplied	Harry Friedman/Gordon Kiel
	7:00 pm	SUN	R. Notzl	Teams	held 14 Aug	see Wednesday
	7:15 pm	SRY	A. Browning	open	21 Oct	held after <i>Matchpointer</i> deadline
	7:30 pm	CWK	B. Percher	STR: last	16 Dec	Joan Olsen/Pat Carruthers
	7:30 pm	KER	T. Trerise	open	unscheduled	held after <i>Matchpointer</i> deadline
	7:30 pm	SQU	W. Jonat	H: 1st, trophy race game: 3rd		annual trophy points race
	7:30 pm	TSW	F. Schultz	open	unsupplied	Marg & Axel Schulman
	7:30 pm	VBC	E. Chan	LP:0-200, stratified	unscheduled	Simon Matthews/Dan Webster
Tue	10:45 am	VBC	A.M. Bullis	stratified	unscheduled	Greg Arbour/Hoshang Shroff
	11:00 am	S-W	T. Stiennon	open	10 Dec	Maggie Warren/Daisy Neilson
	7:30 pm	NSW	M. Strebinger	open	unsupplied	none yet held
	7:30 pm	BBY	H. Dressler	open	unscheduled	held after <i>Matchpointer</i> deadline
	7:30 pm	VBC	A. Ballantyne	stratified	unscheduled	Shirley Fitterman/Jeanette Greenhut
Wed	10:00 am	VCR	L. Landau	open	27 Nov	Claie Way/Kathy Bye
	10:30 am	HAS	M. Scott	open	unsupplied	unsupplied
	10:45 am	VBC	E. Chan	LP:0-20	unscheduled	<i>new game</i> , none yet held
	1:00 pm	SUN	R. Notzl	open	held Aug 14	Individual: Pat Ashby
	7:15 pm	WRK	F. Schultz	STR: 30 Oct, 27 Nov	4 Dec	unsupplied
	7:15 pm	VCR	L. Landau	stratified	18 Dec	Victor & Angeline Bennington
	7:30 pm	C.R	A. Yallouz	open	13 Nov	Sheryl Brander/Pearl Minkoff
	7:30 pm	M-R	B. Percher	open	19 Dec	Wilf Meyer/Laurie Cowan
	7:30 pm	VBC	B. Russell	LP:0-750, STR	unscheduled	John Reay/Jane Fyfe
Thu	11:00 am	JCC	C. Delisle	open to all players	unscheduled	Nomi & Nadia Kaplan
	11:00 am	CLO	P. Stapff	open	5 Dec	Barb Stachowski/Tillie Nielson
	7:00 pm	SUN	R. Notzl	open	held 14 Aug	see Wednesday
	7:15 pm	F.V	T. Stiennon	open	12 Dec	Bill Goldstone/Marylou Bert
	7:30 pm	MIS	B. Percher	open	19 Dec	Brad Fletcher/Garry Skoropada
	7:30 pm	VBC	E. Chan <i>CH</i>	LP:0-20	unscheduled	Flora So/Nancy Belyea
	7:30 pm	VBC	G. Davis	stratified	unscheduled	June Pocock/Marylou Bert
	7:30 pm	VBC	E. Chan	LP:0-20	unscheduled	Flora So/Nancy Belyea
Fri	11:00 am	VBC	C. Delisle <i>CH</i>	Supervised Play—no masterpoint awards given		
	1:00 pm	VBC	A.M. Bullis	Classic Card Game	unscheduled	<i>new game</i> —none yet held
	7:30 pm	ABB	B. Percher	open	27 Oct(Sun.)	Roy Van Pelt/Roland Perron
	7:30 pm	NSW	L. Landau	Monthly Swiss Teams—first Friday of		each month only
	7:30 pm	S-D	T. Stiennon	Teams:22Nov, X:1Nov	13 Dec	Gord & Doreen McOrmond
	7:30 pm	VBC	E. Chan	TGIF Party: last	unscheduled	Liz Hicks/Roger Allen
Sat	1:00 pm	VBC	E. Chan	casual bridge <i>CU</i>	unscheduled	Toyo Nunoda/Bev Kanee
	1:00 pm	RMD	E. Dietrich	open, X: tournaments	15 Dec	unsupplied
Sun	6:30 pm	VBC	B. Russell	IP-STR, X:1st (MUG)	unscheduled	(tie)G.Arbour/F.Hernandez, E.Hodge/D.Morrison

GAME DETAILS abbreviations:

HCP=handicap game

LP=limited masterpoint game

X:n=game not held on *n*th week of each month

1st, 2nd, last, etc=only on the first, second last (or whatever)

week of each month (unless noted, all clubs that hold special games once a month hold open games on all other weeks)

STR=stratified game

IP=IMP Pairs scoring

Games limited to club members and guests are not listed here. Some clubs hold four quarterly club championships for each of their weekly sessions, others hold one for all of their weekly sessions. Most clubs will be happy to provide space and/or supplies for IMP League matches for a small table fee: but please contact the director in advance for fees and availability.

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Special Events at Clubs

October 28-December 25, 1996

(Quarterly Club Championship dates for Unit 430 clubs are also listed in the Weekly Duplicate Game List about four inches to the left of here.)

Date Time Club What's Happening

28 Oct	10:45	BBY	Charity Game
28 Oct	7:30	CWK	Stratified Game
30 Oct	7:30	VBC	CBF Helen Shields Fall Rookie-Master Game
30 Oct	7:15	WRK	Stratified Game
31 Oct	11:00	CLO	Hallowe'en Costume Swiss Teams
31 Oct	7:30	VBC	"Tuna Challenge" Jackpot game
1 Nov	7:30	S-D	No game; building unavailable (but call Thony at 951-7560 if you don't want to stay home)
2 Nov	7:30	NSW	Monthly Swiss Teams
3 Nov			Monthly Unit Game (6:30 VBC, 7:00 S-W)

Date Time Club What's Happening

4 Nov	7:15	SRY	Stratified Game
4 Nov	7:30	SQU	Handicap Game
5 Nov	7:30	VBC	COPC Club Qualifying Game
6 Nov	7:30	M-R	International Fund Game
7-10 Nov			Round-Up Sectional, Surrey Inn, most clubs closed
11 Nov	10:00	VCR	Remembrance Day Handicap Pairs
13 Nov	7:15	WRK	ACBL Membership Game
13 Nov	7:30	C.V	Club Championship
14 Nov	7:30	VBC	"Tuna" Challenge Jackpot Game
17 Nov	1:00	RMD	Membership Game
17 Nov	6:30	VBC	Wine and Cheese Night
18 Nov	7:15	SRY	Membership Trophy Game
18 Nov	7:30	SQU	Trophy Race Game
19 Nov	7:30	BBY	Club Championship
21 Nov	7:30	VBC	COPC Club Qualifying Game
22 Nov	7:30	S-D	"Candlelight Swiss Teams" (literally!)
25 Nov	7:30	CWK	Stratified Game
25 Nov	7:30	KER	ACBL Charity Game
25 Nov	7:30	VBC	ACBL Charity Game
27 Nov	10:00	VCR	Club Championship
27 Nov	7:15	WRK	Stratified Game
28 Nov	7:30	VBC	"Tuna Challenge" Jackpot Game
29 Nov	7:30	VBC	TGIF Party Night
2 Dec	10:45	BBY	Club Championship
2 Dec	7:15	SRY	Stratified Game
2 Dec	7:30	SQU	Handicap Game
4 Dec	7:15	WRK	Club Championship/Charity Game
4 Dec	7:30	C.V	Charity Game
4 Dec	7:30	M-R	International Fund Game
5 Dec	11:00	CLO	Club Championship
7 Dec	noon	VBC	CNTC Club Qualifying Game (2nd session TBA)
8 Dec	1:00	RMD	No Game—building unavailable
8 Dec	6:30	VBC	Wine & Cheese Night
9 Dec	7:30	CWK	CHWK Milk Bottle Fund Game
10 Dec	11:00	S-W	Club Championship
11 Dec	7:15	WRK	Christmas Party
12 Dec	11:00	CLO	No Game—building unavailable
12 Dec	7:15	F-V	Club Championship
13 Dec	7:30	S-D	Club Championship
13 Dec	6:30	VBC	Holiday Bash (preregister)
15 Dec	1:00	RMD	Club Championship
15 Dec	6:30		Unit 430 Christmas Party Unit Game at Burnaby Engineer's Hall (bridge 7:30)

Club Abbreviations and Contacts

ABB—Abbotsford DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389
ARB—Arbutus Village BC (by invitation only)	Shirley Bowers Susan Gyemant	732-3252 732-8555
BBY—Burnaby DBC	Hazel Dressler	524-4445
C.R—Central Richmond BC	Albert Yallouz	321-1891
CLO—Cloverdale BC	Pat Stapff	588-6794
CWK—Chilliwack DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389
F.V—Fraser Valley BC	Thony Stienon	951-7560
HAS—Hastings BC	Marianne Scott	298-3932
JCC—Jewish Com. Ctr. DBC	Connie Delisle	263-9196
KER—Kerrisdale DBC	Ted Trerise	261-5443
MIS—Mission DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389
M-R—Maple Ridge DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389
NSW—N. Shore Winter Club	Bernice Mulock	987-8289
RMD—East Richmond BC	Ernie Dietrich	936-2298
S-D—Sur-Del BC	Thony Stienon	951-7560
S-W—South-West DBC	Thony Stienon	951-7560
SRY—South Surrey BC	Arlene Browning	574-0299
SQU—Squamish DBC	Lorraine Hurren	898-2702
SUN—Sunshine Coast BC	Rudy Notzl	885-5552
TSW—Tsawassen BC	Finn Schultz	534-5025
VBC—Vancouver Bridge Centre	Club telephone #:	255-2564
VCR—Vancouver BC	Louis Landau	984-8309
WRK—White Rock BC	Kay Lyons	536-0486

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CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
16 Dec	10:00	VCR	Morning Christmas Party
16 Dec	7:15	SRY	Christmas Party
16 Dec	7:30	CWK	Christmas Party/Club Champ.
16 Dec	7:30	SQU	Final 1996 Trophy Race Game
17 Dec	7:30	BBY	Trophy Race Game
18 Dec	7:15	VCR	Evening Christmas Party Game
18 Dec	7:30	M-R	Christmas Party Game
18 Dec	7:30	C.R	Christmas Party Game
19 Dec	11:00	CLO	Christmas Party Game
19 Dec	7:30	MIS	Christmas Party Game
21 Dec	6:00	S-D	Christmas Party Dinner and Bridge (please pre-register)
22 Dec	1:00	RMD	Christmas Party

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
23 Dec	10:45		Christmas Party Game

ADVANCE NOTICE

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
1 Jan	11:00		John Reeve Individual Tournament (note different starting time)
4 Jan	noon		CNTC Club Qualifying Game (2nd session TBA)
5 Jan			Monthly Unit Game (6:30 VBC, 7:00 S-W)
18 Jan	noon		COPC Club Qualifying Game (2nd session TBA)

Seasonal Advice by the guy with the sax

We are blessed in this Unit with some fine Club Owners and Managers who go out of their way to spoil us, especially at Christmas time. Please do not take this

for granted. If you plan to attend a Christmas party (even if it is not completely certain you can make it), be sure to tell the organizers that you'll be there. Christmas Parties are best planned with a good idea of the expected turnout. Make sure you check with the organizers to find out what

kind of "do" the club is throwing—if dinner is involved there will likely be somewhat higher cardfees, which in the Christmas spirit you should be delighted to cough up!

And yes, that really is me behind the funny-looking saxophone. The computer band is artificial but I'm real.

News From Suburbia by Thony Stiennon

And slowly, 1996 is passing away—just another two or three months and Christmas will be here again. But before that, we still have a few games to play.

Every year, on the first Friday of November, the church hall is not available for our regular game at the Sur-Del Bridge Club. Unfortunately, this year the hall at the St. John United Church on Scott Road is not available either.

As much as I hated this, I was forced to therefore announce that there would be no game at the Sur-Del Bridge Club on Friday, November 1, 1996. And what did I hear? "Thony, do you mean we'll have to stay home?" Well, I thought, perhaps the rec-room in my apartment building could hold a small game—but please call me at 951-7560 if you want to come over, since there will be very limited space.

The next Friday—November 8, is the second day of our last sectional tournament for this year: there will be no game at the Sur-Del Bridge Club either. But...

Some of you will remember, a year ago, there was a little story in the *Matchpointer* titled "A Tale From the Dark". A

power shortage, during our November Swiss Teams at the Sur-Del Bridge Club, forced us to play with candles on every table. This year, we will not need the power shortage but we will have a "Candlelight Swiss Teams" on November 22, 1996: there will be three or four candles on each table but no electricity in the room. A different atmosphere and hopefully, lots of fun. PLEASE, PRE-REGISTER.

And now, let's talk about the Christmas Party for the three Clubs.

By popular demand, this will take place on Saturday December 21, 1996 at the St. Cuthbert Anglican Church. Dinner at 6:00 PM—Fun Bridge at 7:30PM. Insa Fricker has offered to be the Chef. She has all the experience and ability to create a dinner to remember. The menu has not yet been decided and therefore the cost for attending is still unknown. Santa will make a visit and it should be an evening full of laughter. The game itself will not be ACBL Sanctioned and no Master Points will be awarded. If you have any suggestions, I would be very pleased to hear about it. Again, Please PRE-REGISTER and let's end 1996 with a Bang...

Sunshine & Smiles!

S. Surrey Bridge Club

1284 184th Street (Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club), South Surrey

Director/Manager:

Arlene Browning-574-0299

Mondays at 7:15pm

Stratified Games first Monday of each month

Computer scoring Partners Guaranteed

SPECIAL EVENTS

Nov 18: Membership Trophy Game

Dec. 16: Christmas Party

SWISS TEAM WINNERS

Thony Stiennon, Betty Fawcett, Roman

Woroch, Nando Masini

White Rock Bridge Club

Sunnyside Community Centre
1854 154th St., White Rock, BC

Kay Lyons 536-0486

Wednesdays at 7:15 pm

SPECIAL EVENTS

Oct 23: Swiss Teams

Oct 30, Nov 27: Stratified

Nov 13: ACBL Membership Game

Dec 4: Club Champ. Charity Game

Dec 11: Christmas Party

North Shore Winter Club Bridge

1325 E. Keith Rd., N. Vancouver

Tuesdays at 7:30, Monthly Team Games:

7:30, first Friday each month

Bernice Mulock 987-8289

Mike Strebinger 942-6441

ARBUTUS VILLAGE

BRIDGE CLUB

Arbutus Village Recreation Centre
2b-4255 Arbutus Street, Vancouver

BY INVITATION ONLY

Shirley Bowers 732-3252

Susan Gyemant 732-8555

Thursdays promptly at 7:30 pm

SUBURBIA clubs

South-West Duplicate Bridge Club

Fraser Valley Bridge Club

Sur-Del Bridge Club

Thony Stiennon
(non-playing director)
951-7560

White Rock Elks Club
1469 George St.
White Rock BC

Century House
620 Eighth St.
New Westminster BC

St. Cuthbert Anglican
Church, 11601 82nd
Ave., Delta BC

Regular Game:

Tuesdays at 11 am

Thursdays at 7:15 pm

Fridays at 7:30pm

Club Championships:

December 10

December 12

December 13

Christmas Party:

December 21 at Sur-Del (pre-registration is required)

Special Games:

Nov. 21: "Candlelight Swiss Teams" st Sur-Del (literally!)

NO GAME November 1st at Sur-Del: but see "News from Suburbia"

Adventures with Leo

by Aidan Ballantyne

We all have Leo stories. Here are some of mine, punctuated by some of the lessons he taught me.

Way back in 1975, a couple of years after I began playing duplicate, Sheila Dickie noticed my preference for 4-card majors and a seat-of-the-pants approach that relied on good play to overcome bad bidding. "You should play with Leo Steil," she said.

A short time later I booked Leo to play an Open Pairs in the Nanaimo summer sectional. Leo had instructed me to buy the entry explaining he'd arrive right at game time after

getting off night shift (at that time Leo was at the height of his career as a ferry captain for CP). My nervousness increased as game time approached. I was still pretty green and Leo was one of our city's leading lights. Would I make the grade? Perhaps more to the point, would Leo make it to the game on time?! Leo duly arrived and we found our seats. Having completed our convention card in no time flat (neither Leo nor I knew many conventions) we had plenty of time to spare. There was an awkward silence as we awaited Phil Wood's instructions (neither one of us was much at idle conversation). Eventually Leo grunted, "Wanna beer?" (only, as we all know, it sounded more like "Bwamranaabererrr?"). I resisted because, back then, drinking during an afternoon bridge session was an alien concept.

Leo Steil

1925-1996

Leo was born on April 26, 1925 in Humboldt, Saskatchewan, into a large family. He became a seaman, eventually got his Ship's Master ticket, and ended up in Vancouver working as a captain on CP ferries. Leo had a stormy family life. He was married three times and had one daughter, Sharon, who survives him (she has a son, Brian).

Leo compartmentalized his life separating family, work and play. At his memorial service, it came as a complete surprise to his ex-colleagues that he was a well-known card player. Similarly, it would surprise those who knew him as "colourful" and somewhat distracted that in his career he was a first rate and highly respected ship's officer. As one of his former workmates said, "He was a good leader. He was firm but fair, and did what it took to get the job done. But you sure couldn't have much of a conversation with him!"

Sound familiar?

Bridge was Leo's passion and his art. He was an accomplished player and the leading masterpoint winner in our Unit. When he died he had over 9000 masterpoints, 29 Blue Ribbon qualifications and 38 Silver Ribbon qualifications. He was gunning for 10,000 points, still playing and winning despite failing health. Tragically, he fell short of his goal when his ailing heart gave out at the end of August on his return from a two week stint on the tournament trail. But he went out in style. The week before, at the Edmonton Regional, he and Brian Ellis (of Cleveland) won an Open Stratified Pairs with nearly a 70% game!

Leo was a superb technician and he had great bidding judgment, especially in competitive auctions. But it was his will to win and his great psychology that made him so successful. Leo was always sociable at the table. He rarely had a cross word for partner and never for the opponents. Underneath that civility, however, lurked a shark. He was quick to seize opportunities and exploit an opponent's weak-

ness. His empathy and ability to quickly size up his opponents made him especially formidable at match-points. Those same qualities enabled him also to succeed with many different partners. There are many in today's bridge world who remember fondly that their own first win came with Leo as their partner.

After retirement, bridge increasingly dominated Leo's life. With few family attachments he was free to travel to tournaments. Leo was gregarious and he loved people but, since he was not particularly verbal, he often had trouble expressing his feelings. The language of bridge provided him with the means to give of himself. Through years of playing he developed many close and loyal friendships. And wherever he went, he kept making new friends. Although he continued to take pleasure in winning, it was those friendships that he really valued. We will greatly miss his affection as well as his unique and always welcome presence.

—Aidan Ballantyne

Leo's Famous Hand

as reported by Aidan in VBC News

Leo enjoyed a long and fruitful bridge career. He was a consistent winner while playing with hundreds of different partners. His lifelong commitment to the game spanned many bridge generations so, at the time of his death, he was a treasured link to many other local

legends who died before their time.

Leo's success rate reflected diversified skills including excellent card play technique and insightful psychology. But Leo brought another force to the game, a unique intangible that was reflected in some of his monikers: "The Ancient Mariner" (a reference to his bridge wisdom that also alluded to his long career as a Ship's Master for CP Ferries); "The Mystery Hour" (he seemed to perplex partners and opponents alike!); "The Claimer" (he often faced his hand without

Finally, after a bit of push and pull, we decided to share a single beer and nurse it through the afternoon. (Later, I realized that Leo's offer of a beer was meant to neutralize my obvious anxiety and establish entente. Leo sure knew how to manage partners. He knew what it took to win.) Over the course of the day I noticed Leo was very sociable to our opponents, frequently engaging them in conversation. Mysteriously, they kept doing the wrong thing. I gradually unwound and began to have fun. Leo played heroically. To make a long story short, we won the event. When the scores were announced Leo's joy was not for himself but for his young rookie partner who couldn't seem to stop smiling. Meanwhile, I learned a valuable lesson: you could be a nice guy, have fun and still finish first.

The Nanaimo Pairs began a longstanding partnership. I couldn't get enough of bridge, Leo was equally passionate, and we were willing to go almost anywhere to play. One time we snuck away to a sectional in Parksville. After an indifferent Saturday Pairs we spent a sociable evening together in our hotel room laughing at the day's misadventures and

exchanging ideas on theory, strategy and psychology. In those days Leo was a pipe smoker and he generously offered to share a bowlful with me. Being from the Hippy generation I was used to other ingredients besides tobacco. Nevertheless, sharing a smoke cemented our bond. Leo was old enough to be my father but we had lots in common. He had a mischievous streak that appealed to me.

The next day we couldn't get a team so we drove back to Vancouver to play in the Unit Game (at that time it was at the Holiday Inn on Howe Street and was directed by Jean and Norm Turnbull). Our first round was against an elderly married couple against whom I'd previously enjoyed huge success. Since I desperately wanted to win I was hungry for a good start. Instead we got two cold bottoms. I wanted to explode but managed to control my temper. As we stood waiting to move to the next table, I looked over at Leo. He gently shook his head. He had a twinkle in his eye and a bemused half smile lit his face. I couldn't help but chuckle. Nothing was said but it was clear we'd both resolved to give

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specifying any line of play leaving others to sort things out); and "Mumbles" (self-explanatory to those who ever had a "conversation" with him). His greatest strength was an uncanny ability to unsettle his opponents while maintaining an air of total innocence. He victimized some of the greatest players in the world!

On the downside, Leo was somewhat prone to revokes, insufficient bids and other mechanical errors. However, it was one such accident that precipitated perhaps his greatest triumph (see hand below).

The deal arose in 1976 in the District Final of the Grand National Teams ("GNT"). Leo was playing with Doug Oram against Bruce Ferguson (aka "Superstar") and the late Jim Donaldson (aka "Dr. Death"). Ferguson has since become a highly rated bridge professional. Jim Donaldson was a brilliant local player who became a legend even before his untimely death from cancer in 1983.

assume a 3-2 trump break and begin by leading out top hearts, a plan that, in this case, was doomed to failure. Leo was in the process of choosing his play when the Rueful Rabbit struck. The 3♥ fell from his hand and landed face up on the table—a played card! Donaldson studied this development in amazement (he knew Leo had six hearts from the auction). Eventually he won his jack and shifted to a club. Leo refused the finesse and won the ace. Then he cashed the 10♥, played off the K♠ and led a diamond to the ten. Now he ran trumps to produce this ending:

Long ago, GNT District Final	Doug Oram ♠ KJ2 ♥ T6 ♦ KJ54 ♣ AJ83	6♥ by Leo Lead: 9♠
J. Donaldson ♠ 963 ♥ J9852 ♦ 76 ♣ 974	Leo Steil ♠ A8 ♥ AKQ743 ♦ AT8 ♣ Q5	B. Ferguson ♠ QT754 ♥ - ♦ Q932 ♣ KT62

Tricks: N-S 8, E-W 1	Doug Oram ♠ - ♥ - ♦ KJ5 ♣ J	6♥ by Leo South to play
J. Donaldson ♠ 9 ♥ - ♦ 7 ♣ 97	Leo Steil ♠ - ♥ 7 ♦ A8 ♣ Q	B. Ferguson ♠ - ♥ - ♦ Q93 ♣ K

Leo cashed his last heart and pitched the J♣ from dummy. Superstar was squeezed. If he let go a diamond Leo would get three more diamond winners. If he discarded a club Leo would make the queen in hand.

Needless to say the declarer at the other table did not find Leo's creative "safety play". The resulting swing had a decisive psychological impact. Leo's team went on to win the match and represent the District in the next stage of the playdown.

The contract was 6♥ and Donaldson led the 9♠. Leo correctly played low from dummy and won the ace in hand. The slam was far from cold. A rational declarer would

it our best. We went on to score 68% and won by two boards. And so I learned more valuable bridge lessons: never give up, play one hand at a time, and put any disaster behind you.

In the early eighties I found myself in San Francisco at my first NABC championships. As usual, I had no partner or teammates and was scouting around for a squad to play with in the Reisinger Board-a-Match. Suddenly, there was Leo. We soon pieced together a makeshift team. Our other half would comprise a couple of Saskatoon boys, Barry Harper and Al Romanow. At that time Barry was a young up-and-comer like myself. Barry explained that Al was not too experienced at that we shouldn't expect too much. He was playing with Al only because they were good friends. We were easily the longest shot on the board but I didn't care. I just wanted to experience what many considered to be the toughest NABC event of them all. Leo, of course, was looking for bigger things. He was happy to be among friends and he relished being an underdog. That kind of challenge always brought out his best.

During the first session our team more than held its own against some of the best players in the world. We were two boards over average at the break. Leo and I were softer the second session, mainly because my own game became a bit erratic. I remember one hand against Kathy Wei and Judi Radin where the layout was something like this:

East played 4♠ after I'd overcalled East's 1♦ with 2♣

Reisinger Board-A-Match Teams	Leo Steil	4♠ by East Lead: A-K♠
WEST		EAST
♠ QTxx	♠ X	♠ KJxx
♥ Axxxx	♥ QTxx	♥ KJ
♦ Qx	♦ Txxxx	♦ AKJxx
♣ Qx	♣ xxx	♣ Tx
	Aidan	
	♠ A987	
	♥ xx	
	♦ x	
	♣ AKJxxx	

and West made a negative double. I started with two top clubs and Leo showed me three clubs. Afraid of giving a ruff-sluff, I switched to a heart and they easily made their contract. I soon realized that I should have played a third club. Declarer ruffs in one hand or the other and then tries to draw trump. I just duck my ace twice and it's over. If declarer tries a third round of trump I win and play another club promoting my small spade for the setting trick. I apologized to Leo. He seemed unconcerned.

The next round we played against the legendary Ira Rubin, a.k.a. "The Beast". He checked our convention card and was impressed by our stoneage system. "These fellows play REAL 4-card majors. Why, they even play 1♦ promises a 4-card suit!" he boomed at his partner. Leo grinned. It sounded like our opponents were engaged in a long-running feud over system. We took advan-

tage of their rift and had a great round. My confidence was restored. During the last round of the second session Leo got doubled in 3♥ and made it for +530 after a series of double dummy plays. I gave it right back on the next hand when I doubled 2♠ and they made it for -670. Typically, Leo did not seem the least bit upset. The session was over. It didn't feel like we'd done well enough to qualify for the next round. We compared scores. It turned out we'd won the board against Wei-Radin because Al Romanow had made 4S doubled on the same defense. We'd also won a large number of boards when Harper singlehandedly created wins on nothing hands by raising the level of insanity beyond the comprehension of his unsuspecting opponents. We got to the last round. "Plus five-thirty," I said. "Push," said Harper. "Minus six-seventy," I whimpered. "Push!" was the reply. We all burst out laughing. When the scores were added we were into the semi-finals.

The next day began on a comic note. I will never forget the look on Leo's face when he was confronted with his first bidding box (neither one of us had ever seen one of these contraptions before). When the auction began Leo just stared at his hand. He couldn't make a bid. Finally, he tried to pick up the bid cards. They fell on the floor. And so I learned another lesson: sometimes, a younger fellow has to stop to help his elders!

We were overmatched in the semi-final and ended up below average. Suddenly, we were out of the event. Nevertheless, thanks to Leo, it was a good experience for me. Also, I learned another lesson: that adventures are most fun when they're shared with good friends. (Harper, who has since won an NABC championship, also remembers that Reisinger with fondness. For him, as for me, it represented a breakthrough to another level. Sadly, Al Romanow is no longer with us having died young from cancer.)

During the eighties science was taking over the game and I feared Leo would be left behind. I was wrong. Leo had an enquiring mind and made the necessary adjustments. We switched from our old 4-card major approach to the more universal standard of 5-card majors and 2-over-1 game force. Diligently, we studied new gadgets and added them to our arsenal. During that period Leo and I came close to winning a number of regional championships. Unfortunately, an unlucky break right at the end would always relegate us to also-ran status. I vowed we would carry on until we won one. That elusive day came unexpectedly at an Ocean Shores regional in the late eighties. The event was a qualifying Open Pairs. We had a bad first session, below average. The scores were out and there was no "Q" by our names. I was preparing myself mentally for yet another Consolation when one of the qualified pairs suddenly dropped out. We were next in line so we limped into the Finals with zero carryover. The evening session went like a dream. Leo played at the top of his game. Usually, we got dealt huge games but would

(Continued on page 23)

Grands, Beer Cards, and Warrior Stayman:

The 1996 NAOP Unit Final, by Felipe Hernandez

Sunday, October 20 saw 38 pairs arrive at the Vancouver Bridge Centre vying for the right to continue on the road to Dallas. (Those that qualify at the Unit stage go on to the District Final where a top-two finish earns them an all-expenses-paid trip to the Spring North American Bridge Championships.)

All flights were represented: A, B, C, and interstellar. While a StratiFlighted event had been considered (Flight A playing separately; Flights B & C combined), the poor turnout by A players (7 pairs) made a completely stratified field more appealing. And although the event was not well-publicized, a last minute phone-a-thon—thank you Brian Russell—got the word out in time. The result was a fairly well attended, and well received game.

Enough about the organization. On to the hands! I must say the bridge gods provided, as there were plenty of swingy deals on which a wealth of matchpoints were at stake (the boards were scored across the field so top was 17.) The popular contract on Board 9 (see below) was 4H by West, often arrived at in a single bid when 3 passes came around to him.

Board #9 N deals, E-W vul	NORTH ♠ 62 ♥ 763 ♦ AQ74 ♣ A842	4♥ by West Lead: 4♣
WEST ♠ T8 ♥ AKQJT95 ♦ KJT2 ♣ -	SOUTH ♠ K9754 ♥ 84 ♦ 96 ♣ KJ75	EAST ♠ AQJ3 ♥ 2 ♦ 853 ♣ QT963

The common lead was a spade. More often than not, the contract made. Many Souths won the spade King and tried

to give their partners a ruff. With the Curse of Scotland (D9) falling doubleton, the hand was now cold—declarer losing just a spade and 2 diamonds. Some Souths decided to try for a ruff of their own by returning a diamond at trick two. This time being selfish paid off—North gave his partner a ruff for down one. Note that while the hand is always cold on any lead, it is hard for declarer to resist the tug of the overtrick at matchpoints and so the spade finesse at trick 1 is normal.

I embarked on a different defense altogether with rather unexpected, but not unpleasant, results. I led a third-best club to the nine and jack and declarer mercifully ruffed (the thought of losing to a stiff king had begun to make me quite nervous.) The top three trumps came next, dummy pitching a low club and the diamond three. Next came the spade finesse and my partner, Mike Neagu, ducked smoothly. A diamond to the six, jack, and my queen allowed me to play a second club to the ten and king. Declarer ruffed, but the deception, albeit inadvertent, was complete.

Reasoning my partner had the AKJ of clubs and I had the spade king, declarer could see eleven tricks: hook another spade and pitch a diamond on the ace of spades. So back came the ten of spades, low, low, king. Eleven tricks had shrunk to nine. Partner exited with the nine of diamonds, blotting the eight, to declarer's ten and my Ace. Now my 7-4 of diamonds were equals against declarer's K-2—too late, declarer realized the cost of pitching a low diamond on the third trump. Meanwhile, I could hear the spirit of Miller calling to me: "...tastes great...less filling..." Ah yes! There is a tradition that if you win trick thirteen with the diamond 7, aka the beer card, your partner owes you an ale. So I led my diamond 4 to declarer's King. After cashing his last two hearts, he had to concede the setting trick to my seven of diamonds. "Coors Lite please partner."

(Continued on page 24)

Applications Requested

1997 Unit Game sites and Directors

Unit 430 is taking applications for 1997 Unit Game sites and Directors. Applications for sites should include financial details, availability on the traditional Monthly Unit Game

evenings (the first Sunday of each month) and maximum table capacity. Director's applications should include experience and remuneration expected. The Unit Board will consider all applications at its December meeting, and the lowest bid will not necessarily be accepted. Applications may be sent to any Unit Board Member (addresses on page 21 of the September 1996 *Matchpointer*).

(Adventures with Leo, continued from page 22)

make too many errors and let our advantage slip away. This time, we couldn't afford any mistakes. There were none and we won by almost two boards.

The Ocean Shores win signalled the end of our regular partnership. By now we had very different bridge priorities. Slowly, we drifted apart. Nevertheless, Leo and I remained

good friends and still enjoyed the odd outing together. Also, we saw each other occasionally in the VBC rubber game. Now Leo is gone and I have perhaps learned his final lesson: that life is fleeting and the friendships it brings are come and gone much too soon. I'll miss you, Leo.

(Continued from page 23)

Have you ever played Warrior Stayman? Neither have I. In fact I'm not sure it exists. But I have no idea how else to describe the following auction perpetrated by two novices on an unsuspecting Bill Gamble and Eugene Chan in the evening session.

NAOP Unit Final Evening Session	NORTH	6NT by South Good contract?
	WEST	EAST
	SOUTH	

♠ K9	♠ QT72
♥ KQ83	♥ 974
♦ 974	♦ J82
♣ AQ42	♣ JT5

♠ 865	♠ AJ43
♥ JT	♥ A652
♦ KT653	♦ AQ
♣ 963	♣ K87

After Eugene passed, South opened 1NT, ostensibly 15-17. Well what's one point between friends, and at least it's on the plus side where Lord knows we may need it partner. Pass by Bill, 2♣ by North. This was Warrior Stayman. Apparently it instructs partner to bid a major at the four level. No need to pussy foot around at the two level for THIS pair. 4♥ by South as per orders. 4NT now by North. Although RKC was marked on their card, Ace-asking conventions clearly don't apply after Warrior because South bid 5♣. Under normal circumstances, this would promise 2 keycards and the queen of trumps but South wasn't within a week of that holding. No, 4NT had to be asking for another major—thus the 5♣ bid. When North bid 5NT, South gave up. Partner, it seemed, didn't care for either major. Okay we'll play slam in no trump then. After all, Warriors don't quit at the five level! "6NT," concluded South.

There was good news and bad news for Bill and Eugene. The good news is that 7♥ makes. The further good news is that those in only 6♥ can make seven if they guess well. The bad news is that with several different lines and two finesses available, most declarers made only six. The really bad news is many pairs didn't even get to six. Warrior strikes again! (Next week: The Return of Gladiator.)

That last board was one of three grand slams that were makeable if not biddable in the evening session. Here was another:

North: ♠AQxxx ♥Ax ♦— ♣Kxxxxx
South: ♠Kxx ♥xx ♦AQJxx ♣AJ9

Spades broke 3-2 and the queen of clubs was doubleton onside so there was nothing to the play. +1010 NS was the usual result but there were a few +940s and, worse, +510s floating around.

The third Grand of the night represented a nightmare for Aidan Ballantyne and Gordie McOrmond, the winners of the event. They put up an impressive

72.2% game in the first sitting and so were in coast mode for the evening session. Perhaps this explains Aidan's thought processes on Board 12:

Board #12 W deals, N-S vul	NORTH	7♦ by North Lead: 6♣
	WEST	EAST
	SOUTH	

♠ QT	♠ K42
♥ A3	♥ J98652
♦ AKJ8753	♦ —
♣ K8	♣ 6432

♠ 98653	♠ AJ7
♥ Q	♥ KT74
♦ QT9	♦ 642
♣ QJ75	♣ AT9

After West passed, Aidan opened 1♦ on the North cards. East put in an intrepid 2♥ preemptive jump overcall, and Gordie bid 3NT. When this came back to Aidan, he decided some move towards slam was in order. Not able to think of a good one, he simply blasted 6NT. West, notwithstanding the fact he was bereft of any defensive values whatsoever, decided to double!! Aidan, fearing West was about to cash the AK of spades, ran to 7♦!! Having accomplished his goal of pushing his opponents one level higher, West meekly passed. East led a heart.

Now for the nightmare. When dummy hit, declarer started placing cards: the king of spades was certainly offside given the double. The hearts were of course on his left (had East underled the QJ?). He envisioned a double squeeze: West would have to keep the spade, East the hearts, and no one could guard clubs. He could win the heart, pull trumps with a finesse if necessary, unblock the ace of spades and run trumps coming down to the following (hoped-for) ending:

Tricks: N-S 9; E-W 0	NORTH	7♦ by North South to play
	WEST	EAST
	SOUTH	

♠ Q	♠ —
♥ —	♥ J
♦ 3	♦ —
♣ K8	♣ J43

♠ K	♠
♥ —	♥ T
♦ —	♦ —
♣ Q75	♣ AT9

The play of the last diamond effects a double squeeze: East must pitch a club to keep a heart. Dummy's heart ten, having done its job, is discarded and West comes under pressure. He too must relinquish a club to keep his spade guard against the Q. Now the clubs run. Of course, back in the real world, the spade King was ONSide, so this double squeeze was not going to work. East could simply let go of his clubs and let partner guard that suit.

After playing low from dummy at trick one and winning the heart Queen with his Ace, Aidan was faced with another

(Continued on page 25)

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Dec 23 Christmas Parties Dec 17

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Harry Friedman Winners Dianne Isfeld

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Manager: Ted Trerise 261-5443 (5-6 pm)

(Continued from page 24)

option: he could finesse the heart ten for his contract. But expert declarers are not experts for nothing. When given the choice between a simple finesse and a double squeeze it is a sure bet they'll go for the squeeze. Especially when they think it's a cinch. Accordingly, Aidan cashed the ace of trumps, learning of the bad break, and led a spade towards his ace, both to unblock it (a necessary step for the squeeze to operate) and as a dummy entry for the diamond finesse. Everything was going according to plan. Except that East decided to do some unblocking of his own. When he saw the spade ten, he decided to apply the oldest rule known to

bridge players: Cover an honour with an honour!

We will never know what would have happened if the winds of fate hadn't blown the egg aimed squarely at Aidan's head slightly off track onto East's face. Like all successful players, he would have undoubtedly got it right in the end!

All in all, 22 of 38 pairs qualified in various strata for the District Final, where they will compete for the trips to Dallas. The Final will take place during the Roundup Sectional, to be held at the Surrey Inn, Nov. 7-10. Each flight will be contested separately with up to four sessions depending on turnout. Best of luck to all our players.



Local Winners

EVERGREEN SECTIONAL

Queensborough, Sept 13-15, 1996

Friday Afternoon

Stratified Open Pairs 19 tables

- A1B1. Eleanor Kaufmann/Larry Snelling
 A2. Anne Marie Bullis/Les Fouks
 A3. Cam Doner/Bill Goldstone
 A4. Sheila Dickie/Mary Lou Bert
 A5. Felipe Hernandez/Gregory Arbour
 A6. Mark Eddy/Thony Stiennon
 B2. John Lien/Liz Stoneman
 B3C1. Priscilla Brown/Edward Marchuk
 B4. William Osten/Jim LeNobel
 B5. Susan Bradford/Jamie Brown
 B6. Terry Val Jean/Lu Gesford
 C2. Bob Bosley/Van Buchanan
 C3. Walter Rae Fee/Bachan Buttar

Women's Pairs 13 tables

- A1. Sheryl Brander/Pearl Minkoff
 A2. Kathy Adachi/Ina Andersen
 A3. Joan Richards/Diane Isfeld
 A4B1. Amy Graham/Peggy Wellman
 A5. Maggie Warren/Liz Lee
 A6B2. Marjorie Mason/Pat Blackall
 B3. Gypsy Sturrock/Alice De Roo
 B4. Pauline Lee/Daisy Neilson

Friday Evening

Mixed Board-A-Match Teams 18 teams

- 1/2. Cam Doner, Nicola Charleson, Bill Goldstone, Mary Lou Bert
 1/2. Gordon Davis, Anne Nagy, Jennifer & Aidan Ballantyne
 3/5. Rhonda Foster, Gord & Doreen McOrmond, Gerry McCully
 3/5. Laurence Betts, Vicki St Mars, Pat Jones, Ric Sumner
 3/5. Terry & Anne Scott, Marina Page, Andrew Ross

Open Pairs 26 tables

1. Doug Hansford/John McDonald
 2. Insa Fricker/Tai Eng
 3. Jim LeNobel/Barry Kirkham
 4. Ida Goodlad/Hazel Stowards

Friday Evening Open Pairs cont.

5. Susan Bradford/Jamie Brown
 6. Jane Fyfe/Rudy Notzl

Saturday 2-session

Flight A Open Pairs 16, 16 tables

- A1. Dan Jacob/Larry Hicks
 A2. Bill Goldstone/Gerry McCully
 A3. Gord McOrmond/Peter Herold
 A4. Elliott Netto/Don Brazeau
 A5. Ted Lai/Andrew Ross
 A6. Trudy Hurdle/John Hurdle
 A7. Bernie Hoy/Sefton Levine

Stratified B/C Open Pairs 22, 20 tables

- B1C1. Kelvin Raywood/Kristin Orians
 B2. Diane Ayukawa/Richard Dunn
 B3. Daisy Neilson/Myra Morgan
 B4/5C2/3. Sky Williamson/Julian Lee
 B4/5C2/3. Ruby Vanziffle/Nancy Davies
 B6. Jim Anderson/Judy Anderson
 C4. Brad Barton/Francis Reynolds
 C5. Vicki St Mars/Pat Jones
 C6. Maxine Sodomont/Francis Gunn

Sunday Swiss Teams

Flight A Victory Point Swiss 17 teams

1. Peter Herold, Ken Scholes, Constance & Jim McAvoy
 2. Dan Jacob, Larry Hicks, Ron Borg, Aidan Ballantyne
 3/4. Mike Wilson, James Dickie, Laurence Betts, Mike Takemori
 3/4. Cam Doner, Greg Arbour, Rhonda Foster, Gerry McCully
 5. Stephen Beaton, Doug Cowan, Mary Fines, Joyce Peters
 6. Ken Robertson, Andrew Ross, Ken Lochang, Paul Sontag

Flt. B/C Stratified W-L Swiss 22 teams

- B1. Jay Brandt, Gay Parrish, James Craig, Karol Monroe
 B2. Terry Scott, Marina Page, Anne Scott, Louis Landau
 B3. Ric Sumner, Pat Jones, Lenora & Phillip Awram
 B4/5. Don Keith, Hing Kong Ho, Graham Thomas, Delma Murray
 B4/5. Alan Hendrickson, Carol Schroeder, Marion Nelson, Tom Hansen
 B6/7. Gail & Mike Moffatt, Susan Bradford, Jamie Brown
 B6/7. Bob Kiggins, Bobby Wood, Rangie Sylvestre, Nando Masini Pieralli
 C1. Dawn Kingsland, Arthur Ma, Brad Barton, Francis Reynolds

FUTURE STARS 0-100 SECTIONAL

Vancouver Bridge Centre, October 5-6

Saturday Afternoon

Stratified Pairs 11 tables

- A1B1. Kurt & Jeannette Tiede
 A2. Bachan Buttar/Greg Morse

Sat. Aftn. Stratified Pairs cont.

- A3. Rosemary Cunningham/Betty Reynolds
 A4B2. Jerry Shapiro/Bill Henning
 A5. Margaret & Ed John
 A6. Tom John/Marilyn Hicks
 B3. Karen Westerlund/Elaine Vona
 B4. Gordon Devlin/Norma Saltzberg

Novice Pairs 3 tables

1. Carole Harris/Marion Macisaac
 2/4. Flora So/Peter Hanlan
 2/4. Nora & Keith Siddall
 2/4. Ewa Wroblewicz/Matthew Bagdan

Saturday Evening

Stratified Pairs 7 tables

- A1B1. Jeannette & Kurt Tiede
 A2. Judi Wilson/Jamie Marrin
 A3. Kristin Orians/Peter Taylor
 A4. Joan Sobieniak/Sharon Hughes
 A5B2. Dorothy Myhre/Craig Knowlton
 A6. Tom John/Marilyn Hicks

Novice Pairs 3 tables

1. Ewa Wroblewicz/Matthew Bagdan
 2. Wendy McCrea/Marti Oppenheimer

Sunday Morning

Stratified Pairs 7 pairs

- A1. Jerry Malcolm/Prashant Pandit
 A2B1. Harry Greenhut/Jane Fyfe
 A3B2. Dorothy Myhre/Craig Knowlton
 A4/5. Sharon Hughes/Joan Sobieniak
 A4/5. Norma Saltzberg/Gordon Devlin
 A6. Bachan Buttar/Rae Fee

Novice Pairs 3 pairs

1. Ewa Wroblewicz/Matthew Bagdan
 2. Mike Pope/Teddie Steed-Mechler

Sunday Afternoon

1-session Swiss Teams 8 teams

1. Frances Gunn, Valerie Mair, Reynold & Dianne Kivi
 2. Matthew Bagdan, Ewa Wroblewicz, Bernie David, Jon Shulman
 3/6. Vana & Simon Matthews, Mike Pope, Teddie Steed-Mechler
 3/6. Gordon Devlin, Norma Saltzberg, Dawn Smith, Adele Mackay
 3/6. Jerry Loeppky, Greg Morse, Rae Fee, Bachan Buttar
 3/6. Jeannette & Kurt Tiede, Gaby Uranyi, Carole Harris

VANCOUVER SUMMER SECTIONAL

Consolation Swiss (missed last time)

1. Larry Snelling, Maggie Warren, Eleanor Kaufman, Daisy Neilson
 2. Donna Morrison, Stella Alliston, Mary Fines, Anne-Marie Bullis
 3/5. Tai Eng, Dot Carnegie, Eileen Van Pelt, Insa Fricker, Bob Beattie, Thelma Holstede, Norman Trekeaven, Lotte Elias, Marguerite Chiarenza, Judy McGowan, Ken Lochang, Rob Shelburn

Out-of-town Winners

PENTICTON REGIONAL

June 17-23, 1996

Stratified Charity Pairs

- A1. Julie/Doug Cowan
A3. Monica Angus/Stella Alliston
A5B1. Patti Adams/Marguerite Chiarenza
A7. Marge Neate/Mary Fines
B6. Jim Lenobel

Tuesday Stratified Open Pairs

- A13. Don Sache/Sheila Giroto
C2. Fran Gould
C5. Dick Berry/Ron Edgar

Tuesday Stratified Senior Pairs

- A4B2. Gary Post/Dee Kerr
A6. Doug Cowan/Keith Miller
B6. Len Feeny

Stratified Women's Pairs

- A1. Kathy Adachi/June Pocock
A5B3. Pearl Minkoff/Helen Montgomery
A7/8. Jean Groome/Jennifer Ballantyne
B3. Pearl Minkoff/Helen Montgomery
B5. Julie Cowan/Rose Miller
C5. Betty Harold/Jean Katz

Okanagan Bracketed Knockouts

Bracket 1

- 3/4. Cam Doner; Peter Herold, Gord McOrmond

Bracket 2

1. Doug Thomas, Gary Phelan

Bracket 3

- 3/4. Maggie Warren

Bracket 4

- 3/4. Mariann Hutton, Carol Thompson, Lotte Elias

Bracket 5

2. Don Sharp

Tuesday Afternoon Future Masters

- B3. Harry Greenhut

Stratified Swiss Teams Flight A

7. Don Brazeau, Cam Doner, Gord McOrmond
10/11. Gerry Mccully
14/16. Gina Beland, Chris Diamond; Doreen McOrmond
17. Peter Herold

Stratified Swiss - Flt A Consolation

5. Leo Steil

Stratified Swiss Teams - Stratum B

- B1C1. Gray McMullin, John Whittlesey
B5. Keith/Rose Miller, Terry Scott, Julie Cowan
B8/14. Maggie Warren, Colin Collin
B8/14C5/9. John Lien, Carol Thompson; Liz Stoneman, Eleanor Kaugmann
B15/17. Moyra Storey, Maree Logan, Stella Steves
C12/14. Lotte Elias, Norm Treleaven

Stratified Swiss - Stratum B cont.

- D3/4. Frances Gould
D7/10. Don Keith, Christa Mead, Jeanette Greenhut, Shirley Fitterman
Wed. Eve Future Masters Swiss Teams
3/4. Bachan Buttar, Walter Rae Fee

Stratified Open Pairs

- A3. Gord McOrmond
A5. Peter Herold
A10. Ken Lochang/Marguerite Chiarenza
B1C1. Graham Thomas
B6. David Schmidt/Len Feeny

Friday Stratified Open Pairs

- A2. Aidan Ballantyne
A4. Gerry Mccully/Rhonda Foster
A7. Derek Ward
A11. Ken Danielson/Doug Hansford
A12B3. Eleanor Kaufmann/Larry Snelling
A16. Bernice French/Pat Landau
A17B4. Gary Phelan/Grace Jeklin
CA. Roy/Eileen Van Pelt

Friday Stratified Senior Pairs

- A3. Monica Angus/Marge Neate
A6B1. Keith & Rose Miller
A7. Marian Zarychta
B5. Ron Groome/Elaine Levins
C2. Breda Prestage/Joan Ashenhurst
C6. Helen Macdonald

Flight A Open Pairs

- A1. Aidan Ballantyne/Don Brazeau
A2. Peter Herold

Flight B Open Pairs

- B2. Garry Skoropada/Patti Adams
B3. Bernie Hoy/Graham Fulton
B9. Ted Trites/Louis Landau

Ogopogo Bracketed Knockouts

Bracket 1

- 3/4. Jean Groome
5/8. Cam Doner

Bracket 2

2. Kal Kaleem, Larry Chow

Bracket 4

1. Bob Kiggins
2. Don Sharp
3/4. Allen Coulter
5/8. Richard Dunn, Diane Ayukawa

First Continuous Pairs

- 4/5. Insa Fricker, Tai Eng

Second Continuous Pairs

- 2/3. Connie Delisle, Paul Hagen

Bracketed Senior Knockouts

Bracket 1

1. Tom Cross

Bracket 2

- 3/4. Joerg Schneider, Pat Stapff, Marion Crowhurst, Pat Lester

Bracket 3

- 3/4. Maree Logan, Moyra Storey, Stella Steeves



Bracketed Senior Knockouts cont.

Bracket 4

- 3/4. Graham Thomas

DINO Lucky Draw Zip Swiss

2. Cam Doner

3/4. Rita Hasselbach, Isabel Chernoff, Joan Ashenhurst, Breda Prestage
(Sunday results were reported in the last *Matchpointer*, courtesy of Matt Smith who figured I already had the rest. Thanks to David Schmidt for compiling and sending these.)

YAKIMA SENIOR'S REGIONAL (With Open Events)

Yakima WA, Aug 12-18, 1996

Monday Open Stratified Pairs

- A2. Larry Chow
A5. Joerg Schneider/Pat Stapff

Tuesday Stratified Pairs

- B6. Bob Beattie/Thelma Hofstede

Wednesday Stratified Swiss

- 2/3. Leo Steil

Thursday Stratified Pairs

- B2. Bob Kiggins

Bracket 2, Senior Kos

1. Bob Beattie, Thelma Hofstede

- 3/4. Fred Struve

Thursday Senior Stratified Swiss

- A3/4. Leo Steil

- A7BC1. Lu Gesford

Friday Open Stratified Pairs

- 7/8. Leo Steil

Friday Stratified Senior Pairs

A6. Joerg Schneider/Pat Stapff
(Somebody slipped the Yakima Daily Bulletin into the package presented to me after I missed the October Board meeting while working on the island. Thank you, whoever you are!)

PHIL WOOD TROPHY

1. Dan Jacob	68.26
2. Bill Goldstone.....	52.91
3. Larry Hicks	49.57
4. Gerry McCully	45.76
5. Mary Lou Bert	45.34
6. Peter Herold	42.20
7. Rhonda Foster.....	36.80
8. Felipe Hernandez	35.49
9. Mike Wilson.....	31.83
10. Kathy Adachi	30.36
11. Cam Doner	30.17
12. Aidan Ballantyne	28.75
13. June Pocock	26.91
14. Ron Borg.....	25.38
15. Sharon Colson.....	23.07
Neil Ballard	23.07
17. Michael Neagu.....	22.98
18. Mary Fines.....	22.48
19. Gary Phelan.....	22.10
20. Haiderali Nazak	22.02
21. Joe Jabon.....	20.99
Jim Aitken	20.99
23. Anne-Marie Bullis.....	20.58
24. John Lien	20.42
25. Nurdin Kassam.....	20.41
26. Ted Lai.....	20.09
27. Janet Daling.....	19.63
Bill O'Brien.....	19.63
29. Leo Steil	18.43
30. Kelvin Raywood.....	18.40

EVERGREEN SECTIONAL TOP TEN

1. Dan Jacob	21.19
Larry Hicks	21.19
3. Peter Herold	19.00
4. Bill Goldstone.....	17.73
5. Gerry McCully.....	16.81
6. Cam Doner	13.57
7. Aidan Ballantyne	13.55
8. Constance McAvoy	12.25
Jim McAvoy	12.25
Ken Scholes.....	12.25

FUTURE STARS SECTIONAL TOP 10

1. Jeannette Tiede	4.25
Kurt Tiede	4.25
3. Matthew Bagdan	3.37
Ewa Wroblewicz.....	3.37
5. Bachan Buttar	2.48
6. Greg Morse.....	2.08
7. Norma Saltzberg	1.71
Gordon Devlin.....	1.71
9. Dorothy Myhre.....	1.68
Craig Knowlton.....	1.68

Masterpoint Races

EDITH BONNELL TROPHY

1. Mary Lou Bert	45.34
2. Rhonda Foster.....	36.80
3. Kathy Adachi	30.36
4. June Pocock	26.91
5. Sharon Colson.....	23.07
6. Mary Fines.....	22.48
7. Anne-Marie Bullis.....	20.58
8. Janet Daling.....	19.63
9. Sheila Dickie.....	18.30
10. Claire Burns	17.80
11. Stella Alliston.....	17.51
12. Marina Page.....	16.71
13. Kristin Orians	16.40
14. Sheila Giroto	15.86
15. Joyce Peters.....	15.75

PHIL WOOD UNDER 200 TROPHY

1. Kelvin Raywood	18.40
2. Kristin Orians.....	16.40
3. H.K. Ho.....	13.76
4. Sky Williamson	12.24
5. Shirley Fitterman	12.09
6. Amiral Alibhai.....	11.94
7. Christa Mead	10.82
8. James Burt.....	10.79
9. Lenora Awram.....	10.00
Phil Awram.....	10.00
11. Pat Lester.....	9.86
12. Arik Sitek.....	9.83
13. Nancy Friedman	9.75
14. Julian Lee	7.25
15. Jeannette Greenhut.....	7.12

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Dec 5: Club Championship
Dec 19: Christmas Party
No Game December 26.

No matter how good you are, playing in the wrong contract won't help you.
—George Rosenkranz

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Bridge Club**

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COMING ATTRACTIONS
Oct 20: International Fund Game
Nov 10: Closed for Sectional
Nov 17: Membership Game
Dec 8: Club Closed
(building not available)
Dec 15: Club Championship
Dec 22: Christmas Party
CLUB CHARITY GAME WINNERS
Pat Landau & Joyce Turner

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B4. Pearl Minkoff/David Walker
B5. Olive Macdonald/Bonnie Anderson
B6. Aban & Bob Gertie
C2. Chris Robbins/Christopher Maylin
C3. Sky Williamson/Amir Alibhai
C4. Victoria St. Mars/Pat Jones
C5. Fred Brown/Geoff Fetterley
No information has reached Match-
pointer headquarters about the Canadian Women's Team Championship or Grand National Teams club qualifying games.
Congratulations to Jane Fyfe/Harry Greenhut, and to Flora So/Peter Hamlan, winners of the two heats of the North American 49er Pairs, held recently at the Bridge Centre.
More info: Felipe Hernandez 931-5336.

B4. Pearl Minkoff/David Walker
B5. Olive Macdonald/Bonnie Anderson
B6. Aban & Bob Gertie
C2. Chris Robbins/Christopher Maylin
C3. Sky Williamson/Amir Alibhai
C4. Victoria St. Mars/Pat Jones
C5. Fred Brown/Geoff Fetterley
Many other pairs qualified for the District Final, but time does not permit to list all of the qualifiers. You may check with Co-ordinator Felipe Hernandez (931-5336), or the VBC (255-2564). Good luck to all our players at the District Final.
Several dates for the Canadian National Teams Championship have been announced: club qualifiers at the VBC December 7 and January 4, and the Unit Final March 1—all two sessions.

Special Events
from various sources...

The North American Open Pairs Unit Final was held October 20 at the Vancouver Bridge Centre (see article elsewhere by Felipe Hernandez). 38 pairs played a two session stratified game with the top half of each strat qualifying to play in the District Finals at the November Sectional in Surrey.

OVERALL PLACINGS
A1. Gord McOrmond/Midan Bal-lantyne
A2. Bill Goldstone/Marilyn Burt
A3B1. Felipe Hernandez/Michael Neagu
A4B2. Insa Fricke/Tai Eng
A5B3C1. H.K. Ho/Kenny Chan
A6. June Pockock/Kathy Adachi

Monthly Unit Games

Suburbia still dominating

With two Monthly Unit Games left in 1996 (the split-site game on November 3 and the Unit Christmas Party at the Engineer's Hall on December 15), the Suburbia stars still hold most of the top positions. Can they be caught? It's certainly possible: the year-end game may attract as many as 30-40 tables, and an sectionally-rated overall placing in a game that large will go a long way towards catching the people ahead of you!

A quick explanation of the masterpoint races, both for those in the hunt this year and for those interested in trying their luck next year. The player who amasses the most masterpoints over the twelve Unit Games in 1996 wins the Unit Game Trophy and free plays for next year's Monthly Unit Games. The player who amasses the highest total at Unit Games, having entered 1996 with less than 1000 masterpoints, wins the Flight B race, and six free plays to the following year's games. The player who amasses the highest total at Unit Games, having entered 1996 with less than 300 masterpoints, wins the Flight C race, and six free plays to the following year's games. No player can win more than one of these prizes; if a player leads in more than one category he wins the highest category prize and the other awards go to the next player eligible.

We still need to see more people playing at the Monthly Unit Games, especially non-Life Master pairs so that we can award more Flight C overalls—currently the minimum of

five pairs seldom appear. (Of course, there are section awards for Flight C any time a section has more than one Flight C pair.) In the near future we will be looking at adding a simultaneous stratified non-Life Master section at Monthly Unit Games.

At press time, plans were still being made for the Unit Christmas Party, but we assume that it will be as it has been for the past few years—a fun, festive occasion, with a fine spread of donated hors d'oeuvres and other goodies before gametime. The game will be held at the Burnaby Engineer's Hall on Sunday December 15, with the pre-game "happy hour" at 6:30 pm and the game itself at 7:30. Gladys Mackie (526-0687) will be organizing and compiling the list of dessert and hors d'oeuvre offerings. Please give her a call!

At the December meeting of the Unit Board, 1997 Unit Games will be discussed. Our decisions will be reported on in the December *Matchpointer*, which will appear at the Christmas Party.

The six people who had perfect attendance records two months ago still are perfect! Thanks to Tai Eng, Len Feeny, Frank Kelley, Pat Landau, John Lien, and Liz Stoneman for fitting the first Sunday of the month firmly into their schedules! Six others have played in all but one this year: Colin Collin, Doug Cowan, Insa Fricker, Chester Michno, Paul Radnai, and Roman Woroch. No less than eleven players have played in eight of the ten games at one site or the other. We appreciate your support. We also thank the people who have served as stand-by players so that we could offer guaranteed partnerships to those registering 15 minutes before gametime.

A B September 1, 1996 (White Rock)

1	1	Leszek Baldys/Gail Perrin
2		Esther Freeman/Dorothy Carnegie
3	2	Catherine Lyons/Aase Haines
4	3	Insa Fricker/Roman Woroch
5		Ken Danielsen/Doug Hansford
4		Brian Johnston/Joni Johnston

(not enough Flight C pairs for overalls)

A B September 1, 1996 (Vancouver)

1		Bill Goldstone/Marylou Bert
2	1	Phillip Awram/Lenora Awram
3		June Pocock/Dianne Isfeld
4		Laurence Betts/Victoria St Mars
5		Chester Michno/Sefton Levine
6	2	Dan Webster/Simon Matthews
3		Gina Diamond/Chris Diamond
4		Patti Adams/Kathy Bye

(not enough Flight C pairs for overalls)

A B October 6, 1996 (White Rock)

1/2	1	Tai Eng/Insa Fricker
1/2		Colin Collin/Frank Kelley
3	2	Walter Schmid/Dan Webster
4		Frances Gould/Terry Gould

A B Oct. 6, 1996 (Wh. Rock) Cont.

5		Ronald Groome/Elaine Levins
6	3	Robert Beattie/Thelma Hofstede
4		M Hutton/Mabel Holding
5		Lotte Elias/Norman Treleaven
		(not enough Flight C pairs for overalls)

A B C October 6, 1996 (Vancouver)

1	1	1	Hoshang Shroff/Rani Shroff
2			Mary Fines/Rose Metcalfe
3	2	2	Ruth Ableman/Jeanette Greenhut
4			Donna Morrison/Evelyn Hodge
5	3		Patti Adams/Angela Fenton
6			Shirley Fitterman/Ken Robertson
4			Pat Jones/Ric Sumner
5			Pauline Lee/Herby Lum
3			Ruby Jackson/Geoff Fetterley

Points Leaders thru October

A B C Pts.

1	1		8.91	Insa Fricker
2			8.73	Terry Gould
2	2	1	8.73	Frances Gould
4	3		8.26	Tai Eng
5	4		8.01	Liz Stoneman

5	4	2	8.01	John Lien
7			7.11	Marylou Bert
8			6.69	Sefton Levine
9			6.53	Doug Hansford
10			6.44	Bill Goldstone
11	6		6.15	Brian & Joni Johnston
13	8		6.03	Patti Adams
14			5.84	Dot Carnegie
15			5.73	Donald Sache
16			5.69	Donna Morrison
17			5.59	Kathy Adachi
18			5.46	Angela Fenton
19	9		5.27	Leonard Feeny
20			5.23	Patricia Landau
10			5.00	Roman Woroch
3			4.63	Rani & Hoshang Shroff
5	4		4.57	Pat Jones
5			4.57	Ric Sumner
7	4		4.31	Jeanette Greenhut
8	3		3.63	Kathy Bye
9	3		3.61	James Burt
10	3		3.56	Amad Rafii
10	3		3.56	Graham Thomas

For more information about Monthly Unit Games, contact Unit Game Co-Ordinator Gladys Mackie at 526-0687

Coming Monthly Unit Game Dates

November 3 (regular game)

**December 15 at Engineer's Hall
(Unit 430 Christmas Party)**

Happy Hour 6:30 Gametime 7:30

Directors: **City:** Louis Landau (984-8309)

Suburbia: Thony Stiennon (951-7560)

Strata: A: 1000+, B: 300-1000, C: 0-300

Site Addresses & Gametimes

"City": 6:30 pm, at Vancouver Bridge Centre, 2776 East Broadway (at Kaslo), Vancouver (255-2564)

"Suburbia": 7:00 pm, at White Rock Elks Club, 1469 George St., White Rock

Further Info: Gladys Mackie 526-0687

♠ \$6 per player ♥ sectional rating ♦ goodies ♣ free coffee ♠
♠ trophy race ♥ bid-boxes ♦ non smoking ♣ two sites ♠

Tournaments & Dates

October 25-end of 1996

OCTOBER

25-27 Courtenay, Renton Sectionals

25-28 Ketchikan Sectional

NOVEMBER

1-3 Sunnyside Sectional

3 Monthly Unit Game (two sites)

7-10 Round-Up Sectional at Surrey Inn, near King George SkyTrain station (schedule, back cover)

9-10 NAOP District Final at Round-Up Sectional

11-17 Seattle Regional

22-1 SAN FRANCISCO NABC

NOVEMBER Cont.

24 *Matchpointer* deadline (December issue covers events from December 15 thru March 10)

DECEMBER

1 *Matchpointer* editor turns 34 (add twenty-five years and 100% more gray if material for December issue still not in a week after deadline)

6-8 Tacoma Sectional

15 **Unit Christmas Party at Burnaby Engineer's Hall, 4333 Ledger Ave., Burnaby. Happy Hour: 6:30. Gametime: 7:30. Offer to bring a dessert or hors d'oeuvres now; call co-ordinator Gladys Mackie at 526-0687**

15 **December Matchpointer hits the streets**

26-31 *Reno Year-End Regional*

Please confirm dates of out-of-town tournaments before making travel arrangements. We try to include the latest available information in the *Matchpointer*, but things change and sometimes we don't hear about them. If you attend out-of-town tournaments, please bring back Daily Bulletins or a list of local winners so we can include them in the next *Matchpointer*.

Unit 430 Sectionals

A One-Year Planner

Round-Up Sectional, November 7-10, 1996, at the Surrey Inn (first time at this location).

Winter Sectional, January 24-26, 1997, at the Queensborough Community Centre.

Spring Sectional, May 9-11, 1997, at Bonsor Community Centre in Burnaby (new location).

Evergreen Sectional, 1997 dates and location unconfirmed

Future Stars (0-100 MP) Sectional, 1997 dates and location unconfirmed

The Unit Board at press time was looking into the possibility of holding a Unit-Wide Sectional Tournament at Clubs in place of the 1997 Summer Sectional. This would require a change of plans for the Unit 430 Annual General Meeting, which might be held at a special Unit Game, at a club, or perhaps at the Spring or Evergreen Sectional. Options will be discussed at future meetings.



ROUND-UP Sectional

November 7-10, 1996

Playing Site
SURREY INN

9850 King George
Highway
SURREY, BC
(604) 588-9511



**NORTH AMERICAN
PAIRS (NAP)
DISTRICT FINALS**

NOV 9-10, 1996

ALL FLIGHTS

A: Unlimited B: 0-1500 C: 0-300

1:00 pm & 7:30 pm
May be 2 or 4 sessions,
depending on attendance

Winners from each flight will
qualify to advance to the
National Finals.

Coordinator: **Bill King**
(360) 757-7000 (w)

THURSDAY

7:30pm Bracketed KOs Round 1

FRIDAY

1:00pm STRATIFIED PAIRS One Session
STRATIFIED WOMEN'S PAIRS One Session

7:30pm Bracketed KOs Round 2
OPEN PAIRS One Session
SENIOR PAIRS (55+) One Session

Future Master Pairs One Session
0-20, 20-50, 50-100

SATURDAY

9:00am Bracketed KOs Final Round

1:00pm STRATIFLIGHED PAIRS 1st session
Fit A: Unlimited, plays separately
Fit B: Stratified 0-200, 200-750

Future Master Pairs One Session
0-20, 20-50, 50-100

7:30pm STRATIFLIGHED PAIRS 2nd session

Future Master Pairs One Session
0-20, 20-50, 50-100

SUNDAY

10:30 & TBA STRATIFLIGHED SWISS (Win/Loss) 2 sessions
Fit A: Unlimited, plays separately Fit B: Stratified 0-200, 200-750 (Win/Loss)

STRATIFIED: Strat A: 750+; Strat B: 200-750; Strat C: 0-200

CHAIRMAN

Sheila Giroto (604) 591-6762

PARTNERSHIPS

Dot Carnegie (604) 535-8286

**FOUR-DAY
SECTIONAL**
featuring

**BRACKETED
KNOCKOUTS**
8-team brackets
Finished in 3 Rounds
Trophy for
Top Bracket

**Single Session
Events Friday**

**SENIOR PAIRS
WOMENS PAIRS
99er PAIRS**

**Something
for Everyone!**



Advance Notice: '97 Winter Sectional, Jan. 24-26, Queensborough Comm. Ctr.